

BUILDING COMMUNITIES

Inside this issue:

<i>All About Us</i>	2
<i>Our 20th Anniversary</i>	3
<i>International Development</i>	3
<i>Youth in Action</i>	4
<i>New Initiatives</i>	5
<i>Program Highlights</i>	6
<i>Volunteer Spirit</i>	7
<i>Our Funders, Partners and Sponsors</i>	8

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Children and youth across Toronto are learning and growing from their intergenerational experiences.

Although youth are required to complete forty volunteer hours of community service for high school credits, they are extending their involvement in programs where they have developed relationships and new friendships with seniors.

Whether they are singing together in choirs, teaching seniors about computers and the Internet, friendly visiting in long-term care facilities or involved in social and recreational activities with seniors, children and youth feel they have gained an understanding of the aging process and the contributions that seniors have made in our society.



There has also been an increase in the number of community adults and seniors who have the desire to be involved with children and youth.

Creating opportunities to build on the assets of each generation will build stronger, caring communities with an understanding of age, culture and differences.

HOW TO REACH US

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Intergenerational
Partnerships
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www.tigp.org

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As President of the Board of Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships since June of 2006, I have welcomed the opportunity of meeting many of you during this past exciting year of growth.

As a teacher at **Monarch Park Collegiate**, I have had enjoyed working with Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships over the past six years and providing our students with opportunities to enrich not only their own lives, but also the lives of others through their involvement in intergenerational programs.

TIGP is responding to the challenges that many communities are facing. In order to strengthen social networks, decrease isolation and create Intergenerational harmony, we are developing and implementing programs that value the contributions of all individuals at all stages of their lives. At the board level we have worked diligently to review policies and implement strong financial management systems. This year we have welcomed new partnerships and new initiatives that expand our capabilities to meet the needs and interests of our communities. We have also responded to our need to fundraise to expand our current and new TIGP programs.

Together we can "Make Magic Happen"! On behalf of the Staff and members of the Board of Directors of TIGP, I would like to thank our volunteers and community partners for your commitment to TIGP and your continued involvement and contributions to Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships over the years to come.—**Mary Card, President, TIGP Board of Directors**

Board of Directors**2006-2007**

Mary Card Sharon McCarthy
Lita Clavier Greg O'Grady
Susan Davey Carol Sevitt
Sandra Hanmer Russ Smith
Elaine Kwok

Youth Advisors

Sally Hakim Minh Luong

Staff

Sue McMahon, Associate Director,
Programs and Operations
Anna Menozzi, Associate Director, Budgets
Linh Chau, Program Coordinator
Genevieve Komanyor, Front Line Worker

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
2006-2007 CONTRACT STAFF**

Zarine Dordi, Jacqueline Lawrence, Patricia
Matthews, Lejia Ouyang, Trisha Turner,
Thom Vernon

ADMINISTRATIVE VOLUNTEERS

Danforth Collegiate — Derrisha Reid,
Macey Handrahan, Victor Nguyen,
Christine Williams, Mike Himes, Michael
Archer

Inglenook Community School —
Rachel Singer

George Brown College — Maria
Ekonomakos, Doris Granados, Lee Ann
O'Neill, Jeremy Patterson

Ryerson — Nina Ahluwalia, Amaranta Ng

King George International College —
Jayoung Jeong, Kang Sun Lee, Eojin
Jeong, Hyo Jung Bae

University of Toronto — Jenny Wang

**New Experiences Toronto for
Newcomer Women** — Bonnie Ren,
Maggie Li

Greenwood Towers — Joan Jordan,
Rufina Rana, Trevor Farfan, Birju Rampaul

Community — Barb Mahoney, Raymond
Liu

We are proud members of -

- Ontario Community Agencies Serving Immigrants (OCASI)
- Ontario Community Supports Association (OCSA)
- Ontario Gerontology Association
- Community Social Planning Council of Toronto
- Ontario Health Coalition
- Volunteer Centre of Toronto

OUR MISSION AND MANDATE**Vision**

We work toward creating a society that values, supports and welcomes the contributions of all individuals throughout their lives. For this reason we engage people of all ages, backgrounds and experiences in a variety of intergenerational activities.

Principles

We believe in:

- Respecting and valuing the ways of all ages, backgrounds and experiences.
- Respecting and valuing the thinking of all generations.
- Eliminating artificial systemic barriers created by age stereotyping and all other forms of discrimination.
- Extending and sharing intergenerational support beyond family and acquaintances.

Objectives

Our objectives are as follows:

- Promoting intergenerational harmony and life-long learning.
- Designing and delivering programs that encourage the participation of individuals of all ages, backgrounds and experiences.
- Striving to become a centre of best practices for intergenerational programming.
- Promoting and incorporating access and equity principles in all our activities.
- We select diverse community agencies with whom we can form a specific, finite, renegotiable contract partnerships. The goal of such partnerships is an intergenerational program under the auspices of the partner's agency.



Thanks to our "behind the scenes" volunteers — left to right Joan Jordan, Le Luong, Jeremy Patterson, Maria Ekonomakos, Amaranta Ng and Bonnie Ren.

How to help TIGP remain viable —

We are a not-for-profit charitable organization incorporated in 1986 (Business Number 13501 6400 RR0001) that depends on funding and donations to reach our goals in bringing generations and communities together. Some ways that you can help to support programs for children, youth and seniors are:

- Send a cheque payable to Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships, 800 Greenwood Avenue, Room A36, Toronto, Ontario M4J 4B7.
- Call our office and make a donation using your VISA card.
- Go to www.CanadaHelps.org and make a secure on-line donation by searching for our name—Toronto Intergenerational Partnerships—and follow the instructions to submit your donation.
- Donate your time or items to assist us with fundraising events.

CELEBRATING OUR 20TH ANNIVERSARY

It was a night to remember! Over 230 partners and volunteers joined the festivities at our 20th Annual General Meeting and Volunteer/Partner Recognition event where we celebrated the growth of our organization since our incorporation in 1986.

Special guests recognized the contributions of partners and volunteers who, in turn, shared stories of how intergenerational programs have positively impacted their lives.

Susan Davey and Lorna MacGregor were honoured for devoting six years as Board members, and their successors were welcomed.

The message was clear that "Intergenerational is Sensational".

Recognizing the impact of intergenerational community partnerships and volunteerism.



International development

We had the pleasure of meeting with Alla Khachatryan, founder of the **Araks Center** in Armenia. Alla was keen to learn about intergenerational programs that work and ways to secure funding for programs in her country. We shared program resources and techniques for developing programs for all ages. Alla hopes to implement some of our programs in Armenia.



Versa Care provided a site visit for staff from the **Araks Centre** and **CESO**.

Temptations

Special thanks to everyone who travelled through the snowstorm to join us for our evening of Temptations. Our silent and live auctions raised over \$6,000. We hope to see you at Temptations next year!

Marilyn Edwards was a happy shopper. She also won a Pentax digital camera and HP printer in our raffle.



DEVELOPING YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Volunteering and interacting with seniors is a very enriching experience. There is always something new when you volunteer to help out. There are things that aren't taught in school that I can learn. There is a feeling of accomplishment when I see the success of an event that I helped prepare. It has also taught me that anything can be possible with effort. Volunteering can be fun and you can learn a lot. When you are a leader in planning and organizing it gives a person responsibility and the ability to develop new skills. You need to be a good listener so you can understand or find another way to solve the problem. Given the position of a leader in volunteering has increased my confidence to do things. A leader has to face the problem and solve it.

- Victor Nguyen, Vice Chair

**Danforth Collegiate
Charity & Volunteer Committee**

Youth opportunity

The TIGP Board of Directors is comprised of educators, individuals serving seniors and the community-at-large (volunteers).

The board recognized the importance of including a youth perspective and created two **Youth Advisor** positions on the board in 2006.

Students interested in serving a one-year term on the Board of Directors should contact -

Mary Card, President,
TIGP Board of Directors
(416) 531-8447.

Creating a caring community

Danforth Collegiate & Technical Institute has "Intergenerational Spirit". Many new programs have been introduced where youth are gaining civic responsibility.

In the new Seniors in Cyberspace program, teacher Vernon Kee feels "TIGP's programs are unique in that they serve to improve the lives of both youth and seniors at the same time. Youth gain a greater sense of social responsibility and mentorship. Seniors benefit from being active and in touch with today's youth. Their programs form a win-win situation for everyone involved and they are a real blessing to this community."

The teachers and support staff in the new Developmentally Disabled class at DCTI feel their students are increasing their self-confidence and self-esteem while visiting seniors at Nisbet Lodge. The seniors and students get to know each other by focusing on each other's strengths and achievements. Respect and sharing each other's experiences have helped us, help each other.

Congratulations to Danforth Collegiate & Technical Institute, recipient of the 2006-2007 TIGP Community Capacity Building Award.



Engaging youth in service

The waiting list continues to grow for the popular Seniors in Cyberspace program and "Annual "A Very Halal Christmas Dinner" for seniors and legion veterans at **Monarch Park Collegiate**. Students and staff work collaboratively to welcome 250 seniors into their school.

This year Monarch Park Collegiate formed a new partnership with **Citizens' Environment Watch (CEW)** where meaningful partnerships were formed with youth and seniors. The seniors empowered the youth by giving them a historical and cultural context of their local environment through the life experiences of seniors. Funding through the **New Horizons for Seniors Program** enabled CEW to publish stories written by youth and a project video documenting the intergenerational events and excerpts of seniors' interviews was also created to be included with the storybook.



Congratulations to Monarch Park Collegiate, recipient of the 2006-2007 TIGP Community Service Award.

Wisdom begins in wonder

The **War-time Biography Project** at Kensington Gardens has been a real life history lesson.

Seniors residing at **Kensington Gardens** reminisced about their past and shared wartime stories with youth from **Heydon Park Secondary School**.

Students Julia, Krystal, Jessie, Sabrina, Chantal and Stephanie wrote, "We would like to thank the seniors for spending time with us. If it weren't for them, we wouldn't be living in a free country. We were shocked when we realized that the soldiers were our age when they fought for us. We liked how the seniors told us stories about the war. Many died or made other sacrifices for our freedom. The seniors showed us how to be brave. We were proud to bring the war stories back to school to share with other students at our Remembrance Day Ceremony. Our friends at school really listened; they felt and they learned. We all understand so much better and enjoyed getting to know about the interesting lives of our seniors."



"Our residents come from various backgrounds and cultures. This is a great opportunity for our residents to share their life experiences and knowledge with the students. At the same time, this promotes healthy attitudes towards aging among the students" Amy Seto, Volunteer Coordinator at Kensington Gardens.

Judy Grant, teacher at Heydon Park Secondary School agreed that "The Kensington Gardens residents were so generous with their time and energy. We truly appreciated the honesty, sincerity and hospitality that the residents showed us. We were touched by the candidly presented real life stories that the students were able to bring back to their fellow teens. Many of our students rarely, if ever, have contact with anyone beyond their parents' generation. Our lives have been enriched. We hope to return sometime soon."

Sharing life experiences

The **Glenyan Manor Grandpal Program** is a two-year initiative in the Flemingdon community, funded through a grant from the **Social Investment Fund of Toronto Community Housing Corporation**.

Children, youth, adults and seniors residing in **CHU20** will be working together to reminisce about their lives and share their experiences with each other.

The program will provide an opportunity for participants to share their cultural traditions while learning about others. Plans are underway to hold a "CultureFest" and community event.



Congratulations to Jenny Wang, recipient of the 2006-2007 TIGP Youth Volunteer of the Year Award.

Opportunity to grow

I had the privilege of volunteering for TIGP where I assisted with coordinating the **Greenwood Towers (TCHC—CHU14) Intergenerational Lunch Program**, where students and seniors connect through a weekly lunch and games. This program was, in many ways, a great success. The food and games were a channel through which we (students and seniors) were able to glimpse into each other's lives, share stories and laughs. This helped us to achieve a new level of understanding; and to build memories as well as friendships. For the students participating in the program it provided an opportunity to grow. Many of us learned new skills and gained a feeling of accomplishment that this produced, especially because it was a new experience for many to work together. I am grateful and humbled to be able to bring happiness and satisfaction to someone else. The wonderful feeling that this, in turn, gave me is something I will not forget. To me, it is this cycle of giving that makes this program, and many others organized by TIGP, arrestingly beautiful. I hope deeply that this meaningful program may continue in the future.

— Jenny Wang, University of Toronto student



Life-long learning

Rankin Place seniors are developing new friendships with students from **Bloor Collegiate**. The senior and youth partners are searching the Internet to create "memory" books that illustrate memorable life experiences.

Tenant Representative Bibi Majid feels "Seniors were isolated and depressed due to lack of activities in the building." She believes "This grant from **New Horizons for Seniors Program** will enable the Seniors to socialize with others and provide access to technology which will keep Seniors inclusive, active and fresh in their minds."



New Program Partners
Fudger House and Rose Avenue Public School



"I feel like a grandmother helping her grandchildren. We talk in Cantonese and I teach them about Chinese customs."

"When the kids come here I have such a good time, we are always laughing."

"The kids make me feel young and they always have such good stories to tell."

"They like to hear my fishing stories."

"They give me energy."

"This has been so valuable to the residents. Their personality totally changes when the children visit, we see a side of the residents that we don't normally see within the home. The kids bring out the best in them." Leah Taylor, **Fudger House**.



Montrose Junior Public School welcomes grandparents to their annual **Grandparent Day** event.

FRIENDLY VISITING PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Ten Years of Making the Magic Happen!

Meighen Retirement Residence and **Special Moments Childcare Care** have had a 10 year special partnership where children visit for sing-a-longs and creative crafts. Caroline MacDonald at Meighen Retirement Residence, sees "sparks of interest when the children arrive. The seniors get a kick out of the energy and smiles. This program brings seniors down memory lane. They don't see their own grandchildren as often as they would like and they enjoy socializing with children." The staff at Meighen Retirement



Residence expanded their program by inviting elementary students from **Davisville Jr. Public School** to also spend time reading with the seniors.

Congratulations to Meighen Retirement Residence and Special Moments Childcare Centre, recipients of the 2006-2007 Community Partnership Award.

New Friendships

Salima Addetia, Recreation staff at **True Davidson Acres**, feels "the **Dawes Road Day Care** children have brought so much joy to the residents that the seniors may not have other wise experienced. Although there is a generational gap, the two groups continue to grow and learn from one another. They are forming a long lasting friendship."



Networking amongst partners



Our "**Making the Magic Happen**" networking breakfast for long-term care staff provided an opportunity to share successful program ideas while networking with fellow colleagues.

Special thanks to Belmont House staff for hosting session.

Breaking barriers at Wellesley Central Place

Laura Stanich, in Life Enrichment Department at **Wellesley Central Place** wrote, "your organization has provided us with an opportunity to deliver an organized, innovative, and highly enjoyable program, which offers residents an opportunity to recall fond memories. This is not only a fun program but it helps break the barriers of disability in our community.

"Our residents light right up when the children from **Rose Avenue Public**

School arrive." Seniors tell us "it is so nice to be around children again, she reminds me of me when I was young". The residents who participate in this program are thrilled to be apart of the learning experience for these children, and feel this is the most rewarding part of the program.

Carly, a grade 5 student, feels "some Seniors don't get a lot of visitors and I feel that they are a bit sad and lonely. It makes me happy that I can visit them."



VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHTS

2006 Citizenship Award Recipients

Congratulations to these TIGP volunteers who are being recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration's Voluntary Service Awards:

Laura Newland, 10 years
Joan Osborne, 10 years
Jean Smith, 10 years
Russ Smith, 10 years
Joan Jordan, 5 years
Kam Lew, 5 years

Youth Award

Jenny Wang, 3 years



Congratulations to Faiza Wahid, recipient of the 2006-07 Seniors in Cyberspace Youth Award.



Peter Tabuns, MPP, presents **Mary Card** and **Russ Smith** with a \$1,000 donation for intergenerational programming.



Congratulations to Roy Jones, recipient of the 2006-2007 TIGP Community Volunteer of the Year Award.

Known for his sense of humour and never-ending stories, Roy Jones was voted **Volunteer of the Year** by his peers.

Roy has supported many programs during his 12 years as a TIGP volunteer.

Roy was a familiar face in the **Moore Place and Eglinton Public School Grandpa Program**. He volunteered to assist the teacher, escort the children to the program and led curriculum-related activities with small groups of elementary school-children.

As a greenhouse instructor in an ecology program, Roy shared his knowledge of horticulture with elementary

students. When the program ended, Roy was quick to take a lead role in developing the **Chester Village Horticultural Program** where he researches the plant of the week and teaches seniors with dementia about plants and gardening.

Roy has always been eager to share his knowledge with others. In his spare time, Roy volunteers to help newcomers settle in Toronto. Roy looks forward to working with youth as a volunteer in the new **Glenyan Manor Grandpa Project**.

Community networking amongst peers

A grant from **New Horizons for Seniors Program** provided an opportunity for over 200 seniors to participate in the monthly **Intergenerational Volunteer Advisory Committee's (IVAC)**

monthly networking sessions throughout the past year. These sessions provided an opportunity for seniors to learn how to access health services and supports while strengthening intergenerational and peer relations. Guest speakers shared relevant information on accessing home care supports, home and community safety,

oral health, dental services for seniors, advocacy for the elderly, fire prevention, fall prevention and community volunteerism.

As a result of this initiative we have formed new programs, including an Intergenerational Environmental Watch Project, Intergenerational Choir and redeveloped the Intergenerational Lunch Program at Greenwood Towers. Our volunteer base increased as seniors became involved in their community in the Reading Partner and Horticultural programs.



Volunteer **Derek Thompson** demonstrates the art of Making Magic Happen while promoting volunteerism at the monthly IVAC networking sessions.

Seniors in Cyberspace expansion



Congratulations to WWCC, recipient of the 2006-2007 Seniors in Cyberspace Award.

With over 65 youth and 65 seniors involved in the Seniors in Cyberspace program during the past two years, **Working Women Community Centre** staff feel that this is one of the most popular computer programs that they offer.

The waiting lists are long, however, seniors don't mind waiting as they feel the program provides a feeling of independence while learning new skills. The youth volunteers gain an understanding about aging and feel a sense of fulfillment as they teach seniors about information technology.

WWCC expanded their programming this year to include a Mandarin-speaking Seniors in Cyberspace program.



OUR 2006-2007 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Elementary Schools

- Alexander Muir/Gladstone Junior/Senior
- Blake Junior
- Dundas Junior
- Eglinton Junior
- Essex Junior/Senior
- Hillcrest Junior
- Keele Junior
- Kensington Junior
- Kew Park Montessori
- Lord Dufferin Junior/Senior
- Montrose Junior
- Parkdale Junior/Senior
- Queen Victoria Junior
- Rose Avenue Junior
- Sprucecourt Junior
- Winona Senior

Secondary Schools

- Bloor Collegiate
- Danforth Collegiate & Technical Institute
- Don Mills Collegiate
- George Vanier Collegiate
- Heydon Park Secondary School
- Inglewood Community School
- Malvern Collegiate
- Marc Garneau Collegiate
- Monarch Park Collegiate
- Riverdale Collegiate
- Zion Heights J.M.S.

Colleges and Universities

- George Brown College
- King George International
- Ryerson University

Day Care, Child Care and Parent Resource Centres

- Brahms Day Care
- Danforth Day Care
- Dawes Road Day Care
- Day Care Connection
- Doncrest Early Learning Centre
- Hawthorne Child Centre
- Jesse Ketchum Child Care
- Montrose School Age Day Care
- Parent Resources, Gerrard
- Special Moments Child Care Centre
- YMCA Child Care Centre

Agencies and Organizations

- Belmont House
- Bendale Acres
- Brahms Community
- Castleview Wychwood Towers
- Chester Village
- Christie Gardens
- Citizens Environment Watch
- Dufferin Mall Youth Services
- Fairview Nursing Home
- Four Villages Community Health Centre
- Fudger House
- Gibson Long-Term Care

- Glen Stewart
- Glenyan Manor and the Flemingdon Community
- Greenwood Towers
- Heritage Nursing Home
- Kensington Gardens
- Lakeside Long-Term Care
- Lansing Retirement Services
- Loyola Arrupe Centre for Seniors
- Lincoln Place
- Maynard Nursing Home
- Meals on Wheels East Toronto
- Meighen Retirement Residence
- Moore Place
- New Experiences Toronto for Newcomer Women
- Nisbet Lodge
- Operation Springboard—SOAR Program
- Rankin Place
- Ray McCleary Towers
- Sanderling Place
- Second Mile Club
- Seneca Towers
- Sunshine Centre for Seniors
- The O'Neill Centre
- Toronto Community Housing Corporation
- True Davidson Acres
- Versa Care
- Wellesley Central Place
- Working Women Community Centre

FUNDERS —

- Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care
- Toronto Central—Local Health Integration Network
- City of Toronto
- Toronto Community Housing Corporation
- Social Development Canada, New Horizons for Seniors Program
- Human Resources Development Canada

Special thanks to our funders, and to the generous foundations and corporations listed below, for your commitment and support of TIGP's intergenerational programs and for helping to "Make Magic Happen" —

- **Advanced Industry Mentors**
- **Big Ronnie's Bar & Grill**
- **F. K. Morrow Foundation**
- **Hi-Tech Compunet**
- **The Caring Foundation**
- **The Catherine and Maxwell Meighen Foundation**
- **The Geoffrey H. Wood Foundation**