

## **Youth Settlement Program April Review**

In April, Newcomer Youth Program ran successfully with the services provided to youth clients through assistance & referrals on settlement issues including the weekly programs on language and tutoring. The highlight of the month was Girls Active for Health project launched this month (more details below).

### **Language Skills Development for Newcomer Youth - Wednesdays**

Four sessions were held in April on Wednesdays. As a follow up to the culture topic discussed at the last session of March, youth went for an AGO trip on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Majority of them had never visited the Art Gallery and it was exciting and educational for them at their first ever trip. Other topics of discussion for the month were conversation games, badminton and resume/cover letter (first in the pre-employment skills series). Few excerpts from critical reflection/closing verbal evaluation comments from the youth on learning about the above three topics with the goal of improving communication and language skills were:

“I learnt about other people’s talent in this game”

“Toilet paper game was fun and interesting”

“I got to meet new people playing badminton at the Masaryk CRC today”

“I build up on my reflex skills from just this one badminton session”

“To write “Attn: Hiring Committee” in a cover letter”

“I had great time learning about how to write cover letter and resume in a professional manner”

“Learnt from other people’s opinions on their own skills for building a resume “

### **HIGHLIGHTS of the Month**

#### **Girls Active for Health project (GA4H) was launched as a pilot project in April.**

The project is supported under ON THE MOVE INCENTIVE GRANT (ONTARIO) by Canadian Association for the Advancement of Women and Sport and Physical Activity (CAAWS). The girl-only project duration is from April to June 2012.

The goal of this project is to help create a friendly, healthy and safe environment for young girls (from ages 13 to 18) to feel comfortable and enthusiastic in working towards understanding the important relationship between physical activity and health. In April, the project site and facebook page was completed with one focus group session held on Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Two young girl team leaders are also selected to develop leadership skills and build team spirit among the girl team members.

Website: <https://sites.google.com/site/girlsactive4health/>

Facebook Page: <http://www.facebook.com/GirlsActive4Health>

### **Peer Tutoring Club - Fridays**

Three sessions were held in February. The peer tutoring club provided peer support in helping with solving homework and school assignments. Some of the subjects they helped each other were on Math, English, Geography, keyboarding skills, Chemistry. Since March we have started recording a log on the subjects youth are working on in Tutoring Club which helps identify how the peer learning system is effective.

### **Parkdale Newcomer Youth Committee (PNYC) – a youth leadership group initiated by the Youth Program of PIA and PCIC**

PNYC monthly meeting was held on April 20<sup>th</sup> where to review our program activities and project’s progress. New members of the leadership group 2012 were also confirmed. STOM-R project had several meetings (April 13 and 27) to design monthly contest and hold the contest for youth participants to learn about smoking issues for a chance to win free movie tickets courtesy of the project. The contest was held on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> attended by about 20 youth. 4 youth winners walked away with a free movie ticket. All youth winners write movie reviews on the effects of brand placements and smoking in movies on young people.