

# SISTERING

## Sistering Advisory Council Meeting

**March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019**  
**Sistering, 962 Bloor St West**  
**6:00-7:30pm**

### **Call to Order – Shelley Walters**

#### **Review Agenda and Minutes**

- 14<sup>th</sup> division open to CPLC persons on April 30<sup>th</sup>. If it goes well open to hosting other people.
- Member to follow up on two houses proposal.
- Final signing of building for spun to happen March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 for two years and then month to month.
- Volunteer designer coming Saturday to look at spun for reorganizing space.

#### **Coldest Night of the Year - Update**

- Member provided positive feedback on atmosphere; “joyous” and “nice paced team work”.
- Paradise Theatre to be a part of CNOY next year providing support and handouts.
- All three levels of government made an appearance and spoke.
- Great turn out and participation in the community and internally.
- Plans to be involved next year.

#### **Community Liaison Worker Update - Update**

- Interviewing for position.
- Going into second round interviews. Call backs for three people.
- Start date within two weeks of offer of position.
- New staff member to have active involvement with the committee.

#### **Tips for Working with Street-Involved People**

- Realize that participants are a person when they come into your space.
- Attire can make a participant stand out and business owners get their backs up quickly which can escalate the situation.
- People high on meth have a hard time understanding or hearing.
- Use calm voice. Offer a cigarette, can be a distraction.
- Member feels their clients are looking for a calming space and can feel “shaky” when participants come in the space. They try to educate the clients however doesn’t feel it makes it better for the clients.
- Training business owners can provide education for the clientele coming in for services.
- Safety first over products attempting to be stolen.

- Savards, women's shelter check in.
- City councillors to print up "Tips" sheet and members distribute to businesses and community.
- Stigma leading to feelings of shame.
- Bringing police into the scene can actually bring trauma back.
- Recommendation to provide 5 Point Tip Sheet to community and businesses.
- Ask people their name which acknowledges them as a person.
- Training from Priyanka has been so beneficial to members.
- Member willing to provide tip sheet to people who call or write to complain about Sistering. Giving them tools to help manage situations better and deescalate.
- Two different dates in April for De-escalation Training.
- BIA to post on website.
- Member to send in newsletter & Dufferin Grove List serve.
- Tip sheet to have pictures to "jazz it up".

### **Other Business**

- Community Clean up with participants - "Clean Toronto Together".
- Register Sistering, get free supplies. Registration opens next week via city website. One person to register.
- Better to do it Saturday or Sunday
- Peer to be present for proper needle pick up or toxic taxi clean up company.
- 11:00 am Saturday, April 27, one-hour length.
- Relief worker to work Wed. to Sunday to support out front of Sistering, 2 shifts; and peer support.
- Food outside creating increase of pigeons around.
- More garbage bins or pick ups from the city?
- Put end date on giving out trays.
- Someone to do a collection of plates/trays/foods every half hour.
- Cleaning up of graffiti with creative ideas.
- Open up sitting space/adjusting current structure.
- Ribbon cutting for new space.
- Funding of \$1500 from BIA in the community, partnership with other business.
- Cadette jewellery-10% of all Female form and petite female form necklace sales to Sistering from March 8 – April 19
- Invite Wendy to next Advisory meeting.
- Members to send any items, photos, etc
- Will not have plastic bottles or styrofoam cups. Use water jug and members to bring own cups or use mugs Sistering has.

### **Adjournment – 7:30pm**