

**TCYL Policies Passed at the Toronto Region
Policy Parliament for SummerFling 2010**

August, 2010

York University, Toronto



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Neighborhood Revitalization and Development Policy

Submitted By: Adlan Taramov, Toronto Centre Young Liberals

WHEREAS Low-Income Neighbourhoods can experience:

- Increases in income inequality
- Challenges to the social fabric of the community
- Decreases efficiency of social institutions

WHEREAS Low-Income Neighbourhoods can experience:

- High rates of unemployment and underemployment
- Increasing risks of depression-mental health related
- Lower school graduation rates
- Increase in crime/organized crime rate
- Deterioration of housing and general quality of life

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Young Liberals urge the government to work with local governments, businesses, nonprofit and community organizations in order to find development plan and strategies that would unlock existing resources and potential for the economic development, improving public services, and quality of life;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the government introduce:

- A Neighbourhood Investment Tax Credit in order to encourage businesses and individuals to support development projects and services; and,
- A Community Development Grant in order to improve motivation, skills, and quality of life of the residents
- Small Business Loan Program in order to provide financing for business start-up and expansion
- Neighbourhood Energy Retrofit/Conservation Projects in order to create more local jobs and increase energy efficiency of the housing. These projects will pass on the savings from energy conservation directly to the residents thus helping low-income and single-parent families

Increase Funding for Legal Aid Ontario

Submitted By: Gloria Li, York University Young Liberals and Toronto Centre Young Liberal

WHEREAS community legal clinics in Ontario are understaffed and underfunded, thus, affecting the quality of service and sustainability;

WHEREAS Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) is cutting administrative costs by closing local Legal Aid offices and substituting the former service with a toll-free service, which can leave clients frustrated as the waiting time can become lengthy;

WHEREAS LAO is making cuts to the Clinic Resource Office (CRO) leading to the decrease of efficiency as the quantity of resources made available to the 79 community legal clinics throughout Ontario is affected;

BE IT RESOLVED that each community legal clinic is properly staffed with a team of staff lawyers with the number of staffs reflecting the number of service needed in its catchment area;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT LAO create a service which provides face-to-face interaction between LAO staff and clients through similar service as the PAT developed by Utah-based uGenius Technology for banking machines;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT LAO reinstate the barrister service to which it has cut from CRO as barristers can assist clinics in working on big cases.