



ANNUAL REPORT

2020/2021



OUR MISSION

Social Planning Toronto challenges inequity in our city — through knowledge generation, debate, civic engagement, advocacy, and collaboration — to spark social and policy change.

OUR VISION

An equitable, inclusive, and accessible Toronto — shaped by the diversity of its residents and rooted in social and economic justice.

OUR VALUES

- We are committed to equity, diversity, inclusion, and anti-racism
- We respect the rights, knowledge, protocols, and traditions of Indigenous peoples
- We are independent and non-partisan
- We are stronger through our work with partners
- We are accountable to the community
- We ground our work in the lived experiences and expertise of local communities
- We are persistent and proactive, recognizing change is often a long process
- We value evidence-based decision making

CHAIR & ED MESSAGE

The Board of Directors is pleased to formally welcome Jin Huh as our new Executive Director. As we embark on a new chapter in the life of SPT, we have made a decision to jointly bring you our organizational message.

As Toronto emerges from the third wave, we reflect on all the ways the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated existing inequalities. We mourn the loss of so many lives and the injustices experienced by so many this past year. We hold in our hearts in particular Indigenous communities who must grapple with present-day realities of colonialism; Black residents and People of Colour who continue to endure racism and racist violence; and women, frontline and precarious workers, and residents of Toronto's inner suburbs, who have borne the brunt of this pandemic.

And yet, despite the many challenges, we are hopeful. As a community, we are having more open dialogue about racism, anti-Black racism, Islamophobia, and truth and reconciliation. We are dreaming about what other worlds are possible. We have seen evidence of what can be accomplished through shared dialogue and understanding, mutual aid, grassroots movement building, collaborative planning and action, and increased political will. The nonprofit sector, in partnership with grassroots leaders, the healthcare sector, the City, and progressive funders like the United Way Greater Toronto, has been at the forefront of providing care, ensuring access, and identifying solutions that will ensure more equitable responses to the pandemic and beyond.

At Social Planning Toronto, we have experienced significant change. As we continue to refine our role and responsibilities and strategize how to best enact our new vision, mission, and values, certain elements are very clear. Through knowledge generation and translation, debate, civic engagement, advocacy and collaboration, we will shed light, enable, fight for, and act upon issues where economic and social inequality is most stark across this city. We will continue to work alongside all our partners, grounded in and accountable to the community, and using an intersectional equity lens. We will push the boundaries of what change is possible, in the service of social, economic, and racial justice.

We are grateful to our members, partners, funders, staff, and Board who continue to walk this path with us. We can only succeed if we do this together.

We thank our outgoing Board members Brigitte Bardeau and Hana Saab for their leadership and support over the past several years. As well, we thank Caryl Arundel, Interim Executive Director, for her tireless efforts over this past year.

We look forward to the year ahead as Social Planning Toronto and our partners play a critical role in ensuring a just and equitable recovery.

Sincerely,



Shannon Wiens
Chair of the Board




Jin Huh
Executive Director



INTERIM ED REPORT

Things are not the way they used to be, that's for sure. Like other organizations, Social Planning Toronto has been challenged to find new ways to work together and in communities.

While how we work has changed, the issues haven't. As we all know, poverty and inequality have intensified and deepened. We see evidence in the uneven distribution of COVID cases in Toronto and access to the vaccine, and in the reluctance to bring in a meaningful sick benefit for workers. School closures and the shift to remote learning, crowded transit, and the closure of parks, recreation, and community spaces affect some groups — including those with low income, racialized and Indigenous peoples, and persons with disabilities — more than others. This is not acceptable in a city with our level of wealth and resources.



I am hopeful that things can change. Looking back, I see that each crisis that our community and country has faced has led to significant shifts in what we do and how we do it. We have a window to shape change in our city — to engage all community members in a redesign of our systems, policies, processes, and use of resources. We have an opportunity to ensure that our recovery is grounded in social justice and equity. We simply can't return to the old ways.



Social Planning Toronto has communicated our message that recovery must be grounded in social justice and equity in our work over the past months. We deputed and reminded City Council of the 10 Principles for a Green and Just Recovery. We communicated the need for change to the media, our members, and the community. We convened and supported residents to actively contribute to recovery discussions. Our *Community Voices Pave the Road to Recovery* report summarized what we heard from 1,400 residents about community priorities for recovery. And we used the findings from our 2018 *Talking Access & Equity* report to advocate for more accessible and inclusive communication to increase vaccine trust in vulnerable communities.

In our responses to federal and provincial budgets, we advocated for more resources to address deep-rooted inequalities. To ensure that there are municipal resources to support communities, we tracked and analyzed the municipal budget, hosted town halls, convened our partners and sector leaders, shared information and analysis through fact sheets and our annual City Budget Watch blog, and advocated for better revenue tools for Toronto including a property tax surcharge or "mansion" tax. In addition to our usual advocacy through the media and directly to Council, we tried something new — the People's Budget Platform — to bring community voices to a virtual budget process.

System change is a long process that requires persistence and determination. I have seen evidence of that persistence in our work this year. Take housing, for example. Our *Spaces and Places of Exclusion* report exposed rental housing disparities in immigrant communities in Toronto, resulting in the tabling of a private members bill (Bill 252) recommending a human rights approach to housing. We are now working with partners to push the City to implement a stronger inclusionary zoning policy that will benefit more Torontonians than the one currently drafted. Our interest in inclusionary zoning started in 2018 with the *Inclusionary Zoning: Evidence and Implications* report.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR WORK

 @SocialPlanningToronto
 @planningtoronto

 socialplanningtoronto.org
 socialplanningtoronto.org/email

As you can see, we are steadfast in our pursuit of equity and social justice, and we have been busy. The independent, evidence-based voice of Social Planning Toronto is as needed today as it was when the organization was first established 64 years ago.

Social Planning Toronto is in a good position to continue this leadership. I am proud of the new mission, vision, and values we developed together and know that they will provide a strong grounding for future work. We value our connections and collaborations with members and organizational and community partners and know that we must work *together* to make change.

I will end my interim role at SPT by saying that it's been a pleasure working with the Board of Directors, Board Chair Shannon Wiens, and the staff team, and by offering a warm welcome to Jin Huh, SPT's new Executive Director.



Caryl Arundel
Interim Executive Director
(October 2021 to May 2021)



WE'RE CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF NONPROFIT EXCELLENCE!

2012	Liane Regendanz
2013	Rob Howarth <i>posthumously to</i> Colin Hughes, Charlotte Maher
2014	Kay Blair
2015	Heather McGregor
2016	Debbie Douglas
2017	Debbie Field, Sunder Singh
2018	Deena Ladd (Lifetime Achievement) Hamdi Jimale, Michael Prosserman, Justin Wiebe (Inspiring Leadership)*
2019	Victor Willis, Doris Power (Lifetime Achievement) Anjum Sultana (Inspiring Leadership)
2020	<i>ceremony cancelled due to the pandemic</i>
2021	Bill Sinclair, Lorraine Duff (Lifetime Achievement) Talia Bronstein (Inspiring Leadership)

The Frances Lankin Community Service Award recognizes individuals who've made a significant contribution to Toronto's nonprofit sector.

We're celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Award with a look back at previous recipients.

www.franceslankinaward.com

Frances Lankin
COMMUNITY SERVICE
AWARD

* second award category added to spotlight a young leader

WHO IS SPT?

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Shannon Wiens, Chair



Daniel Fridmar, Vice-Chair



Don Altman, Treasurer



Celia Denov, Secretary



John Campey



Alina Chatterjee



Rhonda Frizzell



John Joseph Mastendrea



Jean Olemou



Neil Parmar



Hana Saab



Nazia Shahrin



John Willis



Max Zhu



Brigitte Bardeau*

OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM



Executive Director:
Jin Huh



Director of Operations:
Maria Serrano



Financial Coordinator:
Mildred Gordillo Mullings



Interim Executive
Director: Caryl Arundel*



Financial Manager:
Mohamed Ismail* (contract)

* former director or manager

OUR STAFF TEAM



Program Support:
Mary Micallef



Communications
Coordinator: Lisa Ferguson



Membership
Coordinator: Ryan Tilley*

COMMUNITY PLANNING



Senior Community
Planner: Israt Ahmed



Senior Community
Planner: Shahina Sayani



Community Planner:
Saroja Ponnambalam



Community Planner:
Shadya Yasin



Neighbourhood Grants
Ambassador: Sarah Ali*



Neighbourhood Grants
Ambassador: Priya Hawkins*

RESEARCH & POLICY



Senior Researcher & Policy
Analyst: Beth Wilson



Researcher & Policy
Analyst: Sharma Queiser



Researcher & Policy Analyst:
Angelica de Jesus-
Bretschneider

Research & Policy Interns

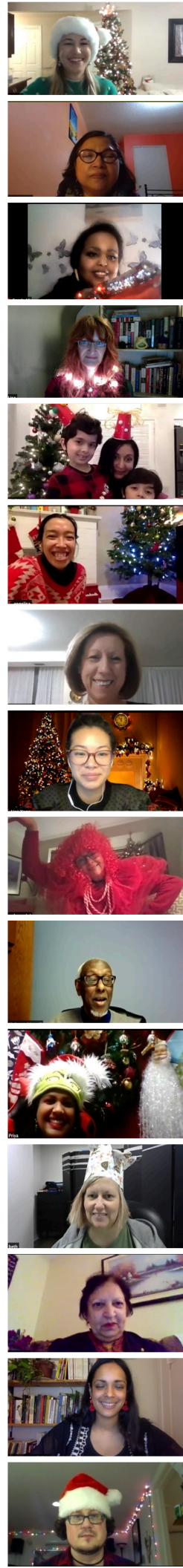
Leah Nicholson[†], Christina Love[†]

Placement Students

Ali Belisle, Lisa Yang, Rachel Kannenberg

* former staff member

[†] Thank you to York University's Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies for funding these summer intern positions



OUR MEMBERS & FUNDERS

OUR MEMBERS

[Access Independent Living Services](#)
 Advocacy Centre for Tenants Ontario (ACTO)
[Aphasia Institute](#)
 Birchmount Bluffs Neighbourhood Centre
[Canadian Red Cross Society – Toronto Region](#)
 Catholic Cross Cultural Services
[Cecil Community Centre](#)
 Centre for Immigration and Community Services
[Centre for Independent Living in Toronto \(CILT\)](#)
 Children's Aid Society of Toronto
[Community Living Toronto](#)
 COSTI Immigrant Services
[CUPE Local 4400](#)
 Daily Bread Food Bank
[Dixon Hall](#)
 Etobicoke Services for Seniors
[Family Service Toronto](#)
 Findhelp Information Services
[FoodShare Toronto](#)
 Fred Victor Centre
[Homes First Society](#)
 Jane/Finch Community Legal Services
[Jewish Family and Child Service](#)
 JIAS Toronto
[Laidlaw Foundation](#)
 Lumacare Services
[Neighbourhood Information Post](#)
 North York Community House
[North York Women's Centre](#)
 Ralph Thornton Centre
[Scadding Court Community Centre](#)
 Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities (SCHC)
[Scarborough Community Legal Services](#)
 Scarborough Women's Centre
[St. Felix Centre](#)
 Strides Toronto
[Support Enhance Access Services Centre \(S.E.A.S.\)](#)

The 519
[The Learning Enrichment Foundation](#)
 TNO-The Neighbourhood Organization
[Toronto and York Region CURC Area Council](#)
 Toronto Arts Council
[Toronto Community for Better Child Care](#)
 Toronto Neighbourhood Centres
[Toronto Public Library Workers Union Local 4948](#)
 Toronto Workmen's Circle
[University Settlement Recreation Centre](#)
 West Neighbourhood House
[West Scarborough Neighbourhood Community Centre](#)
 Woodgreen Red Door Family Shelter
[Working Women Community Centre](#)
 Yorktown Family Services
[YWCA Toronto](#)

OUR FUNDERS



United Way
Greater Toronto



THANK YOU!

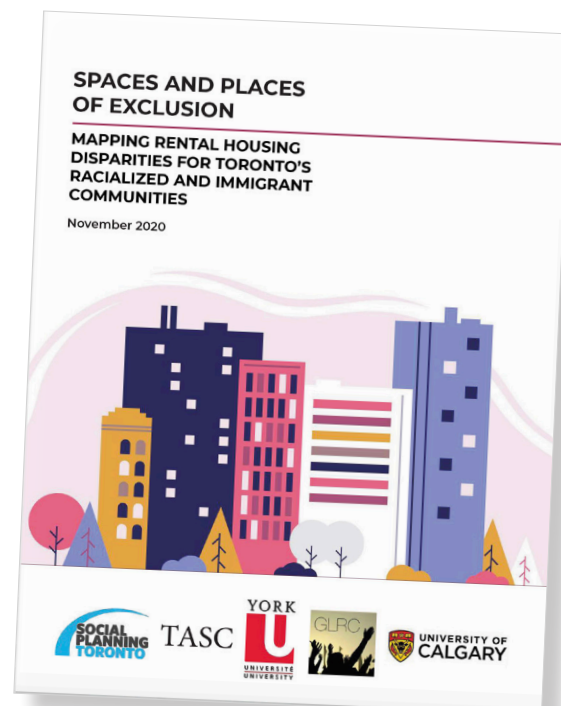
OUR WORK

OUR RESEARCH MATTERS

Our *Spaces and Places of Exclusion* research, conducted in partnership with Luann Good Gingrich (York) and Naomi Lightman (U Calgary), used disaggregated race-based and other social data to examine Toronto's rental housing crisis. This first-of-its-kind study highlighted deep social, racial, and spatial inequities that disproportionately impact racialized individuals, specific racialized populations, newcomers, and refugees in tenant households.

“Toronto's housing crisis is a story of social exclusion by space, place, and race. The pandemic has reminded us of the urgent need for action to realize the right to housing. It is a matter of human rights, racial justice, and public health.”

— Senior Researcher & Policy Analyst Beth Wilson

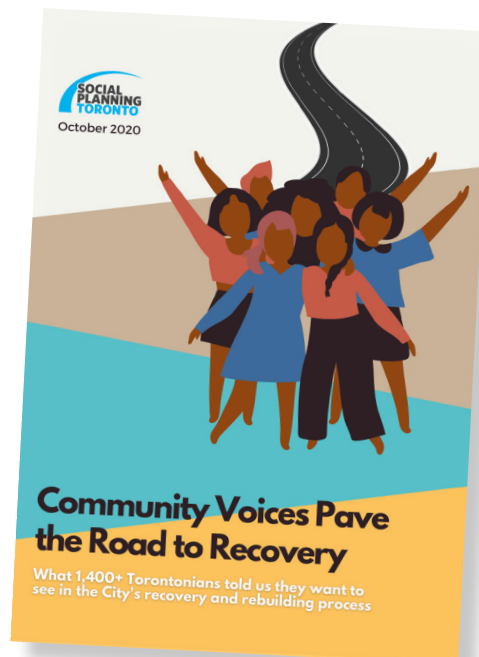


OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MATTERS

Our *Community Voices Pave the Road to Recovery* report resulted from consultations with 1,400+ residents from under-served communities hit hardest by the pandemic. This engagement documented significant increases in the need for income supports, affordable housing, and mental health services as our city recovers.

“There is no full recovery until those who are disproportionately impacted are heard and prioritized in the City's strategies, recommendations and policies — Black, Indigenous, racialized, womxn, seniors, undocumented and incarcerated, LGBTQ2S+ identified, people with (dis)abilities, low-income communities, and other equity seeking groups. This consultation was referenced by the City Manager as a guiding document for the City to put equity first in Toronto's road to recovery.”

— Community Planner Saroja Ponnambalam



“SPT engaged with hard-to-reach marginalized groups through us in the TORR survey who would be otherwise left out from this important strategy conversation. Our community members were disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, and as grassroots leaders we were happy to capture their thoughts on the recovery and rebuild of Toronto that they are also part of. We appreciate SPT for embracing these often-ignored voices.”

— Nasima Akhter, Bangladeshi-Canadian community leader on the Danforth

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	2020	2019
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 644,505	\$ 505,579
Accounts receivable	26,867	29,020
Grants receivable	—	3,678
Prepaid expenses and deposits	23,734	18,142
	695,106	556,419
TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTERED FOR OTHERS	41,539	6,067
	\$ 736,645	\$ 562,486
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 20,788	\$ 15,863
Deferred project funds	171,666	75,906
	192,454	91,769
TRUST FUNDS ADMINISTERED FOR OTHERS	41,539	6,067
	233,993	97,836
NET ASSETS		
UNRESTRICTED	502,652	464,650
	\$736,645	\$562,486

Hogg, Shain & Scheck PC
Toronto, Ontario | May 11, 2021

NOTE: Statements have been extracted from the full set of audited financial statements (available upon request).

APPROVED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

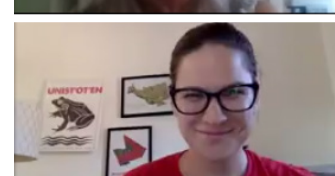
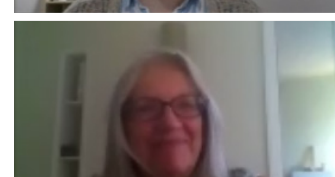
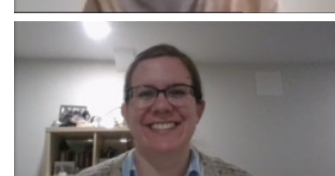
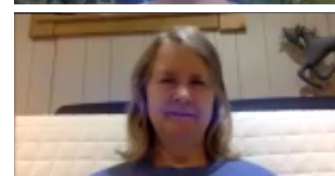
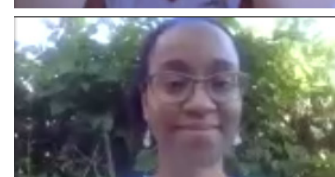
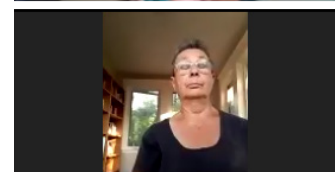
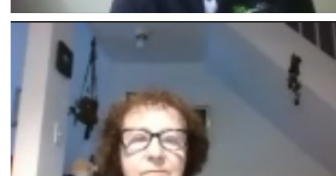
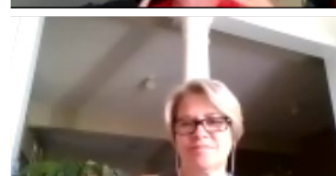
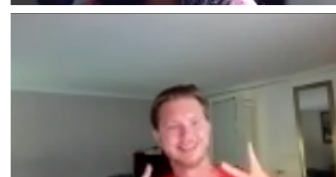
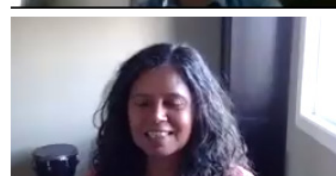
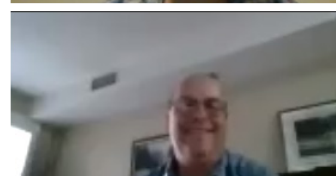
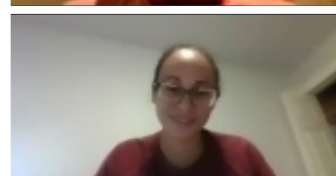
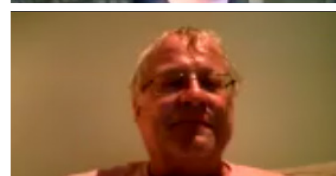
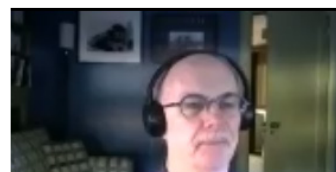
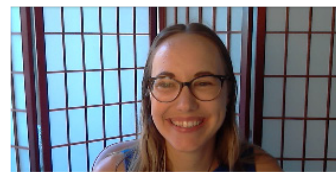

Shannon Wiens, Chair


Don Altman, Treasurer

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS & CHANGES IN NET ASSETS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

	General Operations	Projects	2020	2019
REVENUES				
City of Toronto	\$426,200	\$264,541	\$690,741	\$864,109
United Way	618,174	—	618,174	657,995
Membership fees	40,010	—	40,010	51,760
Fees for services	2,000	20,325	22,325	45,357
Government of Canada	—	10,124	10,124	54,334
Foundation grants	10,000	—	10,000	22,000
Donations & other fundraising	9,903	—	9,903	21,813
Other income	8,101	—	8,101	34,753
	1,114,388	294,990	1,409,378	1,752,121
EXPENSES				
Salaries & benefits	713,682	149,814	863,496	1,121,068
Purchased services	122,815	38,345	161,160	95,878
Building occupancy	154,138	266	154,404	169,570
Program supplies	16,698	82,668	99,366	77,245
Office and administration	66,683	3,148	69,831	82,858
Professional fees	12,017	—	12,017	26,461
Other	7,005	—	7,005	11,284
Travel	2,381	1,716	4,097	22,567
Provision for bad debts	—	—	—	43,541
	1,095,419	275,957	1,371,376	1,650,472
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES FROM OPERATIONS	18,969	19,033	38,002	101,649
OTHER INCOME				
Charges for administrative support	19,033	(19,033)	—	—
Loss on equity investment	—	—	—	(23,300)
	19,033	(19,033)	—	(23,300)
EXCESS OF REVENUES	38,002	—	38,002	78,349
NET ASSETS – BEGINNING OF YEAR	464,650	—	464,650	386,301
NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR	502,652	—	\$502,652	\$464,650



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