



HUMAN SERVICES  
PLANNING COALITION | YORK REGION

## Media Advisory

For Immediate Release

Monday, May 16, 2005

### **HSPC and community groups to launch Inclusivity Action Plan**

NEWMARKET – York Region Human Services Planning Coalition will launch an *Inclusivity Action Plan* to assist York Region in becoming an ethno-culturally inclusive community at Seneca College on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

The event will be hosted by HSPC Co-Chairs Joyce Frustaglio, City of Vaughan Regional Councillor, and Bill Hogarth, York Region District School Board Director of Education. Featured speakers include Chief Armand La Barge, York Regional Police, along with Ranjit Kumar and Faduma Awow Mohamed, HSPC community members who will speak about their experiences and express encouragement to others to get behind the Action Plan.

**WHEN:** Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.

**WHERE:** Seneca College, King Campus, Garriock Hall - Main Lobby

#### **PARTICIPANTS:**

- Vaughan Regional Councillor Joyce Frustaglio, HSPC Co-Chair
- Bill Hogarth, Director of Education, York Region District School Board, HSPC Co-Chair
- Chief Armand La Barge, York Regional Police
- Ranjit Kumar, HSPC community representative from Markham
- Faduma Awow Mohamed, HSPC community representative from Vaughan

#### **BACKGROUND:**

Ethno-cultural inclusivity is the result of people helping each other through caring, cooperation and trust. It is achieved when people of different ethno-cultural backgrounds live, learn, work, and play together in a way that fulfills and generates the feeling and – even more importantly – the reality of belonging.

A truly inclusive community provides equal opportunity for everyone. An inclusive community accommodates diversity everyday in every way. Diversity can take many forms, including disability, gender, sexual orientation, race, colour and culture. The *Inclusivity Action Plan* places a special focus on ethno-cultural inclusivity due to the impact of rapid growth in the number of immigrants in York Region.

The *Inclusivity Action Plan* is a community plan to invest in York Region's capacity to welcome and integrate immigrants and, thereby, to create social capital for a vibrant economy, a highly skilled labour force and an enviable quality of life.

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**Contact:** Tim Paleczny, Corporate Communications Services, York Region  
(905) 830-4444 or 1-877-474-9675, ext. 1238  
[tim.paleczny@york.ca](mailto:tim.paleczny@york.ca)