

TCCSA Annual Report

### **ABOUT TCCSA**

For more than four decades, TCCSA has been assisting thousands of newcomers to settle and integrate into the Canadian society each year.



TCCSA is operating in a tumultuous environment marked by an increasingly diverse immigrant population from new global destinations; ongoing newcomer and longer-term immigrant challenges such as underemployment, social exclusion as well as mental health and intergenerational family challenges; and a service sector facing funding challenges and an emerging need for more collaborative, creative service delivery.

VISION

A robust and inclusive Canada built on the actualization of potentials and full integration of its diverse communities.

MISSION

To enhance the well-being and resilience of diverse communities by strengthening competencies and fostering participation through effective and professional human services.

VALUES

### Respect

Ensure everyone is heard, valued and treated fairly

#### Inclusivity

Appreciate diversity and foster a sense of belonging

### Creativity

Innovate for problem solving and continuous improvement

#### Collaboration

Foster mutual respect, fairness and synergistic collaboration

### Accountability

Pursue excellence and conduct business in a responsible and effective manner

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### "Embracing Change with Resilience"

This moment in time has proven that when we work together, we are able to make a difference. Despite the unprecedented challenges of this past year, TCCSA has demonstrated that resilience and dedication will strengthen the communities we serve.

With the support from our funding partners, including the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada and Ontario Trillium Foundation, TCCSA has adjusted effectively with new ideas and versatile as well as innovative programming in response to the challenges of the global pandemic. We ensured that essential and pertinent services were delivered to our community with quality continuously. In every decision we made, we put the well-being of our clients, volunteers, staff, and the community at the forefront.

In 2021, there was a breakthrough for TCCSA in serving ethnic youths by helping them overcome barriers to employment. With the new support from the Government of Canada's Youth Employment and Skills Strategy, we have launched a new program to support the youths to develop a wide range of skills and knowledge to enhance their chance of getting their first positive work experience, experiencing success in the workplace and becoming a community leader in the future. This Youth Employment Project launched at the onset of the pandemic and continued to grow as an important service to our youth who were unable to find meaningful employment. The goal of this program has been sustained, long-term quality employment for 45 youths and to support local businesses. The program has reached out to 500 employers in a variety of industries such as retail, restaurants, manufacturing, non-profits, professional services, and trade skills.

Through the collaboration with our partners, we were able to create synergy and strengthen programs and services to serve the community at large in the area of anti-racism, and also combating the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Moreover, with the support from United Way Greater Toronto, TCCSA continued to deliver a variety of relief programs to the less resourceful groups with immediate needs during the pandemic, these programs include "We Care" and "Healthy Food Basket of Connections". We have delivered face masks and grocery cards to low-income people who could purchase the grocery online and receive the grocery in the comfort of their own homes.

While encountering all the challenges of the past year, TCCSA has developed a practical plan for the reopening and preparing for the evolution of our services to the communities in the "post-pandemic new normal". One new focus of service development will be sustaining the mental well-being of the newcomers.

TCCSA staff continued to deliver on our programs with resilience and dedication. Incorporating all the public health and safety measures, our staff rose to the challenge and never missed a beat. Their extraordinary efforts and times were greatly appreciated.

TCCSA could not accomplish all these important tasks for the community without the unwavering support from our Board of Directors, staff, funding partners, stakeholders, volunteers, and community partners.

A sincere thank you to all of you for your time, contributions, and commitment to TCCSA. We will continue to build on the trust and support to serve our community and enhance the quality of life for all.

Warmest regards,

**Nelson Cheng** 

President

Janice Tsoi

Janie 80

**Executive Director** 

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### **MILESTONE**

1973 **Toronto Chinese Community Services** 1976 Association (TCCSA) founded. Registered as a non-profit and charitable organization. 1984 1986 Became Member of the United Way of Greater Toronto. Moved from 70 D'Arcy Street to 1990 310 Spadina Avenue. Peel Centre opened in Mississauga 1997 at Palstan Road. York Centre opened in Markham at 3160 Steeles Avenue East. 2005 2006 York Centre moved to Metro Square. Scarborough Centre opened 2007 at Bamburgh Circle. Agency name changed to 2008 "The Cross-Cultural Community Services Association". Annual Pre-settlement 2009 workshops in China started. Peel Centre moved to Mississauga 2012 Chinese Centre. 2013 Organized a Guinness World Record breaking event: The Longest Dancing Dragon (5.56km), Peel Centre moved to 720 Burnhamthorpe 5,000 volunteers attended. Road West and expansion of Scarborough Centre. 2017 2018 Toronto Centre moved to 302 Spadina Avenue. Celebrated TCCSA's 45th Anniversary. 2020 New initiative: Community Connections Program 2021 for newcomer youth, women and seniors New support from Government of Canada's 2022 Youth Employment & Skills Strategy: Youth

Reflect and Retool Program

New initiative: Mental Health Specialists and

Community Engagement

### **SETTLEMENT SERVICES**

# TOP 10 Popular Workshops

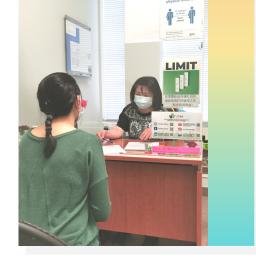
- Senior Benefits
- PR Card Renewal
- Low-income Housing Application
- Taxation Information
- Canadian Citizenship Application
- English Conversation Circle
- Youth Volunteer Opportunities
- Virtual Field Trip
- Art & Craft Programs
- Healthy Lifestyle-related Information

We offer a multitude of services to ensure a smooth transition and adaptation to the Canadian living style and quality of life; by providing one-on-one supportive counseling, information workshops, and webinars, in order to strengthen their knowledge and skills.

Our programs are customized for different groups in the community to ensure a positive outcome by meeting their needs and interests.

I have gained various information that can help me to settle in Canada through joining the TCCSA informative workshops and programs. The staff is very professional, knowledgeable and patient to answer all the questions during the workshops.

QUOTE FROM WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT





7925

clients served in one-on-one services (In-person, Online, Phone)

141
Information and Referral workshops

2648 participants





**322**Community
Connections
Sessions

4015 participants

# TOP 4 languages used by clients

- Mandarin
- Cantonese
- Vietnamese
- English





### Top 5 places of origin

- China
- Hong Kong
- Vietnam
- Taiwan
- Malaysia



Going forward, I will continue to study hard, get more exposure to practice my oral skills in daily life. I also want to thank TCCSA for allowing me to improve my English and better adapt to my new life in Canada.

QUOTE FROM LINC STUDENT SHILI XIE

One of our level 3-4 clients wrote to their teacher, "Before I joined the LINC program, I was nervous about going out and speaking English. When I had a parent-teacher interview, I always asked for a translator. But now, I can speak English well with my children's teachers and communicate with people confidently."

"My teacher not only teaches English, but her selfless sharing of life experiences has a very good influence on me. I am very grateful that the government has this program so that I can integrate into this community faster. I hope this program can continue so that I can keep getting better."

QUOTE FROM LINC STUDENT BELLA YU

# LANGUAGE AND SKILLS TRAINING

Embracing change with resilience, the pandemic situation significantly impacted our programs and services, but it also compelled us to innovate and offer the same learning opportunities virtually as in-person classes and address the obstacles and challenges preventing newcomers from learning English.

Despite the challenges of virtual instruction, our clients made significant progress in listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills and improved their overall English language proficiency.

The Care for Newcomer Children (CNC) program provided online classes to our newcomer children and conducted various activities to keep the children engaged and motivated. These virtual classes were very well received by our clients.

850
Newcomer clients studied at TCCSA LINC classes





31

Virtual LINC classes from Literacy to Level 6

358+

Clients in all four centres progressed by at least one benchmark level



# YOUTH REFLECT AND RETOOL

80 youths served

youths placed in quality employment opportunities

**500** employers were reached out to

self identify as
Black Canadians

100%

of the program participants self identify as members of visible minorities

20% did not complete high school

45% are not employed & not in school at the time of intake

**POSITIVE IMPACTS** 



Participants have gained confidence and skills in exploring the employment market.



Participants' self-esteem and self-worth have increased after gaining employment.



Participants have leveraged placements and interviews as steppingstones to take control over their career and life goals.



Employers have been helped to fill staffing shortages.

"The placement has helped me so much in landing my permanent job, thank you for all your help over the past few months, greatly appreciated!"

**QUOTE FROM A CLIENT -**



The Youth Reflect and Retool (YRR) program prepares youths and young adults 15 to 30 years of age with the tools and skills to explore the labour market and to successfully transition into sustained employment.

The program serves youths who are facing barriers and challenges to employment, such as cultural, language, disability, mental health, and/or vulnerability barriers.

YRR outreaches to employers across a range of industries to provide free services to employers, including job description writing, job posting, and pre-screening of candidates, and matching with youth participants.

### **Services**

#### **Employment Services**

Resume and cover letter writing assistance, interview preparation, 1-1 career planning and counselling, job search strategies

#### **Employment Skills Training**

Workplace transferrable skills development and certifications offered

#### **Quality Employment Opportunity**

Youth participants are matched with employers for job placement over a period of up to 15 weeks, working up to 35 hours per week gaining real world work experience.





My English vocabulary, listening and speaking skills have been greatly improved through the TCCSA's English conversation circles.

The teachers introduced various interesting topics in each class, and every student was able to share our cultures, life lessons, and work experiences. We gained a better understanding about the inclusion and diversity in Canada. Thank you very much, TCCSA, for providing this English learning platform. We hope to continue receiving this support for those who want to learn English.

QUOTE FROM A PARTICIPANT JUDY

"First of all, I would like to thank the teacher and Anne for their hard work. As a beginner, it is great for the teacher to use everyday language to teach us. Thank you!"

QUOTE FROM A PARTICIPANT

# COMMUNITY SERVICES

With dedication, creativity and adaptability of our staff and volunteers, TCCSA's Community Services were able to offer quality programming through online virtual platforms. Our online EarlyON programs, Chinese school, tutoring classes, support groups, and English conversation circles continued to support the families and children in our community. In 2021, we added a special conversation circle for seniors and women where they can practice speaking in English and discuss on everyday topics in a safe and open space. We also connected with families each month through our health and wellness programs which helped our participants to develop different strategies to improve their mental and physical wellness.

Our online Chinese school and tutoring classes had more than 25 students and 98% attendance rate. More than 40 students attended our English conversation circles. Over 130 families with more than 200 children participated in our Ontario Early Years (EarlyON) programs.



### **CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY**

TCCSA had multiple COVID-19 relief projects to provide eligible individuals and families to aid with their food security during the pandemic.



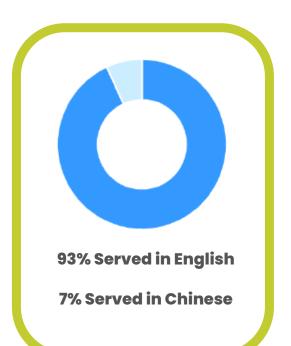
"Future Ready" is a collaboration between RBC Future Launch and TCCSA to empower youth to be better prepared for the careers of tomorrow, especially in a post-pandemic "new normal". This virtual event featured a panel of experts and motivational speakers who provided information, advice, resources and encouragement to youth and their parents to help them unlock their career potential.



### Future Ready Speaker: Skylar Park

Canadian Taekwondo Olympian





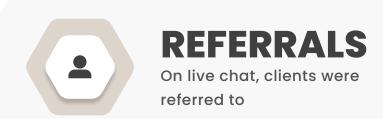
### LIVE CHAT SERVICE

### **Since February 2022**

TCCSA implemented new and innovative ways to serve our clients through the Live Chat service during the COVID-19 pandemic.

This new live chat service increased our ability to answer our client's questions quickly, efficiently, and conveniently.

Live chat provided us with great opportunities to connect with prospective and new clients. More new clients with diverse ethnic backgrounds accessed our services through live chat.



**Settlement counsellors** 

**TCCSA Workshops & Events** 

**LINC & ESL Classes** 

**Volunteer opportunities** 

**Youth Employment Services** 

**Community Legal Clinics** 

**Financial Support** 

**Educational institutions** 

**Government of Canada Websites** 

Community Housing & Long-Term Care

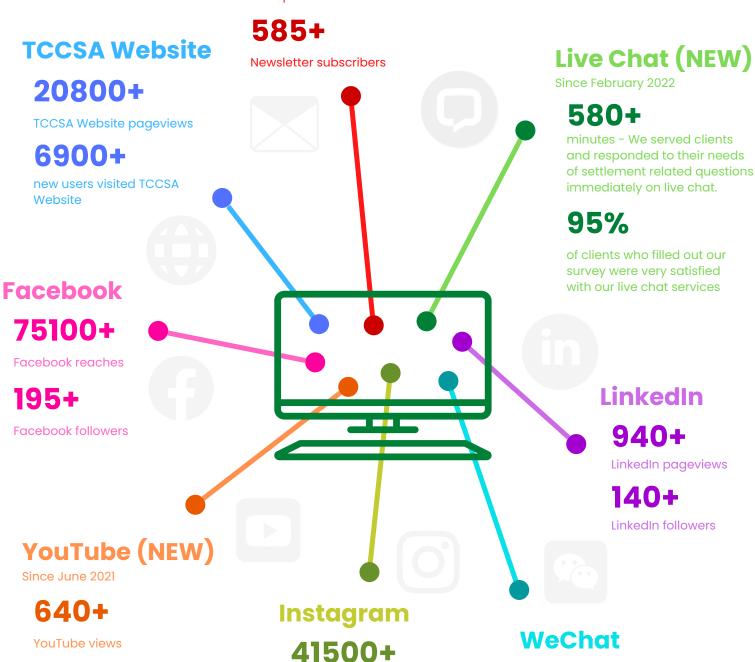
**Crisis Help Lines** 

# TCCSA ONLINE SERVICES



# Monthly E-Newsletter (NEW)

Since April 2021



Instagram reaches

250+

3680+
Client contacts

# **SPECIAL EVENTS**













# BOARD OF DIRECTORS





Nelson Cheng President



Scott Au
1st Vice President / Treasurer



Kei Leung 2nd Vice President



Jennifer Shen
3rd Vice President



Emily Cheng Secretary



Nick Cai Director



Andy Cheung
Director



Matthew Chow
Director



Allan Fok Director



Henry Chui Director



Kelvin Ko Director



Jeff Leung Director



Dr. Yingya Wu Director



Jenny Li Director



David Chau Director

# **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

# THE CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION Statement of Financial Position As at March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 3) Accounts receivable	\$ 724,389 17,721	\$ 635,840
Contributions receivable	355,501	148,331
Government remittances recoverable	64,456	56,983
Prepaid expenses	168,563	156,469
	1,330,630	997,623
CAPITAL ASSETS (note 4)	210,146	 169,912
	\$ 1,540,776	\$ 1,167,535
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 123,344	\$ 101,369
Deferred contributions (note 6)	494,981	239,112
	618,325	340,481
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	922,451	827,054
	\$ 1,540,776	\$ 1,167,535

### **PREPARED BY:**



# **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

### THE CROSS-CULTURAL COMMUNITY SERVICES ASSOCIATION

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets For the year ended March 31, 2022

	2022	2021
REVENUE		
Government funding and other contributions:		
Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada	\$ 4,022,106	\$ 3,854,654
United Way	16,821	92,327
Provincial Funding	159,042	152,318
Other Federal Funding	214,830	40,232
City of Toronto	29,285	28,995
Purchase of Services	90,394	60,762
Ontario Trillium Foundation	-	20,003
Other Income	11,779	13,162
Amortization of deferred contributions	125,658	102,499
	4,669,915	4,364,952
General contributions and fundraising activities:		
Fundraising and donations	34,081	13,248
Program delivery - other	14,984	19,147
Membership fees	1,176	2,260
	50,241	34,655
	4,720,156	4,399,607
EXPENSES		
Salaries and wages	3,360,028	3,092,448
Rental (note 7)	817,105	810,173
Program delivery - other	134,383	162,032
Travel expenses	1,672	1,610
Office expenses	74,599	126,100
Telecommunications and utilities	50,217	45,120
Advertising and promotion	13,790	11,529
Professional fees	37,747	4,533
Bad debt	· -	5,608
Amortization of capital assets	135,218	103,058
	4,624,759	4,362,211
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	95,397	37,396
Net assets, beginning of year	827,054	789,658
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NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 922,451	\$ 827,054

### **PREPARED BY:**



# **OUR OFFICES**





### **YORK CENTRE**

- Youth Employment Service
- Care for Newcomer Children for LINC program





### **SCARBOROUGH CENTRE**

- Personable staff
- Easily assessable location





### **TORONTO CENTRE**

- Chinese school
- EarlyOn programs





### **PEEL CENTRE**

 Weekly itinerant services at Mississauga and Oakville Newcomer Information Centres (NIC)

# TCCSA STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Organizational capacity progressively in serving diverse communities

### **BUILDING**

### **ENHANCING**

TCCSA's profile and image through effective communication and brand building

Human capital to sustain its success and nurture continuous development of the organization

### **STRENGTHENING**

### **ENSURING**

TCCSA's financial sustainability

Program development and delivery infrastructure to meet the needs of the communities proactively

### **IMPROVING**

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the contribution and support received from our funders, donors, partners, volunteers and staff.

### **FUNDING SOURCES**

- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada
- Employment and Social Development Canada
- Department of Canadian Heritage
- Ontario Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
- Ontario Trillium Foundation
- City of Toronto
- United Way Greater Toronto
- EarlyON Child and Family Centres (through College-Montrose Children's Place)
- Corporate Sponsorships and Private Donations

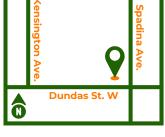
### TCCSA LOCATIONS



#### **York Centre**

Metro Square Unit 213A, 3636 Steeles Avenue East, Markham L3R 1K9

Phone: (905) 948-1671 Fax: (905) 948-9997



#### **Scarborough Centre**

Unit A107, 325 Bamburgh Circle, Toronto M1W 3Y1 Phone: (416) 502–9500

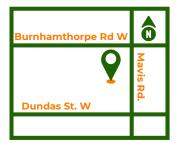
Fax: (416) 502-2900



#### **Toronto Centre**

Unit 206, 302 Spadina Avenue, Toronto M5T 3Y1

Phone: (416) 977-4026 Fax: (416) 351-0510



#### **Peel Centre**

Unit 2,720 Burnhamthorpe Road W., Mississauga L5C 3G1

Phone: (905) 615-9500 Fax: (905) 615-0622



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