



Toronto
Community
Housing



Positive tenant experience

Tenant Action Funds Tables Information Package

Introduction

Hi.

If you're reading this, you're someone who is committed to bringing change to your community.

We're looking for tenants to be part of our 2020 Tenant Action Funds (TAF) Tables.

Members of the Tenant Action Funds Tables will include Toronto Community Housing tenants from across the city. They will review tenant funding requests for community projects and initiatives that respond to tenant-identified priorities.

This package contains more information about the role, responsibilities and how to apply for the position. If you have any questions, you can send an email to EngagementRefresh@torontohousing.ca or call **416-981-4435**.

Thank you for reading.



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**Addressing tenant
priorities to build
vibrant communities**



The Tenant Engagement System

The Tenant Engagement System was approved by Toronto Community Housing's (TCHC) Board of Directors on July 19, 2019. It is the formal system of engaging tenants living in Toronto Community Housing.

The goal of the refreshed Tenant Engagement System is to increase tenant participation in local decision-making, as recommended in the Mayors Task Force and Tenant's First Reports. Tenants and staff have worked together over the past several years to develop a refreshed Tenant Engagement System that encourages and empowers more TCHC tenants to get involved in local decision-making in their community.



The model reflects the principles of the Tenant Charter, including all requirements for accessibility under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act and TCHC's Human Rights, Harassment and Fair Access Policy. The Tenant Engagement System supports an inclusive and accessible environment that promotes dignity and respect, free of discrimination and harassment.

Guided by the principles for effective and meaningful engagement - Respect, Equity, Informative, Inclusiveness, Accessibility and Collaboration, TCHC is committed to a robust and effective tenant engagement process and equitable opportunities for all tenants.

The vision of the Tenant Engagement System is to foster relationships with tenants and build vibrant communities through diverse, inclusive and collaborative methods that gives all tenants of TCHC a voice and input in community-related decision-making.

The foundation of the Tenant Engagement System is the needs and priorities identified by tenants through a priority setting process. Tenant priorities inform the focus of all structures in the Tenant Engagement System. Tenant priorities will also inform our approach to partnership development and our program and service delivery model.

Tenant Action Funds Tables: How we got here

To ensure tenants continue to access resources until the new Tenant Engagement System was implemented, we established four Interim Funding Tables (one in each region and one for the seniors portfolio) in September 2019 to help distribute Tenant Action Funds to tenants or tenant groups. The established groups were made up of representatives from across the TCHC portfolio, who were selected through an application and interview process.

Members of the Interim Funding Tables reviewed and approved requests by tenants and tenant groups to fund projects and initiatives that will respond to tenant-identified priorities.

Next steps

We are looking to establish the 2020 Tenant Action Funds Table by February 29, 2020. An orientation session will take place in early March. The first Tenant Action Funds application review meeting will take place during the third week of March.



Eligibility criteria

To be eligible to be part of the Tenant Action Funds Table, you must be a tenant 16 years of age or older, who is committed to individual and community well-being, passionate about your community and looking to enhance your leadership skills.

If this sounds like you will be a good fit, we encourage you to apply.

Personal attributes

You are interested in and committed to community well-being, are empathetic, a passionate collaborator and communicator, reliable, guided by an anti-oppression framework, are sensitive, respectful and have demonstrated leadership skills within your community.

Skills and qualifications

You are knowledgeable about the City of Toronto, communities in our city and tenants' needs and priorities. You also have knowledge of Toronto Community Housing's policies and operations or have a strong willingness to learn.

Experience

You are involved in your community and/or have experience in community development and working with tenants through Tenant Councils, advocacy initiatives, ongoing events, allocating resources etc.

Tenancy

You are 16 years of age or older and on a Toronto Community Housing lease agreement.



Membership roles and expectations

As a member of the Tenant Action Funds Table, you will work with other tenants to review and approve requests by tenants and tenant groups to resource projects and initiatives that will respond to tenant-identified priorities.

This is a great opportunity to network, build your skills and gain strong community engagement experience.

Conflict of interest

Members of the Tenant Action Funds Table are not allowed to submit funding requests for initiatives in their community. When there are funding requests from their building or townhouse, the member cannot participate in the assessment of those applications and is expected to sign a conflict of interest declaration form.

Members of the Tenant Action Funds Tables are expected to:

- support an inclusive environment that promotes dignity , respect and is free of discrimination and harassment
- attend one orientation and training session
- attend scheduled meetings between March and December 2020
- approve funding requests based on community priorities
- adhere to the expectations set out in the Tenant Charter. Visit torontohousing.ca/tenant-charter to read the Charter on our website.
- promote the availability of funds

Process to review funding requests

- Step one: review all applications and requests one week prior to the meeting
- Step two: review tenant-identified priorities of each community for which funding is requested
- Step three: review community demographics
- Step four: review status of available funds

The process description continues on page 8.

Membership roles and expectations

- Step five: staff will contact the tenant or tenant group prior to the application assessment if there are any questions or clarifications about the application
- Step six: assess application
- Step seven: sign-off on decision

Selection process

1. Interested? Submit an application to your local Community Services Coordinator or email EngagementRefresh@torontohousing.ca by January 31, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.
2. Short-list of applicants will be contacted for an interview. The final decisions on membership selection will be determined by a panel of tenants and staff.
3. Interviews will take place in early February.



Information sessions

Attend an information session to learn about the Tenant Action Funds Tables and the application process.

Date	Time	Location	Contact
Tuesday, January 14	2:30 to 4:30 p.m.	341 Bloor Street. W. St. George St. and Bloor St. W.	Tania Reid Tania.Reid@torontohousing.ca 647-471-9768
Tuesday, January 14	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	41 Mabelle Avenue Dundas Ave. W. and Mabelle Ave.	Sikander Panag Sikander.Panag@torontohousing.ca 416-873-6934
Wednesday, January 15	2:30 to 4:30 p.m.	65 Greencrest Circuit Markham Rd. and Lawrence Ave. E.	Afsar Manji Afsar.Manji@torontohousing.ca 647-458-2315
Wednesday, January 15	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	341 Bloor Street. W. St. George St. and Bloor St. W.	Tania Reid Tania.Reid@torontohousing.ca 647-471-9768
Thursday, January 16	2:30 to 4:30 p.m.	1775 Eglinton Avenue W. Dufferin St. and Eglinton Ave	Sikander Panag Sikander.Panag@torontohousing.ca 416-873-6934
Thursday, January 16	6:30 to 8:30 p.m.	20 Gordonridge Place Midland Ave. and Danforth Rd.	Afsar Manji Afsar.Manji@torontohousing.ca 647-458-2315

Get in touch



torontohousing.ca/TAftable



EngagementRefresh@torontohousing.ca



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