

JANUARY 27TH, 2023

TSN NEWSLETTER

MEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK



TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK 2023 UPDATES

The TSN wishes you all a happy new year!

We have many exciting projects to look forward to in the upcoming year!

- **TSN's strategic plan** is coming to an end this year and we will be embarking on a new plan for the upcoming years.
- Phase 2 of **TSN's Pipeline project** will be starting up where TSN is working with 6-8 "Champion Employer" shelter-operating organizations and our other project partners to develop and implement organizational development plans to put the recommendations into practice. We are also exploring opportunities to co-design and run a pilot shelter-work placement program for people with lived experiences, and develop sector-wide policy changes in partnership with SSHA.
- Early in 2022, TSN launched the Shelter System Grief and Loss Project funded by SSHA. Guided by an Advisory Committee comprised of front line and management staff, this project produced a Grief and Loss Service Model that shelters can adapt to their individual settings and which can provide a standard/framework for SSHA to implement for the sector as a whole- coming out soon!
- On January 5th, TSN hosted a session on navigating labour relations implications of rescinding mandatory vaccination directives and policies. Members were able to hear from The City on rescinding the Mandatory Vaccination Policy and Directive to community funded organizations, shelter's experience with grievances, arbitration and mediation and a presentation from Dan Mcpherson (legal consultant with Bass Associates) on Labour Relations and Human Rights Considerations. The session was well attended and gave members the opportunity to get clarity on what the rescinding might mean for their organizations.
- On January 25th, TSN hosted our first all member meeting of the year! This meeting focused on grief and loss- led by TSN's lead consultant William Patrick Porter who shared the Grief and Loss report and members had the opportunity to learn more about the project, grief & loss model and joined an engaging discussion!

TSN STAFF EMAIL DIRECTORY

The TSN team has new email addresses, to connect with staff please use the emails below:

TSN Executive Director: leslie@toshelternetwork.ca

TSN Coordinator: soha@toshelternetwork.ca

Pipeline Project Coordinator: gabriela@toshelternetwork.ca

Campaign Vaccination Project Coordinator: maiesha@toshelternetwork.ca

Campaign Vaccination Team Lead: edward@toshelternetwork.ca &
harriet@toshelternetwork.ca

Communications Coordinator: stephanie@toshelternetwork.ca

EMERGENCY SHELTER AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICE WORKER APPRECIATION WEEK

This week from January 23rd-29th, 2023 is emergency shelter and homelessness service worker appreciation week in Toronto! We want to thank and honour all emergency shelter and homeless service workers for their vital work and unwavering commitment to supporting others!

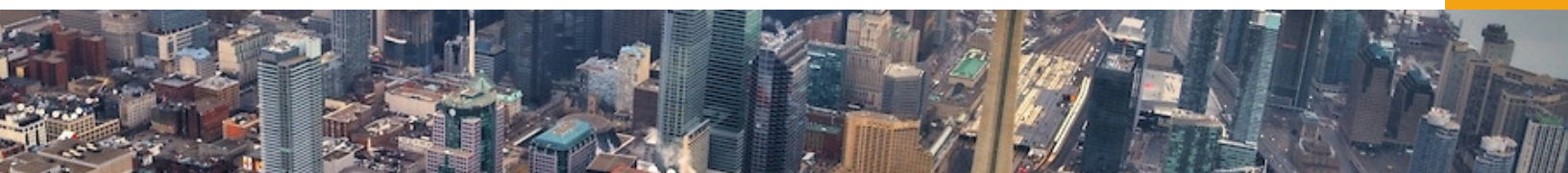
Visit our social media pages to see what inspires front-line shelter workers to do the work that they do! Click below to view our:

[TSN Twitter](#)

[TSN LinkedIn](#)

THE SHELTER SECTOR PIPELINE PROJECT: TOOLKIT FOR EMPLOYERS

- During phase one of the Pipeline project, TSN and our project partners developed a toolkit for shelter-operating organizations for employing staff with lived experience.
- This document provides evidence-based best practices tips; practical tools; and organization change planning recommendations.
- **[Click here to view the toolkit for employing people with lived experiences.](#)**
- To learn more about the Pipeline project, **[please visit our website here](#)** or contact Gabriela at gabriela@toshelternetwork.ca if you have any questions.



COVID-19/ VACCINES AND OTHER

COVID-19

Vaccines

- Moderna and Pfizer bivalent COVID-19 vaccines continue to be available for shelter clients and staff (18 years or older for Moderna, and 12 years or older for Pfizer), as a booster dose for people who have completed their primary COVID-19 vaccine series.
- To organize a TPH vaccine clinic, service providers should submit requests to schedule a mobile clinic [HERE](#) or email Linda Godfrey (linda.godfrey@toronto.ca) from TPH to book a one-time visit or reoccurring COVID-19 immunization clinic.
- To organize a ICHA vaccine clinic, submit a request [HERE](#).

2San Saliva-Based Rapid Tests Available

- The Ministry of Health has acquired a limited supply of a new type of COVID-19 saliva-based rapid antigen test, made by the company 2San.
- SSHA is encouraging providers already participating in the Provincial Antigen Screening Program (PASP) to take advantage of this opportunity to place an order for the saliva-based tests.

Masking

- To protect the health and safety of all staff and clients, the City of Toronto continues mandatory masking for shelters, 24-hour respite and 24-hour women's drop-in sites, as outlined in the Directive on masks and personal protective equipment use.

COVID-19 Isolation and Recovery

- Staff can continue to refer clients to the Isolation and Recovery site using the electronic referral [HERE](#) or fax the hard copy referral [HERE](#) to 416-696-3463.
- Clients with a positive rapid antigen test can be referred to the site.
- Clients with a confirmed case of MPOX may be eligible for a referral to the Isolation and Recovery site.

Current Vaccination Status at Reporting Shelter Locations:

All programs:

- 76% have received first dose!
- 69% are fully vaccinated!
- POS Shelters are at 77% vaccinated!
- DOS shelters are at 71% vaccinated!

Youth programs:

- 78% have received their first dose!
- 71% are fully vaccinated!

