

# *Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park Neighbourhood*



Stop 21 Kingston Road, 1913 Looking West



# *Acknowledgment*

I'm heartily thankful to the Executive Director of CCL&D, Alfred Jean-Baptiste, and Deputy Executive Director, Maria Navarro, whose encouragement, guidance and support from the first day of this learning process to the final level, enabled me to develop an understanding for my community. I owe my deepest appreciation to Caroline Outten, Coordinator for Training and Resource Development, for her knowledge, skills and encouragement and all the staff at CCL&D for their support and positive attitude.

I'm grateful to my sisters and my father who fully supported me to finish my research.

I also would like to acknowledge and extend my heartfelt appreciation to the East Scarborough Storefront following named staff members who have support the completion of this need assessment report: Janet Fitzsimmons (Coordinator, Community Capacity Building), Calvin Kangara (Resident Engagement Worker), Samah Ahmed (Coordinator of Community Resource), Sandra Hutley (Special Project Assistant), and Nassa Babli (Residents Rising Advisor).

I also commend in particular the residents of 4110 Lawrence Ave East, especially Patty Wegezyn (Coordinator of the Yummy Tummy Breakfast Program in KGO), for participating in the survey and sharing knowledge and experiences around the community.

Finally, and not least, I would like to thank my colleagues who contributed together to develop and conduct the community well-being survey, and offer my regards to all of those who supported me in any respect during the completion of the project.

# **Kingston -Galloway / Orton Park**

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

*By*  
*Rihab Abbas*

**IMMIGRANT WOMEN INTEGRATION PROGRAM  
(IWIP)  
COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT  
April 2011**

## *Table of Contents*

### CHAPTER 1

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>HISTORY OF KINGSTON –GALLAOWY</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</u>	<u>10</u>

### CHAPTER 2

<u>HUMAN SERVICES AT KINGSTON GALLOWAY</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>THE KGO ACTION PARTNERSHIP (NAP)</u>	<u>13</u>

### CHAPTER 3

<u>2006 CENSUS REPORT</u>	<u>25</u>
<u>DEMOGRAPHY –POPULATION</u>	<u>26</u>
<u>EDUCATION</u>	<u>29</u>
<u>EMPLOYMENT</u>	<u>31</u>

### CHAPTER 4

<u>RECENT STUDY ABOUT THE COMMUNITY RESOURCE AND NEED ASSESSMENT</u>	
<u>DEMOGRAPHIC POPULATION</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>PEOPLE IN HOUSEHOLD</u>	<u>34</u>
<u>SELF-IDENTIFY: RACE/ETHNICITY</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>LANGUAGE</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>IMMIGRATION STATUS</u>	<u>37</u>
<u>HOUSEHOLD INCOME</u>	<u>38</u>
<u>SELF IDENTIFY-DISABILITY</u>	<u>39</u>
<u>HIGHEST LEVEL OF SCHOOLING</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>SCHOOLING REQUIRED FOR JOB</u>	<u>41</u>
<u>COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT</u>	<u>42</u>
<u>KNOWLEDGE OF RIGHTS AROUND THE COMMUNITY</u>	<u>43</u>
<u>EQUITY OF ACCESS TO SERVICES IN THE COMMUNITY</u>	<u>44</u>
<u>LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH COMMUNITY</u>	<u>45</u>
<u>GROUPS AND ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>46</u>
<u>SOCIAL SERVICES</u>	<u>47</u>
<u>PROVISION FOR RECYCLING</u>	<u>48</u>
<u>SERVICES HIGHLY NEEDED IN THE COMMUNITY</u>	<u>49</u>

### CHAPTER 5

<u>KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW</u>	<u>50</u>
<u>THEORY OF CHANGE</u>	<u>57</u>
<u>IMPORTANT NEEDS AROUND KGO COMMUNITY</u>	<u>60</u>
<u>RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION</u>	<u>61</u>
<u>REFERENCES AND SOURCES</u>	<u>64</u>

# *Introduction*



**The Kingston Galloway boundaries** have been defined in the west as Scarborough Golf Club road, east to Manse road, just north of Ellesmere road and south to the railway tracks south of Kingston road. Kingston- Galloway / Orton Park (KGO) is a multicultural community in East Scarborough roughly bounded by Highland creek and the CN rail line. It is an area of contrasts with a high density of Toronto Community Housing Corporation housing in the west and single-family bungalows in other areas. The population of KGO is 28,812 people; 44.7% of the population lives in buildings of 5 stories or more. The community has the highest concentration of subsidized housing in all of Ontario. 42% of all families with children are lone-parent families – much greater than the Toronto average.

The top 3 languages spoken at home, other than English, are: Bengali, Tamil and Tagalog. The community has high percentage of low income people. In fact, 90% of the population lives in Toronto Community Housing buildings of 5 stories or more, and 10% of them own their houses.

The community landscape has changed now from the way it used to be. There are more organizations and residents working together to develop and engage the community. By looking at the official plan for 1963, it shows some changes in the past 45 years. The most noticeable is that the planned Scarborough Expressway was never built. However, it was only recently removed from the official plan, and the reserved land is now being put to other uses. For example, the new Toronto Police 43 Division headquarters was built on land originally set aside for the expressway.

Retail businesses dominate the triangle formed by the intersections of Kingston Road, Morningside Avenue, and Lawrence Avenue East. Industry, primarily chemical, is limited to the south-eastern corner. Lining Kingston Rd. are small plazas with cheque-cashing outlets, gas stations and motels once used by motorists when old Highway 2 got them in and out of Toronto.

**Orton Park the Landscape:** This patch, containing Toronto Community Housing low-rises and townhouses, is on Lawrence Avenue across from Orton Park Road amidst the larger Woburn neighbourhood in the former City of Scarborough. TCH's Lawrence Orton buildings are located at 3939 and 3947 Lawrence Ave. The housing in the patch is in major disrepair. A LINC program (for newcomers to learn English),



an Early Years Centre and a clothing bank are right in the patch. There is a good deal of Halal shopping on the south side of Lawrence to the west of the Orton Park patch. This patch is somewhat isolated from surrounding neighbourhoods by water on three sides and Lawrence Avenue on the remaining side.

Recently, the name of the community has been changed by people living in the area to Kingston /Galloway/Orton Park neighbourhood because of the street name, after the Galloway family used to live in the area long time ago.

Police targeted Kingston-Galloway in 2004 after several shootings and homicides were linked to a gang war between the Galloway Boys and the Malvern Crew from northeast Scarborough. In October 2004, police arrested or issued warrants for 16 people with ties to the Kingston-Galloway neighbourhood. (Sandro Contenta)

#### 54 LAWRENCE BUS

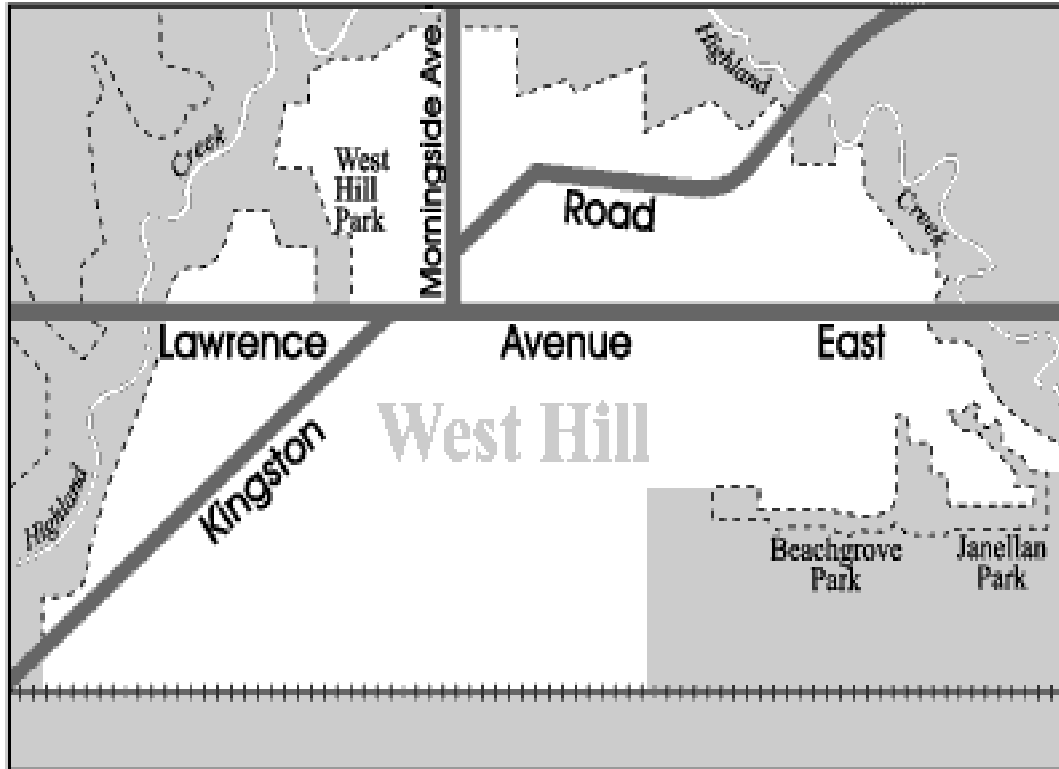


**Transportation** The completion of the Bloor-Danforth subway line to Warden Station allowed more frequent TTC bus service into the neighbourhood. Service improved again when the subway was extended to Kennedy Station. The Lawrence Avenue bus connects passengers to the Lawrence East subway station on the Bloor-Danforth subway line. The Kingston Road bus provides service to the Guildwood Go Train station. The train ride from this station to downtown Toronto's Union Station is approximately twenty-five minutes. Motorists are approximately five minutes from the Morningside Avenue on-ramp to Highway 401. Kingston Road provides motorists with an alternate and more scenic route into the city.

The introduction of the GO Train at Guildwood Station allowed direct commuter connections into the city. The neighbourhood will also lie on the new Scarborough-Malvern light rail line which is expected to carry 22 million passengers a year by 2021.

There are two TTC routes to serve the residents of Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park community through Lawrence Street to and from one of the highest concentrations of public housing in Canada. Bus 54 and 54A Lawrence East, and this bus has been in the top of the complain list at the community meeting last year because the vehicle was often late and packed with people. There are also two buses through Kingston Road bus86 and Morningside bus #86.

## ***Kingston / Galloway / Orton Park Neighborhood***



### ***History***

The area was a farm land named as West Hill because of the hill located in eastern Scarborough. The use of the name West Hill spread rapidly during the 1950' and 60's years ,even erroneously extending to the east side of the valley .historically, the community is more accurately part of Highland Creek ,although the area does have its own unique history. In the mid 1840's, thousands of Irish emigrated from their homeland and came to settle in Canada. Many came to Scarborough, settling in Wexford and Highland Creek. They were hardworking Irishmen with little money and few tread skills. The geographic name of West Hill (named as such as it was on the west side of the Highland Creek valley) was officially established as a post office in 1879, but developed into a large, yet unincorporated, village in the late 19th century separately from the older Highland Creek. It had its own post office and community structures. Also throughout this century, hotels were numerous along the entire route. The West Hill Hotel was built in 1910 to serve the growing traffic along the Kingston Road highway. By the Second World War, motels began to complement the collections of cabins, all doing a lively business.

In 1906, West Hill, like Highland Creek distant from mainline railways, was linked to Toronto by the Scarborough Division of the Toronto and York Radial Railway

network. This gave the community a minor transportation hub and encouraged further growth. But highway improvements, ubiquity of the private automobile and the replacement of slow stagecoaches with new gasoline buses changed everything. The TTC took over the old Scarborough radial in 1927 and replaced with its own Grey Coach buses east of Scarborough Post Office (Markham Road) in 1930 (and from there to Birchmount Avenue in 1936). The 86 Scarborough bus route, re-routed to connect with the Bloor-Danforth subway instead of the streetcar, still serves this area, the direct legacy of the old radial. But as the automobile took over, motels and tourist cabins began to dominate the eastern entrance to Toronto, just as on the west side, the (in)famous motel strip centered at the point where the Queen Elizabeth Way met Lake Shore Boulevard near the Humber River area on the west side of the valley.

Kingston Road is one of the most historic roads in all of Ontario. Kingston Road was the "gateway" to Toronto. But then the 401 came along. From Downtown, you can use the Don Valley Parkway so Kingston Road hasn't been the "Gateway" to the city that it had once been. **Old Kingston Road** also has some historic buildings. In the west, **St. Margaret's Church** is a pleasant corner that's all too easy to miss as you speed by on Lawrence Avenue.

#### ST.MARGARET' ANGLICAN CHURCH

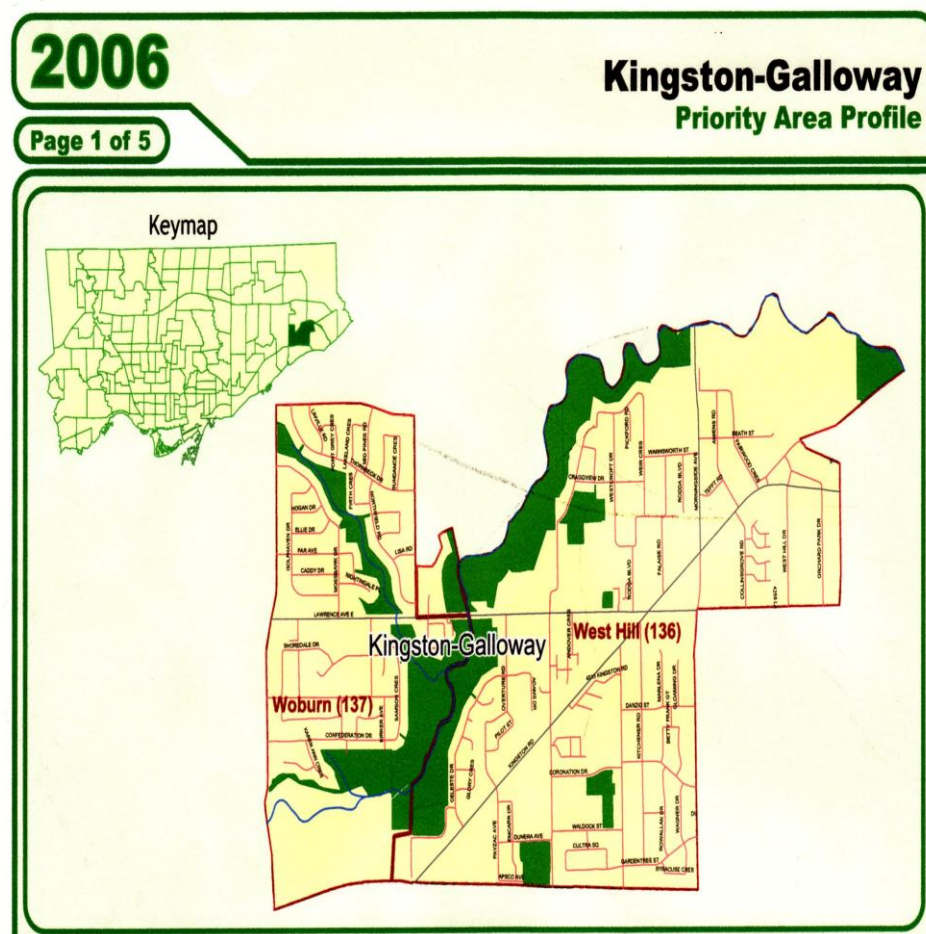






Old Kingston Road

The community has been selected as one of the 13 priority neighbourhoods of Toronto, which means it is under served in libraries, food banks and community centres etc. The city of Toronto has committed to improve the area through investments in things like community services and neighbourhood improvements. Residents, agencies and City departments have been working together in many ways to change KGO for the better.



## ***Executive Summary***

### ***The purpose of the report***

This report is a vital part of the Immigrant Woman Integration Program (IWIP) organized by the Centre for Community Learning and Development (CCL&D) to look at the community's needs through the standard of well-being in Toronto, and ensure those needs and concerns of the residents who participate are being addressed. The survey was taken from October 2010 to January 2011 in the Kingston – Galloway/Orton park community conducted by the IWIP trainee of CCL&D, who is a resident of the community. The questions were designed by the IWIP trainees to cover the seven domains of community well-being. The results of the survey can be used to look at the gaps and needs in the community, and help to develop new activities and programs in those priority neighborhoods. The total number of residents who participated in the survey is 55.

### ***Methodology:***

The methods used in collecting survey data were community residents (individually) interview, focus group, by phone, by email and distributions of bookmarks in order to get people to complete the survey online. The mixed methods approach to research resulted to unique opportunities to understand the dynamics in KGO. To ensure that big number of community residents had a chance of participating in the survey the outreach took place in Morningside Plaza, St. Margret Public School, doctor offices, Food Basic, No Frills, Morningside Library, community centers - East Scarborough Storefront, Centennial College, Native Child and Family Support (KGO), Scarborough Centre for Healthy Community, Action for Neighbourhood Change, Galloway Public School, LINC, and Yummy Tummy Breakfast Program.

### ***Survey study challenges:***

There were some challenges with conducting the survey around the community. The main challenge was the time for the survey it was right before Christmas holiday and people were busy shopping or taking time off and not in the mood of doing survey, so it was a challenge to motivate them. Also, language was a barrier of exclusion for some new immigrants. 75% of the participants were hesitant to answer the self-identity questions. Most of the community residents refused to participate, because of the large quantity of questions.

### ***Background:***

The population of KGO is 28,812 people with 44.7% living in subsidized housing with low income families, low income single individuals, lower median household income, higher percentage of households with incomes below The Poverty Line (or low income cut off, higher proportion of rental households, higher unemployment, lower percentage of population with university education, and higher percentage of population with less than high school education).

The community has been selected as one of the 13 priority neighbourhoods of Toronto, which means it is under served in for examples libraries, food banks and community centers etc.

***Key findings summarized:***

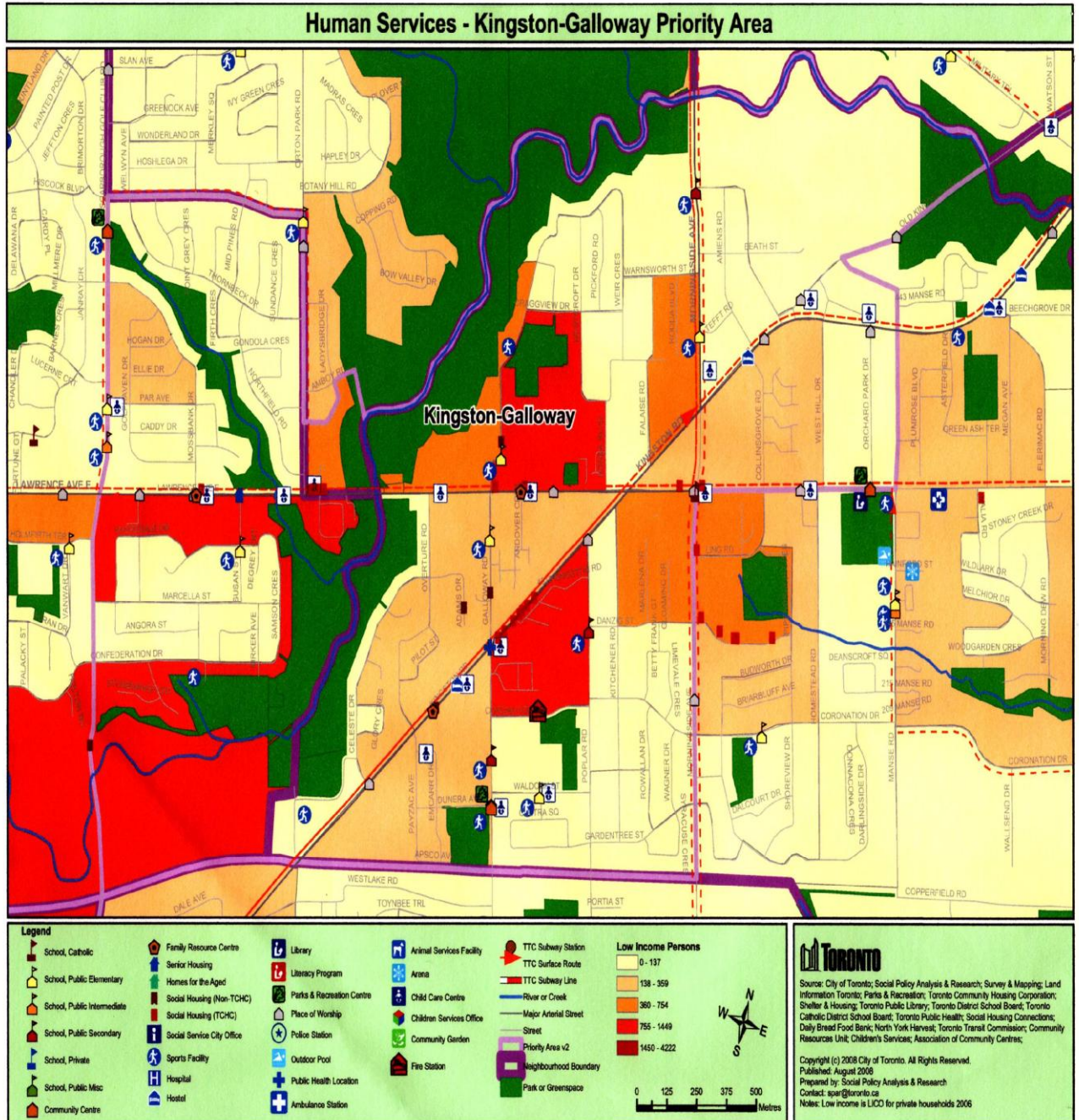
Further investigation revealed that the majority of participants were female between the ages of 36-64. 46% of the female who participated in the survey are single parents. Most of the population (56%) doesn't speak English well. The household income is between \$5,000 -\$10,000 and according to statistic Canada the "The Poverty Line" (or low income cut off) for single person living in a major city in 2007 as \$21,666 (before taxes). There was also report in 2006 from Statistic Canada which shows that 46% of the KGO residents were considered to have low income (before tax) as compared to 18% in the rest of Toronto -this is a very high poverty neighborhood. The communities high poverty level may explain why to 85% of the population are renting TCHC housing and only 15% own their houses. Education is an issue around the KGO which is shown in "Schooling required for job that does not need more than high school or some college". The level of community engagement is weak even though the sense of belonging is somewhat strong, but that results in the lack of human rights knowledge around the community. Also, there is a lack of equity and access to services in the community and lack of information. There is a high need for some services around the community such as safe play ground for children during the day and night, youth participation, transportation support, recreation programs, counseling services, skills building, digital storytelling, and leadership for youth.

***The following points derive from this report:***

- Stronger strategies do solve unemployment issues can benefit the residents by increasing their ability in getting jobs, providing higher income that will help them come out the poverty.
- Providing the residents with job skills trainings will help them get the job.
- 75% of the participants are able to improve their skills, altitude and knowledge requirements in 3-6 month courses.
- Provide training with placement will increase the chance of coming out of poverty.



# Human services at Kingston-Galloway area



## ***The Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park Neighbourhood Action Partnership (NAP)***

There are total of 35 agency and organizations working together in partnership around KGO to serve the community:-

- Action for Neighbourhood Change
- Agincourt Community Service Association
- Arising Women
- Catholic Cross Cultural Services
- Centennial College Environmental Students' Society
- Community Resources Unit
- Councillor Paul Ainslie's Office
- Crime Prevention Association of Toronto
- Culture Division/Cedar Ridge
- Curran Hall Community Association
- East Metro Youth Services
- East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club
- East Scarborough Storefront
- Evergreen
- Family Residence
- Gabriel Dumont Non-Profit Homes
- Jumbly Theatre
- Live Green
- Member of Provincial Parliament Margaret Best's Office
- Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities – Training Branch
- Native Child and Family Services of Ontario
- Resident Rising Community Association
- Service Canada
- St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church
- TDSB Eastview Junior Public School
- TDSB Newcomer Services for Youth
- Toronto Children's Service
- Toronto Community Housing ⇒ Corporation
- Toronto District School Board
- Toronto Economic Development and Culture
- Toronto Fire Service
- Neighbourhood Initiative
- Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation
- Toronto Planning
- Toronto Police Service (43 Division)
- Toronto Public Health
- Toronto Public Library
- University of Toronto Scarborough
- West Hill Community Services
- Youth Employment Toronto
- YWCA



## *Community services and recourses in KGO*

### **East Scarborough Storefront**

**4040 Lawrence Ave E 416-208-9889**

Early in 1999, concerned agencies, community members and groups came together to discuss the growing needs in East Scarborough. The primary concerns of this group were how services and supports could be brought to the people in this community. Two years of consultation and discussion resulted in a unique collaboration. The Storefront opened its doors in Morningside Mall in February of 2001. The struggles faced by the Storefront in 2005 were, however, not yet over. With the demolition of the Morningside Mall slated for the following year, the Storefront was forced to relocate. Again it was the collaboration of community members, agencies, politicians and City Staff that made it possible for the Storefront to move into its new home in the old 43 Division substation at 4040 Lawrence Ave E. The East Scarborough Storefront is “one-stop shop” for community services created and maintained by a partnership of community members and service delivery agencies. The community resource centre offers a range of employment, education, housing, legal, settlement, health, mental health, youth, and recreational services as well as direct access to computers, fax, photocopier and telephone. The Storefront values and nurtures diversity and hopes to effectively meet the needs of the community by acting as a bridge between people, services and communities. The East Scarborough Store Front has been chosen as one of the most amazing places in KGO neighbourhood.



### **Action for neighborhood change (4117 Lawrence Ave E Unit 100A)**

is a project funded by the United Way run by the East Scarborough Storefront, that works with residents to create a stronger more vibrant community. “The Point” is home to the offices of Action for Neighborhood Change (ANC), Residents Rising and the City Studies program of the University of Toronto Scarborough Campus.

[www.thestorefront.org](http://www.thestorefront.org)

### **SCARBOROUGH CENTRE FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES (health)**

**3545 Kingston Rd, 4100, Lawrence Ave East**

Originally founded as West Hill Community Services in 1977 to enhance and nurture the health and well-being of individuals, families and the community to those in need, regardless of race, ancestry, place of origin, color, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, creed, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status, family status or health status. In 2010, the name changed to Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities (SCHC). Services offered by the centre are: doctors, nurses, dieticians, healthier babies program, Meals on wheels, homework assistant, congregate dining, friendly visiting, adult day program, interpreter, social support, income tax preparation, food bank, furniture bank, clothing bank, home help/maintenance, homemaking, caregiver support/respite, telephone reassurance/security checks, transportation, homelessness outreach and intervention and other social support programs.

<http://www.schcontario.ca>



### **East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club (youth)**

**100 Galloway Road**

The Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough is a safe, accessible, well known place where East Scarborough children and youth, from birth to 19, and their caregivers, from all cultural and economic backgrounds, can come to participate in well funded and powerfully staffed social, recreational and educational programs that are intentionally designed to enhance their growth, personal development and potential as contributing members of society.

<http://www.esbgc.org/web%20site/about.html>



### **TDSB Newcomers Services for Youth**

**4383 Kingston Rd 416-395-5355**

TDSB Newcomer Services for youth offers a youth-friendly environment where students and youth can obtain information about settlement, integrating into the educational system, mentorship, and job searching in Canada. Newcomer youth ages 13-24 can benefit from the following free services: youth mentorship, volunteer and leadership opportunities, after school supports (i.e. homework club, 1 on 1 academic tutoring, etc.), cultural events, computer skills workshops, youth focused information

sessions, resume writing, interview skills and participation in recreational activities and sports.

<http://www.tdsb.on.ca>



### **Native Child and Family Support Services of Ontario**

**156A Galloway Road**

Native Child and Family Services of Toronto strive to provide a life of quality, well-being, caring and healing for our children and families in the Toronto Native Community. By creating a service model that is culture based and respects the values of Native people, the extended family and the right to self-determination.

Retrieved from <http://www.nativechild.org/>



### **Catholic Cross Cultural Services (settlement)**

**3227 Eglinton Ave E, Unit 135**

Catholic Cross-cultural Services (CCS) is a non-profit agency providing services that assist in the settlement and integration of immigrants and refugees regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion or political affiliation. Since 1954, CCS has provided services in helping immigrants and refugees settle in Canada. Please note agency located approx 3 km outside the KGO

[www.cathcrosscultural.org](http://www.cathcrosscultural.org)



### **YWCA Toronto (women)**

YWCA Toronto is an association of diverse and caring women dedicated to improving the lives of women and girls through dynamic leadership, advocacy, and a range of unique and essential services that promote personal growth and economic independence. The association vision is to through a holistic and partnership approach, the YWCA will expand its programs and services to meet the more complex array of emergency and long term community needs, significantly increase its financial resource base and be widely valued for its commitment to equity and access.

<http://www.ywcatoronto.org>



### **Community Police Liaison Committee (43 Division)**

The 43 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) is made up of community volunteers and police service representatives from 43 Division's geographical area. CPLC members raise public awareness of local safety issues and give the community a voice in local policing services and initiatives. CPLC Committee meets once a month (except July and August).

<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca>

### **St. Margaret's in the Pines Anglican Church**

**4130 Lawrence Ave**

The Pines Church is the oldest church in the area. First Church was built in 1833 on land donated by Simon Washburn whose dream was to build an Anglican Church. The first St. Margaret's church was a simple wooden frame structure. A newer more modern structure was built in 1856 and served residents of east Scarborough for the next 50 years. In 1905, the church was destroyed by fire and a new brick church building was built. On May 7, 2006 the church celebrated 100 years of community service and still stands on the grounds of St. Margaret's in the Pines Church, beside the burial ground which was the final resting place of many of Scarborough's early families.



### **Masjid Omer Farog Mosque**

A mosque is an Islamic place for Muslim communities to worship

### **Melville Presbyterian Church**

This is the first Presbyterian Church in this area and the second oldest church in the area, a small frame building, was erected here in 1851 under the leadership of Thomas Wightman, Pastor of Knox Church Agincourt and first of Melville and Elders William Young and William Highland Creek Miller. The original frame Church was bricked over in 1887, and in 1899 a large manse was built nearby and presented to the Congregation by John, Sandy and James Neilson. The church is located on top of a hill overlooking the Highland Creek Valley at the intersection of old Kingston Road and Manse. The land was donated by George Stephenson who was a miller from Highland Creek.

## **Toronto Community Housing Corporation**

**4301 Kingston Rd.**

Toronto Community Housing is the largest social housing provider in Canada and the second largest in North America. It is home to about 164,000 low and moderate-income tenants in 58,500 households, including seniors, families, singles, refugees, recent immigrants to Canada and people with special needs. The mandate of Toronto Community Housing is to provide quality housing for low and moderate income households and to create community conditions that minimize risk and promote resiliency.

[www.torontohousing.ca](http://www.torontohousing.ca)

## **Horn of Africa Parents Association**

Early in 1998, concerned parents, community members and groups came together to discuss the growing needs in Scarborough schools. The primary concerns of this group were how to make the school system be supportive for the community, especially to those who have been marginalized and living in poverty. Two years of consultation and discussion has resulted in the Creation of Horn of Africa Parents Association (HAPA).

[www.hornofafricaparentsassociation.org](http://www.hornofafricaparentsassociation.org)

## **University of Toronto Scarborough Campus City Studies**

**4117 Lawrence Ave E**

“Learning in Community Service” is the first course of its kind to be offered by the University of Toronto Scarborough’s Inner City Studies Program. The courses provide students with a hands-on understanding of how neighborhoods like the KGO operate and of the support systems accessible to the community. Students enrolled in the course volunteer at a community agency or social service organization of their choice and then transfer their gained experiences back to the classroom for further discussion and analysis. “Learning in Community Service” not only provides students with a means of local community engagement but benefits the community in turn through the students.

<http://webapps.utoronto.ca/ose/>



## **Arising Women Place**

**4234 Lawrence Ave E #6**

Arising Women is a place created in 2000 by Annie Kashamura Zawadi, a survivor of domestic abuse, to provide women experiencing abuse with a non-judgemental and inclusive environment where they can feel safe, understood and supported.

<http://www.arisingwomenplace.org>



## **The Guild**

### **191 Guildwood Parkway Scarborough**

The Guild Inn was built in 1914 as white stucco, Arts and Crafts style mansion, surrounded by 88 acres of gardens and woodlands. The residence was built for Col. Harold C. Bickford, a retired American soldier, with a penchant for polo ponies and automobiles. When Rosa Breithaupt Hewetson purchased the property in 1932, shortly before her marriage to Spencer Clark, the socially conscious couple decided to model their new home into an artist's colony based on the Roycroft, New York model. Bickford's stables and garages were converted into "The Studio" which was to house the craft workshops of the artisans who lived and worked at The Guild of All Arts. During the Second World War, the Canadian Government requisitioned the property and turned it into a training base for the Women's Royal Naval Service. In 1978, the grounds became a public park. The buildings remain closed as re-development is being explored, the building has also been chosen as one of the amazing places in KGO. [http://www.toronto.ca/culture/the\\_guild.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/culture/the_guild.htm)

## **Cedar Ridge Creative Centre (youth)**

### **225 Confederation Drive**

Cedar Ridge Creative Centre is a vibrant arts and cultural hub housed in a historic mansion. Built as a family home in 1912, Cedar Ridge is surrounded by lush gardens and scenic woods with a variety of walking trails. Cedar Ridge Creative Centre offers 10-week arts courses as well as shorter-term special interest workshops for adults, youth and children. Cedar Ridge offers more than 40 different classes and workshops each session. [www.toronto.ca/culture/cedar\\_ridge.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/culture/cedar_ridge.htm)

## **Curran Hall Community Centre**

### **277 Orton Park Rd**

This organization was formed in 1957. It is an organization made up of neighbours committed to the common interest of the health and well being of the community and to engage the community in social and recreational activities such as fun fairs, fireworks, parades, built skating rinks, maintained the ski and toboggan hill at "Horseshoe Valley" in Botany Hill Park, Community Picnics, Spring baseball league for children, Dances, Food Drives for the local food bank, Garden talks with Sheridan Nurseries and Town Hall meetings to provide a forum for community and household safety and for public consultation on matters that concern the community. <http://www.curranhall.ca>

## **Polycultural Immigration and Community Services**

### **AGENCY LOCATED APPROX. 3 KM OUTSIDE OF KGO**

Polycultural Immigrant & Community Services (PICS) started in 1973 as Polish Immigrant Aid Services-Toronto (PIAST). In 1993, PIAST merged with Polish Community Social Services (PCSS) under the name of Polish Immigrant and Community Services. In 2000, the name was changed to Polycultural Immigrant and Community Services to better reflect the services provided to the many different language and cultural groups. Settlement workers provide valuable information to newcomers about social services programs, housing, healthcare, and immigration and settlement issues normally faced by newcomers; they also make referrals to other community services as necessary. The organization offers interpretation and translations services and PICS certify documents and affidavits.

<http://www.polycultural.org>



## **Pine Tree Seniors Centre**

**4130 Lawrence Ave**

Tree Senior Centre of Scarborough Inc is a private company categorized under Day Care Centers-Adult and located in Scarborough. Pine Tree Senior Centre of Scarborough, usually offers daycare for seniors. <http://www.canpages.ca>

## **ACCES Employment Services**

**4383 Kingston**

Newcomer Services for Youth projects offer supportive services, such as Immigrant Settlement and Adaptation Program (ISAP) services, including: workshops for newcomer youth, settlement supports including intake, assessment and referral, free internet access, employment supports, free field trips and other needed resources and supports. Youth have an opportunity to have fun, build skills and help others. <http://www.cnmag.ca>

## **Scarborough Community and Legal Services**

**695 Markham Road, Suite #9**

AGENCY LOCATED APPROX. 2 KM OUTSIDE OF KGO, Scarborough Community Legal Services (SCLS) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing free legal services to low income residents in the eastern part of Scarborough, Ontario. The (SCLS) have been serving the Scarborough community since 1982 funded through Legal Aid Ontario. The office offers: 1. A Lawyer Legal Director who carries out casework, advice, law reform activities and outreach services to clients as well as working closely with and reporting to the clinic Board of Directors and who is responsible for the legal services provided. 2. Staff Lawyers and Community Legal Workers who carry out casework, advice, law reform activities, community development and outreach services. <http://scarboroughcommunitylegal.ca>

## **Heron park Community Recreation Center**

**292 Manse Rd.**

This offers indoor arena and two swimming pools, one of which is indoor. Also there are tennis facilities at nearby Scarborough College  
<http://kidsenergyburner.com/swimmingpools/heron-park-pool-toronto-ontario>

## **South Asian Family Support Services**

**1200 Markham Rd, Suite 214**

AGENCY LOCATED APPROX. 3 KM OUTSIDE OF KGO

Punjabi community health services were founded on July 5th, 1990; it was incorporated as a not –for –profit community based agency on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1995. It became a registered charitable organization on April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010. the organization offer programs such as addictions, mental health, Malton youth centre, health promotion, community building, volunteerism and diversity. [www.safss.org](http://www.safss.org)

## **Toronto Hostel Services - Family Residence**

### **4222 Kingston Rd**

This provides short-term emergency shelter, independent living, food allowance, necessities counselling, support groups, assistance in finding housing, referrals, outreach, children and youth programmes, pregnancy support program.

[www.toronto.ca/housing/index.htm](http://www.toronto.ca/housing/index.htm)

## **Morningside Park**

To the west of Morningside Avenue, just to the north of West Hill, is Morningside Park. Winding through the park is Highland Creek and some of its tributaries. A paved path leads eastward through the University of Toronto at Scarborough campus towards Colonel Danforth Park and south towards Lawrence Avenue East and the Guildwood GO station.

## **Kingston Road Motels**

Historically, Kingston Road was the "gateway" to Toronto. In about 1800, the Annis brothers, the Cornells and other Scarborough Heights pioneers blazed a winding trail through the bush, connecting with small settlements to the east. Throughout the 19th century, hotels and their associated tavern were numerous along the entire route Jonathan Gates' and John Muir's being among the best-known. At the turn of the century, the radial line took city folk out to the "country parks" in Scarborough -- and the rural curlers could go the other direction for their bonspiels in the city. By the 30's the market gardeners of West Hill were using Kingston Road and small trucks to take their produce into the city, as the earlier farmers had done on their spring wagons. By the second war, motels began to complement the collections of cabins, all doing a lively business, particularly during "The Ex". There are more than 18 motels through Kingston Road are still there.

## **Radial Railway Line**

In 1875, the Kingston Road Tramway opened a horsecar line between the Don River and Main St. Extended in 1878 to Blantyre Ave. Operations ceased in 1887. On July 1, 1893 the Toronto and Scarborough' Electric Railway, Light and Power commenced operating an electric street railway or "Radial Car" line from Queen St. East to Blantyre Ave. Until 1897, the line continued down Blantyre Ave to the Victoria Park. In 1898 the route was relaid eastward to the Hunt Club extended to the Halfway House at Midland Ave. In 1901, to Scarborough P.O. at Eglinton Ave. in 1905 and to West Hill in 1906. The line became the Scarborough' division of the Toronto & York Radial Railways in 1904. The T.T.C. city streetcar service replaced the radial cars to Victoria Park Ave. in 1921 and to Birchmount in 1928. The West Hill extension was abandoned in 1930.

## ***Health***

### **Scarborough General Hospital**

3050 Lawrence Ave E McCowan Rd

LOCATED APPROX. 3 KM OUTSIDE OF KGO (but still serve the community)

[www.tsh.to](http://www.tsh.to)

### **Rouge Valley Centenary Hospital**

2867 Ellesmere Road

<http://www.hospitalitynetwork.ca/pricing/scarborough-centenary-hospital>

## ***Doctor's offices***

The Doctor's Office/MCI (walk-in)

255 Morningside

Doctor's Clinic (walk-in)

4500 Kingston Rd,

One Stop Medical Centre (walk-in)

3585 Lawrence Ave E.

## ***Business Establishments***

The community has a good mix of commercial establishments far more typical of an older neighbourhood than a new suburb. Fast food establishments do not dominate and there are many sit-down restaurants featuring a variety of cuisines including Greek, Canadian Chinese, Caribbean and Middle Eastern, echoing the ethnic diversity of the neighbourhood. There are supermarkets and numerous smaller food outlets.

The area is well-served by physicians, dentists and lawyers and features three pharmacies, including both major chains. There are a good number of banks serving the community (TD, CIBC, BMO etc.).

## ***Parks***

The neighbourhood has numerous small parks, usually near the sites of the public schools. It also borders the huge park system running through Highland Creek on three sides, and has a large park bordering Lake Ontario in the south-east part of the neighbourhood south of the industrial district.

Morningside Park



## ***EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES***

There are twelve elementary and secondary schools serving the community, also there are good numbers of child daycare centres.

### **Elementary Schools**

Eastview Junior PS  
Galloway Road PS  
Heron Park Junior PS  
Joseph Brant Senior PS  
Peter Secor Junior PS  
St Margaret's PS  
St Martin De Porres School  
West Hill PS  
Willow Park Junior PS

### **Secondary Schools**

Maple Wood High School  
Sir Robert Borden Business and Technology Institute  
West Hill Collegiate Institute

### **Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC)**

There is a good numbers of private, home and city daycare around the KGO community.

### **Colleges/Universities**

#### **Centennial College HP Science and Technology Centre**

**755 Morningside Ave**

Nestled in the Rouge Valley Conservation Area, the Morningside Campus is an environmentally friendly building home to the School of Health Studies, as well as selected Engineering Technology and Applied Science programs. Most of the students around the neighborhood prefer to go there because they can walk in the summer time and save the transportation money. <http://www.centennialcollege.ca>

#### **University of Toronto Scarborough Campus**

**1265 Military Trail, Toronto, ON**

The University of Toronto (U of T), founded in 1827, has degree-granting authority from the Province of Ontario. It is a member of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and one of only two Canadian members of the Association of American Universities. U of T Scarborough, founded in 1964, is one of three campuses of U of T. Scarborough campus provides undergraduate and graduate studies and the University of Toronto's only co-op educational programs. <http://www.utscc.utoronto.ca/~advancement/about>

#### **Toronto Public Library Morningside Branch**

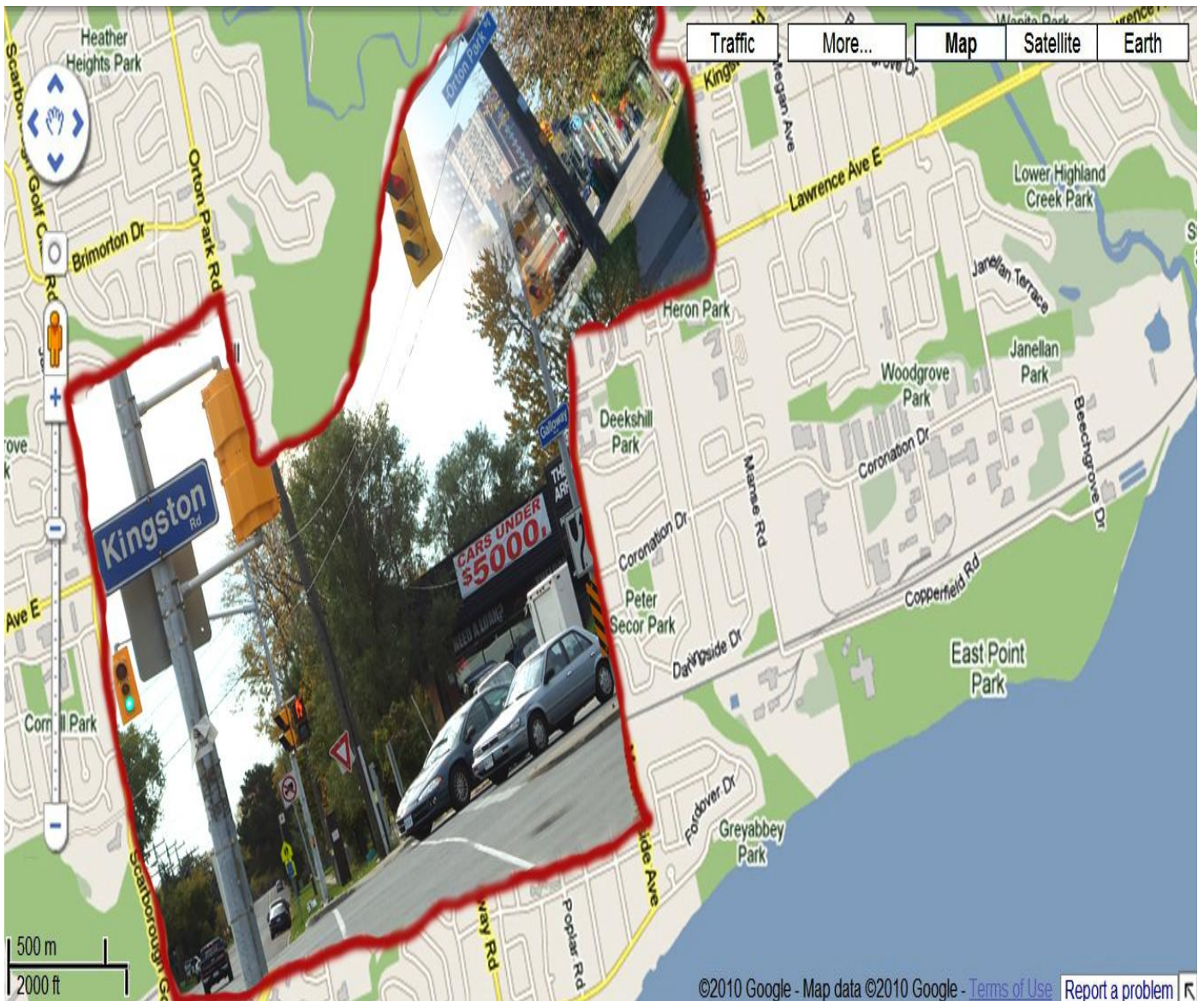
**4279 Lawrence Ave. East**

In 1966, Scarborough Public Library Board provided new bookmobile stops at Bennett Plaza. In 1968, the Scarborough Public Library Board opened in Morningside Plaza. In 1978, Morningside Plaza demolished for new three-storey enclosed mall and branch closed for move to a temporary location at 4521 Kingston Road. In 1979, it reopened on third floor of new Morningside Mall. In 2005, it closed for reconstruction and relocation. It reopened 30 May 2006 at 4279 Lawrence Ave.

[www.tplfoundation.ca](http://www.tplfoundation.ca)

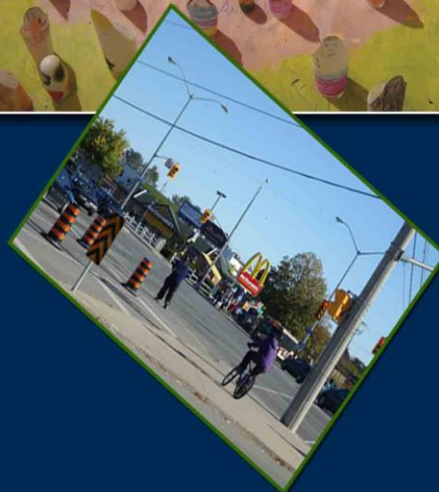
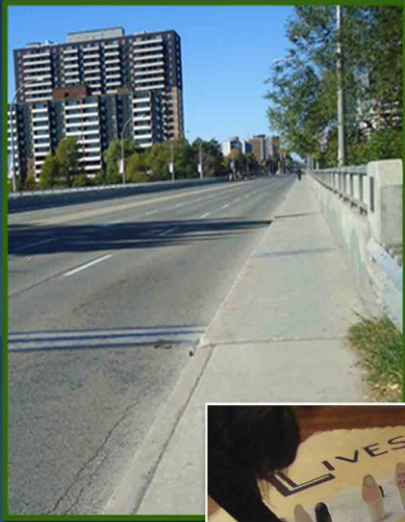


**MAIN INTERSECTION OF KINGSTON /GALLOWAY & LAWRENCE /ORTON PARK**





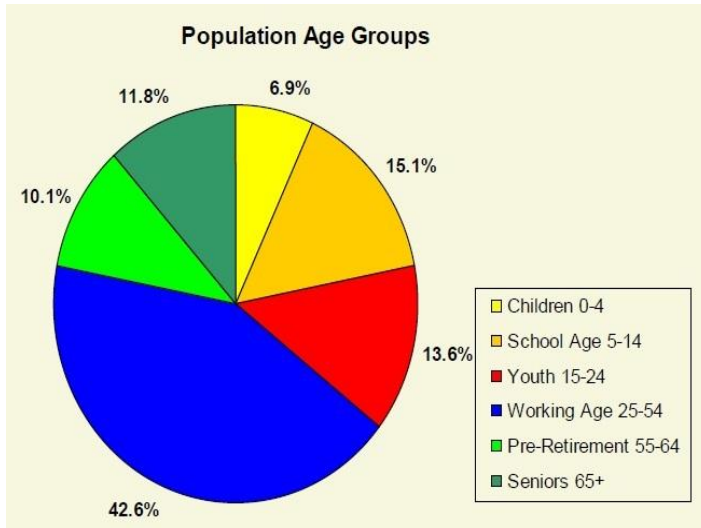
# *My KGO Community*



## Population Characteristics Demography

### Population:

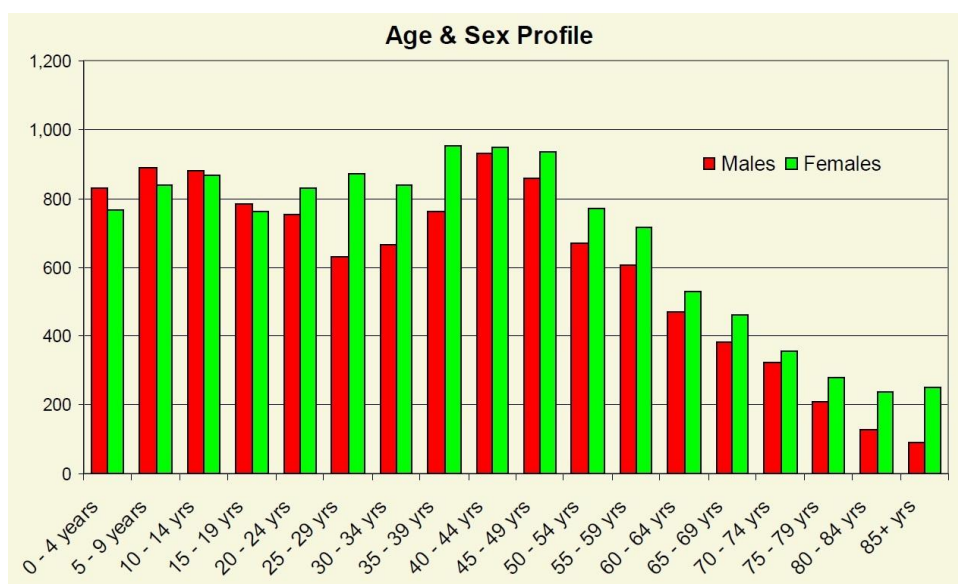
The chart below shows the majority of the population of Kingston – Galloway/Orton park neighborhood is in the working age (between 25-54 years).



#### COMMUNITY FACTS

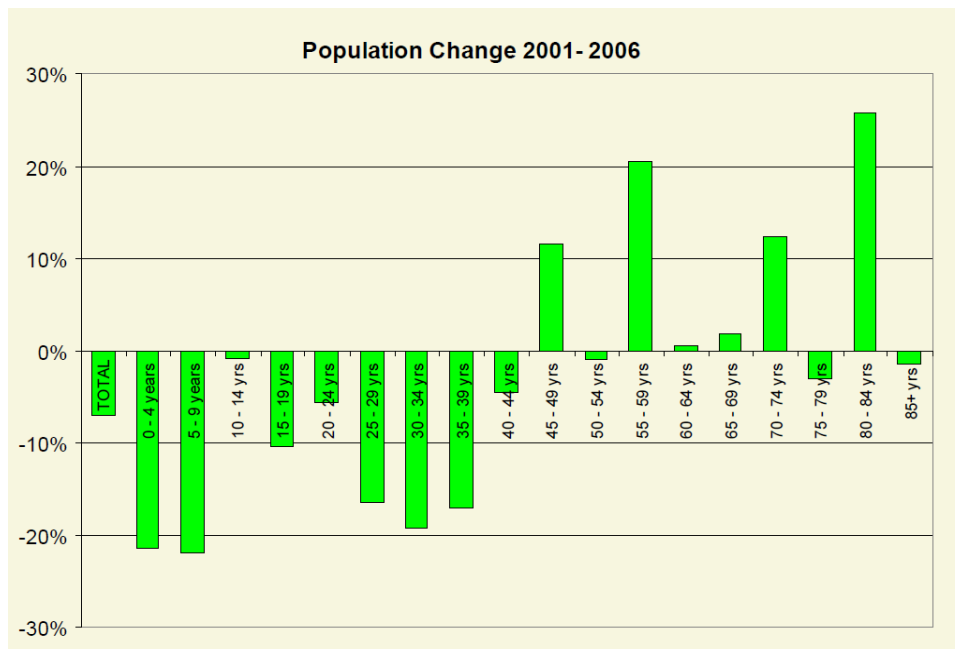
2006 Population: **23,042**  
 % Change Since 2001: **-7.2%**  
 Area: **6 Km<sup>2</sup>**  
 Population Density: **3,868 persons / Km<sup>2</sup>**  
 Pop. of Children (0-4 yrs): **6.9%**  
 Pop. of Children (5-14 yrs): **15.1%**  
 Pop. of Youth (15-19): **6.7%**  
 Pop. of Youth (20-24): **6.9%**  
 Pop. of Seniors (65+ yrs): **11.8%**  
 Pop <15 and >64: **33.8%**  
 Parks & Open Space: **0.9 Km<sup>2</sup>**  
 Distance to nearest subway station: **4.5 Km**  
 Number of TTC surface routes: **12**  
 Total Employment: **3,412**  
 Part-Time Employment: **1,166**  
 Business Establishments: **386**  
 Visible Minority: **61.4%**  
 Not Visible Minority: **38.7%**

- The graph below shows the majority of the community are women in the group of age 20-54
- 42% of all families with children are lone-parent families – much greater than the Toronto average.

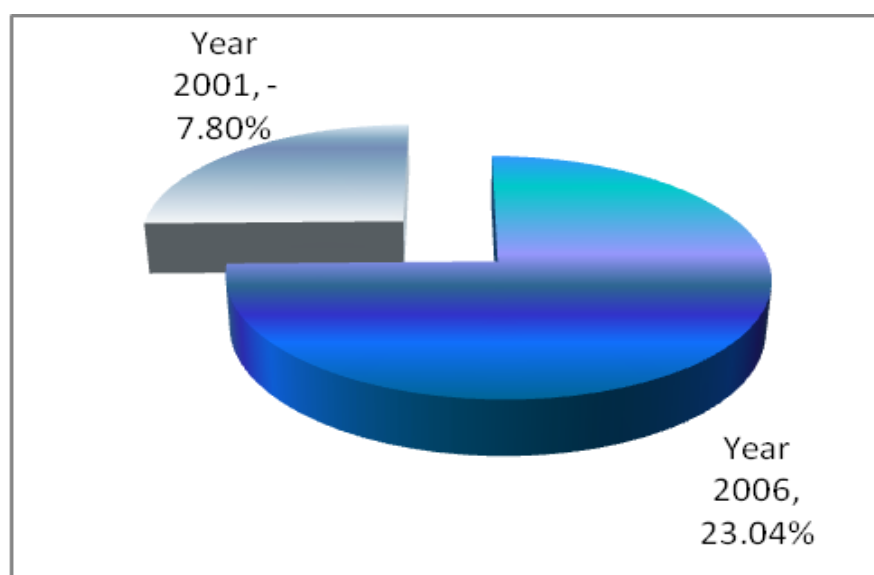


### ***Population change:***

The chart below shows the total of the population of 2006 census in the area of Kingston–Galloway/Orton park was 23.04% and this has been changed in 2001 to- 7.2%.



The chart below explains the change in percentage.

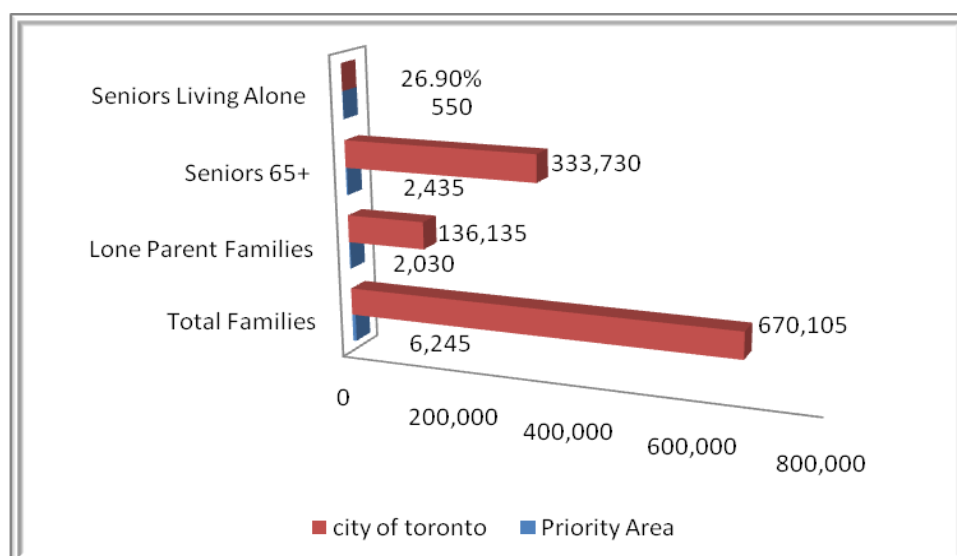


### ***Make-up of families:***

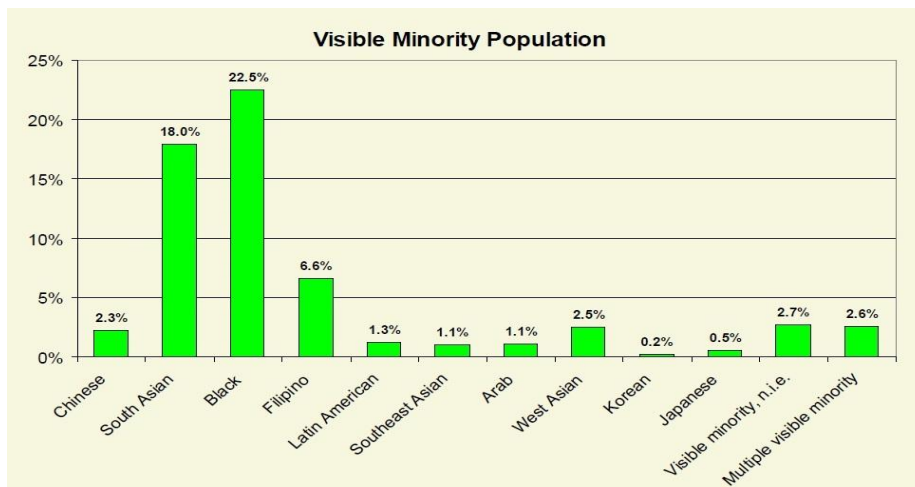
The charts below show a total of 6,245 families living in the area of Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park, and total of 670,105 families in the city of Toronto. The total of lone parent families in the neighborhood is 32.5%, which is above the 20.3% average in the City of Toronto. Also, seniors living alone in the neighborhood is 22.6%, whereas in the City of Toronto, it is 26.9%.

The statistic shows that the majority of the KGO population is made up of lone parent families and seniors (65+) living alone.

Families		
Variable	Priority Area	City of Toronto
Total Families	6,245	670,105
Lone Parent Families	2,030	136,135
% Lone Parent Families	32.5%	20.3%
Seniors 65+	2,435	333,730
Seniors Living Alone	550	89,790
% Seniors Living Alone	22.6%	26.9%



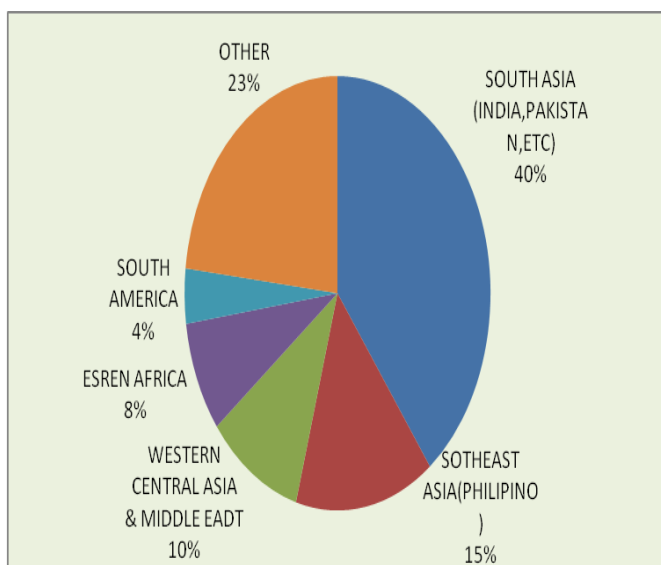
### ***Visible minority population:***



The chart above shows that the majority of the population in the area identify as black 22.5%, South Asian 18.0% (mostly from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan), and Southeast Asia 6.6% (Filipino), visible minority 2.7%, multiple visible minority 2.6%, West Asian 2.5%, Chinese 2.3%, Latin American 1.3%, Southeast Asian 1.1%, Arab 1.1%, Japanese 0.5%, Korean 0.2% .

### ***Recent immigrants:***

The charts below show the percentage of the top recent immigrant origins in the area of Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park. In fact, the top spoken language (other than English) in the community changed to Tamil, Tagalog and Bengali.

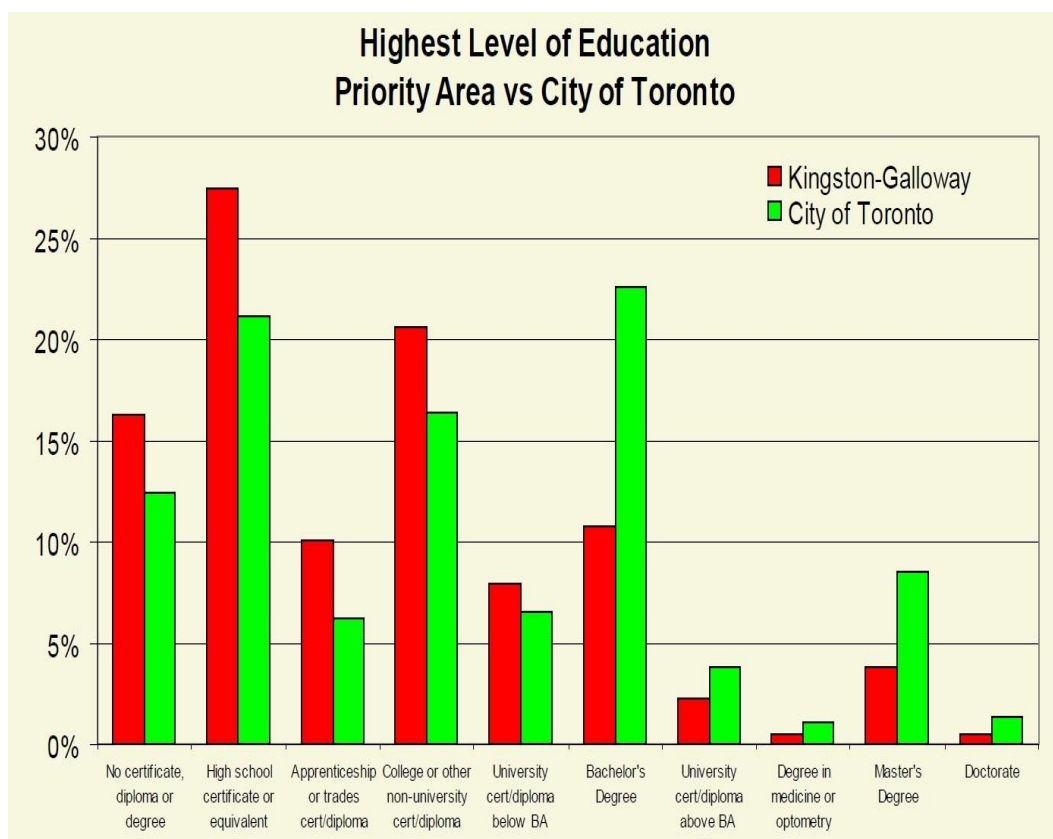


Top Recent Immigrant Origins		
Origin	Number	%
South Asia (India, Pakistan etc.)	865	39.4%
Southeast Asia (ex. Philippines)	320	14.6%
Western Central Asia & the Middle East	225	10.3%
Eastern Africa	180	8.2%
South America	100	4.6%
Other	505	23.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,195</b>	<b>100.0%</b>



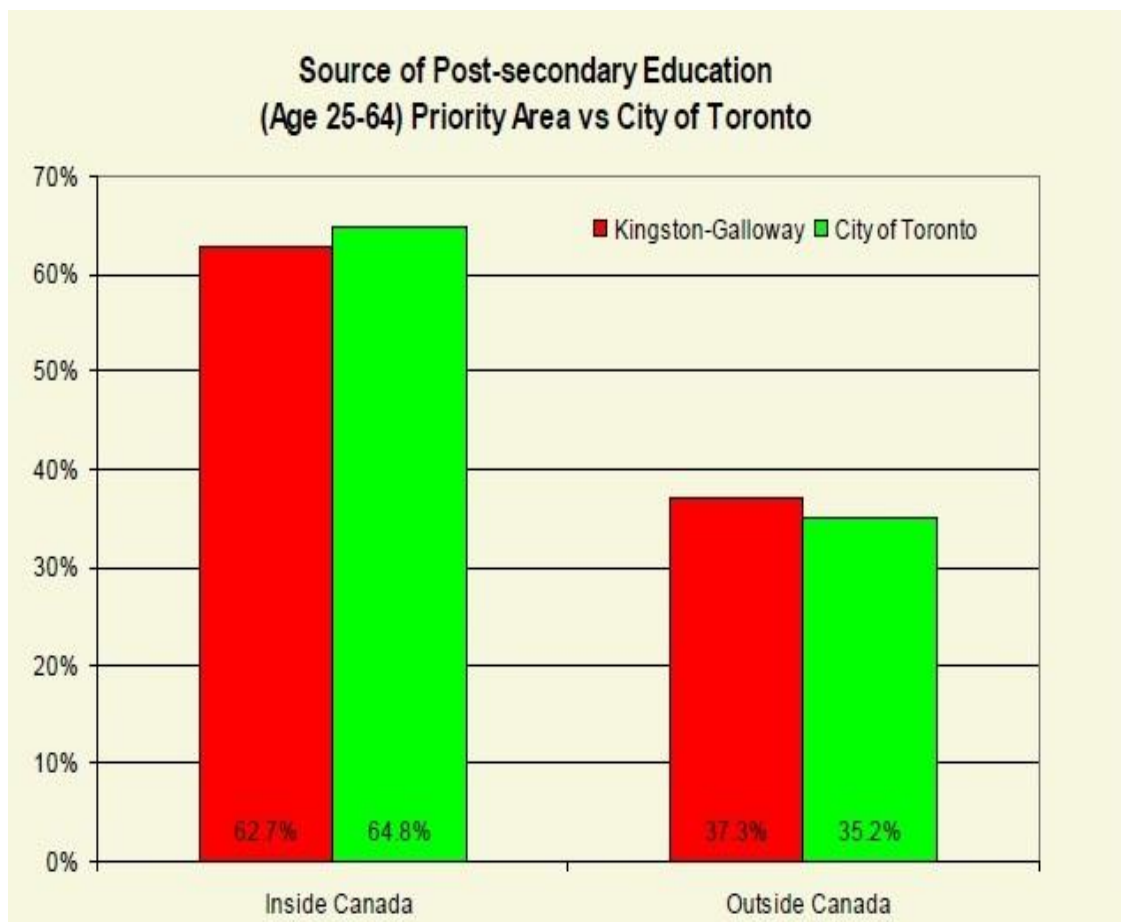
## ***Education:***

According to Statistics Canada 2006, the highest level of education is high school certificate or diploma degree (28%) in the KGO community and the second is college or other non-university certificate diploma (21%), then no certificate or diploma degree (16%), Bachelors Degree (11%), Apprenticeship (10%), Masters Degree (4%), University Certificate Diploma above BA (2%), Doctorate (1%), Degree in Medicine or Optometry(1%).

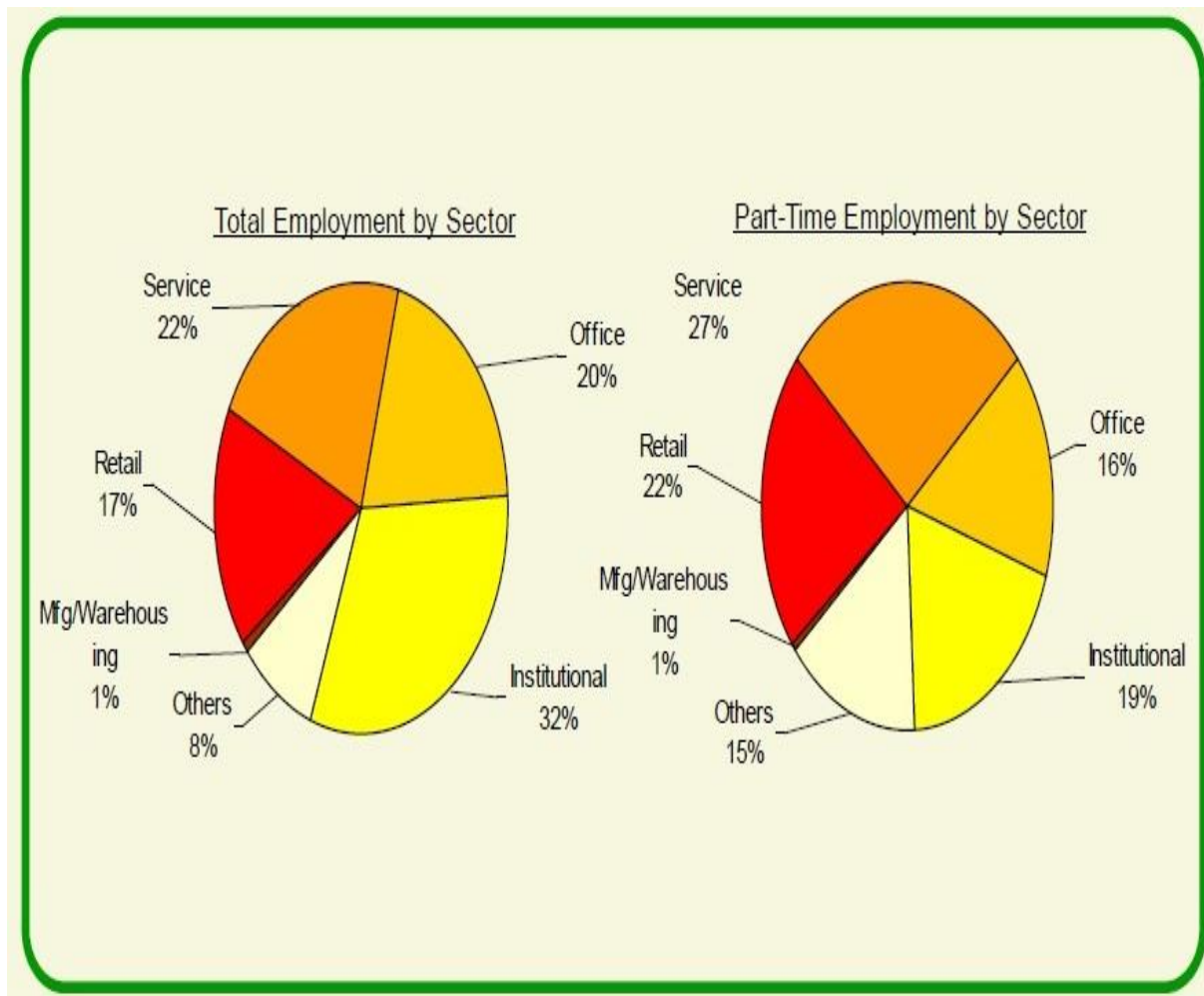


### ***Source of Post Secondary Education:***

According to statistics Canada 2006, 62% of the population in Kingston – Galloway/Orton Park between the ages of 25-64 got their post-secondary education inside Canada, and 37% of them got their post-secondary education outside Canada.



## ***Employment:***



### ***Employment by sector:***

The charts above show the total employment by sector in the KGO community. Regarding full-time employment by sector, 32% are working in institutions, 22% in services, 20% are doing office job, 17% working in retail, 8% are doing other jobs, and 1% are working in manufacturing/warehouse. According to the percentages in part-time employment by sector, we see again, the majority of people are working in services (27%), second is retail (22%), followed by institutional (19%), offices (16%), other (15%) and finally manufacturing/warehouse (1%).

## ***Community resources and need assessment***

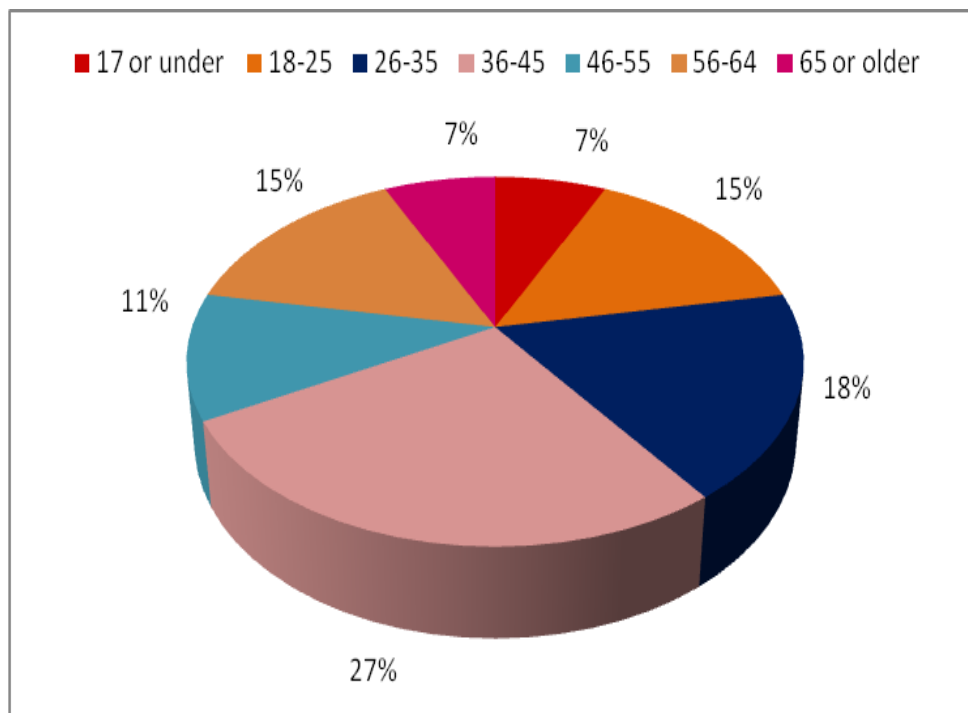
### ***Demographics***

#### ***Age Group:***

The survey (55 people) in Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park Neighborhood is divided by:

- 27% 36-45 years of age
- 18% 26-35 years of age
- 15% 18-25 years of age
- 15% 56-64 years of age
- 11% 46-52 years of age
- 7% age of 17 or under
- 7% 65 or older of age

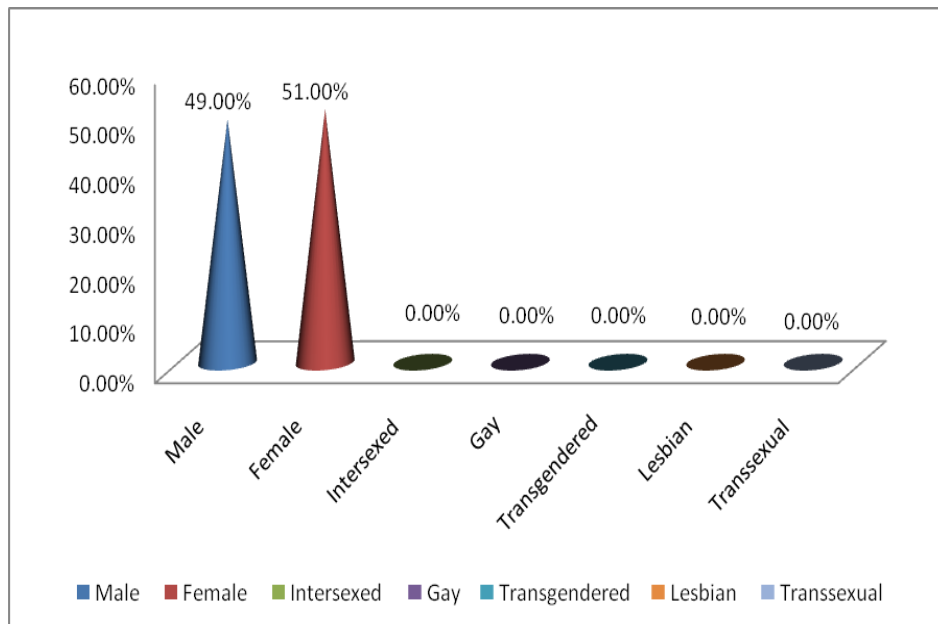
The majority of the survey participants were between the working ages of 36-64.





### ***Self Identify Gender:***

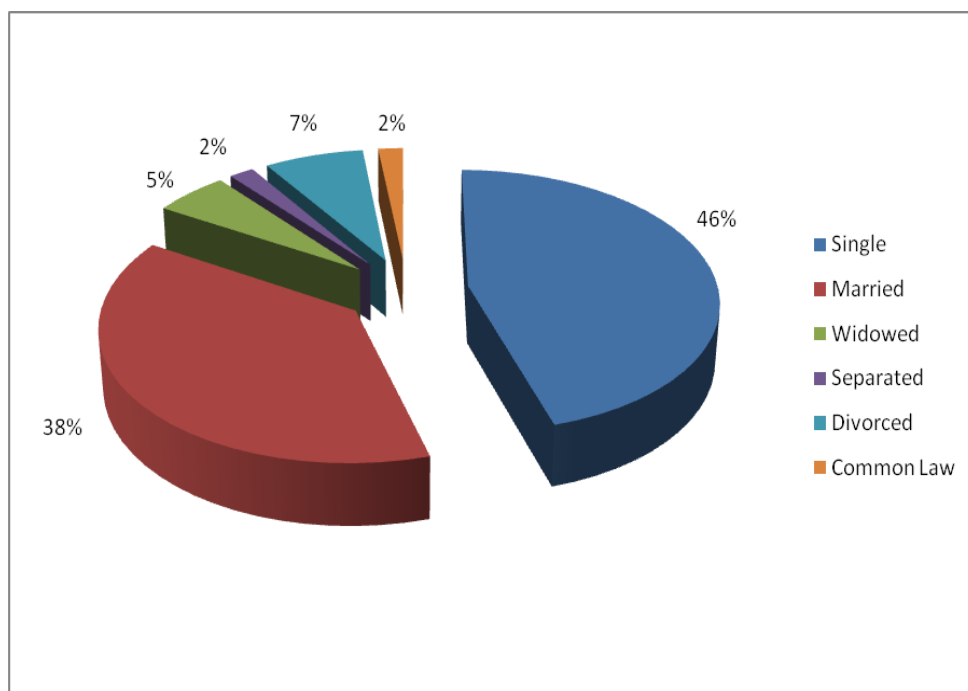
The survey data shows most of the participants were female (51%).



### ***Marital Status***

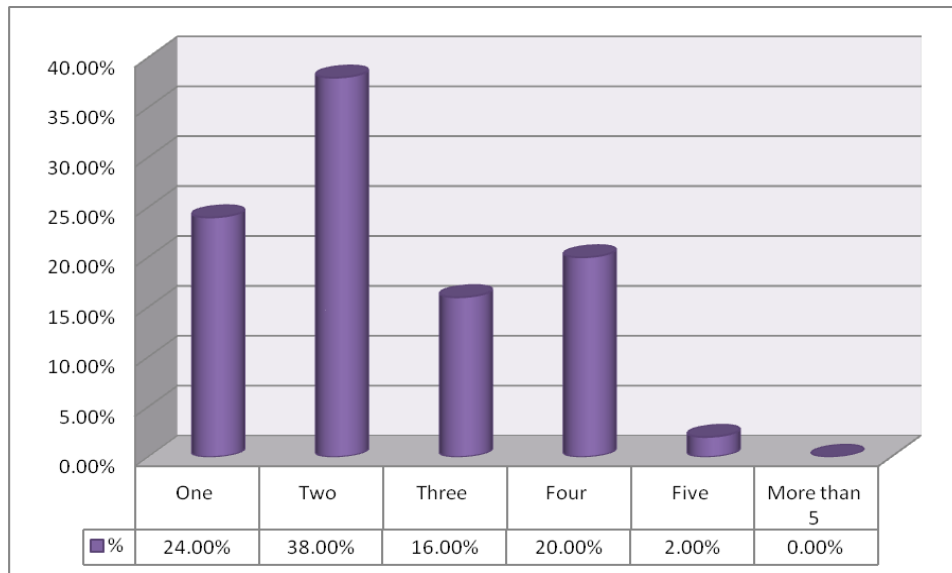
The graph below shows that 46% of the KGO population are single, 38% married, and 7% divorced, 5% widowed, 2% common law, and 2% separated.

The data above confirms what came out in the Statistics Canada report 2001, which highlights the highest percentage of single people is in the area of Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park.



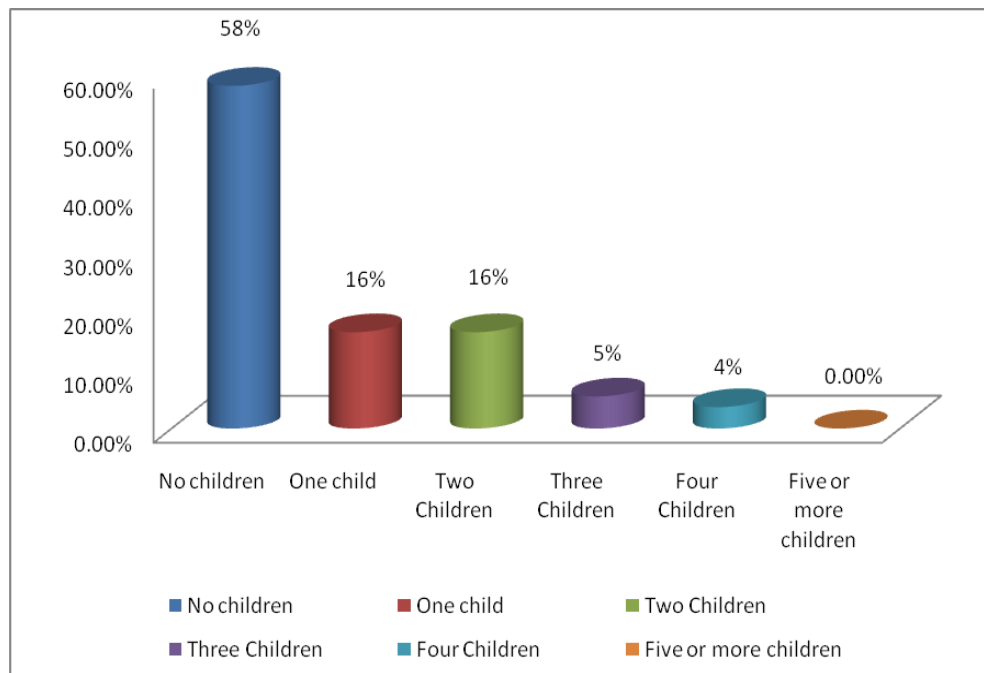
## ***People in Household***

The chart below shows 38% of the population are two people residing in the household, 23.64% is one person residing in the household, 20% four people, 16% three people, 2% five people, and no more than five people in a household.



## ***Children Living at Home***

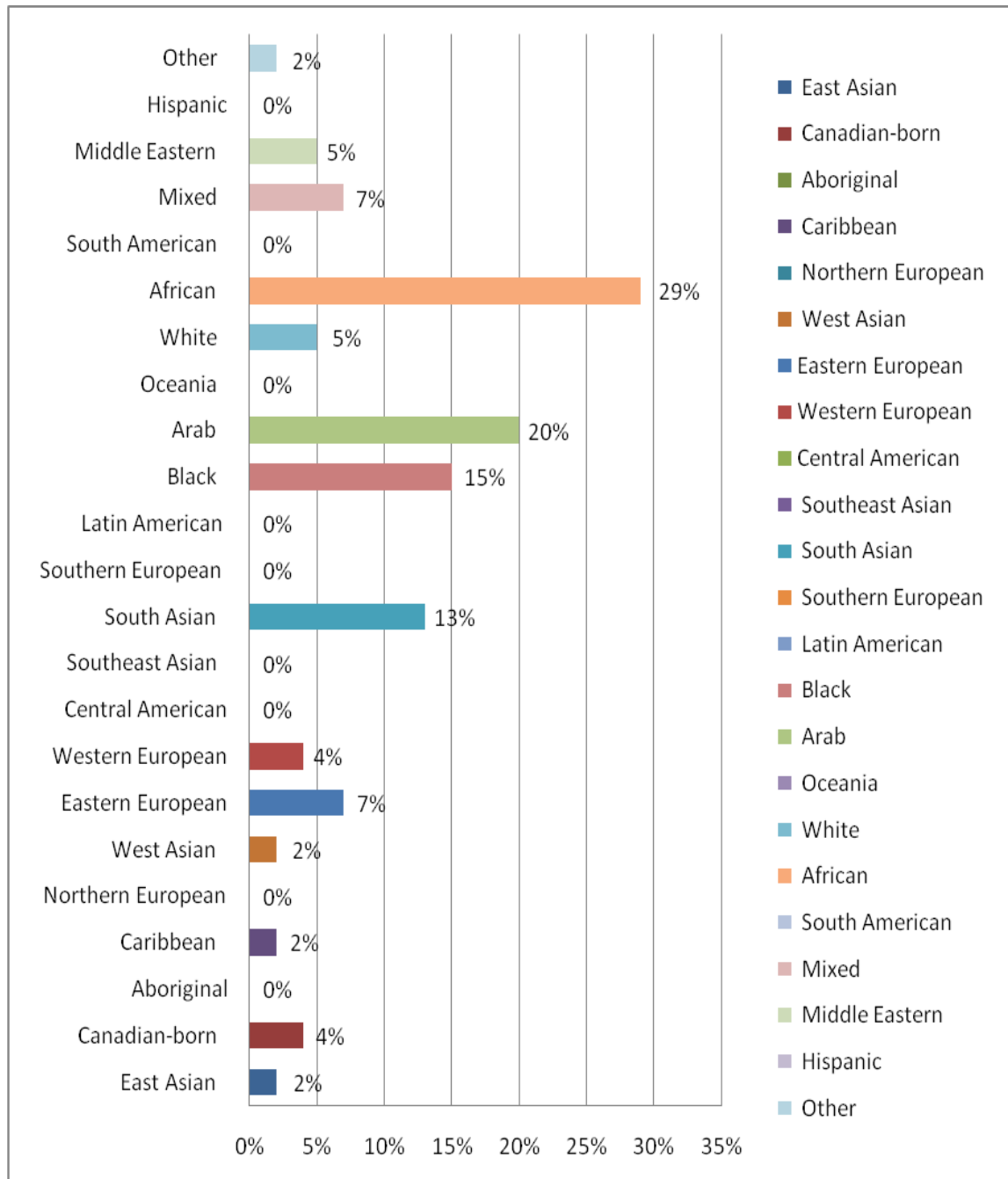
The survey shows that 58% of the people in the area of Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park are living with no children, 16% has one child, 16% has two children, 5% has three children, 4% has four children, and 0% with five or more children.



## Self-Identify: Race/Ethnicity

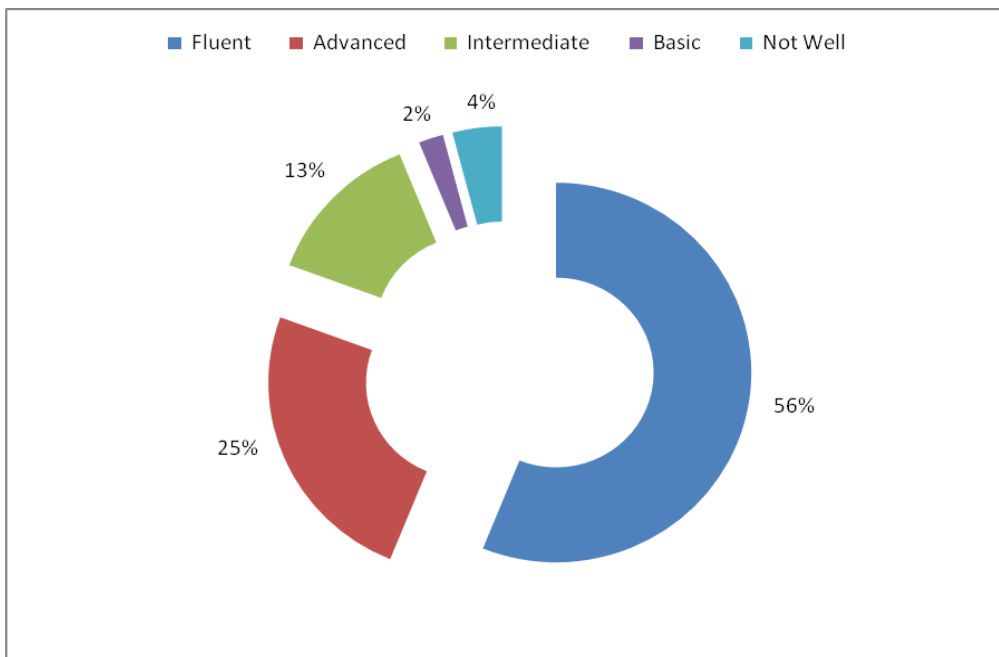
The figure below shows Self identify: race/Ethnicity/Country/Region of Origin in the KGO community:

29% African, 20% Arab, 15% Black, 13% South Asian, 7% Mixed, 7% Eastern European, 5% White, 5% Middle East, 4% Western European, 4% Canadian-born, 2% East Asian, 2% Caribbean, 2% West Asian, 2% Other.



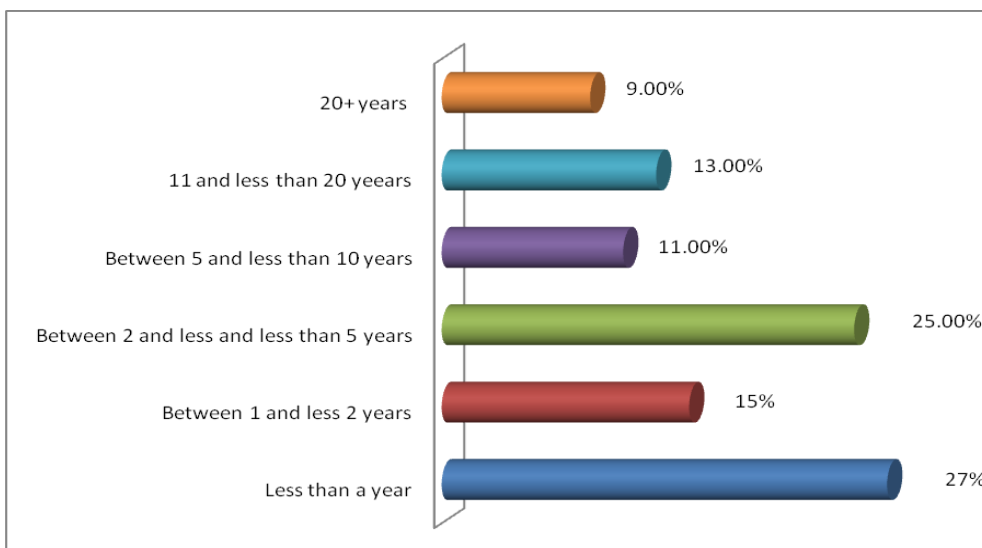
## ***Language:***

- The graph below shows the English fluency for the survey representatives in the community :
  - 57% of the population speaks fluent English.
  - 25% of the population speaks advanced English.
  - 13% of the population speaks intermediate English.
  - 4% of the population does not speak well English.
  - 2% of the population speaks Basic English.
- Most of the community population speaks two languages or more.



## ***Length of Residency in the community***

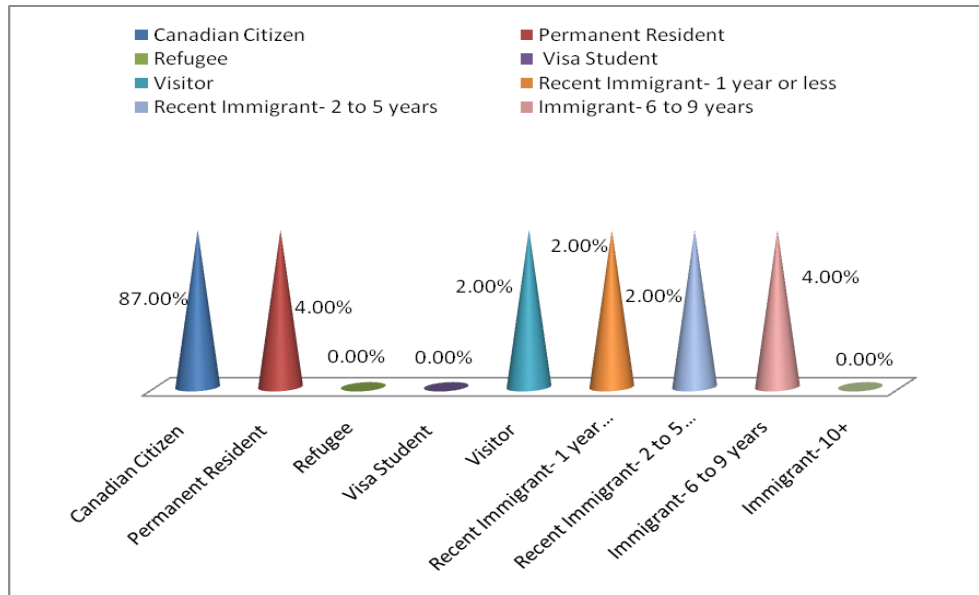
The chart below indicates the majority of the participants have been living in the community between 1 to 5 years.





## Immigration status

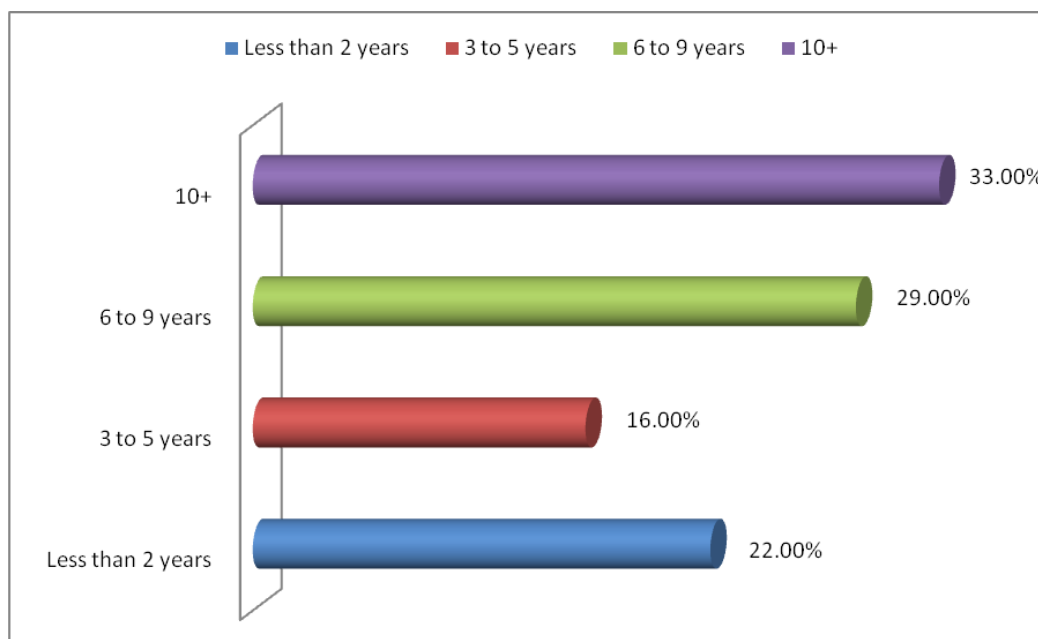
The survey results show that in Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park, 87% of the residents surveyed are Canadian Citizens, 4% Permanent Residents, 4% Immigrant 6-9 years, 2% Visitor, and 2% recent immigrant who are only here for one year or less.



## Length and Time in Canada

The chart below shows the length and time in Canada for the participants is between less than 2 years and 10+ years:

- 33% 10+ years
- 29% between 6-9 years
- 22% less than 2 years
- 16% between 3-5 years



## Household Income

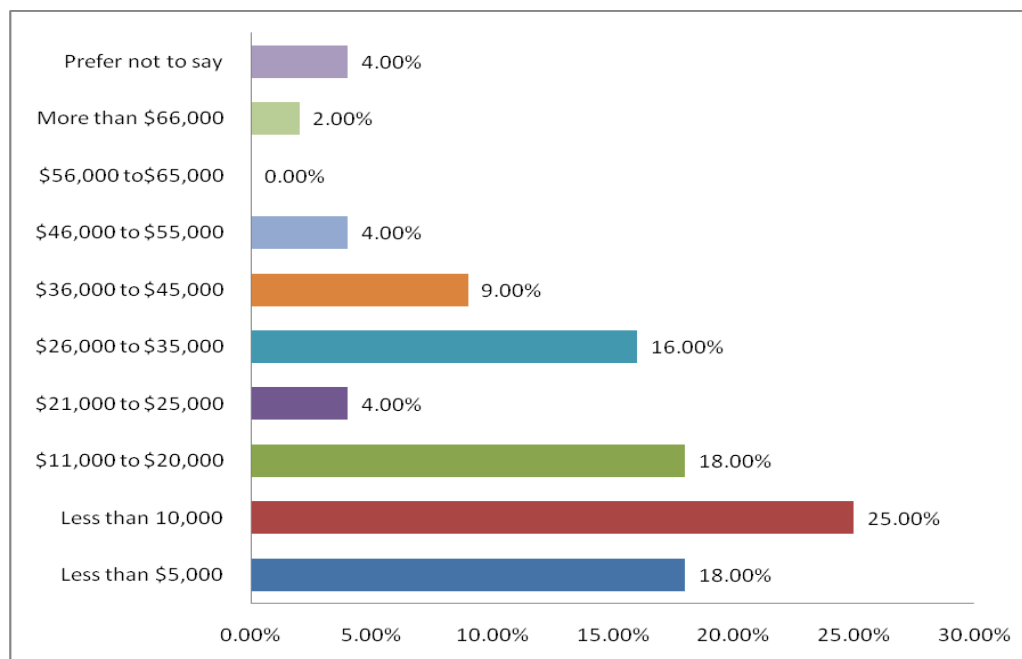
By looking at the graph below the annual household income for the participant of the survey of Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park area are as listed:

18% less than \$5,000, 25% less than \$10,000, 18% \$11,000 to \$20,000, 4% \$21,000 to \$25,000, 16% \$26,000 to \$35,000, 9% \$36,000 to \$45,000, 4% \$46,000 to \$55,000, 0% \$56,000 to \$65,000, 2% more than \$66,000 and 4% preferred not to give answer.

According to Statistic Canada the “The Poverty Line” (or low income cut off) for a single person living in a major city in 2007 as \$21,666 (before taxes).

The majority of the population is receiving income between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

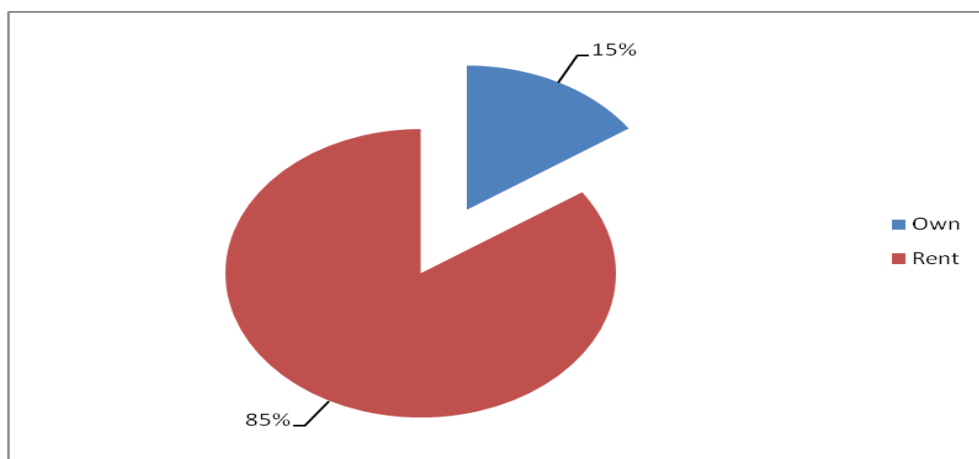
According to Statistic Canada 2006, 46% of residents were considered to have low income (before tax) as compared to 18% in the rest of Toronto — this a very high-poverty neighbourhood.



## Housing ownership:

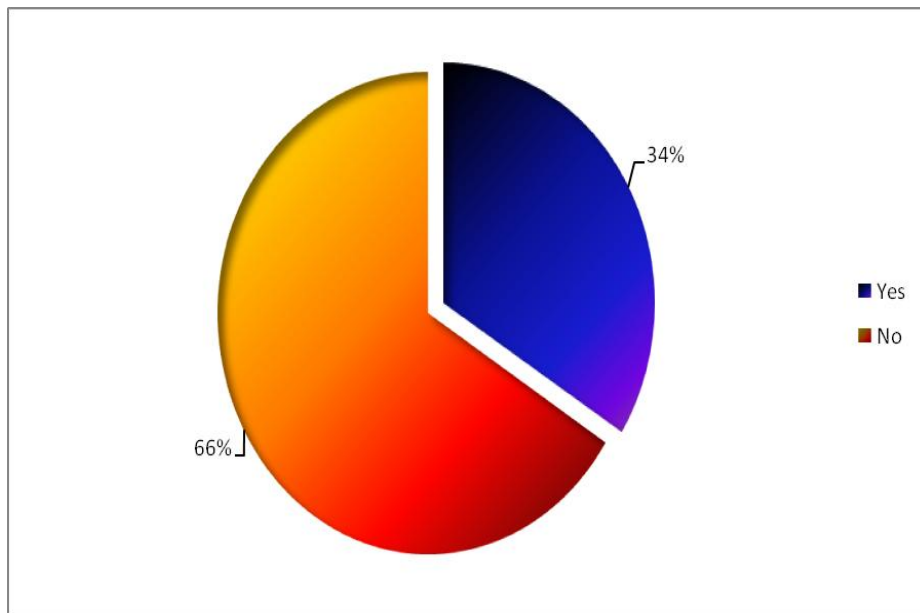
In terms of house ownership, the majority of the survey respondents indicated they are renting subsidized housing. Again, that's linked with the low-income of the population in the area.

- 85% rent
- 15% own



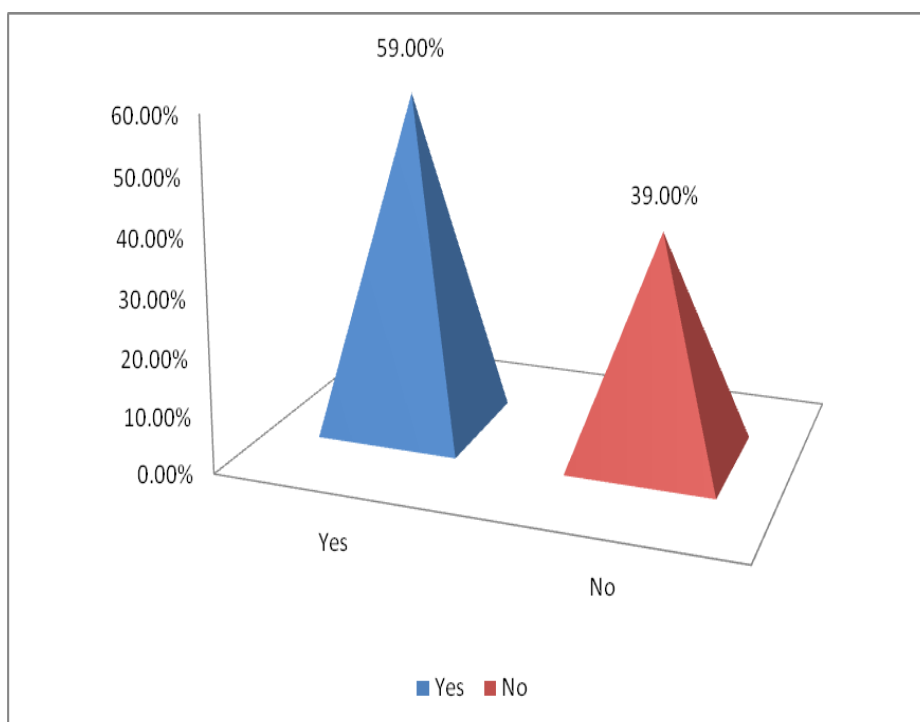
### ***Self identify – Disability***

According to the survey results, 66% of the population in the community are people with no disability issue, and 34% with different disability issues.



### ***Health insurance***

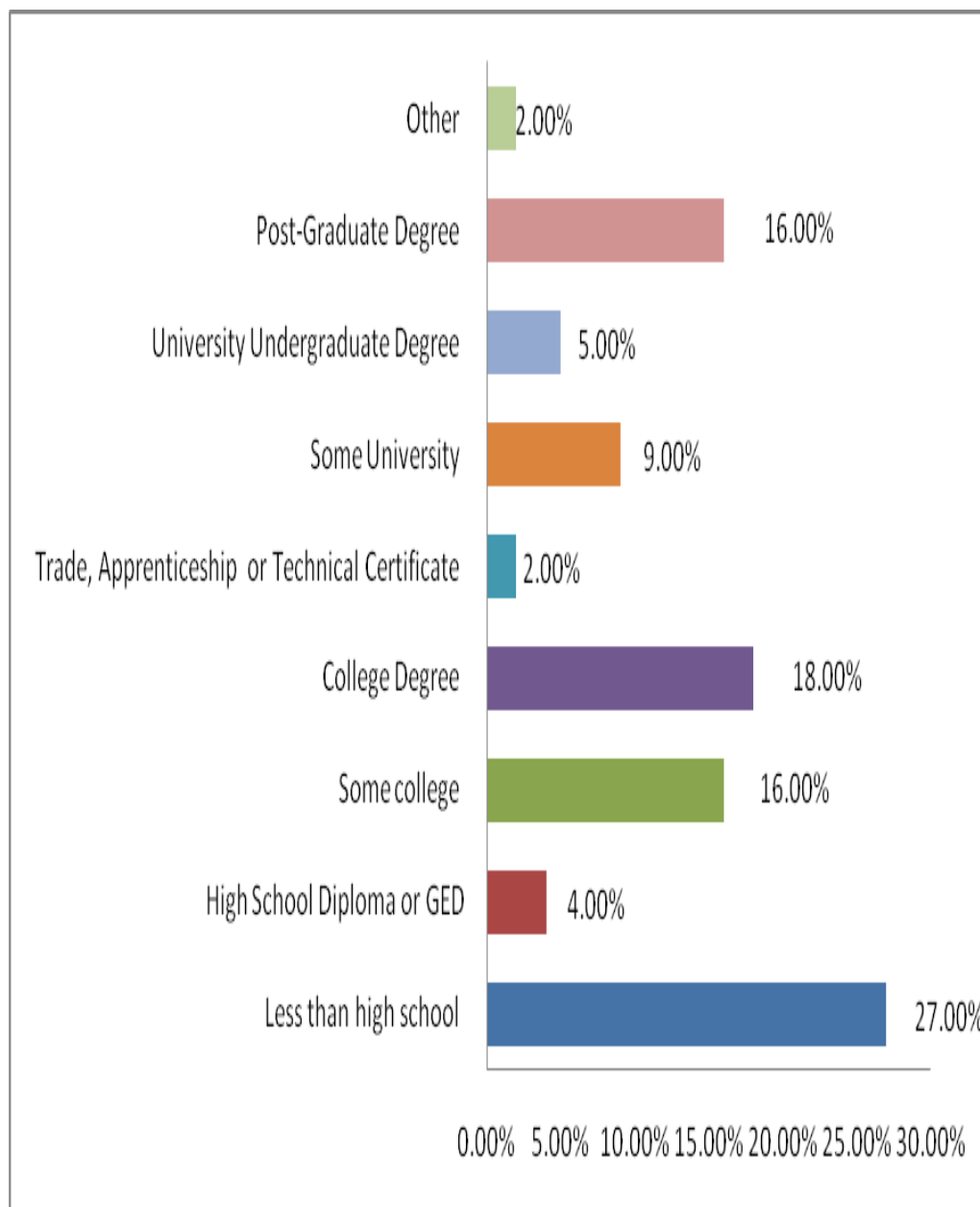
According to the survey, 59% of the respondents said they have health insurance or they have a family member who has, and 39% have no health insurance related to unemployment situation.



## ***Highest level of schooling***

The chart below shows the majority of the respondents have less than high school education. This, again, gives a second reason for the poverty in the Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park area.

- 27% less than high school
- 18% college degree
- 16 post graduate degree
- 16% some college
- 9% some university
- 5% university undergraduate degree
- 4% High school diploma or GED
- 2% trade, apprenticeship or technical certificate
- 2% other

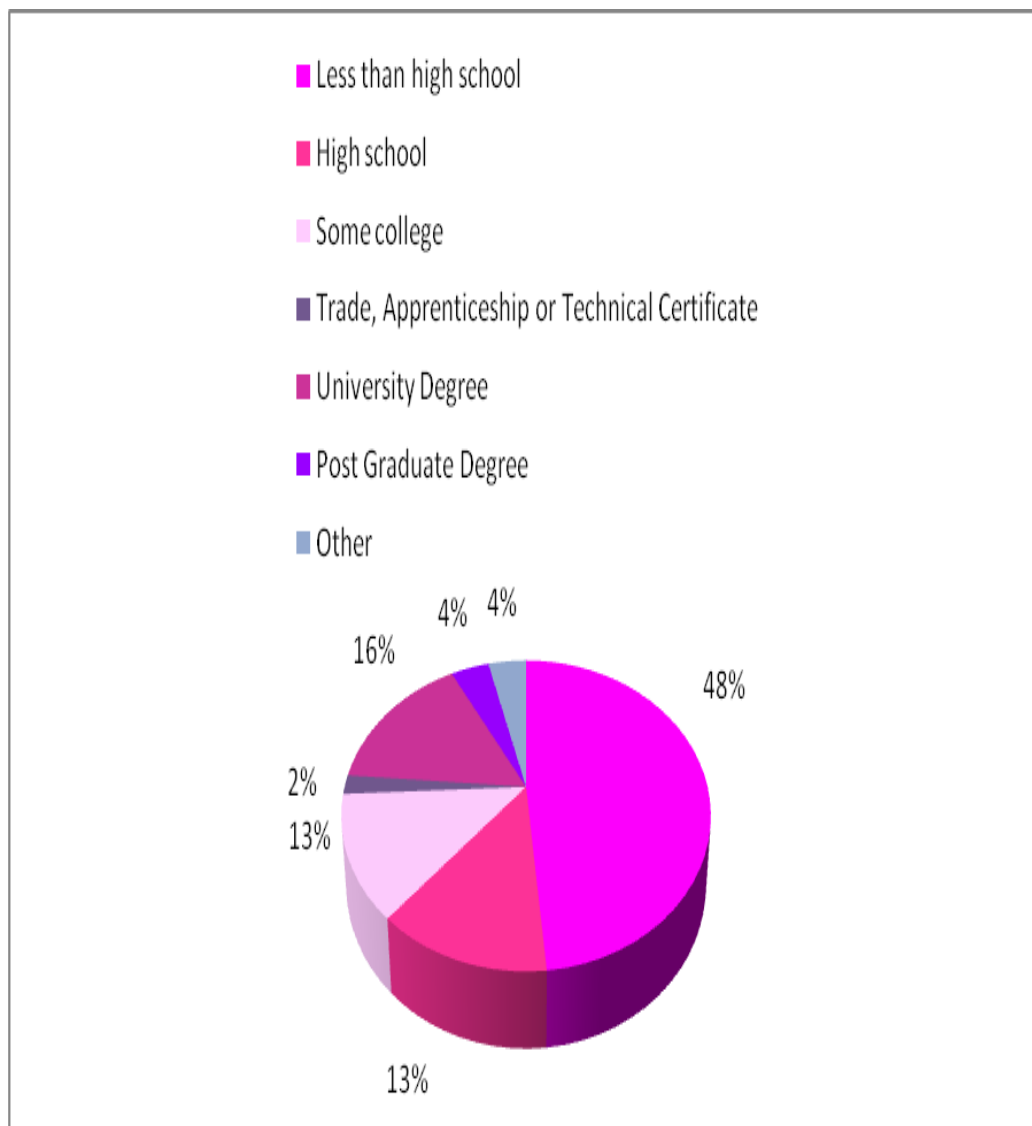




### ***Schooling required for job***

The majority of the community population is not requiring higher than high school education to perform the type of job they are doing such as retail, which shows that the low income level in the area is attributed by the low level of education and low standard of job.

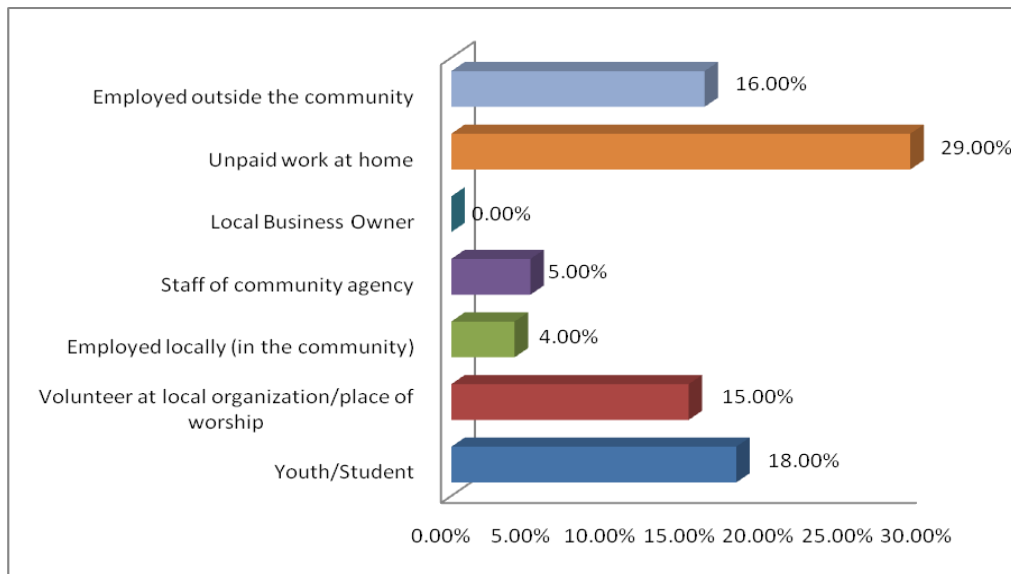
48% of the jobs being done need less than high school education, 16% university degree, 13% high school, 13% some college, 4% post graduate degree, 4% other, and 2% apprenticeship and technical certificate.



## ***Community Engagement***

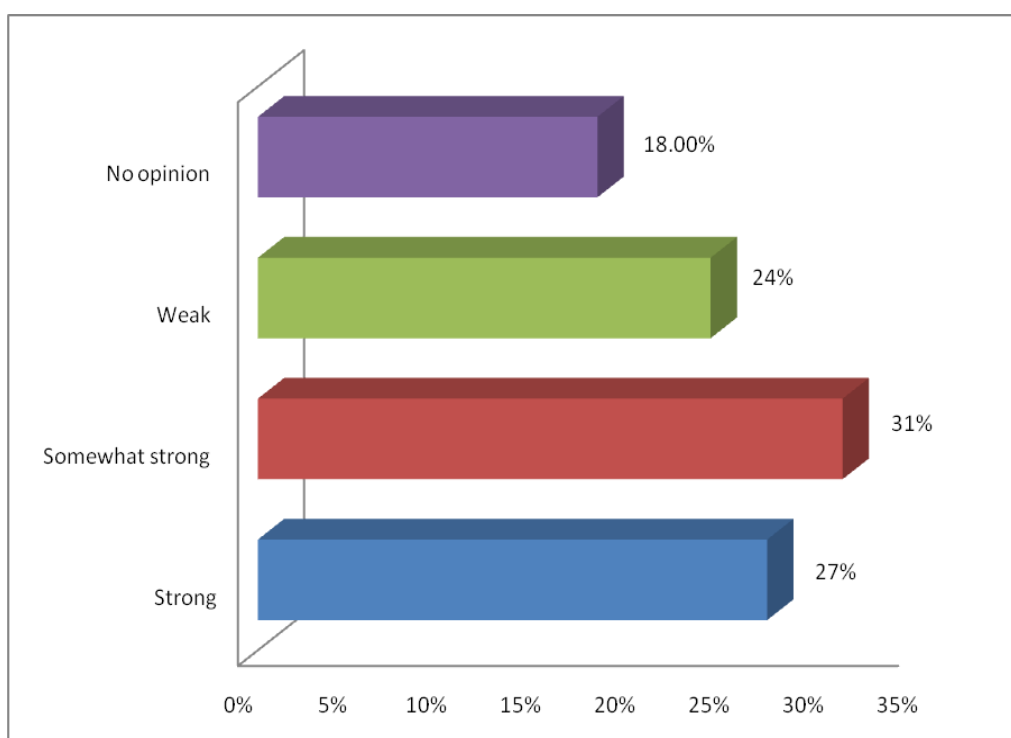
The data of the survey indicates that the participants are engaged in the community in different categories.

- 18% youth/student
- 15% volunteer at local organization/place of worship
- 4% employed locally
- 5% staff of community agency
- 0% local business owner
- 29% unpaid work at home
- 16% employed outside the community



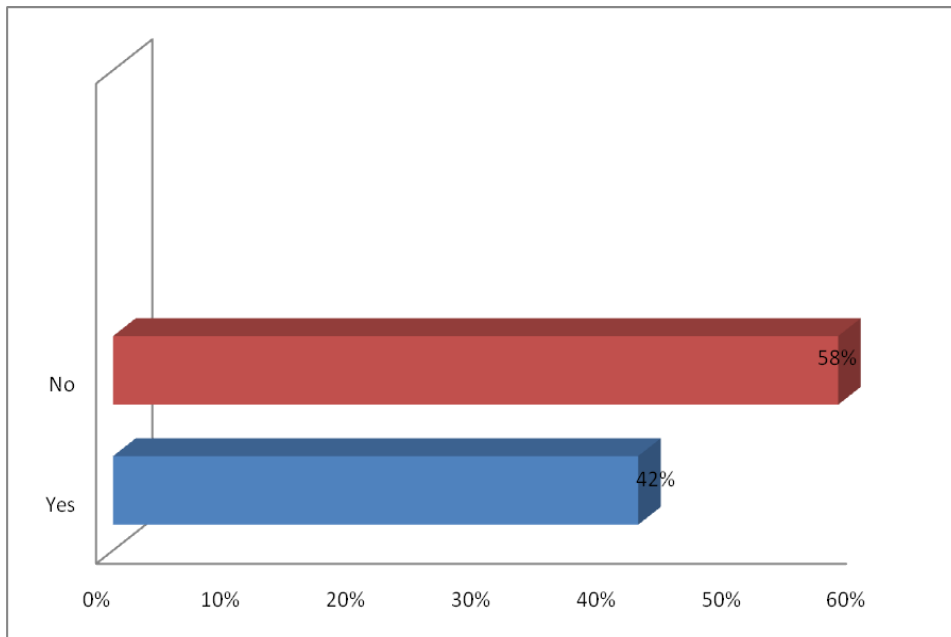
## ***Sense of belonging***

In terms of sense of belonging the participant data shows high percentage of strong sense of belonging.



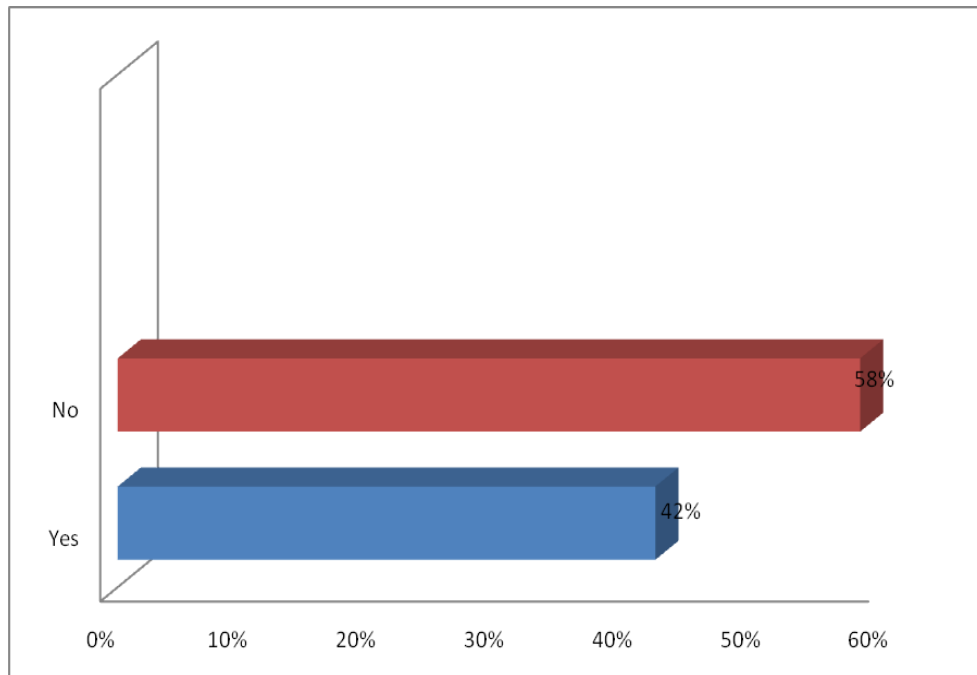
### ***Knowledge of right around the community***

The graph below shows 58% of the residents who participated in the survey don't have knowledge of their rights in the community and 42% of them do.



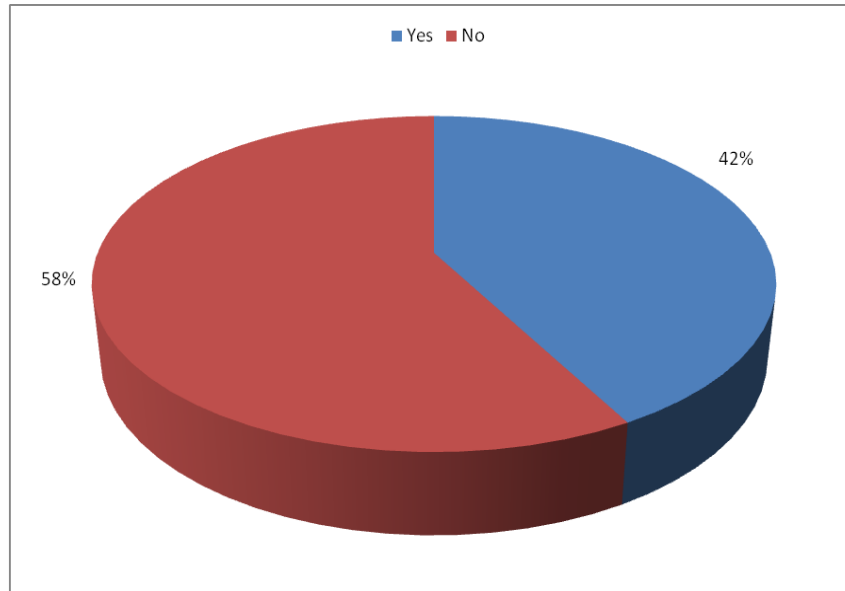
### ***Ontario Human Rights Code***

The graph below shows that 58% of the participants don't know their rights under the Ontario Human Rights Code and only 42% know.



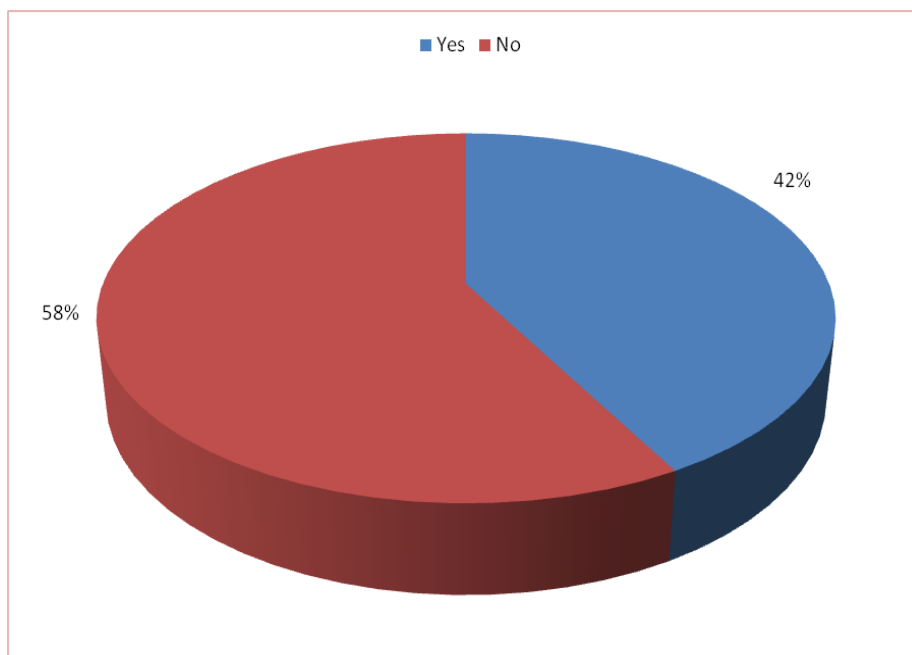
### ***Equity of access to services in the community***

When asked whether or not they think there was equity of access to services in the community, 58% of residents said no while 42% said yes.



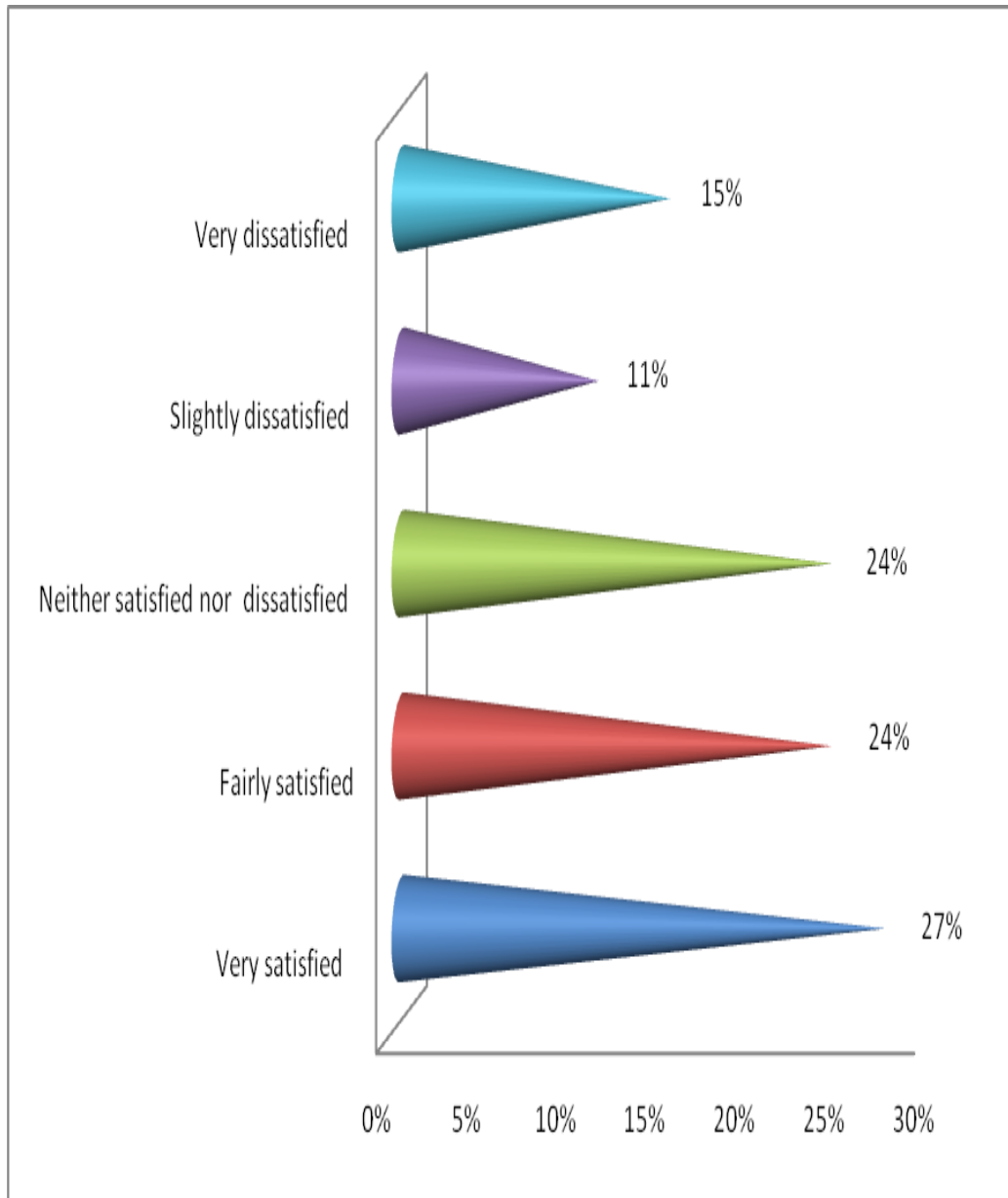
### ***Access to information***

The graph below shows 58% of the participants there was no limited access to information, and 42% said yes. This is the same percentage in the question asked about the equity of access to services, which indicates that lack of information is the main reason for lack of equity of access to services.





### ***Level of Satisfaction with Community***



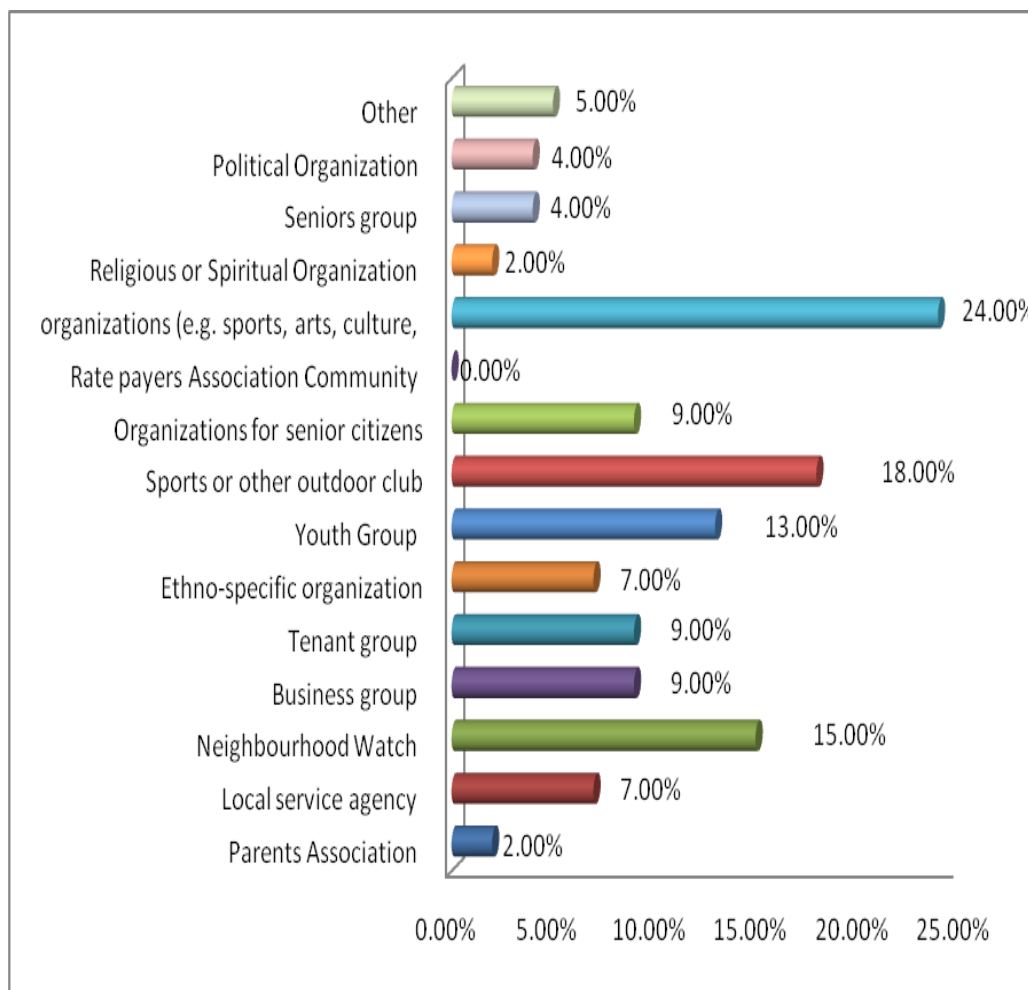
The chart above shows how the residents who participated in the survey voiced their level of satisfaction with the community:

- 27% are very satisfied
- 24% fairly satisfied
- 24% nether satisfied nor dissatisfied
- 15% very dissatisfied
- 11% Slightly satisfied

## Groups and Organization

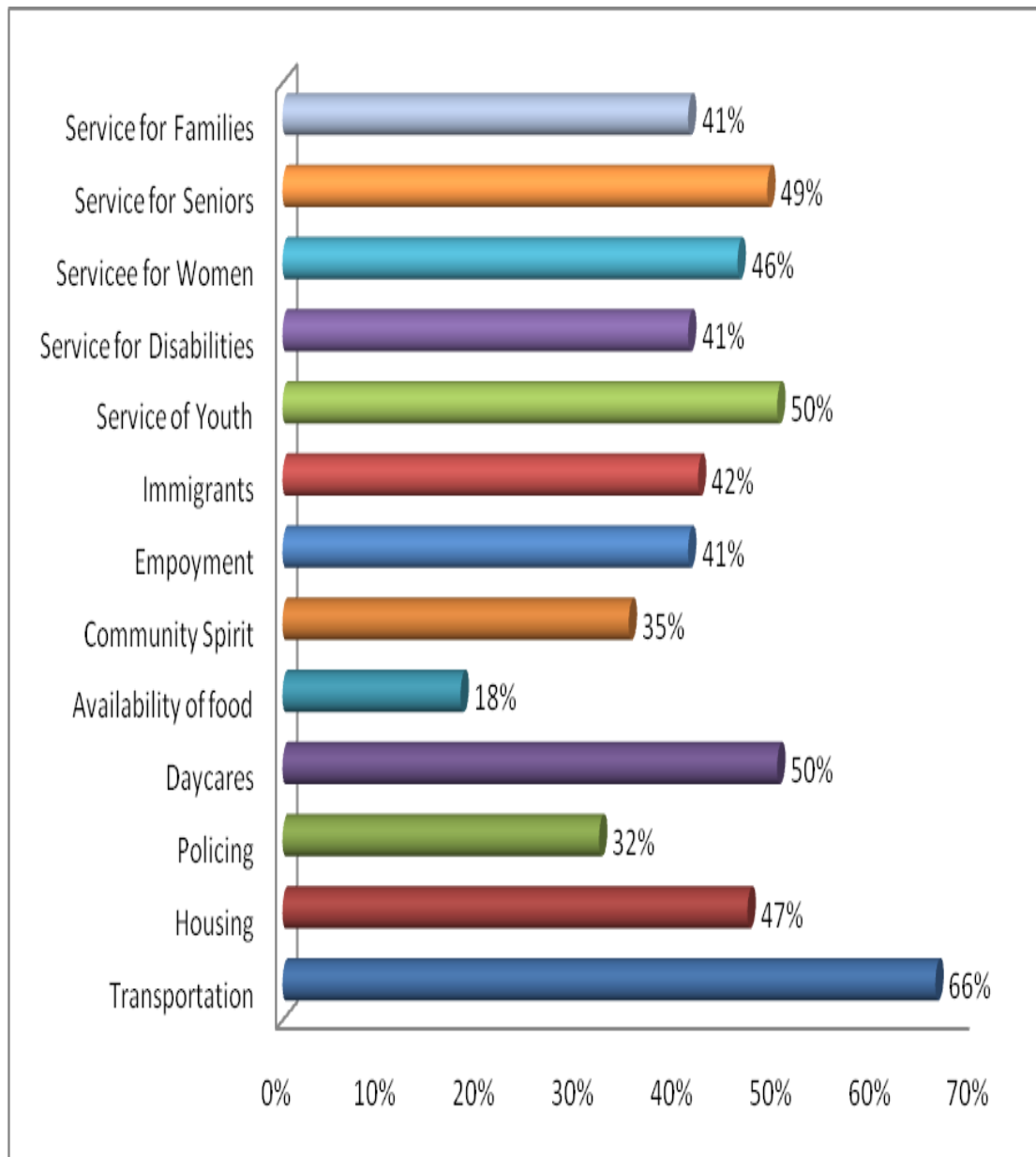
The themes below are ordered based on the number of responses within each category starting with the percentage.

- 2% Parents Association
- 7% Local service agency
- 15% Neighborhood Watch
- 9% Business group
- 9% Tenant group
- 7% Ethno-specific organization
- 13% Youth Group
- 18% Sports or other outdoor club
- 9% Organizations for senior citizens
- 0% Rate payers Association
- 24% Community organizations (e.g. sports, arts, culture, ethno cultural, religious)
- 2% Religious or Spiritual Organization
- 4% Seniors group
- 4% Political Organization
- 5% Other



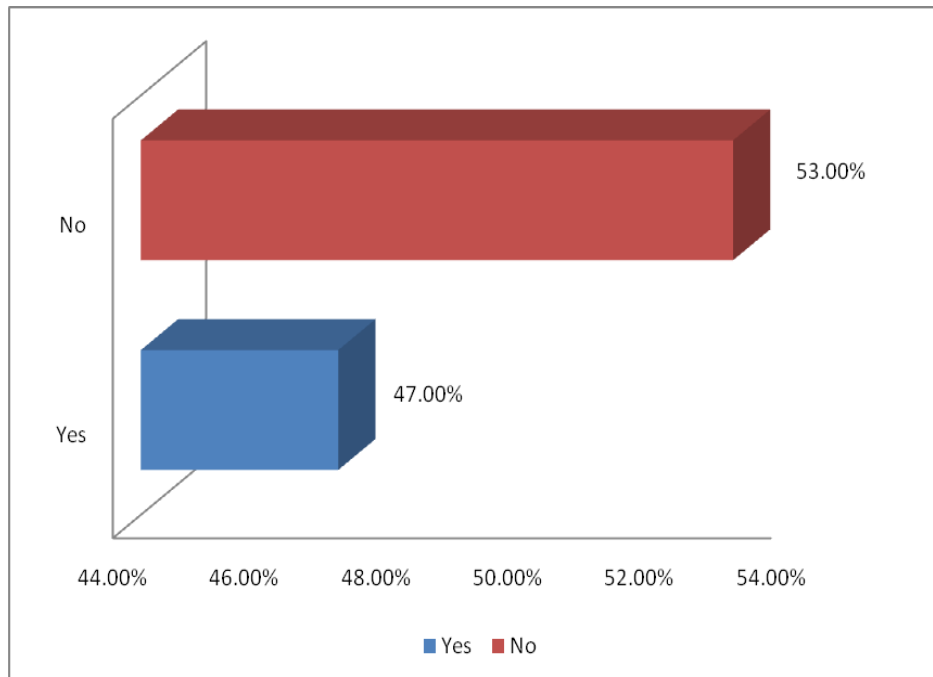
## ***Social Services***

The chart below shows that the majority of the participants of the survey considered the social services in the community to be getting worse, and the majority see it mostly around transportation (66%), services for youth (50%), daycares (50%), services for seniors (49%), housing (47%) and service for woman (46%).



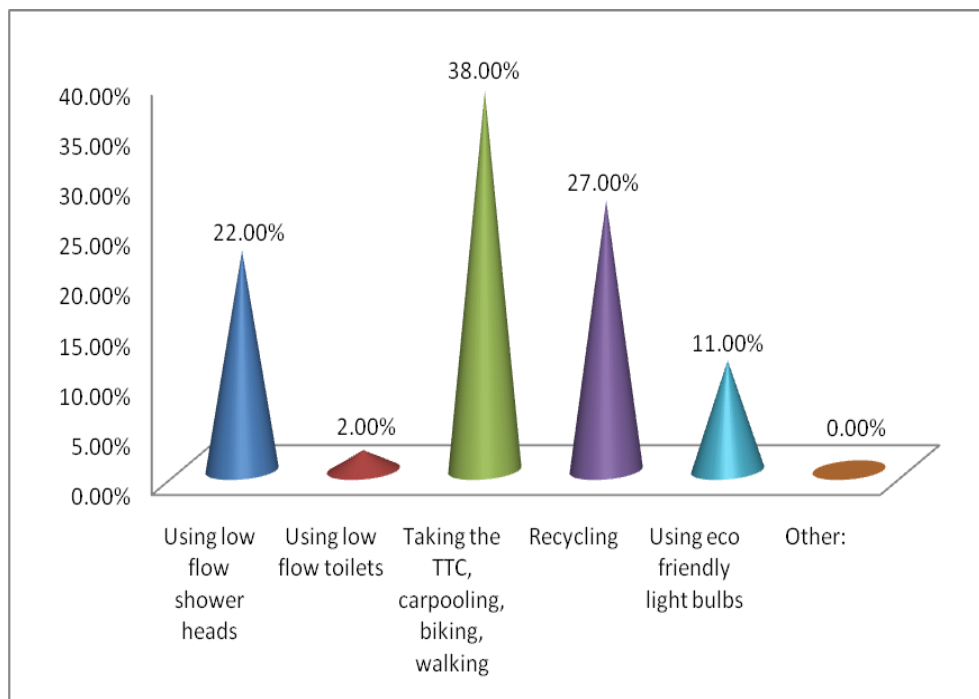
### ***Provision for Recycling***

The data below shows the percentage of the provision for recycling in the area; respondents do recycle in average of 53% in the right way, while 47% of the participants they don't.

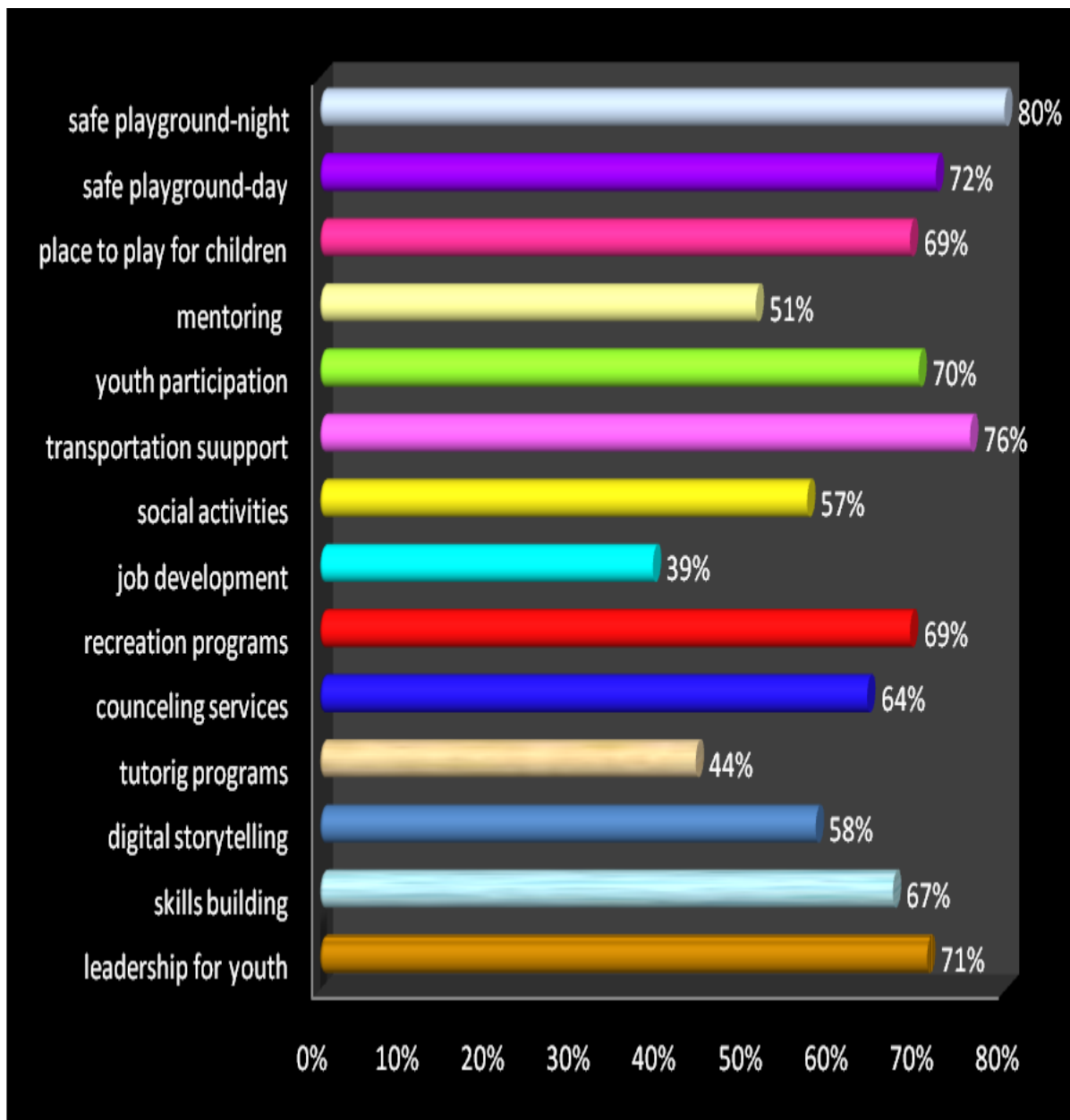


### ***Protecting the environment***

The respondent's data shows different ways of resident's contribution in protecting the environment. 38% of the respondents are taking TTC, 27% are recycling, 22% are using flow shower heads, 11% are using friendly light bulbs and 2% are using flow toilets.



## *Services Highly Needed in the Community*



### **Thoughts and suggestions for improving programs for children and youth from the participants:**

- The participants suggested full-day school days through all Ontario schools and more programs for youth.
- More parks and play ground, recreation programs that are fully free of charge for those poverty area and low-income people.
- Get youth back off the street by finding them jobs and recreational activities.
- Programs where youth will be engage, with access to transportation for them.
- More activities, playgrounds and recreations centres.
- Get the youth meet in workshop and say what they need for themselves and not to be led by adults.



## ***Key informant interview***

Through the Needs Assessment method we interviewed with different key informants such as community workers, programs coordinators and committee members.

### ***Interview (1)***

#### ***1. If a family you knew wanted to move into this neighbourhood, what advice would you give them?***

If they are new, they have to know the neighbours and agencies and know what's happening in the community. Agencies will give them help around their settlement and all kinds of information.

#### ***2. Strongest and best qualities of the community?***

- The good thing about this community is the diversity. We have people from all around the world not just one specific ethnic group. Living in this community makes you feel you are in a United Nations neighbourhood, so you don't end up with people from your own country as your friend; you have an opportunity to mingle with everybody.
- People are so helpful and supportive. If you know the right people and specifically if you have a good friend, they will tell you the do's and don'ts in this neighbourhood.
- We have a historical side in this neighbourhood
- The shopping area (grocery stores) is very close so people don't need transportation to go and buy food; you can get food from almost each and every ethnic community in this neighbourhood.
- There are also churches and faith places for people to worship. If you are Christian, Muslim or Hindu, there are places close by to pray. Also, there are schools close-by to take your kids to.

#### ***3. Three good things about living in this community?***

- Availability of ethnic food
- Convenient to school and shopping area
- Good supportive networks

#### ***4. Three problems you see in the community?***

**Unemployment** - everyone needs income to live and Ontario Works is not enough to make people live. "Do the math" campaign has exposed to the truth about social assistance and Ontario Works and it has discovered that there's a big difference between what people they get and what they spend and people aren't able to access healthy food as a result. The shortest way of dealing with the problem is the city investing more money in this community. This neighbourhood has been identified as a priority neighbourhood, meaning that the city and the Provincial government need to invest more in good jobs in this neighbourhood and they can do that in the shortest period of time.

The other thing is increasing [Ontario Works social assistance](#) because there is always a category of people who don't have jobs, so at least they are able to access healthy food.

[Insecurity](#) - you can have money and good housing but if you feel insecure then that house and job means nothing to you. If you feel your kids are in danger coming from and to school, their risk been shot or also your risk being shot in the elevator going into your own house, you won't feel secure or comfortable. Therefore, security is important for everybody to feel that they can walk safely day and night.

The neighbourhood is seen as a [high risk neighbourhood](#), so when people are looking for jobs or kids going to school, they don't want to say they come from Kingston-Galloway/Orton Park especially if they are schooling with other kids, and if you are a newcomer it's even harder because it's not so easy to navigate the system to gain access through. So if there's a way of helping newcomers to settle in fast as well as getting them a job, I think that will be very useful.

#### ***5. If you have power what kind of problem you want to solve?***

- Employment, to raise the income of people in this neighbourhood
- Social isolation of senior citizens: most of them are afraid to come out of their buildings because they have been attacked and/or robbed by youth so they end up closing themselves. Therefore, we need activities to break the social isolation of seniors.
- Safe places for children and youth to hang out and do recreational activities so they can use their time productively, because we don't have much of those places. The one we have is not accessible because they have to travel to a different neighbourhood and pay for transportation.
- Security and that again revolves around security for seniors because if there's security the seniors will come out their buildings and participate more in activities.

#### ***6. Four most serious needs of the community?***

- Employment
- Political interest from the city and Provincial government to invest more in the community
- Skills people need to have for jobs because when jobs come into the community but there are no people with the right skills because it requires people with degrees or diplomas and we don't have as many people with good education in the community.
- Security because the TCHC buildings especially don't want to invest more money in their buildings so they don't want have security guards whom can control the people who come in and out of the buildings. If we look at most of the drug dealings, killing and shootings in those buildings, it's just because people come in and out and you don't know them.

- Language because if the person can't speak English, almost everything is impossible for them in the community and that leads to lack of confidence, especially if you coming from a developing country living in a first world country, so if you don't have the confidence while dealing with the system, that will be real challenging for you.
- Crimes
- Drug dealing
- Prostitutions

***7. Four things recommended to advising a group that interested in improving health and well being of the community?***

- Access to healthy food is a big health issue they need to focus on
- Employment
- Education because it's very expensive

***8. If you are returning to this community after 15 years, what would you like to see changed and the same?***

**I would like to see change:**

- Poverty level: the income for people is not adequate for them to have a healthy well-being
- Safety: I want to see a very secure neighbourhood where everybody feel they can walk any time at night without fear of being attacked or ending up being a victim in a shoot out
- Children growing up in the neighbourhood where their parents are not afraid of whom their kids are socializing with
- Housing accommodation: I want to see a community with better housing because the TCHC housing conditions are just too pathetic and they are a nightmare. People feel so mentally-stressed from living on this type of housing. You see them so nice from the outside but not until you walk inside and you see what is happening in those buildings that you come to realize there are so many people who just want to go out to different places but they feel so trapped because they can't afford better housing.

**I would like to see the same:**

- The rent should not be increased to match the income of the people. Yes, raise the living standard and good accommodation but not the rent
- The shopping areas
- Recreation and community centers
- Schools should remain the same but have maybe more colleges for those can't go to university they can still get a diploma.

***Calvin Kangara***

*Residents Engagement Worker at East Scarborough Storefront*

## ***Interview (2)***

### ***1. If a family you knew wanted to move into this neighbourhood, what advice would you give them?***

I have lived here for 38 years, and I enjoy it very much.

### ***2. Strongest and best qualities of the community?***

Close to shopping, lots to get involved with, multicultural community, lots of resources and this community is always looking for ways to improve itself.

### ***3. Good things about living in this community?***

Continuing education through diversity; there is always something new to learn.

### ***4. If you have power what kind of problem you want to solve?***

I would want to create many programs for the children so that they grow up being active and want to provide only good things for their families. (A perfect world)

### ***5. Four most serious needs of the community?***

Food and employment.

### ***6. Four things recommended to the advising group interested in improving health and well being of the community?***

Food and employment.

### ***7. If you are returning to this community after 15 years, what would you like to see changed and the same?***

A community that has learned to live together. No racism.

### ***Sandra Hutley***

Part-time employee at the East Scarborough Storefront - Special Project Assistant  
Resident Rising – Advisor  
East Scarborough Festival market – Co-Lead  
Member of Community Police Liaison Committee

## ***Interview (3)***

***1/ If a family you knew wanted to move into this neighbourhood, what advice would you give them?***

- Get to know your neighbours and
- Get involved with community organizations.

***2/what are the Strongest and best qualities of the community?***

- The people in this neighbourhood have a good sense of community
- There are very good organizations in the community who are doing a wonderful job

***3/what are the Good things about living in this community?***

- same as above

***4/If you have power what kind of problem you want to solve?***

- I will address the police issues with youth
- Homeless situation in the community
- Prostitution
- Drugs in the street

***5/what are the four most serious needs of the community?***

- Youth programs after schools
- Programs for seniors
- Programs for the mentally- handicapped

***6/What are the parries to chive those serious needs in the community?***

There are no parries now because we are working through resident raising, safety program, different focus groups and community organizations to address the community issues; we are just not getting as far as we would like to be right now.

***7/Four things recommended to the advising group interested in improving health and well being of the community?***

- Drug addiction
- Prostitution
- Mental issue
- Seniors are in shelters and looking for organizations to help them especially they are immigrants and most of them don't speak English.



***8/If you are returning to this community after 15 years, what would you like to see changed and what you like to see the same?***

***I would like to see....***

- West Hill Community Centre
- The Storefront Community Centre
- The community garden
- The Market that we have in the summer time
- Any kind of really good function that can go on that will bring our neighbours together and help out. Example: our safety community meeting that we had last year which brought all the neighbours and children together and gave them an opportunity to get to know each other.

***I would not like to see ...***

- Crimes
- Abuse against youth
- Prostitution
- Drugs

***Patty Wegezyn***

Coordinator of the yummy tummy breakfast club in KGO  
KGO Residents raising member

## ***Interview (4)***

***1. If a family you knew wanted to move into this neighbourhood, what advice would you give them?***

Be friendly with your neighbours & be understanding, love this community.

***2. Strongest and best qualities of the community?***

It is the most vibrant, diverse community.

***3. Good things about living in this community?***

1. Diversity
2. Community Engagement activities.
3. Resourceful and brave residents.

4. Community agencies.
5. Helping each other through volunteer work.

***4. If you have power what kind of problem you want to solve?***

1. Poverty
2. Employment problem
3. Safety & security
4. More seniors program.

***5. The four most serious needs of the community?***

1. Local Employment.
2. More Food sources
3. Home care service providers facilities.

***6. Four things recommended to advising group interested in improving health and well being of the community?***

1. To implement more program on healthy living lifestyle, home door basis, more awareness development, more well-being programs for seniors at the building level as well.

***7. If you are returning to this community after 15 years, what would you like to see changed and the same?***

I would like to see happy families with safe, secured and healthy generations.

***Babli Nessa***

Parents for Healthy Living Children: Chair  
Women and families support Services: Chair  
Residents Rising: Advisor

# ***Theory of change***

## ***Goal:***

The majority of the residents in the Kingston–Galloway/Orton Park community are families living below the poverty line in Toronto and have less than high school education. The goal is to develop employment opportunities for them. That will increase their income, allow them to be in a good life condition and enhance their well-being.

## ***Explanation of the target population:***

The target population is mostly young people and women. The community has a high parentage of the population whom single mother are mostly have more than one child depend on the social assistance. It is a diverse population with nearly half of it being minorities who are coming from cultures that doesn't believe on women working. The majority of population is under part time employed, long time unemployed or never been employed. The minority who are working they are having a difficult time come out of a pattern of low wage jobs due to a lack of education, skills and low self esteem. Many also have other significant barriers such as language (56% of the survey participants aren't speaking well English), childcare (waiting list for subsidy daycare too long) lack of sufficient education or skills, a criminal background, homelessness, substance abuse, and/or domestic violence. Each of these issues interrupts their employment often enough to impact their work attendance and their ability to advance in their jobs and careers. All of these previous barriers and many more result in the Kingston –Galloway /Orton Park community population being in poverty at a much higher rate than some others communities.

## ***Inputs:***

Community agencies staff, employment centre in the community, libraries, churches, money, volunteers, partners, local business owners, funders, time, anti-poverty agencies and the City of Toronto.

## ***Strategies:***

All the above inputs will work together to reach the goal. The agencies and employment centres in the KGO will provide counselling and assessments to clients by looking at each case individually and link to referrals services (i.e. if the person is homeless that means housing is the first need for him/her to settle and then look for a job), hire staff with different languages and backgrounds to help overcome cultural and language barriers to employment. Weekly job training seminars and workshops, commercial kitchen facilities to train clients how to run a small business, create accessible language and literacy programs to eliminate the language barrier to employment sector, use network to connect jobs, provide transportation services for clients to job interviews and training. Jobs accommodate health concerns. Create

effective partnerships with local business owners, TTC, and TDSB to provide unskilled jobs. Work to eliminate other barriers such as language, childcare, skills and low self esteem etc. by providing workshops, information sessions and study circles. Provide Placement Program. Funders grant long term funding to employment programs and strategies. Anti-Poverty Organization work in avoiding dangers of falling into a lifelong poverty trap. The city invests more in the community by providing more services and facilities to create more jobs and reduce systemic barriers to the social, economic and political life.

### **Activities:**

Design 3-6 month programs for job skills with placement and workshops, seminars to motivate the participants, literacy programs with small number of participants (7-10) to ensure high quality of training, guidance, volunteer jobs to get Canadian experience to link to real jobs.

### **Short-term Outcome:**

During the 3-6 months, the participants will achieve positive knowledge, attitude, confidence to look for jobs and self-esteem, skills and language, understand the Canadian culture of work and start to make networks through placement and get Canadian experience.

### **Long-term Outcome:**

- The employment condition will be superior and income level will improve in Kingston –Galloway/Orton Park, which will also result in a higher ability for the population to come out of poverty. Encourage social assistance receivers to work and contribute by paying taxes. Reduce the unemployment rate. The City will have more money by investing in services.

# *Theory of change*

## **Statement:**

The majority of the residents in the Kingston–Galloway/Orton Park community are families living below the poverty line in Toronto and have less than high school education. The goal is to develop employment opportunities for them. That will increase their income, allow them to be in a good life condition and enhance their well-being.

## **Assumption**

## **Strategic Focus:**

- Reduce unemployment by providing counselling and assessments to clients by looking at each case individually.
- Hire staff with different languages and backgrounds to help overcome cultural and language barriers to unemployment.
- Weekly job-training, seminars and workshops
- Training in how to run a small business
- Accessible language and literacy programs
- Use network to connect jobs
- Provide transportation services to job interviews and training
- Create effective partnerships with local business owners, TTC, and TDSB to provide unskilled jobs.
- Eliminate other barriers such as childcare, skills and low self esteem
- Provide Placement Program
- Anti-Poverty Organization work in avoiding dangers of falling into a lifelong poverty trap.
- The city invests more in the community by providing more services and facilities to create more jobs and reduce systemic barriers to the social, economic and political life.

## **Long term Outcomes:**

- The employment condition will be superior
- Income level will improve
- Higher ability for the population to come out of poverty.
- The City will have more money to invest in services around the community
- Develop employment skills
- Reduce the unemployment rate.

## **Short term Outcomes**

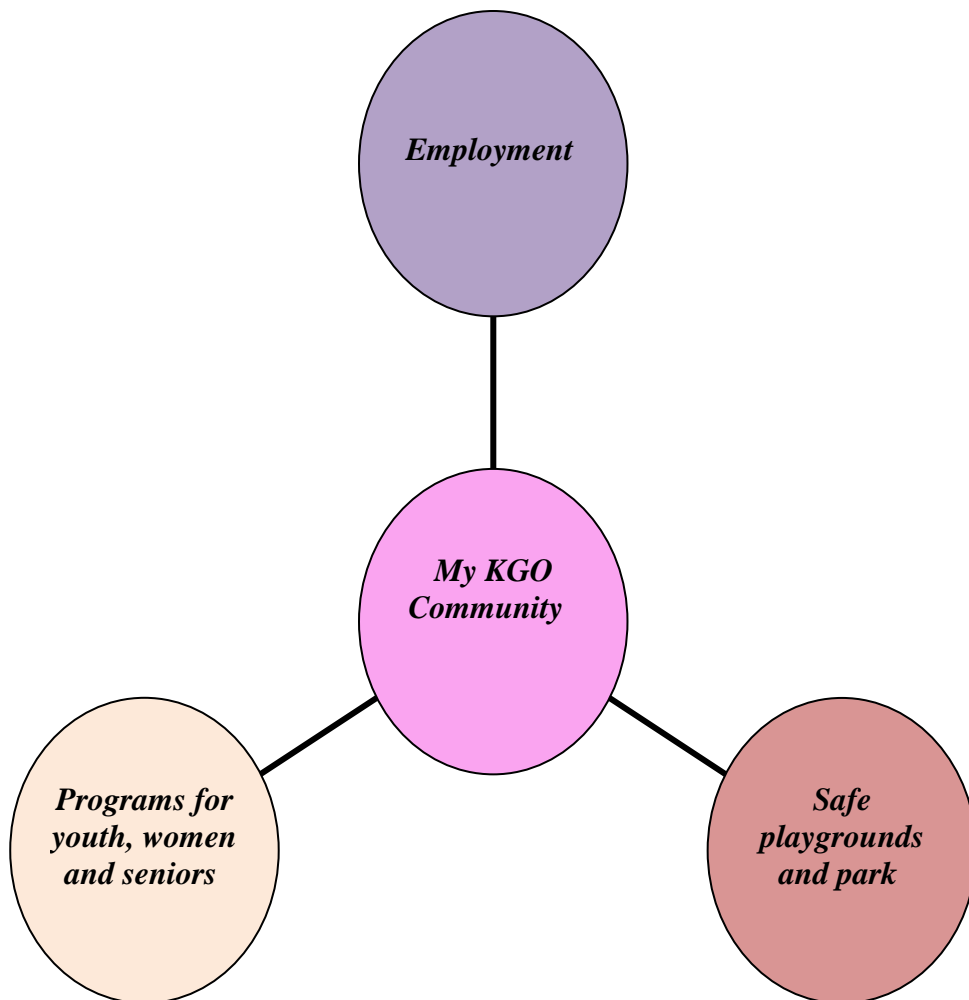
- During 3-6 months, the participants will achieve positive knowledge, attitude, and confidence to look for jobs, self esteem, and skills,
- Improve language
- Understand the Canadian culture of work and
- Start to make networks through placement and get Canadian experience.

## **Activities:**

- Design 3-6 month programs for job skills with placement and workshops, seminars to motivate the participants
- literacy programs with small number of participants to ensure high quality of training
- Guidance, volunteer jobs to get Canadian experience to link to real jobs
- Training for small businesses
- Refer to employment resources



## *Needs around KGO community*



# ***Recommendations***

## **1. Recommendations regarding programs**

**Women:** The majority of the participants in the survey were young single women. I recommended inclusive and accessible women's programs, study circles, outdoor activities, day camps, variety of life skills, training and workshops to reduce stress and increase self-esteem and confidence. In general, the level of education and knowledge needs to be looked at by bringing new programs, ideas or partnerships with existing organizations that specialize in learning, to deliver services in the community. Classes for literacy and English because English isn't the first language for 60% of the community and the only English program is LINC, which is not accessible for everyone.

**Youth:** programs such as anti-violence, abuse and addiction. More activities & recreational programs. Create programs for youth to engage them with technology and entertainment i.e. producing and using digital storytelling. Provide transportation support from and to programs. Develop leadership and role models around youth. Reduce poverty around youth and school dropout rates by intensive counselling and create jobs for youth inside the community to save transportation expenses. Free music and art programs for youth. More programs for youth lead by youth themselves. Involve youth in computer teaching and digital storytelling for adults. Suitable programs to solve the issue of school dropout.

**Seniors:** More outdoor activities to reduce the seniors' isolation. I recommend more accessible programs for seniors by offering transportation support.

**Children:** I recommend safe playgrounds and more parks with good lighting systems. Also, I recommended early childhood development investments because the waiting list for daycares is too long.

**2. Recommendations regarding income** The survey shows indicators of high percentage of unemployment, very low income in the population, which is between \$5,000 and less than \$10,000. I strongly recommended employment and anti-poverty organizations to solve this issue. Also, I recommend the employment center at the Storefront to do more promoting and outreach through volunteerism because the service has just started in the neighborhood

**3. Recommendations regarding education** Education is a concern in the community. The majority of the jobs in the community does not require education

higher than high school education to perform, such as retail, which proves the low income level in the area due to low level of education and low standard of jobs.

#### **4. Recommendations regarding community engagement**

I recommended more connections between cultures to build up a community spirit and sense of belonging like engaging residents in dynamic activities including their children more often. Create cultural festivals where everybody comes together to share knowledge and respect.

#### **5. Recommendations regarding Self-Identify: Race/Ethnicity**

By looking at the survey results, we can see a very diverse mix of culture and ethnic groups. I recommended working in the diversity issues around the community through developing role models in the different cultural groups to get the full potential of engagement. Also, I recommended annual cultural gatherings where there are fashion shows and food market for different groups.

**6. Recommendations for housing:** TCHC needs to realize the bad maintenance condition for the buildings in the community and deal with the issues. The residents' concerns about safety in TCHC buildings need to be addressed in appropriate ways by having security guards. There should also be an intensive work plan to deal with the bedbugs and cockroach issues.

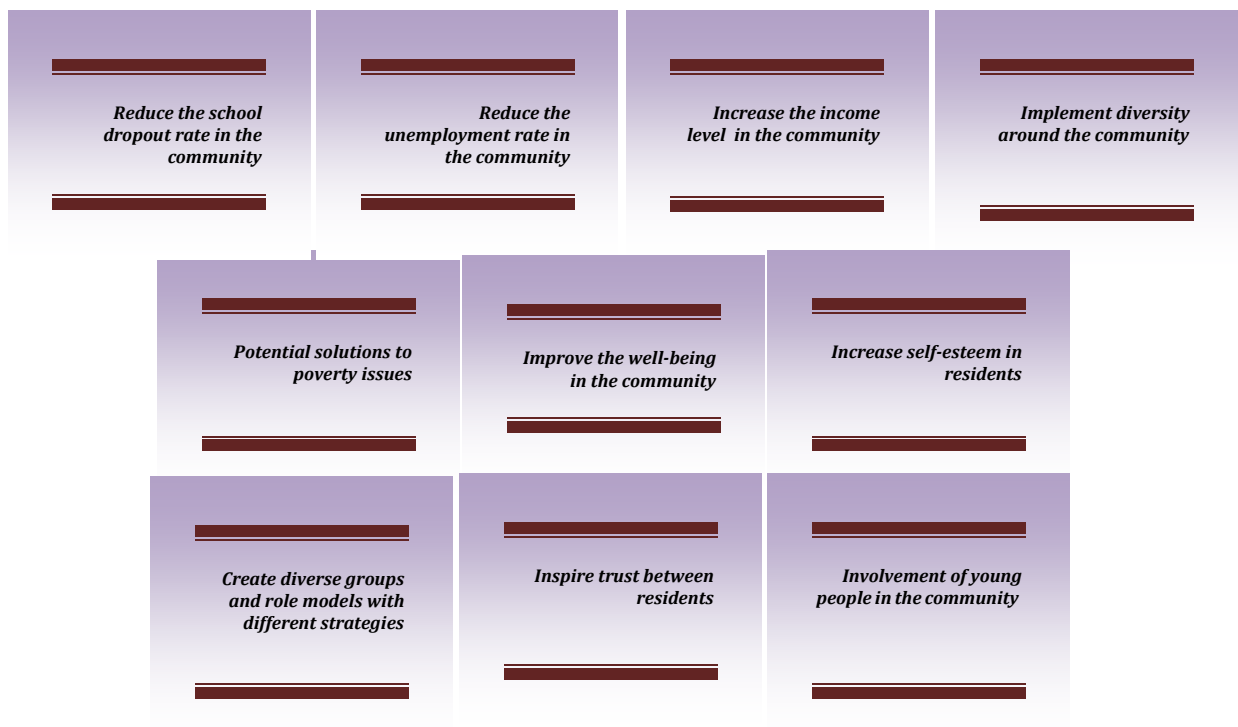
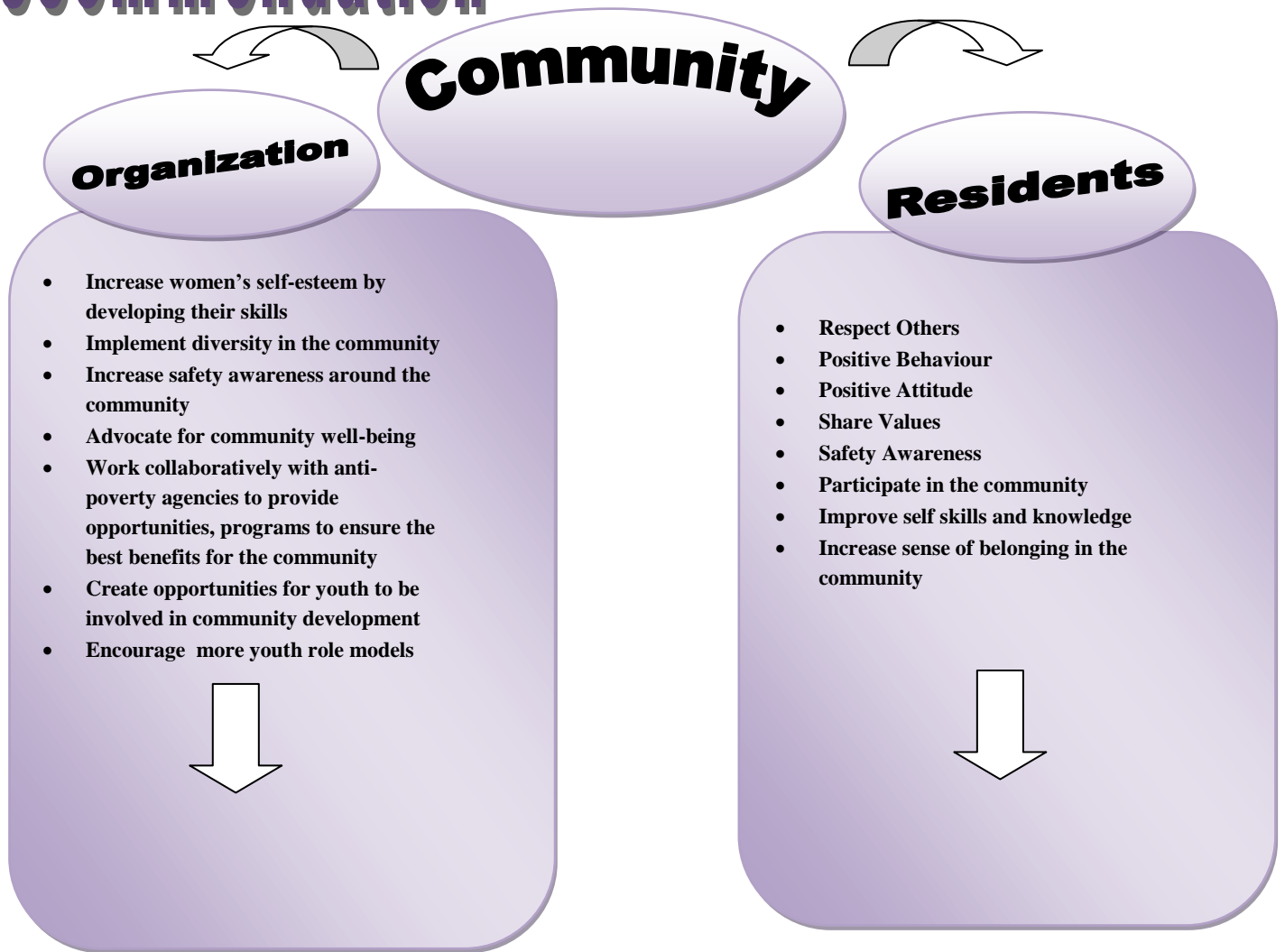
#### **7. Recommendations for community agencies**

Community agencies work with schools, police, youth and parents regarding the legal issues about youth. I recommend the community centers to conduct outreach (libraries, schools, churches, buildings, plazas, recreation centres etc.) for education and community service information for residents to introduce what's available and what's new. To have strong sustainable healthy community I recommended finding more affordable food supplies. For example, by investing more in community gardens and have a full summer season market for fruits and vegetables. Set information session and workshops around equity of access to services in the community.

### **Conclusion**

The survey done around the KGO community with 55 residents, means the results don't represent the full population in the community, even though a lot of research and interviews were done.

# Recommendation



## **References**

- ◆ *Scarborough then and now (1796-1996 book)*
- ◆ *History of Scarborough (book)*
- ◆ *A Resource Guide for the Kingston Galloway/Orton Park Community*
- ◆ *The amazing place guidebook (created by Scarborough East Storefront )*

## **Source from the internet**

- ◆ [www.thestorefront.org](http://www.thestorefront.org)
- ◆ [www.ThecityofToronto.com](http://www.ThecityofToronto.com)
- ◆ [www.statisticCanada.com](http://www.statisticCanada.com)
- ◆ [www.InsideToronto.com](http://www.InsideToronto.com)
- ◆ <http://www.thestar.com>
- ◆ <http://www.torontopolice.on.ca>
- ◆ <http://www.ourkgocommunity.com>
- ◆ <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com>
- ◆ <http://www.toronto.ca>
- ◆ <http://www.boldts.net/WestHill>
- ◆ [http://www.rapdict.org/Orton\\_Park](http://www.rapdict.org/Orton_Park)
- ◆ [Scarborough Historical Society](http://www.scarboroughhistoricalsociety.com)