



PANORAMIC OF LAWRENCE HEIGHTS

Gratefulness

“I am very grateful with the Center for Community Learning and Development, for the opportunity that you gave me in my process of learning, leadership and building about the community.

I appreciate so much for the patience, support and collaboration of Alfred and Maria and the rest of technical team – Ma Ron, Alice, Velda and Sawitry -.

Special recognition to the teachers, for their contribution and hard labor.

To Jennifer, Any, Amada and Laura my gratitude for your exceptional sensibility, personal help and opportunity to express my emotion and learn especial way for understanding and building community with special techniques.

To my friends, Olga and Valeria, and other classmates thanks for growing together and understand my difficulties.

To my family, especially my father and my son and his family, thanks for understand my pressure and my wish for to find the better way for my professional future in this country”.

In addition, thanks to my friend for your emotional support and his company in my new life in Canada.

**COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT TRAINING
COURSE**

IWIP

LAWRENCE HEIGHTS

Community Fieldwork

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March 12, 2010

Table of Contents

First Part - Diagnostic of the Community

1. Lawrence Heights.
 - 1.1 History
 - 1.2 Lawrence Heights Today
 - 1.3 Recent Changes in the Community
2. Localization
3. Crime and Safety
4. Racism
5. Amenities and Services
 - 5.1 Services
 - 5.1.1 Health
 - 5.1.2 Community Centers
 - 5.1.3 Settlement Services
 - 5.1.4 Education - Language Classes
 - 5.1.5 Employment Services
 - 5.1.7 Social Organizations
 - 5.1.8 Other Programs
 - 5.2 Amenities
 - 5.2.1 Affordable Housing
6. Demographic
7. Employment
8. Languages
9. Economics
10. Level of Education
11. Conclusion
12. Bibliography

Second Part – Results of the survey

1. Introduction
2. Community resources and need assessment
 - 2.1 Age of group
 - 2.2 Gender
 - 2.3 Marital status
 - 2.4 Resident status
 - 2.5 Length of residency
 - 2.6 Self identity/Race ethnicity
 - 2.7 Self identity/Disability
 - 2.8 Language

- 2.9 Employment situation
 - 2.11 Household income
 - 2.12 People in your household
 - 2.13 Children living at home
 - 2.14 How is the community engaged day to day
 - 2.15 Social services
 - 2.16 Provision of services
 - 2.17 Access to services
 - 2.18 Recycling service
 - 2.19 Assets and support of services at the community
 - 2.20 Programs for children and youth
 - 2.21 Programs with people with disabilities
 - 2.22 The main challenge facing community
 - 2.23 Final comments
3. Conclusions and recommendations
4. Theory of change
- 4.1 Phase 1
 - 4.2 Phase 2
 - 4.3 Phase 3

LAWRENCE HEIGHTS

History

Lawrence Heights is located on land that was once owned by Henry Mulholland—one of North York's earliest settlers who came to the area in 1814. The Mulholland farm was sold to developers in the 1940s. In the '50s, Lawrence Heights was transformed from farmland into one of Toronto's largest public housing developments. Lawrence Heights is Toronto's second oldest housing project after Regent Park. The high-rise apartment towers originally planned for the area became low-rise buildings and row-houses when developers realized how close the neighborhood is to the Downsview Airport.

Lawrence Heights is a low-income neighborhood managed by the Metro Toronto Housing Authority. The backbone of this community is the Lawrence Heights Area Alliance a team of volunteers comprised of local church members as well as Lawrence Heights residents.



Lawrence Heights is a community of ethnic and linguistic diversity, predominantly newcomers and first-generation immigrants from East and West African countries, as well as Caribbean and Latin American countries. There are 1,080 family units and a high proportion of single-parent families. It is one of a number of Toronto communities affected by youth gangs and violent crime involving firearms over the past few years. In October 2005, Toronto City Council designated Lawrence Heights as one of 13 priority neighborhoods, requiring infrastructure investment and improvement of community services.

The neighborhood is in public ownership and has had a reputation for social problems. The buildings are now 40 to 45 years old and require significant investment to bring them up to current standards. Redevelopment has begun at the edges of the property. Like Regent Park, Lawrence Heights is considered to be ripe for redevelopment, but in view of the post-1970s criticisms of these early modern neighborhoods, any redevelopment will likely feature mixed-tenure, street-oriented buildings rather than the open-space model. If capital funding, replacement housing, and resettlement issues can be resolved, this neighborhood will probably be transformed.

It contains a community housing project with a circle of two- to three-storey brick buildings that look nearly identical. Lawrence Heights East is separated from Lawrence Heights West by the Allen Expressway. The east patch is close to the Lawrence West subway station but has poor access to it. The neighborhood is also cut off from the nearby Lawrence Square mall and other amenities on the west side of the Allen. A bridge connects the two neighborhoods that sit just below Highway 401.

Lawrence Heights is a large diverse low-income neighborhood located in suburban North York. It has a population of between 5,000-8,000 people and consists of subsidized public housing in the form of low-rise apartment buildings, townhouses, and single-family homes.

It was, at one time, physically cut off from the rest of North York by a large wire fence that encircled the neighborhood. Although large sections of the fence have been removed, the area remains somewhat isolated from other neighborhoods (some of which are very affluent), with only four roadways leading in and out of the community.

Twenty-five years ago, most of the community residents were of European descent and Spoke English as their first language. Many had recently moved to Ontario from other parts of Canada seeking jobs. Most families had two parents. No social or health services were located within the community. (Lawrence Heights, Community Quality of Life.)

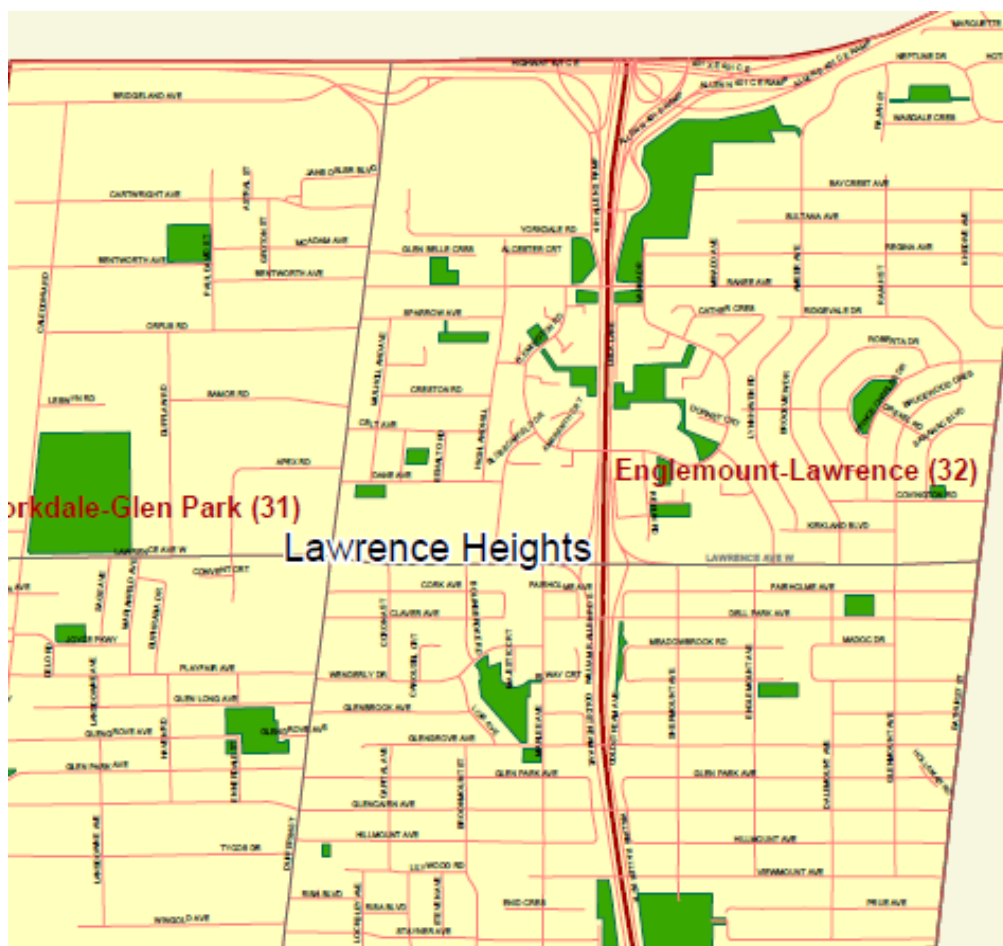
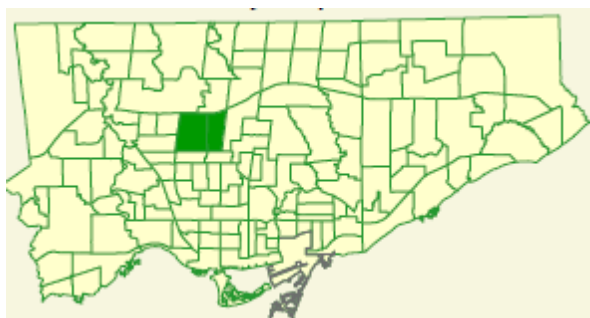
Lawrence Heights Today (Revitalization Update, Item 1, Wednesday May 7, 2008.
Board of Directors Report: TCHC:2008-50)

- 1208 rent-geared-to income housing units with approximately 3,500 tenants.
- Extraordinarily high youth population. Approximately 50% of the total Lawrence Heights population are aged 15 years or under (compared to 18% of the total population of the City of Toronto are aged 15 or under).
- Low income community with the average household annual income \$15,000.
- Multi-lingual community (English, Somali, Oromo, Spanish).
- Housing types include many family units (50% of units have 3 or more bedrooms).
- The community is situated within 100 acres of land, the majority of which is owned by Toronto Community Housing.
- In October 2005, City Council designated Lawrence Heights as one of 13 priority Neighborhood in requiring infrastructure investment and improvement of community services.

Recent Changes in the Community

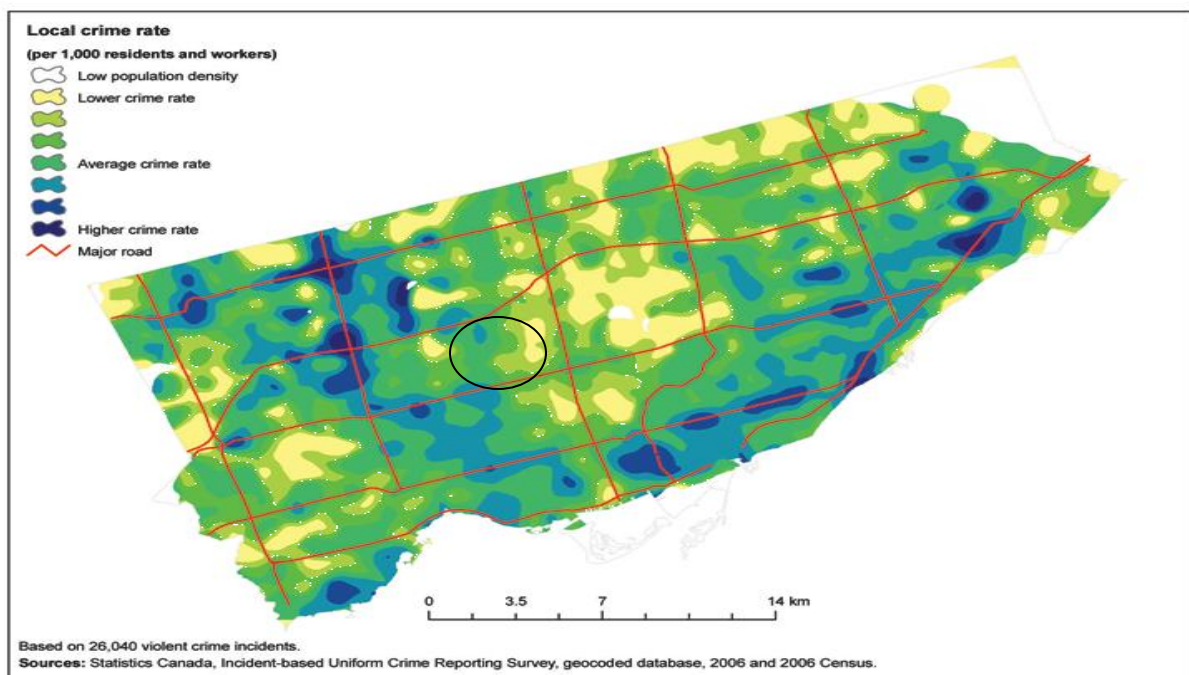
Among those living in Lawrence Heights now, there are higher than average percentages of women, children and youth, sole-support families, seniors, and people who are unemployed and underemployed than the Metropolitan area as a whole. The community has also become a10 more diverse - culturally and linguistically. Some of the original residents remain, but many residents have recently moved from the Caribbean. In the last 7-10 years others have moved there from homes in Latin America, South Asia, and East Africa. (*Lawrence Heights Quality of Life*)

Localization



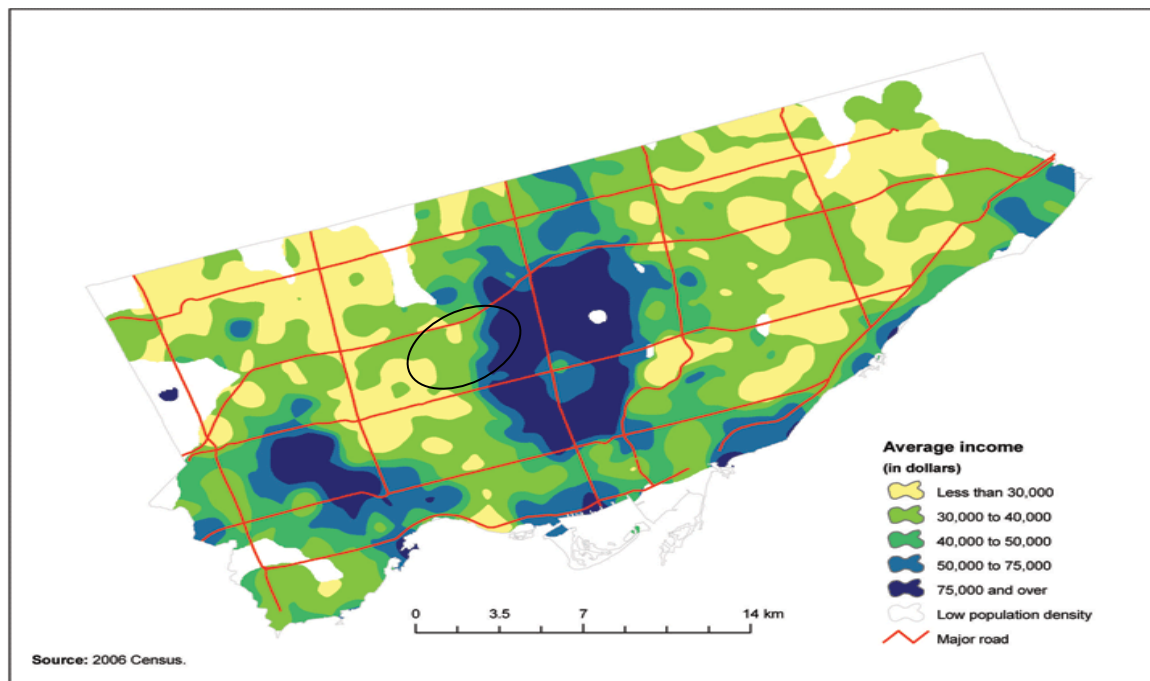
Crime and Safety

Crimes reported to the police are not arbitrarily distributed throughout Toronto, but are concentrated in certain areas of the city. An examination of local crime rates, the relationship between the number of crimes and the population at a local level shows that the rates of violent crime are higher near the downtown core and in the east and northwest areas of the city and neighborhoods along the Canadian National railway and to the areas where residents earn the lowest individual incomes. There are some hot spots within these areas that have higher rates. Some of these are Danforth, downtown east side and the intersections of Lawrence and Morningside, Jane and Finch, and Jane and Eglinton.

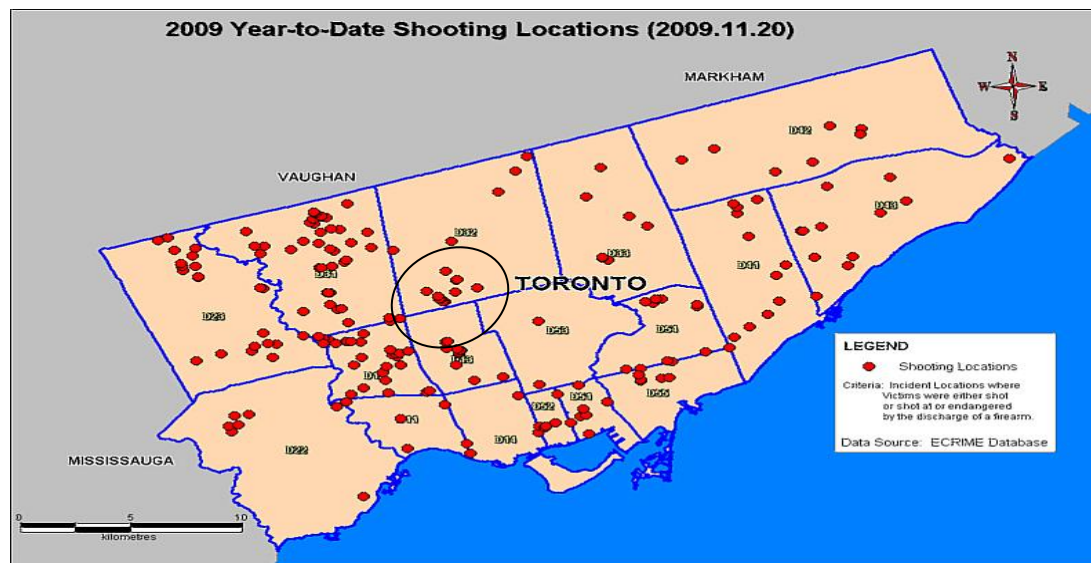


On the map about crime in the City of Toronto is possible one observation because in the area the Lawrence Heights the phenomenon of crime are least than other areas of the city. However, this crime fluctuate from lower crime to average crime with some isolated episodes of crime and murder.

Average income, city of Toronto, 2006



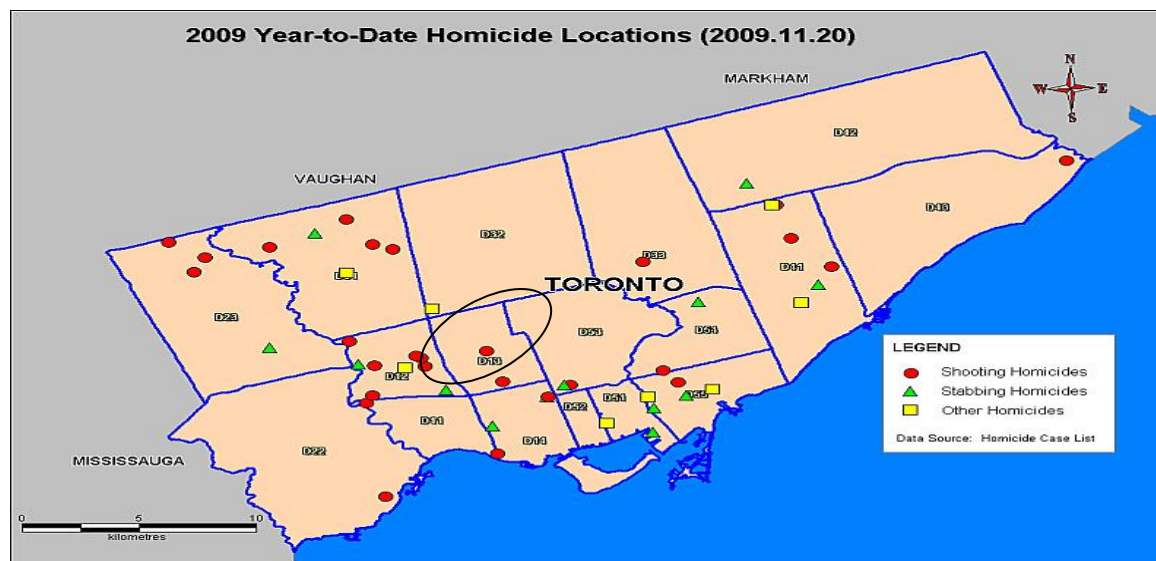
The maps of average income demonstrate a concentration of a low-income population of the City of Toronto especially in the area of Lawrence Heights and other neighborhoods.



CLOSE X

On the map 2009 Year-to- Date Shooting Locations can regarding the distribution of case of Shooting, observe the concentration the cases in the area of Lawrence Heights with seven cases.

On the map below, represent the cases of the shooting homicides with two cases in the neighbourhood. Crime and safety issues concerned about drug use in some of the buildings, gangs and car thefts.



The links below represent cases of shooting in the area of Lawrence Heights:

1. [Murder suspects set free, despite video of Lawrence Heights ...](#)

26 Feb 2009 ... Murder suspects set free, despite video of **Lawrence Heights** shooting Also: will video cameras on every corner in **Toronto** deter crime? ... --Select One--, 20-minute makeover, **311**, A to Z, Adam Giambrone, Adam Vaughan, advertising ... restaurant, restaurant review, restaurants, resuming **services** ... *network.nationalpost.com/.../Toronto/.../murder-suspects-set-free-despite-video-of-lawrence-heights-shooting.aspx*

2. [Toronto Police make public video of shooting at Lawrence Heights ...](#)

17 Mar 2008 ... The **Toronto Police Service** is committed to ensuring the safety of everyone in the **Lawrence Heights** community. ... AddThis **Social** Bookmark Button · Comments (0) · Send to a friend · Permalink ... --Select One--, 20-minute makeover, **311**, A to Z, Adam Giambrone, Adam Vaughan, advertising ... *network.nationalpost.com/.../toronto/.../toronto-police-make-public-video-of-shooting-at-lawrence-heights.aspx*

3. [Cyclist shot in Lawrence Heights - thestar.com](#)

15 Jul 2009 ... A street in **Lawrence Heights** was littered with shell casings after a shooting that sent a cyclist to hospital. ... *www.thestar.com/gta/crime/article/666982* - [Cached](#)

Racism

Issues of racism among the community. There was a belief that they had been denied services such as food deliveries and being able to take taxis. Because of racism it was more difficult to obtain employment, and many believed that there was ongoing evidence of racism in the neighborhood.

In the Document Racism, Violence and Health Project. Toronto Community Profile. December 2003 by Chris Williams and Jennifer Clarke give details about the different issues of racism among the community of Lawrence Heights. This community “ has become thoroughly stigmatized over the years, The stigmatization transformed into outright demonization for the crime in the wake of the young men eventually convicted of the crime were all Black and all were residents of Lawrence Heights, a fact reflected connections between race and crime. The community has been described as a “predominantly Black neighborhood” (Cheney, 1987), there are no ethno-specific organizations in the community and programs and services are not specifically designed to meet the needs of this population and not provide programs and services in the specific languages.

Services

Health

Lawrence Heights Community Health Centre

The Lawrence Heights Health Centre is also an integral part of this community. This centre offers a range of outreach and educational programs and includes a clinic, a team of community development workers.

The community contributed to the establishment of the Lawrence Heights Community Health Centre. In 1974, as a result of lobbying efforts by community members, the Lawrence Heights Medical Centre was established. At that time there was one doctor, one nurse, and one nurse-receptionist. There was also a voluntary Board of Directors. Over the next 13 years the clinical staff and services at the Medical Centre increased. In 1987 community development workers joined the staff, working on the broader determinants of health such as education, employment, housing, and more. In 1989 the name of the Centre was changed to the Lawrence Heights Community Health Centre to reflect this holistic and community-based approach to health.

In August of 1991 construction of a new building to house what was until then a patchwork of offices and sites was begun. The shell of the building was finished in December of 1991 and the building was occupied in May of 1992.

In October of 1992 the Lawrence Heights Community Health Centre established its catchment area. With the recession in the 1980's, changes in hospital policies and increased awareness of the Centre, the demands upon staff increased measurably. Because the Centre had no clear community boundaries it was important to establish a service area. This area is bounded by Wilson Avenue to Bathurst Street, and Eglinton Avenue West to Keele Street.

This area is now home to a diverse group of 75,000 people. It also contains a number of distinct communities - Lawrence Heights being one of the largest.

There are currently 38 staff associated with the Centre. These individuals include nurses, physicians, community dietitians, community health workers, and administrative and office staff. There is active involvement by students from a number of local educational institutions who have practicum experiences at the Centre, as well as involvement from volunteers often recruited from the local community.

Community Centers

Community Agencies and Resources

There are many community agencies and resources that could provide support and assistance when required. However, in many cases there was a sense that there could be more of these and that how they operate could be improved.

North York Community House provides a safe environment where people can get to know each other and avoid isolation during the day and also provides services such as English as a Second Language classes, a community kitchen, and a parent-child drop-in for Tamil group.

The parent-child drop-in group emphasized the importance of programs for parents and children. Programs such as the drop-in provided a place for meeting others and learning how to deal with issues and problems that members may face. Also emphasized was the presence of subsidies for some community programs for those who cannot easily afford them.

The community centre have two community programs: Child care program and Spanish-speaking Women's group felt that support groups such as the one they were involved at the community centre were very important. They felt that the hiring of Spanish speaking service providers was very important.

Community Recreation Centre

The Lawrence Heights Community Centre has an outdoor swimming pool and a very active gymnasium. Some of Toronto's best young basketball players practice at the centre on a daily basis.

Lawrence Heights Community Centre.

The centre was seen as helping people in the community by providing activities for them. The centre is seen as offering activities for everyone: children, adults, and seniors. The specific activities that seniors are involved with are ceramics, knitting, euchre, bingo, drama, bowling, and Tai Chi. Some of the seniors come to the centre four or five days a week. Each group highlighted the importance of their involvement in the group. The tenants' group meets to work on community and housing issues. They have been effective in getting things done and find it a great group to be part of. The recreation group was spoken of very highly as was the staff associated with the group. It was seen as a great way to see people and to have fun. The Hispanic group was seen as a means of coping and as providing an opportunity for meeting other people and have discussions in their own language. They also were very happy with the staff person.

Settlement Services

Costi Settlement Services North. 700 Caledonia Rd. Toronto. Ph. 416-789-7925.

Referral, information and orientation. Documentation: The client receive support in completing government documents such as a permanent Resident Cards, Work permits,

OHIP application, Citizen Applications, application for sponsorship, child tax benefits and other related forms. Interpretation, counseling.

Costi Immigrant Services North York Centre. 1700 Wilson Ave. # 114 Toronto. Phone 416-244-0480. www.costi.org

General information, Counseling. Orientation, seminars. Housing Services, Health information, Completion of applications and forms. Information also in social assistance, pensions, childcare, citizenship, employment, insurance, training and seasonal tax clinic. Summer day camp.

Cross Edge Community Network. 2638 Eglinton Ave. West, # 202 Toronto. Phone 416-652-3636.

Counseling and lawyer legal assistance.

Intercede. 845 Wilson Ave. # 202 Toronto. Phone 416- 483-4554. www.intercedetoronto.org.

ISAP, NSP. General information. Counseling. Resource Center.

Jewish Family and Child Services. 4600 Bathurst St. Toronto. Phone 416-638-7800. www.jfsndcs.com

ISAP. General information. Counseling. Translations and Interpretations

Jewish Immigrant AID Services. 4600 Bathurst St. Toronto. Phone 416-630-6481. www.jiastoronto.org.

General information. Counseling. Translations and Interpretations. Orientations, Seminars. Housing information Health Information. ISAP. Notary public services for a nominal fee. Resource Centre. Services also in other languages (Russian, Hebrew, Spanish, French).

The Learning Enrichment Foundation. 116 Industry St. Toronto. Phone 416-769-0830. www.lefca.org.

General information. Counseling. Translations and Interpretations. HOST Program. Orientations, Seminars. ISAP. NSP. Child Care Services, Youth Services. CMAS Program. Resource Centre. Facilities for Disabled people. Transportation help: available for eligible programs Daycare.

York Community Services. 1651 Keele St. Toronto. Phone 416-653-5400. www.ycservices.com.

General information. Counseling. Community Legal Clinic. Housing Assistance, Health and Social Services: Health care assistance, parenting classes, pre and postnatal classes nutrition programs. Services in other languages (Spanish, Somali, Vietnamese, Somali).

York Hispanic Centre. 1652 Keele St. # 107, Toronto. Phone 416-651-9166

General information. Counseling. Translations and Interpretations. legal assistance. Seniors and Women Programs (only in Spanish). NSP. Facilities for Disabled People Daycare. Services only in Spanish.

York Region District School Board Career and Employment Services. 10909 Yonge St. # 202. Phone 1-866-992-9930. www.yorksworks.ca

Counseling Resource Centre.

Education - Language Classes

Schools

This neighbourhood is serviced by 4 public elementary schools, 2 public Jewish schools, 2 public high schools and 1 public library. York University is to the NW a few miles, and University of Toronto and Ryerson University are accessible by subway.

Flemington Public School. 410 student 24 different languages. Offer a Montessori Program in Kindergarten and grade 1. Flemington Staff and parents work together to provide safe and nurturing learning environment and work hard around the change the attitude, cooperation, education and sportsmanship. Social Skills programs includes Second Steps, Peer mediations, Behavior active support programs. Day Care Center. Parent Literacy Centre and after school International languages Classes. Extensive nutrition programs

Lawrence Heights Community Health Centre. Pathways to Education, Lawrence Heights. 12 Flemington Road, Toronto, ON M6A 2N4.
www.pathwaystoeducation.ca/comm-lawrence.html

Recipients: Grade 9 students currently enrolled in the Pathways to Education program.
Computers placed to date: 150

African Training and Employment Centre. 1440 Bathurst St. # 110. Toronto. Phone 416- 653-2274. www.atec-inc.ca

LINC. Transportation help. Child mind Monitoring Advisory and support. Services also available in French, Spanish, Oromo and Others.

Costi Immigrant Services North York Centre. 1700 Wilson Ave. # 114 Toronto. Phone 416-244-0480. www.costi.org

LINC and ELT classes.

Intercede. 845 Wilson Ave. # 202 Toronto. Phone 416- 483-4554. www.intercedetoronto.org.

ESL classes

Jewish Immigrant AID Services. 4600 Bathurst St. Toronto. Phone 416-630-6481. www.jiastoronto.org.

ESL and LINC Classes. ESL Assessment. Computer training. Informal conversation programs. Resource Center. Services also in other languages (Russian, Hebrew, Spanish, French).

Toronto District School Board – Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada. www.tdsb.on.ca

LINC, ELT for Immigrant Women, ELT Financial Services, ELT for Employment.

Employment Services

Costi Settlement Services. 700 Caledonia Rd. Toronto. Phone 416-789-7925. www.costi.org

Resource Centre. Workshops, Job Finding Club, Skill Training, Job Connect.

Hispanic Community Centre for the City of York. 2696 Eglinton Ave West 2nd floor, Toronto. Phone 416-651-9166.

Workshops.

Intercede. 845 Wilson Ave. # 202 Toronto. Phone 416- 483-4554. www.intercedetoronto.org.

Resource Centre. Workshops.

Jewish Family and Child Services. 4600 Bathurst St. Toronto. Phone 416-638-7800.
www.jfsndcs.com

JVS Toronto. Head Office 74 Tycos Dr. Toronto. Phone 416-787-1151.
www.jvstoronto.org

Career assessment, Skill Training, Job Connect. Ability works. Employer Services, Ontario Works, Project Job Search. Psycho-educational & Psycho-vocational Assessments, Self-Employment, Vocational Assessment. Volunteer Programs.

On-Track For Women. 700 Lawrence Ave. West #486 Toronto. Phone 416- 787-9305.
<http://get-on-track.net>

Workshops, Skills training. Career exploration. Labor Market research. Transportation Help for Ontario Works Clients.

The Learning Enrichment Foundations. 116 Industry ST. Toronto, Phone 416-769-0830. www.lefca.org

Career assessment, Workshop, Skill Training. Employment Ontario Program: Ontario Works. Employment Assisted service (AS), Career assessment, Resource Centre. Facilities for disabled people. Daycare, Transportation Help.

Social Organizations

Delisle Youth Services

Office phone 416-482-0081 Fax 416-482-5055 Email info@delisleyouth.org Web site www.delisleyouth.org Address 40 Orchard View Blvd, Ste 255, Toronto, ON, M4R 1B9
Location (Intersection) Toronto North (Yonge St and Eglinton Ave W) Area served City of Toronto
Languages of service English Eligibility Youth 13-18 years and their families
Physical access Wheelchair accessible building including main entrance and barrier free washrooms * Braille elevator with lowered buttons * designated and street parking close to entrance
Service description Community services including counseling, day treatment, residential treatment.

Other Programs

African Food Basket. The neighbourhood garden. Started in the Lawrence Heights neighbourhood of northwest Toronto one of five community garden by the non-profit organization The children's section of the garden and more than a dozen plots tended by East African women and their families, because food is the universal language.

Access to Amenities

Shopping

Yordale Mall. Include more than 240 exciting stores and services: The Bay, Holt Renfrew and Sears.

A recent \$60-million expansion accounted for an additional 40 new stores to Yorkdale, and the fashion centre now offers its shoppers an even more exciting array of retailers, including Apple Store, H&M, Lululemon, Mango, Sephora and Zara. More than 180,000 square feet of shopping space was added in the redevelopment, and the new section features a soaring 60-foot-high glass atrium. Present extraordinary mix of fine apparel, accessories, great gifts, home décor, theatres and much more.

Lawrence Square is the mall nearby was also a means to meet people they knew and to socialize.

Lawrence Plaza (Bathurst Street & Lawrence Avenue) along the eastern boundary of this neighbourhood has Jewish restaurants & delis, shops, schools, synagogues and cultural centres. There is a vibrant retail community along Lawrence, and another cluster of plazas along Wilson at Bathurst is the area's largest mall and is a centre of community festival and has a number of discount outlets.

Recreation

The community has some nice parks, and active community centre, and the Barbara Frum Public Library has a 150-seat auditorium, meeting rooms and a 10,000 square foot Recreation Centre.

Recreation activities in other plaices: Jewish Community Centre, the Columbus Centre, and local business. The local mall was also seen as a place to go shopping and see movies with friends. The sports activities and the youth club, bake sales, and the presence of a day-care centre.

Parkland and Open Space

The presence of open areas, trees, and parks was seen as a positive aspect of communities and neighbourhood. Interestingly, the older youth were likely to be clearly positive about this aspect while the younger children less so. They also felt that much of the equipment at playgrounds could be repaired or improved.

Public Transportation

The public transportation is a service accessible for the community and how important it was for seniors. While the subway was spoken of positively, there was concern about bus service and about cutbacks.

Education and School

Specific aspects raised were the importance of education for getting ahead, and presence of extracurricular activities. Generally about school as were the positively about the educational program, and the many activities that were available there, cultural diversity of the school and the presence of many curricular activities. Special of the music program.

Affordable Housing

Two service providers mentioned that there is affordable housing in the Lawrence Heights area. This is seen as a benefit because many people in the community have low Incomes

Sexual Orientations

The direction of one's sexual interest toward members of the same, opposite, or both sexes, especially a direction seen to be dictated by physiologic rather than sociologic forces.

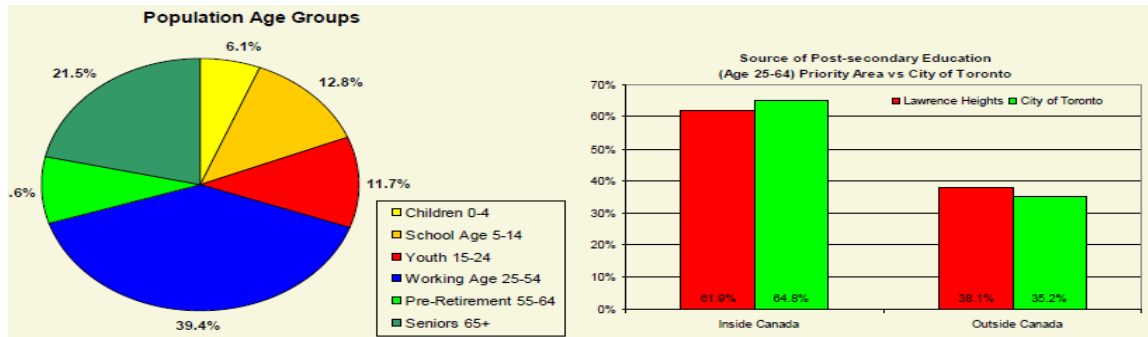
The idea of an innate and idiosyncratic direction to the sexual drive of the individual — like so many ideas around sex — largely originated in the efforts of late-nineteenth-century sexologists to classify the vagaries of human sexual behaviour.

Counseling services -- individual, family and group counseling for concerns related to social, emotional and behavioral needs. Delisle in the Schools -- school-based counseling and support program for students of local high schools for identified early school drop outs. Employment training component, homelessness outreach prevention, group support for lesbian, gay and bisexual youth, youth-driven community outreach program in collaboration with community partners.

Residential Placement Advisory Committee 416-488-4200 -- reviews placement of children who reside within the jurisdiction * also reviews placement of children 12 years and over who object to their placement * information on availability of resources

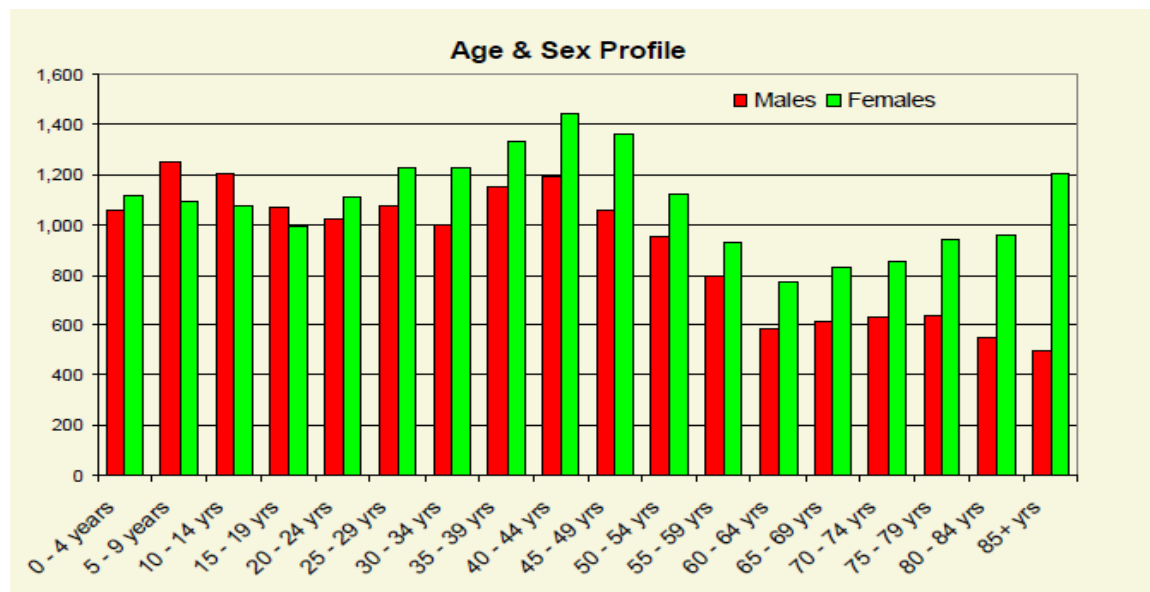
Demographic

On the table below observe the total of population of 2006 Cense in the area of Lawrence Heights is 35,945 both of which of 18,9% are children of the age between 0-14 years, 11.6% . Youth between 15 to 24 years, 40,4% adults working age and 21,5% seniors.

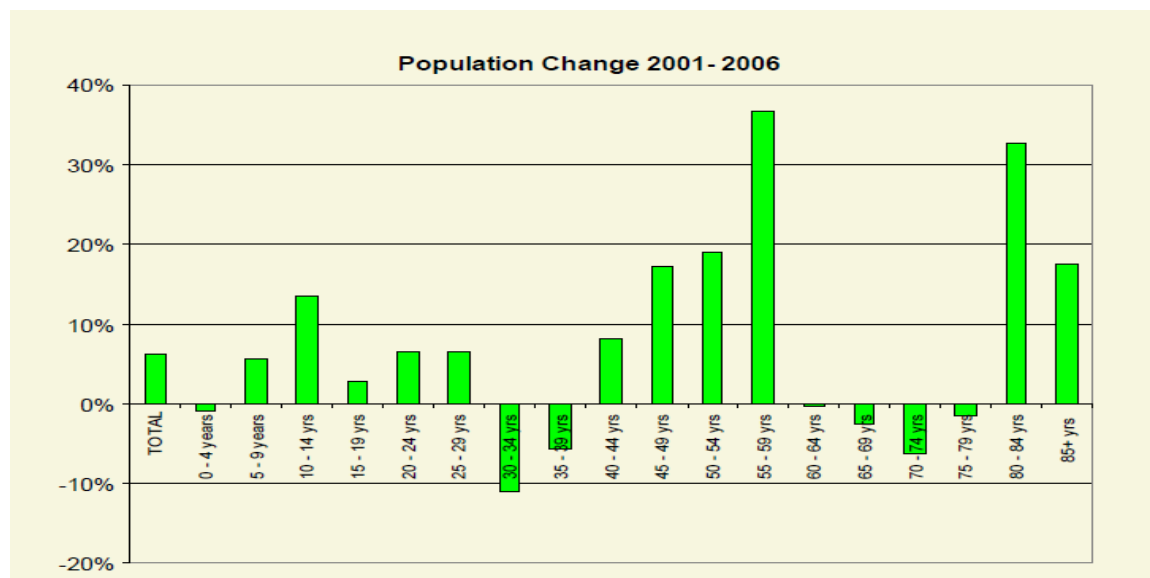


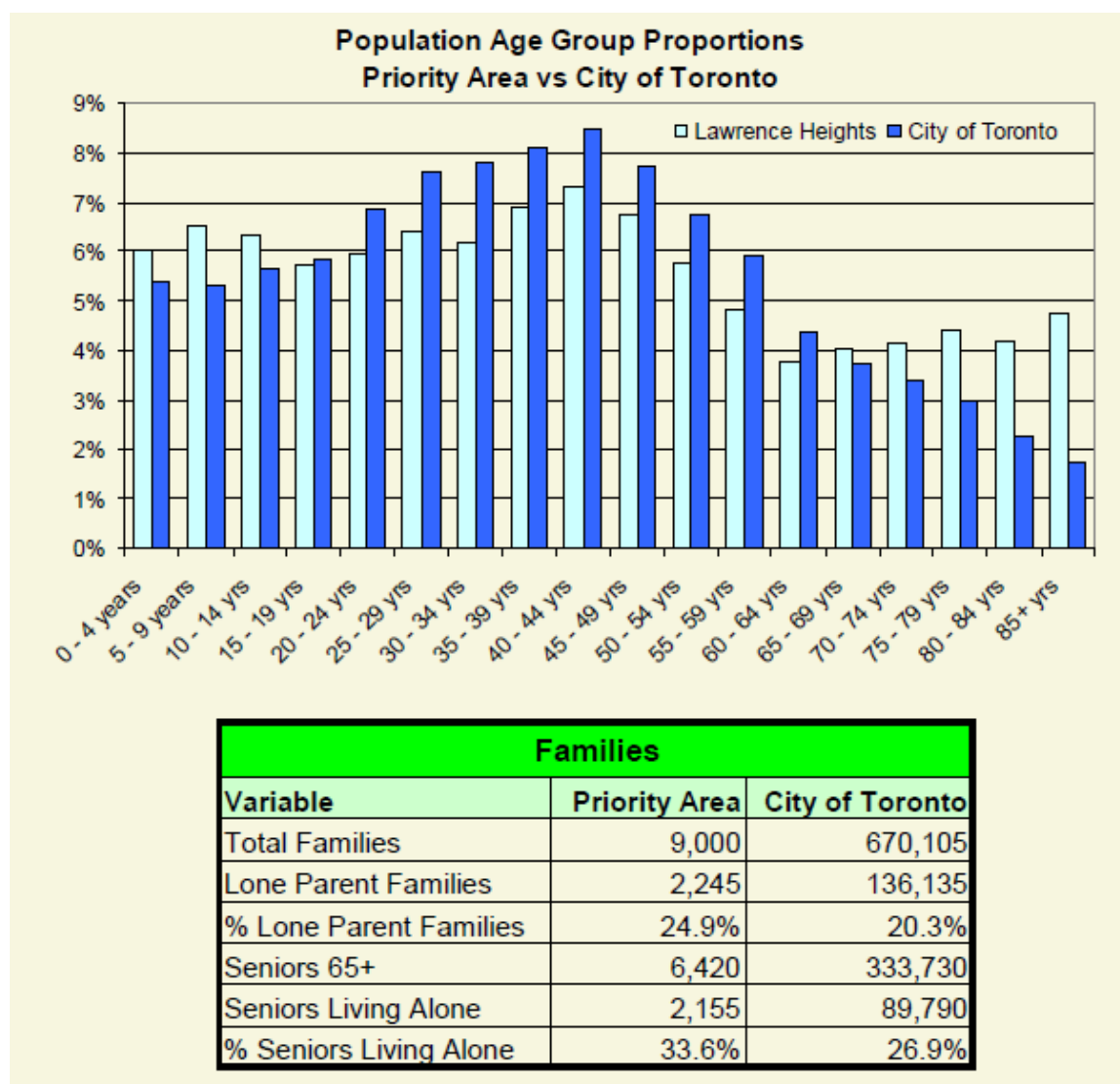
Community Facts

2006 Population: **35,945**
 % Change Since 2001: **+6.2%**
 Population Density: **3,803 persons / Km²**
 Pop. of Children (0-4 yrs): **6.1%**
 Pop. of Children (5-14 yrs): **12.8%**
 Pop. of Youth (15-19): **5.7%**
 Pop. of Youth (20-24): **5.9%**
 Pop. of Seniors (65+ yrs): **21.5%**
 Pop <25 and >64: **40.4%**



On the graphic, observe the most part of the population are women. In the groups of age, the percent of the women 0 to 4 and 20 to 85+ are superior than men. The mayor percent of the women is in the group of age 40-44, following for groups 45-49, 35-39, 25-34 and most than 85.





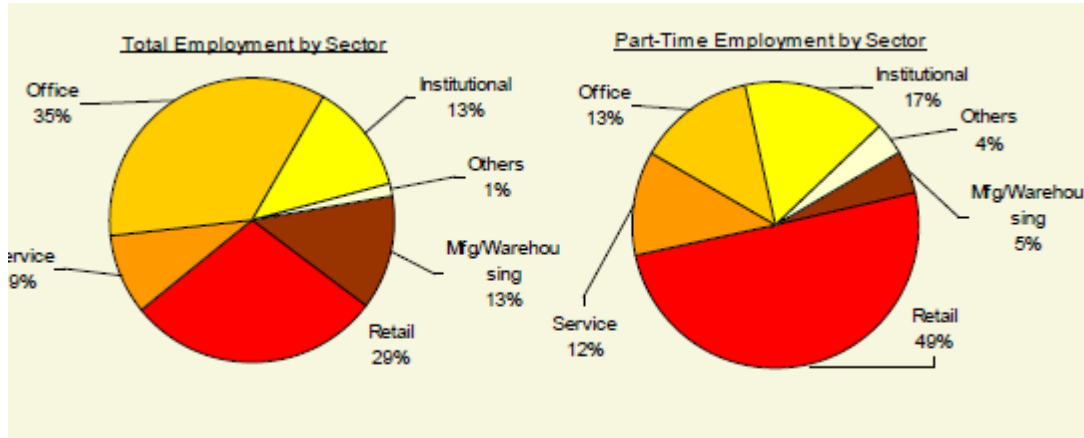
In comparison with the City of Toronto, the population of Lawrence Heights present heists level in a group of age 0-14 and 65-85+. Those amounts demonstrate that in the area is concentrate the most percent of population in these groups of ages.

The totals of families in the neighborhood are 9,000 that represent 1.3% the total of families of the City of Toronto.

The percent of Lone Parent Families are 24,9%, superior amount than the City of Toronto that represent 20,3%.

The populations the seniors in the area of Lawrence Heights are 6,420 both which of 2,155 living alone. The percent of the seniors that living alone is 33,6%, are superior than the City of Toronto that represent 26.9%.

Employment



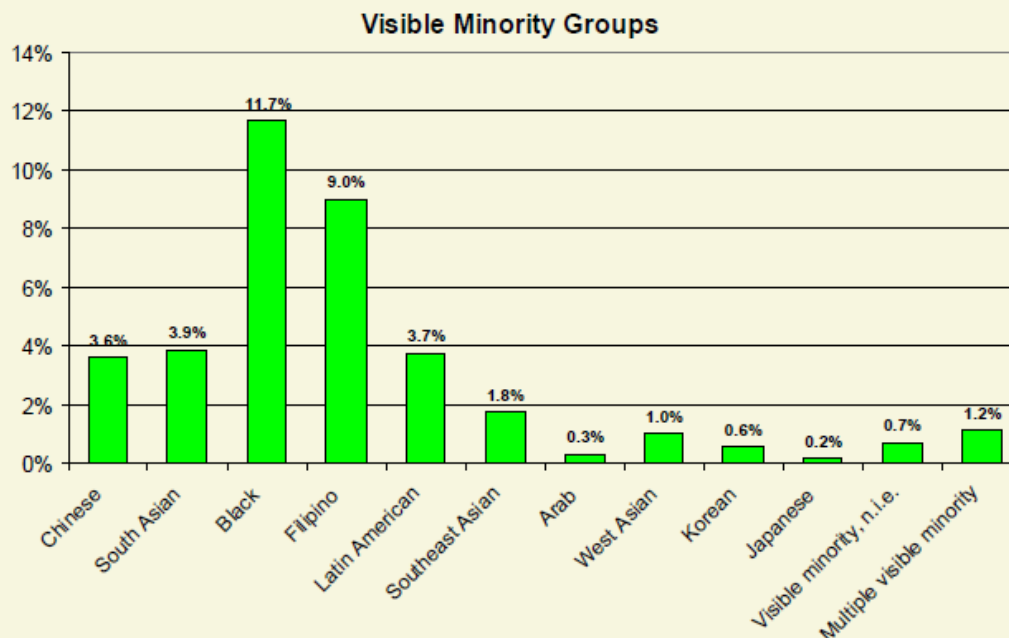
In relation in the total employment by sector, Office sector is the most representative with 35 %, following by Retail sector with 29 %. Institutional and Warehousing have 13 % each, Services 9 % and Others 1%. In conclusion, the sectors of the employment in the Lawrence Heights area are activities of Services, Commercial and others.

Analyzing the second graphic about the Part-Time Employment, observe that the Retail sector is the most representative with 49 %. Institutional sector represents 17%, following by Office 13 %, Services 12%, Warehousing 5% and others 4%. The result is that the Commercial (Retail) is the most important source of the part-time employment.

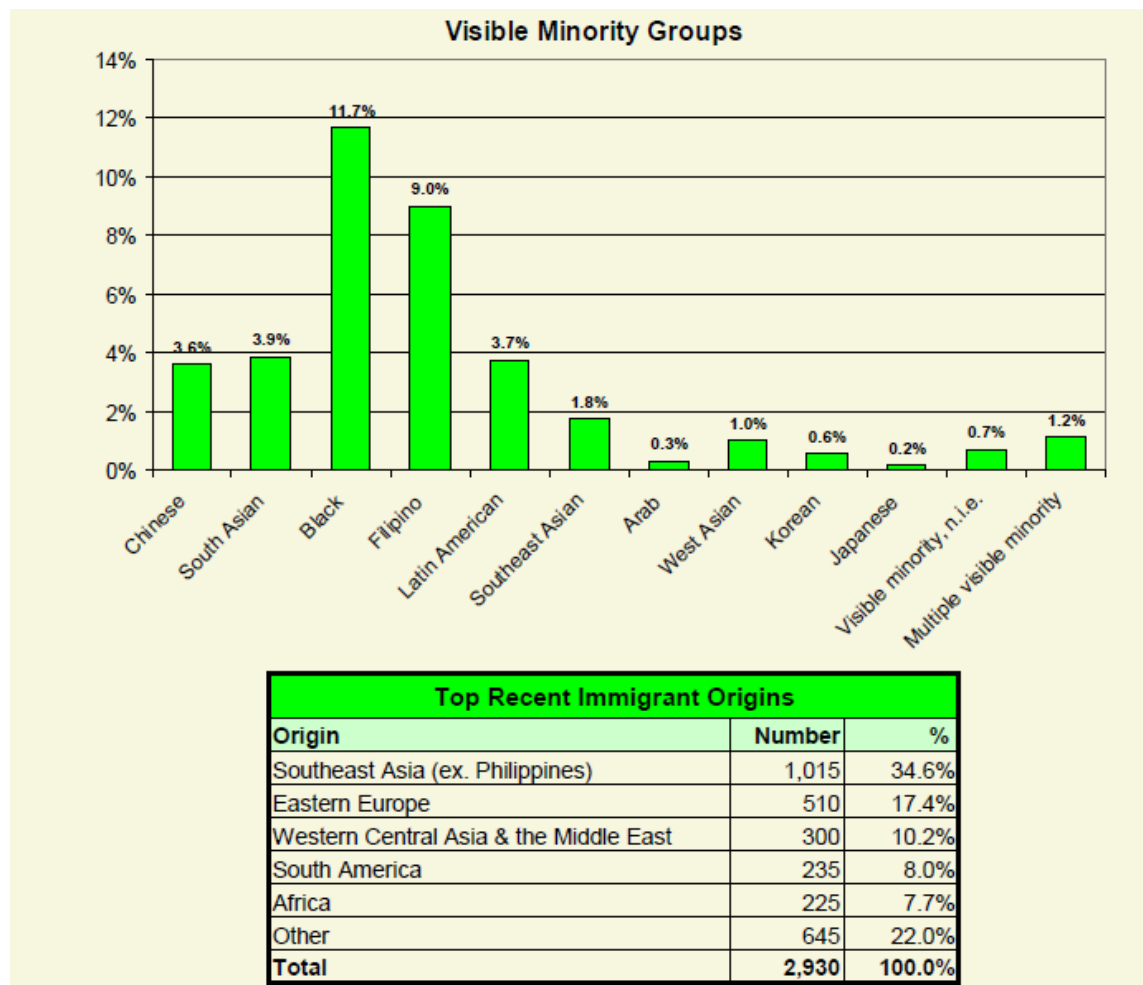
Area: 9.5 Km²
Parks & Open Space: 0.44 Km²
Distance to nearest subway station: 0.5 Km
Number of TTC surface routes: 23
Total Employment: 31,336
Part-Time Employment: 8,602
Business Establishments: 1,574
Visible Minority: 37.7%
Not Visible Minority: 62.3%

The unemployment rate of the population is the 16,4% in youth people between 15-24 age and the 6,4% in population 15+ age in to collate of the City of Toronto 16,6% and 7,4% respectively.

Youth				
	Priority Area		City of Toronto	
Labour Force Activity	Age 15-24	Age 15+	15-24	Age 15+
Total Population	4,195	28,225	317,110	2,067,450
In the labour force	2,165	16,375	178,105	1,344,825
Employed	1,805	15,325	148,580	1,242,215
Unemployed	355	1,055	29,525	102,610
Not in the labour force	2,015	11,850	139,000	722,620
Participation rate 2006	51.6	58.0	56.2	65.0
Employment rate 2006	43.0	54.3	46.9	60.1
Unemployment rate 2006	16.4	6.4	16.6	7.6
Participation rate 2001	55.8	58.3	58.8	65.3
Employment rate 2001	49.3	52.1	51.0	60.8
Unemployment rate 2001	11.1	6.9	13.2	7.0



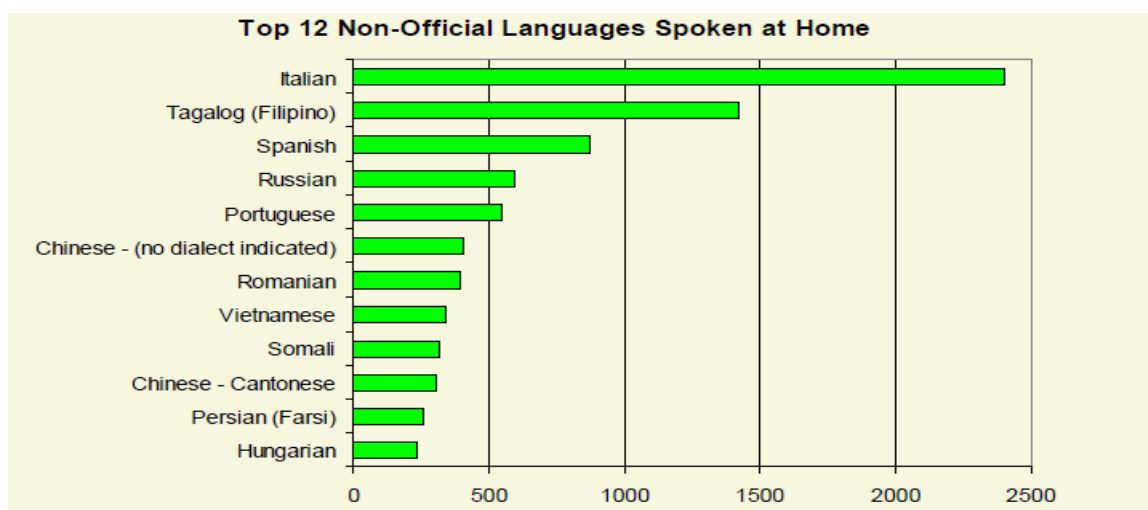
The biggest group is black people 11,7%, following for Philippines group 9% in contrast with the smaller Japanese group 0,2%.



The most biggest group of de population came from Southeast Asia 34,6%, continuously for Easter Europe 17,4%, Central Asia and Middle East 10,2%, South America 8%, Africa 7,7% and others 22,7%

Languages

The most representative language spoken at home in the neighborhood the Lawrence Heights is Italian, following for Tagalog and Spanish. In order follow Russian, Portuguese, Chinese, Romanian Vietnamese, Somali, Cantonese, Persian and Hungarian.

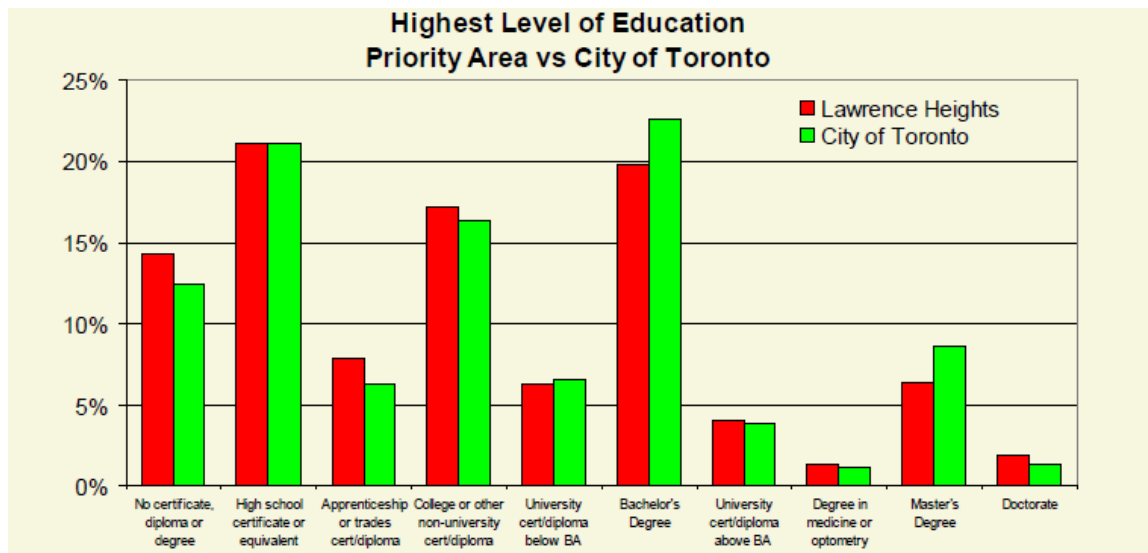


Economic

The average low income in the neighborhood is 20,9% higher than the city average 19,4%. The amount of people with low income is 7,220. The median income after tax is \$41,955 in contrast with the City of Toronto \$46,240. The average after tax is \$56,815 in opposite with \$63,870 in Toronto.

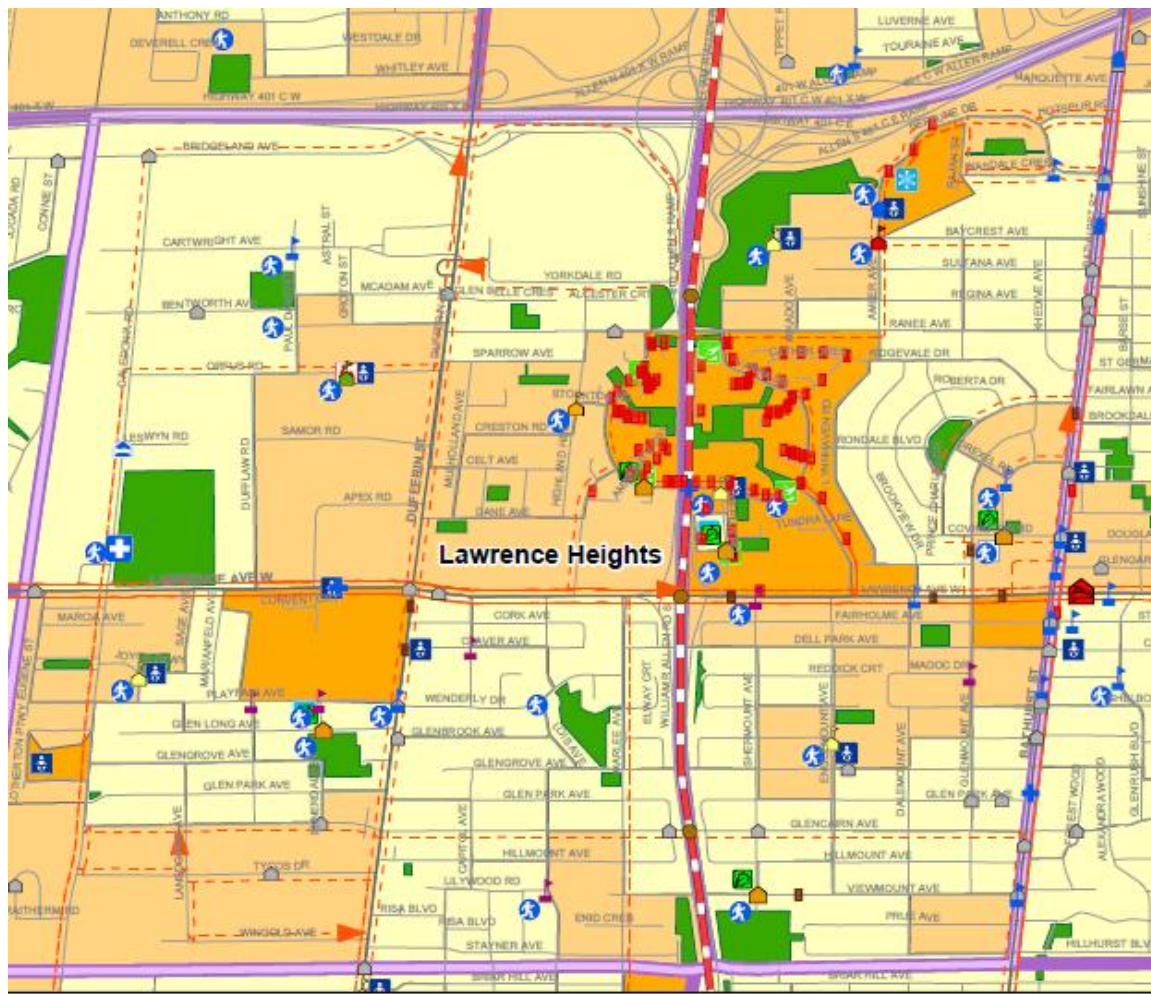
Income		
Household Income 2005	Priority Area	City
Median After-Tax	\$41,955	\$46,240
Average After-Tax	\$56,815	\$63,870
Total Person in Private Households	34,505	2,465,500
Low Income Persons	7,220	478,307
% Low Income After-Tax	20.9%	19.4%

Level of educations



The highest level of education in the area of Lawrence Heights is High School Certificate with 22%, following for Bachelor Degree with 20%, College 17%, No Certificate or diploma 14%, apprenticeship 7%, University Diploma and Master Degree 6% each, 3% Doctorate and 2% Degree in Medicine. The levels of education no represent substantial differences with the City of Toronto.

Human Services Provide of the Lawrence Heights Area



The Map of the services identifies the most important services provided at the community.

Conclusion

The diagnostic is a outcome from the bibliographic analysis and revision in many documents about Lawrence Heights.

The new immigrants of Russian, East Europe, West Indians, Latin Americans, South Asian and African backgrounds building Lawrence Heights their home. In this area, have a many services for these residents about language instruction, education, settlement services, housing, health and employment. In addition, there are agencies and Community Centers to creating programs and services to deal issues at the community and knowledge of Canadian culture.

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Second Part

1. Introduction

Lawrence Heights is a large and diverse low-income neighborhood located in suburban North York in the city of Toronto. There is a large wire fence that encircles the neighborhood which acts as a physically barrier from the rest of North York. Although large sections of the fence have been removed, the area remains somewhat isolated from other neighborhoods, with only four roadways leading in and out of the community. Twenty-five years ago, most of the community residents were of European descent and spoke English as their first language. Many had recently moved to Ontario from other parts of Canada seeking jobs. Most families had two parents. There were no social or health services located within the community. Now, the physically situation has, not change, however their have been changes to the settlement and services at the in the community. Many agencies and Community Centers offer a lot of services for the community.

Lawrence Heights is a community of ethnic and linguistic diversity, predominantly newcomers and first-generation immigrants from East and West African countries, as well as Caribbean and Latin American countries. It has a population of 35,945 people and consists of subsidized public housing in the form of low-rise apartment buildings, townhouses, and single-family homes. There are 1,080 family units and a high proportion of single-parent families. It is one of a number of Toronto communities affected by youth gangs and violent crime involving firearms over the past few years. In October 2005, Toronto City Council designated Lawrence Heights as one of 13 priority neighborhoods, requiring infrastructure investment and improvement of community services. The real boundaries are covering the area between Bathurst at East and Keel at West, the Expressway 401 at north and Eglinton at south. This area include Englemount Lawrence which is the core of the revitalization process.

The survey was completed by 61 people in the community, 3 of 61 surveys were accomplished by electronic system and the rest of the surveys through interview to the people located in different areas of this community during here done December 2009 and January 2010. The majority of the people who answered the surveys were immigrant from Latin-American, European, Caribbean, African, South Asian and Russian background.

The survey included general information about group of age, income, employment, level of schooling, members of the family, resident status, self-identity, language, length of residency and engaged of the community. The second part is related to the provision of

services, equity of access, change in services, the most important services, recycling and protection of environment, assets and supports, suggestion and comments.

The result of the survey shows that the majority of the population of immigrants came from Latin-American, Europe of east, Caribbean, African, Filipino and other countries have between 2 and more than 10 years of residence in Lawrence Heights.

The most representative group of people are, adults between the ages of 26-65, they represent 82% of the total.

The survey showed that 54.1% of the population is employed while 45.9% is unemployed. Most residents do not have jobs according to their levels of education.

The household income ratify the poor condition of Lawrence Heights Community because the 40.3% of it has incomes lower than \$15,000 dollars.

The spoken language at home is mainly Spanish, this make up 49% of the community.

Mainly Canadian citizens, 57% of the total, permanent residents, 33%, and 10% of refugees represent the residence status at the community.

The result of the survey shows that the greater part 50.8% of the population is male and 47.5% are female. The gay and lesbian community makes up 1.64%.

The family units are composed for three or four members and an important group live alone.

The most important services for the community are Health, School, Library, TTC, Community Center, Housing and Childcare.

The majority of people feel that certain services have not changed, for example Public Transportation, Housing, Policing, Services for Employment, Immigrants, Women, Youth, Seniors, Families and community spirit.

The community members are engaged in different activities around the work, community activities and local business.

The most important tie is related to religious and ethno-specific organizations.

In this community there is a high population that participate in the recycling program.

The “Conclusions and Recommendations” section summarizes the main challenges that community has to face, and important issues and suggestions about the ways to encourage the Lawrence Heights Community.

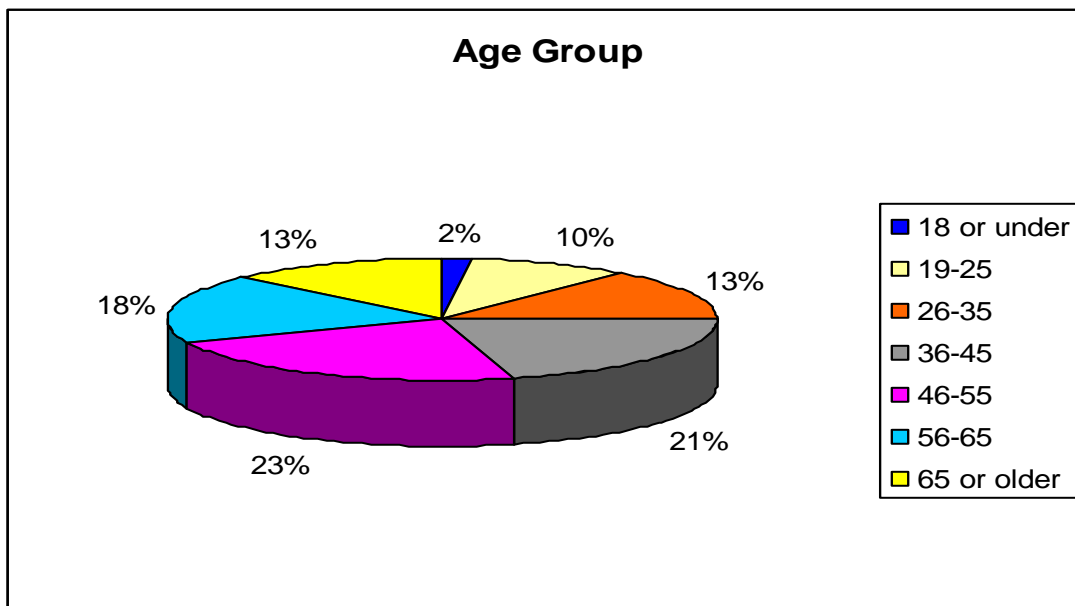
2. Community Resources and Needs Assessment

2.1 Age Group

On the graphic below observe the total of population who responded by survey in the area of Lawrence Heights:

- 2% of the people are 18 or under (youth),
- 10% are in the group of age between 19-25 (young people),
- 13% between 26-35 years of age,
- 21% between 36-45 years of age,
- 23% in a group of age between 46-55,
- 18% in a group of age between 56-65 and
- 13% is 65 years old or older.

The most representative group is the adults group in working ages, which includes 75% of people between 26-65. This statistic shows the potential of work of the population in area of Lawrence Heights.

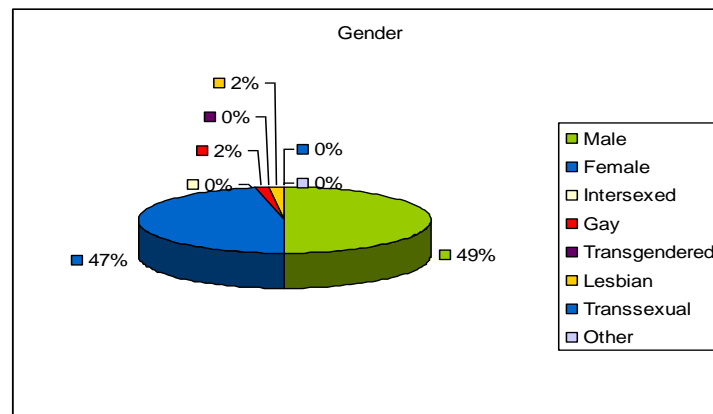


2.2 Gender

The participants in the survey are:

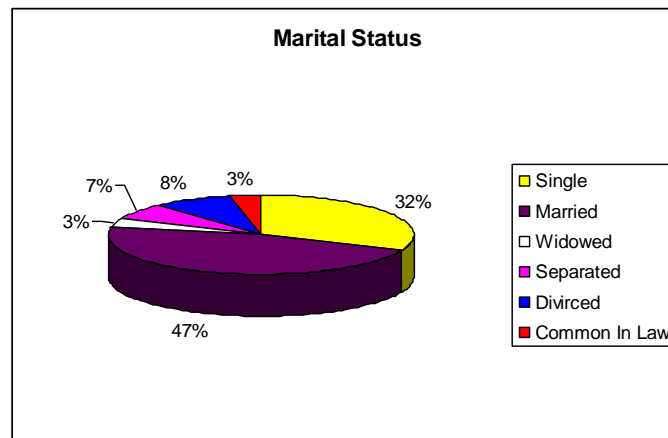
- Male 49%
- Female 47.5% is a
- Community gay and lesbian 2%, respectively.

These findings are different from the diagnosis when the majority of population are women.



2.3 Marital Status

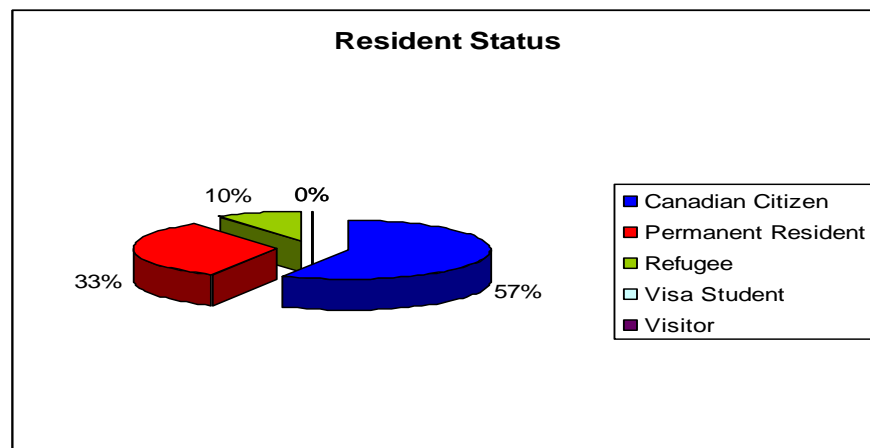
According to the survey, 46.6% of the population is Married, 31.6% is Single, 8.33% is Divorced, 6.6% is Separated and 3.3% Widowed or living in Common-Law, respectively.



2.4 Resident Status

The Resident Status at the Community represents:

- Canadian Citizen 57%
- Permanent Resident 33%
- Refugees 10%
- Visa Student and Visitor do not have a representation in this statistic.

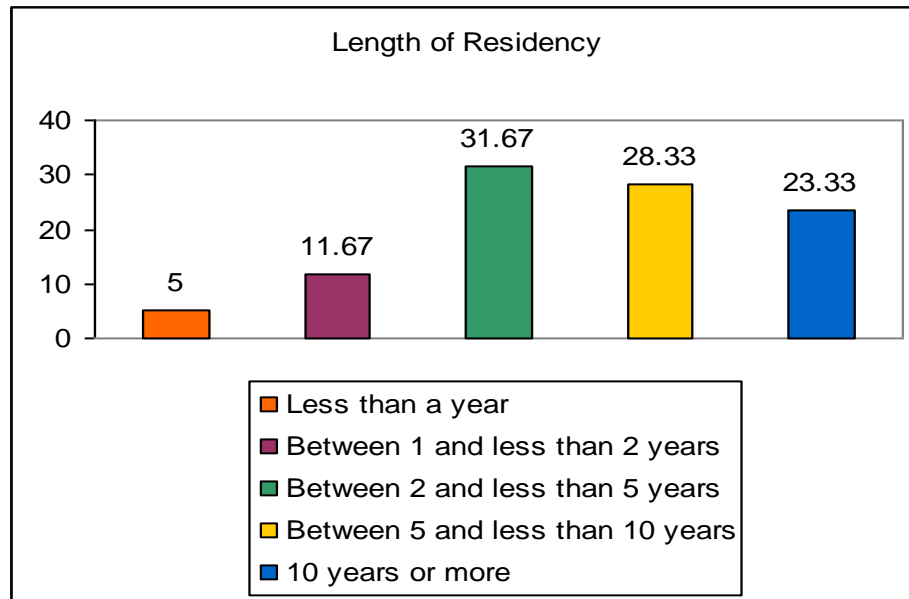


2.5 Length of Residency

The percentage below indicates the permanence of the population in this community:

- 31.6% of the people live in this community between 2 and 5 years

- 28.3% between 5 and 10 years
- 23% more than 10 years
- 11.6% involving at the community from 1 to 2 years
- 5% less than 1 year

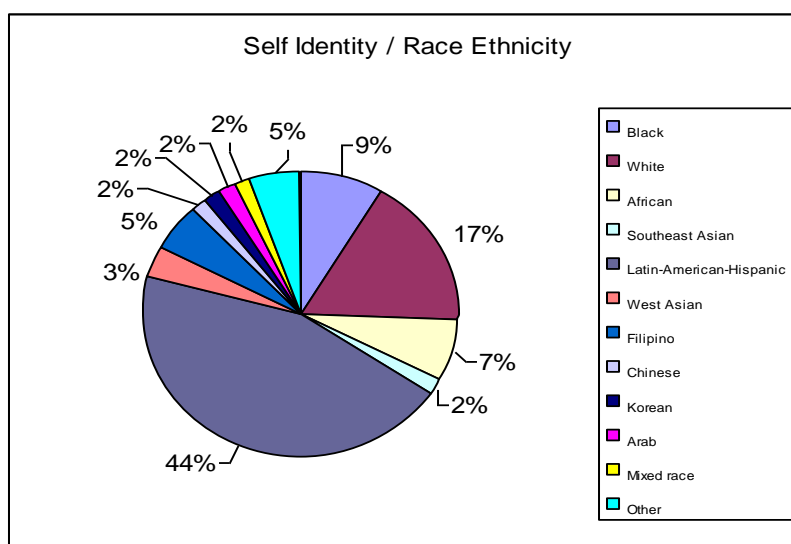


2.6 Self Identity / Race Ethnicity

The survey results show that the population of Lawrence Heights is:

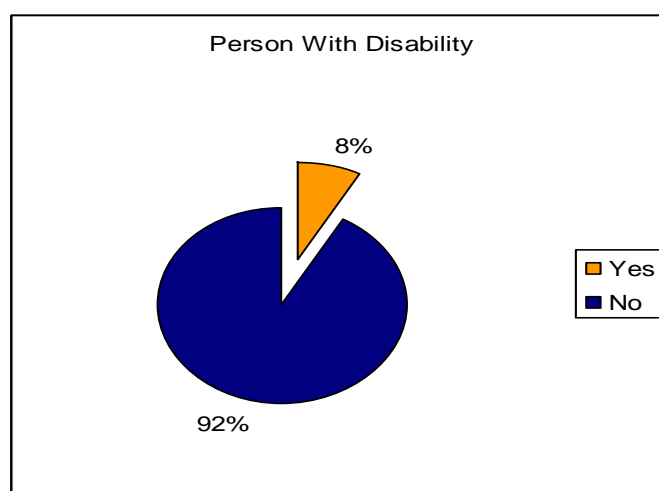
- 42.6% Latin-American
- 16.3% White (East European people)
- 8.2% Black (Caribbean people)
- 6.5% African (West and East)
- 4.9% Filipino
- 3.2% West Asian
- 1.64% Southeast Asian (Chinese, Korean, Arabian and others)

The total of the population are immigrants with 2 or more than 10 years of residence.



2.7 Self Identity/ Disability

In the community covers for the survey, the 8% corresponding to people with disabilities, the rest of the population does not have disabilities issues.



2.8 Language

The most representative languages spoken at home in the community are:

- 49% Spanish

- 8% Romanian and French, respectively.
- 5% Italian, Russian, English, Tagalog and Somali, respectively.
- 2% Portuguese, Albanese, Cantonese, Korean and Turkish, respectively.

However, 16% of the population speaks two languages or more, generally mother tongue and English.

- 63.9% of the population speaks English fluently
- 26.2% speaks Basic English
- 9.8% does not speak English well.
- 8% of the people have English language as a mother tongue.

2.9 Employment Situation and Schooling Required for Job

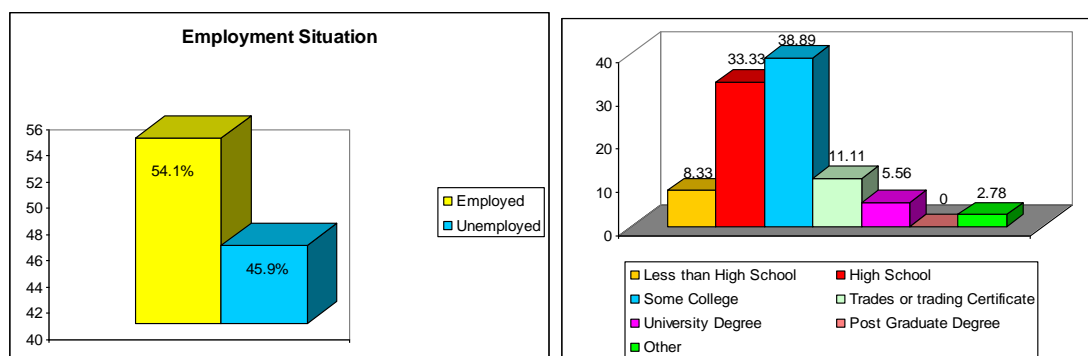
In the area of Lawrence Heights:

- 54.1% of the population is employed
- 45.9% of the population is unemployed.

In reference to levels of education, the most important part of the employed population requires lower levels of education:

- 8.33% needs less High School
- 33.33% occupations that require High School
- 38.8% jobs that require some College
- 11.1% needs trading Certificate
- 5.56% University Degree
- 2.78% other kinds of requirements.

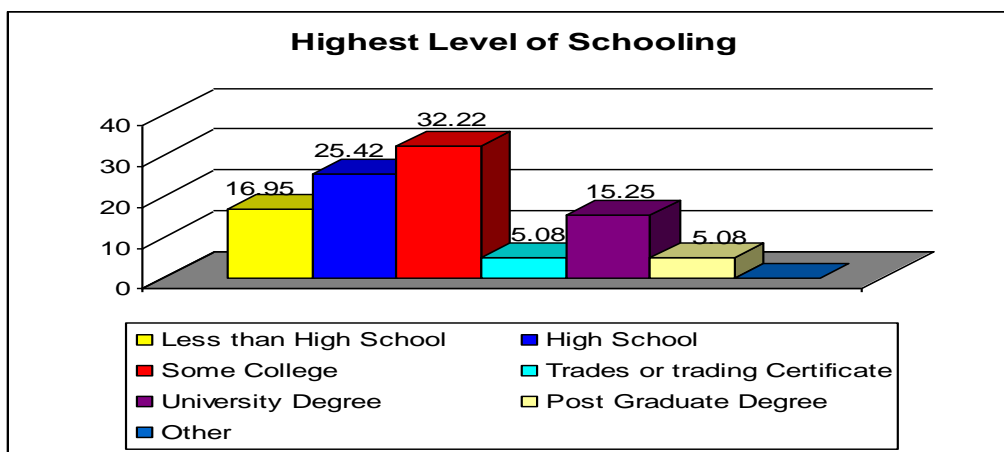
The following graphics illustrates information about community residents, job prospects and low incomes:



2.10 Highest Level of Schooling

In contrast with the last information, the population of Lawrence Heights has significant levels of education:

- 32.2% has been in College
- 25.4% finished High School
- 16.9% did not finish High School
- 15.25% has a University Degree
- 5.8% has a trading certificate and/or postgraduate Degree.



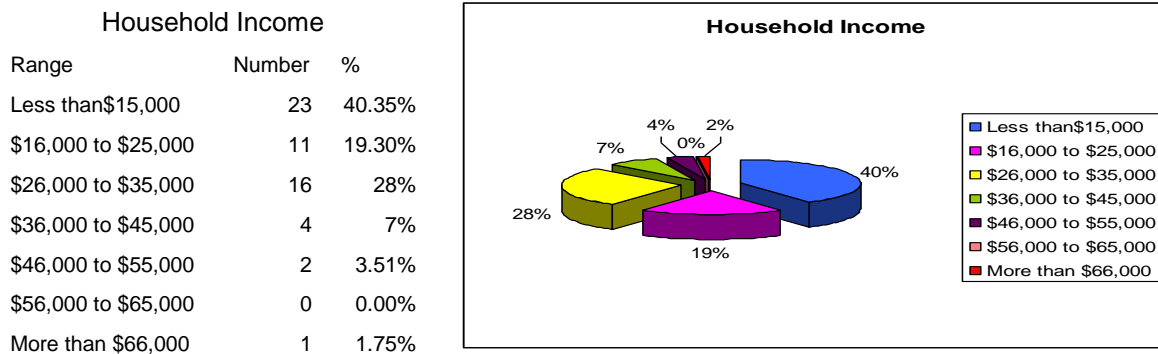
Despite the high levels of education, residents are unable to acquire jobs that match their qualifications therefore under utilizing human resources.

2.11 Household Income

The household income ratifies the deprived condition of the community of Lawrence Heights:

- 40.3% has incomes lower than \$15,000 dollars
- 28% has incomes between \$26,000 and \$35,000 dollars
- 19.3% between \$16,000 and \$25,000
- 7% from \$36,000 to \$45,000
- 3.5% between \$46,000 and \$55,000
- Only one person declared to have incomes over \$66,000.

The following statistic shows the situation of household incomes where only one member of the family has a job or where the family depends of the Welfare, and demonstrates the diversity of the community.



The results indicate that 40% of Lawrence Heights Community belongs to the less than \$15,000 incomes level. *The Study Poverty by Postal Code* classifies this range into the group with very high level of poverty.

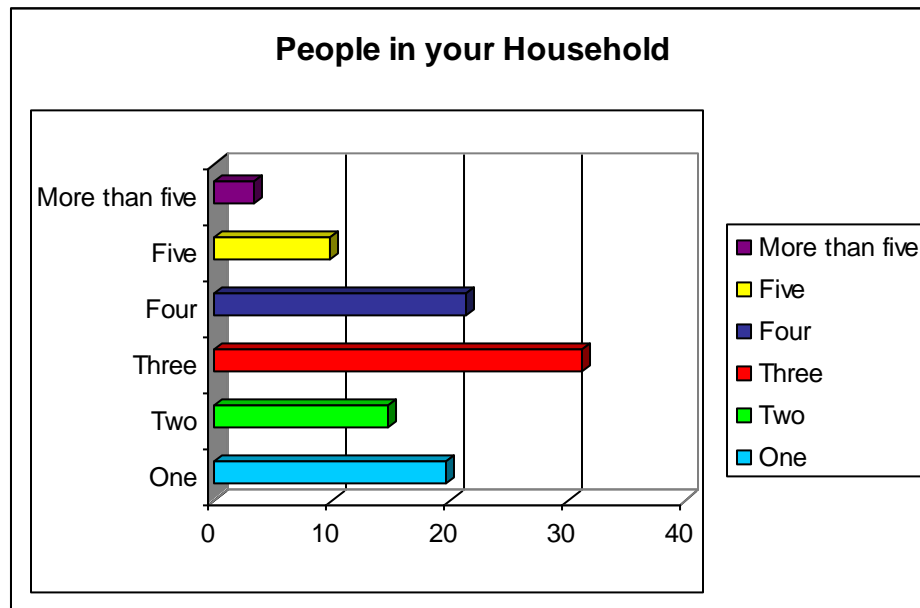
The 92% of the residents live in rent and only the 8% is owner of their houses. The type of ownership reflects the situation of poverty because most part of the income is oriented to pay a rent.

This situation requires implementing small businesses that will make possible to create new jobs, there by empowering communities, increasing income levels and reducing poverty.

2.12 People in your household

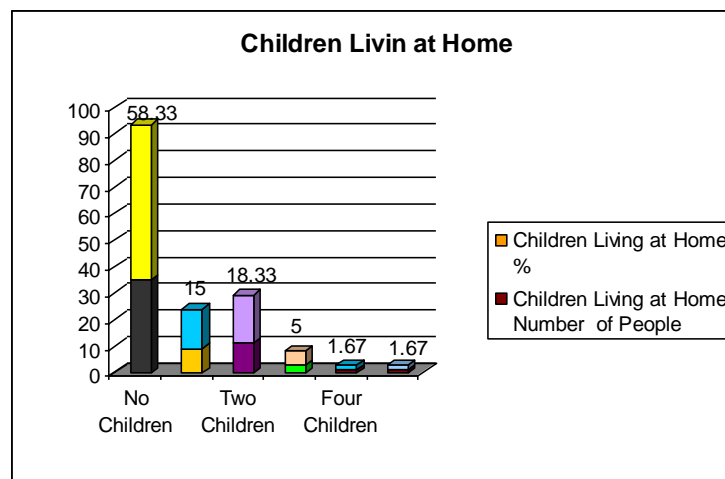
The family units are composed of a different number of members:

- 31.1% have three members.
- 21.3% four people family
- 14.7% two members family
- 9.8% five people family
- 3.28% more than 5 members
- 19.6% live alone



2.13 Children living at Home

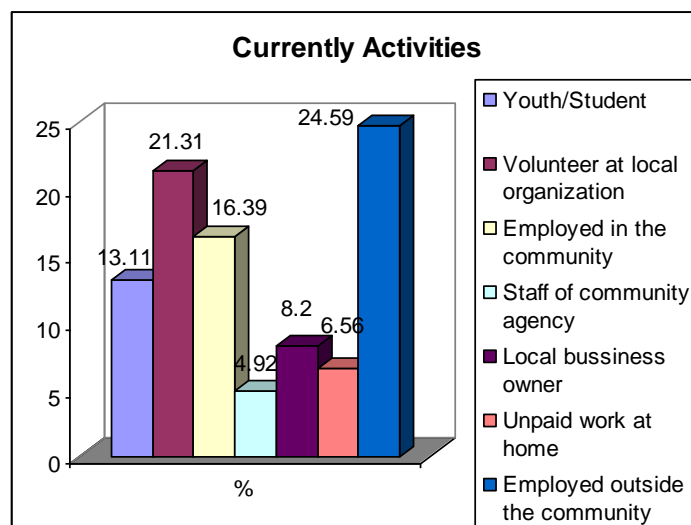
- 58.3% of the population does not have children at home
- 15% has just one
- 18.3% has two children
- 5% has three children
- 1.67% has four children.
- 1.67% five or more children at home.



2.14 How is the community engaged day to day

The members of community are engaged in different activities.

- 24.5% of the respondents are employed outside the community
- 21.3% are volunteers at local organizations
- 16.3% employed in the community
- 13.11% students
- 8.2% local business owners
- 6.5% unpaid work at home
- 4.9% employed of community agency.



Generally, people are engaged around the work, community activities and local businesses. The most significant results are:

- 36.1% Religious or Spiritual Organizations
- 14.75% Ethno-specific Organizations
- 13.1% Community Organizations (sports, arts, cultural and religious based)
- 8.20% Neighborhood Watch
- 6.5% Business group and Seniors Organization, respectively.
- 4.9% Local Service Agency and Tenant Group, respectively.
- 3.2% Sports and other Outdoor Group
- 1.64% Parents Association and Youth Group, respectively.

2.15 Social Services

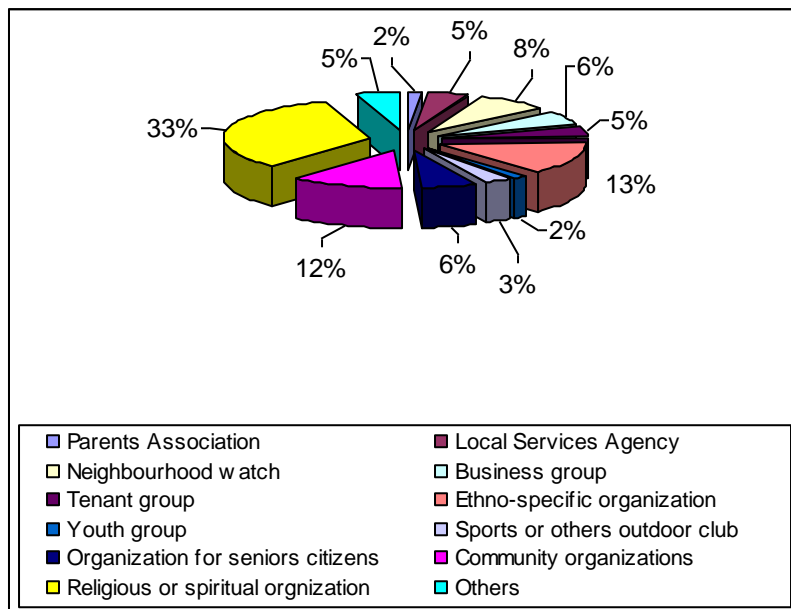
Activities related to spare time (walking around the community or religious activities on Sunday). Most of the community, young people and seniors are engaged in activities around malls or commercial centers, especially in winter because they do not have other kind of indoor activities.

- 54.1% of people consider Lawrence Heights as a neighbourhood where people do not try to know each other
- 34.4% agree with people try to know each other
- 11.4% do not know.

These answers are correlate with others answers in where people consider that they are not doing things together and they are not trying to help each other.

The remaining percentage can demonstrate that Lawrence Heights residents do not have enough engagement or community spirit. This situation can be explained because of the multiethnic origins and individual personalities. The survey shows that 63.3% of people in the community mostly go their own way, and 80.3% do not share similar values.

Groups and Organizations



2.16 Provision of Services

The majority of people in the community are satisfied with available services such as grocery shops, banking, medical services, schools, childcare, transportation, library and recreation. Every percentage in this category obtains more than 50%, with the exception of Availability of food and Services for people with disabilities.

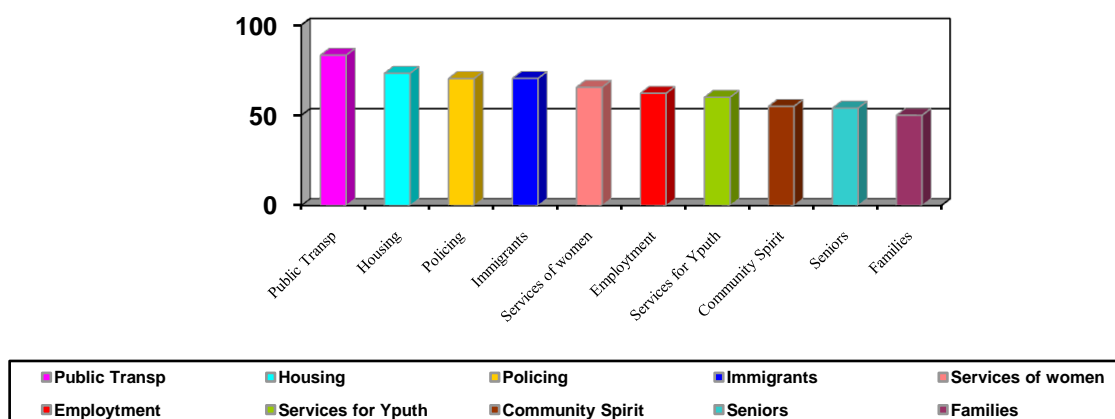
2.17 Access to services

The 58.3% of the people consider the services provided in the community allow equal access for everyone, 54.1% have access to information, and 72% think is harder for certain groups to get access to the services they need.

Most of the people consider that level of services has not changed or improved:

- 83.3% Public Transportation
- 73.3% Housing
- 70.4% Policing
- 46.6% Availability of Food
- 55% Community Spirit
- 62.2% Employment
- 70.49% Immigrants
- 60% Services for Youth
- 49% Services for People with Disabilities
- 65.5% Services for Women
- 59% Services for Youth
- 54.1% Services for Seniors
- 50.1 % Services for Families

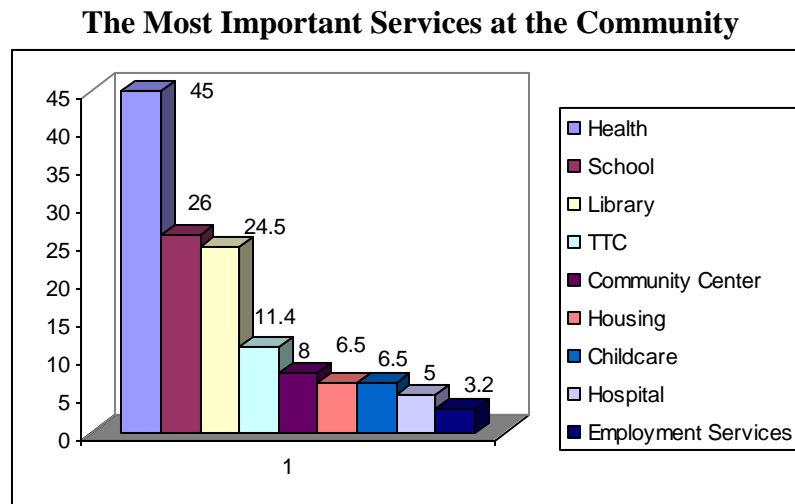
Levels of Services



The results indicate the services are not generating important social impact in the community, therefore they require to adjust to the population necessities because do not represent important evolution or development.

The most important services for the community are:

- Health 45%
- School 26%
- Library 24.5%
- TTC 11.4%
- Community Center 8%
- Housing and Childcare 6.5% respectively
- Hospital 5%
- Employment Services 3.2%.

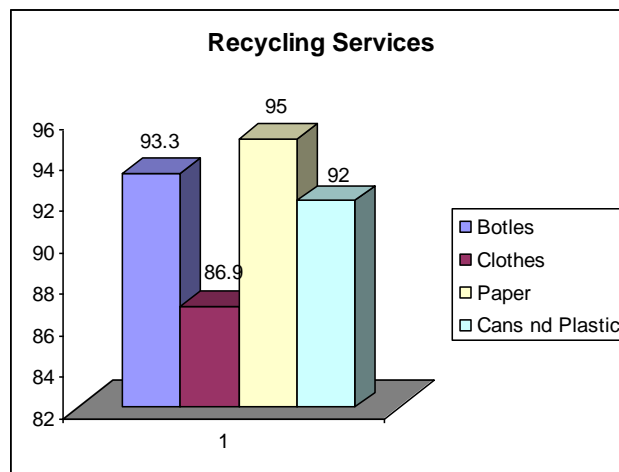


Services like Banking, Shopping Mall, Church, Services for Seniors, Recreation, Groceries, Sports, and Programs for Youth do not have a significant representation in the community.

2.18 Recycling Services

The Community of Lawrence Heights participates of the Recycling Program. They recycle efficiently:

- 93.3% Bottles Recycling
- 86.6% Clothes
- 95% Paper
- 92% Cans and Plastics



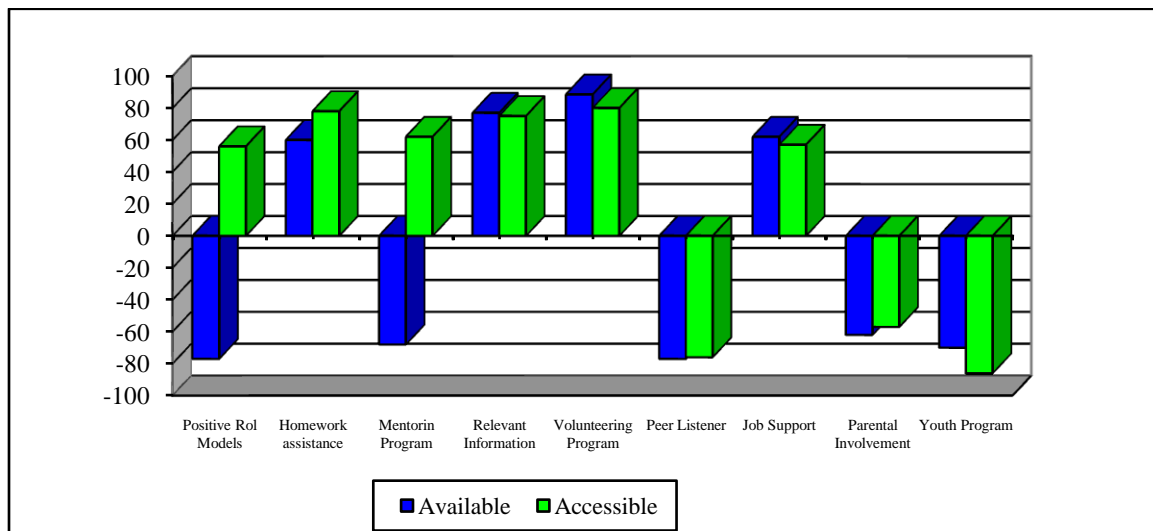
The provision of recycling is adequate for 73% of population. According to 88.5%, they are protecting the environment with the action of recycling.

For the community, other environmental action is educating residents on environment protection issues, for example no smoking, no using aerosol or pesticides and others.

2.19 Assets and Supports of Services at the Community

- 77.2% of people that answered this survey consider that the Program about Youth Positive Role Models is not available, 55.6% consider that this program is accessible.
- Homework Assistance for Children and Teens are available for 60% and accessible for 78%.
- Youth Centre “Drop-in” is not available for 58.3% of population and not accessible for 66.6% of them.
- Mentoring Program is not available for 68% and accessible for 62% of them.
- Relevant Information is available for 77% and accessible for 75%.
- Volunteering Programs are available for 88.5% and accessible for 80%.
- Peer Listener is not available for 77% and not accessible for 67%.
- Job support is available for 62% and accessible for 57%.
- Parental Involvement is not available for 62% and not accessible for 57%.
- Youth Program is not available for 70% and not accessible for 86% of them.

Assets and Supports of Services at the Community

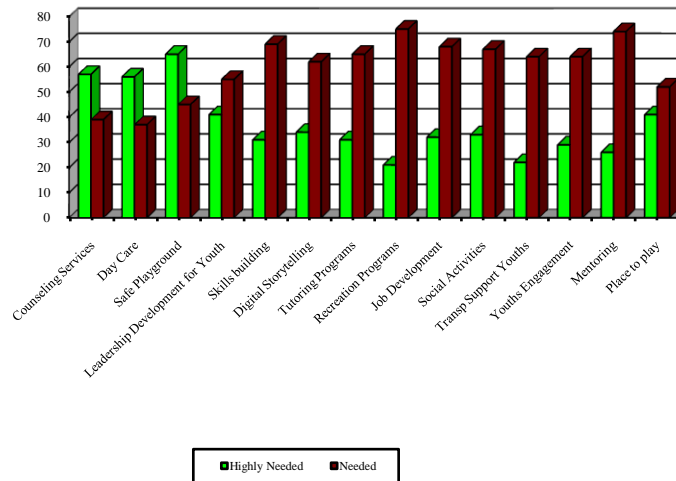


This information express the necessity to evaluate these programs because most of them do not generate important impact or they are not planned according to the necessities of the community.

2.20 Programs for Children and Youth

- There are programs *highly needed* whose percentages are between 45% and 64% such as Confidential Counseling Services, Daycare and Safe Playground.
- The programs labeled as *needed* are Leadership development activities for Youth with a 55%, Skills building 69%, Digital Storytelling 62%, Tutoring Programs 65%, Recreation Programs 75%, Job development 68%, Social Activities 67%, Transportation support for Youth 64%, Activities to Promote youth engagement 64%, Mentoring 74%, Place to Play 52%.

Programs for Children and Youth



The community suggests improving Programs for Children and Youth through the creation of Programs for outdoor sparing time in summer or after school, improving recreational infrastructure, improving dialogue with youth and integration of parents, to build more Kindergartens and Daycares and to build Libraries closer to schools.

2.21 Programs for People with Disabilities

- 68% of the interviewed people consider accessible transportation very important for people with disabilities.
- 66% believe that programs and services for this population are very important
- 70% think that accessibility to Buildings and Facilities is very important.

People consider in this area is necessary to establish special programs for seniors with disabilities and isolated people. More transportation services, special kind of jobs, to facilitate the access in wheelchair, and services for mental disabilities.

2.22 The Main Challenge Facing Community

The main strengths of the community are safety, diversity and multiculturalism, respect for others, many services around, work together and collaboration, participation in community activities and engagement.

2.23 Final comments

The majority of people consider necessary the implementation of technical programs for young people and more opportunities about jobs. In addition, it requires another services like supermarkets, Canada Post-Office, etc, and promoting the organization and sense of community, as well.

3. Conclusion and Recommendation

3.1 Conclusion

Lawrence Heights is a large diverse low-income neighborhood located in suburban North York, Toronto. It is a community of ethnic and linguistic diversity, in where live predominantly newcomers and first-generation immigrants from East Europe and East and West African countries, as well as Caribbean and Latin American countries.

It has a population of 35.945 people and it consists of subsidized public housing in the form of low-rise apartment buildings, townhouses, and single-family homes.

It is one of a number of Toronto communities affected by youth gangs and violent crime involving firearms over the past few years.

Its boundaries cover the area between Bathurst at East and Keel at West, the Expressway 401 at north and Eglinton Avenue at south.

The result of the survey shows the majority of population are immigrants came from Latin-American, East Europe, The Caribbean, Africa, The Philippines and others countries.

The population is composed of 50.8% male and 47.5% female. There is a small gay and lesbian community, which is 1.64%. The most representative group of people is adults in ages between 26 and 65, which represents 82% of the total. The 54.1% of the population is employed and the rest 45.9% is unemployed.

The status and permanency of residence at the community represents the stability of the group in this Country: Canadian citizens 57%, Permanent residents 33% and Refugees 10%. According to the interviewed people, 23% of them live at the community for most than 10 years and 28% between 5 and 10 years. However, most of them do not have enough jobs opportunities, because jobs do not match with levels of education and experiences.

The household incomes ratify the deprived condition of the community of Lawrence Heights because 40.3% has an income lower than \$15,000 dollars, 28% has an income between \$26,000 and \$35,000 dollars, and, 19.3% between \$16,000 and \$25,000. Only 7% perceived incomes on the range from \$36,000 to \$45,000 and 3.5% between \$46,000 and \$55,000. 92% of the families live in rent and 52.4% of population has families with 3 or 4 members. An important part of the community, especially seniors, lives alone.

The results indicate that the majority of the population is classified inside the group with very high level of poverty according to the study *Poverty by Postal Code*, because most part of the income is oriented to pay a rent and foods.

The language spoken at home 49% is Spanish, 8% Romanian and French respectively, 5% Russian, Italian, English, Tagalog and Somali respectively, and 2% Portuguese, Albanese, Cantonese, Korean and Turkish, each one. The statistics bring a clear idea about the diversity of origin and multiculturalism, Lawrence Heights is a community of immigrants with diverse origins.

The most important services for the community are Health, School, Library, TTC, Community Center, Housing and Childcare.

The majority of people consider that certain services have not changes, for example Public Transportation, Housing, Policing, Services for Employment, Immigrants, women, youth, seniors and families.

The results indicate the services at the community do not generate important social impact in their services or require adjusting to the necessities of the population because do not represent important evolution or development.

The members of the community are engaged in different activities around the work, community activities and local businesses. Nevertheless, the most important tie are religious and ethno-specific organizations. In this community, there is a high population that participates in the Recycling Program.

3.2 Recommendation

Referent to Social Services the most important are related with Health, Schools, Library, TTC, Community Center, and Housing and Childcare.

The majority of people in the community are satisfied with available services such as grocery shops, banking, medical services, schools, childcare, transportation, library and recreation. Every percentage in this category obtains more than 50%, with the exception of availability of food and Services for people with disabilities.

The services provided in the community allow equal access for everyone, they have access to information, and is harder for certain groups to get access to the services that they need.

Many people consider that the level of services have not changed or improved accorder with the necessities. These services are related with Public Transportation, Housing, Policing, Availability of Food, Employment, services for Immigrants, Youth, People with Disabilities, Women, Seniors and Families.

This services are not generating important social impact in the community, therefore they require to adjust to the population necessities because do not represent important evolution or development.

Activities related to spare time are very limited in this community. Most of the community, young people and seniors are engaged in activities around malls (Lawrence Square and Yordale Mall), especially in winter time because they do not have other kind of indoor activities.

In the neighbourhood where people do not try to know each other, they are not doing things together and they do not trying to help each other. People in the community mostly go their own way, and do not share similar values.

People are engaged around the work, some community activities and local businesses. The most significant results are Religious or Spiritual Organizations, Ethno-specific Organizations, Community Organizations (sports, arts, cultural and religious based).

The activities related with youths and children after school are considerate available and accessible but require evaluating because most of them do not generate important impact or they are not planned according to the necessities of the community.

There are programs highly needed because are insufficient or presented high demand such as Confidential Counseling Services, Daycare and Safe Playground.

The labeled programs as *needed* are Leadership development activities for Youth, Skills building, Digital Storytelling, Tutoring Programs, Recreation Programs, Job development, Social Activities specially for seniors, Transportation support for Youths, Activities to Promote youth engagement, Mentoring and Place to Play.

The community suggests improving Programs for Children and Youth through the creation of Programs for outdoor sparing time in summer or after school, improving recreational infrastructure, improving dialogue with youth and integration of parents, to build more Kindergartens and Daycares and to build Libraries closer to schools.

For people with disabilities the interviewed consider very important accessibility to transportation, buildings and facilities.

People consider in this area is necessary to establish special programs for seniors with disabilities and isolated people. More transportation services, special kind of jobs, to facilitate the access in wheelchair, and services for mental disabilities.

The main strengths of the community are safety, diversity and multiculturalism, respect for others, many services around, work together and collaboration, participation in community activities and engagement.

The majority of people consider necessary implementation of technical programs for young people and more opportunities about jobs, because the situation of poverty and less opportunity to engagement at the community (sport and leadership) are a detonate for increase the social problems and crime.

The community requires another services like supermarkets, Canada Post-Office, etc, and promoting the organization and sense of community, as well.

In the area of Lawrence Heights 45.9% of the population is unemployed. In reference to levels of education, the most important part of the employed population requires lower levels of education like less High School or some College.

In contrast the population of Lawrence Heights has significant levels of education: 32.2% has been in College, 25.4% finished High School, 16.9% did not finish High School, 15.25% has a University Degree, 5.8% has a trading certificate and/or postgraduate Degree. This people did not found jobs according with the levels of education because require Canadian experiences and accreditation of foreign titles.

The household income ratifies the deprived condition of the community of Lawrence Heights. The results indicate that 40% of Lawrence Heights Community belongs to the less than \$15,000 incomes level. *The Study Poverty by Postal Code* classifies this range into the group with very high level of poverty. The statistic shows the situation of

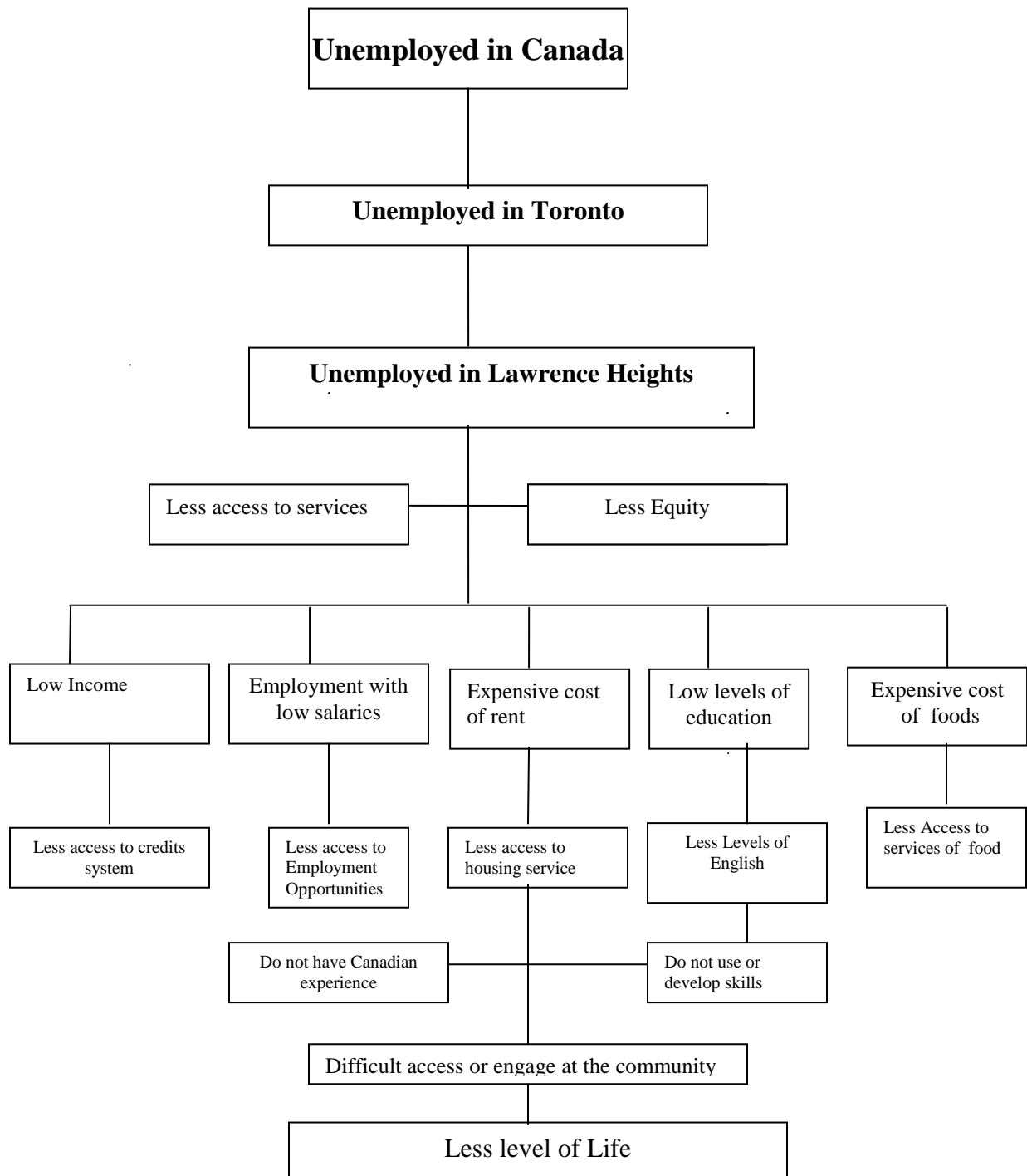
household incomes where only one member of the family has a job or where the family depends of Welfare.

The 92% of the residents live in rent and only the 8% is owner of their houses. The type of ownership reflects the situation of poverty because most part of the income is oriented to pay a rent.

The economical situation requires the intervention of the local and regional government, politicians, agencies, organizations and members of the community, because the situation affects a diverse groups and generates focus of violence. The social, economical and working politics require adjustments, coordination and special focus on actions that represent responses oriented to create and implement small business that will result in job creations, there by empowering communities, increase income levels and reducing poverty.

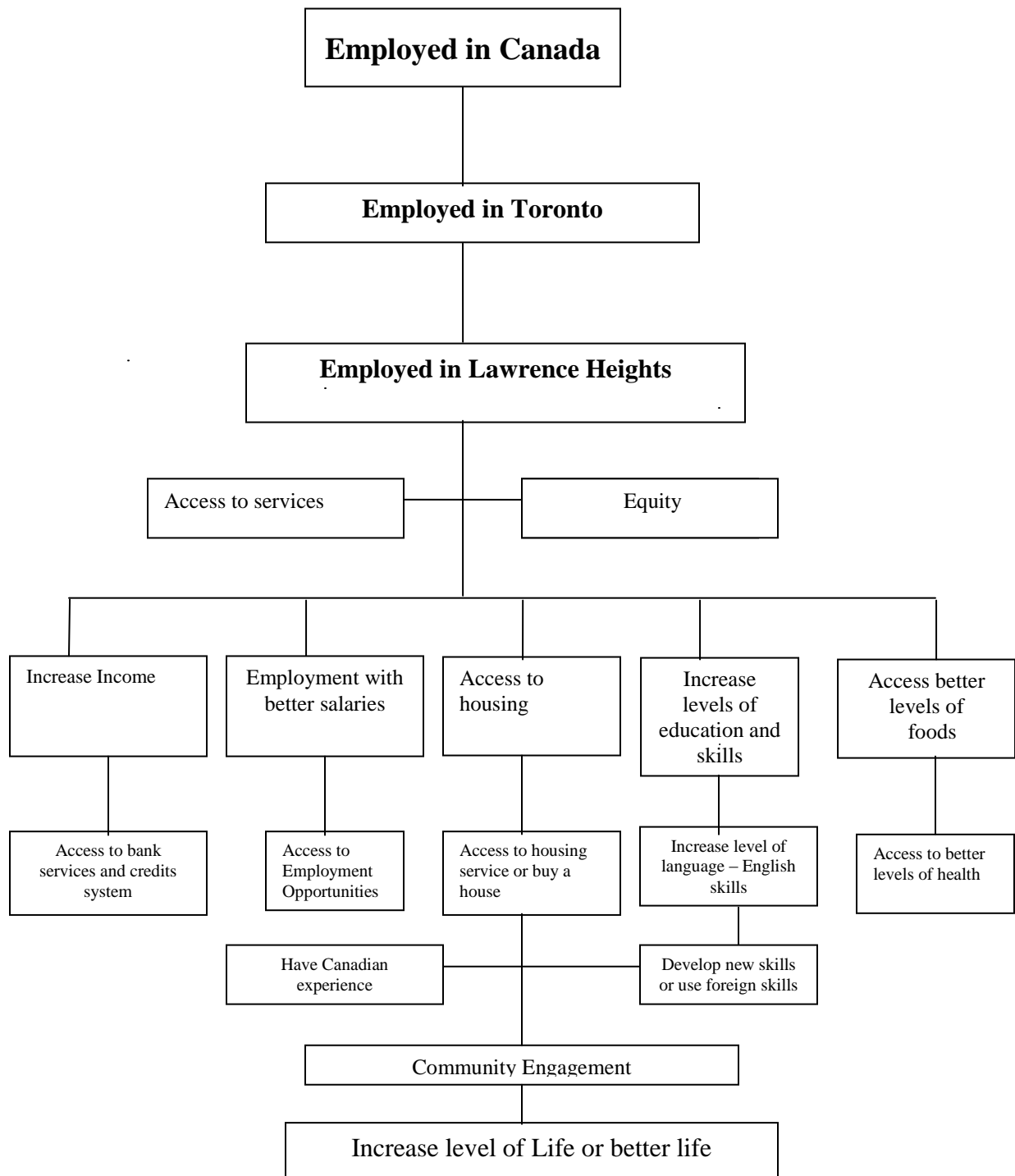
4. Theory of Change

THEORY OF CHANGE Three of Problems – Cause Effect 1



THEORY OF CHANGE

Three of Problems – Cause Effect 2



Theory of Change 3

