



Diversity, Race Relations and Inclusivity Award Nomination Form

London
CANADA

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of organization: NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS GROUP	
Business Address: c/o 10 Bellrock Crescent	
City: London	Postal code: N5V 4X3
Name(s) of contact people (including position titles): Jacqueline Fraser – Lead Organizer	
Business Telephone: 519-453-3198	Business Fax:
Business E-mail: necommunityconversations@gmail.com	
Category: (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Small business/small labthe (49 or fewer employees/members)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Large business/large labthe (50 or more employees/members)	
*Social/community services (including Not-for-Profits) (49 or fewer employees/members)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Social/community services (including Not-for-Profits) (50 or more employees/members)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Youth/young adult groups or organizations (<26 years of age)	

INITIATIVE INFORMATION (attach additional sheets or supporting material as required)

Program initiative:
<p>Program initiative:</p> <p>NECC was founded in the summer of 2012 when several residents of Northeast London, who are passionate about building and developing community pride and spirit through intellectual dialogue and conversation, decided that the time was right to start a “Community Conversations” group – an informal forum where like-minded residents could come together to dialogue and exchange perspectives, insights and information on broad-based topics that directly or indirectly impact the daily living, quality of life and lifestyle. Together, they agreed upon the following goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To create a forum for Northeast London residents to respectfully be together, learn from each other and collaborate with each other. To provide residents with a venue to engage in philosophical discussions, shared new thinking, insights, cultural/social perspectives and creative, “out of the box” ideas in a safe, respectful, non-judgmental environment. To create opportunities for a “healthy debate” on hot or controversial topics, and to enable those who want to express their viewpoints and opinions to do so. It is hoped that through such discussions, fresh, feasible ideas for common neighborhood living improvements and enhancements can be identified or addressed. To find opportunities to engage residents in shared visions and shared projects that could potentially result in new initiatives and programs for the betterment of those living in Northeast London. To make the Northeast community a more vibrant, healthy, connected place in which to live and be a part of.

Date of implementation:
September 2012

Key department(s) or committees involved:

NECC Organizing Committee comprises about 8-10 volunteer grassroots leaders. Beacock Branch Library supports this community initiative by providing space and complimentary hot refreshments. In the past year, the Family Centre, Carling-Thames has also provided us with complimentary meeting space, colthe copying and hot refreshments for the sessions. The guest facilitators, who volunteer their time and energy, are usually individuals who work in the topic-related industry, and are well-experienced or experts on the community conversation topic matter.

Key people involved: Key people involved: The NECC Organizing Committee comprises:

1. Jacqueline Fraser – Lead Organizer

Description of initiative: Description of initiative:

- This grassroots initiative provides a safe venue for residents of NE London, and anyone who lives, works or plays in Northeast London. Community Conversation sessions are held once a month at a venue located in NE London.
- Everyone is welcome and there is no admission fee. Sometimes we have parents attending with young children and the volunteers help child mind their kids so that the parents can participate in the conversation.
- We pride theselves in being inclusive and diverse, in the thoughts, words and in the pre-selected topics and conversations.
- The Community Conversation session gives those who attend a platform from which they can share their personal stories, opinions and experiences, discuss issues and concerns, express cultural or ethnical ideas and thinking and even brainstorm on issues and solutions.
- Depending on the topic, guest facilitators are invited to help guide the conversation topic, share facts, figures and key information to form or shape opinions and critical thinking.
- Each session is conducted in an informal manner, where participants are seated usually in concentric circles to enctheage face to face dialogue, and where everyone can be seen and heard. Sometimes powerpoint presentations conducted and relevant handouts are given out.
- The organizers and/or facilitator(s) may start off the conversation topic, but it is the participants that shape the flow and depth of the conversation. Sometimes participants express their interests in follow up sessions being organized on the same topic, or on a more in-depth dialogue on specific points of the conversation topic, or to discuss actions that can be taken to address the issues at hand.
- It is an initiative put together by residents for residents of London, Ontario.

Participants are invited to stay connected through group email and/or Facebook. NECC does not have a website set up yet.

How has the initiative contributed to the promotion of diversity, race relations, inclusivity and human rights in London and promoting London as a welcoming city?Northeast London prides itself in being a very vibrant, diverse, multicultural part of greater London. Its residents come from all walks of life,

are primarily from the working class, on disability or social assistance, aging seniors, and recent immigrants to Canada.

When first established, the Organizing Committee discussed and set as its primary objectives:

1. To provide residents with a venue and means to express their concerns, frustrations, viewpoints in relation to municipal, provincial, federal, social, philosophical, cultural, religious or general interest topics/matters that affect the quality of life and lifestyles of those living in Northeast London, and/or the City of London.
2. To provide an appropriate meeting space and time to enable residents and members of the London community to come together to:
 - a. network
 - b. meet new people
 - c. engage in new thinking, new ideas
 - d. find new opportunities to engage with others in shared visions and shared projects
 - e. expand their minds and horizons
3. To develop a set of rules for engagement, discussion, and debate to ensure a safe, respectful, non-judgmental environment.
4. To engage and appeal to residents and/or those with expertise in particular fields or topics, to participate in group discussions by sharing their wisdom, insight, time, energy and knowledge with others in the group.
5. To collaborate and work with other partner organizations in an effort to increase NELCE's community relationships.

In the first season of Community Conversations [September 2012-June 2013] we held 10 2-hour sessions on a variety of pre-selected topics which demonstrate diversity, race relations and inclusivity. For example:

- Hidden Gems of Northeast London
- Do You Feel Safe in Your Community?
- Dispelling the Myths of Immigrants and Forcibly Displaced Persons [participants asked for 2 subsequent sessions on this topic:
 - A Nation of Immigrants: Crossing Cultures, Cultural Sensitivity & The Impact of Federal Policy Changes on Immigrants
 - The New Canadian Experience: Dealing with the Impact of Federal Policy Changes on Recent Canadian Immigrants [including a letter-writing campaign to protest against recent Federal Government changes to healthcare programs and services for immigrants]
- Bullying-Break The Silence - Stand Up! Speak Out! [Part II Conversation held in November 2013]
- Alternate Roads to Employment
- Home: The Movie
- Cultural Sharing: The Inside Scoop on India [The Inside Scoop on Latin America, November 2013]

The Other London: Managing on London's Austerity Budget [Participants have asked for a continuing dialogue on this topic – October 2013]. Recent initiatives have focussed on topics such as racism, and free speech, attracting large attendance and spirited conversations.

What short or long-term impact has/will the initiative have on the promotion of diversity, race relations, inclusivity and human rights in London and promoting London as a welcoming city?

Since the inception, the participant attendance has grown from 11 at the first session, to 100 at the most recent session. The participants bring to this initiative their diversity, ethnicity, social status and religious beliefs which makes the community conversations engaging. Several of the topics are “hard” topics to discuss but we have been sensitive in how the subject matter is presented, discussed and success or positive stories are always shared.

The Organizing Committee’s hope is that the initiative will continue to impact the community by changing stereotypes about the demographics, changing perceptions about the neighborhoods,

demonstrating that a multicultural community can live together in harmony while treating each other with mutual respect and tolerance, and encouraging critical thinking and individual intellectual growth.

What is the potential for expansion and/or inspiration for replication of the initiative? , NECC wants to continue and increase resident and community interest and participation at the monthly community conversations, engage and build new relationships with non-profit organizations and service providers who can help us facilitate the sessions, and look for ways to fundraise so that we can have some seed money to support this initiative in terms of administration costs [photocopying of posters, handbills, handouts, printing of administrative documents, refreshment and kitchen supplies] and costs associated with hosting a cultural sharing event. They would like to be able to host community conversations where the different stakeholders are present so that we can encourage a more well-rounded discussion.

How can receiving this Award be used to further promote diversity, race relations, inclusivity and human rights in London and to further promote London as a welcoming city?

Receiving this award would be a great honour to the volunteers and reaffirm the Committee’s dedication and commitment to the goals and objectives. It will be a way for the volunteers who dedicate a lot of time, energy and passion towards producing a professional level grassroots initiative to be recognized and acknowledged for their efforts in promoting diversity, inclusivity, human and social justice, and racial tolerance amongst fellow residents and friends of the Northeast London community.

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

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Address: 104-1500 Richmond Street	
City: London	Postal code: N6G 4V1
Telephone: 519-858-9272	Fax:

E-mail: ian.silver@alumni.utoronto.ca

Signature:



Date:

Note: By signing this form you are hereby confirming that the Nominee has consented to the nomination.

Submissions must be received by September 30 to:

London Diversity and Race Relations Advisory Committee
c/o Committee Secretary, City Clerk's Office
City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue, PO Box 5035
London, ON N6A 4L9

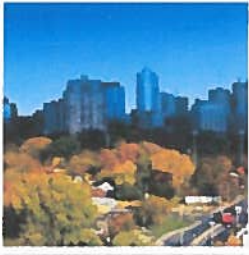
Phone: 519-661-2500 Ext. 5417

Fax: 519-661-4892

E-mail: jmartin@london.ca

NOTICE OF COLLECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

Please be advised that all nominations submitted for the Diversity, Race Relations and Inclusivity Award become part of the public record. The nominations will be published on a public agenda and made available electronically through the City of London public internet website. The personal information collected on this form is collected under the authority of the Municipal Act 2001, as amended, and will be used to administer the Diversity, Race Relations and Inclusivity Award program. Questions about this collection should be addressed to the City Clerk at 300 Dufferin Avenue, London, Ontario N6A 4L9 Tel: 661-2500 Ext. 4937



Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC

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STORY

Founded in June 2012, NECC is a group of community leaders, and we strive to help build community participative community conversations, sharing and understanding, and involvement by engaging residents on matters affecting most of our

Our sessions are held monthly and all are welcome. FREE to participate. Venues change so please LIKE our posts, or follow us on

NECC's Steering Committee meets every year to brainstorm, discuss and plan for discussion. The topics range from matters such as London hot topics, education, social justice, immigration interests. We THINK GLOBAL

NECC is also proud to have started the "Community Conversations for London..." - a unique grassroots organization that focuses on London's local ethnic demographics, to help promote understanding and appreciation of our society today; and to cultivate relationships amongst Londoners through e

Our NECC members and residents share their ethnic and cultural experiences in learning and exploring some norms of a country or area; help what individuals face as challenges from an ethnic and cultural perspective between our differences and s

We invite you to get involved and share your expertise, knowledge, concerns and learning from others. Meet people involved in your community; cl

- Christine Camley likes The Guardian's link.
- Donald Mull likes Waukegan Police Department.
- Jeremy Meyers likes BBC World Service's link.
- Alex VanNess likes Ben Packer's post.
- Israel Cosman likes Top Vines's post.

Show Older

- Mel SP
- Daniel Brownstone
- Mona Hill
- Eric Robinson
- Christine Camley
- Tracey Schaeffer
- Unca Marc Schaeffer
- Don Reid Sr.
- Peter Michael
- Deb-Daryl Toles
- Greg Duncan
- MORE CONTACTS (16)
- Adi Saputro

embrace new concepts and pe
better human being!

To contact NECC, please email
necommunityconversations@c
or phone Jacqueline Fraser at

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Events

UPCOMING EVENTS

Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC does not have any upcoming events.

PAST EVENTS

- SEP 28** FREEDOM OF SPEECH & POLITICAL CORRECTNESS I... [Beacock Library London](#)
Wed 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- JUN 9** I Don't See Colour, Eh! - The Realities of Racism in London... [Beacock Branch Library, 1280 ...](#)
Thurs 18:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- MAY 30** Accessibility & Disability-Part Two [North London Optimist Comm ... London](#)
Mon 18:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- MAY 25** THINKING TRANSPORTATION OUTSIDE THE BOX - Ra... [Beacock Branch Library, 1280 ...](#)
Wed 18:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- APR 19** Exploring Diverse Issues & Experiences Among People of ... [North London Optimist Comm ... London](#)
Tues 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- JAN 28** WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Evolving Out Of Para... [North London Optimist Comm ... London](#)
Thurs 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- DEC 3** ACCESSIBILITY & DISABILITY: INCLUSION FOR ALL [Beacock Library London](#)
Thurs 18:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- SEP 21** CHANGING EDUCATION PARADIGMS, PART 2: STUDE... [North London Optimist Comm ... London](#)
Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- MAR 23** THE MANY FACES OF POVERTY-PART 2 [The Salvation Army Hillcrest C ...](#)
Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- MAR 12** FIVE GENERATIONS, ONE FUTURE: Exploring Intergene... [Beacock Branch Library, 1280 ...](#)
Thurs 18:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC
- OCT 16** THE RIGHT TO VOTE - The Forgotten Citizen Right [Beacock Library London](#)
Thurs 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC

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- Sandy Cooper
- Unca Marc Schaeffer
- Don Reid Sr.
- Peter Michael
- MORE CONTACTS (18)**
- Adi Saputro

SEP 11	THE GOLDEN YEARS: ARE THEY REALLY GOLDEN? Thurs 14:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	North London Optimist Centre London
MAY 10	The Inside Scoop On: Middle Eastern Cultures Sat 13:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Gynnasium, Northbrae Public
APR 23	FOOD SECURITY AND URBAN GARDENING IN LONDO... 23 April 2014–24 April 2014 · by Northeast Community Conversations Gr	Rowntree United Church, Elio
MAR 22	The Spirit of Social Change: Youth, Spirituality & Social Action Sat 12:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
FEB 26	BLACKS in HISTORY - A Community Conversation Wed 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
JAN 20	Today's Youth: The Millennial Generation Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Family Centre Carling-Thames
NOV 20	Bullying: Break the Silence ~ Stand Up! Speak Out! Wed 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
NOV 9	Cultural Sharing: The Inside Scoop on Latin America Sat 16:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	The Salvation Army Hillcrest C...
OCT 30	THINK LONDON: Dealing with the Impact of London's Aust... Wed 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
SEP 17	Impact of London's Austerity Budget Tues 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
JUN 24	The "New Canadian" Experience Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	
MAY 13	ALTERNATE ROADS TO EMPLOYMENT ~ SOCIAL ENT... Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	
MAR 18	Crossing Cultures, Cultural Sensitivity & The Impact of Fed... Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	
FEB 25	The Inside Scoop on India Mon 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	
DEC 18	Do you feel SAFE in our community? Tues 19:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
NOV 20	HOME: Economic and Environmental Sustainability Tues 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
OCT 16	What's Unique About North East London? Tues 19:00 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London
SEP 18	Session #1 What's It All About? Why Now? Tues 18:30 · by Northeast Community Conversations Group-NECC	Beacock Library London

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