

Rooming House Preservation Policy Researcher and Organizer

The [The Neighbourhood Land Trust](#) (NLT) is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the affordability, diversity, and equity of Parkdale by bringing land into community ownership and control. NLT works to acquire and manage land, leasing it at affordable rates to eligible charitable partners who provide community benefits including affordable and supportive housing. Visit www.pnlt.ca for more information.

Job Application Deadline:	October 10th, 2018 at 5:00 pm EST
Job Title:	Rooming House Preservation Policy Researcher & Organizer
Reports to:	Executive Director
Work Week:	35 hours/week
Contract:	1 year
Start Date:	ASAP
Salary:	\$42,000 – \$47,000

A. OVERVIEW

The Neighbourhood Land Trust (NLT) seeks a Rooming House Preservation Policy Researcher and Organizer to develop and lead a campaign for a comprehensive policy framework for dwelling room protection and replacement in Toronto - to assure that this important rental housing stock is not lost.

The ideal candidate will be an early or mid-career professional with a background in urban planning and or public policy development, and a strong commitment to neighbourhood inclusiveness and social equity. A strong capacity for stakeholder and community engagement is a must.

B. BACKGROUND

Like many other North American cities, Toronto is experiencing a long-standing trend of dwelling room loss. Since 2014, the City has documented the loss of 266 affordable dwelling rooms due to large-scale development, with thousands more at risk. NLT's own [Parkdale Rooming House Study](#), documented the loss of 350 dwelling rooms, with an additional 800 dwelling rooms and units currently at-risk in Parkdale alone. This trend is caused both by increasing development pressures and inadequate public policy for dwelling room protection and replacement. In particular dwelling rooms are not currently protected under the City's Rental Housing Protection Bylaw. Additionally, the City

currently lacks adequate funding programs to support preservation of dwelling rooms and Single-Room-Occupancy (SRO) buildings by non-profit housing organizations.

Comprehensive public policy frameworks for dwelling room protection have been implemented with success in other North American Cities including Montreal, Vancouver, Chicago and San Francisco. It is thus crucial that the City of Toronto implement new measures to preserve, maintain and expand this important form of affordable housing for low-income residents. As part of the Parkdale Rooming House Strategy, NLT and its partners seek to organize stakeholders to win for this important policy change.

C. SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Organize Dwelling Room Preservation Policy Working Group
 - Recruit tenants and other stakeholders to participate in working group
 - Support meaningful tenant involvement
 - Provide training and capacity building opportunities for working group members

- Research & Develop Dwelling Room Preservation Policy Framework
 - Research and review municipal public policy decisions and reports related to dwelling room loss and protection from the past 10 years.
 - Consult Rooming House Preservation Strategy partners, City Staff, advocates and other stakeholders to consolidate proposed dwelling room preservation policy proposals.
 - Undertake policy analysis
 - Work with Working Group to draft comprehensive policy framework
 - Organize, facilitate and report on stakeholder consultations and focus groups to inform policy framework development.

- Develop and Implement Public Policy Campaign
 - Support Working Group to plan and implement public policy campaign including engagement of key stakeholder groups, the media, and the public.
 - Develop strategic partnerships with supportive organizations Citywide.

- Monitor Relevant Public Policy Review and Approval Processes
 - Monitor staff reports and attend public meetings.
 - Consult with City staff on policy development progress.
 - Support Working Group members and other stakeholders to participate effectively in policy review and approval processes.

- Support NLT Rooming House Preservation Project Planning as needed
 - Support due-diligence reviews for property acquisition.
 - Support preparation of funding proposals for affordable housing projects.

- Support management of the municipal approvals and permit process.

Other duties as assigned

D. QUALIFICATIONS

- Post-secondary education in urban planning, policy and research, a related field, or equivalent work-experience preferred;
- Demonstrated success with stakeholder engagement and or community organizing
- Demonstrating success planning and executing advocacy campaigns
- Demonstrated success with partnership development
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including on-line communications
- Familiarity with the City of Toronto's existing affordable housing policy framework
- Familiarity with issues facing rooming house and or SRO tenants
- Familiarity with community development programs and/or social services for low income individuals and families is an asset
- Demonstrated commitment to working from a strong anti-oppression and social justice framework
- Demonstrated ability to work within a diverse community (including working with seniors, youth, people with different abilities and different cultural and socio-economic backgrounds)
- Ability to speak a language relevant to the neighbourhood is an asset
- Strong research and analytical skills
- A self-starter with strong aptitude for independent work

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: October 10th, 2018 at 5:00 pm EST

TO APPLY:

Please submit an application by email to info@pnlt.ca with the following documents attached as one PDF:

- 1 page cover letter including a discussion of
 - your most relevant work experiences and capabilities
 - your experience with stakeholder engagement or community organizing
 - your relationship & knowledge of Parkdale
 - your interest in public policy
- Resume
- 3 references

Attention: NLT Hiring
Committee

NLT is committed to employment equity and encourages applicants from equity-seeking groups. We aim to foster a workplace that reflects the diversity of the community we serve.

No phone calls please. NLT thanks all applicants for their interest, however only those being considered for an interview will be contacted.