

# Parkdale Neighbourhood Land Trust

## PURPOSE

The Parkdale Neighbourhood Land Trust (PNLT) is a community-controlled organization of residents and local agencies that work to transform property relations to build a just, healthy, and inclusive neighbourhood. The PNLT will acquire and manage land through a Community Land Trust (CLT), promoting long-term community benefits, affordability, and enabling democratic local planning.

## VISION

The Parkdale Neighbourhood Land Trust envisions a neighbourhood in which all members of our community:

1. Have the ability to meaningfully shape the development and stewardship of the land in the neighbourhood where they live and work;
2. Have the opportunity to contribute democratically and in a meaningful way to local municipal planning efforts, including major plans, programs and policies, as well as guide neighbourhood change through community-led participatory planning and research;
3. Champion development without displacement that builds shared community wealth and enhances social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being;
4. Will have access to affordable housing;
6. Will trust that community assets will be preserved and held together under community control;
7. Will work together to substantiate trust through dedicated processes building relationships of care, reciprocal accountability and healing;
8. Will inspire the growth of a strong community land trust movement in neighbourhoods across Toronto and beyond, helping to create a socially just, environmentally sustainable, and economically democratic city and country.

## VALUES

1. Alternative Approaches: We reflect the community we serve, including black, indigenous, people of colour, LGBTQ+ communities and differently abled people. We work in solidarity by using alternative systems of governance and leadership structures that are in use and being built in our neighbourhoods to offer a higher quality of life for everyone;
2. Equitable development: We believe that marginalized people should lead, not just benefit from development;
3. Collective action: We believe that through collective action community members can mobilize diverse experiences, resources, knowledge, and skills to achieve common goals.
4. Community engagement: Local communities are best served by effectively engaging residents and key stakeholders in the decisions affecting their community.
5. Land as a commons: We believe that the land is a common asset and heritage of past, current, and future generations. Land is a source for building shared wealth and should thus be stewarded by the community.
6. Community ownership of land: We believe that community ownership of land empowers communities, balances the interests of individuals with that of the community as a whole, and supports the transformation of property relations towards reciprocal relations with that land and one another. We recognize that our ownership sits within existing indigenous relations with territory under the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement to steward resources around the Great Lakes.
7. Perpetual affordability: We believe that access to affordable land ensures long-term housing security, inclusive economic opportunities, and vital community programs and services for current and future generations.
8. Public education: We believe that democracy is a practice; community members must be given opportunities to learn about local planning in order to enhance their capacity to participate.
9. Transparent and representative governance: We believe that democratic community representation can be achieved through participatory governance that truly represents the voices, needs and perspectives of the Parkdale community, and that are open and transparent about all decisions made.