

February 5, 2013

Attention: City of Toronto Executive Committee

**Subject: Deputation from the Alliance Against Modern Slavery, a local registered charity (84068 5119 RR0001)**



Since 2008, the Alliance Against Modern Slavery (the Alliance) has worked in partnership to combat modern slavery and human trafficking by collecting resources, building programs, and creating alliances among a network of local and global partners so that every person has the opportunity for sustainable freedom. We are aware of dozens of cases of human trafficking in Canada, including in Toronto, for the purposes of forced labour, forced sex and forced marriage.

As such, we are encouraged by the City of Toronto's commitment to working in collaboration with anti-trafficking organizations to increase awareness of human trafficking while simultaneously working to eradicate the practice itself.

In particular, we support recommendations to collect data, improve training, and coordinate efforts to ensure services are available to victims.

At the moment, there is an urgent need for data about trends and gaps on sex, labour and marriage trafficking in Toronto. Many of our board and executive members have conducted scholarly research on slavery and human trafficking. This work reveals that it is critical that any data collection be undertaken using solid, strategic research methods, and then disseminated to as wide an audience as possible. Furthermore, more in-depth comprehensive training is necessary for all sectors. This March 18-22, the Alliance and its partners will be hosting a 5-day human trafficking training session in Toronto. Lastly, there is a clear need for coordination of services available to victims within the context of a Toronto-wide strategy. Studies and best practice models show this will work most effectively through continued collaboration between government, vulnerable communities, survivors, NGOs/front-line service providers and law enforcement personnel.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have, and commend the City of Toronto's Executive Committee for their commitment to taking a stand against human trafficking.

Sincerely,

Karlee Sapoznik  
President / CEO / Co-Founder of the Alliance Against Modern Slavery