

February 03, 2026

With mixed emotions, the Board of Directors of **Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services** announces the retirement, after over 25 years of service, of our **Executive Director, Axelle Janczur**, effective **June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026**.

As you know Axelle is a leader dedicated and committed to the agency and its values, to our clients and communities and to the staff who worked with her over these many years. Axelle has always embodied the spirit of community health centres, leading Access Alliance through years of active growth, development of key and signature initiatives and many robust partnerships. Her determination strengthened the sector, contributed to knowledge creation and brought about systemic change and improvement, a core commitment and priority at Access Alliance.

Under Axelle's leadership and building on the legacy of our founding communities, Access Alliance has achieved great success on many key issues both as a leader and valued partner. **Under her leadership Access Alliance:**

- Committed to evidence-informed care, which was the impetus for the establishment of a community-based research program, training hundreds of peer researchers and working collaboratively with health system and academic partners to co-create knowledge and undertake significant knowledge translation initiatives;
- Established the hub access model as a core strategy, which included expansion of locations as well as development of a flexible model of care, bringing services through co-location and off-site clinics to where the need exists;
- Ensured access to health for all by: strengthening primary care for refugees; launching a busy walk-in clinic for non-status residents of Toronto; creating pathways to care for newcomer women, LGBTQ+ newcomers, youth and many more; outreach initiatives based on our research, for hard to reach and underserved communities on important issues such as TB stigma, cervical cancer, HIV, diabetes, mental health, and labour market discrimination to name a few;
- Focused on system change by providing leadership in sectoral advocacy work. Some key highlights include: the OHIP for Babies campaign many years ago; regularization of status for non-status newcomers; best practices for working with homeless newcomers; identifying the health impacts of precarious work; case for investing in language access; and social prescribing;
- Changed the national landscape, in partnership with key stakeholders, by advocating for the professionalization of interpretation and translation services for newcomers, developed relevant service delivery models as well as national professional standards, participated in the establishment of universally accepted testing and training programs at the community college level and accreditation programs.

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Notably, the agency enjoyed this success because Axelle worked collaboratively with staff, the Board of Directors, community members and partners, in her focus on strengthening organizational capacity to fulfill our mission. Axelle is a true sector champion, and we recognize and thank her for her years of dedication, hard work and commitment to our mission, vision and values. She always said that working in a mission-based organization was a privilege that fulfilled her professionally and personally. Please join me in wishing her the best in the future. A celebration of Axelle's work and leadership will take place in the Spring.

Shortly, the Board of Directors will be launching a **search process** for the next Executive Director. During this period Cliff Ledwos will continue to provide leadership in the agency in his role as the Acting Executive Director.

Thank you for your attention,



**Arshia Ali**  
Chair, Board of Directors  
Access Alliance Multicultural Health and Community Services