



FAMILY SERVICE ASSOCIATION
OF TORONTO

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A United Way Member Agency

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Blue ribbon panel debates building a better Toronto

In the mid nineties Toronto was internationally ranked as a city that worked. Today poverty has sunk its roots deep into city, its proud diversity is threatened and business is not inclined to invest in a city that senior governments have abandoned.

What accounts for the city's free fall; what would it take to reverse the trend and build a better Toronto? Municipal leaders are looking for a place at the federal budget table, new tax powers or a share of federal gas revenues, but are these the answers to the city's woes?

The Family Service Association of Toronto, one of the city's oldest community development agencies, has brought together a blue-ribbon panel of business, city, academic and community officials to answer these questions.

Janice Gross Stein, U. of T. political scientist and author of best-selling book *The Cult of Efficiency* argues that efficiency has hijacked the public agenda and now rules how government and institutions operate. Efficiency is the neo-conservative answer to an unresponsive state. But Stein says, in an era of globalization, successful economies will have more, not less, government; and successful governments will be driven by accountability, not efficiency. Applying Stein's ideas to the City's crisis are:

- **Charles Coffey** executive vice-president, government and community affairs, at RBC Financial Group.
- **Shirley Hoy**, chief administrative officer of the City of Toronto.
- **Frances Lankin**, president of the United Way of Greater Toronto and former cabinet minister in the Bob Rae government.
- **Charles Pascal**, executive director of the Atkinson Charitable Foundation and former Ontario deputy minister of community and social services

Steve Paikin, host of Studio Two, the nightly public affairs program on TVO, is moderator.

DATE: Tuesday, June 4, 7.30 p.m.

PLACE: Oakham House, Ryerson University,
63 Gould St., main floor auditorium. Parking available on Church St.

For more information, or to arrange interviews with the panelists please contact:
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