

CHAMPLAIN HUMAN SERVICES AND JUSTICE
Coordinating Committee (HSJCC) Meeting Minutes
Date: November 24, 2020

HSJCC Position	HSJCC Member	R	
Regional Chair	Joan Garrow	x	
Regional Vice-Chair	Justice Heather Perkins-McVey		x
Regional Secretary	Natasha Kelly	x	

LOCAL HSJCC Representative	Chair/Co-Chair/Delegate	R	
Renfrew County	Cheryl Summers	x	
SD&G/Prescott-Russell/Akwesasne	Johanne Renaud		x
Ottawa			

Justice		R	
Federal Crown	Christa Record		x
Provincial Crown			
Duty Counsel	Susan Morris	x	
DCAO Defense Counsel			
Youth Probation	Adam Cameron		x
Ottawa West Probation and Parole Services Area Manager	Megan Schell		x
Ottawa West Probation and Parole Services Assistant Area Manager	Vicki Quesnel	x	
Ottawa Carleton Detention Centre	Trent Running		x
Ottawa Police Service	Holly Watson	x	
Ottawa Police Service/OYJSN	Jessica Ripley	x	
Ontario Provincial Police	Cynthia Savard		x

Ministry of the Attorney General		R	
Crown Attorney	Marie Dufort (Adult)/Nicole Brenes (Admin)		x
	Dave Roberts (Youth)		x

Health		R	
The Ottawa Hospital	Mary Kelleher		x
CMHA	Lisa St. Pierre	x	
John Howard Society	Kelly Cardinal	x	
	Jan Goatcher	x	
Elizabeth Fry Society	Sarah Davis		x
Montfort Renaissance			
Acquired Brain Injury – LHIN	Suzanne McKenna	x	
LHIN	Kevin Barklay	x	
Valor & Solutions	Aisha Stambouli		x
CAMH	Leslie Wells		x
Rideauwood	Colleen MacPhee	x	
Schizophrenia Society	Sheila Deighton		x
Salvation Army	Gordon Hudson		x
Mental Health Advocate	Sanjay Sharma	x	

Youth			R
Youth Services Bureau	Melanie Bania		x
Youturn	Marisa Moher	x	
	Emilie Dubuc		x
Youth Now	Mark Arnold		x

1.0 Call to Order, Introductions, Approval of Agenda & Additions

- Agenda approved as circulated.
- Add: Request for Communication on COVID Positive Cases from OCDC with Community Partners (after provincial updates) (L. St. Pierre).

2.0 Review and Approval of Previous Minutes: September 22, 2020

- Minutes approved as circulated.

2.1 Review of Action Items from Minutes

a. M. Dufort to update on opening of courts and possibility of funding for therapy dogs.

- S. Morris noted that there is still no court in person. The only one running is trial court. Everything is on hold as far as personal appearances with no indication on when that will change. Same applies to drug treatment court where the therapy dogs were being used. All members in attendance were in full support of funding therapy dogs.

b. C. Summers and J. Renaud to report on red envelope/discharge planning.

- Completed, remove.

3.0 Presentation: “Navigating the Justice System with a Brain Injury” (M. Vigar ED, Brain Injury Society of Toronto)

- To be rescheduled to next meeting.

4.0 Collaborative Crisis Response Working Group (*standing item, H. Watson*)

- The project being worked on the last year and a half has been wrapped up. It was a guide that was created for agencies who needed to set up crisis teams which has been given the final approval for the draft and will be released soon, likely starting with CMHA. Everything else has been wound down for the time being. It did have a positive effect in that other services were reached out to so now there is easy communication without having to have the committee do that. Completed, remove.

5.0 2021 Regional Work Plan – Committee Reports

a. Orientation Package

- The original group met once but haven’t met since. A follow up meeting to be scheduled. Some provincial support can be leaned on.

b. Education

- Lisa St. Pierre will follow up with new member from CMHA since Marie-Michele is on mat leave. Susan Morris volunteered to be on the committee on behalf of duty counsel.

c. Animal Care While in Treatment

- Discussed above.

d. Mental Health First Aid

- It was noted that virtual training sessions are now being offered. **Action:** Joan will follow up with The Royal's Learning and Development team because books had been previously purchased for the in person sessions.

e. Reintegration Trailer

- The reintegration trailer would be used for folks leaving detention to pick up bus tickets, transportation, charge their phones, and receive different kinds of support. There was discussion on having the same type of trailer at OCDC. This couldn't be started during the pandemic but discussions and planning can start with OCDC staff. J. Garrow and K. Hennigar had the initial call with Toronto to learn more about the trailer. The idea would be to have every opportunity to be included in the new design or the refurbishment of the Innes Road property. John Howard has received funding for three teachers at OCDC but unfortunately only have room for two so would like to take the opportunity to bring the funding for the third teacher to bring education into the trailer. Jan will take the lead for this committee. Lisa St. Pierre, Marisa Moher, and Colleen MacPhee are interested in joining.

f. Innovative Ways to Support Individuals with More Barriers During the Pandemic

- This was discussed as a drop in center where people could safely attend court or have access to a phone. The idea of an internet café was floated around. **Action:** Call for members for a working group. It was noted that John Howard is doing a pilot project for hot spots for this purpose. Wendy McHenry with John Howard and Laura Baker from duty counsel is working on it. **Action:** K. Cardinal will follow up with W. McHenry to see if there's an opportunity for a partnership and potential use of HSJCC resources. The committee would also like to hear from clients on where the ideal spot/area would be to attend court virtually.
- When sponsoring a client's internet plan there would have to be an understanding on when that would end.
- Ottawa Community Housing tenants are able to access free internet.
- Drug Treatment Court would have to be consulted with regarding client's terms and conditions prior to providing certain services.
- As of November 27th court will no longer be automatically adjourning matters if the client does not attend virtually. They could potentially issue bench warrants so the connectivity issue is going to be a pressing concern sooner rather than later.
- After discussion it was decided a rather urgent working group is required to help move the issue forward, to include S. Morris, M. Dufort, and Justice Perkins-McVey. **Action:** J. Garrow to follow up with Justice Perkins-McVey to get her thoughts.
- Court workers in Renfrew County are responsible for evaluating clients and their needs but because of restrictions on how many are allowed into one site, one specific area hasn't been identified. A "courtroom" has been set up in one of the large boardrooms for those who had no other access. Phones will also be lent out to remote areas of the county with a data plan just to attend their court appearance as well as phone cards to those who have phones but no plans.

6.0 Additional Funds Available – Ideas: EIDTC Food Bank

- The provincial HSJCC will not be using all of its resources this year due to COVID. The group voted and the surplus resources will be available equally to all regional committees. The criteria is to help/support clients involved with the justice system.
- Some suggestions for use of funds would be bus passes to get to hot spots or library and food banks. The committee would rely heavily on what supports the court requires as its mandate.

7.0 Provincial Highlights (*standing item, J. Garrow*)

- There are discussions taking place on how to approach anti-racism. There will be a provincial strategy pulled together.
- There was an overview of the release from custody issues, particularly those who were exacerbated during COVID. There's a discharge planning related to supportive housing and transportation.
- At this time a proposal for a Community of Practice be launched to share best practices and determine how the provincial HSJCC can be more supportive.
- The 2021 conference is being looked at to be held virtually.
- There will be a two-day drug treatment forum on March 9th and 10th.

8.0 Request for Communication on COVID-Positive Cases from OCDC with Community Partners (L. St. Pierre)

- Community partners are requesting the sharing of information around COVID cases at OCDC. The bail beds committee meets on a fairly regular basis and it came up that a COVID positive case was communicated through a third party rather than directly from OCDC. This would have an impact on bail beds. Monitoring public health or sending a quick email asking for any issues was an idea.

9.0 Roundtable

Duty Counsel (S. Morris)

- Duty counsel is still working remotely from home and doing intake by Zoom or telephone. Clients are still being taken on.
- Contacts: Criminal Duty Counsel Ottawa: For immediate (day of court) service: (613) 238-7931 x 7009, For general advice: (613) 238-79313 x 7001.
- Link to Ontario Court of Justice notice re: Case Management Appearances: <https://www.ontariocourts.ca/ocj/covid-19/notice-criminal-november182020>
- Clients must now present virtually for court appearances or there could potentially be bench warrants issued, matter will no longer be automatically adjourned.
- There have been issues with connecting with clients virtually at OCDC.

ABI (S. McKenna)

- Services are still being offered virtually except in Cornwall where they are able to meet in person. Groups are being recorded for clients who cannot attend in person. Outreach and day programs are not running. There is now a central resource in Canada at <https://braininjurycanada.ca/>.

John Howard (J. Goatcher)

- Essential and residential services are happening in person. A lot of resources are going into PPE. Non-residential services are a hybrid service. There is one staff member in the office at all times for those who have to be seen in person. It is much the same as it was a couple of months ago.

LHIN (K. Barkley)

- Funding will be provided for Mental Health and Addictions and Mental Health and Justice interventions. The first element is expanding mobile crisis service capacity. A model was started in Renfrew and will be expanded across the LHIN. Funding is \$747,000. There will be an extension of safe beds. This also started in Renfrew and will be expanded across the LHIN. Addictions specialists positions are being expanded. Supportive housing is being expanded – rent supplements paired with case managers for

justice involved individuals. These will be on hold specifically for justice involved individuals and that includes CMHA Ottawa and CMHA East. The Forensic Transition Rehabilitation Program will be maintained through The Royal and Salus and will be matched with what the current costs are.

Ottawa Police (H. Watson)

- Community consultations are expected to happen in January to find out what needs are.

Rideauwood (C. MacPhee)

- Some clients graduated from drug treatment court and early intervention drug treatment court this fall. More will be graduating in December.
- There were four new admissions in the last month.

Youturn (M. Moher)

- Some in person consultation returned in July with the warmer weather where it could take place outside. Now with the cooler weather there is an assessment form the client must fill out for triage purposes.
- Mental health has suffered during COVID and a number of clients are in CHEO.
- Referrals through probation are less.
- The anti-human trafficking program won the crime prevention program of the year.

Probation & Parole (V. Quesnel)

- Probation increased to a 50% model in July and then went back to a 40% model when the area went into a red zone. Officers are in the office 4 days out of 10. The policy was changed so that certain offenders didn't have to report as frequently. MSW contracts started in the Renfrew office. Some programs have started by phone. A video reporting pilot project is starting in December.

CMHA (L. St. Pierre)

- Trying to see as many clients in the community as possible. The colder weather will pose a challenge. CMHA is working with probation for common clients and reporting commitments.
- Some renovation is taking place at the new building to safely see clients.

The Royal Ottawa (J. Garrow)

- The hospital is trying to keep COVID-free. The hospital is working hard to discharge patients safely into the community. Overnight passes for patients are not allowed at this time. Most work is done virtually, as is with the detention centre. Assessments are being done by OTN if possible rather than having them brought into the hospital.
- The hospital has opened an on site COVID testing centre for staff.

10.0 Next Meeting: January 26, 2021, 12:00 p.m., via Zoom