



**Meeting Minutes**  
**September 15, 2022**  
**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Present:** Susan Davis (Co-chair), Gerstein Crisis Centre; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Debbie Lynch, CTYS; Flora Matheson, Centre for Urban Health Solutions; Natasha Bartlett, Fred Victor; Ahmanhkyah Malcom-Witter, City of Toronto; Elizabeth Pereira, Legal Aid Ontario, Old City Hall; Valerie Danieli; P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Committee and PWLE Committee; Catherine Wiseman-Hakes, Toronto Rehab Institute: McMaster University; Elaine Amsterdam, Gerstein Crisis Centre; Brittany Hunter, CTYS; Charlene Crews, Toronto Housing; Kristina Dobosz, Community Network of Specialized Care Toronto Region; Lin Sallay, Cota; Tricia Dunbar, CHIRS; Julia Cocomile (CTYS student); Dana O’Flynn (Fred Victor student); Jennifer Altosaar, Community Network of Specialized Care, Surrey Place; Mary Burton, CHIRS; Tina Bells, Salvation Army; Saige McMahon, 2-Spirited People of the 1<sup>st</sup> Nations; Shane Rolland, TPS 14 Division; Carol O’Neil, FCRP/CoSa Program; Shaire Thompson-Rudder, SOLGEN; Erica Lalonde, Springboard; Farzana Griffith, Bail Program; Barbara Domenech, Cota; Natasha Bronfman, CMHA

**Regrets:** Michele Landis, E Fry Toronto; Tracy Clark, V/WAP at College Park; Courtney Miller, Operation Springboard; Chris Persaud, Habitat Services; Nick Harrilall, Sound Times; Robin Cuff, CAMH Drug Treatment Court; Janet Rowen, PASAN

**Land Acknowledgement**

Elaine noted the Land Acknowledgement recognizing the history of the Indigenous People and their contribution to the land we stand on. It was suggested we share the Land Acknowledgement among the members. Please email Susan or Domenica if you are interested prior to the next meeting.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves. The committee’s intentional evaluation at the end of the meeting was noted. Charlene Crew stated that she has a new role at Waypoint Patient Advocate as well as at Toronto Community Housing. The following people were welcomed: Kristina Dobosz new member replacing Scott Skinner. Erica Lalonde, Springboard and Farzana Griffith, Bail Program, Mental Health Coordinator at Old City Hall. Flora stated that she is working with a program of research focused on developing solutions with the community to support people who experience incarceration with a specific focus on traumatic brain injury. Catherine Wiseman-Hakes mentioned that she is involved with the Compassionate Justice Fund.

## **Review of May 5, 2022 Minutes**

The minutes of May 5, 2022 were approved.

### **Review Action Items:**

#### **Action items were reviewed and completed.**

Susan reported on the vacant Co-chair position due to Katie Almond retiring. She noted that the Co-chair position reflects the HSJCC operation values from the mental health sector and the other from the justice sector. As well the position aligns with the committee's current intentional equity values. Jennifer Altosaar may have someone and will get back to the committee after she has spoken to the candidate. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone email Susan or Domenica.

### **Presentation: Saige McMahon, Director of Indigenous Led Crisis Response Pilot at 2-Spirited People of the 1<sup>st</sup> Nations**

- PowerPoint slides will be circulated.
- This pilot name is Kamaamwizme wii means "Coming together to (heal or look after or to take care of) each other"
- Background on the project was provided; community consultation, serving 2-Spirited People of the 1<sup>st</sup> Nations, its community lead
- Delivery Model- Use 7 Grandfather Teaching, Harm Reduction to reduce forms of colonization, crisis response, client centered, 24/7 operation.
- Serving 14 Division, holistic approach, diversifying programs to reflect the community needs, work with youth and families. Provides access to cultural ceremonies, inter-generational trauma approach
- Partnership with Parkdale/Queen West Community Health Centre
- Many staff have lived experience and identify as 2-spirited
- Priority population served are: Indigenous, Black, BIPOC, LGBT, Homeless, individual with substance abuse challenges, and individuals who experience police violence.
- Launching a warm referral in the next couple of weeks.
- Still developing and always open to suggestions.

### **Themes discussed**

How to access your service? One can call 911 or 211

The Gerstein Crisis Centre lead Crisis Responses Project is serving 51 Division.

Housing and shelter barriers were acknowledged as the main barriers for clients, as well as the limited crisis beds availability as they are usually full. It was noted that it would be beneficial to have an Indigenous crisis line.

The importance of transitional support with the DS community was noted. Saige said that they are engaging with Lumenus Community Services.

Saige was thanked for her interactive and informative presentation and was welcomed to join table.

### **Lunch N' Learns Updates**

- Domenica reported on the upcoming NY-HSJCC session on September 29, on the Gladue: What it is and Why it Matters. Lunch N' Learn sessions are virtual. HSJCC members and colleagues are welcomed to attend any sessions. It is not limited to the Local membership. Registration information has been circulated.
- S-HSJCC Lunch and Learn will take place on October 19, on Community Reintegration: A Pathway from Custody to the Community – A Model of Collaborative Care Through Pro-Active Discharge Planning.
- The Sentencing and Parole Project (SPP) session took place on May 19<sup>th</sup>. SPP is a non-profit organization that prepares enhanced pre-sentence reports (EPSRs) for Black people marginalized by poverty and racial inequality. The reports give judges and parole boards the information they need to make informed sentencing and release decisions. They include recommendations for culturally appropriate programs to assist with rehabilitation. The SPP also trains justice system participants about racism in the justice system. 328 people registered and 196 people attended. The recording was circulated to the HSJCC members.

### **Annual Members Evaluation Summary (May 2022)**

Susan reviewed the annual evaluation. It was circulated prior to the meeting. This year there was less than the average number of members who completed the evaluation. Discussion ensued whether we should have the evaluation in April because May may be a busy month. Members agreed to do it in April next year. Discussion ensued about improving the meeting - whether we can use ZOOM- - it is a preferred platform.

Should we continue with the 8:30 am meeting start time? The rationale for this time is that it gives the justice sector an opportunity to attend meetings prior to court starting. If you have suggestions about changing the meeting time, email Domenica.

### **Agency/Organization Updates**

-Valerie reported on the Provincial HSJCC Anti-Racism Committee. The committee is divided into three working groups. First, there will be communication sent regarding the focus groups with Indigenous, Black and racialized populations. Looking for community connectors who will help to facilitate the conversation. Criteria person to identify as Indigenous, Black and Racialized and with lived experience. Second, focus group for HSJCC committee members to address how can the HSJCC assist with Anti-Racism work.

-Natasha noted that Joyceline Sobers is the new Fred Victor court manager.

-Kristina stated that she is working on creating for people in the justice system with a developmental disability a group for self-regulation/anger management. Hope to pilot it in the new year. More information to follow.

### **Service Resolution/Coordination Issues:**

None identified

**Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC:**

Susan reported that the Toronto Regional committee has established an Anti-Racism Ad Hoc committee. Its membership includes all local HSJCC Co-chairs. The main goal is to develop an Anti-Racism educational series for the HSJCC target population. The main focus is education, increase awareness, identify issues and collaboration. The Ad Hoc Group Terms of Reference were circulated. The DT-HSHCC will lead a panel session on people with lived experience to talk about their experience from an Anti-Racism perspective.

Next T-HSJCC meeting is taking place on October 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Discussion regarding intentional values** – It was acknowledged to remind ourselves to try to make things better by staying intentional with our values. As well that there is anti-racism work being done.

**Action Items:**

- Domenica will report on the Lunch N’ Learn sessions at the next meeting
- Domenica will circulate the PowerPoint presentation slide deck.
- Members were encouraged to contact Susan or Domenica if they have suggestions or interest in the Co-chair position.
- Suggestion for meeting time contact Domenica

**Presenter for next meeting:** Suggestion for presentation contact Domenica or Susan.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, November 3, 2022 (virtually) from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.