



COMMUNITY JUSTICE:

TRANSFORMING PRACTICES IN A NEW WORLD

2021 Virtual Conference

NOV. 16 - 17



Welcome

to the HSJCC 2021 Virtual Conference

DEAR ATTENDEE,

Welcome to the Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee 2021 Virtual Conference, *Community Justice: Transforming Practices in a New World*.

This year, our conference explores our emergence from a global crisis into a new landscape of service provision in the human services and justice sectors. With the COVID-19 pandemic, service providers have found themselves facing new and complex challenges that have forced communities to come together to adapt and develop new ways to meet the needs of their clients. We're thrilled to have you join us in this exploration of innovation, collaboration, and resilience across Ontario.

We are excited to be welcoming two amazing keynote speakers, Tanya Talaga and Elyn Saks, who will share their insights with us during the conference. We also look forward to a keynote panel on Anti-Indigenous Racism and a panel discussion with Assistant Deputy Ministers from our partner ministries.

We would like to express our thanks to our many conference session presenters, as well as the many individuals who have contributed to the organization of this conference. Conference planning was supported by our Conference Planning Committee, chaired by Trevor Tymchuk and Jason McIlveen and the HSJCC Secretariat staff.

This will be our first ever virtual conference, and we would like to thank all our attendees for joining us from across Ontario. We hope you'll enjoy the exciting program we have lined up.

Sincerely,

KATIE ALMOND & SARA DIAS

Provincial HSJCC Co-Chairs

About the HSJCC Network

The Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee (HSJCC) Network was first established to better coordinate resources and services, and plan more effectively for people with unique needs who are in conflict with the law. The HSJCC Network is a cooperative effort of the Ministries of the Attorney General, Children, Community and Social Services, Health, and the Solicitor General.

The HSJCC Network is made up of 39 Local Committees, 14 Regional Committees and the Provincial HSJCC. Each committee is a voluntary collaboration between social service organizations, community mental health and addictions organizations and partners from the justice sector.

The *Provincial HSJCC* functions as a planning body, supporting the efforts of the Local and Regional HSJCCs. This committee identifies and addresses provincial service and policy issues, identifies solutions to systemic problems, makes recommendations to the Ontario ministries and other bodies, promotes consistency of approach and shares information across Ontario. The Provincial HSJCC and broader network is supported by the *HSJCC Secretariat*, a small staff housed at the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division.

To learn more about the HSJCC Network and individual committees, visit www.hsjcc.on.ca.

Masters of Ceremonies

to the HSJCC 2021 Virtual Conference



JASON MCILVEEN

Staff Sergeant Community Engagement and Well Being, York Regional Police

Jason McIlveen is the Staff Sergeant Community Engagement and Well Being for York Regional Police. He began his career with York Regional Police 25 years ago. In that time, he has spent time in several different units including front line patrol, criminal investigation bureau, community oriented response unit, road safety bureau and community services. For the last 5 years, he has been the officer in charge of the community engagement and well being unit which oversees the mental health resources unit. This unit includes mobile crisis response teams (police officers trained in mental health support working alongside crisis workers primarily dealing with persons in crisis) social workers and a seniors' safety team. Jason is also co chair of the York Region/South Simcoe HSJCC committee and chairs the Mental Health Community of Practice for Law Enforcement Committee (MCOP). Prior to policing, he worked as a legislative assistant at both Queens Park and in Ottawa. He holds a B.A. and Masters Degree in Political Science. He is an avid runner and spinner in his spare time.



TREVOR TYMCHUK

Chair, Niagara Local HSJCC

Trevor Tymchuk is a person with lived experience of the mental health and justice systems. He first became involved with the HSJCC in 2000 while living in the Northeast Region. He currently serves as Chair of the Niagara Local HSJCC. Actively involved with the Provincial HSJCC, Trevor chairs the Communications & Knowledge Exchange Committee, and co-chairs the Conference Planning and Persons with Lived Experience Advisory Committees. He also provides advice to the Cannabis and Drug Treatment Court Research Project. Trevor maintains a library of research resources at humanservicesandjustice.ca.

Special Guests

November 16 | 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

DAY ONE



HONOURABLE CHRISTINE ELLIOTT

Deputy Premier and Minister of Health

As a mother, lawyer, businesswoman, and entrepreneur, Christine Elliott knows how to bring people together. She knows the importance of balancing a family budget and how to manage a successful business.

Christine graduated from the University of Western Ontario with a Bachelor of Laws degree. She then built a successful career in business and law, working first as an auditor at one of Canada's largest banks. Christine later co-founded a law firm with her late husband Jim Flaherty, where she specialized in real estate, corporate law, and estate law. Christine has worked tirelessly to help businesses across the province expand and thrive.

Christine also used her business and legal expertise to pursue her commitment to public service. Her pro bono legal work for charitable organizations gained her the recognition as a Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow, the highest award with Rotary. As well, Christine is a co-founder of the Abilities Centre in Whitby, a facility built with the vision of celebrating all people, regardless of ability. The centre has become a hub of its community, hosting various Parapan Am Games events in 2015.

In 2006, Christine was elected MPP. She has won five elections, and for nine years has served the people of Ontario at Queen's Park, including six years as Deputy Leader of the PC Party.

In 2016, Christine became Ontario's Patient Ombudsman, where she fought for better access to health care for all. She currently serves as the Deputy Premier of Ontario, Minister of Health, and is the MPP for Newmarket-Aurora.



HONOURABLE MICHAEL TIBOLLO

Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions

Prior to taking office, Minister Tibollo volunteered as a certified addictions counsellor and advocated for a bed-based therapeutic community in the City of Vaughan, seeking to support those struggling with mental health and addictions challenges.

Passionate about helping those faced with mental health and addictions challenges, Minister Tibollo is currently pursuing his PhD in Clinical Psychology with a focus on Addictions and Concurrent Disorders through the University of Southern California.

Minister Tibollo proudly serves the people of Ontario as the province's very first Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, and is looking forward to creating a connected system of care with comprehensive wrap-around services, so that every Ontarian can be fully supported in their journey towards mental wellness.

Special Guest

November 17 | 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.

DAY TWO



HONOURABLE SYLVIA JONES

Solicitor General of Ontario

Sylvia Jones has served as the Member of Provincial Parliament for Dufferin-Caledon since 2007. Currently, she serves as Solicitor General where her top focus is the safety and security of all Ontarians. In this role, Sylvia has championed numerous public safety initiatives, including:

- The development of a provincially run animal welfare system with the toughest penalties in Canada for offenders.
- New legislation governing Ontario's police services to improve public safety, treat police fairly, and enhance oversight.
- Leading the country with a \$307 million anti-human trafficking strategy and accompanying legislation.
- A landmark investment of \$500 million into Ontario's correctional system to hire over 500 additional staff and overhaul outdated infrastructure.

Prior to forming government, Sylvia served as the Deputy Leader of the Official Opposition from September 2015 to May 2018, and held many critic responsibilities.

Sylvia has lived in Orangeville for over 30 years with her husband David. They are proud parents of two children.

Special Events

November 16 + 17 | 9:00 - 9:30 a.m.



ERNEST W. MATTON

(Athehsa Niohkwa:rita:a) (Elder Little Brown Bear)

Ernest W. Matton is a highly respected Métis Elder, and spiritual ambassador who blends Traditional teachings with mainstream information to provide holistic healing approaches for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community members and professional disciplines. He is both a sought-after seminar speaker and effective group facilitator an expert in the areas of Trauma/Addictions/Mental Wellbeing (Health), grief, suicide, conflict resolution, forgiveness, mediation, anger release, and Building Healthy Relationships.

He shares this expertise as a proud member of the Toronto East Health Network family. There, he is the, Director of Aboriginal Education, Programs, Culture and the Founder/Elder of the Accredited Leading Practice Aboriginal Healing Program a program he has spent the past nine years developing at Michael Garron Hospital Toronto East Health Network and Co Director and Co-Producer of Healing the Nation documentary and Conductor of the Bear's Den All Nations Traditional Medicine Sweat Lodge. He is a graduate of Canadore College and Brock University.



EVONNE SULLIVAN

Yoga Instructor

Evonne Sullivan is a trauma-informed Yoga Teacher, Meditation Teacher and Speaker specializing in mental health and addiction recovery. She is partnered with CAMH Foundation, teaching yoga, meditation and mindfulness for patients in treatment at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Through EvonneSullivan.com and her Yoga for Wellness and Recovery program, she works with various organizations and special events. As a person in long-term recovery, Evonne speaks openly about how mind-body practices have been fundamental in her ability to manage challenges with anxiety and depression.



MIKE DUNN

Meditation

Michael Dunn has worked in the field of mental health for over 15 years and has served in a variety of positions ranging from street outreach to senior leadership. He is passionate about quality improvement, ethics in mental health care and working together with service recipients. Michael is also an avid meditator and has taught classes at the Jampa Ling Kadampa Buddhist Centre.



Day one

| Tuesday,
November 16

Agenda

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

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8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.	BREAKFAST NETWORKING SESSIONS	
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	BNS2 Bolstering Resiliency: Discuss methods and approaches to enhance resiliency on an individual level and within our communities	
	BNS3 Anti-Racism within the Human Service and Justice Sectors: Discuss approaches to anti-racism within the human services and justice sectors	
	BNS4 Post-Pandemic Approaches for Service Providers: Discuss the impacts of the pandemic and approaches moving forward for service providers	
9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.	OPENING CEREMONIES	
	Welcome Address	3
	Trevor Tymchuk, Master of ceremonies Jason McIlveen, Master of ceremonies	
	Special Ceremony	6
	Métis Elder Little Brown Bear	
	Opening Remarks	
	Katie Almond and Sara Dias, Provincial HSJCC Co-Chairs	
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	Honourable Christine Elliott, Minister of Health Honourable Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions	
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	KEYNOTE SPEAKER	11
	Tanya Talaga President and CEO of Makwa Creative Inc.	
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	HEALTH BREAK AND POSTER VIEWING	

Agenda

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

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	A2 Ontario's Justice Centre Pilots: Uniquely Tailored to Specialized Needs and Community Justice Centres: An Innovative Community-Driven Justice Model for the Future	26-27
	A3 Enhancing Engagement of Persons with Lived Experience Across the HSJCC Network	28
	A4 Crisis Call Diversion in Police Communication Centres	29-30
	A5 Survivors of Homicide Victims and Mental Health Project	31
	A6 Power Dynamics between Indigenous Organizations and the Justice System	32
	A7 Skills and Supports for Better Futures: DBT for High-Risk Youth	33
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH, MEDITATION, YOGA AND NETWORKING	
1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	KEYNOTE PANEL Dismantling Anti-Indigenous Racism within the Healthcare and Criminal Justice Systems	12-14
2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	HEALTH BREAK / VISIT SPONSOR AND EXHIBITOR BOOTHS	

Agenda

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

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	B2 Harm Reduction in Congregate Settings: Opening Doors for Vulnerable Populations	36
	B3 A Virtual Forensic Family Education and Support Group: Examining the Impact	37
	B4 Safe Beds: Caring in the Short-Term for People in Crisis	38-39
	B5 Bridging the Gap: Programs that Intersect Forensic Mental Health and Corrections	40
	B6 Social Work and Peer Support Practices within the Justice System	41
4:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.	FIRST DAY CLOSING SPECIAL CEREMONY Métis Elder Little Brown Bear	6

Keynote Speaker

November 16 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

DAY ONE



TANYA TALAGA

Tanya Talaga is an Anishinaabe journalist and speaker. Talaga's mother's family is from Fort William First Nation and her father was Polish-Canadian. Her first book, *Seven Fallen Feathers*, is a national bestseller, winning the RBC Taylor Prize, the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing, and the First Nation Communities Read Award: Young Adult/Adult. Her second book, *All Our Relations: Finding The Path Forward*, is also a national bestseller and finalist for the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Nonfiction Prize. Talaga heads up Makwa Creative Inc., a production company focused on amplifying Indigenous voices through documentary films, TV and podcasts.

Keynote Panel

November 16 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

DAY ONE

Dismantling Anti-Indigenous Racism within the Healthcare and Criminal Justice Systems

It has been long recognized that Indigenous populations are overrepresented in the healthcare and criminal justice systems, both as survivors and as accused/convicted individuals. Several inquiries, commissions, task forces and research studies have made direct links between the historical and ongoing colonial laws, policies, systems, and the overrepresentation of Indigenous persons in the Canadian criminal justice system.

This panel discussion will focus on how service providers and policy makers can work together to dismantle anti-Indigenous racism within the human services and justice sectors. Specifically, the panelists will examine how the HSJCC Network can bring action to the justice specific recommendations within the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action. The discussion aims to facilitate cooperation between sectors, improving police, court, corrections and healthcare relations with our Indigenous populations and eliminate harms or fatalities in the future. Each panelist will share the critical issues, options and recommendations from both their professional and personal vantage points across Ontario.

MODERATOR:

Katie Almond

Probation and Parole Officer, Provincial HSJCC Co-Chair



Katie Almond has been working in the criminal justice system for 36 years, 32 of which have been as a Probation and Parole Officer with the Ministry of the Solicitor General. For 19 years, she has worked with a client population that is marked by poverty, homelessness, mental illness, physical and developmental disabilities, and polysubstance use.

Ms. Almond has been involved in the development of extensive community networks and collaborative initiatives. She is the Co-Chair of both the Downtown Toronto, and Provincial Human Services and Justice Co-ordinating Committees. In addition, she is a member of member of the Board of Sound Times Support Services; CMHA Toronto; the Community Justice Court Initiative Committee (with MAG); the CAMH Constituency Council; and a number of research projects examining the impact of COVID-19 on correctional clients.

Ms. Almond possesses a Bachelor's degree in psychology (Honours) and a Master's Degree in Education. Ms. Almond is a person with lived mental health experience, who is committed to effecting positive change for her clients, and colleagues.

Keynote Panel

November 16 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

PANELISTS:

Marian Jacko

Interim Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Indigenous Justice Division, Ministry of the Attorney General



Marian Jacko is Ojibway and identifies as Anishinaabe from Wiikwemkoong First Nation. Marian has spent her legal career working on behalf of children and Indigenous peoples. She raised her eldest child as a single parent while earning three university degrees, including a master's degree in social work and a law degree from the University of Toronto. After being called to the Ontario Bar in 1998, she worked with the Office of the Children's Lawyer as counsel in the Property Rights department until 2015, when she joined the Indigenous Justice Division of the Ministry of the Attorney General. She obtained her Master of Laws degree in 2005 from York University.

In 2016, Marian was appointed by Order-in-Council as the Children's Lawyer for Ontario – the first Indigenous female lawyer to serve in this capacity. The mandate of the Children's lawyer is to protect the personal and property rights of children in a range of civil proceedings as provided by statute.

Marian strongly believes in community service, serving on many non-profit organizations' boards and advisory committees. She is President of the board for Anishnawbe Health of Toronto and President of the Little Native Hockey League (Little NHL). She is also part of an Advisory Council for the Indigenous Hockey Research Network and is a committee member of the Sports4Ontario Membership Relations Committee.

Candice S. Metallic

Principal, Metallic Law, Barristers and Solicitors



Candice S. Metallic Called to the Bar in British Columbia in 1997 and Ontario in 2006, Candice Metallic has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the advancement of Indigenous rights. She was involved in the Supreme Court of Canada case, *Delgamuukw v. British Columbia*, which continues to be leading constitutional law. In Ontario, she served as legal counsel for the former Indian Claims Commission and was called upon to assist in drafting legislation to resolve specific claims of First Nations - the Specific Claims Tribunal Act. In 2011, she served as legal counsel to the Honourable Frank Iacobucci for a review of First Nations peoples on Juries in Ontario, and in 2017 she served as legal counsel to Senator Murray Sinclair in an Investigation into the Thunder Bay Police Services Board regarding allegations of systemic racism. In 2018, she was appointed the Indigenous Peoples Counsel, which is the Indigenous Bar Association in Canada's highest honor. In 2021, Ms. Metallic was awarded with a medal from the Law Society of Ontario which recognized her leadership and ground-breaking work in advancing Indigenous rights in Canada.

Keynote Panel

November 16 | 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Darryl Styres

Supervisor, Six Nations Grand River Correctional Services



Darryl Styres is a member of the Mohawk Nation, Turtle clan, born and raised on Six Nations of the Grand River Territory. For the past twelve years, Darryl has been Supervisor of Six Nations Grand River Correctional Services, a community agency that provides community supervision services for adult and young offenders. Darryl holds a BA in Religious Studies with a double Minor in English and Journalism.

Melanie Tibishkogijig

Mental Health & Consulting Services



Melanie Tibishkogijig is of Anishnawbe and Haudenosaunee, Ongwehonwe ancestry. Melanie is Mohawk and a member of the Mud Turtle Clan through her mother, Onondaga on her biological father's side and Anishnawbe through her Dad's side. Melanie is the eldest of eight, a mother of four and very proud grandmother of five with another on the way. Melanie grew up and still has roots in Gull Bay FN and Six Nations. She is married to an Anishnawbe-Nene from Whitesand First Nation, where they lived for many years. Melanie has lived most of her life on reserve. She initially came to live off-reserve mainly for educational and employment purposes.

Melanie has been in the mental health field for over 27 years. She is a graduate of Confederation College and Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario. She is proud to have graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University with a Master of Social Work (MSW) Degree. Melanie is the sole proprietor of her own social work private practice. As an O'shkaabewis Kwe (Woman Helper), she has years of experience working with individuals, groups and communities. Melanie provides a variety of mental health and consulting services applying both western and indigenous wholistic approaches. In her practice, she utilizes cultural and traditional healing practices which include traditional teachings, Elders, ceremonies and medicines. She is honored to have been guided into this helping field.



Day two

Wednesday,
November 17

Agenda

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

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8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	VISIT OUR EXHIBITOR AND SPONSOR BOOTHS / POSTERS	
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	Trevor Tymchuk, Master of ceremonies Jason McIlveen, Master of ceremonies	
	Special Ceremony	6
	Métis Elder Little Brown Bear	
	Special Guest Speaker	5
	Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General	
9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	KEYNOTE PANEL	19-22
	A Discussion with Ontario's Health & Justice Assistant Deputy Ministers	
10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	HEALTH BREAK AND POSTER VIEWING	
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS: C1 - C6	
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	C2 Supporting Mental Health within the Criminal Justice System	44-45
	C3 CANCELLED	45
	C4 Innovative Correctional Mental Health Initiatives for the Family Unit	46
	C5 Peer Support: Humanizing People & Services Along the Wellness Journey	47-48
	C6 Enhancing Addictions and Mental Health Care in Corrections	49
12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	LUNCH, MEDITATION, YOGA AND NETWORKING	

Agenda

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

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	LNS2 Bolstering Resiliency: Discuss methods and approaches to enhance resiliency on an individual level and within our communities	
	LNS3 Anti-Racism within the Human Service and Justice Sectors: Discuss approaches to anti-racism within the human services and justice sectors	
	LNS4 Post-Pandemic Approaches for Clients: Discuss the impacts of the pandemic and approaches moving forward for clients	
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	KEYNOTE SPEAKER Elyn Saks Professor of Law, Psychology, and Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law	18
2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	HEALTH BREAK / VISIT SPONSOR AND EXHIBITOR BOOTHS	
2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CONCURRENT SESSIONS: D1 - D5	
	D1 Decision-making about Youth Bail and Detention Admissions: The influence of Geographic Location and Race	51
	D2 Expanding our Definition of Resilience	52
	D3 Community Withdrawal Management: Health Care Working in Partnership with Timmins Police Service	53
	D4 Forensic Mental Health in Ontario – A System Overview	54
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3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	CLOSING CEREMONIES Métis Elder Little Brown Bear, Katie Almond and Sara Dias	

Keynote Speaker

November 17 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

DAY TWO



ELYN R. SAKS

Elyn R. Saks is Orrin B. Evans Distinguished Professor of Law, Psychology, and Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law; Founder and Faculty Director of the Saks Institute for Mental Health Law, Policy, and Ethics; Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine; and Faculty at the New Center for Psychoanalysis. Professor Saks received her J.D. from Yale Law School, and a Ph.D. in Psychoanalytic Science from the New Center for Psychoanalysis. She was also awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree (LL.D., Hon.) from Pepperdine University and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D., Hon.) from William James College.

Saks writes extensively in the area of law and mental health, having published five books and more than 50 articles and book chapters. Her memoir, *The Center Cannot Hold: My Journey Through Madness*, describes her struggles with schizophrenia and her managing to craft a good life for herself in the face of a dire prognosis. She has won numerous honors, including a 2009 John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship (the so-called “Genius Grant”).

WHEN THE RUBBER HITS THE ROAD: LIVED EXPERIENCE, POLICY, AND PREJUDICE ON THE STREETS

Professor Saks will describe how her lived experience intersects with her teaching, consulting, and publishing. Professor Saks will illustrate how she has experienced stigma in her own academic community and on the streets of LA, where she recently had a distressing and disheartening encounter with the police. She will offer some policy proposals that may be helpful to a range of stakeholders.

Keynote Panel

November 17 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

DAY TWO

A Discussion with Ontario's Health & Justice Assistant Deputy Ministers

The HSJCC Network was established to facilitate better coordination of resources and services, and plan more effectively for people with complex human service needs who come into contact with the criminal justice system. This important intersectoral work is made possible by the ongoing collaborative efforts of the Network's four partner ministries. This panel brings together Assistant Deputy Ministers from the Ministries of Health, the Solicitor General, the Attorney General and Children, Community and Social Services to share important updates on their work in support of the Network's priority populations, including Black, Indigenous and racialized communities, and Ontarians living with mental health issues, substance use concerns and/or behavioural dependencies, or neurodevelopmental and neurocognitive disabilities. Join us for this important conversation which will touch on topics of interest across all levels of the HSJCC Network.

MODERATOR:

Sara Dias

Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Mental Health Association Kenora Branch and Provincial HSJCC Co-Chair



Sara Dias is the CEO of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Kenora Branch. Sara has completed a Bachelor of Arts with a Major in Criminology and a Minor in Native Studies, as well as a Bachelor of Social Work and a Master of Social work all from the University of Manitoba. Sara has also completed a Diploma in Health Care Management through the Ontario Hospital Association and became the Executive Director of the Canadian Mental Health Association, Kenora Branch in 2014.

Sara was instrumental in initiating the Mental Health Court in Kenora. In addition, her thesis research was focused on examining the Mental Health Court in Kenora and whether or not the court reduced individuals contact with the criminal justice system and with hospital emergency rooms.

Sara is the Co-Chair of the Kenora Rainy River District HSJCC, the Northwest Regional Centre of Responsibility and the Provincial HSJCC. Sara was also appointed to the Kenora Police Services Board in 2018 and in 2019 has been appointed as the chair for this Board.

Sara participates within the Ontario Health Team through the All Nations Health Partners and leads as the Co-Chair of the Mental Health & Addictions Working Group for this OHT.

Keynote Panel

November 17 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

PANELISTS:



Melanie K. Kohn, MBA, PhD

*Assistant Deputy Minister,
Mental Health and Addictions (MOH)*

Melanie Kohn has worked in the Ontario public healthcare sector for almost 20 years. In July 2020, Melanie was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister, Mental Health and Addictions, overseeing the funding and operations of the sector and the realization of the Roadmap to Wellness, and to support standing up the Mental Health and Addictions Centre of Excellence at Ontario Health.

In 2016, Melanie joined the Ministry of Health as the inaugural Director of the Hospitals Branch. She was responsible for overseeing the operations, finances, and administration of the Public and Private Hospital Acts providing legislative and regulatory oversight for the province's 145 hospitals.

Prior to joining the Ontario Public Service, she spent the majority of her career in acute hospitals, most notably at St. Michael's Hospital for over 12 years, in senior operational and strategic roles, including strategy and corporate planning, project management and research administration.

Melanie holds an MBA, with a specialization in Health Services Management, from McMaster University, and a PhD in Health Policy, Management, and Evaluation from University of Toronto. She is Adjunct Lecturer at University of Toronto, at the Institute for Health Policy, Management and Evaluation in the Faculty of Medicine, and is a member of the Program Advisory Committee for the School of Health Services Management at Ryerson University.



Susan Kyle

*Assistant Deputy Attorney General,
Criminal Law Division (MAG)*

Susan Kyle is the Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Criminal Law Division, for the Ministry of the Attorney General in the Canadian province of Ontario. In this capacity Susan oversees a staff of over 1000 lawyers and 600 business professionals, in effect the largest criminal law firm in Canada. The division she leads is responsible for the prosecution of criminal offences throughout Ontario.

Susan entered her career in public service with the Ministry of the Attorney General in 1993 and has gained broad experience through a variety of leadership roles. Her legal career began as counsel in the Crown Law Office – Criminal, where she prosecuted cases, and prepared and argued appeals in the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court of Canada. She has held a number of leadership positions during her career.

Under Susan's leadership, the Criminal Law Division has implemented numerous innovations and improvements to prosecution processes, policies, and emerging legal and organizational issues

In addition to Susan's commitment to the successful delivery of prosecution services during a remarkable time of change and modernization, she makes it a priority to provide high-quality continuing legal education to the province's prosecutors, with an enhanced program for new Crowns, and maintains a priority focus on mental health and wellness across the Criminal Law Division.

Keynote Panel

November 17 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

PANELISTS:



David Mitchell

*Assistant Deputy Minister,
Youth Justice Division (MCCSS)*

Prior to joining the Ministry of Children and Youth Services in 2016 as Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of Youth Justice Services, David Mitchell was the Regional Director of Central Region Community Services in the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (MCCSS), where he was responsible for the administration and oversight of probation and parole services in the central region. He has over 31 years of progressive experience within OPS and has previously held management roles in probation and parole, in a number of correctional institutions, and founded the Ontario Correctional Intelligence Unit.

Throughout his career and as a volunteer, David has demonstrated leadership while working on youth and community issues. This includes playing a leading role in bringing together community stakeholders, with member associations representing the business, legal and policing sectors, to identify opportunities to prevent young people from engaging in gun violence and providing them with community programs and job training.



Todd Robertson

*Assistant Deputy Minister,
Correctional Services Division (SolGen)*

Todd Robertson has dedicated 30 years as a public servant to the people of Ontario, working for the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Todd has held several progressive leadership roles within the Community Services division. Todd is the current Assistant Deputy Minister, and previously held various operational roles in the Eastern region such as Regional Director, Deputy Regional Director, Area Manager, Probation Officer, Correctional Officer and Executive Assistant to the ADM of Adult Correctional Services. Todd brings a wealth operational leadership experience and reputation for working collaboratively and inclusively with staff, as well as many service delivery partners and stakeholders.

Keynote Panel

November 17 | 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

PANELISTS:



Richard Stubbings

Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Safety Division (SolGen)

Richard Stubbings is the Assistant Deputy Minister (ADM) of the Public Safety Division at the Ministry of the Solicitor General. ADM Stubbings provides strategic leadership on matters impacting public safety and the well-being of Ontario communities, including delivering grant programs, supporting First Nations policing, and promoting partnerships and providing provincial oversight for police services, animal welfare, private security and private investigation services. Much of ADM Stubbings' passion for work in the public safety sector comes from his experience as an executive and member of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) and Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) and as a police officer, having served as a member of the Toronto Police Service for over thirty-seven years.



Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7

November 16

11:00 - 12:00 p.m.



Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A1

COVID-19 and Re-entry: Spotlight on the Mental Health/Substance Use Landscape

Drawing from the voices of people released from custody during the pandemic and providers who adapted services to continue to provide support to them, the panel will highlight how the pandemic has disrupted the service delivery landscape of mental health and/or substance use for this population. The panel will also share their ideas on what could be done better during the pandemic and for future health crises. The panel will consist of community-based researchers, service providers and peer researchers.

PRESENTERS

Dr. Flora I. Matheson

St. Michael's Hospital and University of Toronto

Dr. Angela Mashford-Pringle

MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions and University of Toronto

Heather Mason

St. Michael's Hospital

Kelly Potvin

Elizabeth Fry Toronto

Nikoleta Curcin

WriteON

Katie Almond

Co-Chair, Provincial HSJCC

Dr. Flora Matheson leads the Justice and Equity Lab located at MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions, St. Michael's Hospital. Her research is focused on solutions to reduce social and health inequities among people experiencing problem gambling and imprisonment; solutions that are built with and for these communities. As a Sociologist she uses a gender lens and social determinants of health approach to enact change.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A1 (continued)

Dr. Angela Mashford-Pringle is an Assistant Professor and Associate Director for the Waakebiness-Bryce Institute for Indigenous Health, Dalla Lana School of Public Health at the University of Toronto. She is an urban Algonquin woman from Timiskaming First Nation but was raised and lives in Toronto. Her research is at the intersection of Indigenous health and education with a focus on culture and land-based learning. She has worked in Indigenous early childhood development through policy and curriculum development for many years. Dr. Mashford-Pringle is the Director for the Collaborative Specialization in Indigenous Health and the Master of Public Health Indigenous Health field. She is currently the only Canadian and first Indigenous board member for the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH) organization in the U.S. She is the Founding Editor of the Turtle Island Journal of Indigenous Health (TIJH). She has held leadership and administrative positions at Peel District School Board, St. Michael's Hospital's Well Living House, and Centennial College as the inaugural Aboriginal Programs Manager. Angela worked for more than 10 years at Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada managing a variety of Aboriginal social programs like Aboriginal Head Start Urban and Northern Communities.

Heather Mason is a formerly federally imprisoned woman who has been assisting criminalized women as a feminist advocate with the organization Strength in Sisterhood Society (SIS). Through SIS, she has worked on various systemic issues affecting women in prison, including segregation, strip-searching and conditions of confinement during the pandemic.

Kelly Potvin is the Executive Director of Elizabeth Fry Toronto. She is an experienced leader with over 25 years of experience in the non-profit sector, working primarily with at risk women and individuals with mental health and addiction issues. She is also the President of the Board for Thunder Woman Healing Lodge Society, an organization run by and for Indigenous women in conflict with the law. As a Two Spirited person, Kelly is committed to work that takes a gendered lens towards anti-racism and anti-oppression. She has been an advocate for equity and social justice throughout her career, both as a frontline worker and an executive director.

Nikoleta Curcin graduated from the University of Toronto in 2012 with an Honors Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature. She is a consumer survivor and a recent graduate of Toronto's Drug Treatment Court program. Upon becoming an alumni of the program in December of 2020, she started volunteering with WriteON, a prisoner rights organization that seeks to empower incarcerated individuals through information and knowledge sharing. Nikoleta is currently working as a consultant on a research project with the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario Division and a Peer Researcher with the Justice and Equity Lab at St. Michael's Hospital. She intends to pursue further academic studies and is currently working on a screenwriting project during her spare time.

Katie Almond has been working in the criminal justice system for 36 years, 32 of which have been as a Probation and Parole Officer with the Ministry of the Solicitor General. For 19 years, she has worked with a client population that is marked by poverty, homelessness, mental illness, physical and developmental disabilities, and polysubstance use. Katie has been involved in the development of extensive community networks and collaborative initiatives. She is the Co-Chair of both the Downtown Toronto, and Provincial Human Services and Justice Co-ordinating Committees. In addition, she is a member of member of the Board of Sound Times Support Services; CMHA Toronto; the Community Justice Court Initiative Committee (with MAG); the CAMH Constituency Council; and a number of research projects examining the impact of COVID-19 on correctional clients. Katie possesses a Bachelor's degree in psychology (Honours) and a Master's Degree in Education. She is a person with lived mental health experience, who is committed to effecting positive change for her clients, and colleagues.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A2

Ontario's Justice Centre Pilots: Uniquely Tailored to Specialized Needs and Community Justice Centres: An Innovative Community-Driven Justice Model for the Future

By creating tailored and innovative community justice models that meet individuals where they are at and respond to community needs, Ontario's Justice Centre Pilots offer a transformative approach to criminal justice. This presentation will be an in-depth discussion about Ontario's four justice centre pilots, how they have been uniquely developed by and for the communities they serve, and how they each support the needs of specialized populations within their community. The design of each pilot site has been guided by a participatory design process with local service providers, police, justice system participants, municipalities, and First Nations leadership and Indigenous organizations. The London pilot provides targeted supports for young adults aged 18-24 to help them avoid and exit the criminal justice system and reconnect with school and work. The Toronto Northwest pilot will focus on the needs of racialized youth aged 12-17 and aims to decrease high levels of community violence and its traumatic impact on young people and their families. In Downtown East, the pilot will serve adults with multiple risk factors, including insecure housing, mental illness, developmental disabilities, substance use disorders and/or concurrent disorders. In Kenora, the model will include parallel criminal and Indigenous restorative justice processes with the aim of increasing referrals to existing Indigenous restorative justice programs, reducing bail and remand populations and providing multi-sectoral, trauma-informed supports delivered by Indigenous organizations to youth and adults, including Indigenous women and girls who have experienced or witnessed trauma or violence.

PRESENTERS

Dayna Arron and Holly Loubert | *Provincial Justice Centre*

Miriam Henry, Kaffie Abdirashid and Kemi Jacobs | *Toronto Northwest Justice Centre*

Dayna Arron is the Executive Director of Justice Centres at the Criminal Law Division, Ministry of the Attorney General. She has spearheaded the Ministry's Justice Centres program since its inception in 2017 and has been the driving force behind innovating Ontario's criminal justice system by implementing a new court model premised on the co-location and integrated service delivery of justice, health and social services. She spent over a decade prosecuting as an assistant Crown Attorney; served as the Crown Lead in Inmate Partner Violence; and acted as counsel to the Assistant Deputy Attorney General at MAG. She will speak about the genesis of the Justice Centre initiatives as well as her long-term vision for how Ontario's Justice Centres will affect broader justice system transformation, including the participatory design process in support of the Kenora Justice Centre pilot.

Holly Loubert is counsel at Justice Centres. She has over a decade of appellate prosecutorial experience and has appeared at every level of court in Ontario and the Supreme Court of Canada, with regular appearances at the Court of Appeal for Ontario. She has significant experience working with collaborative court models, most recently acting as the Deputy Director of Inmate Appeals at the Crown Law Office – Criminal. Most recently, she has been working closely on the development of the Toronto Downtown East Justice Centre.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A2 (continued)

Miriam Henry is the Crown Lead at the Toronto Northwest Justice Centre. She is a leading Youth Criminal Justice Act expert with over 20 years of experience as an Assistant Crown Attorney with the Criminal Law Division at the Ministry of the Attorney General. She will speak first-hand about how the Justice Centre is changing the way justice services are delivered in the Toronto Northwest community.

Kaffie Abdirashid is currently counsel working with the Canadian Foundation for Children, Youth and the Law, a leading non-profit legal aid clinic that specializes in providing select legal representation to low-income children and youth who are in conflict with the legal, education, social service or mental health systems. She is currently acting as the Education Advocate at the Toronto Northwest Justice Centre to help youth reconnect with school in partnership with the Toronto District School Board and MEDU community-based programming including Black Graduates and Urban Priority High-Schools Program.

Kemi Jacobs is the Executive Director of the Delta Family Resource Centre, a grassroots, non-profit, community-based agency providing a wide range of targeted programs, services and activities to isolated and marginalized groups, including parents, children, youth, seniors and Black communities. She has over 20 years of community involvement, having been a leader in the public and non-government sectors – including serving as the President of the Canadian Council for Refugees, Executive Director of CultureLink Settlement Services, Chairperson of the National Anti-Racism Council of Canada, Director of Housing at Toronto Community Housing and Chair of the Board at CAFCAN. She will be speaking about the new culturally-relevant programming Delta Family and partners have created to help youth at the Toronto Northwest Justice Centre develop strong and positive racial identities.

MODERATOR

Scott McKean

City of Toronto

Scott McKean is currently developing Safe TO, the City of Toronto's Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan and supporting the development Ministry of Attorney General's Justice Centre programs in the City of Toronto. Scott works to enhance community safety and reduce vulnerability for people, families, and places in Toronto's neighbourhoods. While at the City of Toronto, Scott has led and supported the development and implementation of many strategies and initiatives such as the Community Crisis Response Program, FOCUS Toronto, SPIDER, Youth Violence Prevention and the Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy. Prior to joining the City of Toronto, Scott worked in the community sector where he developed a number of programs and services for young people as well as developed the support model for the Out of the Cold emergency program. Outside of community work, he plays drums and paints pictures.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A3

Enhancing Engagement of Persons with Lived Experience Across the HSJCC Network

Research has demonstrated that organizations derive clear benefits when they involve persons with lived experience (PWLE) in high-level planning and decision-making. Organizations incorporating PWLE are enabled to offer services that are more culturally-appropriate, efficient, focused and sustainable. Lived experience knowledge produces understandings of marginalization, discrimination and oppression, and provides shared insights into changes in social status or inclusion, relationships, loss and employment as a result of diagnosis or incarceration.

The Provincial HSJCC draws frequently upon the expertise and resources of PWLE in the human services and justice sectors in HSJCC work at the provincial, regional, and local levels. In 2019, the Provincial HSJCC struck an advisory committee to oversee the development of a resource that would support the improvement of meaningful engagement of PWLE across the HSJCC Network. This presentation will provide an overview of this resource, which was informed through surveys and consultation with the HSJCC Network.

PRESENTERS

Valerie Danieli

PWLE Advisory Committee

Trevor Tymchuk

PWLE Advisory Committee

Tasha Rennie

HSJCC Secretariat

Valerie Danieli completed a Masters in History specializing in racism and sexism in turn of the century Latin America as well as the use of media in propagating these systems. Her lived experience with the mental health system, along with growing up in a subsidized housing community, were invaluable to her role as a front-line representative for Toronto Community Housing. Valerie currently devotes her time to transitioning mothers out of the shelter system and into their new homes in Scarborough. She is a contributing member of the Downtown HSJCC, the Scarborough HSJCC, in addition to the Anti-Racism and Persons with Lived Experience Advisory Committees.

Trevor Tymchuk is a person with lived experience of the mental health and justice systems. He first became involved with the HSJCC in 2000 while living in the Northeast Region. He currently serves as Chair of the Niagara Local HSJCC. Actively involved with the Provincial HSJCC, Trevor chairs the Communications & Knowledge Exchange Committee, and co-chairs the Conference Planning and Persons with Lived Experience Advisory Committees. He also provides advice to the Cannabis and Drug Treatment Court Research Project. Trevor maintains a library of research resources at humanservicesandjustice.ca

Tasha Rennie is the Network Engagement and Communications Officer for the HSJCC Secretariat. In this role, Tasha has been the lead support for the work of the PWLE Advisory Committee since its inception. Tasha has a background in digital communications and international development.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A4

Crisis Call Diversion in Police Communication Centres

Presenters will share their collaborative experience building the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Crisis Call Diversion (CCD) program. CCD began as a pilot program that has not only continued, but expanded to other regions of the OPP. The program embeds mental health crisis workers within the OPP Provincial Communications Centres to offer an additional layer of support for callers experiencing a crisis. Similar to communication operators, crisis workers are set up with their own system within the Provincial Communications Centre. Calls come into police through various 911, non-emergent and administrative lines. Where it is identified that a caller is experiencing a situation of acute distress and cannot manage with their usual coping mechanisms, CCD services are offered to the caller and, when accepted, the communications operator is able to 'conference' in the crisis worker to carry on the service to support. This service provides opportunity to:

- Offer immediate de-escalation and support to those experiencing a mental health crisis
- Divert non-emergent police mental health-related calls for service, where alternative services may be more appropriate in low-acuity situations
- Decrease the volume of non-emergent mental health-related calls for service for the OPP
- Reduce the use police personnel for non-emergent responses when appropriate
- Help individuals experiencing mental health crises by offering better pathways to meet their needs

The processes of how the calls are addressed, related training, privacy and risk management considerations, data and evaluation, along with the partnership experience through this 24-7 service delivery initiative will be shared in the presentation.

PRESENTERS

Lori Hassall

Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Thames Valley Addiction and Mental Health Services

Lisa Longworth and Nicole Borkowski

Ontario Provincial Police

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A4 (continued)

Nicole Borkowski is an Acting Project Manager in the OPP's Communications and Technology Services Bureau. She started her career with the OPP in 1998 as a call taker and dispatcher in the Communications Centre, where she was actively involved in coaching new hires, developing and facilitating mandatory quarterly training, performing quality assurance and ultimately becoming a platoon team lead. In 2017, Nicole became a Policy Officer for Provincial Communications Operations, and for the last two years she has been an Acting Project Manager. Her projects have included the build of the new state of the art London Provincial Communications Centre, Criminal Justice Digital Design and the Crisis Call Diversion Program.

Lisa Longworth holds a diploma in Child and Youth Work from Mohawk College, a B.A. in Social Development Studies, a General Social Work Certificate and a Certificate in Social Work – Child Abuse from the University of Waterloo. Prior to joining the OPP in 2017, Lisa worked for 27 years in social services. She has worked across sectors including child and adult mental health and addictions, corrections, therapeutic recreation, education and healthcare. She was in the role of Senior Social Worker in a primary care clinic from 2011 to 2017 when she joined the OPP.

Lisa applies these experiences to support the delivery of the OPP Mental Health Strategy and related work, including support to mobile crisis response services, police-hospital transitions, and training initiatives. Lisa is a member of the Community Safety Services support team and provides subject matter expertise to the Healthy Workplace Team, Community Safety Services operations and initiatives teams, and the Opioid Working Group. Lisa is also the Project Manager for the Crisis Call Diversion Program.

Lori Hassall is the Director of Crisis and Short-Term Interventions at CMHA Elgin Middlesex. With over 20 years of mental health experience in hospital and community, Lori is passionate about collaborating to create innovative programs to support community needs. Police partners in the London/Elgin and Middlesex region can attest that Lori is an integral part of any critical partnership involving forward thinking initiatives involving mental health crisis programming in the area. She is always eager to support new and creative ideas, and she and her team have been a driving force behind the success of the Crisis Call Diversion program.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A5

Survivors of Homicide Victims and Mental Health Project

Family members and friends of victims of homicide violence face mental, physical and spiritual health challenges as they learn to survive without their loved one. Research has historically focused on perpetrators and victims of homicide violence and has neglected to examine the post-homicide experiences of surviving family members and friends. The scarcity of research further perpetuates disparities in mental health and leaves policy makers and practitioners with little data to develop culturally-responsive and evidenced-based interventions.

The Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (The CRIB), Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario Division and community partners collaborated to engage with Indigenous, African, Caribbean, Black and Racialized survivors of homicide victims and their service providers across the province. The presentation will share results from a multi-year project which includes three phases: 1) assessment; 2) research implementation and analysis; and 3) educational training and development of policy. This presentation will advance participants' understanding of the needs of this population, identify promising, culturally-responsive approaches to practice and highlight policy recommendations designed to support the needs of survivors of homicide victims.

PRESENTERS

Uppala Chandrasekera

Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Ontario

Tanya L. Sharpe

The Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (The CRIB)

Uppala Chandrasekera, MSW, RSW, is the director of public policy at CMHA Ontario, where she provides leadership in six program areas. Through her research, published writings and work in the community, Uppala examines the impact of the lived experience of discrimination and racism on the health, mental health and well-being of marginalized populations.

Dr. Tanya Sharpe is an associate professor at the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto and the founder of the Centre for Research & Innovation for Black Survivors of Homicide Victims (The CRIB). Her research examines coping strategies of Black survivors of homicide victims for the purpose of developing culturally-responsive approaches to surviving the aftermath of homicide.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A6

Power Dynamics between Indigenous Organizations and the Justice System

Reconciliation with Indigenous peoples in Canada means restoring a degree of control in decision-making to Indigenous organizations, and to acknowledge their authority in certain matters. The presenter will go over some principles of Indigenous justice and efforts to implement them in a substantial way and prevent them from becoming window dressing for the same system. They will also go over how Indigenous advocates and their friends in the Canadian justice system, including Crown attorneys and justices, can work together to assert the autonomy of Indigenous court programs and processes.

PRESENTER

Steven Martin

Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre

Steven Martin is the Indigenous court worker for Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre in Peterborough. He has worked with various high-risk populations, including street youth in Vancouver and 2SLGBTQ+ youth engaged in the sex trade in Toronto. He has also worked as the mental health worker for the mobile crisis intervention team (MCIT), a partnership with Peterborough Police. Steven is the initiator and editorial committee chairperson of The River Magazine, a publication written by individuals living on a low income in Peterborough.

Concurrent Sessions

A1 - A7 November 16 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

A7

Skills and Supports for Better Futures: DBT for High-Risk Youth

Justice-involved and high-risk youth often present with histories of trauma which impact emotional regulation and contribute to high-risk behaviours, justice involvement and mental health difficulties. Dialectical behaviour therapy (DBT) is a cognitive-behavioural intervention established for youth experiencing multiple problems such as self-injury, substance use, anger and unstable relationships. Traditional DBT programs are intensive and long-term making them difficult for this population to access.

This presentation outlines the development of the program and the evaluation results associated with a DBT program for use with justice-involved and high-risk youth, as well as for virtual use amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Youth completed self-report measures pertaining to their experience of trauma symptoms, substance use, self-injurious behaviours and self-efficacy. Youth and facilitators also shared their experiences and satisfaction with the program. The results suggest that a shortened, modified and virtual version of DBT can be successfully implemented and can produce improvements for this population.

PRESENTERS

Dr. Joyce Radford, Dr. Debbie Chiodo and Emilia Pacholec

London Family Court Clinic

Dr. Joyce Radford is the director of clinical intervention services at the London Family Court Clinic and is an adjunct clinical professor in the Graduate Department of Psychology and within the Faculty of Education at Western University. Joyce has over 20 years of clinical experience with high-risk youth and supported the development of a DBT program for this population.

Debbie Chiodo holds a PhD in educational psychology and is an evaluator at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and an assistant professor at Western University. Her research and evaluation interests focus on the implementation and sustainability of evidence-based interventions. Debbie is a lead evaluator for the Ministry of Health's Youth Wellness Hubs Ontario initiative.

Emilia Pacholec has a master's degree in counselling psychology from Western University. She has been extensively trained in DBT and has offered DBT to youth and families in a variety of settings. Emilia has been involved in numerous projects evaluating community-based programs for youth and is currently developing a new virtual DBT program for the London Family Court Clinic



Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6

November 16

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.



Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B1

Innovation and Resiliency: Working Towards a New Normal in Service Delivery

This presentation highlights organizational changes made to support service delivery in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic with an emphasis on programmatic changes across youth, adult, and school based programming. In particular we focus on synergies and unplanned benefits that have yielded from re-jigging our operations and services, including service delivery partnerships, and how changes made enable us and our service partners to continue to meet emergent client needs. We also share insights from pivoting from predominantly in person services to alternate service delivery strategies (phone, teleconference, videoconference/Zoom) and flag strategies and tips for successful virtual program delivery. We conclude by noting aspects of operations and service delivery that are arguably beneficial to sustain in the long term as part of the "new normal" for 2022 and beyond.

PRESENTERS

Kathryn Barratt, Jeff Kentel and Joan Nandlal

John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington

Kathryn Barratt, MA, MSW, RSW, is a program manager who oversees youth, employment, family and school-connected programs offered by the John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington. Kathryn is an experienced program developer and social worker. Kathryn previously oversaw the agency's adult services programs.

Jeff Kentel, MTS, MDiv, MA, RP, is a program manager whose adult services portfolio at the John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington includes diversion, remedial measures, domestic violence intervention and other programs. Jeff is a seasoned psychotherapist who previously served as the senior co-ordinator for the agency's Partner Assault Response Program.

Joan Nandlal, BA (Hons), MA, PhD, CE is the executive director/CEO of the John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington. Joan is an experienced program planner and program evaluator/researcher and is a member of the Provincial HSJCC.

Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B2

Harm Reduction in Congregate Settings: Opening Doors for Vulnerable Populations

With the majority of clients identifying concurrent disorders upon intake, the Barrett Centre for Crisis Support and other congregate settings within Good Shepherd are looking to better integrate evidence-based (or best practice) harm reduction policies and procedures. They know that there are a number of factors impacting clients who are in active use including: barriers to accessing shelter or crisis services; hesitancy to access Consumption and Treatment Services (CTS); lack of access to addiction medicine; criminalization; and the increase in overdose-related deaths in community. This evidence points to harm reduction practices needing to be re-evaluated and better integrated, especially in congregate settings. They have partnered with a community researcher and their colleagues within Good Shepherd to talk about how to better integrate harm reduction strategies in congregate settings to improve safety, accessibility and best meet the needs of the complex and vulnerable populations they serve.

PRESENTER

Emily Dakers

Good Shepherd, Barrett Centre for Crisis Support

Emily Dakers is with Good Shepherd as the director of the Barrett Centre. Emily joined Good Shepherd in 2015 and has worked in the homelessness, violence against women and mental health sectors. Emily has a background in gerontology (BA) and social work (BSW, MSW) with a focus on leadership in health care settings.

Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B3

A Virtual Forensic Family Education and Support Group: Examining the Impact

The aim of this presentation is to offer an overview of a forensic family education and support group pilot project that examines virtual forensic-specific education and support to family members and caregivers with a loved one in the forensic system of Ontario. Forensic social workers provided weekly two-hour group sessions, over the course of 10 weeks, on various topics of importance as outlined by group participants prior to group format and content creation. Weekly meetings were held with group facilitators to review successes and issues, as well as any evaluation feedback that could be included in the following week's group sessions. Measures of psychological distress and caregiver burden were distributed pre- and post-group involvement to identify any changes in distress levels and subjective burden. Sociodemographic variables of group participants and preliminary data will be presented. Implications and steps for future directions will also be discussed.

PRESENTERS

Jori Armishaw, Caitlin Carter, Katy Eaton, Danielle Hicks, Richard Robins, Nicole C. Rodrigues and Rebecca Stewart
The Brockville Mental Health Centre

Jori Armishaw graduated with a master of social work in 2019. She began her career working in both forensics and corrections as the social worker on the assessment and stabilization unit. Jori now works at the forensic treatment unit supporting those beginning their rehabilitation journey.

Caitlin Carter graduated with a master of social work in 2015. She has a background in community mental health and addictions. Caitlin is currently working as a social worker at the Brockville Mental Health Centre.

Katy Eaton graduated from Wilfrid Laurier University with a master of social work. She currently works in the Brockville Forensic Treatment Program on the assessment and stabilization unit. She provides families and clients with information and support through the assessment process, and navigation of a not criminally responsible or fitness finding.

Danielle Hicks graduated from Carleton University with a bachelor of social work and obtained her master of social work in 2016. She has worked in the field of psychiatry in both Ontario and Vancouver. Danielle is currently working as the discharge social worker in Brockville.

Richard Robins graduated from McGill University with a master of social work. He has worked as an inpatient and outpatient social worker. He is currently working as a transitional case manager. Working with families and loved ones and providing education and support is an integral part of his extensive career.

Nicole C. Rodrigues is the senior research co-ordinator at the Brockville Mental Health Centre. She received her master of education in counselling psychology. She is also a Canadian Certified Counsellor with a focus on forensic psychiatric populations. Her research interests focus on risk assessments, trauma among psychiatric workers, and program evaluation.

Rebecca Stewart is a graduate of McGill University, holding a degree in international development and political science. She has worked in various settings in both Quebec and Ontario, including the Canada World Youth exchange program and tree planting. Rebecca's interests revolve around mental health advocacy and the promotion of family involvement in their loved one's care.

Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B4

Safe Beds: Caring in the Short-Term for People in Crisis

Justice safe bed programs offer short-term, community residential services for persons in crisis (PIC) who interact with police and/or mobile crisis teams and are unable to remain in their current living situation. Assistance is provided for both their immediate and longer-term needs. Mental health distress and problematic substance use in Ontario have been exacerbated by the isolation, limited face-to-face support services and lack of access to common community hubs like libraries and recreational facilities, so the volume and complexity of PIC during COVID-19 has increased while many safe bed programs have had to reduce their bed numbers to maintain physical distancing protocols. This presentation features a moderated panel of safe bed programs from across the province who will share some of their creative wisdom in meeting the needs of vulnerable PIC during the pandemic.

PRESENTERS

Amy Herskowitz

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Shereen Rampersad

Services and Housing in the Province

Dr. David Marsh, Tammy Linekar and Stephanie Trudel

Jubilee Centre, Timmins

Maureen Acuna-Harrison

CMHA Brant Haldimand Norfolk

Amy Herskowitz has provincial responsibility for mental health and justice programs across Ontario, such as mobile crisis response, safe beds, release from custody, mental health court support/diversion and justice supportive housing, that intervene and support individuals at key intersections of the criminal justice system and enable diversion from inappropriate incarceration or hospitalization to community mental health and addictions care and treatment.

Shereen Rampersad is the Program Manager for the Short Stay Crisis Support Program in Peel Region which is provided by Services and Housing In the Province (SHIP). She has worked with SHIP for over 14 years in many areas of the organization but as the Short Stay program manager for the past 7 years. Shereen is a social worker who has spent her career working with diverse populations within the mental health and addictions field. She is also the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion lead for SHIP and ensures that the principles of EDI are prioritized within her program and organization. Shereen is a community leader and staunch advocate for enhanced access and services within the community that meet the needs of the people whom she serves.

Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B4 (continued)

Dr. David Marsh is the Associate Dean Research, Innovation and International Relations at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Adjunct Scientist ICES North and Chief Medical Director for Canadian Addiction Treatment Centres. Dr. Marsh served NOSM as Associate Dean, Community Engagement and in recent years has been working with Jubilee Centre as consulting Addictionologist, leading innovative changes from a medical perspective.

Tammy Linekar began her career at Jubilee Centre as an Alcohol and Drug Counsellor; registered as a Social Service Worker and certified as a Concurrent Disorders Clinician before assuming her current role as Clinical Director. Tammy is a strong advocate of client rights and quality care founded on humanitarian values. As Clinical Director, Tammy has led innovative programming changes from a social service and concurrent disorders perspective.

Stephanie Trudel began her career as a Nurse at True North Medical, in Timmins. There, she developed a passion for addiction and mental health care. In recent years, Stephanie was certified as Concurrent Disorders Clinician and is the Concurrent Disorders Nurse and OTN-TM Nurse Coordinator at Jubilee Centre. She has led innovative expansion of both OTN and Nursing services in consort with physicians and remainder of Jubilee's client care team.

Maureen Acuna-Harrison has been with CMHA-BHN for over 13 years, working as a Lead - first for the Crisis Stabilization Beds program and then accepting the challenge to create the Brant Safe Beds Program proposal and opening the Program with the Leadership Team. Maureen is an Employment Counsellor with Concentration of studies in Assessments and Statistics. She is a DBT Facilitator, Take Control and Take Charge Facilitator and is skilled in CBT. Maureen is an Interpreter for the County's Seasonal Agricultural Workers clinics. She is fluent in Spanish. Maureen assists in communicating to the Health Care Team, any concerns with Physical and Mental Health. She also advocates strongly for the homeless, those affected by Mental Health and Addictions and believes in supporting Families. She is Trauma Informed and approaches her work with clients with care and compassion.

Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B5

Bridging the Gap: Programs that Intersect Forensic Mental Health and Corrections

Individuals with serious mental illnesses are over-represented in correctional facilities. Given the intersection of the mental health and justice systems, the Ministries of Health and the Solicitor General have partnered to work across government to support this vulnerable population. This presentation will highlight two innovative projects that bridge the gap between the correctional and forensic mental health systems, including:

- Forensic Early Intervention Program (FEIS): The FEIS program provides access to voluntary mental health services for inmates with forensic mental health needs, which include those at risk of being unfit to stand trial.
- Acute Care Stabilization (AC/S) Beds: AC/S beds in forensic hospitals provide inmates with acute mental illness improved access to treatment in a secure mental health inpatient setting. The beds are reserved for inmates that have a history of aggression and/or pose an elopement risk and may be too complex for a general hospital.

PRESENTERS

Breanna Kelly and Daniel Habashy

Ministry of Health

Eric Sabiti and Theresa Berry

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Breanna Kelly is a senior program consultant in the forensic mental health and justice unit of the Ministry of Health. Her career in the Ontario Public Service has been dedicated to mental health policy and program development, including focus on child and youth mental health, Indigenous youth life promotion/suicide prevention and forensic mental health services.

Daniel Habashy is a policy analyst with the forensic mental health and justice unit supporting Ontario's forensic mental health services.

Eric Sabiti is a senior program advisor within the mental health and addiction unit at the Ministry of Solicitor General. Prior to this, he held an advisor role at the Ministry of Health with the child and youth mental health portfolio. He began his career in the Ontario Public Service as a caseworker supporting vulnerable population and people with disabilities at the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services.

Theresa Berry is a senior policy and program analyst in the mental health and addiction unit in the operational support division of the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Prior to her current role, she worked for over 10 years as a social worker in both adult and youth correctional institutions.

Concurrent Sessions

B1 - B6 November 16 | 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

B6

Social Work and Peer Support Practices within the Justice System

This presentation will demonstrate the benefits of working collectively with community partners and thinking outside the box by including a peer support program within an agency structure. In doing so, clients receive additional support, which increases the client's ability to remain in recovery and ultimately reduces recidivism.

This presentation will cover:

- Assisting those with mental health, dual diagnosis, addiction and trauma with their transition back into society when they are released from detention centres
- Recognizing the barriers that this vulnerable population faces upon release and their ability to receive addiction treatment services and ongoing community support
- Collaborating with detention centre social workers, the client's legal counsel and other community partners
- Increasing the positive outcomes for this population, enabling better release plans from detention centres and ongoing support for their transition back into society
- A collaboration with the House of Sophrosyne (HoS), Peer Support Canada, Probation and Parole of Windsor and Leamington, which has paved the way for a peer support program within the HoS justice program
- Peer support: a paid appointee with lived experience provides the opportunity for education, personal growth and employment as a peer support worker to those involved in addiction and criminal justice

PRESENTERS

Shelly Wilson and Stephanie Rabaey

House of Sophrosyne

Shelly Wilson graduated from the University of Windsor with a bachelor of social work. She began her career at the House of Sophrosyne in Windsor, Ont. where she is now the community justice caseworker and peer support program co-ordinator.

Stephanie Rabaey is the current peer support appointee for the House of Sophrosyne's peer support program. She is a person with lived experience, and she graduated from the Canadian College of Health, Science and Technology with an honours in mental health and addictions.



Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6

November 17

11:00 - 12:00 p.m.



Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C1

Clinical Justice Program: A Pandemic Solution for the Justice System

The Clinical Justice Program (CJP), established in 2018, is a collaboration between Centre for Behaviour Health Sciences (Mackenzie Health) and Community Networks of Specialized Care-Central East (CLH Developmental Support Services). The CJP's mission is to support complex individuals with a dual diagnosis who are involved in the criminal justice system as a victim, witness or accused to ensure they experience the justice system in an equitable manner. This, in turn, will provide access to appropriate sanctions, improve intersectional collaboration, as well as reduce fiscal costs associated with prolonged court delays. The CJP encompasses three separate pillars of clinical support including The Justice Clinic, A-DBT Justice Group and The Justice App. To date, qualitative and quantitative data supports the success of this program which was required to shift to a telehealth model due to the pandemic restrictions. This ensured seamless support for individuals in the community and justice system.

PRESENTERS

Marnie McDermott, Courtney Hutson and Vicky Simos

Community Networks of Specialized Care-Central East

Samantha Airhart

Centre for Behaviour Health Science

Marnie McDermott holds a master of social work, and she is the network manager for the Community Networks of Specialized Care – Central East. Marnie completed her undergraduate degrees at the University of Western Ontario in social work and psychology. She worked as a social worker with Empower Simcoe for 11 years in the specialized care program and then as a behaviour consultant with Centre for Behaviour Health Sciences. Marnie co-ordinated a mobile resource team and developed a treatment team for individuals with a dual diagnosis seeking clinical services and treatment in the Central East Region.

Courtney Hutson completed her bachelor of arts (hons.) in criminology and forensic psychology from the University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Courtney then began her work for Central East Correctional Centre in the psychology department where she provided crisis intervention to inmates with complex mental health, addiction and developmental needs as well as completed clinical risk assessments for offenders going before the Ontario Parole Board. During this time, she received her master of criminology from Adler University. Courtney then transitioned to working for Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (HKPR) in justice services. In 2018, she began her work as a dual diagnosis justice co-ordinator with Community Networks of Specialized Care (HKPR & Durham).

Vicky Simos holds a master of applied disability studies specializing in applied behaviour analysis (ABA) from Brock University. She became a board-certified behaviour analyst in 2013 and has 14 years of experience working with children, adolescents and adults with developmental disabilities. Vicky started her work in the field as an instructor therapist for private in-home and Centre-based intensive behavioural intervention (IBI) programs for children with autism and shortly after became a lead therapist for Surrey Place Centre. She then started as a behaviour consultant for the ABA program at Centre for Behaviour Health Sciences and then later a co-ordinator for the program. Vicky is currently a dual diagnosis justice co-ordinator and the co-ordinator of The Justice Clinic with Community Networks of Specialized Care (York & Simcoe) in partnership with Centre for Behaviour Health Sciences.

Samantha Airhart completed her Bachelor of Science (Hons.) in Psychology from York University. She has over 10 years of experience designing, implementing and monitoring Applied Behaviour Analysis interventions. Samantha began her work as an Instructor Therapist for Centre for Behaviour Health Science (CBHS) in intensive behavioural intervention (IBI) programs for children and adolescents with Autism, later transitioning to Senior Therapist. Samantha has worked for the last seven years as a Behaviour Consultant for the ABA program at CBHS. She is currently a justice specialist/behaviour consultant with The Justice Clinic to help individuals that have some form of a disability that have come into contact with the justice system. She creates and implements ABA justice plans to help teach them skills they need to help with their court process.

Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C2

Supporting Mental Health within the Criminal Justice System

Mental health concerns and illnesses are higher among people involved in the criminal justice system than the general population. Without adequate supports and services in the community, many continue to cycle through prisons, hospitals, and shelters – at a great cost to themselves, their caregivers and society.

The Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) is committed to supporting the mental health needs of those who are justice-involved through several initiatives including promoting the uptake of community-based research to improve health quality standards, the continuity of care and systems integration.

This presentation will highlight the latest MHCC initiatives, including:

- The national inventory of services and supports for people transitioning out of the criminal justice system
- A policy brief on COVID-19, mental health and substance use in correctional settings
- Developing a national action plan, emphasizing preventive opportunities for diversion for people living with mental health concerns who are involved in the justice system.

PRESENTERS

Amy Fogarty

Mental Health Commission of Canada

Tanya Miller

Mental Health Commission of Canada

Mo Korchinski

Unlocking the Gates Services Society

Emilie Coyle

Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies

Amy Fogarty, Manager, Mental Health Advancement at the Mental Health Commission of Canada, oversees two key population-based initiatives including the National Standard for Canada on Mental Health and Well-Being for Post-Secondary Students, as well as work supporting the mental health needs of people involved with the criminal justice system. Amy's passion for wellness and mental health led her to the Commission in 2016, where she spent several years promoting training programs including The Working Mind, The Inquiring Mind and Mental Health First Aid.

Tanya Miller (she, her) is a Program Manager at the Mental Health Commission of Canada leading work on mental health and the criminal justice system. She has also worked at the Parole Board of Canada, the Canadian Mental Health Association, BC Division, and Langara College, where she developed and implemented its first mental health strategy. Tanya has a Bachelor of Journalism with a Concentration in Psychology from Carleton University, and a Master of Arts in Criminology from Simon Fraser University.

Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C2 (continued)

Mo Korchinski is the Executive Director of Unlocking the Gates Service Society (UTG). Mo has had a long history with substance abuse and incarceration. Her lived history and experiences have shaped the program into what it is today.

Mo has a Bachelor of Social Work from Nicola Valley Institution of Technology and was one of UTG's first ever Peer-Mentors. Her life's work is now dedicated to helping others break the cycle of incarceration. She is an advocate for people involved in the criminal justice system and continues to push for change at a policy-level and increased supports for her community. Mo feels strongly about the need to address trauma and support healing for people who experience incarceration.

Mo is a public speaker, author, and filmmaker. She worked for many years in the field of community-based participatory research alongside the Collaborating Centre for Prison Health and Education at the University of British Columbia (UBC), and continues to bridge the gap between research and community as a Co-Lead on the Transformative Health & Justice Research Cluster (UBC), and through ongoing collaborations with various organizations throughout the province.

Emilie Coyle is the Executive Director of the Canadian Association of Elizabeth Fry Societies. She previously worked as Director of the Refugee Sponsorship Support Program at the University of Ottawa. Emilie has practiced family, criminal and immigration law. In addition to her professional accomplishments as a bilingual legal professional and not-for-profit advocate, Emilie was a co-founder of Parents 4 Diversity, a citizen's group working with parents and teachers to address discrimination with the goal of making schools safer for all children and youth and a proud sponsor of LGBTQ+ refugees for many years. Her experience in civil society has taken her from Canada's west, to the east, and she now makes her home in Ottawa with her two children – Maia and Niko – and her partner, Adam. Emilie is passionate about the power of community and actively pursues ways to animate community-building. This includes supporting the essential on-the-groundwork of the many Elizabeth Fry Societies across the country. She also loves a good book and welcomes suggestions for ones to add to her ever-growing collection.

C3

CANCELLED: Understanding Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) and Secondary Characteristics

Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C4

Innovative Correctional Mental Health Initiatives for the Family Unit

The Canadian Families and Corrections Network (CFCN) strengthens families affected by incarceration across Canada. Mental health is an ever-increasing problem within the justice system, especially during the pandemic.

CFCN creates positive social interactions to assist with this issue, in both their institutions and communities, which the presenter will outline as ideas for participants to access or take forward.

This session will present a scenario of mental health that a person may take from an accident that leads to opioid use and then incarceration, and allows participants to discuss mental health and connectedness at each point.

The presenter will outline CFCN's:

- Unique initiatives for partnership
- Programming (for example: Dad HERO [Helping Everyone Realize Opportunities] parenting program available for Ontario correctional provincial, federal and community sites)
- Resources (for example: children's letter-writing kits)
- Promising practices and ideas to take forward to strengthen correctional families and staff teams working in this area

PRESENTER

Louise Leonardi

Canadian Families and Corrections Network

Louise Leonardi is the executive director of Canadian Families and Corrections Network charity organization. She has an extensive background in facilitation in Canadian prisons, schools and communities. Louise has received public safety and community awards for her vulnerable population work and has authored articles and research on families and crime.

Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C5

Peer Support: Humanizing People & Services Along the Wellness Journey

“Peer support is intended to be rooted in hope through an empowering and empathetic relationship between people who have a similar life experience or circumstance in common.” - *Centre for Innovation in Peer Support*

The presenters will answer the following questions throughout their presentation: what is peer support? How can this profession bring value to your team and the other health service professionals working within the justice system in Ontario? How do you implement peer support within your organization?

Support House's Centre for Innovation in Peer Support provides wellness-based, peer-led self-help and social connections programming to community members as well as support to organizations who have peer staff, through training in peer-support program implementation, capacity building, evaluation, research, knowledge brokerage and quality improvement.

Topics that will be covered in this presentation:

- Introduction to the Centre for Innovation in Peer Support
- Introduction to the foundations and values of peer support
- Recommendations and considerations when implementing peer support programming within an agency or sector
- Measuring the impact of peer support
- Trainings and opportunities available to support peer support workers and staff working with these individuals

PRESENTERS

Richard Adair, Alyssa Gremmen and Ethan Hopkins

Centre for Innovation in Peer Support at Support House

Richard Adair is a seasoned system advocate with both lived, living and family/caregiver expertise. He is currently the manager of provincial, systems & partners at Support House's Centre for Innovation in Peer Support. Richard's areas of expertise include development of lived experience and/or family advisory engagement initiatives within organizations and providing support to organizations who have peer staff through training, program implementation, capacity building, evaluation, research, knowledge brokerage and quality improvement. Richard received his social service worker diploma at Sheridan College in 2015, and he is currently completing a bachelor of applied science in family & community social services at the University of Guelph-Humber.

Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C5 (continued)

Alyssa Gremmen has been involved in peer work for over 10 years in various settings, in both volunteer and paid positions. She has implemented, managed and co-ordinated peer programs focusing on youth empowerment, mental health and harm reduction. Alyssa has a degree in psychology from the University of Guelph. Currently, Alyssa is the peer integration and system lead at Support House's Centre for Innovation in Peer Support. She supports partner organizations in planning, implementing, integrating and sustaining high-quality, values-based peer support through consultation, resource sharing, training and webinar facilitation, and hosting communities of practice for peer staff and supervisors of peer staff.

Ethan Hopkins has been utilizing his lived experience to support others and create system change for over a decade. Currently, Ethan supports the Centre systems team as the peer systems navigator. In this role, he supports the capacity building and professional development of peer supporters and their teams through consultation and communities of practice as well as the creation and facilitation of resources, webinars and trainings. Prior to his work with the Centre systems team, Ethan supported those with mental health and/or addictions challenges in several different settings, including facilitating a variety of supportive groups and provided one-to-one support with both children and adults.

Concurrent Sessions

C1 - C6 November 17 | 11:00 - 12:00 p.m.

C6

Enhancing Addictions and Mental Health Care in Corrections

Individuals within custodial settings often have higher rates of mental illness, substance use and complex health needs. The Ministry of the Solicitor General recognizes additional training and expertise is needed to better support this vulnerable population. The mental health and addiction unit works collaboratively with institutional services, community services, inter-ministerial and external stakeholders to effectively respond to the challenges of supporting this vulnerable population.

This presentation will provide an overview of the corrections mental health and addictions strategy and related initiatives with a focus on how the unit is implementing addictions and mental health supports for inmates and offenders within the correctional system. The audience will obtain a fulsome understanding of the key considerations of the corrections mental health and addictions strategy and understand future considerations in addressing the complex and changing needs of our clients.

PRESENTERS

Brad Tamcsu, Keri Zammit and Joana Jabson

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Brad Tamcsu is the manager of the mental health and addictions unit, operational support division at the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Prior to being the manager of the mental health and addiction unit, Brad was involved in institutional services as a clinician and administrator for 30 years.

Keri Zammit is the senior social work and special needs consultant, operational support division at the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Prior to this role, Keri provided direct social work services to inmates/offenders in institutional services for 11 years and was in management roles within institutional services for four years.

Joana Jabson is a senior program advisor in the mental health and addictions unit, operational support division at the Ministry of the Solicitor General. Her current work focuses on implementing initiatives aimed to improve the delivery of care to clients within the correctional system.



Concurrent Sessions

D1 - D6

November 17

2:30 - 3:30 p.m.



Concurrent Sessions

D1 - D6 November 17 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

D1

Decision-making about Youth Bail and Detention Admissions: The influence of Geographic Location and Race

The Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) has resulted in significant overall decreases to detention admissions for youth. However, this research reveals that many are still being held for a bail hearing, thereby spending a considerable amount of time incarcerated, even if they are later released. Although the majority of youth are released on bail, restrictive conditions often result in breaches and additional charges. A major gap in research on youth bail practices has been considering the impact of geographic location on bail-related outcomes. Further, there is limited to no research exploring the role of race in youths' admissions to custody and detention. Through an analysis of over a decade's worth of youth cases and pre-trial detention admissions data, we found important geographic differences in bail decision-making and found that Black and Indigenous youth are over-represented in most provincial regions. Overall, there appears to be significant variation in youth justice practices across provincial regions, indicating potential problems related to proportionality and availability of supportive resources.

This presentation will share unique research from the John Howard Society of Ontario on the YCJA. Participants will leave with expanded knowledge on the youth bail system, including an increased understanding of how the system is functioning for particular youth.

PRESENTERS

Safiyah Husein

John Howard Society of Ontario

Dr. Jessica Sutherland

York University

Safiyah Husein is a senior policy analyst at the John Howard Society of Ontario. She joined the Centre of Research & Policy in 2018. She participates in the Centre's research and policy activities, supports the public education activities of the Society, and liaises with local offices and community partners on reform initiatives. Safiyah holds a BSc in psychology from York University and a JD from the University of Windsor Faculty of Law. Safiyah completed her articles at the Office of the Ontario Ombudsman and was called to the Ontario Bar in June 2018.

Dr. Jessica Sutherland is an assistant teaching-stream professor at York University. She has a BA from Ryerson University, an MA from the University of Toronto and a PhD from Ryerson University. Her research interests are in the intersection between developmental science and the law, including youth in conflict with the law, peer influence on adolescent decision-making, and adolescent well-being. Outside of academia, she has worked in the public and non-profit sectors in a research capacity.

Concurrent Sessions

D1 - D6 November 17 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

D2

Expanding our Definition of Resilience

In the last year, a pandemic has changed the way we live and work. Many of us are working through this pandemic in conditions that are not familiar to an efficient workplace. We have been witness to the trauma and victimizing experiences that have resulted from COVID-19, as well as other life stressors such as accidents, systemic racism and violence. Resilience is our ability to bounce back from stress and chaos by using effective coping strategies to handle ongoing adversities. However, this is not the only definition of resilience to be considered. Social determinants of health are also tied to resiliency. This presentation aims to provide examples of resilience within different cultures and marginalized groups where individuals, groups and entire communities continue to demonstrate resilience under chronic and complex adversity.

This talk aims to provide practical tools to help increase personal growth after experiencing life stressors, especially within the last year. We will look at specific strategies that we can use to bolster our own resilience as we navigate the changes to our home, social and workspaces. This clinical talk will also discuss resilience interventions from a collectivist perspective and will highlight steps to building a cultural understanding of resilience. Finally, this talk will address barriers to resiliency and the role of cognitive dissonance in adopting new behaviours and perspectives.

PRESENTER

Sumeet Shergill

York Simcoe Brain Injury Services

Sumeet Shergill, MSc earned a Bachelor of Science with Honours in Psychology and Sociology from the University of Toronto. In 2010, she graduated from the University of Wales with a Master's of Science, specializing in Applied Behaviour Analysis. For the last 10 years, she has worked as a behaviour consultant at York Simcoe Brain Injury Services, Centre for Behaviour Health Sciences, Mackenzie Health. She became a Registered Psychotherapist with the College of Registered Psychotherapists of Ontario in May 2015. Sumeet also is a professor within the Behaviour Health Sciences and Behavior Psychology Program at Seneca College.

Concurrent Sessions

D1 - D6 November 17 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

D3

Community Withdrawal Management: Health Care Working in Partnership with Timmins Police Service

This presentation will demonstrate how one community is battling the highest opioid overdose death rate per capita in the country by developing a unique partnership that is actively supporting clients while removing all barriers to support and services.

This presentation provides a look into the unique addiction medicine program that has medical professionals teaming up with outreach community safety officers to connect people with a substance use disorder to the appropriate services and supports that they require while assisting with medical withdrawal management either in home or in the hospital.

PRESENTERS

Jennifer Landers

Timmins District Hospital

Constable Leah Blanchette

Timmins Police Service

Jennifer Landers is a Registered Nurse with 17 years' experience. She started her nursing training in 2001 and began her career as a mental health nurse in 2004. Jennifer has worked in many areas of nursing, including Post Anesthesia Care Unit and Community Care Case Management. She finds her niche is within the Mental Health Program having worked in many areas including as a staff/charge nurse in the acute Inpatient Mental Health Unit, and a case manager/therapist in the Outpatient Mental Health Department as well as facilitator for the Outpatient Day Treatment Program. She has dedicated her time as a clinical instructor for nursing student groups as well as a sought-out preceptor and mentor for individual and final placements. Jennifer has been instrumental in the development of both the Addiction Medicine Consult Team as well as the Community Withdrawal Management Services programs and continues to strive for excellence in both.

Constable Leah Blanchette has 20 years of law enforcement experience with Timmins Police Service. She commenced her training at the Ontario Police College on September 11th, 2001. The 911 terrorist attack was an eye opener to the harsh reality and dangers of a first responder. At the same time, it solidified her desire to serve and protect. Throughout her career she has been a dedicated Scene of Crime Officer, a Coach Officer and an Acting Sergeant on patrol. She has been a valued member of the Criminal Investigation Unit, Special Services Unit and the Outreach Community Safety Team. She currently is an active member of the Situation Table, Safe Beds Task Force, Community of Practices Committee, Timmins and Area Drug Strategy Committee, and the Opioid Emergency Response Task Force.

Concurrent Sessions

D1 - D6 November 17 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

D4

Forensic Mental Health in Ontario – A System Overview

The provincial forensic mental health system is legislatively required to provide a wide range of forensic services in collaboration with the courts and the Ontario Review Board. Called the “gold-card” of services for its comprehensive nature, individuals at every stage of the system are expected to receive an inclusive array of clinical supports and services from hospitals and community agencies, including assessment, treatment, rehabilitation and high-support community transitional services.

This presentation will focus on recent and ongoing funding for alternative care pathways and collaborative approaches to the delivery of forensic services, including:

- An overview of the forensic system in Ontario
- The provision of forensic assessments for youth across the province by hospital youth forensic service programs (YFS)
- The provision of the Transitional Rehabilitation Housing Program (TRHP) for individuals with developmental disabilities and/or dual diagnosis that are in forensic beds and appropriate for community placement

PRESENTERS

Dianna Cochrane and Oana Decuseara

Ministry of Health

Dianna Cochrane is the manager for the forensic mental health and justice unit of the Ministry of Health. This unit is the lead for initiatives that support the intersection between mental health and addictions and the justice system. This includes the forensic mental health provincial program, supporting system planning and development. Prior to this, Dianna spent over 15 years in hospitals within the forensic division, both as a clinician and an administrator.

Oana Decuseara is a senior program consultant in the forensic mental health and justice unit of the Ministry of Health. She has over 12 years of experience in the public service, and during this time has worked in a variety of policy and program roles at the intersection of mental health and the criminal justice system. Her graduate research focused on the assessment of juvenile psychopathy and implications for criminal justice approaches.

Concurrent Sessions

D1 - D6 November 17 | 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

D5

Development of a High Needs Pathway Between Corrections and Hospital

Individuals with a serious mental illness (SMI) are significantly overrepresented in prisons and jails (Bland et al., 1998; Brink, 2005; Teplin, 1990). In a large meta-analysis of prevalence of SMI in prisons and jails, Fazel & Seewald (2012) found that the rate of SMI in correctional settings is approximately 15%. Additionally, many individuals who screen positive do not receive further assessment or mental health services (Hayes et al., 2014).

Inmates with serious mental health needs in remand settings may occasionally require mental health services beyond the scope of what can be provided in a correctional setting. To address this need, the Acute Care & Stabilization (ACS) bed was developed to identify and provide inpatient care and treatment to inmates who suffer from treatable serious mental conditions and who will most benefit from short-term admission to a structured and secured inpatient setting. The ACS bed has been operational since March 2018.

PRESENTERS

Kiran Patel, Tanya Connors and Vito Adamo

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

Dr. Kiran Patel's designations include: BSc (Hons), MBBS, DipFMH, DipAB (Dist), MAcadMEd, FRCPsych, MCPsychI, FRCPC. He is currently a staff psychiatrist within the forensic division of the complex care and recovery program at CAMH, an assistant professor at the University of Toronto, and the clinical head for the Forensic Early Intervention Service (FEIS), the CAMH partnership program with the Ministry of the Solicitor General. FEIS provides enhanced triage, assessment and case management services to inmates at Toronto South Detention Centre and the Vanier Correctional Centre for Women.

Vito Adamo graduated with his bachelor of science degree in psychology from the University of Victoria. He then went to complete an honours thesis with specialization in forensic psychology from Ryerson University. Vito currently works at CAMH as a research analyst for the Forensic Early Intervention Service (FEIS) and forensic division of the complex care and recovery program.

Tanya Connors, MSW has 20 years of clinical social work experience and has worked in a variety of settings including, ACT and mobile crisis teams, woman shelters, and Toronto Drug Treatment Court. Tanya has worked at the Centre for Addition and Mental Health (CAMH) for 14 year and is currently the manager of the Forensic Early Intervention Service (FEIS).

D6

CANCELLED: Innovating Community Tools: Using Social Enterprises to Transform Employment Experiences of Marginalized Populations

Poster Presentations

PP1

Provincial Resource for Dual Diagnosis Justice Involved Individuals

PRESENTERS:

Scott Skinner, Amber Huffman and Susie Khorsand, *Community Network Specialized Care (CNSC) Developmental Services Ontario (DSO)*

PP2

Barriers and Facilitators to Continuous Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) Engagement Among Federal Prison Inmates Released into the Community in Ontario, Canada

PRESENTER:

Cayley Russell, *Institute for Mental Health Policy Research (IMHPR), Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)*

PP3

FASD and Dangerous Behaviours: A Need for Safety

PRESENTERS:

Maude Champagne, *Kids Brain Health Network*
Manon Kelso, *Ability Benevolence Liberty Empowered (ABLE2)*

PP4

Traumatic Brain Injury in the Youth Justice System

PRESENTERS:

Catherine Wiseman-Hakes, Lyn Turkstra, *McMaster University*
Sukhman Baath, *Sick Kids Hospital*

Poster Presentations

PP5

The Compassionate Justice Fund

PRESENTER:

Catherine Wiseman-Hakes

McMaster University

PP6

Ottawa Early Intervention Drug Treatment Court Program

PRESENTERS:

Colleen MacPhee, Rudy Rivera, Jacqueline Matthews and Autumn Legue

Rideauwood Addiction and Family Services

PP7

Community Outreach and Support Team - London Community Collaboration

PRESENTER:

Lori Hassall

CMHA-Thames Valley

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