



**Meeting Minutes  
September 10, 2020  
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm  
Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Present:** Tammy Tinney (Co-chair), NYGH; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Riun Shandler, Judiciary; Scott Skinner, Community Network of Specialized Care Toronto Region; Greg McInnes, Salvation Army

**Regrets:** Dina Zalkind (Co-chair), Duty Counsel; Anna Stanford, Crown Attorney's Office; Sheine Mankovsky, Judiciary; Rose Gan, NYGH; Andrew Graham, Cota; Alison Mastenbroek, Toronto Bail Program; Chantal Huard, Probation and Parole

**Welcome and Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves.

**Review of May 7, 2020 minutes**

The minutes of May 7, 2020 were approved with the following amendment: to change the organization name associated with Scott Skinner from Toronto Network of Specialized Care to Community Network of Specialized Care Toronto Region. Minutes were approved by Scott Skinner and seconded by Tammy Tinney.

**Review Action Items:**

Reviewed and completed.

**Annual Members Survey** was reviewed. Eighty per cent of regular members completed the evaluation. Discussion about enhancing education at the courthouse took place. How to 'help' people involved with the justice system when they go through the justice system? Justice Ruin Shandler will bring this concern to the court's educational committee.

The committee acknowledged the importance of continuing the conversation with regard to getting people with lived experience to join the committee as well as, what training program would be appropriate.

Lunch and Learns suggested topics were:

Trauma and Street Violence, Racial Inequalities Within the Criminal Justice System; Impact of COVID-19 on Mental Health; Dementia and Elderly People Involved with the Justice System, Housing and New Courthouse; Immigration, and how the Crown, Courts and Justice System work and help mandate treatment for those stuck in the cycle of criminality but who suffer from addictions or mental health.

### **Lunch and Learns**

Domenica Dileo reported that Dr. Samim Hasham was contacted to present at the next virtual Lunch and Learn . The topic will be Opioid, Fentanyl and Crystal Methamphetamine. Waiting for confirmation. These sessions will take place virtually for all Locals from noon - 1:00 pm.

The joint virtual Lunch and Learn session with the West Toronto HSJCC took place on May 28<sup>th</sup> . The topic was “Building a Collaboration Justice Centre in Toronto’s Northwest” with Danielle Scott. She is the Crown Lead for the Toronto Northwest Justice Centres project and Kate Siemiatycki. She is Counsel on the Justice Centres project. Fifty-eight people attended the session. It was successful. Participants expressed gratitude for the interactive question and answer section. Power Point slides deck were circulated and posted on the HSJCC website under NY-HSJCC resources.

### **Presentation:**

Deferred to next meeting

### **How is COVID-19 affecting service delivery in your organization, sector and/or community?**

- Scott Skinner reported that Surrey Place, DSO opened four weeks ago for in-person assessments. The four offices will be opened for one-on-one following social distance rules, using masks and PPE. Using virtual healthcare system. There have been technology challenges for clients. They received tablets donated from TELUS which went to families in need and they will have free data until December.
- Tammy Tinney reported that they are using phone calls and video call to serve clients. It is challenging because clients do not have access to video calls. They have permission to see high risk patients with a psychiatrist. They are experiencing delays for court matters. Due to the court not being opened referrals to the Mental Health and Justice program has been limited. They are preparing for an increase in patients once the courts open.
- Greg McInnes reported that the Salvation Army is having minimal activity at the courthouse, but the positive lifestyle program is running virtually or call-in. This is a free one-on-one 12 week program. They are very busy at the Durham courthouse.
- Justice Riun Shandler reported that they are slowly resuming to new operations, trial is taking place remotely and in-person. There is a big backlog. Individuals who are self-represented have been supported by the Salvation Army and JHS. There have been challenges for Duty Counsel trying to communicate with individuals in custody, which impacts on the availability of court resources. Furthermore, bail matters can't proceed if one can't communicate with the accused. There is no solution yet.
- Themes discussed: It was acknowledged that many members are not in attendance at this meeting specifically from the courthouse. It was agreed that Domenica Dileo contact probation and parole, bail program and court diversion program committee members to request an update/what are they facing for the next meeting.

### **Legal Aid Barriers and Challenges**

See above

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

Domenica reported that the Provincial HSJCC 2021 conference will take place virtually. The Provincial HSJCC will not be meeting in person for the next year.

**Service Co-ordination Issues**

None

**Actions:**

- Domenica will follow up with the logistics for the next Lunch and Learn
- Domenica will contact Cota, probation and parole and bail program to request an update for the next meeting.

**Presenter for the next meeting:** TBD

**Next Meeting:** Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting taking place on Thursday, November 5th, 2020 from 12 pm to -1:00 pm.