

P-HSJCC Meeting Highlights

November 15, 2022

PROVINCIAL HSJCC UPDATES

Updates from the Secretariat:

Please see attached document for updates on P-HSJCC provincial projects and network support functions.

P-HSJCC Announcements:

- The Secretariat welcomed the following Provincial HSJCC members to the table:
 - Michael Jacek, Senior Advisor, **Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)** as a new **ex-officio member**
 - Crystal Irish, Co-Chair, York-South Simcoe Regional HSJCC
 - Sue MacLennan, Co-Chair, Toronto Regional HSJCC
 - Jennifer Sansalone, Co-Chair HNBHN Regional HSJCC

Updated Issue Management Process and Referral Form:

- Director of Justice Policy, Candace Vena presented edits to the **P-HSJCC Terms of Reference Issue Management Sections**.
 - Changes reflect an update to the frequency of issue management sessions as a priority for agenda items rather than a standing item.
- The Secretariat presented a newly created **Issue Management Referral Form**.
 - The purpose of this document is to establish a standardized process for P-HSJCC members to raise systemic issues for consideration to the HSJCC Secretariat and P-HSJCC Co-Chairs before bringing to the P-HSJCC.

ACTION: The Secretariat to edit the **Issue Management Form** to include a question outlining how the issue aligns with the **P-HSJCC's 3-Year Workplan** priorities.

ACTION: Pending edits to the **Provincial HSJCC Issue Management Referral Form**, the document was approved by the P-HSJCC and will be circulated to members following the meeting.

Issue Management Session regarding Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD) and the Justice System:

- CMHA Ontario Policy Analyst, Erin Paquette and HSJCC Northwest Centre of Responsibility (NWCOR) Coordinator Jenny Leadbeater led an **issue management session** on **Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder (FASD) and the Justice system**.

- **Background:**
 - The NWCOR raised the issue of the experiences of individuals of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) to the Secretariat in August 2022.
 - The NWCOR has undertaken this work since 2018, after striking a working group to study service gaps for individuals with FASD. The HSJCC has determined that the November 2022 meeting of the P-HSJCC will have an issue management session focusing on the experiences of individuals with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) within the justice system.

- **Discussion Questions:**
 - What are some of the other service gaps at a provincial level that we can identify as a committee?
 - How should we as a committee focus our efforts, particularly in relation to our Workplan commitment to advance the needs of individuals with complex needs?
 - What are some next steps that we as the P-HSJCC can take?
 - Are there provincial experts on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder that the P-HSJCC would recommend be consulted?

ACTION: The Secretariat to work with the NWCOR to determine which recommendations the P-HSJCC can focus their efforts on moving forward, which includes conducting further research and consulting with Provincial FASD experts.

Rebranding and Marketing of HSJCC Materials update:

- The Secretariat presented an update on the rebranding and marketing of HSJCC materials which included results from HSJCC engagement strategy sessions, a newly created mission statement, graphics, templates, letterhead and a digital two-page overview of the HSJCC Network.
- Orientation packages to support Regional and Local HSJCCs in their efforts are in the process of development.

ACTION: The Secretariat to send the updated marketing and communications package to Local and Regional HSJCC committees at the end of November.

Updates from the Secretariat

P-HSJCC Meeting of November 15, 2022

P-HSJCC Financial Update

Current Q3 P-HSJCC budget totals have been included in the meeting package.

P-HSJCC meeting funds that were previously allocated for in person meetings and travel expenses have been reallocated to support the 2023 P-HSJCC Conference.

Advisory Committee Updates

2023 P-HSJCC Conference Planning Committee

The Conference Planning Committee continues to meet on a regular basis to help with the planning for the next HSJCC Conference in 2023. The Planning Committee has identified the themes that the conference will focus on, and it has selected the title: “*Striving for Inclusive Justice: Reflecting on the past and acting for the future*”. Moving forward, the Planning Committee will discuss potential keynote speakers. The Secretariat will also work with a designer on developing artwork for the conference materials.

Communications and Knowledge Exchange (CKE) Committee

The CKE Committee last met on October 31. At this meeting, they discussed webinar planning and potential speakers. They also reviewed the completed communications materials, including graphics and templates, that have been developed by an external graphic designer over the summer months. These communications materials will be shared with Local and Regional HSJCCs for their own use.

People with Lived Experience Advisory Committee

The PWLE Advisory Committee last met on September 27 to review and discuss a set of areas for future project work that they would like to focus on moving forward. The committee discussed timelines and priorities for engaging in these project work ideas. The committee also began working on the development of an orientation package for the network. This package will be developed over the next few months.

Anti-Racism Advisory Committee

The ARAC Framework/Strategy working group put a call out to the network in October for community connectors to support the planning, engagement and analysis of two sets of focus groups:

- 1) HSJCC Local and Regional Co-Chairs (November-December 2022)
- 2) Engaging with Black, Indigenous, and racialized populations (January 2023)
 - Facilitation of these focus groups will be led by Community Connectors who support and have lived experience of Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities.

The next ARAC larger group meeting is scheduled for December 8th.

Community of Practice Update

HSJCC Transition from Custody Network

The HSJCC Transition from Custody network continues to meet on a regular basis to discuss issues impacting individuals leaving provincial corrections.

In October, there was further discussion of the Discharge from Distant Court Protocol. Members continued to raise concerns regarding resistance from healthcare providers to provide prescriptions and medication as part of the envelopes, with members also noting that some areas of the province have developed local solutions to help individuals bridge their medications until they receive an appointment with community health services. Members also raised a lack of consistency in implementation of the program, noting that the program relies on frontline staff to work collaboratively. Changes in staff in custody institutions often leads to reduced awareness of the program. Further, members raised a lack of standardization as a general barrier to the success of the program. The HSJCC Secretariat and SOLGEN continue to work collaboratively to address issues raised by the network.

Also, at the most recent meeting in October, the Community of Practice discussed the identified priorities for the Network and what will be the focus for the remainder of the fiscal year. In addition to priorities previously identified, including safe and affordable housing for people released from custody, community reintegration, and supporting youth involved in the justice system, members also raised the need to address the connection to addiction services during transitions from custody as a priority issue, as well as the need to advocate for enhanced funding to support individuals with complex needs. Finally, members raised the need to develop additional employment services for adults leaving provincial custody institutions as a key component of community reintegration. Members noted that there are many employment services programs for youth involved in the justice system, but fewer such programs for adults.

Provincial Projects Updates

Mobile Crisis Response Teams Framework and Toolkit

CMHA Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police continue to work towards the launch of the Framework and Toolkit. The Co-Chairs of the provincial working group are currently finalizing communications materials which will be sent to ministry contacts at the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of the Solicitor General to request endorsement of the Framework and Toolkit.

Community Reintegration Planning Tables

In May 2022, The P-HSJCC and the Ministry of the Solicitor General announced a partnership to support the development and operationalization of joint ministry-community led Community Reintegration Planning Tables (Planning Tables). The Planning Tables will be established at ten sites using a phased approach. The first five sites are scheduled to be operational by November 2022 and have been identified as Toronto South Detention Centre, Maplehurst Correctional Complex, Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre, Thunder Bay Jail and Kenora Jail. The next five sites are scheduled to be operational by January 2023 and have been identified as Brockville Jail, Sarnia Jail, Vanier Centre for Women, Toronto East Detention Centre, and Quinte Detention Centre.

The Secretariat has been meeting with local and regional HSJCCs and HSJCC Co-Chairs within the catchment area of the first five sites to support the selection of Planning Table Community Co-Chairs, share information on the Provincial Framework and Implementation Strategy and provide an overview of next steps.

Cannabis and Drug Treatment Court Project (DTC) Update

CMHA Ontario and John Howard Society of Ontario in partnership with the P-HSJCC hosted a virtual knowledge exchange forum on October 19, 2022. The forum shared the results of the community-based research project funded by the Mental Health Commission of Canada which explored how cannabis use impacts mental health and whether it helps or hinders a participant's completion of a DTC Program. The forum also examined substance use within DTCs more broadly and included discussions on policy options to improve these courts and the criminal justice system. A final report as well as future knowledge mobilization will occur in December 2022.

To access the recording or slides from the forum, please visit the HSJCC website [here](#).

Engaging with Partner Ministries

Post Election Work with P-HSJCC Ministry Partners

As part of the P-HSJCC's post election efforts to identify priority areas and solutions to system issues, orientation packages were created for each of the new and returning partner minister's offices. The packages included an overview and background of the HSJCC Network, our top priority areas, and opportunities for collaboration among the respective ministries.

As a follow up to the orientation packages, the HSJCC Secretariat invited Ministers' offices to connect with the HSJCC Secretariat on behalf of the P-HSJCC to further discuss areas of alignment and opportunities for collaboration. On October 25th, the Secretariat met with the Solicitor General's office to discuss intersecting priority areas which included crisis response, community safety and well-being plans, and community reintegration efforts.

The HSJCC Secretariat is meeting with the Attorney General's office on November 16th to discuss priorities related to therapeutic courts and other possible intersections with the HSJCC Network.

HSJCC Secretariat & Partner Ministry Meetings

In October 2022 the HSJCC Secretariat met with Assistant Deputy Ministers from the Ministries of the Solicitor General and Children, Community and Social Services to share updates, discuss upcoming initiatives, and identify synergies between our work. The next meeting is scheduled for January 2023.

Submissions and Consultations

On October 31, 2022, the P-HSJCC made a submission to the Ministry of the Solicitor General on the proposed changes to regulatory amendments under the Correctional Services Act related to strip searches of those in custody. Key messages focused on the importance of human rights and dignity of individuals, especially for those who are vulnerable and/or Black, Indigenous, or racialized individuals; standardized training for correctional staff, limiting the number of searches without suspicion, and the importance of data collection and reporting to develop evidence-based policy. The submission builds off previous feedback from the P-HSJCC related to correctional reform and our priority populations. The final submission is included in the consent agenda within the meeting package.