

P-HSJCC Meeting Highlights

May 13, 2024

PROVINCIAL HSJCC UPDATES

Updates from the Secretariat:

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

P-HSJCC May Meeting Theme:

The theme for P-HSJCC May meeting was ***“Moving beyond stigma and discrimination: humanizing individuals within the human services and justice system.”*** The meeting provided opportunities for participants to hear lived/living experience stories and participate in collaborative interactive activities to help members gain a better understanding of challenges faced by marginalized individuals throughout the human services and justice system.

The meeting held at the Double Tree Hotel, Downtown Toronto was attended by over **70** Provincial HSJCC members, presenters, people with lived and living experience and special guests.

Among the attendees were representatives from the HSJCC four partner ministries including:

- **Kyle MacIntyre**, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mental Health and Addictions, Health (MoH),
- **Trevor Sparrow**, Assistant Deputy Minister, Youth Justice Division, Children Community Social Services (MCCSS),
- **Kenneth Weatherill**, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Safety Division, Solicitor General (SolGen),
- **Nadia Thomas**, Deputy Director, Attorney General (MAG).

Other special guest organizations included:

- 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations
- TAIBU Community Health Centre
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres.
- Ontario Municipal Social Services Association (OMSSA)
- Mental Health Partners
- Atlohosa Family Healing Services
- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Drug Strategy Network of Ontario

Opening Remarks:

Kyle MacIntyre, Assistant Deputy Minister, Mental Health and Addictions, provided opening remarks and noted the Ministry’s continued commitment to invest in the areas of supportive housing and primary care team expansion initiatives as outlined in the **2024 Provincial Budget**.

Shared Lived Experience Story

Jonathan Peltier, Community Justice Worker, Wiikwemkoong Justice Program, shared his lived experience in the justice system and how it has allowed him to make deeper connections to the individuals that he serves, with an emphasis on community reintegration and the goal of decreasing the overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in all sectors of the Canadian Criminal Justice System.

Crisis Response Teams Environmental Scan:

Erin Paquette, Justice Policy Analyst with P-HSJCC Secretariat, and **Sarah Lindsay**, Quality and Research Analyst, Quality Improvement, CMHA Ontario, presented highlights related to the updated scan from the [*Mobile Crisis Response Teams: A Framework for Ontario and Tools for Developing Mobile Crisis Teams in Ontario*](#).

Preliminary results for the scan indicated there are:

- **54** organizations delivering one or more crisis services,
- **104** mobile crisis teams in Ontario,
- **89** police led/police partner mobile crisis response teams and
- **15** community-led crisis response teams.

After the presentation break out discussion questions included:

- *What in the survey was surprising to you?*
- *Based on the survey results, what do you think should be studied more closely?*
- *If CMHA Ontario were to update the map of crisis response teams across Ontario, what details would you want to see included?*

Feedback will be used in future project reports and help develop knowledge exchange opportunities.

Culturally Responsive Community Crisis Teams:

Saige McMahon, Director of the Indigenous Led Crisis Response Pilot, 2-Spirited People of the 1st Nations, and **Racquel Hamlet**, Manager of Wellness and Community Crisis Response, TAIBU Community Health Centre, highlighted culturally responsive approaches as part of the Toronto Community Crisis Service.

P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Framework Development

Shereen Rampersad, Lead, P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Working Group and Program Manager of Services and Housing in the Province, Peel region provided an overview of the work to date for the P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Framework strategy. **Valeria Danieli**, Co-Chair P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Advisory Committee, and **Duane Lea**, Community Connector for the Anti-Racism Framework focus groups, provided their perspectives.

P-HSJCC members and guests participated in a polling activity using the interactive application Mentimeter followed by table group discussions that were shared with the rest of the larger

group. Feedback from the polling and breakout session will be used to further identify opportunities and support the framework's development.

ACTION: Secretariat to share presentation slides as part of the P-HSJCC May meeting highlights package.

Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services (MCCSS) Youth Justice Mental Health Enhancement Plan

Lisa Smith, Project Lead, Clinical Interventions Unit and **Naama Baumgarten-Sharon**, Project Lead, Clinical Interventions Unit, Ministry of Children Community Social Services (MCCSS) Youth Justice Division presented on the ministry's **Youth Justice Mental Health Enhancement Plan**.

That plan will support the division in elevating service quality and capacity using a trauma informed service model approach across the youth justice mental health continuum. MCCSS will continue to update the P-HSJCC throughout the plan's development.

Community Reintegration Planning Tables (CRPT) Panel

The following individuals participated in a panel discussion highlighting innovation, collaboration, and culturally responsive service in **Community Reintegration**:

- **Susanne Narciso**, Community Reintegration Officer, Toronto South Detention CRPT,
- **Sarah James**, Team Lead-Community Programs, John Howard Society of Toronto, and Community Co-Chair, Toronto South CRPT,
- **Bethany Williams**, Atlohsa Family Healing Services, and Community Co-Chair, Sarnia CRPT,
- **Chris Simpson**, Firekeeper, Wigwaaminan Shelter.

What Keeps You Up at Night:

Each table discussed four main topic areas using the prompts provided. An assigned speaker from each table shared a summary of the group discussion. Written responses were also collected to inform strategic planning activities to gather feedback and identify any action items. Topic areas discussed included the following:

- **Housing:** What barriers do justice-involved people face when accessing supportive or transitional housing? What does supportive housing look like for justice-involved people?
- **Client Complexity:** How can local and regional HSJCCs play a role in addressing increasing client complexity and ensuring sector partners are working together to address systemic barriers?
- **Prevention & Early Intervention:** How can we prevent people from coming into contact with the justice system in the first place? What does prevention and early intervention support look like for people with mental health or substance use issues? How do we address the current crisis over long waitlists and wait times for mental health and substance use services?

- **Culturally Specific Supports & Services:** What role can the HSJCC play in promoting the advancement of more culturally specific supports and services to meet the needs of their clients/community? What do good partnerships and relationships look like between Indigenous and non-Indigenous justice partners?

ACTION ITEM: Secretariat to review, consolidate and share feedback from the table discussions and share with P-HSJCC members.

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS:

- Secretariat to share presentation slides as part of the P-HSJCC May Meeting Highlights Package.
- Secretariat to review, consolidate and share feedback from the table discussions and share with P-HSJCC members.