

Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee Bi-Monthly Updates Meeting Minutes

Date: March 21, 2023

Co-Chairs, Policy Support, and HSJCC Secretariat

HSJCC Position	HSJCC Member	✓	R
Provincial Co-Chairs	Joan Nandlal	✓	
	Sara Dias	✓	
Policy Support (CMHA Ontario)	Erin Paquette, Policy Analyst	✓	
	Candace Vena, Director of Justice Policy	✓	
	Andrew Fairbairn, Network Coordinator	✓	
HSJCC Secretariat	Snehal Jambhale, Community Reintegration	./	
	Coordinator	•	

Regional HSJCC Representatives (Voting Members)

HSJCC	Chair, Co-chairs and Delegate	✓	R
Hamilton/Niagara/Brant/Haldimand/ Norfolk (HNBHN) Regional	Jennifer Sansalone		R
, <u>-</u>	Mary Ellen Ruddell	✓	
Champlain Regional	Brian Merkley	✓	
	Sarah Telford	✓	+
Durham Regional	Valerie Mussington	✓	
	Nicole Tracy		R
Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Pine Ridge	Kim Kennelly	✓	
(HKPR) Regional	Teryl Hoefel		R
Halton Regional	Kimberly Cato	✓	
-	Katie Howse		R
North East Regional	Caitlin Germond	✓	
_	Kim McBride	✓	
North West Regional	Jennifer Hyslop	✓	
J	Jenny Leadbeater	✓	
Peel Regional	Kenneth Paynter	✓	
J	Marlon Murphy	✓	
Simcoe Muskoka Regional	Katherine Hunt	✓	
South East Regional HSJCC	Becky Stark		R
Ū	Julie Lambert	✓	
South West Regional HSJCC	Erika Sweitzer		R
J	Trevor Tymchuk	✓	
Toronto Regional HSJCC	Susan Davis	✓	
	Sue MacLennan		R
Waterloo-Wellington Regional HSJCC	Meredith Gardiner	✓	
York-South Simcoe Regional HSJCC	Crystal Kukucska	✓	
_	Crystal Irish	✓	



Ministry Representatives (Ex-Officio)

Ministry	Representative	✓	R
Correctional Service Canada	Brooklyn Stroeder	✓	
Ministry of Children, Community and	Phan Luong		R
Social Services (MCCSS)	Zoe Kavoukian-Scharf		R
	Jacqueline Doig Moore		R
	Elena Angeloni	✓	
	Lisa Smith	✓	
	Haweiya Egeh	✓	
	Tricia Hong		R
	Lauren laccino	✓	
	Richard Stevens	✓	
Ministry of the Solicitor General (SolGen)	Keri Zammit	✓	
	Andrea D'Silva		R
	Amy Herskowitz	✓	
	Jessica Mahon		R
	Neil Alexander		R
	Brad Gill Tamcsu	✓	
	Janet Benedict	✓	
	Joe Carruthers		R
	Yoko Murphy		R
Ministry of Health (MOH)	Dianna Cochrane		R
, ,	Lina Coladipietro	✓	
	Anjanette Brown	✓	
Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG)	Danny Morton		R
,	Dena Bonnet	✓	
	Rhonda Geraghty		R

Other Members (Ex-Officio)

Other Members (EX-Officio)			
Other Members	Representative	✓	R
CMHA Ontario Division	Candace Vena	✓	
Community Networks of Specialized Care	Lisa Holmes	✓	
Connex Ontario	Nerin Kaur	✓	
Legal Aid Ontario	Dina Zalkind	✓	
Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police	Joe Couto		R
Ontario Provincial Police	Lisa Longworth		R
	Chantal Dupuis		R
Forensic Directors Group	Michelle Davidson	✓	
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health	TBD		
Justice for Children and Youth	Mary Birdsell		R
	Samira Ahmed (Maternity Leave)		R
John Howard Society of Ontario	Safiyah Husein	✓	
Mental Health Commission of Canada	Krystal Kelly		R
PeerWorks	Allyson Theodorou	✓	
Association of Municipalities of Ontario	Michael Jacek	✓	
(AMO)			
P-HSJCC People with Lived Experience	Steve Torresan		R
Committee Chair			



Summary of Action Items March 21, 2023

1	• <u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat will send the approved final P-HSJCC 2023-2024 Workplan to the P-HSJCC and Ministry of Health by March 31, 2023. It will also be added to the HSJCC website.
2	ACTION: Secretariat will work with the P-HSJCC Executive Committee to prioritize workplan items and have strategic discussions at the May P-HSJCC 2023 meeting.
3	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat will work with the P-HSJCC Executive Committee to determine the use of the unallocated funds within the budget.
4	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat to send calendar invitation to members for the P-HSJCC May in person meeting.
5	ACTION: Secretariat will work with voting members to arrange reimbursement for their travel and accommodation.
6	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat will work with the P-HSJCC Executive Committee at their April meeting to develop an agenda for the May meeting.
7	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat to set up a meeting with representatives from MAG and LAO to discuss common issues effecting Ontario Specialty Courts and develop potential solutions.
8	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat to provide an update on the issue management discussion on Duty Counsel in Speciality Courts as an agenda item for the P-HSJCC May in person meeting.
9	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat to follow up with the MCCSS representatives with the above feedback to engage the network in the review.



	Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023		
	Item for Discussion	Discussion	
1)	Welcome and Introductions	P-HSJCC Co-Chair, Joan Nandlal asked that everyone display their full name in their Zoom display screen to accurately capture attendance moving forward.	
		Co-Chair Joan welcomed all to the meeting of March 21, 2023. There are 14 of 14 voting regions represented.	
		Co-Chair Joan welcomed the new Provincial HSJCC members:	
		 Kenneth Paytner and Marlon Murphy, Co-Chairs for Peel Regional HSJCC Yoko Murphy, Client Mental Health Lead within the Mental Health and Addictions Unit at SolGen 	
		Valarie Mussington, Co-Chair Durham Regional HSJCC provided the land acknowledgement.	
2)	Land Acknowledgement	valarie Mussington, co-chair Durnam Negional 113300 provided the land acknowledgement.	
3)	Consent Agenda	Co-Chair Joan to introduce and list items in Consent Agenda:	
		Agenda for March 21, 2023	
		Minutes from the January 17, 2023, P-HSJCC Meeting	
		Minutes from the February 28, 2023, P-HSJCC Executive Committee Meeting	
		Updates from the Secretariat	
		Q4 Budget Updates	
		P-HSJCC 2023-2024 Pre-Budget Submission	
		Co-Chair Joan indicated that if there are questions/comments from members, they should use the raise hand or typing in the chat box.	
		Co-Chair Joan asked voting members for a motion to approve the consent agenda.	
		Mary Ellen motioned to approve the agenda; Crystal K seconded.	

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 3 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023		
Item for Discussion	Discussion	
4) P-HSJCC 2023-2024 Work plan	CMHA Ontario, Director of Justice Policy, Candace Vena presented the final draft of the Provincial HSJCC 2023- 2024 Work plan and associated budget.	
	Background:	
	➤ In 2022, the P-HSJCC embarked on a new 3-year workplan cycle. A priority setting exercise completed across the network helped inform the P-HSJCC's top priorities for 2022-2025.	
	The P-HSJCC is committed to the identified priorities, however how they are actioned through the workplan may change over the 3-year workplan cycle.	
	A draft of workplan items for 2023-2024 was presented to the P-HSJCC Executive for review and feedback.	
	 One new item was added to the 2023-2024 Work plan under the HSJCC Network Support Function section (P-HSJCC Co-Chairs – Secretariat Team Meetings) which were already occurring. 	
	Key deliverables that have been updated as part of the 2023-2024 Workplan include:	
	 P-HSJCC Meetings Orientation for new HSJCC Members P-HSJCC Anti-Racism Standing Committee Crisis Response Engaging people with lived experience across the HSJCC network 2023 HSJCC Conference HSJCC Mailing List P-HSJCC & SolGen Partnership: Community Reintegration Planning Tables 	
	 Youth involved in the Criminal Justice System Budget items that were updated to the 2023-2024 Workplan included: 	
	 P-HSJCC Transition from Custody Network (Community of Practice HSJCC Education Webinars HSJCC Website 	

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 4 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023	
Item for Discussion	Discussion
Item for Discussion	Comments/Feedback: None MOTION: Trevor motioned to approve the P-HSJCC 2023-2024 Work plan; Meredith seconded. ACTION: The Secretariat will send approved P-HSJCC 2023-2024 Work plan to the Ministry of Health by March 31, 2023. ACTION: The Secretariat with work with the P-HSJCC to prioritize workplan items and have strategic discussions at the May 2023 meeting. ACTION: The Secretariat will work with the P-HSJCC Executive Committee to determine the use of the unallocated funds within the budget.
5) Update re: May in Person Meeting	Secretariat Network Coordinator Andrew Fairbairn provided members with an update regarding the May P-HSJCC in person meeting:
	The Secretariat provided an update on the P-HSJCC May in person meeting which has been confirmed for Thursday May 18th at the Double Tree Hilton Hotel on Chestnut Street in Toronto.
	38 Provincial HSJCC members have confirmed their interest and intention to attend the meeting in person.
	ACTION: Secretariat to send a calendar invitation for Thursday May 18th, 2023, to the P-HSJCC.
	ACTION: Secretariat to also send the P-HSJCC reimbursement form to P-HSJCC voting members for travel and accommodations

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 5 March 21, 2023



	Provincial HSJCC	
		Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023
	Item for Discussion	Discussion
6)	Issue Management Session: Duty Counsel in Specialty Courts	The Secretariat facilitated an issue management discussion submitted by the Kenora Rainy River District HSJCC regarding the lack of duty counsel in speciality courts in the Kenora area: • Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) guest representative outlined challenges related to staffing and hybrid court models in mental health courts, which restricts in-person access to Duty Counsel.
		 Members provided feedback on the status of specialty courts within their regions and the challenges that they face.
		Purpose: to hold a focused and informed discussion to determine if the given issue has a provincial scope, and if so, discuss how P-HSJCC would like to address the issue.
		Marcus Pratt (Legal Aid Ontario) spoke to the Kenora context regarding duty counsel in specialty courts
		 Legal Aid Ontario (LAO) faces ongoing staffing challenges (filling vacancies, finding duty counsel who are available and able to work for LAO, ensuring DC will be busy enough to justify their attendance in court)
		The provincial government cut 1/3 of LAO's funding in 2019, and focus shifted to substantive legal representation rather than on people already detained (effectively removing duty council)
		Virtual/hybrid court appearances are challenging to coordinate and create barriers to access for clients.
		 Placing a legal aid worker in mental health courts may help improve understanding of existing problems and where they first present in order to divert people more effectively.
		Note: Kenora Mental Health Courts are in-person
		Crown agrees this is a frustrating reality and wants to increase duty counsel as well. The Crown has offered some ideas/suggestions that can be shared with Marcus/Kenora
		Many clients are not being screened for custody and aren't accessing Legal Aid services as a result.

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 6 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023		
Item for Discussion	Discussion	
	 Mary Ellen Ruddell, Hamilton: Hamilton has a case management court, but not a specific mental health court. The court uses a hybrid system, likely due to 2019 funding cuts, but duty counsel only attends virtually: 	
	CMHA Hamilton now has someone providing in-person court support, but only having duty counsel available virtually has significantly slowed access.	
	Process delayed further if clients can't easily contact duty counsel due to inconsistent phone/email access.	
	Mary Ellen will canvass the other Local Tables in the region to get their thoughts on the issue.	
	 Kim Kennelly, CMHA HKPR: Region has 2 mental health courts (Lindsay, Peterborough) and a good relationship with duty counsel. Access issues aren't as pronounced. 	
	Primary concern is the issue of first appearance in case management courts, where duty counsel isn't available—only a Legal Aid representative screening for financial eligibility.	
	This and virtual/hybrid approaches are a significant barrier. Mental Health and Drug Treatment Courts are still hybrid—when people are 'missed' in these systems, how do they get referred? Could having duty counsel present in case management court first appearances improve access/seamlessness of the process?	
	 Caitlin, Sudbury-Manitoulin: There is no duty counsel in our region's wellness court, but our team has a very strong relationship with The Crown and duty counsel. Having duty counsel in wellness courts would be helpful. 	
	A bigger challenge is when someone is coming to the end of their diversion and withdrawal isn't as straightforward. Duty counsel could be helpful when challenges arise here (i.e., a person is unrepresented, facing new questions).	
	Lack of duty counsel in the wellness court does have an impact, but doesn't seem to be the reason people are not being diverted into wellness courts.	

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 7 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023		
Item for Discussion	Discussion	
	 Halton Region: Close work with duty counsel in Community Treatment Court. John Howard Co-Chair is more involved here and will be able to share more insight. A more succinct response will be sent to Andrew Fairbairn. 	
	 Valerie, Durham Region: We have a great relationship with duty counsel. Primary challenges right now stem from hybrid/virtual models and staffing challenges (across the board): 	
	Clients don't know how to navigate the hybrid system, and don't have the resources to navigate it.	
	We advise everyone to come to court so we can support, but our role is taking on more of the court process than the mental health work.	
	Kim McBride, Algoma (Sault Ste. Marie): Mental health court in Algoma has no concerns with this issue.	
	Trevor Tymchuk: I will have to survey our regional service providers since I have not heard of it being an issue so far.	
	 Jenny Leadbeater, NW COR: Similar issues in Thunder Bay. There is no mental health court here, but it's needed. This is broader than mental health courts since not every community will have one but may have some version of one. 	
	> Removing duty counsel from 1st appearance and case management courts severely impacted referrals	
	It fell on Court Diversion Workers to attend court all week and approach or flag people who might qualify for Diversion. Not having duty counsel in the courts has increased demand on court support workers generally.	
	Moving to virtual/hybrid has impacted the volume of clients within this program.	
	Since COVID, more people fall through the cracks and the relationship with The Crown hasn't been as strong.	
	Barrie/Simcoe County: Simcoe County has one mental health court, and only a select few clients are transitioned into this court (due partially to changes in The Crown)	

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 8 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023		
Item for Discussion	Discussion	
	 No duty counsel specifically in the court, unless already following the client Legal Aid workers present consistently, but referrals are challenging. 	
	 Delayed first point of contact is a considerable challenge under a hybrid model: duty counsel isn't present in the court until a plea is scheduled and the first point of contact may not occur until 5-6months into the process, by which points clients are often already confused by/frustrated with the system. Staff sit virtually in all the courts to make connections, and duty counsel refers to us fairly regularly/well. People still slip through the cracks because they don't know about duty counsel. 	
	 Issue management case is seemingly broader than the specific issue in Kenora. Erin will give an update in a future meeting based on feedback & further inquiry. Updates and potential solutions can be shared in May (tentative) 	
7) Proportation on	The Secretariat provided an update on the Community Reintegration Planning Tables:	
7) Presentation on Community Reintegration Planning Tables	The Secretariat is currently supporting the operationalization of local Planning Tables at the first five sites (Toronto South Detention Centre, Maplehurst Correctional Complex, Elgin-Middlesex Detention Centre, Thunder Bay Correctional Centre and Jail, and Kenora Jail)	
	 Project milestones include the selection of Planning Table Community Co-Chairs, the development of local Transfer Payment Agreements, finalizing local Planning Table Terms of Reference, signing of confidentiality forms and having introductory meetings with the core and as-needed membership groups. 	
	Feedback/Comments:	
	 Trevor Tymchuk: Project timeline was ambitious (goal was to start last year). Elgin Middlesex has been ready to get started for about 1.5 months, but we have been told to wait and aren't sure why since SolGen previously seemed so enthusiastic. When can we start meeting? Is 1 unprepared table preventing 4 others from moving forward? We have cases ready and it's disappointing we haven't been able to move forward. 	
	 We hoped that in the first phase everyone would be at the same stage regarding readiness to case carry. That hasn't been the case, so we're looking to ensure some of the other sites are close behind, and we are 	

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 9 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023					
Item for Discussion	Discussion				
	 close to being able to have all the sites start. We want the momentum to continue and to serve people, and we're almost there. The Secretariat welcomes preliminary discussions with those participating in the next phase, as there are 				
	several lessons learned to work from.				
8) 2023 Review of the Child, Youth and Family Services Act:	P-HSJCC Co-Chair Joan Nandlal led a discussion regarding the 2023 review of the Child, Youth and Family Services Act which includes six focus areas:				
, and a second	1)Child and youth rights				
	2)First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples' self-determination 3)Equity, anti-racism and overrepresentation				
	4)Prevention, well-being and community-based care				
	5)Improving quality and preventing child exploitation				
	6)Accountability and consistency.				
	Purpose: Ministry is looking for input on legislation and how we'd like to participate. Who would work with the secretariat to provide feedback, and who else should PHSJCC engage with before participating in engagement sessions?				
	Comments/Feedback:				
	Opportunity to determine role/avenue for engaging—The Secretariat can work public engagement avenue. Wary of over-extending with too many approaches				
	 Joan Nandlal, Co-Chair: it will be important to engage with providers working with youth aging out of child welfare (prior to and post aging out) 				
	 Jenn Hyslop, CMHA Thunder Bay: Interested in participating. There are huge challenges for youth in Thunder Bay transitioning out of care, so we have a lot of expertise here. 				

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 10 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023						
Item for Discussion	Discussion					
	A targeted approach likely isn't the best use of time.					
	Trevor Tymchuk: Having regional table members engaged may result in more feedback. An online survey, collated responses, etc. hopefully isn't too labour intensive for the Secretariat.					
	 Jenny Leadbeater: Online surveys are likely the most effective, and we're happy to distribute one. We've had a lot of issues that come through our table that relate back to the Act. 					
	Most recently, the issue of youth being groomed and trafficked into drug/gang violence, which isn't covered under the current human trafficking sub-section.					
	There are lots of transient youth being moved through the province this way, and since there isn't anything else available it becomes a child welfare responsibility.					
	 Members suggested the most productive way for MCCSS to receive feedback that is reflective of those with expertise in the above areas would be to ensure there is opportunity for feedback through an online survey sent to the network. 					
	<u>ACTION:</u> Secretariat to follow up with the MCCSS representatives with the above feedback to engage the network in the review.					
8. Regional HSJCC and Partner Updates						
Is there any information	that you would like to share that could help support the HSJCC Network during this time?					

2) How can the PHSJCC and Secretariat support you?

Updates from Regional HSJCCs and Partners	Regional HSJCC Representatives (Voting Members)		
	HSJCC	Person that provided update	Information Shared
	HNBHN	Mary Ellen	Regional and local tables working on PWLE engagement. Land acknowledgements now included in every meeting. Regional Table updating Terms of Reference for the first time. Workplans submitted.

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 11 March 21, 2023



	Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023			
Item for Discussion	Discussion			
			First annual member engagement survey had low response rates, but still valuable learning.	
			Current system issues include client barriers to accessing phones and virtual platforms; discharge planning out of custody.	
			ABI in the region doing 2 pilot projects/research: care pathways, TBI in underserved populations, including people intersecting with the criminal justice system. Once this is ready to be shared, hosting a webinar for HSJCC broadly would be great.	
			MATT Gen partnered with CMHA Hamilton and other organizations re: community justice coordinator—very positive traction for rapid resolution process.	
			MHTCS/DTC established across region. Conference info sent to Secretariat.	
	Champlain	Brian/Sarah	More energy from the committee Success attracting with new members	
	Durham	N/A		
	HKPR	N/A	 Regional conference for May 26th Trent University for research project 	
	Halton	Katie	Actively recruiting new members with diverse identities	
	North East	Caitlin/Kim		
	North West	Jenny/ Jennifer	Finish planning session in February and returning HSJCC name and structure. NW COR will be no longer	
	Peel	N/A/		

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 12 March 21, 2023



Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023				
Item for Discussion	Discussion			
	Simcoe-Muskoka	Katherine	 Hired a Community Justice coordinator that will organize clients and support Looking for another co-chair 	
	South West	Trevor	Community planning table is ready	
	South East	N/A		
	Toronto	N/A		
	Waterloo Wellington	Meredith	Working on Work plan	
	York-South Simcoe	N/A	 Regional conference June 8, 2023 Workplan completed. Training opportunities Lunch and learns in October and November 	
	Ministry Representatives (Ex-Officio)			
	Ministry	Person that provided update	Information Shared	
	Corrections Service Canada	N/A		
	SolGen- Correctional Services (Policing Standards)	N/A		
	SolGen – Public Safety Division	N/A		
	мон	Lina		
	MAG	Rhonda		

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 13 March 21, 2023



	Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023			
Item for Discussion	Discussion			
	MCCSS - Youth Justice Services Division	Drug tre	atment court	
	MCCSS – Community and Developmental Services Division	You At the the Key com The	css is in the process of legislative review regarding the Child, th and Family Services Act his point in time, the framework has been developed in regard to key focus areas for review (detailed in Minister's letter) partners are invited to participate in the review, including out mittee (P-HSJCC) ministry has developed a few key engagements: Ministry-led sector specific roundtable sessions at which detailed and technical sector-specific questions will be discussed. Public engagement through an online survey and email submissions guided by public discussion guides. Regional office-led child, youth and family focused engagements Additional targeted engagements in collaboration with community agencies to engage First Nations, Inuit and Metis, Black and Francophone populations. the future, the committee is interested in a focused discussion, nical conversation, the Ministry can gladly arrange this Ministry is looking forward to the participation and hearing ghts for the review.	
	Other Members	Person that provided update	Information Shared	
	Other Members (Ex-Offici			
	CMHA Ontario	Candace		
	Community Networks of Specialized Care	N/A		
	Legal Aid Ontario	Dina		
	Connex Ontario	Neur		

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 14 March 21, 2023



Provincial HSJCC	Minutes from	n P-HS ICC Meeting	of March 21, 2023
Item for Discussion	Minutes from P-HSJCC Meeting of March 21, 2023 Discussion		
nom for Broadcorn	OACP	N/A	Dioduction
	Forensic Directors	Michelle	
	Group	WHOTHORIO	
	OPP	N/A	
	CAMH PSSP	N/A	
	John Howard Society of	Safiyah	
	Ontario	Canyan	
	Justice for Children and	N/A	
	Youth		
	Ontario Peer	N/A	
	Development Initiative		
	P-HSJCC People with	N/A	
	Lived Experience		
	(PWLE) Committee		
13) Meeting adjournment			
, ,	The Provincial HSJCC meeting of March 21, 2023, adjourned at approximately 4:00PM.		
Next P-HSJCC Monthly			
Updates Meeting: May			
18th, 2023 – 9:00am –			
3:00pm In Person			

Provincial HSJCC Meeting 15 March 21, 2023