

## Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: February 27, 2012

## **Meeting Attendance:**

	Regional HSJCC Reps (Voting Members)	Ministry Reps (Ex-Officio)	Other Members (Ex-Officio)
Present	Vicky Huehn (Co-chair) – South East Region Alice Bellavance, North West Region Katie Almond, Toronto Region Jonathan King, York-South Simcoe Regional Rep Martina Piccinin, Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes Courtenay McGlashen, York Region Steve Lurie, Toronto Region Sandie Leith, North East Region Trevor Tymchuk, North East Region/Consumer Lloyd Bowers, Halton Region Joan Dervin, Champlain Region	Sheri Weisberg (MOHLTC) Chris Higgins (MOHLTC) Brian Smegal (MCYS) Thanusha Kayilasanathan (MCYS) Carol Lang (MOHLTC) Maura Jette (MAG)	Uppala Chandrasekera (CMHA) Michelle Gold (CMHA) Brad Davy (CONNEX) Marnie McDermott, Community Network of Specialized Care Judy Alton (OPP)
Regrets		Sue Khowessah (MCSCS) Marie Fitzgerald (MCSCS)	Linda Montgomery
Guests	Lori Montague, Director and Ministry Lead, Justice on Target, Ministry of the Attorney General		Maurice Fortin (CKT Committee) Marion Evans (CKT Committee)

## **Meeting Minutes:**

	Item	Discussion	Action & Person Responsible	Motion
1.	Welcome & Introductions	Vicky welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Committee reviewed agenda.		
2.	Review and approval of Nov 9, 2011 minutes	Minutes approved as circulated.		
3.	Provincial HSJCC business:			
	a) Motion, new Co- Chair, Katie Almond	The Co-hair position was vacated by Mark Graham in November, and we have been searching for a new co-chair. Katie Almond's name has been put forward for the co-chair position. Final opportunity was provided for anyone else other than Katie to express interest in this position; there were no other expressions of interest.	Sandie	Motion made by Sandie Leith and seconded by Steve Lurie to elect Katie Almond as co-chair of the Provincial HSJCC. Carried.
	b) Provincial Conference Follow-Up including electing conference chair for 2013	Sheri Weisberg provided update that at the last steering committee meeting, members discussed the success of our recent conference, but noted conference committee was pulled together a bit later than had been in 2009. We have a list of people interested in being on next conference committee, and topics of interest. It's a good idea to move forward with planning now, since next conference is in 18 months.		
		Conference provides opportunities to network and engage in partnership work. Ministries are increasingly more interested in the work of the HSJCCs and appreciate attending the conferences. Local and Regional HSJCC members utilize the conference as a professional development and education opportunity. With the 2013 conference, it is possible to look at alternative methods for organizing the conference. Possibility of using a different venue such as the Ontario Police College in Alymer.		

		Current conference committee requires some experienced members to move the organizing process forward.  Vicky noted that in 7 months she will be stepping down from the Provincial HSJCC co-chair position. Vicky is willing to step forward as "mentor chair" for the Conference Committee, if there is someone willing to step forward to be the chair, and to start being mentored.	Individuals interested in chairing Conference Committee should contact Vicky.	All in favour of Vicky co- chairing and mentoring someone else (to come forward).
c)	Update: Info Guide for Communicating with Correctional Facilities	The Provincial HSJCC Info Guide: Strategies for Community Service Providers for Engaging in Communication with Correctional Facilities in Ontario is now completed and available on the Provincial HSJCC website:  http://www.hsjcc.on.ca/Uploads/HSJCC%20Corrections%20Info%20 Guide%20Final%20February%202012%20v2.pdf  Thanks to the Advisory Committee of this project: Katie Almond, Cecilia Belcastro, Uppala Chandrasekera, George Kurzawa, Sandie Leith, Kim McBride, Brian Smegal. George and Uppala co-chaired this committee. This was a great collaborative project and a great example of the work we can do at the Provincial HSJCC table.		
d)	Update: Police/Mental Health Education Directory	Since November, Uppala has been presenting the Police & Mental Health report in different arenas and asking people to provide info they have for the P/MH Education Directory. Dorothy Cotton has offered services through the Policy Mental health liaison website. Uppala will bring it back to Steering committee when she has a better idea of the resources necessary to create the online directory.		
e)	Update: Data collection project	At the November Provincial HSJCC Conference, Courtenay and Uppala hosted a networking session for court workers to discuss the possibility of developing a court data collection project. Justice programs are recording data differently, we don't know what we should be tracking. About 15-20 people at PHSJCC conference expressed interested in participating in this project. This project is on the list of projects for the Provincial HSJCC to move forward on.		

1	f)	Recruitment for Provincial HSJCC Coordinator	Steering Committee has not started a process for recruitment because a decision has not yet been made about what resources the Provincial HSJCC needs. We will have a better idea of the resources necessary following our environmental scan discussion today.  Steve noted that rules around consulting have really tightened, anything over \$0.00 needs to go through an RFP process. Consultants are expensive, staffing costs are less, so we need to look at how best to do this, and look at creative value for money proposals going forward.		
,	g)	Bill 168 and workplace safety (parked item)	Committee discussed the issue of the impact of Bill 168 on hospital patients with mental health conditions. Committee decided that more information is needed on Bill 168 and the new Health & Safety Act.  Suggestion was made to have a 2-part presentation on Bill 168 and what it means for patients and staff, and then talk about the Peel region review of different approaches to Risk Management. Steering Committee will make arrangements for the presentation at a future meeting.	Steering Committee to make arrangements for a presentation on Bill 168 at a future meeting.	
,	h)	Template for updates required from regional and local tables (parked item)	Deferred until we talk about what our needs are.		
i	i)	Mailing list for local and regional committees	All Regional and Local HSJCC Chairs are requested to update their committee membership lists and email them to Linda Montgomery at <a href="mailto:linda.montgomery@sympatico.ca">linda.montgomery@sympatico.ca</a>		

## 4. Presentation: Justice on Target

Lori Montague, Director and Ministry Lead, Justice on Target, Ministry of the Attorney General, made a presentation to the Committee.

There was a lengthy question and answer period.

Steve notes that many of his clients have committed Class I or II offences, and there is confusion province-wide re: what is the best model, JOT Direct Accountability (DA), or MH Diversion. How does MH fit into JOT? Same issue, per Lori, w/r/t Aboriginal Justice, because of overlap, it would be good if community justice worker could overlap with AJ worker, because they are both MAG. Lori notes that Aboriginal accused don't want to go through. Lori notes there has to be a larger conversation at the Ministry level about how these programs overlap. MH diversion is the paper (covers the rock). Vicky notes that there are people who go through JOT DA who should have gone through MH diversion. Lori notes that MAG is aware of this, but DA is based on crown referral, so if crown/police do not flag MH issues, they will send to JOT, but we are looking at ways to become more aware of MH issues, so people don't end up in JOT who need MH diversion.

JOT is a change in process, not going to result in a report.

Mental health cases take longer than other cases. MH endorsement by court staff doesn't always happen, but we're looking at that. There are little issues in ICON, consistency of reporting is one thing we are working on. MH is grossly under reported in our system.

Can only speculate how the new crime bills are going to effect the justice system, Lori speculates it will drive numbers up, and/or ruled unconstitutional; there is a whole MAG team working on the implications of Bill C-10. It would be a good thing to know at this table. Lori undertakes to find out the name of the person who is working on Bill C-10 and pass it on to Vicky. Compare MH to average, break data down by courts, Lori notes we can provide the difference between general stream to MH stream.

	Data quality and reporting back has 3 staff. Katie asks about disclosure delays. Lori: Toronto is the outlier who drives up disclosure delay, OCH and CP, specific to TPS, not sure what the problem is. Katie deals with those courts. Lori notes we're working on that, we don't have total control of the process.  Chances of JOT getting embedded are good since Drummond report, as JOT is a good example of evidence-based success	
5. Communications and Knowledge Transfer Committee (CKT) update on new and improved website	CKT Committee coordinates the quarterly newsletter and the website. CKT Committee provided a demonstration of the new website which is now searchable and has a catalogue of articles on justice and mental health related issues.  Suggestion made for Provincial HSJCC to release a memo to the Regional and Local HSJCCs announcing the new and improved website. Uppala to draft the memo.  CKT committee currently consists of Maurice, Marion, and Chris (exofficio). Committee is recruiting additional members. We need somebody from the Provincial HSJCC who is interested in sharing information, computer skills, research skills, etc. Trevor volunteered to join as he has lots of the skills outlined. Committee is still searching for a chair. Interested individuals should contact Chris.	Uppala to draft memo re: new website.  Individuals interested in joining CKT Committee should contact Chris.
6. Environmental Scan  • What are the key issues that impact HSJCCs in the new political environment – locally, regionally and provincially?	Uppala shared the justice related recommendations from the Drummond Report, available at: http://www.fin.gov.on.ca/en/reformcommission/  Chapter 14 of the Drummond report focuses specifically on the justice sector, and there are 10 recommendations outlined:  Recommendation 14-1: Improve evidence-based data collection in the justice sector to achieve better outcomes in sector programs.  Recommendation 14-2: Increase use of the Justice On Target	

 What are the opportunities for HSJCCs in the new environment? program to assist with the reduction of custody remand, and implement evidence-based approaches to increase efficiency in the field of family law and family courts.

**Recommendation 14-3:** Expand diversion programs for low-risk, non-violent offenders with mental illness as an alternative to incarceration.

**Recommendation 14-4:** Review the core responsibilities of police to eliminate their use for non-core duties. This review would include an examination of alternative models of police service delivery. Criteria for the review would include determining the relative costs of the various security providers and an evaluation of their respective comparative advantages.

**Recommendation 14-5:** Use alternative service delivery for the delivery of non-core services within correctional facilities, where it is feasible.

**Recommendation 14-6:** Continue the process of clustering adjudicative tribunals across the Ontario Public Service (OPS).

**Recommendation 14-7:** Examine integration opportunities and consolidate where possible public safety training in policing, fire services and correctional services, which are currently delivered individually through their respective colleges.

**Recommendation 14-8:** Have the justice sector continue to work with Infrastructure Ontario to use alternative financing and procurement to assist in replenishing its capital infrastructure.

**Recommendation 14-9:** Improve co-ordination between federal and provincial governments in areas such as justice policy and legislation, law enforcement and correctional services.

**Recommendation 14-10:** Negotiate the transfer of responsibility for incarceration for sentences longer than six months to the federal government.

Committee conducted a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis taking into considerations the recommendations in the Drummond report:

- What are the key issues that impact HSJCCs in the new environment locally, regionally, provincially?
- What are the opportunities for us?

Committee noted the various different opportunities and issues arising in the new environment:

- Drummond recommendations focus on value for money
- 10 Mental Health & Addictions Strategy
- 18 Service Collaboratives (being coordinated by CAMH)
- Omnibus Crime Bill
- OACP's move away from mental health and refocus on core policing responsibilities
- MCYS interest in working with HSJCCs locally/regionally
- Expansion of youth court support
- Recognition by Government of the value of intersectoral collaboration – HSJCCs recognized as innovative collaborations
- Integration and amalgamation, especially of community mental health and addictions organizations
- Evidenced-based research focus on value for money
- Ontario Human Rights Commission policy on human rights and mental health (due in Fall 2012)
- Ongoing Coroner's Inquest recommendations

Committee agreed that it is important to discuss Drummond recommendations and conduct a SWOT analysis at the Regional and Local HSJCC tables. Uppala will develop a framework to facilitate these discussions at Regional and Local HSJCCs. Suggestion made that survey monkey can be a tool for assisting with this discussion (that way committees can complete the survey while conducting the discussion).

Uppala will develop a framework to facilitate these discussions at Regional and Local HSJCCs.

7.	Brief Updates from Regional HSJCCs and Ministries:	Send updates to maura.jette@ontario.ca for inclusion in the minutes		
8.	Confirm Next Meeting Dates:  March 21  May 14  September 20 (please note date change from Sept. 12)  November 13  Jan 16, 2013	Next meeting: currently set for March 21, 2012.  Possibility of having a half-day teleconference instead of an inperson meeting. Steering Committee will notify the group of the final decision.  Meeting adjourned.	Steering committee to notify Provincial HSJCC regarding March 21 <sup>st</sup> meeting.	