

# PROVINCIAL HUMAN SERVICES AND JUSTICE COORDINATING COMMITTEE

## PRE-BUDGET SUBMISSION 2022

*COVID-19 has illuminated the need for greater investments in the human services and justice sectors across Ontario. Individuals with complex human service needs who interact with the justice system continue to be among the most vulnerable populations during the pandemic. Members of the HSJCC Network are facing an increase in the complexity of client needs with limited resources to support them. Our 2022-2023 pre-budget submission is requesting an increased investment in the HSJCC Network to continue to respond to and support the emerging needs of our priority populations.*

### What is the HSJCC Network?

A network of committees established to coordinate resources and services for people with unique needs who have come into contact with the law

### Who are the members of the HSJCC Network?

HSJCCs are voluntary collaborations made up of over 1,600 professionals from the human services and justice sectors

### What do HSJCCs do?

Operating at a Local, Regional and Provincial level, HSJCCs provide education and training for their members, as well as coordinate care for individuals and work to address systemic issues

## OUR NETWORK

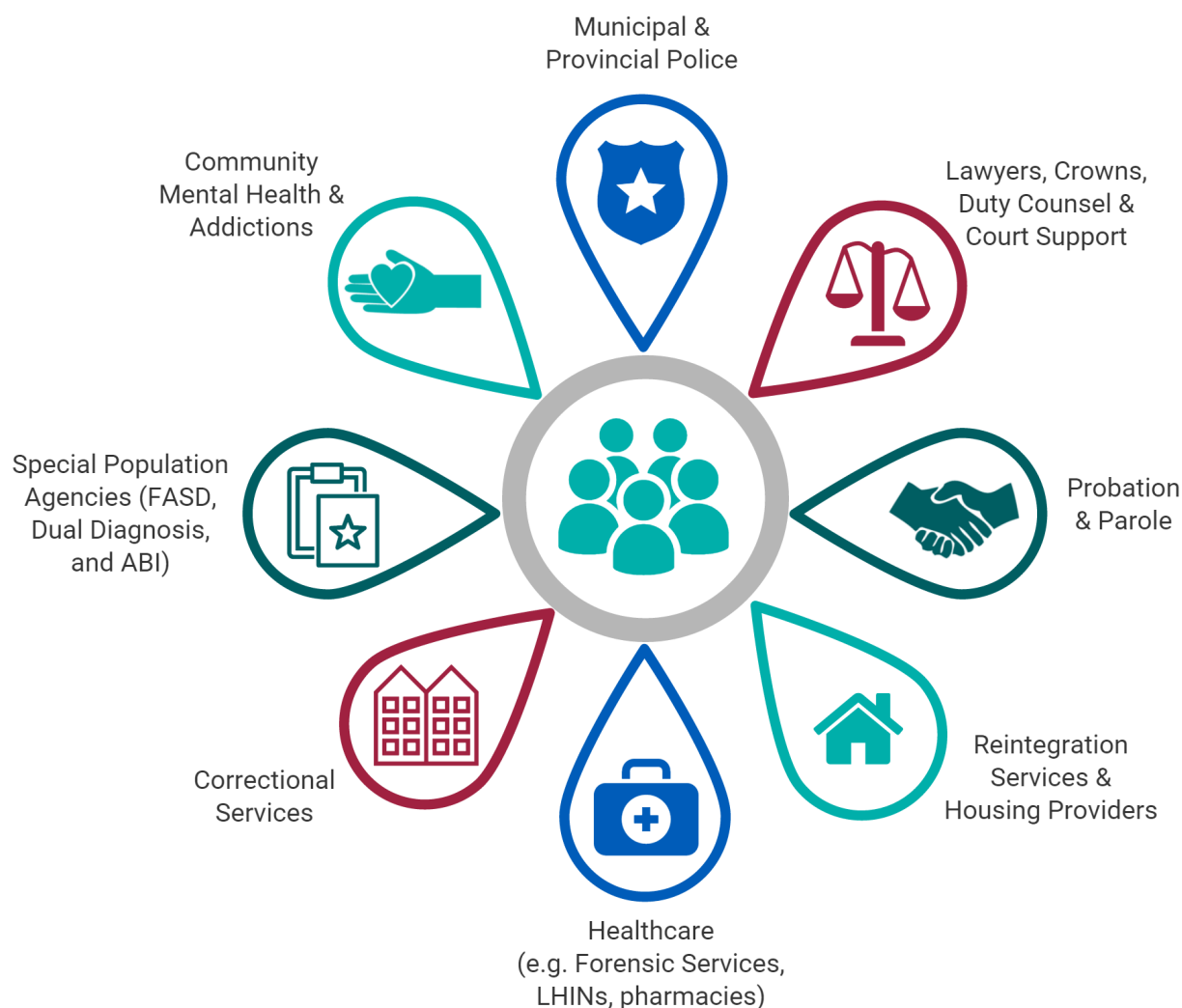
Ontario's [Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee \(HSJCC\) Network](#) is a cooperative effort of the Ministries of Health, the Attorney General, Children, Community and Social Services, and the Solicitor General. Our priority consideration is for individuals with complex human service needs which may include but are not limited to those living with mental health issues, substance use concerns and/or behavioural dependencies, or neurodevelopmental and neurocognitive disabilities including developmental disabilities and dual diagnosis.

Our network includes over 1500 members across Ontario. Each HSJCC is a voluntary collaboration between social service organizations, Black, Indigenous and racialized led organizations, mental health and addictions organizations and partners from the justice sector, including police services, legal aid, Crown attorneys and correctional and probation officers. There are 14 Regional HSJCCs who provide education and training to their members, and work to address regional system change initiatives. There are 39 Local HSJCCs who focus on education and training, while also coordinating care for justice-involved individuals in their communities and provide input to regional committees.

Our network affirms the importance of a coordinated, cross-sectoral approach to address issues affecting Ontarians in conflict with the law and its effective means of reducing criminalization across the province. We remain committed to providing essential supports to communities that face multiple barriers to accessing health care.

The [Provincial HSJCC \(P-HSJCC\)](#) functions as a planning body, providing support and leadership to the individual and collective efforts of the Local and Regional HSJCCs. With the support of the P-HSJCC and Secretariat Staff, our Network has been able to markedly increase the scope of our achievements. The P-HSJCC has also been able to respond quickly to emerging province-wide issues, key concerns and needs identified by our Network, particularly during the pandemic. We have shared these concerns and proposed solutions in regular [submissions to government](#).

The P-HSJCC is supported by the HSJCC Secretariat, which is housed at the Canadian Mental Health Association, Ontario. Established in 2015, with funding made available by the Ministry of Health, the Secretariat has supported a considerable expansion of the work of the HSJCC Network by coordinating province-wide projects, providing overall project management, strategic policy advice and analysis and assistance with member engagement support. The Secretariat also assists with education and knowledge exchange activities, including educational webinars, newsletters and informational guides which are all made publicly available on the HSJCC [website](#).



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

The P-HSJCC regularly engages our members through surveys, consultations, webinars, and virtual meetings to determine priorities, which are outlined in our [annual reporting webinars](#). Our priorities of focus for **2022-2025** include the expansion of resources and funding for our network, safe and affordable housing for justice-involved clients, community reintegration efforts, issues for specialized populations including Black and Indigenous populations and youth, expansion of crisis response, substance use issues, cross-sector collaboration and cooperation issues, member engagement and clients with complex needs.

The P-HSJCC leads several provincial working groups and policy projects that have produced important public policy resources and knowledge exchange products such as [navigational guides and reports](#), [webinars](#) and [newsletters](#).

## HSJCC REPORTS AND RESOURCES



# Provincial HSJCC 2021 Virtual Conference

By the numbers

## Community Justice: Transforming Practices in a New World

The Provincial Human Services and Justice Coordinating Committee 2021 Virtual Conference  
November 16-17, 2021

**680**  **73% increase**  
in registration from 2019 conference

**Conference Delegates**  
attended virtually across the country

**14** **People with lived experience**  
were supported to attend this event

**29** 

### Presentations & Workshops

### Featuring Keynote Speakers

Tanya Talaga + Elyn Saks

With special guest speakers Hon. Christine Elliott,  
Hon. Sylvia Jones, and Hon. Michael Tibollo

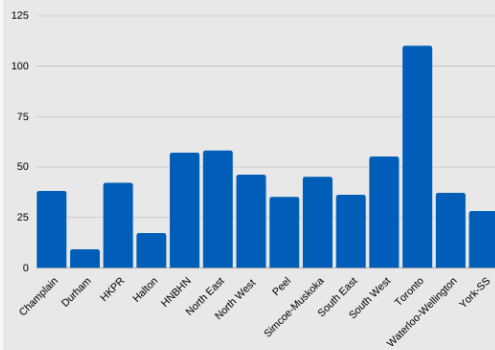
**Workshop Streams:** Forensic (3), Innovation and Creative Community Response (8), Complex Needs (6), Specialized Populations (4), Models/Frameworks for Better Collaboration (2), Resiliency for Service Providers and Frontline Workers (1), Keynotes (4)

**5**   
**Government  
Ministries**

**330**   
**Organizations**

**98**   
**Ontario  
Communities**

### Regional Representation



## Sector Representation

### Human Services and Justice Sectors Present:



- Community Mental Health & Addictions
- Correctional Services
- Corrections
- Courts
- Education
- Government
- Health Care
- Indigenous Services
- Judicial System
- People with Lived Experience / Peer Support
- Police Services
- Probation/Parole
- Racialized Populations
- Reintegration Services and Housing
- Specialized Populations

### #HSJCC2021 on Twitter

Our tweets made **283,368** impressions

**23** users joined the conversation

**103** posts were published

We reached **155,434** users



### New Connections

**462** Participants attended Virtual Networking Sessions

**42%** Participants reported making new connections at the virtual conference

**70%** Participants intend to follow up on connections made

Every two years the P-HSJCC hosts a conference. In November 2021, the P-HSJCC hosted its first ever virtual conference. This two-day event brought over 700 participants from organizations and communities across Ontario, the most we have ever seen at a conference. This educational event was an invaluable opportunity for professionals from the human services and justice sectors to share promising practices, build cross-sector networks, and engage innovative solutions for the priority populations we serve.

Over the last two years, the P-HSJCC has convened new standing committees and a Community of Practice in response to emerging issues and areas of need during the pandemic. These include a community of practice which addresses release from custody issues, a standing committee that addresses anti-racism within the human services and justice sectors and a standing committee to improve the engagement of people with lived experience across the HSJCC Network. The committees have provided an opportunity for members to share information, address common issues and generate system solutions to improve client outcomes.

# OUR REQUEST

## HSJCC NETWORK FUNDING

Beginning in 2004/2005, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care invested \$500,000 in annualized funding for the operations of the entire HSJCC Network. The \$500,000 investment included funding for the 39 Local HSJCCs, 14 Regional HSJCCs and the P-HSJCC. In 2015, we were delighted to receive additional annualized funding, totalling \$225,000 from the Ministry of Health to establish the HSJCC Secretariat.

The Local and Regional HSJCCs have not received any new funding since the inception of our network. Even with the emergence of new government-led initiatives such as Situation Tables, Community Safety and Well-Being Plans and Communities of Practice that require HSJCC support, we did not receive any new dedicated funding. Regional and Local HSJCCs provide direct services to our priority populations across Ontario. In many regions, committees provide basic need items such as food vouchers, hygiene products, clothing and transit tickets for individuals that are being released from custody to assist them with the transition back to the community. Our committees play an important role in supporting these vulnerable individuals to return safely and begin reintegrating back into their home community.

Our committees also play a vital role in education and trainings for their members, hosting knowledge exchange events, offering trainings and producing useful resources. These efforts are often done without any additional investments in technology and/or administrative support. The HSJCC Network is also committed to improving the meaningful engagement of people with lived experience in our work. Additional funding is required to provide compensation to members with lived experience for their contributions and to ensure that members have the adequate resources to fully participate.

### REGIONAL COMMITTEES

- 1 Hamilton/Niagara/Brant/Haldimand/Norfolk
- 2 Champlain
- 3 Durham
- 4 Haliburton/Kawartha Lakes/Pine Ridge
- 5 Halton
- 6 NorthEast
- 7 NorthWest
- 8 Peel
- 9 Simcoe/Muskoka
- 10 SouthEast
- 11 SouthWest
- 12 Toronto
- 13 Waterloo/Wellington
- 14 York/South Simcoe

### LOCAL COMMITTEES

- 1 Brantford
- 2 Haldimand/Norfolk
- 3 Hamilton
- 4 Niagara
- 5 Pembroke
- 6 Stormont/Dundas/Glenora/Akwesasne/Prescott/Russell
- 7 Haliburton
- 8 Kawartha Lakes
- 9 Northumberland
- 10 Peterborough
- 11 Algoma
- 12 Cochrane
- 13 Nipissing
- 14 Parry Sound
- 15 Sudbury/Manitowish
- 16 Temiskaming
- 17 Kenora
- 18 Thunder Bay
- 19 Dufferin
- 20 Orillia
- 21 Midland
- 22 Collingwood
- 23 Barrie
- 24 Frontenac
- 25 Hastings/Prince Edward County
- 26 Lanark
- 27 Leeds/Grenville
- 28 Lennox/Addington
- 29 Elgin/Middlesex
- 30 Grey/Bruce
- 31 Huron/Perth
- 32 Lambton/Kent
- 33 London
- 34 Oxford
- 35 Windsor/Essex
- 36 Downtown Toronto
- 37 North York
- 38 Scarborough
- 39 West Toronto
- 40 Scarborough
- 41 West Toronto

## HSJCC COMMITTEE MAP





Our network has had to rely on the generosity of our partner agencies to meet the growing demands for service. Many of member organizations have provided in-kind staffing support, made financial donations, and even used funding from their operating budgets to support the important work of the HSJCC Network. In addition, there is no dedicated funding to provide compensation for the work accomplished by our members on behalf of the HSJCC. Rather, members are either compensated through their respective employers or their time is volunteered to the network. The COVID-19 pandemic has further reinforced the urgent need to invest in our network. Members are experiencing significant increases in competing priorities, complexities of client needs, stress, fatigue and burnout, inadequate compensation levels and subsequent issues with staff retention.

The HSJCC Secretariat team has also grown since its inception in 2015. The HSJCC has increased the number of staff responsible for supporting the network and has broadened its areas of scope despite not receiving any additional funding. The Secretariat has also broadened its expertise by forming three additional standing committees and communities of practice and has enhanced its capacity to support improved communications and knowledge exchange, strategic policy advice and analysis, membership and engagement through partnerships and project work.

Our HSJCC Network is requesting a **\$500,000** increase to our annualized funding to continue our work at the Local, Regional and Provincial levels to support Ontarians with mental health issues, substance use concerns, and other human service needs that are involved with the justice system. A funding increase is crucial to sustain our existing capacity and meet growing demands. Our Network would be happy to work with government to develop a plan for the allocation of these funds.

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SARA DIAS

For further discussion on this submission, please contact:

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