



**West Toronto Human Services and Justice
Coordinating Committee (WT-HSJCC)**

Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Metro West Courthouse, 2201 Finch Avenue West, Courtroom 207

Present: Debbie Lynch (Co-chair), CTYS; Elana Glass, Duty Counsel; Domenica Dileo, HSJCC; Fatima Senra, LAO; Mary Jane Ellis, CMHA; Serena Surujbali, Youth Justice Committee Program; Scott McKean, City of Toronto; Chelsea Davis, Operation Springboard; Lul Omar, Youth Mental Health

Regrets: Daniel O'Driscoll, Community Head Injury Resource Services; Scott Skinner, Surrey Place; Patricia Pagnani (Co-chair), Toronto Bail Program; Amber Kellen (Co-chair), John Howard Society of Toronto

Welcome and Introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

Review of November 12, 2019 minutes

The minutes of the November 12, 2019 meeting were approved.

Review Action Items:

Action items were reviewed and completed.

Presentation: Scott McKean on the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan

- The Toronto Board of Health adopted the Community Violence in Toronto – A Public Health Approach report at its November 12, 2019 meeting. This motion addresses community violence and mental health. This report identifies that community violence has physical and mental health impacts on the victim, perpetrator, family, friends, neighbors and the city.
- At its October 3 meeting, Toronto City Council adopted the Investing in Anti-Violence Programs report.
- Commitment to fund projects for and by people with lived experience. Funds have been allocated for this model.
- An overview of the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan as identified in the Community Safety and Policing Act 2019 will be attached with the minutes.
- The Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 mandates every municipality across Ontario to prepare and adopt a Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan.
- Municipalities must form a multi-sectoral advisory committee

- Exploring story telling as communication strategy.
- Launched system wide advisory table to look at risk factors in four areas: Community Trauma, Community Violence, Harm and victimization and justice innovation.

Next step engaging public consultation and finalize work in the 4 areas.

Themes discussed: Does the plan have housing provision?

Looking forward to future sharing information with the committee.

Scott was thanked for an informative and interactive presentation.

Lunch and Learns:

- Domenica reported that the next Lunch and Learn session will be on FASD scheduled for December 5th.
- Next Lunch and Learn topics were discussed: Sex Trafficking of East Metro Services and Opioids Overview

Agency/Organization Updates:

- A discussion about the legal aid changes occurred. Legal Aid is no longer paying for Bail Hearings unless the lawyer says its going to trial.
- Anecdotal evidence: increase in the number of Bail Hearing that Duty Counsel is expected to do with more severe and complex charges, increase of referral for MH plans, increased time involvement to prepare for Bail Hearing impacting Duty Counsel role. Have you experienced a negative impact on your clients? increase of clients remaining in custody because Duty Counsel is unable to respond quickly, MH clients are unable to navigate the system (unpresented clients getting lost).
- Concerns were raised that clients are falling through the cracks and more people are pleading guilty.
- The above identified areas to be addressed in the survey.
- Domenica will follow up. Fatima will provide support to develop the survey.
- New Police Vulnerability Act. Information available on the TSP website.

Review Workplan for 2019-2020

- What we accomplished and future areas to consider?
- Who is missing at the table?

Domenica to reach out to Across Boundaries, Rexdale Women's Centre and Jean Tweed.

It was agreed to request an increase of \$250 for TTC tokens and \$250 for food vouchers. The reason - the Salvation Army is providing service at TSDC not at the courthouse as well as, more people are coming to the courthouse for bail hearings.

Service Coordination Issues/Service Resolution

No update

Update on Video Bail

Deferred to next meeting

Updates from the T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC

Domenica reported that the next Toronto Regional meeting will be on January 22nd.

Action Items

- Domenica will oversee logistics for the next Lunch and Learn on FASD scheduled for December 5th.
- Video Bail updates will be added as an ongoing agenda item.
- Domenica will contact Jean Tweed, Rexdale Women's Centre and Across Boundaries to find out whether or not they can present at a future committee meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday March 3, 2020 Metro West Courthouse, 2201 Finch Avenue West, in Courtroom 207 from 1-2:30 pm.

Presenter for next meeting: TBD