



**Meeting Minutes**  
**January 11, 2022**  
**12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**  
**Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Present:** Patricia Pagnani (Co-chair), Toronto Bail Program; Debbie Lynch (Co-chair), CTYS, Domenica Dileo HSJCC; Dana Lee Riley, Elizabeth Fry Society of Toronto; Elana Glass, LAO; Edward J. Kelly, Judiciary; Genieve Chin, Toronto Bail Program; Crystal Davis, JHST; Scott Skinner, Community Network of Specialized Care Toronto Region; Jennie Yesmans, SolGen; Danita Rasiewicz, TSDC/SolGen; Zachary Reid, Flemmington CHC; Tracy Inness, Jean Tweed Centre; Nicole Giles, CMHA Toronto; Joy Boatswain, Centennial College; Blair Mills, Youth Justice Division- Probation Services; Serena Nudel, Toronto Neighbourhood Group; Diane Kaise, Toronto Bail Program

**Call-in:** None

**Regrets:** Mary Ross-Hendriks, Justice of the Peace  
Barry Sharp, Salvation Army; Chelsea Davis, Operation Springboard

**Land Acknowledgement**

Patricia noted the land acknowledgement recognizing the history of the Indigenous People and their contribution to the land we stand on.

**Welcome and Introductions**

Everyone introduced themselves. Tracy Innes was welcomed. She works at Jean Tweed in the release from custody program. Zachary Reis was welcomed. He works at the Flemington CHC.

**Review of November 2, 2021 minutes**

The minutes of the November 2, 2021 meeting were approved.

**Review Action Items:**

Were reviewed and completed

Priority setting summary was circulated and submitted to the Provincial HSJCC.

Three priorities were identified. They were:

1. To address the impact of COVID-19 on services specific to accessing technology and justice.
2. To address and recognize Anti-Indigenous and Anti-Black Racism using self-reflection, educational strategies and tools as well as advocating and informing policies.
3. To address the equity impact of social determinants of health on housing with particular focus on diversity of housing models that address barriers for priority populations; seniors with dementia, individuals with arson assessments, neurodisability, youth, mental

health and addictions using an Anti-Indigenous and Anti- Black racism health equity lens.

**Presentation:** Joy Boatswain from Centennial College on academic upgrading for individuals involved with the justice system

Presentation slides will be circulated.

- Joy noted that Centennial College has an Academic Upgrading partnership with the Toronto East Detention Centre (TEDC). They served 283 individuals at the TEDC to date. Their correction literacy will publish a book which includes students writing and art work from the TEDC program.
- The Academic Upgrading program has two streams/ pathways to College.
- Stream 1 is Career and College Transition. For people who require upgrading in Math and English.
- Stream, 2 Academic & Career Entrance. For people academically ready for grade 12 equivalent courses. Courses used as prerequisites for entry to college programs.
- Courses are 14 weeks in length, online synchronous delivery, day and night school course.
- Tuition free courses, students have access to College services. Supports provided for transportation, text books, school supplies and assistive- technology devices.
- Supportive student centred adult learning environment.
- Prospective students write an assessment to determine current academic level and English composition and comprehension, and level in mathematics.
- Eligibility: Ontario students, 19 years of age (exceptions can be made)

Questions contact [academicupgrading@centennialcollege.ca](mailto:academicupgrading@centennialcollege.ca) or [jboatswain@centennialcollege.ca](mailto:jboatswain@centennialcollege.ca)

#### **Themes discussed:**

Students are encouraged to disclose if they have learning disabilities and/or involved with the justice system. The College can tailor a group if there are 15 students interested.

Example of courses offered; English Communication, Mathematics, Biology and Chemistry, Building the Resilient Self, Prepare for Success and Digital Literacy. A student progress report can be provided by Joy (not the Institution) if a student consents to it for court procedures. Computers can be provided to students.

Joy was thanked for the informative and inspirational presentation. Committee members acknowledged that it is an excellent program for our target population.

#### **Lunch and Learns**

Domenica reported on the upcoming Lunch and Learns.

There will be a Lunch and Learn on the New Toronto Courthouse and Toronto Region Bail Centre on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Invite and registration information will be circulated. Please mark this in your calendar.

- NY-HSJCC Lunch and Learn on the CAMH Sexual Behaviour Clinic will take place on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Invite will be circulated shortly.
- T-HSJCC will have a Lunch and Learn on SolGen's Reintegration Unit on February 24<sup>th</sup>.
- WT-HSJCC will have a Lunch and Learn on the CAMH Gender Identity Clinic on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

## **Review Workplan for 2021-2022**

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

Domenica reported that we accomplished our goals of having five regular meetings and the Lunch and Learn. The committee has been continuously improving to recognize and address emerging health equity challenges during and post COVID-19 by working collaboratively by addressing the intersectional, equity and Anti-Racism approach to social determinants of health affecting racialized communities in contact with the justice system. In process.

Domenica noted that due to covid the courthouses have been mainly operating virtually, as a result TTC tokens and food vouchers provided at the courthouse haven't fully been used and will be carried over to the next fiscal year. This means that there will be excess funds that will not be necessary to purchase the TTC tokens or food vouchers for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

- The committee unanimously agreed to allocate any excess funds towards the Anti-Racism work. Please note that the HSJCC budget is annual only.
- To date the feedback from the courthouse partners is to maintain the virtual court equipment of \$1650. The committee agreed to continue with the virtual court equipment, TTC tokens and food vouchers.
- The committee agreed to add to the workplan that the committee will explore the impact of the New Toronto Courthouse and Region Bail Centre on the WT-HSJCC target population.

## **Agency/Organization Updates**

Number 8, 9, 10 & 11 agenda items were incorporated in the Agency/Organization updates sections below.

Justice Ted Kelly inquired whether committee members have information i.e. research as to the benefits of having an accessibility coordinator to assist people with disabilities going through the court system. He is a member of the Ontario Court Accessibility Committee. Domenica noted that Dr. Catherine Wisemen-Hakes and Dr. Flora Matheson, members of the DT-HSJCC may be able to provide information.

## **Updates from T-HSJCC and Provincial HSJCC:**

Domenica reported that the virtual P-HSJCC conference took place on November 16-17.

- 680 people registered
- 29 presentations/workshops
- 14 people with lived experience in attendance
- The Indigenous keynote panel titled: Dismantling Anti-Indigenous in the Criminal Justice System was very successful. Two speakers spoke about their family members who overdosed.
- Looking at a hybrid model for the next conference. Planning for the next conference will start in June.

Domenica reported on the Toronto Regional HSJCC

- The committee has established an Anti-Racism Ad Hoc Group. It will address an Anti-Racism action plan for all the Locals which may be incorporated into their 2022-2023 workplan. Next meeting is taking place on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Action Items:**

- Domenica will report on the Lunch and Learn sessions at the next meeting
- Domenica will circulate the PowerPoint presentation slide deck.
- Domenica to contact Dr. Catherine Wisemen-Hakes and Dr. Flora Matheson re research on having an accessibility coordinator at the courthouses.

**Presenter for next meeting -TBD**

**Next Meeting:** Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting taking place on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 from 12 pm to -1:00 pm.