

Justice and Public Safety Council (JPSC) Regular Meeting

September 11, 2019
10:00AM – 11:00AM

8th Floor, 1001 Douglas Street, Victoria BC and via Teleconference

Attendees:

Richard Fyfe, QC (Chair), Mark Sieben (Vice-Chair), Lisa Anderson, Brenda Butterworth-Carr, Lynda Cavanaugh, Kurt Sandstrom, Allison Bond, Taryn Walsh, Elenore Arend

Regrets:

Peter Juk, QC, Tami Currie (Secretariat Support)

Secretariat Support:

Mark Fassina, Allan Castle (Contractor)

Meeting Minutes

Agenda and Meeting Minutes:

- The agenda for the September 11, 2019 meeting and the minutes from the July 22, 2019 meeting were adopted by consensus.
- All actions from the July 22, 2019 meeting were confirmed complete.

Fall 2019 Justice Summit planning update

- The Secretariat to the JPSC provided an update regarding the planning efforts for the fall 2019 Justice Summit and the activities of Justice Summit Steering Committee.
- To this point, Justice Summit planning has been productive, but ongoing consideration will need to be devoted towards the scope of the discussion on *Diversion and Alternatives to Short-term Incarceration* as well as the balance between incremental improvements and systemic transformation.
- The Council agreed that discussion scope will be a prominent challenge with respect to this Justice Summit. Diversion is possible throughout all stages of the criminal justice process and is interconnected amongst diverse social determinant considerations, including mental health, substance use, poverty, ethnicity, gender, age and other demographic factors.
- In considering that most Justice Summit participants are senior leaders, it was recommended that the agenda should focus predominantly on the more complex, transformational issues. Some advance discussions may be required to address operational and pragmatic challenges with justice and public safety sector stakeholders to maximize Justice Summit productivity.
- It was also noted that this particular Justice Summit may benefit from a wider and more diverse participant composition amongst impacted social sector ministries.

Action – the Secretariat to the JPSC to schedule a meeting with the Attorney General and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General to obtain further guidance regarding the desired scope and attendance for the Fall 2019 Justice Summit.

Follow-up discussion on future Justice Summit process design alternatives

- The Secretariat to the JPSC provided an overview of the materials that were provided to the Council, which summarized possible Justice Summit process refinements, based on insights that were shared during the spring 2019 Justice Summit, as captured in the Report of Proceedings.
- Several of the proposed process refinements focus on mechanisms for strengthening the identification and implementation of actions arising from Justice Summit discussions.
- It was suggested that discussions with individuals/organizations who are responsible for the administration of legislation, regulation, policies and resources should be consulted prior to finalizing Justice Summit themes/recommendations, in order to identify relevant pragmatic considerations.
- It was also noted that opportunities may exist to better align the Annual Justice and Public Safety Sector Strategic Plan (see: S.6 of the *Justice Reform and Transparency Act, 2013*) with ongoing themes identified at Justice Summits and to consider how the formation of advisory boards (see S. 4 of the *Justice Reform and Transparency Act, 2013*) might help to better articulate actions and implementation strategies arising from specific Justice Summit themes.
- The Council confirmed that the composition of the JPSC would not be revisited at this time.

Action – the Secretariat to the JPSC to schedule a meeting with the Deputy Attorney General and Deputy Solicitor General to determine the approach for advancing discussions regarding Justice Summit process refinements with sector partners, including the Provincial Courts.