

Justice and Public Safety Council

MINUTES

Wednesday, March 8th, 2017 – 11th floor boardroom, 1001 Douglas St.

2:30 pm to 4:30 pm

Chair: Lori Wanamaker
Attending: Elenore Arend, Patti Boyle, Lynda Cavanaugh, Richard Fyfe, Clayton Pecknold, Kurt Sandstrom, Mark Sieben
Ex-officio: Allan Castle (Coordinator), Rozi Debreci, Jason Kuzminski, Caroline McAndrews
Regrets: Bobbi Sadler

1. Agenda and minutes

The agenda, and the minutes from February 14th, were approved as previously circulated.

2. Update on action items

Further to actions requested at the February 14th meeting:

- Regarding work on the Seventh (MH) Summit followup, an Advisory Group is being formed with cross-sectoral participation.
- The “Technology and Justice” theme for both Summits in 2017 has been endorsed by the Minister of Public Safety. The Minister of Justice is expected to endorse the theme as well.
- Feedback on the first draft of the 2017-20 Strategic Plan has been received and incorporated, and a second draft has been circulated by Allan to Council members.

3. 2017-20 Strategic Plan Draft 2

Council members reviewed and approved the changes made to the draft document to date. Further to this discussion, and in light of a number of important recent developments in the sector, an additional section on emerging issues will be added with special emphasis on remand counts, bail practices, the Commission of Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, the Supreme Court’s decision in *R. v Jordan* and implications for system capacity, and the federal government’s ongoing review of criminal justice policy.

ACTION: Allan to prepare a third draft incorporating this new section, with the text to circulate to members offline for approval. Should no further meeting be required to review, any communicated edits will be incorporated in time for publication on the statutory timeline.

4. Eighth/Ninth Justice Summits 2017 (Technology and Justice)

Allan advised the Council of steps taken to date in Summit planning. Some members of the Steering Committee have been identified. From the Council, Mark, Lynda, Bobbi and Elenore will participate, with Allan continuing to chair the process.

An exploratory meeting with a number of subject-matter experts was held on March 6th, which surfaced interest in the area of technology as an enabler of access to justice, as well as the question of technology-driven resource savings (vs. quality of justice provided) in the court process.

Council members expressed interest in questions of sustainability, measures of how well we are using technology, and learning from other jurisdictions such as Australia. Members also expressed interest in using the fact of a technology Summit to explore using different activities and events within the Summit agenda itself.

5. Seventh Summit (Justice, Mental Health and Substance Use)

The Advisory Group is being formed as noted earlier in the meeting. Allan advised that the first milestone is to have a draft plan text for initial circulation to stakeholders by the end of May.

6. Trauma-Informed Practice project

Patti provided members with an overview of the Trauma-Informed Practice Symposium held March 1st-2nd in Richmond. The event welcomed 300 attendees from across the province and across the sector, primarily being front-line operational personnel, and another 256 viewers via webcast. The project now moves into assessment of its commissioned literature review and curriculum evaluation framework, with an RFP for curriculum development to be issued in the new fiscal year.

Council members indicated the importance, given the cross-disciplinary nature of the training and the TIP steering committee, of identifying ownership and delivery of the curriculum once developed. The Justice Institute was identified as a potential “home” for the curriculum going forward.

ACTION: Patti and Allan to identify options in consultation with the TIP Steering Committee and provide an update to the Council as new information becomes available.

7. Roundtable

Richard identified the opportunity the Summits present to inform sector leaders about the range of different initiatives underway, and asked that the Summit Steering Committee consider means of doing this within (or altering) the existing format and venue.

ACTION: Allan indicated he will add these items to the Summit Steering Committee’s agenda.

Council members asked that transition briefing materials on the Council and Summits be prepared for the benefit of Ministers in the post-electoral period.

ACTION: Materials will be prepared in time for review at the May 2nd Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned. The next meeting will occur 2:30-4:30 on April 5th.