

Mental Health & Substance Use and HIV/AIDS/HCV Provincial Working Group
Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2011

Attendance: Pamela Joshi (for Shannon Griffin), Deb Schmitz, Susan Craigie, Jim Campbell, Susann Richter, Jamie Marshall, Jennifer Evin Jones, Gail Butt, Sue Melnychuk (for Lois Dixon), Tom Ehmann, Heidi Standeven

1. Introductions

- Heidi introduces herself as the new Program Coordinator for PAN and the facilitator of this working group as well as the Outcomes and Evaluation Provincial Working Group
- Evin provides history of MHWG
 - i. Documents released: *Trap Doors, Revolving Doors, Mental Health and HIV/AIDS/HCV in BC: A Strategic Action Report*
 - ii. Have Public Health been involved? Health Promotion within Health Authorities? Esp. those that oversee Needle Exchanges. Susann, Evin, Heidi – we will invite the health promotion leads from each of the Has for future mtgs.
- Sue Fraser Health – Agree that public health leads are key. See that David Portesi from Fraser was invited. Was he an original member? Evin – no. Sue – in future materials, please include the previous members of the MH WG and their titles – also all the current members.
- Jim – change title to “Mental Health and Substance Use WG”? Everyone on call – agreed.

2. Terms of Reference

- Sue: Next documentation that goes out to have a list of previous members and their title within their jobs as well as other people on the new list
- Add “Substance Use” in title
- Tom: Vision – scope – living with and at risk; Reality is that these are 2 different paradigms – 1 is about treatment, “at risk” is more about health promotion Susann – this is a good distinction and we should be clear about it moving forward
- Deb: need to keep both; Gail: more than one condition (MH, SU, HIV, HCV) – all of those have onsets at different times, need to focus on prevention
- **Heidi Action: Send out link to PAN website on MHWG links:**
<http://pacificaidnetwork.org/provincial-working-groups-2/mental-health/>
- Gail: Time focussed or long term? There is a big agenda right now, too big. This was a challenge previously – the work the group set for itself was too ambitious and it didn’t get traction.
- Heidi – will work on redrafting the TOR and send it out to the group. Anyone with any suggestions for the TOR please email to Heidi.
- Susann, Evin – a present goal now is to simplify the process – that is why we are not going ahead with the sub-committee structure. Just have 1 basic committee. Also, do a realizable work plan, realistic objectives.

- Heidi – would like the group to meet monthly to build some momentum. Sound good to folks. Everyone on call – agreed.
- Sue Fraser – can you please include a glossary in the TOR as well. I.e. “ASO” – what does this acronym mean? Heidi – agreed.
- Commitment from PHSA & PAN is that it will not end at a set date
- Susann: let’s focus on the terms of reference
- Title, language of TOR will be changed to include “Substance Use” versus Addictions.
- Vision – Gail – by “Access to mental health care” is this formalized access? Or are we looking at a continuum of support. All – continuum. Also, this idea that we will be able to reduce barriers to access – is this realistic? Our mandate?
- Sue – good point! Not sure that this WG has the influence to ensure timely, app access to either mental health or substance use care – as this is about service provision.
- Pamela – also “to establish and support programs” in the Mission – is this correct??
- Susan - - I think it is okay to have this “big goals” in the vision – these are the things you keep your eyes on as you are doing the work
- Susan – don’t want the mission to be limited to the Trap Doors document as it failed to mention prisoners as a key group. All – agreed. Evin – Trap doors is an “older” document now, 2008. The mission will be refreshed!
- Tom- need to include the word “optimal” in the Vision.
- Deb – suggested a simplification of the vision

Vision: All people living with or at risk for HIV/AIDS/HCV in BC will have timely and appropriate access to optimal mental health care.

- Jim, Sue, all – it is very hard for us to speak to vision and the mission when we don’t know the goals, the work, the objectives
- Susann – agreed. We will try to tease this out more in advance of the next meeting.
- Heidi- Evin, Susann and I will come up with some tangible docs to present to the wg members at next meeting.
- Evin – would it be helpful to establish a standing committee meeting date? All –agreed. That will be the 1st Thursday of every month at 2 pm.
- Draw distinction between the Living with and at risk
- Access: is this possible? Reframe – capacity building
- Programming – in scope of WG?
- Focus on networking, collaborating, assisting HAs in building their capacity
- Work more on goals, roles, responsibilities and go back to Vision and Mission
- **Evin, Heidi & Susann: Look at Goals and Roles and Responsibilities as well as Strategic Priorities**
- Video conference? Face to face? – Susann will look into

3. Next Meeting Date: May 5 @ 2pm

List of Previous members and affiliations:

- Carlene Dingwall (Consultant)
- Bubli Chakraborty (PHSA)
- Rolando Barrios (BCCfE)
- Irene Day (BCCfE)
- Ciro Panesaa (Ministry of Health)
- Gail Butt (BCCDC)
- Renee Hetu-Weselowski (IH)
- Maxine Davis (Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation)
- Rosalind Baltzer-Turje (Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation)
- Cheryl Dowden (ANKORS)
- Scott Harrison (Providence)
- Pamela Miller (BCCfE)
- Miranda Compton (VCH)
- Shannon Griffon (BCMHAS)
- Audrey Shaw (VIHA)
- Clare Overton (Living Positive Resource Centre)
- Bronwyn Barrett (Positive Women's Network)
- Murray Krause (Central Interior Native Health Society)
- Leslie Varley (PHSA)
- Michelle Ostan (?)
- Heather Winnichuk (FA)
- Kathy MacDonald (NH)
- Alan Campbell (VIHA)
- Glyn Townson (Positive Living BC)
- Randy James (IH)
- Lorna Howes (VCH)