

Mental Health and Its Impact on the Justice System



Tuesday, October 12, 2010,
8:30 am to 4:30 pm

The Sutton Place Hotel
(Salon Pommard)

Vancouver, British Columbia

Co-chairs

Ms. Heather MacNaughton, Chair, BC Human Rights Tribunal, Vancouver, BC

Ms. Joanne Spriet, Director, Court Operations, Ministry of Attorney General (Ontario), Hamilton, ON

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM **REGISTRATION** (coffee/muffins)

8:30 AM – 8:45 AM **OPENING REMARKS**

8:45 AM – 10:15 AM **“THE STIGMA OF MENTAL ILLNESS”**

Speaker

Ms. Karen Lieberman, Executive Director, Mood Disorders Association of Ontario (MDAO), Toronto, ON

Karen Lieberman is an accomplished speaker and a long-time community activist and planner, workshop presenter, facilitator and social justice advocate. Karen has changed the lives of many by sharing her story. She has actively been trying to fight the stigma associated with mental illness. Karen is the award recipient of the 2003 Courage To Come Back Award, the 2004 Ontario Psychological Associations Public Service Award and the 2005 Toastmasters' Communications and Leadership Award. Participants will gain insight and understanding of how mental illness impacts the justice system.

10:15 AM – 10:30 AM **HEALTH BREAK**

10:30 AM – 12:30 PM **“LESSONS FROM THE FRONT LINES”**

Speakers

Justice Richard Schneider, Ontario Court of Justice (Mental Health Court), Toronto, ON

Mr. Allan Tuokko, former Chair, BC Mental Health Review Board, Vancouver, BC

Mr. Jeff Hall, State Court Administrator, Seattle, WA (USA)

Judge TBA, Mental Health Court Superior Court, Clallam County, WA (USA)

Various jurisdictions have instituted different approaches to dealing with those participants in our justice systems who present with mental health challenges. This panel of experts will explain the challenges they have faced and the steps they have taken to make justice accessible from training of front line staff and adjudicators to recognizing issues as they arise and how to deal with them effectively in all steps in the processing of a proceeding.

12:30 PM – 1:00 PM **WORKING LUNCH**

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM **“COGNITIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES IN THE COURTROOM”**

Speaker

Professor Dorothy Griffiths, Associate Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON

Persons with cognitive and developmental disabilities tend to be over-represented in their involvement with the legal systems in what are often uneven and difficult processes for all those involved. Professor Griffiths will outline some of the cognitive and social factors that may affect the interaction with the legal system and explain the special understanding that might be required if fairness and justice are to be upheld.

2:00 PM – 2:30 PM **HEALTH BREAK**
Transportation to the Downtown Vancouver Community Court

2:30 PM – 4:30 PM **“A NEW MODEL - ONE COURT'S RESPONSE TO MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL ISSUES”**

The Downtown Community Court in Vancouver is in its second successful year of operation – This court is intended to improve justice system efficiency and produce better outcomes for offenders. Most importantly, this court takes a problem solving approach to crime by identifying and taking steps to address an individual's underlying health and social problems that lead to the criminal behaviour. By connecting offenders on site with the professional help and services they need, we are better able to assist individuals to break the cycle of abuse, mental illness and poverty that often leads to a revolving door with the justice system

Who will attend? • Judges • Adjudicators • Crown and Defence Counsels • Mental Health Providers • Legal and Mental Health Professionals •

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TO REGISTER, please complete and return this form to:

CANADIAN INSTITUTE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE
Faculty of Law, University of Montreal
PO Box 6128, Station "Centre Ville", 3101 Chemin de la tour, Room 3421
Montreal, Quebec, H3C 3J7,

Telephone: (514) 343-6157 — Fax: (514) 343-6296

E-mail: ciaj@ciaj-icaj.ca — URL: <http://www.ciaj-icaj.ca>

Surname: _____ First Name: _____

Title to appear on name tag: _____

Court/organization: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ E-Mail: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

YES I will attend NO I will not attend

I am interested in the documentation distributed at the Roundtable

REGISTRATION FEE (includes documentation, and lunch):

CIAJ Members: \$395

Non CIAJ Members: \$495

Payment by: Cheque Invoice Visa Mastercard AmEx

Expiry Date: _____ Account No. _____ Signature _____

Do you have any dietary restrictions? Which? _____

A block of room has been reserved with The Sutton Place Hotel, 845 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6Z 2K6 Tel 1-800-961-7555 or 604-682-5511, Fax: 604-642-2926, e-mail res_vancouver@suttonplace.com, www.suttonplace.com \$159 single or double occupancy (taxes not included).

Participants are required to make their own hotel reservations before September 10, 2010 to take advantage of this rate.

Please register as soon as possible!