

CSAM-SMCA Policy Committee Meeting

March 2, 2021 – 6:00pm MST

Minutes

Present: D. Martell A. Bahji A. Hamilton B. Watts C. Cull A. Nidumolu
 E. Dupuis P. Leger R. Tanguay S. Elliott B. Hebert (recorder)

Regrets: S. Dama

Absent: V. Primeau

Call to Order: 6:01pm MST – D. Martell

Adoption of Agenda & Additions:

- No additions to the agenda

Review of Minutes from February 2, 2021

- Minutes from last meeting have been reviewed and approved
- D. Martell and A. Hamilton to review minutes for April meeting

D. Martell makes a motion to accept the last meeting minutes

Seconded By: A. Hamilton

New Business:

1. Review Committee TOR
 - B. Hebert shared TOR on screen
 - Is the mandate and purpose broad enough?
 - i. Committee has determined that the current wording is sufficient
 - Membership Criteria
 - i. Preamble of membership skills – must have national representation and the committee will vote on who can join the committee
 - ii. Separate into wants and must have skills
 - iii. Ensure there are two individuals with lived or living experience

- Family member, friend and individual with substance use disorder (LLEAFF – CCSA)

2. Policy Paper – Decriminalization – Update

- March issue of the CJA to be published in the next couple of days
- Press release has been completed
 - i. B. Hebert shared release on screen
 - ii. B. Hebert to edit the date and change quote by J. Brasch
 - As currently written it seems to say that all substance use requires treatment rather than jail, when in fact the point we believe is that substance use related to addiction should not be criminalized, not all substance use.
 - “people suffering from addiction”
- Need help disseminating information
 - i. B. Hebert to send the committee the updated release to circulate
 - ii. C. Cull to reach out to his PR contacts

3. Quality of Standards for Rehab Facilities

- B. Watts and P. Leger have begun a database of relevant articles regarding residential SUD treatment guidelines
 - i. Shared via google drive
 - ii. Folder names start with R1 etc. These refer to the possible guidelines by number. Those are in the document called "Possible Specific Recommendations"
- Do we do a systematic review/ clinical practice guideline or a policy brief
- A systematic review It would show CSAM-SMCA’s leadership to do a full systematic review
- It has been encouraged that a medical writer is hired for this project
 - i. All committee members are in favour
 - ii. If a medical writer is hired a working group would need to be formed to collaborate and guide the writer on the research
 - iii. Having good methodology is just as important as the writing
- Both CCSA and META-PHI are doing work in residential SUD treatment guidelines
 - i. C. Cull to connect R. Notarandrea from CCSA and D. Martell to discuss a potential working group

- If CSAM-SMCA is looking to have more influence, we must be writing policy guidelines
- Next Steps:
 - i. What specifically are we looking to tackle?
 - ii. Who is our working group? What are the roles? Are other organizations involved?
 - iii. How much work can we do internally vs externally?

- 4. Invitation to new policy committee member
 - Paxton Bah
 - i. Internal Medicine Specialist
 - ii. Resides in British Columbia
 - D. Martell to email P. Bach and inform him of his acceptance on the committee

D. Martell makes a motion to add a 13th member to the Policy Committee, Paxton Bach

Seconded by: R. Tanguay

All in Favour

Abstain: A. Nidumolu

- 5. Involuntary Treatment Lit. Review
 - Deferred till next meeting

- 6. Next Meeting: April 6, 2021 at 6:00pm MST
- 7. Adjournment – 7:04pm MST - D. Martell

Action Items

D. Martell

- Email Paxton Bach in regards to acceptance on the committee
- Present the option of hiring a medical writer to the CSAM-SMCA BOD

C. Cull

- Connect D. Martell with R. Notarandrea from CCSA to discuss a partnership and working group with CSAM-SMCA

- Disseminate the decriminalization press release

B. Hebert

- Edit the decriminalization press release