

<b>Ontario Legislature Select Committee on Mental Health and Addictions</b>	
Date:	May 6, 2009
Prepared by:	Barney Savage, Public Policy Unit
Web site:	<a href="http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/committee-proceedings/committees_detail.do?locale=en&amp;ID=7790">http://www.ontla.on.ca/web/committee-proceedings/committees_detail.do?locale=en&amp;ID=7790</a>
Presenter:  Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs	Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Young and fast-growing population</li> <li>• Two striking facts: youth suicide rates, and FASD rates</li> <li>• We encourage you to find out more about how other provinces and territories are coordinating services for aboriginals</li> <li>• Please consult with chiefs of Ontario</li> </ul>
Presenter:  Ministry of Community and Social Services	Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People with MHA problems come to MCCS who should have received services earlier in the course of their illness</li> <li>• 50% of ODSP clients have a mental illness</li> <li>• Highlighted new investment in services for persons with dual diagnosis; more coordination with Health is required</li> <li>• Questions about effectiveness of the addiction program for OW clients</li> <li>• Some outreach to employers is done by employment agencies, who are now funded on the basis of results, rather than activities</li> <li>• Question from gov't MPP about the number of dual diagnosis clients who cannot be served in group homes because of violence</li> </ul>
Presenter: Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services	Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Committee has heard from AG about post-discharge diversion; significant diversion takes place pre-charge, at the discretion of police officers.</li> <li>• Office of the Fire Marshall worked with CAMH in developing arson-prevention program.</li> <li>• A significant challenge for the Ministry is providing mental health and addiction services for people on remand – the majority of the correctional services clients. They are typically in and out of institutions ,</li> </ul>

	<p>in short stays.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• There are programs that bring psychiatric nurses together with police officers, e.g. Toronto, Hamilton (COAST program), Windsor. This has been very successful.</li></ul>
<p>Presenter: Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration</p>	<p>Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mental health needs of newcomers can be quite distinct – including the PTSD needs of refugees.</li><li>• We don't have very good information on the mental health needs of newcomers (applied "one in five" number to come up with a number).</li><li>• Immigrants cannot contribute to a stronger Ontario if they have unidentified mental health problems.</li><li>• We should be building the capacity of mainstream services to be more responsive to diverse communities.</li></ul>