Agenda

8:00 Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:30 Welcome and Introduction from the Chairs
Dr. Sharon Pyke, Superintendent of Education, Greater Essex County District School Board
Kathryn A. Hunt, Barrister & Solicitor

8:35 A Clinical Overview
Alice Charach, MD, MSc, FRCPC, Medical Director, Child and Youth Acute Care Collaborative (CAYACC), Division of Child and Youth Psychiatry, Associate Professor, Psychiatry, University of Toronto
• The current state-of-affairs in children and youth mental health
• Emerging trends in mental health among children and youth
• Common psychiatric disorders in children and youth: who is getting treatment? Where?
• What are the challenges to mental health service delivery?
• Early identification and early intervention
• Lessons learned from parents, youth and service providers on the challenges between children/youth and adult mental health services

9:45 Understanding Mental Health Laws Relating to Children and Youth
Kathryn A. Hunt, Barrister & Solicitor

Key differences exist between children/youth and adult mental health laws. Having a thorough understanding of the legal regime governing this area and how it guides your work is critical.

This review of the legislative framework will give you an up-to-date foundation for what comes later in the conference. The intersecting legislation includes:

• Health Care Consent Act
• Mental Health Act
• Personal Health Information Protection Act
• Child, Youth and Family Services Act
• Youth Criminal Justice Act
10:45 Refreshment Break

11:00 Understanding Mental Health Law in the School Setting
Lauri A. Reesor, Hicks Morley Hamilton Stewart Storie LLP

This session will focus on mental health laws applicable in a school setting including:
•A review of key pieces of legislation including:
  - Education Act
  - Ontario Human Rights Code
  - MFIPPA
  - YCJA
  - OHSA
•Understanding intersecting duties including:
  - duty to accommodate students with disabilities
  - duty of care to provide a safe school
  - duty to protect individual privacy
•Understanding protocols and policies: steps for supporting mental health
•Parental consent for service
•IPRC: review of process
•Dealing with human rights complaints

12:00 Luncheon

12:45 Privacy, Confidentiality & Information Sharing in the Context of Children and Youth with Mental Health Challenges
Moderator:
Kathryn A. Hunt, Barrister & Solicitor
Panelists:
Mary Jane Dykeman, DDO Health Law
Samira Ahmed, Staff Lawyer, Justice for Children and Youth
Dr. Sharon Pyke, Superintendent of Education, Greater Essex County District School Board

• Overview of relevant privacy laws
• Common issues in the sharing of information among health care providers and other organizations
• When can youth consent to the disclosure of their personal health information?
• What information can be shared with family members? With police? With school personnel?
• Common issues in the education context: what information can be shared among school personnel, with parents, with community service providers?
• Keeping the rights of the child top of mind: the balance between providing mental health services and ensuring effective outcomes, while respective privacy

2:00 Refreshment Break
2:15 Representing Children in Family Law
Interacting with the OCL: Best Outcomes and Best Interests
Shelley D. McIntyre, Counsel, Personal Rights Department, Supervisor, West & Central West Regions, Office of the Children’s Lawyer, Ministry of the Attorney General (Ontario)

• What is the Office of the Children’s Lawyer (OCL)?
• Understanding the role of child’s counsel
• Involvement with collateral sources of information – educators have important information
• How OCL uses information from collateral sources to provide context to their position

3:00 Childhood Trauma and Mental Health
Elisa Romano, Ph.D., C.Psych, Professor, School of Psychology, University of Ottawa, Registered Clinical Psychologist in Ontario

• Theoretical framework for understanding childhood trauma
• Definition of trauma and its broad impacts (including mental health)
• Children in out-of-home care
• Complex trauma
• Trauma-informed responses

4:00 Program Concludes