



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

Department for National Drug Control

Report of the 2021 Annual Meeting of the

# BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK (BerDIN)

## **FACILITATOR**

**Dr. Kyla Raynor**

BerDIN Coordinator &  
*Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst, DNDC*

## **VENUE & DATE**

Webex (online platform)  
19<sup>th</sup> November, 2021





# CONTENTS

- Call to Order & Welcome..... 1
- Opening Remarks..... 1
- Introduction..... 1
- Update on the Drug Situation in Bermuda ..... 2
- DNDC'S Survey Updates ..... 2
- Keynote Address..... 3
- Community-Based Programmes..... 3
- Breathalyzer Testing..... 3
- DUI Court..... 3
- Women and Alcohol..... 4
- Responding to the Needs of Families..... 4
- Updates..... 4
- Conclusions and Recommendations..... 4
- Closing Remarks..... 4
- Evaluation of Meeting..... 5
- Close of Meeting..... 5

# ANNEXES

- I List of Meeting Participants..... 6
- II Agenda..... 10
- III Participant Evaluation and Results..... 14

The 2021 Annual Meeting of the Bermuda Drug Information Network (BerDIN) was held on the 19<sup>th</sup> of November, 2021 using the Webex virtual platform.

### **Representation**

A list of meeting participants is in **Annex I** to this Report.

## **CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME**

Chalsey Trott, a BerDIN Member who represented the Department of Health- Laboratory, called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to the meeting's participants and invited guests.

Virtual housekeeping matters were also conveyed.

## **OPENING REMARKS**

Mrs. Joanne Dean, Director of the Department for National Drug Control, brought Opening Remarks to the meeting. She noted that this year marks the 11<sup>th</sup> publication produced by BerDIN and that the BerDIN has evolved into a central source of drug-related information that serves a critical role in informing policy makers and the public about the drug situation in Bermuda. Mrs. Dean discussed how the many evolving alcohol and drug challenges highlight the importance of prevention, and the continued need for enforcement of already established laws. She ended her opening remarks by stating, "It is my hope that this forum will serve to stimulate your thoughts, and excite your energies to continue this necessary work."

Following the Opening Remarks, the meeting was officially declared open by Director, Joanne Dean.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Participants were reminded of the meeting's objectives by Mrs. Melody Lightbourne, Principal Customs Officer, HM Customs; who also informed the participants of the meeting's objectives: to update the BerDIN members on the current drug situation; and to provide a forum for dialogue on drug-related special interest topics.

In the interest of keeping the agenda items as scheduled, participants were then asked to briefly introduce themselves (name and department he/she represented) for the benefit of all persons present in the meeting room.

### **Procedural Matters**

The meeting determined its hours of work.

### **Adoption of Agenda**

The Agenda, as adopted by the meeting, is in **Annex II** to this Report.



## PRESENTATIONS

The main focus, of the Annual meeting this year, was on the impact of alcohol on residents and families in Bermuda. The agenda therefore, was comprised of various presentations that sought to provide a background on the consequences of alcohol misuse. There were notable health and safety issues resulting from alcohol misuse that were shared with the meeting participants.

For the first time, the presentations were prerecorded by Crimson Multimedia to be able to accommodate a smoother transition when sharing the presentations via the online platform used to host the 2021 BerDIN Meeting.

### *Update on the Drug Situation in Bermuda*

The meeting received a presentation from Dr. Kyla Raynor, BerDIN Coordinator and Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst of the DNDC, on the current drug situation in Bermuda. Dr. Raynor provided a snapshot of Bermuda's drug situation as presented within the 2021 Annual Report of the BerDIN. The BerDIN's accomplishments were highlighted as the members were thanked for their continual support. Highlights were given specific to alcohol misuse; on the unchanging drug situation with alcohol and marijuana being the most common drugs of choice. Dr. Raynor also discussed the overall decrease in funding for demand reduction programmes and the interdiction agencies of BPS and HM Customs. She concluded by challenging the members to continue their important work despite the current challenges we are facing.

#### **The Network:**

Commended for its comprehensive representation and great work to-date.

Urged to provide any additional data that can strengthen the Network's coverage, especially qualitative data.

Encouraged to have more bilateral or group meetings to facilitate further dialogue and problem resolution.

### *DNDC's Survey Updates*

The Department for National Drug Control (DNDC) representative, Mrs. Stephanie Tankard, Research Officer, provided the meeting with an update on the Department's survey initiatives since the last meeting. She presented on the findings, mainly surrounding alcohol use, from the National Household Survey on Drugs and Health, which was conducted in February of this year.

#### **The Network:**

Noted the information provided in the presentation.



## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The keynote address was brought by the Chairman of the Road Safety Council, Mr. Dennis Lister III J.P. M.P.. This was the seventh year in succession that the meeting has had a keynote speaker. Mr. Lister was introduced by BerDIN Member, Mr. Anthony Santucci, who represented CADA. His presentation focused on the work being conducted by the Council and the impact of alcohol on the community. Mr. Lister discussed the Council's main role of providing road safety education and awareness for youth within the schools and throughout the community; he mentioned having a presence on the radio where they provided tips for road users. He went on to discuss the other functions of the Council, that of promoting road safety measures and advocating for road safety legislation.

### **The Network:**

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

## Community-based Programmes

The meeting then received a presentation discussing the alcohol related programmes, LifeSkills and the Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPs) programmes implemented by CADA from Mr. Anthony Santucci, Chief Executive Officer. TIPs, a legislated programme, provides mandatory training to businesses serving alcohol. During the pandemic the programme moved to an online platform. Advocacy is another function of CADA's focus, especially on social media. Mr. Santucci ended his presentation by encouraging all of the members to do their part to educate the public about the health dangers of alcohol misuse.

### **The Network:**

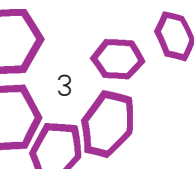
Noted the information provided in the presentation.

## Breathalyzer Testing

The BerDIN members were provided with an interesting presentation lead by Mr. Raoul Ming, of the Bermuda Police Service, who has the responsibility for the functioning and maintenance of the Intox Alco analyzer machines, which are used for breathalyzer testing. He talked about the mechanics of the breathalyzer machine and provided a demonstration.

## DUI Court

The Hon. Magistrate Juan Wolffe who also serves as the Island's coroner, spoke to the meeting participants about the DUI Court. He mentioned that the number of participants in the DUI programme declined over the past few years however, up until 2019 drunk driving rates were increasing. This programme, a pilot programme, was created as an amendment to section 68 of the Criminal Code Act 1907. Magistrate Wolffe provided programme details such as: the criteria for admittance and suitability of candidates, of which is evaluated by the DUI Court team. This voluntary programme has five phases with an average duration of at least 18 months. The DUI Court has been in place for the past two years with a completion rate of 80%.



### **The Network:**

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

### **Women and Alcohol**

The next presentation was from Mrs. Tina Laws, of the Women's Resource Centre, who gave the audience information on the Centre and the resources available to families especially during the pandemic.

### **The Network:**

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

### **Responding to the Needs of Families**

Mrs. Susan Richardson of the Family Centre spoke about the impact of COVID on alcohol use, children and their families. She highlighted a variety of trends that the Family Centre have been seeing in relation to these issues. Lastly, Mrs. Richardson shared that there is an increased need in the community for counselling services during the pandemic, and informed participants of the services that the Family Centre provides.

### **The Network:**

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

## **UPDATES**

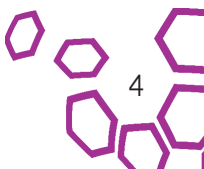
The meeting was given an update from Mr. Leslie Grant, Chief Executive Officer of FOCUS. He informed participants about the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) programme that his agency is offering to those that require it. Mrs. Nadine Kirkos, Senior Analyst from the Government Health Laboratory gave the meeting participants an update on what the Lab has seen as of recent in terms of types/ forms of drugs being brought into Bermuda or has been confiscated on the streets.

## **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1) Bilateral Meetings: there was again the call by Dr. Raynor for there to be more problem solving by collaborating with each other outside of the annual meeting.

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

The meeting concluded with Dr. Raynor having a moment of silence for our colleague who recently passed away, Shirmelle Gomes. She was remembered as a reliable and loyal member of the BerDIN. Finally, she provided brief remarks and thanked the participants for contributing to, what she deemed as, another successful meeting. Dr. Raynor encouraged participants to continue the collaboration and bilateral meetings beyond the day's meeting.

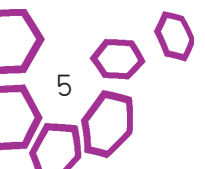


## EVALUATION OF MEETING

Participants completed a short evaluation of the meeting using the online Survey Monkey application. Refer to **Annex III** for the evaluation and results.

## CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no other business, the meeting ended with an exchange of courtesies.





## ANNEX I: LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

### BERDIN MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES

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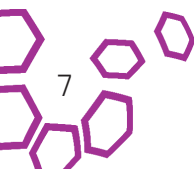
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# Annual Meeting of the **BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK** (BerDIN)

19<sup>th</sup> November, 2021  
Online - Webex platform

## AGENDA

Facilitator: Dr. Kyla Raynor,  
BerDIN Coordinator  
& Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst – DNDC

### MEETING OBJECTIVES


1. To update the BerDIN Members on the current drug situation.
2. To provide a forum for dialogue on drug-related special interest topics.

*"We must accept finite disappointment, but we must never lose infinite hope."  
– Martin Luther King Jr.*



## FRIDAY, 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER

9:00 a.m.	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>	<b>Chalsey Trott</b> <i>Government Analyst</i> Department of Health-Laboratory
9:05 a.m.	<b>Opening Remarks</b>	<b>Joanne Dean</b> <i>Director</i> Department for National Drug Control
9:10 a.m.	<b>Introduction of Meeting</b> » Objectives of the Meeting » Introduction of Participants » Adoption of Agenda	<b>Melody Lightbourne</b> <i>Principal Customs Officer</i> HM Customs
9:20 a.m.	<b>Bermuda Drug Information Network (BerDIN) Update on the Current Drug Situation in Bermuda Government</b> » Discussion	<b>Dr. Kyla Raynor</b> <i>Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst</i> Department for National Drug Control
9:45 a.m.	<b>DNDC's Newest Survey Initiatives</b> » Discussion	<b>Stephanie Tankard</b> <i>Research Officer</i> Department for National Drug Control
10:00 a.m.	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:15 a.m.	<b>Introduction of Keynote Speaker</b>	<b>Mr. Anthony Santucci</b> <i>Executive Director</i> CADA
10:20 a.m.	<b>Road Safety</b>	<b>Mr. Dennis Lister III JP,MP</b> <i>Chairman</i> Bermuda Road Safety Council
11:15 a.m.	<b>Community-based Programmes</b>	<b>Mr. Anthony Santucci</b> <i>Executive Director</i> CADA
11:30 p.m.	<b>Breathalyzer Testing</b>	<b>Mr. Raoul Ming</b> <i>Sergeant</i> Bermuda Police Service
11:45 p.m.	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
1:00 p.m.	<b>DUI Court</b>	<b>Mr. Juan Wolfe</b> <i>Senior Magistrate</i> Department of Judicial Affairs
1:25 p.m.	<b>Women and alcohol</b>	<b>Mrs. Tina Laws and Ms. Chardonnai Hughes</b> <i>Executive Director &amp; Executive Coordinator</i> Women's Resource Centre
1:40 p.m.	<b>Responding to the needs of Families</b>	<b>Ms. Susan Richardson</b> <i>Director of Counselling Services</i> Family Centre
1:50 p.m.	<b>Updates</b>	<b>Membership</b>
2:00 p.m.	<b>Tribute</b>	<b>Dr. Kyla Raynor</b>



2:10 p.m.	Summary and Closing Remarks	Dr. Kyla Raynor & Stephanie Tankard Department for National Drug Control
2:15 p.m.	Any Other Business	Membership
2:30 p.m.	Evaluation of Day	<a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021BerDIN">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021BerDIN</a>
	End of Day	



## BERDIN MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES, & REPRESENTATIVES

### BERMUDA HOSPITALS BOARD:

KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL HOSPITAL Ms. Cyrlene Wilson, *Statistical Analyst*

TURNING POINT SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMME Mrs. Shirley Place, *Programme Director*

### BERMUDA POLICE SERVICE:

FINANCIAL CRIME UNIT Mr. Calvin Nhan, *Financial Analyst*

NARCOTICS Mr. Joseph Sherwin, *Inspector*  
Mr. Nidol Barker, *Sergeant*

DUI Mr. Raoul Ming, *Sergeant*

BERMUDA PROFESSIONAL COUNSELLING SERVICES Ms. Fiona Elkinson, *Programme Director*

BERMUDA SPORT ANTI-DOPING AUTHORITY Ms. Deborah Hunter, *Chief Executive Officer*  
Mr. Duncan Barclay, *Results, Compliance & Investigations Manager*

CADA Mr. Anthony Santucci, *Programme Director*

COUNSELLING AND LIFE SKILLS SERVICES Dr. Zina Zuill, *Supervisor-Counsellors*  
Mrs. Fredericka Brangman, *Counsellor*

### DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS:

WESTGATE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY Ms. Julee Smith, *Senior Case Worker*

RIGHT LIVING HOUSE Mrs. Theresa DeRoza, *Programme Director*

### DEPARTMENT OF COURT SERVICES:

BERMUDA ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL CENTRE Ms. Mariko Aguiar, *Clinical Supervisor*

DRUG TREATMENT COURT Dr. Zina Woolridge, *Case Management Unit Manager*

### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LABORATORY Ms. Nadine Kirkos, *Senior Government Analyst*

MATERNAL HEALTH CLINIC Ms. Ann Marie Moore, *Maternal Health Nurse*

### DEPARTMENT FOR NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL:

Mrs. Joanne Dean, *Director*  
Dr. Kyla Raynor, *Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst*  
Mrs. Stephanie Tankard, *Research Officer*

NELSON BASCOMBE CENTRE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT Mrs. Angria Bassett, *Programme Manager*

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS Ms. Cindy Clarke, *Director*

HM CUSTOMS Mr. Dean Lema, *Principal Customs Officer*  
Ms. Melody Lightbourne, *Senior Customs Officer*

LIQUOR LICENCE AUTHORITY Mr. Marc Daniels, *Chairman*



## PARTICIPANT EVALUATION

Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

Please take a few minutes to fill out this form. Your anonymous responses will be used to improve the planning of this meeting in the future. **THANK YOU!**

<b>MEETING DESIGN</b>					
Please rate the meeting on the following aspects:	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor
- Organisation of the meeting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Content (current, relevant, useful)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Meeting facilities (venue, meals, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Participant materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Quality of the meeting (overall meeting rating)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>MEETING RESULTS</b>					
Please rate the meeting on the following aspects:	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree/Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
- Meeting objectives were accomplished	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- The information was timely/relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Opportunities for participation/involvement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
- Format/agenda was suitable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Length of meeting:**  Too Long  About Right  Too Short

The best aspect(s) of this meeting was:

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The meeting could be improved by:

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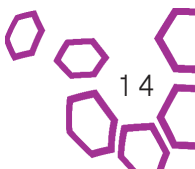
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Other comments or suggestions:

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## PARTICIPANT EVALUATION RESULTS: MEETING

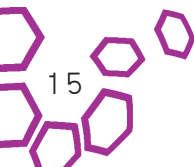
MEETING DESIGN	Categories (28/35 participants)				
Items	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Poor
– Organisation of the Meeting	<b>42.9%</b>	42.9%	14.3%	-	-
– Content (Current, Relevant, Useful)	<b>53.6%</b>	28.6%	17.9%	-	-
– Meeting Facilities (Venue, Meals, etc.)	<b>32.1%</b>	46.4%	21.4%	-	-
– Participant Materials (Report, Bag, etc.)	<b>39.3%</b>	35.7%	25.0%	-	-
– Quality of the Meeting (Overall Meeting Rating)	<b>32.1%</b>	50.0%	17.9%	-	-

MEETING DESIGN	Categories (28/35 participants)				
Items	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree/Nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
– Meeting objectives were accomplished	<b>46.4%</b>	50.0%	3.6%	-	-
– The information was timely/relevant	<b>50.0%</b>	50.0%	-	-	-
– Opportunities for participation/involvement	<b>39.3%</b>	50.0%	7.1%	3.6%	-
– Format/agenda was suitable	<b>50.0%</b>	50.0%	-	-	-

**Length of Meeting:** 92.9% (26 respondents) thought it was “About Right”.

The best aspect(s) of this meeting was (open-ended verbatim responses):

- Hearing about DUI court and Family Centre.
- Collaborative environment
- Current drug situation and newest survey initiatives by DNDC and DUI Court presentations.
- Hearing from different disciplines.
- Interesting to hear how active the road safety council is and the progress with the DUI Court. Also enjoyed the general updates from the lab and the newer way alcohol is being marketed. Much work needs to be done to find a way to see if there is a link between road fatalities and the use of alcohol and drugs as this is collected in other jurisdictions. Point well received on collecting data on co-occurring disorders.
- The content
- R Ming and breathalyzers
- Format was straight forward, simple. The pre-recorded presentations was an effective method for a virtual meeting.
- The presentations were short and sweet and having discussion after every presentation helped to enrich the information being presented.



- The presentation from Magistrate Juan Wolffe
- Each presenter did an outstanding job regarding their respective presentations. The information was timely and relevant in relation to the topic and the pandemic.
- I was glad the annual meeting was able to take place and having the segments pre-recorded was a good idea as people tend to have technology issues the day of.
- We were able to hear the presentations clearly - I enjoyed the pre-recorded presentations for that aspect.
- To hear about the Transitional Living Program from Tina Laws.
- The variety of agency presentations.
- Receiving current drug/alcohol information.
- There were a few: Information presented on new surveys to include stats on vaping and stats on Mental Health, Family Center info, DUI court and programmes.
- The ability to see each presentation virtually. I liked this forum.
- Group discussion is always enlightening.
- The wealth of relevant current statistics
- Being presented with statistical data.
- The flexibility in offering the meeting virtually.
- Still being able to get valuable information even though we were not in person. The prerecording of presentations was a really great touch!
- The webinar was excellent and might be built into the format for next year.
- Stephanie's Presentation and Data information was very informative, fresh and progressive.

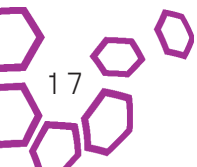
The meeting could be improved by (open-ended verbatim responses):

- Having all presenters available to answer questions after their presentations and ensuring that the presentations contained relevant content.
- In person to encourage dialogue
- In person with distance.
- In-person is always better. Hopefully we will be able to resume the group in a conference setup.
- Get someone who actually is interested in reading the bio for the keynote speaker. Unfortunately, the reading came across as if "hurry up and let me finish this", which I don't think gave justice to the keynote speaker.
- There were no aspect that required attention outside of the external network technical (microphone) challenges.
- If continues virtually - then break out room discussions or more time for discussions.
- Perhaps encouraging all presenters to be present and ready to receive questions. I had a few for Mr. Lister in particular.
- Using a more familiar interface like Zoom. Some people had difficulty logging on because they had to either sign in or download the webex app first.
- More input from participants prior to the meeting

Other comments or suggestions (open-ended verbatim responses):

- Looking forward to next year.
- Remote meetings do not encourage discussion or comradery. The content of the meeting was excellent, but no opportunity for fellowship.
- Well done. This is always an informative and enjoyable meeting.
- Looking forward to the in person sessions.

- I really missed networking with everyone this year. However, well done regarding the virtual platform. Also, that was a lovely tribute to honor Shirmelle. Good data collection regarding substance use (alcohol) use and the pandemic. Well done to Dr. Raynor, Stephanie and the team regarding another successful annual BerDIN meeting!
- Have presenters join for Q&A session
- Looking forward to next year.
- Given the virtual nature I would agree with other sentiments shared that the open dialogue was missing but overall I think the virtual platform was effective given the circumstances. I enjoyed it but I do look forward to in person meetings again whenever that can happen.
- I liked the prerecorded presentations. Maybe that can be offered in addition to live presentations.
- Job well done for the first virtual BerDIN meeting!
- Well done to Dr. Raynor and her team.
- Build on this format, and make it apart of future programs.
- Editing
- Considering we are in the midst of a global pandemic the meeting was very well planned.







## BERDIN'S MISSION

*The BerDIN is committed to providing the evidence that allows for discussions and decisions to be informed by sound, centrally available, local data, on a wide range of issues that increase understanding of the complex, dynamic; and evolving nature of the Island's drug problem.*