



GOVERNMENT OF BERMUDA

Department for National Drug Control

Report of the 2023 Annual Meeting of the

BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK (BerDIN)

FACILITATOR

Dr. Kyla Raynor

BerDIN Coordinator &
Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst, DNDC

VENUE & DATE

Tradewinds Auditorium
Bermuda Underwater
Exploration Institute (BUEI)
3rd November, 2023



CONTENTS

- Call to Order & Welcome..... 1
- Opening Remarks..... 1
- Introduction..... 1
- Adolescent Substance Treatment..... 2
- Update on the Drug Situation in Bermuda..... 2
- DNDC Survey Initiatives 2023..... 2
- National Drug Strategy..... 3
- Substance Use and Road Traffic Accidents..... 3
- Drug Interdiction..... 3
- Government Laboratory Update..... 4
- Special Presentation..... 4
- Conclusions and Recommendations..... 4
- Closing Remarks..... 4
- Evaluation of Meeting..... 4
- Close of Meeting..... 4

ANNEXES

- I List of Meeting Participants..... 5
- II Agenda..... 8
- III Participant Evaluation and Results..... 12

The 2023 Annual Meeting of the Bermuda Drug Information Network (BerDIN) was held on the 3rd of November, 2023 at the Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute (BUEI).

Representation

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

CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Renee Lightbourne, a BerDIN Member who represented the Department of Court Services, called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to the meeting's participants and invited guests.

Housekeeping matters were also conveyed.

OPENING REMARKS

Anthony Santucci, Executive Director of CADA, brought Opening Remarks to the meeting. He noted that this year marks the 13th 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. Mr. Santucci shared that this year's meeting, will focus on updating the membership on recent activities and initiatives from both demand and supply reduction agencies. He highlighted the fact that participants have all been faced with challenges that have hindered their ability to collect, input and manage drug-related information. Mr. Santucci ended his opening remarks by stating, "it is only through our collective efforts can we reduce the impact of substance misuse on our society."

Following the Opening Remarks, the meeting was officially declared open by Executive Director, Anthony Santucci.

INTRODUCTION

Participants were reminded of the meeting's objectives by Mr. Duncan Barclay, Results, Compliance and Investigations Manager, Bermuda Sports Anti-Doping Authority; 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.

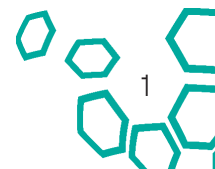
In the interest of keeping the agenda items as scheduled, participants were then asked to briefly introduce themselves (name and department he/she represented) for the benefit of all persons present in the meeting room.

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 updating the membership on recent activities and initiatives from both demand and supply reduction agencies. The agenda therefore, was comprised of various presentations that discussed those updates. Each presenter continued to highlight the increased challenges around data collection and being able to produce the data points required for BerDIN, but noted that there is a continued effort to improve this issue.

Adolescent Substance Treatment

The meeting received a presentation, from **Mr. Leslie Grant**, discussing the adolescent substance treatment programme that is administered by FOCUS. He outlined the history of the programme, how it currently functions, a breakdown of the clients being seen, and the substance issues that the clients were presenting with. Mr. Grant closed his presentation with a discussion around the activities the clients participate in during the programme, whilst highlighting the emphasis placed on treatment of cannabis/marijuana.

The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

Update on the Drug Situation in Bermuda

The meeting then 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 2023 Annual Report of the BerDIN. The BerDIN's accomplishments were highlighted as the members were thanked for their continual support. Highlights were given in relation to the data that was reported throughout the eleven chapters of the Report. Dr. Raynor also discussed the large number of data gaps in this year's report along with the issue of data validity that arose during the analysis phase. 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 Survey Initiatives 2023

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 spoke about eight surveys: public amenity, treatment demand, consumer experience, employee experience, stakeholder feedback, AUDIT, and the National School Survey



(NSS). The purpose and methodology of the NSS were presented in detail along with pertinent survey highlights.

The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

National Drug Strategy

Mrs. Joanne Dean, Director of the Department for National Drug Control (DNDC) gave the meeting an update with regards to the National Drug Control Master Plan 2019-2024 by highlighting the findings on what has been accomplished and a way forward.

It was noted, that the Master Plan is structurally sound with 16 goals supported by 51 objectives. The Director stated that, according to the budget for supply and demand reduction, it always comes up short but demand does better than supply with regards to realizing anticipated need.

Majority of the presentation highlighted the number of challenges being faced for drug control management, demand and supply reduction, whilst detailing the data gaps for policy and legislation. In terms of accomplished objectives, Research & Policy ranked the highest (65%), followed by HM Customs (63%), whilst Police and Prevention have accomplished 50% of their set objectives.

Moving forward, Mrs. Dean shared the three steps that DNDC will aim to work through from 2025-2027.

The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

Substance Use and Road Traffic Accidents

Mrs. Shirley Place who is the Clinical Director of Turning Point, informed the meeting that the Bermuda Hospitals Board and the DNDC have begun a collaboration, in May 2023, to assess substance use and road traffic accidents. Mrs. Place shared the background/purpose of the survey along with the respective stakeholders involved. Majority of the presentation focused on the types of data points collected as well as a breakdown of what the collected data looked like thus far. Lastly, Mrs. Place discussed next steps and the way forward for the survey.

The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

Drug Interdiction

The BerDIN members were provided with a presentation lead by Detective Inspector Nidol Barker, Bermuda Police Service Crime Division, as well as Detective Constable Damon Hollis. The presentation focused on the issues surrounding local drug interdiction and emerging trends/risks. Participants were informed of the following areas: purpose of drug interdiction, issues with staffing, training and equipment, concealment methods, interdepartmental collaboration and dangerous and identical drugs. There was an informative discussion preceding the presentation where participants shared their experiences with drug interdiction.



The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

Government Lab Update

There was an impromptu presentation from Ms. Rentha Francis, of the Government Lab, who spoke about the new things being observed at the time of chemical analysis of substances. The members were informed of the increased number of substances being mixed with fentanyl as well as the alarmingly large number of drug seizures this year, especially amongst youth 12-18 years, in comparison to what was reported in 2022.

The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

Special Presentation – Uplift

The day ended with an informative presentation from Kalyn and Michelle Cannonier, of Uplift. As a bespoke hemp business, the presenters shared that their goal is to raise awareness about common misconceptions that the public have on hemp and cannabis plants. A breakdown of their products was given, a discussion on why Uplift encourages micro-dosing was shared, whilst common myths around the business of Uplift were discussed and explained to the members.

The Network:

Noted the information provided in the presentation.

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

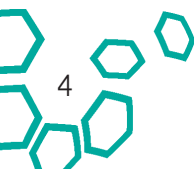
The meeting concluded with Dr. Raynor thanking everyone for their participation in yet another successful meeting. Dr. Raynor encouraged participants to continue the collaboration and bilateral meetings beyond the day's meeting.

EVALUATION OF MEETING

Participants completed a short evaluation of the meeting. 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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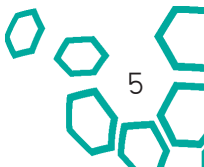
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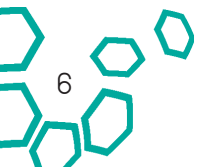
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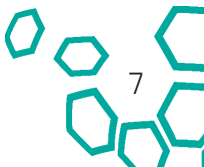
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Annual Meeting of the BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK (BerDIN)

3rd November, 2023

Bermuda Underwater Exploration Institute (BUEI)

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.

*"If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."
Henry Ford*



FRIDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER

9:00 AM	Welcome Remarks	Renee Lightbourne <i>Manager (Acting)</i> Case Management Unit Department of Court Services
9:05 AM	Opening Remarks	Anthony Santucci <i>Executive Director</i> CADA
9:10 AM	Introduction of Meeting » Objectives of the Meeting » Introduction of Participants » Adoption of Agenda	Duncan Barclay <i>Results, Compliance and Investigations Manager</i> Bermuda Sport Anti-Doping Authority
9:20 AM	Bermuda Drug Information Network (BerDIN) Update on the Current Drug Situation in Bermuda » Discussion	Dr. Kyla Raynor <i>Senior Research Officer/Policy Analyst</i> Department for National Drug Control
9:45 AM	DNDC Survey Initiatives 2023	Stephanie Tankard <i>Research Officer</i> Department for National Drug Control
10:00 AM	National Drug Strategy	Joanne Dean <i>Director</i> Department for National Drug Control
10:15 AM – BREAK		
10:30 AM	PARTNER UPDATES	
	Adolescent Substance Treatment	Leslie Grant <i>Executive Director</i> FOCUS
	Substance Use and Road Traffic Accidents	Shirley Place <i>Programme Director</i> Turning Point Bermuda Hospitals Board
	Drug Interdiction	Sherwin Joseph <i>Detective Inspector</i> Serious Crime Division Bermuda Police Service
11:45 AM – LUNCH		
12:15 PM	SPECIAL PRESENTATION	
		Kalyn Cannonier Uplift
12:45 PM	Moving Forward Wrap-up Evaluation	

BERDIN MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES

BERMUDA HOSPITALS BOARD:

KING EDWARD VII MEMORIAL HOSPITAL	Ms. Cyrlene Wilson, <i>Statistical Analyst</i>
TURNING POINT SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAMME	Mrs. Shirley Place, <i>Programme Director</i>

BERMUDA POLICE SERVICE:

FINANCIAL CRIME UNIT	Mr. Calvin Nhan, <i>Financial Analyst</i>
NARCOTICS	Mr. Sherwin Joseph, <i>Detective Inspector</i> Mr. Nidol Barker, <i>Sergeant</i>
DUI	Mr. Raoul Ming, <i>Sergeant</i>

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, <i>Senior Case Worker</i>
RIGHT LIVING HOUSE	Mrs. Theresa DeRoza, <i>Programme Director</i>

DEPARTMENT OF COURT SERVICES:

BERMUDA ASSESSMENT AND REFERRAL CENTRE	Ms. Mariko Aguiar, <i>Clinical Supervisor</i>
DRUG TREATMENT COURT	Dr. Renee Lightbourne, <i>Senior Probation Officer</i>

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH:

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LABORATORY	Ms. Nadine Kirkos, <i>Government Analyst</i>
MATERNAL HEALTH CLINIC	Ms. Ann Marie Moore, <i>Maternal Health Nurse</i>

DEPARTMENT FOR NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL:

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

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. Anthony Santucci, *Chairman*

ANNEX III: PARTICIPANT EVALUATION

2023 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
BERMUDA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK
(BerDIN)

3rd NOVEMBER, 2023
TRADEWINDS AUDITORIUM
BUEI

PARTICIPANT EVALUATION

Friday, 3rd November, 2023

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!**

MEETING DESIGN

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"/>

MEETING RESULTS

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:

The meeting could be improved by:

Other comments or suggestions:



PARTICIPANT EVALUATION RESULTS: MEETING

Friday, 3rd November, 2023

MEETING DESIGN	Scores				
Items	2023 (n = 20/28)	2022 (n = 30/41)	2020 (n = 31/38)	2019 (n = 38/54)	2018 (n = 42/54)
– Organisation of the Meeting	4.4	4.2	4.7	4.5	4.6
– Content (Current, Relevant, Useful)	4.4	4.4	4.8	4.5	4.7
– Meeting Facilities (Venue, Meals, etc.)	4.6	4.4	4.6	4.6	4.2
– Participant Materials	4.4	4.4	4.7	4.5	4.4
– Quality of the Meeting (Overall Meeting Rating)	4.5	4.4	4.9	4.5	4.6

n = number of evaluation forms completed by participants who were present for all or most of the day.
Scale: 5 = Outstanding, 4 = Above Average, 3 = Average, 2 = Below Average, 1 = Poor

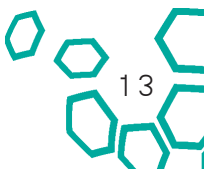
MEETING DESIGN	Scores				
Items	2023 (n = 20/28)	2022 (n = 30/41)	2020 (n = 31/38)	2019 (n = 38/54)	2018 (n = 42/54)
– Meeting objectives were accomplished	4.6	4.4	4.8	4.5	4.6
– The information was timely/relevant	4.6	4.4	4.9	4.5	4.7
– Opportunities for participation/involvement	4.6	4.4	4.8	4.6	4.2
– Format/agenda was suitable	4.5	4.3	4.8	4.5	4.4

n = number of evaluation forms completed by participants who were present for all or most of the day.
Scale: 5 = Outstanding, 4 = Above Average, 3 = Average, 2 = Below Average, 1 = Poor

Length of Meeting: 90.0% (20 respondents) thought it was “About Right”.

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

- The different presentations given
- Positive information to benefit stakeholders
- Presenters were all good
- Great interaction between the different agencies
- Everything
- Very engaging/information sharing
- It was all relevant
- Always look forward to the information that is received
- Further insight into the products being supplied by Uplift to our community.
- Government Lab Presentation
- The presentations-informative, concise



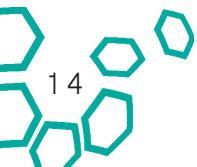
- Discussion with network participants learning about new relevant initiatives
- The police, Lab and Uplift presentation
- The updates were very informative! I will utilize some of the presenter's information with my team to provide them with updates.

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

- Labels on food
- Having some time to discuss the law/legal aspects of substance use.
- Inviting those who can infect change/being able to hear the problems being faced
- Additional engagement from participants. Solution focused brainstorming with treatment providers and professionals.
- With wealth of material presented- more time on formulating joint recommendations on a way forward.
- Include Mirrors Program involvement

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

- Invite the Government Minister/ Representatives
- See above brainstorming- it would also be helpful to have updated information on service providers and programs
- Invite the Government Minister/ Representative
- I would not mind still having the professional development day. This has been a great day and very well organized.





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.