

**City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2020– 8:45 am
DOGWOOD MEETING ROOM – CHILLIWACK CITY HALL**

In attendance:

Councillor Jason Lum, Co-Chair	Councillor Bud Mercer, Co-Chair
Superintendent Bryon Massie, OIC, RCMP	Inspector Davy Lee, RCMP
Mike Bourdon, Assistant Fire Chief	Ian Josephson, Fire Chief
Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice	Joe Koczkur, Deputy Director of Operations
Garrett Schipper, Manager of Building & Regulatory Enforcement	Mike Weightman, ICBC
Brian Foote, Community Member	Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities
Amanda Macpherson, Restorative Justice	Joanne Jefferson, Stó:lō Justice
Mike Sikora, Social Development Coordinator	Chris Terepocki, Legal Representative
Peter Lang, Community Member	Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Jennifer Kooistra, Director of Corporate Services	Corporal Brad Rendall, Community Policing
Nicole Webb, Chamber of Commerce	Kyle Williams, BIA

Guest:

Gerry Armstrong, Member of the Public	
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1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Jason Lum called the meeting to order at 8:45 am. Chair Lum welcomed the new RCMP cadets and a member of the Public to the open portion of the Public Safety Advisory Committee meeting.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee
Seconded (held on Wednesday, February 12, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved /) That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee held
Seconded (Wednesday, January 8, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION

Superintendent Massie introduced two of the RCMP's newest members, Constables Tyler Beasley and Bryn Rodgers. The new constables provided some brief history regarding their background and left the meeting at 8:47 am. Co-Chair Lum enquired as to how many new cadets have been requested for 2020; Superintendent Massie noted 16 cadets have been requested and any new RCMP cadets are committed to working with the Upper Fraser Valley Regional Detachment for five years.

5. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

2020 Terms of Reference

The 2020 Terms of Reference were provided for information.

2020 Membership List

The 2020 Membership List was provided for information.

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

a) RCMP

Superintendent Massie reported on the following:

1. Calls-for-service were down significantly for the month of January 2020 attributable to winter weather.
2. Crimes against Persons were down by 13% for the month of January 2020.
3. Property crime was down by 52%. The data is reflective of weather and work of RCMP Members.
4. The Chilliwack RCMP is working once again with the Abbotsford Police on a joint initiative, Project Valley Sweep, where the two jurisdictions work together to attend and investigate scenes of various offences. The RCMP performed police checks on approximately 500 people and two dozen people were incarcerated. Abbotsford Police recently joined the Chilliwack RCMP on a foot patrol in downtown Chilliwack.
5. February 24, 2020 is Moose Hide Campaign Day in BC. This is a movement of Indigenous and non-Indigenous men and boys from across the province, coming together to show their commitment to ending domestic violence against women and children. The Moose Hide Campaign will distribute 10 million moose hide squares across Canada. RCMP Members from the Upper Fraser Valley Regional Detachment will show their support by wearing moose hide pins on February 24.

Superintendent Massie left the meeting at 8:54 am.

Inspector Lee reported on the following:

6. Inspector Lee reported Corporal Rendall will not be in attendance today.

9. REPORTS (continued)

b) FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. The Fire Department attended the Chilliwack Home Leisure and Outdoor Living Expo on January 24- 26, 2020 at Heritage Park. The Fire Department provided information regarding Home Safe, Fire Smart as well as demonstrated residential sprinkler systems. The Fire Department conversed with approximately 375 people during the duration of the event regarding fire safety.
2. The Fire Department responded to a structure fire located in a field on Skwali First Nations land. Crews found a fully involved travel trailer fire. The occupant of the trailer suffered minor smoke inhalation and was taken to hospital. The Fire Department discovered an encampment on this portion of the field at the time; however, the campers are fluid, moving to and from this area. Staff will monitor the situation.
3. An update was provided regarding the Russell Road townhouse fire which occurred on February 4, 2020, damaging all five units in the complex. The fire appears to have started on the outside of building. The Fire Prevention Officer is currently working with all insurance companies as well as private fire investigators. The structural engineer deemed the complex unsafe to enter up until today; and as such, the Fire Department has been delayed in performing their own investigation.
4. On March 3, 2020 Assistant Fire Chiefs Bourdon and Wilson will be attending a Trans Mountain Emergency Engagement Workshop to discuss emergency response plans, exercise programs and research initiatives.

Concern was expressed regarding the Russell Road fire and whether this fire could have started on a balcony with vinyl siding on the exterior wall surface. Discussion ensued regarding buildings constructed prior to the implementation of the Sprinkler Bylaw No. 3413. The Sprinkler Bylaw No. 3413, requires the installation of fire sprinkler systems in buildings within the City of Chilliwack. Since September 1, 2011, the City of Chilliwack has been requiring additional sprinklers to be installed to protect exterior decks and balconies in multi-family residential buildings, if the wall surface is vinyl. The developer/builder also has the option to install a non-combustible material such as hardie-board in lieu of the deck/balcony sprinkler(s). There is currently no National or BC Building Code provision to install an exterior, non-combustible wall covering on the decks or balconies in multi-family residential buildings. The Fire Department has been providing education to residents in these building types to prevent smoking materials & BBQ type fires from occurring. Additional public education information will be distributed and communicated to City residents and property managers.

Moved /) That Council consider supporting the Public Safety Advisory Committee's
 Seconded (recommendation that the Mayor send a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, requesting that the Province investigate a solution to replace the highly combustible vinyl cladding currently allowed on multi-family balconies and decks with an acceptable non-combustible building material.

Carried Unanimously

Joanne Jefferson, Stólo Justice, arrived at 9:05 am.

9. REPORTS (continued)

c) BIA

No report

d) Bylaw Department

1. The Bylaw Department is continuing with downtown visibility patrols.
2. Two new Bylaw Enforcement Officer (BEO) positions will be posted in the near future, additional staff will help with evening and weekend patrols as well as providing more bylaw coverage for the entire City.
3. The Bylaw Department has received complaints regarding individuals living in recreation vehicles (RVs) and have been investigating recent RV fires. This is a challenge for staff as the RVs move to various locations.
4. There has been a rash of break-ins in and around several vacant homes inhabited by squatters. Staff continue to take swift action to ensure squatters are evicted and homes are boarded up and secured. Discussion ensued regarding alternate methods of securing vacant homes. The Bylaw Department continues to issue fines to the owners of the property. The School District noted similar issues with a currently vacant school site.
5. There has been a report of a homeless camp on a CN Railway Right-of-Way (ROW). Staff are working with CN Rail regarding this issue.

e) ICBC

1. Mike Weightman clarified some of the changes recently implemented by ICBC.
2. There are 960 crashes/day in BC.

f) School District

1. After-hour activity on school sites have been uneventful. However, spring break is near and plans are in place regarding how and when patrols will be conducted throughout the district.
2. The School District continues to help identify youth who have been causing challenges in the community.

Co-Chair Lum thanked the School District for their continued support regarding this issue.

Mike Weightman, ICBC, noted an increase in car thefts during spring break.

g) Operations

1. The Operations Department are in the final two weeks of the winter night shift which ends at the end of February. Staff will resume normal daytime shifts with supervisors monitoring the weather conditions in the early morning, watching for frost or ice.
2. Crews are completing the final clean-up from the last storm with extreme rain and wind including a slide on Marble Hill Road and a slide on Promontory Road. A full road closure will be required to complete the clean-up on Promontory Road which will be scheduled on a weekend.
3. Crews are beginning winter clean-up of traffic islands, pedestrian crossings, sidewalks and bike lanes.

9. REPORTS (continued)**h) Social Development**

1. The City continues to support initiatives and collaborations regarding overdoses and obtaining appropriate services. From 2018-2019, the number of overdose deaths in our community has declined, with a wide array of services made available to the community such as naloxone training and/or increased access to services within the respective organizations. A new youth treatment center is opening soon and there have been a number of micro grants going out to organizations in the community to assist with implementing different strategies to address overdoses.
2. The Homeless Count is March 3 & 4, 2020; the last count was in 2017. Pacific Community Resource Society (PCRS) will be the lead organization working with a consultant from the Fraser Valley Regional District to implement the count, which will include working with a number of organizations and service providers, to identify the number of individuals who are homeless. The number of people experiencing visible homelessness in the community has decreased from 40-45 people sleeping on sidewalks and in parks at this time last year to approximately 10-17 who are currently homeless and not accessing services.
3. There were 213 units of housing built in 2019, which provided housing to people directly off of the street, out of emergency shelters, and those who were at risk of homelessness due to affordability issues.
4. There were 16 communities across Canada considered for federal funding last year with Chilliwack being short-listed as one of the six communities chosen to receive funding; there has been no response regarding the funding application to-date, but it is expected by Spring 2020.
5. Overall, there has been a reduction in homelessness, and associated challenges, from this time last year.

Co-Chair Lum queried whether the housing projects' committee advisory councils are meeting regularly; staff noted the advisory committees for The Portal shelter, Salvation Army and the new housing sites, RainCity on Yale Road and Trethewey Avenue, have been meeting regularly. City staff have attended all of the meetings and reported; however, there has been poor attendance at some of the meetings. Discussion ensued regarding feedback received with respect to when the committee advisory council meetings are held.

Co-Chair Mercer enquired regarding the status of Chilliwack's request for an Assertive Community Treatment Team (ACT), which primarily focuses on mental health; staff noted work is still progressing regarding this request and will provide updates when available.

i) Restorative Justice

No report.

j) Stólō Justice

1. The Aboriginal Justice Strategy Committee Meeting will be held on Friday, February 14, 2020 from 10:00 am -12:00 pm at Stólō_Service Agency located at 7201 Vedder Road. This is a networking meeting to discuss current trends, build relationships and find solutions regarding mental health and addictions.
2. Day treatment is currently happening at Stólō_once/week with 16 participants and is steadily increasing. Having the service located at Stólō_Service Agency_has encouraged individuals to take the next step in obtaining treatment.
3. Positive feedback has been received regarding the two RCMP Urban Indigenous Liaison members who provide support at the Stólō Service Agency location.

9. REPORTS (continued)

- 4. Joanne Jefferson, Stólō Justice enquired about social demographics and whether poverty and the number of services is factored in to the Point in Time homeless count. Staff noted the Point in Time homeless count captures a number of demographics such as time spent in a particular community, heritage and/or ancestry, time or history with services such as Ministry of Children and Family Development, and age and gender demographics. The 2017 Homeless Count is available on the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) website. Discussion ensued regarding the collaborative work with the Friendship Centre. Joanne Jefferson noted meetings are scheduled between First Nation Health Authority and addictions teams from throughout the territory to discuss gaps in addictions services in First Nation communities.

k) Chamber of Commerce

No report.

Gerry Armstrong, Member of the Public and Brian Foote, Community Member, left the meeting at 9:40 am.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

Moved /) That, in accordance with Section 90 (1)(f) of the *Community Charter*, the Committee
Seconded (hold a Closed meeting.

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Lum, Co-Chair