

City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022 – 8:00 am
VIDEO CONFERENCE / DOGWOOD ROOM

In attendance:

Councillor Bud Mercer, Chair	Holly Ferris, Manager of Social Development
Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development	Mike Bourdon, Assistant Fire Chief
Sergeant Krista Vrolyk, Community Policing	Garrett Schipper, Deputy Director of Development and Regulatory Services
Staff Sergeant Grant Floris, A/Operations Officer, RCMP	Collin Rogers, Chamber of Commerce
Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities	Joe Koczkur, Deputy Director of Operations
Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services	Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice
Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice	Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown BIA
Kim Spice, Recording Secretary	Brian Foote, Community Member

Regrets:

Ian Josephson, Fire Chief	Councillor Nicole Read, Vice-Chair
Peter Lang, Community Member, President, Chilliwack Métis Association	Joanne Jefferson, Stó:lō Justice
Inspector Steve Vrolyk, Operations Officer, RCMP	Tanis Hatch, ICBC
Chris Terepocki, Legal Representative	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and provided territorial acknowledgement.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee held
 Seconded (Wednesday, December 14, 2022, be adopted.

Carried Unanimously

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved /) That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee held
 Seconded (Wednesday, November 16, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION

Sergeant Krista Vrolyk, Community Policing, introduced new RCMP Member, Constable Lavish Mittal. Constable Mittal provided some brief background and left the meeting at 8:05 am.

5. PRESENTATION / COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice, provided a brief presentation regarding referrals, timeliness of the program, meaningful consequences and future plans to expand the program. It was noted that there is difficulty in generating funding for Restorative Justice.

After a general discussion the Public Safety Advisory Committee provided the following resolution:

Moved /) That Council look at strategies to address funding for Chilliwack Restorative Justice.
Seconded (

Carried

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

Sergeant Krista Vrolyk, Community Policing, reported on the following:

a) RCMP

1. Bike theft continues to rise.
 - Project 529 presentation will be provided to PSAC in the new year.
 - The Bait Bike Program continues and has had one successful prosecution.
2. Impaired driving check stops have encountered 400 vehicles in the last few weeks, with 46 road side screening processes completed and three vehicles removed from the road.
3. A pedestrian was struck by train resulting in a fatality last week.
4. There was a homicide on Windsor Street last night, RCMP are investigating the incident.
5. Seizure of fentanyl and cocaine by Chilliwack RCMP Drug Section, resulting in two arrests.
6. Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Program back in the community after being on hiatus during the pandemic.
7. Shop Lifter program led to a seizure of a stolen vehicle.
8. Constable Scarecrow was deployed on Keith Wilson Road to encourage drivers to reduce speed.

9. REPORTS (continued)

b) Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief Mike Bourdon reported on the following:

1. Burning season has come to an end, with only a few days of burning permitted during that time. 323 permits were issued and the online permits were trending much higher than in previous seasons.
2. Public education by Fire Department staff was provided to 517 individuals, regarding emergency preparedness and proper use of fire extinguishers.
3. ICBC has trained Fire Department staff for proper car seat installation. The program will take appointments on Wednesday but staff can be utilized in this regard if availability permits them to do so.
4. Member Josie Bleuer participated in the SMART Program for home and community assessments and has completed her designation, bringing the total number of members with designations to four.
5. Partnerships with Bowls of Hope have had a positive impact on members of the Fire Department and community.

c) BIA

Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown BIA, reported on the following:

1. The Downtown Clean Up Crew has continued to do a great job, specifically Harold Zinke. The street teams have also been responsible for clearing snow in the downtown core during the winter months.
2. Incidents of graffiti have decreased from 136 in September to 78 in November.
3. The Christmas Parade was a great success and holiday festivities have ramped up in the past few weeks.

d) Bylaw Department

Garrett Schipper, Deputy Director of Development and Regulatory Services, reported on the following:

1. The Bylaw Department is down one Bylaw Officer but has hired and began training a replacement this week.
2. Parking issues remain busy.
3. Winter season has arrived with an increase in complaints regarding snow removal.

Councillor Mercer indicated he would like Bylaw Officers to be introduced to the committee in a similar fashion as new RCMP members. This will begin in 2023.

e) ICBC

No report.

9. REPORTS (continued)

f) School District

Mark Klassen, Manager of Facilities, School District 33, reported on the following:

1. Several shopping carts have been located on School District 33 properties.
2. Number of incidents regarding vandalism and graffiti have increased, police files have been created accordingly.
3. There are two potential referrals for the Youth Fire Prevention Program.

Discussion regarding shopping carts took place. A presentation regarding the shopping cart bylaw will take place at the next PSAC meeting.

Mayor Popove joined the meeting at 8:35am.

g) Operations

Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations, reported on the following:

1. The Christmas Parade was very successful. Operations staff were responsible for street clearing and parking. It was noted that stanchions would be helpful for next years parade to ensure safety for attendees.
2. Snow and ice control continue to be a priority. Operations is looking to prepare a report to Council regarding the snow removal and sidewalk policy.

h) Social Development

Holly Ferris, Manager of Social Development, reported on the following:

1. Shelter numbers:
 - November
 - 181 of 159 beds being utilized, 22 over capacity
 - Emergency Weather Response is 20 over capacity
 - December
 - 191 of 159 beds being utilized, 32 over capacity
2. The Wellness Centre is currently being renovated and is set to open in the first few weeks of 2023. There will be a secure place for cart storage on the premises and security will be onsite.
3. Ruth and Naomi's have an additional 26 beds that will be open for use in the coming weeks after approval of the modular space was provided by City Council.

i) Restorative Justice

Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice, reported on the following:

1. There were 12 new referrals in November 2022; 8 referrals came from RCMP.
2. There are 37 active files and engagement was provided by having six restorative circles.
3. There were 70 volunteer hours recorded.
4. 36 educational sessions were provided to School District 33 staff and students.

9. REPORTS (continued)

j) Stó:lō Justice

No report.

k) Chamber of Commerce

Collin Rogers, Chamber of Commerce, reported on the following:

1. Broken windows continue to be a challenge for businesses.
 - The Chamber of Commerce is looking to create a program to assist businesses with grants to reduce financial burden, as replacement and preventative costs are high.
 - RCMP to discuss issues with the Chamber of Commerce, as well as the importance of reporting these crimes and engaging with City Watch and member patrols.

Discussion regarding the Planning Departments initial consultation for addressing design guidelines with respect to protective measures for crime were presented in the fall. Shutters, safety issues, environmental impacts, increased graffiti and projecting the feeling of an unsafe area were all noted during that time.

l) Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services (City of Chilliwack)

Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services, reported on the following:

1. Speed Watch conducted seven deployments throughout the month of November. 53 warning letters and 12 tickets were issued. Five patrols were initiated with 103 license plates checked, resulting in one impaired driver being removed from the road.
2. Senior Safety Talks were provided to Elim Village, where 62 individuals were in attendance, as well as the Seniors Centre, where 37 individuals were in attendance.
3. 27 FA clearances were completed for volunteers.
4. Lock It or Lose It program will be in effect for the next two weeks.

m) Community Members

No report.

Discussion took place regarding meeting occurrence pattern. It was noted that PSAC meetings will take place on the third Wednesday of every month, with a start time of 8:00am, beginning in 2023.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

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

Carried Unanimously

Councillor Mercer, Chair