

City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2022– 8:45 am
HELD ELECTRONICALLY

In attendance:

Councillor Bud Mercer, Co-Chair	Ian Josephson, Fire Chief
Inspector Steve Vrolyk, Operations Officer, RCMP	Mike Bourdon, Assistant Fire Chief
Sergeant Krista Vrolyk, Community Policing	Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities
Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Society	Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice
Collin Rogers, Chamber of Commerce	Steve Roukema, Restorative Justice
Peter Lang, Community Member, President, Chilliwack Métis Association	Brian Foote, Community Member
Karen Stanton, Manager of Long Range Planning & Community Safety / Staff Liaison	Garrett Schipper, Manager of Building and Regulator Enforcement
Holly Ferris, Social Development Coordinator	Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations
Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary	

Regrets:

Councillor Jason Lum, Co-Chair	Joanne Jefferson, Stólo Justice
Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, BIA	Tanis Hatch, ICBC
Chris Terepocki, Legal Representative	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Mercer called the meeting to order at 8:48 am and provided territorial acknowledgement.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved /) That the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee
Seconded (held on Wednesday, January 12, 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, December 8, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION

5. PRESENTATION / COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

a) 2022 Terms of Reference

The 2022 Terms of Reference was provided for information.

b) 2022 Membership List

The 2022 Membership List was provided for information.

c) 2022 Meeting Schedule

The 2022 Meeting Schedule was provided for information.

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

d) RCMP

Inspector Steve Vrolyk, Operations Officer, RCMP, reported on the following:

1. There were some motor vehicles accidents due to the recent ice storm; however, no serious accidents or significant issues.
2. The RCMP had extra resources on-hand and an operation plan in place for New Year's Eve, including Bylaw Enforcement Officers riding along with RCMP Members. There were minimal complaints on New Year's Eve with respect to fireworks, which could be attributable to cold weather.

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

3. Stats:
2021 – 9 fatal collisions
2020 – 6 fatal collisions
2019 – 2 fatal collisions

The RCMP continue to work with ICBC and the Traffic Section with respect to drivers and road safety.

4. A brief update was provided with respect to the success of the Outreach and Integration project the City of Chilliwack has engaged the Pacific Community Regional Society (PCRS) to undertake. Since the program began in October 2021, the two new outreach workers have directly assisted seven vulnerable individuals finding stable housing and various other services which have had immediate positive impact on these individuals. The RCMP noted the outreach work is beneficial to the community with respect to the impact on community safety. The case management team that provides follow up after the initial outreach is made with an individual is also making a positive difference.

Co-Chair Mercer thanked Sergeant Vrolyk for the outreach update and requested the RCMP provide a brief presentation with respect to the outreach successes to-date at the next Public Safety Advisory Committee meeting.

9. REPORTS

e) Fire Department

Fire Chief, Ian Josephson reported on the following:

1. The Fire Department has been busy with utility line incidents due to the recent snow and ice storm.
2. The Fire Chief will provide the 2021 Summary at the next Public Safety Advisory Committee meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding whether the Emergency Operations Centre still meets monthly at a building adjacent the Sardis Sports Complex; the Fire Chief noted the Bylaw Department has relocated to that building since the start of COVID-19.

f) BIA

No report

g) Bylaw Department

1. The Bylaw Department has received numerous complaints regarding sidewalks and parking with respect to the recent snowfall followed by the ice storm. The Bylaw Department is reminding property owners of the Highway and Traffic Bylaw No. 4686 which states every owner of property which is adjacent to a boulevard, sidewalk or public footpath on a highway, is responsible for removal of all snow and ice from the sidewalk or public footpath as soon as practicable or no later than noon on the day following after a snowfall.
2. The Bylaw Department has received complaints regarding the latest Public Health Orders (PHO's) with respect to the closure of gyms and other businesses. Municipal Bylaw Officers have been requested by the Province to assist with educating businesses with respect to PHO's, however, only Provincial enforcement officers have the ability to issue tickets for PHO violations. The Bylaw Department does report violations to the Fraser Health Authority or to WCB.
3. As noted in the RCMP report, Bylaw Enforcement Officers worked an evening shift along side the RCMP on New Year's Eve.
4. A long-standing Bylaw Enforcement Officer, who has been instrumental in working with the most vulnerable population during the daily foot patrols in the downtown core, will be retiring at the end of January. A replacement is currently being trained to take over the role to ensure a smooth transition.

h) ICBC

No report

i) School District

1. After being located in the Neighbourhood Learning Centre (NLC) since November 2021, when the flooding began, the Red Cross will be moving out of that location as of January 14, 2022 to a virtual model.
2. The School District reports low vandalism in December.

9. REPORTS

3. School District crews have been busy managing the icy conditions at school sites due to the recent weather.
4. There have been some homeless individuals seeking shelter with the colder weather at three school sites. Staff continue to deal with this issue.

j) Operations

1. Crews have been busy plowing snow with the last snow fall.
2. Recent weather events have created a large number of potholes throughout the City. Two patch trucks are out working full time on repairs.
3. Operations staff are regularly monitoring the weather and local river levels.

Co-Chair Mercer provided praise with respect to the hard work done by Operations staff in recent months. Peter Lang, Community Member and President, Chilliwack Métis Association passed along positive feedback regarding the good work done by Operations staff regarding snow plowing.

k) Social Development

1. The first meeting of 2022 of the recently resurrected Situation Table, took place on Tuesday, January 11, 2022; where cases from street-level, most vulnerable individuals are brought forward to the weekly meetings.
2. The Cheam View United Church will be set up as an emergency weather shelter; if necessary, and used in extreme weather only. The details are forthcoming.

l) Restorative Justice

1. Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association is in the process of strategic planning and is working with big box stores and schools to create community awareness of their programs. There are plans to meet with the School District in the near future to discuss further. Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association hopes to have the programs up and running by fall and more details will follow.
2. Steve Roukema, Executive Director, reported one of the Chilliwack Restorative Justice and Youth Advocacy Association's volunteers is retiring after 23 years of service. There is a presentation being planned.

Ken Popove, Mayor, joined the meeting at 9:07 am.

m) Stólō Justice

No report

n) Chamber of Commerce

No report

o) Chilliwack Crime Prevention Society

Speed Watch reported four deployments in December with one ticket and one 3-Strike ticket being issued; a speed of 76 km was reported in a 50 km speed zone.

9. REPORTS

Community Members

1. Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice, Community Member, commented on the recent weather and expressed his appreciation for the work City crews have done.
2. Peter Lang, Community Member and President of Chilliwack Métis Association, provided follow-up comment with respect to his previous report of a Chilliwack Métis elder who slipped and fell on stairs leading down from their apartment building in past months. Operations staff visited the area of concern after Peter reported it to ensure there were no sidewalk issues. Peter Lang is uncertain as to who is responsible for the maintenance of the stairs.
3. Peter Lang commented on issues another Chilliwack Métis elder is having with respect to the elder’s 8-unit complex on Lewis Avenue such as mold issues and management of the sidewalks in the winter weather.
4. Brian Foote, Community member, expressed his thanks to Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations and all the crews for their hard work plowing the roads.
5. Brian Foote also wanted to provide positive comment with respect to the progress of the construction in the downtown area. He and his family have recently walked in the downtown core and have enjoyed the local restaurants and cafés. He noted there is a safe feeling in the area, most likely attributable to how the revitalization has brought more pedestrians to the area.

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, Co-Chair