

City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2022– 8:00 am
VIDEO CONFERENCE / DOGWOOD ROOM

In attendance:

Councillor Jason Lum, Co-Chair	Councillor Bud Mercer, Co-Chair
Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development	Ian Josephson, Fire Chief
Sergeant Krista Vrolyk, Community Policing	Mike Bourdon, Assistant Fire Chief
Staff Sergeant Grant Floris, A/Operations Officer, RCMP	Holly Ferris, Manager of Social Development
Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities	Scott Funk, Superintendent of Public Works
Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice	Brian Foote, Community Member
Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Society	Joanne Jefferson, Stólo Justice
Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice	Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown BIA
Trish Alsip, Recording Secretary	

Regrets:

Inspector Steve Vrolyk, Operations Officer, RCMP	Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations
Garrett Schipper, Deputy Director of Development and Regulatory Services	Peter Lang, Community Member, President, Chilliwack Métis Association
Tanis Hatch, ICBC	Collin Rogers, Chamber of Commerce
Chris Terepocki, Legal Representative	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Lum 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, October 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, September 21, 2022, be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION

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

5. PRESENTATION / COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

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

a) RCMP

1. The Serious Crime Unit continues to work on some recent fires of concern.
2. One fatal collision and one near-fatal collision occurred in the last few weeks.
3. E-ticketing is being rolled out to all police vehicles in Chilliwack with good results in other municipalities in terms of the effectiveness of being able to prosecute tickets with fewer administration errors.

Staff Sergeant Grant Floris, A/Operations Officer, RCMP, provided follow-up comment with respect to the E-ticketing, noting that the cost of implementing the E-ticket printers in the police vehicles is being covered by the Province.

Co-Chair Mercer enquired as to whether the RCMP have statistical information with respect to how many vehicles have been issued tickets this year due to expired insurance, as compared to last year, prior to the new ICBC policy of discontinuing licence plate decals. Sergeant Vrolyk noted there have not been any stats compiled locally with respect to this matter; however, she will bring this issue forward at a provincial Traffic sub-committee meeting taking place in the near future. Sergeant Vrolyk noted the provincial decision to discontinue licence plate decals has had an impact on the police.

b) Fire Department

Fire Chief Josephson reported on the following:

1. 3rd Quarter Stats:
 - a. The Fire Department has responded to 3,400 calls-for-service to date; 86% of calls-for-service to date have occurred in Firehall 1 (Downtown) and Firehall 4 (Sardis) response zones.
 - b. Fire losses –there have been 68 structure fires in Chilliwack to date; 93% of those occurring in the downtown and Sardis response zones.
 - c. 88% of fires have been in single-family residential homes.

9. REPORTS (continued)

2. Halloween - The Fire Department is concerned with the long stretch of dry weather and has reached out to local First Nation Chiefs and Band managers with respect to sales and use of fireworks on First Nations Land.
3. The provincial government has banned open burning throughout the Coastal Fire Centre's jurisdiction, which includes Chilliwack. The fire ban is in effect from July 15 - October 28, 2022.

Assistant Fire Chief Mike Bourdon reported on the following:

4. Fire Prevention Week activities included the Chilliwack Safety Fair which was held on October 8, 2022 at Home Depot. The event was very successful with over 700 people attending this year. Assistant Fire Chief Bourdon expressed thanks to Samantha Piper, Safer City who helped with organizing the event. Monthly meetings take place up to a year in advance to prepare for the event.
5. As part of Fire Prevention Week, the Fire Department is conducting a community fire drill at four properties in Chilliwack including two RainCity Housing properties, Douglas and Sequoia Apartments on Chehalis Drive. The Fire Department has been conducting community mock fire drills for the past four years.

Assistant Fire Chief noted there have been multiple false alarm calls-for-service in the past few years at the RainCity Housing properties; the Fire Prevention Team has since set up monthly inspections and providing education, starting in February 2022, to help alleviate this issue. The calls-for-service to these properties have decreased dramatically.

6. Two of the Fire Department's inspectors will be fully trained today in car seat installation. Assistant Fire Chief Bourdon expressed thanks to Tanis Hatch, ICBC for providing space for the inspectors in the training session.

c) BIA

No report.

d) Bylaw Department

No report.

e) ICBC

Tanis Hatch, ICBC, was not able to attend the meeting; however, provided the following update via email.

1. Pedestrian Safety campaign launched Oct 4th, fall event planning is underway for the Fraser Valley.

A member expressed concern with respect to pedestrian safety; Co-Chair Lum noted the City of Chilliwack has been installing Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) throughout the City. Sergeant Krista Vrolyk, Community Policing, provided follow-up comment noting a meeting took place last week between the RCMP and the Speed Watch coordinator to discuss solutions within the Speed Watch Program for addressing pedestrian safety concerns.

9. REPORTS (continued)

f) School District

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

1. It's been a good start to the new school year; most mornings there have been no persons experiencing homelessness found on school property for school start times attributable to evening security patrols.
2. Halloween - The School District had its initial meeting with Griffin Security and City of Chilliwack staff to discuss coverage plans for October 31; garbage bins will be emptied and all yard bins will be locked.
3. A Section 177 has recently been issued with respect to a person experiencing homelessness at McCammon Elementary whom the School District has been trying to identify for some time.
4. On September 30 & October 1, 2022, the Reconciliation Pow Wow took place at Chilliwack Senior Secondary School. The event was very successful with approximately 3000 people attending. The School District appreciated having the RCMP present at the event.
5. Mr. Klassen noted there will be a file being brought forth that may be suitable for Restorative Justice with respect to an incident that took place at Chilliwack Senior Secondary School.
6. Chilliwack Senior Secondary School will be the starting location for this year's Rotary Christmas Parade on December 3, 2022; the School District is working with parade organizers with respect to the event.
7. The Grand Opening of the new Stitó:s Lá:lém Totí:lt Elementary/Middle School takes place today.

g) Operations

Joe Koczur, Deputy Director of Operations, was not able to attend the meeting; however, Scott Funk, Superintendent of Public Works, reported on the following:

1. Crews are conducting hillside machine brushing which will help alleviate low-hanging brushes obstructing school busses in the winter.
2. Crews have been cleaning up the downtown area as leaf season is upon us.
3. Festive light installation has taken place at Salish Park early this year to avoid driving a truck or boom lift in the park during wet weather.
4. In the last three weeks, there has been approximately \$5,000 worth of stolen signs and vandalism in the Rosedale area including seven stop signs stolen in the Ryder Lake area.

Sergeant Vrolyk, Community Policing encouraged the Operations Department to report any stolen property or vandalism incidents to the RCMP through the online Crime Reporting Tool. Michelle Wulff, Crime Prevention Office and Sergeant Vrolyk will bring discuss this concern with the City Watch team who conducts patrols on Friday and Saturday evenings until 4:00 am. Discussion ensued with respect to whether stolen signs are being turned in for cash at recycling centres.

Brian Foote, Community Member, raised an enquiry with respect to a fire ban sign that has recently been removed in the Ryder Lake area on the Promontory side; and whether the sign will be replaced due to the fire ban still being in effect. The Fire Department will follow up with respect to this concern.

Joanne Jefferson, Stólō Justice, joined the meeting at 8:36 am.

9. REPORTS (continued)

Brian Foote, Community Member, enquired as to whether the School District could check within the school community with respect to students who may be involved in stealing signs; Mr. Klassen will follow up with respect to this issue.

h) Social Development

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

1. Shelter numbers for September 2022:
 - a. Adult beds - 142 beds used out of 159 available
 - b. Youth beds – 4 beds used out of 9 available
2. Shelter numbers for October 2022 to date:
 - a. Adult beds – 144 used of the 159 available
 - b. Youth beds – 6 beds used out of 9 available
3. The majority of available beds are for women.
4. The City of Chilliwack is working with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness to offer the following training opportunities:
 - a. October 27, 2022 – Homelessness 101, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
 - b. October 28, 2022 – Harm Reduction/Trauma Informed Care and Practice, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
 - c. November 29 & 30, 2022 – Person Centred – Intensive Case Management, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

These workshops are available to committee members and more details will be emailed.

i) Restorative Justice

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

1. September was a busier month with 10 new referrals to Restorative Justice.
2. There were 40.5 volunteer hours recorded in September.
3. Restorative Justice has been very active in local schools lately attributable to the new full-time Restorative School Coordinator hired in August 2022.
4. Two part-time classroom facilitators have been recently hired to teach the restorative values within the classroom alongside the teacher; Restorative Justice staff have met with school principals, administration, staff counsellors, teachers and youth care workers from Vedder Middle School, Vedder Elementary School and Watson Elementary School with respect to Restorative Justice topics of discussion in the classroom.
5. Last week, Restorative Justice came into a school on a professional development day to lead a peace exercise with over 40 teachers in attendance.
6. Next week, Restorative Justice will visit grades 4, 6, 7 & 8's teaching one specific topic per month.
7. Operation Red Nose preparation is underway with over 70 volunteers signed up; the goal is to have 100 volunteers.

Co-Chair Mercer acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the work Restorative Justice has done and continues to do for the community.

9. REPORTS (continued)

An enquiry was raised with respect to the dates Operation Red Nose will be operating this season; Mr. Roukema noted Operation Red Nose will operate on five weekends total starting the last weekend of November up until December 31, 2022, with the exception of December 25 and 26, 2022.

j) Stólō Justice

Joanne Jefferson, Stólō Justice, reported on the following:

1. Ms. Jefferson extended her thanks to Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice for the shift that is taking place amongst people to help identify the different approaches and streams with which to support people moving back towards the 'Red Road'.
2. The Stólō Justice team has been conducting a lot of programming and participation in the last month with respect to murdered and missing women, Every Child Matters and Truth and Reconciliation.
3. There have been many recent losses in the Stólō Community due to drug overdose; the team is providing outreach through singing.
4. Team members attended the annual Chilliwack Purple Lights Night event this past week; t-shirts are being sold with the design done by Carrie Victor to help bring awareness with respect to domestic violence.
5. Qwí:Qwelstóm Open House takes place on October 19, 2022 from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm located on Chilliwack River Road. Ms. Jefferson will forward the information via email.
6. Visit with an Elder program takes place twice a month. Dates to be forwarded.
7. Walk & Talk / Walk for Your Mental Health Contest is currently taking place on trails in the community as well as the trail around Stólō Nation.

Ms. Jefferson expressed thanks and appreciation to Council for their service to the community.

k) Chamber of Commerce

No Report.

l) Chilliwack Crime Prevention Society

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

1. September was a busy month as the first two weeks of September was the Back to School Blitz which contributed to Speed Watch's 27 deployments throughout the month; one ticket was issued.
2. The Crime Prevention Society conducted an internet safety presentation at TASK University of the Fraser Valley.
3. Block Watch had two major parties that took place on Mayfair Avenue and Beaver Crescent.
4. Crime Free Multi Housing recently conducted CPTED training for five people.

m) Community Members

Angus Haggarty, Corrections/Restorative Justice, Community Member, wished Co-Chairs Lum and Mercer well in the upcoming election.

Ken Popove, Mayor, joined the meeting at 9:20 am. Joanne Jefferson left the meeting at 9:20 am.

9. REPORTS (continued)

n) Community Safety Plan – Update

Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development, provided a presentation regarding the Community Safety Plan Update.

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 Lum, Co-Chair