

City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, August 19, 2026 – 8:00 am
VIDEO CONFERENCE / DOGWOOD ROOM

In attendance:

Councillor Bud Mercer, Chair	Councillor Jeff Shields, Vice-Chair
Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development	Krista Minar, Assistant Fire Chief
Staff Sargent, Grant Floris, Operational Support Officer, RCMP	Garrett Schipper, Director of Development and Regulatory Enforcement
Andy Brown, Fire Chief	Duane Dougan, ICBC
Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services	Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities
Joe Koczur, Director of Public Works and Parks	Chuck Stam, Community Member
Brian Foote, Education/Crime Prevention	Brad Rendall, Community Member
Gerry Eggert, Senior Representative	Leah Lavallee, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Kim Spice, Social Development Coordinator	Joanne Jefferson, Stó:lō Justice
Inspector, Harinder Kheleh, Operations Officer, RCMP	Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown BIA
Taylor Maguire, Chamber of Commerce	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Bud 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, August 19, 2026, 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, July 15, 2026 be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION

5. PRESENTATION / COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

a) RCMP

Staff Sargent, Grant Floris, Operational Support Officer, RCMP, reported on the following:

1. CRT attended Flight Fest as well as the Chilliwack Fair and are currently in communication with the organizers for the upcoming Chilliwack Pride Festival.
2. Health and Safety inspections have continued with Bylaw.
3. Seasonal policing will plan for a paddleboard safety focus next summer.
4. E-scooter meetings are in progress and plans are being made for collaborative education and enforcement during back-to-school.
5. The Pop-Up E-scooter event at Vedder Park last Friday was well attended.
6. RCMP's back-to-school plan will address school zones, speeding, and e-scooter education and enforcement. Posters outlining Provincial regulations will be posted at schools and Autoplan locations.
7. A new member will be starting in the youth section early September.
8. Open House on September 12th.

A shopping cart blitz took place earlier this month during one of the night watches. Over 35 carts were returned to their stores.

b) Fire Department

Assistant Fire Chief, Krista Minar, reported on the following:

1. Calls for Service are down slightly.
2. Year-to-Date there have been 4 civilian and 2 fire fighter injuries.
3. The fire investigation is complete for the apartment fire that took place on Spadina Avenue.
4. The number of fires caused by lithium-ion batteries continues to rise. Seeing a lot of altered batteries.
5. Have noticed an increase in calls towards Vedder Mountain Road for fires. RCMP started regular patrols in the area which has helped significantly to bring the calls down.
6. Canada Day Open House was a success.
7. Safety Fair will take place on October 3rd at Home Dept.
8. This year's fire prevention focus is on lithium-ion battery safety.
9. Over 400 wildfire evacuees have been hosted in Chilliwack. The Fire Department continues to support the communities impacted by wildfires with a tender which has moved around as needed, as well as with fire fighters who were able to provide some relief to Boston Bar's fire department.

c) BIA

No report.

d) Bylaw Department

Garret Schipper, Director of Development and Regulatory Enforcement, reported on the following:

1. The recent shopping cart blitz has helped with the morning park patrols as individuals have less items to pack up.
2. Continuing to see new individuals out in the community.
3. Increased patrols on the rail trail.

9. REPORTS CONTINUED**e) ICBC**

1. The Mobility E-scooter Road-eo event takes place August 22nd.
2. Pedestrian Safety will be the primary focus in September.

f) School District

Mark Klassen, Manager of Facilities, SD33, reported on the following:

1. Will be reaching out to local service providers to remind the community that school will be back in session shortly.

Discussion ensued regarding the number of e-scooters on school properties and SD33 implementing a policy to prohibit indoor storage.

g) Public Works and Park

1. Currently in the midst of open drainage water course maintenance. Extensive work has been done to repair Ford Creek and Elk Creek.
2. Continued work on regular vegetation maintenance.

h) Social Development

Krista Goodman, Social Development Specialist, reported on the following:

1. Phoenix Pathways has started moving tenants into Supportive Housing.
2. The Recovery Working Group continues to meet monthly and is focused on improving coordination and reducing barriers to detox, treatment, recovery housing, and aftercare.
3. Housing placements for July:

Market Housing	5
Affordable Housing	1
Recovery	2

Discussion ensued regarding the new Phoenix Pathways building on Rowat and how they have been settling into the community.

i) Stó:lō Justice

No report.

j) Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services (City of Chilliwack)

Michelle Wulff, Crime Prevention Supervisor, reported on the following:

1. Attending the Mobility E-scooter Road-eo this weekend.
2. Planning a traffic blitz on September 8th, 9th, and 10th for back-to-school.
3. Speed Watch: 12 deployments, 2 tickets issued with RCMP, 222 warning letters sent.
4. Block Watch: 1 new recruit.
5. Business Watch: 51 members, 38 reported issues – mostly loitering and trespassing.
6. Crime Free Multi Housing: 10 reports for July, mostly for drug use and paraphernalia, 3 CPTED reports completed
7. Will be starting to slowly move back to the downtown office next week.

9. REPORTS CONTINUED

Discussion ensued regarding the Speed Limit Reduction Pilot and if it has been effective in reducing high speeds in the designated areas. Conversation continued regarding the speed limits in residential areas and if they are too high when considering the amount of children in the area and limited visibility due to vehicles parking along the street. Recommendations were made for Engineering to come to the next meeting to discuss the Speed Limit Reduction Pilot, as well as for the group to give some thought to the current residential speed zones so a collective opinion from the group could be presented in the form of a recommendation to Council.

k) Seniors Representative

1. Attended a well-received Streams Foundation event at library highlighting the work of Chilliwack Healthier Community.
2. UFV continues to provide more opportunities for seniors included a study where seniors are integrated into regular classrooms with students – early feedback has been positive.

l) Chamber of Commerce

No report.

m) Education/Crime prevention

Discussion ensued regarding the good work of Chilliwack community members who have stepped up and supported wildfire evacuees.

n) Community Members

No report.

It was noted that the October PSAC meeting will be canceled.

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