

City of Chilliwack
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION
WEDNESDAY, May 15, 2024 – 8:00 am
VIDEO CONFERENCE / DOGWOOD ROOM

In attendance:

Councillor Bud Mercer, Chair	Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development
Corporal, Brad Rendall, Community Policing, RCMP	Corporal, Carmen Kiener, Media Relations Officer, RCMP
Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown BIA	Krista Minar, Assistant Fire Chief
Tanis Bieber, ICBC	Garrett Schipper, D/Director of Development and Regulatory Enforcement
Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services	Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities
Chuck Stam, Community Member	Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice
Brian Foote, Education/Crime Prevention	Michelle Price, Community Member
Mayor Popove	Scott Funk, Superintendent of Public Works
Laura Crawford, Community Block Watch Clerk	Lindsay Torrence, Public Service Counter Supervisor
Lilly Yakmission, Recording Secretary	

Regrets:

Councillor Nicole Read, Vice-Chair	Michelle Price, Community Member
Joe Koczur, Director of Public Works and Parks	Andy Brown, Fire Chief
Inspector, Harinder Kheleh, Operations Officer, RCMP	Joanne Jefferson, Stó:lō Justice
Leanna Kemp, Chamber of Commerce	Justin Mallard, 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, May 15, 2024, 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, April 17, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. DELEGATION

Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development, introduced Laura Crawford, Community Block Watch Clerk and Lindsay Torrence, Public Service Counter Supervisor.

5. PRESENTATION / COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

9. REPORTS

Laura Crawford left the meeting at 8:07am

a) RCMP

Corporal Carmen Kiener, Media Relations Officer, Community Policing, RCMP reported on the following:

- For the month of April, RCMP received 2716 calls, 1 less call than March.
- 51 proactive walks, 55 proactive checks.
- Issued 110 traffic tickets
- 20 restorative justice referrals
- Logged 174 Prisoners in April. Up 30 from this time last year.
- Schools team is doing a “Choose Your Ride” initiative with ICBC about impaired driving
- April 23rd youth academy was very successful. 14 youth attended.
- Recriminalization of the use of illicit drugs in public spaces came into effect last week. Enforcement will be increased for possession. Arrested 22 individuals for possession on Saturday. 8 criminal code impairments last month with 20 immediate roadside prohibition orders for April.

Corporal, Brad Rendall, Community Policing, RCMP reported on the following:

- Completing proactive work on executing warrants with new bike course.
- 22 warrants last month.
- All bike and foot patrols are increasing exponentially compared to last months stats.

b) Fire Department

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

- New assistant Chief of Training and Operations, Wade Meeres
- Hiring new training division captain, and an Inspector
- Attended mutual aid wildfire training with Chilliwack River Valley Fire, Cultus Lake Fire, and Columbia Valley Fire. Approximately 40 firefighters took part in a continuation of responding to Interface Fires.
- Attended mass casualty railway incident exercise with other first responding agencies. 18 career and 8 on-call members attended
- Krista Minar and Dennis Trill attended the Fire Prevention Officers Association of BC Annual Conference, fire safety app coming out.
- Fire Department has stopped offering car seat installation support.

- ESS team continue to take seasonal readiness activities, onboarding new members, conducting ERA training, reception center exercise, and orientation tours.
- ECC is suggesting that we will have a warmer start to summer, hesitant on precipitation forecast.
- Assistant Chief Wilson participated in videos regarding in emergency preparedness for businesses, conducted public information and evacuation planning training for staff and offered an information officer workshop.

c) **BIA**

Trevor McDonald, BIA, reported on the following:

- Harold celebrated 25 years with the city.
- RCMP presence downtown is appreciated.
- Continuing with building improvements downtown. Working on some vacant buildings.
- Prepping for upcoming Car show.

d) **Bylaw Department**

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

- Finding an increasing amount of fires when officers are doing patrols, working with the Fire Department to come up with a documentation system and a plan for what to do in these situations.
- Issues on the rail trail from Hocking to the CN main line, trying to set up a meeting with SRY. Hydro cleaned up the brush.
- Brannick Place to Canadian Tire is currently a hot spot.

e) **ICBC**

Tanis Bieber, ICBC, reported on the following:

- At GW Graham with RCMP for day 2 of “Choose Your Ride” event. Other stakeholders include MAD Fraser Valley, Chilliwack taxi, and BCEHS.
- Gearing up for motorcycle skills challenge with Abbotsford Police this weekend. Chilliwack is following later in June. Intention is crash mitigation and injury prevention.

f) **School District**

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

- Seeing an increase in fires on site, ongoing issue.
- Increase in persons experiencing homelessness on site.

g) **Public Works & Parks**

Scott Funk, Superintendent of Public Works, reported on the following:

- Keeping bike lanes clean downtown and in rural areas.
- New downtown cleaner, working on a more thorough job, revamping garbage cans.
- Ongoing maintenance, doing dust palliative work in the lane ways.
- Getting grass cut, less risk of fires. Concern about area on Hocking where the grass is kept longer, there are Creosol ties close. Krista Minar is going to look into an inspection on creosol ties.

h) Social Development

Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development, reported on the following:

- April 1st was the changeover date for the Wellness Centre operator, which is now Lookout Society.
- 505 community showers provided, 301 people used laundry services, have been serving meals and have had 281 professionals on site. OPS on site over 3500 visitors in April (mostly inhalation). Harm reduction supplies continue to be handed out. Storage for carts - visitors and overnight. Shelter capacity fairly full on men's side specifically.
- RAN mat-based program has been overprescribed, talk that this may be reduced with increase in overnight beds at lookout.
- Trethewey and Rowat shelter and housing project still under construction. Expected opening at the end of the year or beginning of next year.
- Advocating for increased treatment. Will be writing another letter to advocate. Drafting a poverty reduction plan for Chilliwack. Continue to ask and advocate for services.

Mayor Popove joined at 8:33

Garrett inquired about the stats on success stories at Lookout Society.

- Karen responded that compiling stats is one of the objectives, there is a working group that will be monitoring this over time. There are positive stories, the City funds outreach through Reaching Home and they are actively helping people that they are encountering at the Wellness Centre and within the community. Have seen people move into housing, gain employment, and come back and volunteer at the Centre. Karen noted that she will share some success stories at future meetings.
 - RAN employment program is being monitored, provide services downtown in conjunction with the BIA. 3 days a week, providing employment opportunities.
 - Trevor Macdonald noted that WorkBC has stepped in to try to support the Street Team as well as a Kitchen Staff Program.

i) Restorative Justice

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

- 9 Restorative Justice Referrals for the month of April: RCMP Community - 2 (theft under \$5k); 1 Assault, Loss Prevention Officers - 7 (theft under \$5k)
- 50 active files as of the end of April. 23 files are with mentors, 11 mentors involved.
- 58 circles at 8 different schools.
- Afterschool program continues on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- 1 restorative circle – None criminal file at KSS, 6 individualized peace circles
- Back to the 90's Gala was on April 6th. Good Ride Gravel Event is on May 11th. Mentor training on June 1st.
- Restorative Cycle is not at the United Church anymore, and is looking for a new location, will know by the end of the next week.
- 28 active volunteers, 183 volunteer hours.
- Vandalism at gas station in Cultus Lake. The restorative circle demonstrated the value of Cultus Lake to the community. As a part of the process the individuals will serve 20 hours community service hours.

j) Stó:lō Justice

No report

k) Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services (City of Chilliwack)

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

- Business Watch program: working on branding, logo, finishing up training and PowerPoint. Networking with other municipalities who have a Business Watch program. Looking to launch mid/end of June.
- Speed Watch completed 16 deployments in April.
- Sargent Safety Bear at Party in the Park and at the Old Navy Safety Fair and Coffee with a Cop
- Car seat clinic May 25th - working with YMCA for that.
- Yarrow Days coming up.

l) Legal Representative

No report.

m) Chamber of Commerce

No report.

n) Education/Crime prevention

No report.

Tanis Bieber left meeting at 8:47

o) Corrections

No report.

p) Community Members

Michelle Price, Community Member:

- Chilliwack Community Services moved into the Paramount, loving the new space.
- Students love the new location, 100 students come in everyday, taking ownership of the classrooms, helping where needed.
- Carmen Kiener commented: 2 police interview rooms will be set up by the end of the month for Child Youth Advocacy Centre. Trauma informed, comfortable space, primarily children, but anyone can go there.

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