



VICTORIA & ESQUIMALT POLICE BOARD

Public Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2021 at 5:00pm

Zoom & Livestream: VicPD YouTube

PRESENT

Mayor Helps, Chair	Chief Cst. Manak	Insp. McRae
Mayor Desjardins	DC Laidman	S/Sgt. Rice
D. Crowder	DC Watson	S/Sgt. Ames
S. Dhillon	Insp. C. Brown	S/Sgt. Gubbins
M. Hayes	Insp. M. Brown	S. Hurcombe
C. Huber	Insp. King	M. MacIntyre
P. Schachter	Insp. Jones	

Recording Secretary: Collette Thomson

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

a. Adoption of the Public Agenda of September 21, 2021

21-77 **MOTION:** *To approve the Public agenda of September 21, 2021 as presented.*
MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED

2. PRESENTATIONS

- a. **Integrated Canine Unit** (Sgt. Ewer of VicPD, Sgt. Yeo of SPD, PSD Maverick)
The ICS deployed on February 1, 2021 and supports police operations in the municipalities of Victoria and Saanich. To date, over 300 deployments have been made between Victoria and Saanich. ICS has eight police service dogs and six handlers and offers a variety of specialized services that include canine teams trained in tracking, building and compound searches, evidence searching, searching for missing persons, drugs, and firearms, and explosive detection. The canine teams are trained and certified in-house by a certified Master Trainer and both the training and certification exceeds the strict guidelines set out by the BC Provincial Policing Standards.

In addition to providing canine services, ICS also supports front-line policing through non-emergency call response in a primarily support capacity to assist as required: intelligence-led proactive patrols of high-crime areas, assisting investigative units as uniform support, scheduled public service dog demonstrations, and proactive community engagement.

3. STANDING ITEMS

a. Adoption of the Minutes of the Public meeting of July 20, 2021

21-78 **MOTION:** *To approve the Public Minutes of the July 20, 2021 meeting as amended.*
MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED

- b. **Chief Constable Monthly Update & Activity Report**
Refer to the report provided – for information. Operational updates were provided on calls and files of note.
- c. **Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Engagement Update**
Refer to the report provided – for information.
- d. **Respectful Workplace Action Plan Update**
Consideration is being given to restructure the VicPD executive committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion. A group of 17 self-identified staff will come together to discuss where the committee is currently at, help define renewed terms of reference for the new committee, and seeking input on how the committee should be structured and operated.
- d. **Committee Reports**
Refer to the report provided – for information.

21-79 **MOTION:** *That the Board recognize the new National Day for Truth and Reconciliation statutory holiday starting on September 30, 2021 for the senior police officers and exempt staff by reading it into the existing contracts and terms of employment; and that the language of the contracts and terms of employment related to statutory holidays be amended at a later date to reflect that of the Police and CUPE Collective Agreements, specifically, a requirement to provide them with a statutory holiday for all general holidays proclaimed, declared or otherwise designated by the City of Victoria, the Province of British Columbia and/or the Government of Canada.*
MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED

- e. **Board Co-Chair Updates**
 - Refer to the statement of September 15, 2021 from the Board regarding the recent assaults on VicPD officers: <https://vicpd.ca/2021/09/15/statement-from-mayor-helps-and-mayor-desjardins-co-chairs-of-the-victoria-and-esquimalt-police-board-on-recent-assaults-of-vicpd-officers/>. Partnerships and advocacy with the provincial government is necessary in order for important changes to take place.
 - An email was sent to all VicPD staff requesting their participation in the Board’s confidential survey on a safe and inclusive workplace.
- f. **BC Association of Police Boards Director’s Update**
 - The BCAPB has recently received presentations from E-Comm, and Police Services. Police Services presented their standards on the promotion of unbiased policing.
- g. **Board Member Engagement Update**
 - Board member Schachter recently attended the new BC Museum exhibit entitled “*Hope Meets Action: Echoes Through the Black Continuum*,” which was developed by the BC Black History Awareness Society in partnership with the museum.
- h. **2021-2022 Board Strategic Priorities**
Refer to the document provided. No discussion arising.

- i. **Framework Agreement**
No discussion arising.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Call Management**
Refer to the document provided – for information.

5. CORRESPONDENCE *(For information only)*

- a. **210720 Letter from Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions re: ACT Teams**

21-80 **MOTION:** *That the Board respond to the 210720 Letter from Ministry of Mental Health & Addictions re: ACT Teams clarifying that the issue is relating to the need for more police resources and that through the government, additional ACT officers were added. **MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED***

Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

Mayor Helps
Lead Co-Chair

Date

Collette Thomson
Recording Secretary

Date