



# VICTORIA & ESQUIMALT POLICE BOARD

Public Meeting Minutes  
October 17, 2023 at 5:00pm  
Boardroom & Zoom

## PRESENT

Mayor Desjardins, Chair	P. Faoro	Insp. J. McRae
Mayor Alto	M. Hayes	S/Sgt. J. Ames
H. Courtright	C. Huber	S. Hurcombe
E. Cull	DC Watson	D. Phillips
S. Dhillon	Insp. K. Jones	

Recording Secretary: Collette Thomson

## 1. PRESENTATION

Lead Co-Chair Mayor Desjardins congratulated DC Watson on his upcoming promotion as the incoming Chief Constable for the Abbotsford Police Department effective November 2, 2023. Sgt. Hollingsworth, current Victoria City Police Union (VCPU) President, introduced Cst. Van Eerd who will become the VCPU President in January 2024.

### a. Greater Victoria Police Diversity Advisory Committee

S/Sgt. Ames provided the following update

- Area Chiefs approved a regionalized civilian coordinator position for the GVPDAC. Details and logistics are being finalized.
- Events: Welcome Day at Victor Brodeur (symposium for newcomers), Pride Parade, and the DAC Dance Party will take place in February 2024
- New members have joined the DAC, including a rep from the Greater Victoria Police Victim Services Unit

## 2. STANDING ITEMS

### b. Territorial Land Acknowledgement

### c. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts declared.

### d. Approval: Public Agenda of September 19, 2023

23-84

**MOTION:** *To approve the Public agenda of October 17, 2023 as presented.*  
**MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

d. **Approval: Public Minutes of September 19, 2023**

23-85                    **MOTION:** *To approve the Public Minutes of September 19, 2023 meeting as presented.* **MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

e. **Board Co-Chair Updates**

- Lead Co-Chair Mayor Desjardins continues to sit at the UBCM Policing Modernization Roundtable. Meetings are scheduled until March 2024.
- Deputy Co-Chair Mayor Alto recently attended a global mayoral summit in New York City regarding community safety.

f. **Committees Update**

Refer to the document provided. Committee matters arising included:

- Board remuneration review
- Participation of non-committee members at Committee meetings
- Creation of Vice Chair position
- 2024 conferences
- Budget process
- Overtime report
- Monthly financial report

23-86                    **MOTION:** *That the Board Policy Manual be amended to indicate that, at the discretion of the Committee Chairs, non-committee members may participate in the discussions of Committees they are not members of but cannot vote.* **MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

23-87                    **MOTION:** *That the Board implement the Vice-Chair position as per the draft Terms of Reference: Vice Chair document presented.*  
**MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

Tabled to the next meeting to identify the Vice Chair.

23-88                    **MOTION:** *That the Board canvass Board members during the Public session of the October 2023 Board meeting to receive expressions of interest for attending the 2024 training/conferences; and that the Board draft eligibility criteria to ensure that the travel budget is not exceeded, and the opportunities to attend are fairly administered.*  
**MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

Expressions of interest for 2024 Board training opportunities included:

- 2024 BCAPB: Mayor Desjardins, and Board members Courtright, Dhillon, Faoro Huber, Hayes
- 2024 CACOLE: Board members Cull, Dhillon, Hayes
- 2024 CAPG: Board member Hayes (in-person) and Board members Courtright, Cull, Dhillon and Faoro (virtually)

**g. Board Member Engagement Update**

- Board members Cull and Dhillon attended the launch of the Greater Victoria Police Foundation
- Board member Huber recently met with Union President Hollingsworth

**h. BC Association of Police Boards Executive Update**

The BCAPB is engaging with Boards and planning the spring AGM and conference; theme to be determined.

**i. Chief Constable Update**

DC Watson congratulated and thanked Insp. K. Jones, OIC of the HR Division, on her upcoming retirement on January 31, 2024.

**j. Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Engagement Update**

No discussion arising.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Approval: 2024 Police Board Meeting Schedule**

Refer to the document provided.

**23-89**

**MOTION:** *That the 2024 Police Board meeting schedule be approved as presented except for September 3 Committees meeting which will be moved to 9:30am to accommodate the first day of school. MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED*

**b. 230929 Letter from School District 61 re: School Liaison Officers**

Refer to the letter provided. On May 31, 2023, the Board of Education ended the School Police Liaison Program in schools from Oak Bay, Saanich and the RCMP. These officers have not been present in the Victoria and Esquimalt schools since 2018 when VicPD resource pressures required the officers to be redeployed to the front lines. The Board of Education invited the Board to meet to discuss their recent decision. The Board Co-Chairs will attend on behalf of the Board, and Chief Manak and Insp. M. Brown will join them.

**23-90**

**MOTION:** *That the Board Co-Chairs, Chief Manak, and Insp. M. Brown accept the 230929 invitation from the Board of Education to discuss their recent decision to end the School Police Liaison program. MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED*

*Meeting adjourned at 5:53pm.*

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**Mayor Barbara Desjardins**  
Chair

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**Collette Thomson**  
Recording Secretary

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Date

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Date