



VICTORIA & ESQUIMALT POLICE BOARD

Public Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2024 at 5:00pm

Boardroom & Zoom

PRESENT

Mayor Desjardins, Chair	D. Yakimchuk	S/Sgt. M. Darling
Mayor Alto	Chief Cst. Manak	S/Sgt. J. Ames
H. Courtright	DC J. Laidman	S/Sgt. J. Malinosky
E. Cull	DC J. McRae	K. Kosich
S. Dhillon	Insp. C. Brown	C. Major
P. Faoro	Insp. M. Brown	Da. Phillips
M. Hayes	Insp. C. King	Do. Phillips
T. Kituri	Insp. J. Lawson	

Recorder: Collette Thomson

1. STANDING ITEMS

a. Territorial Land Acknowledgement

b. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts declared.

c. Approval: Public Agenda of May 21, 2024

24-50 **MOTION:** *To approve the Public agenda of May 21, 2024 as amended to include item (c) City of Victoria Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan; and add School District 61 under the Board Co-Chairs Update.* **MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

d. Approval: Public Minutes of April 16, 2024

24-51 **MOTION:** *To approve the Public Minutes of April 16, 2024 as presented.*
MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED

e. Board Co-Chair Updates

The Police Board met with the School District (SD) 61 Board on May 7, 2024. Representatives from VicPD management and the Mobile Youth Service Team were also in attendance. Lead Co-Chair Mayor Desjardins advised that the meeting was productive and that a subcommittee of the Police Board and VicPD management will be created in order to meet again with the SD 61 Board to explore continuing dialogue around the School Police Liaison Officer (SPLO) service.

Board member Faoro expressed concern over the safety in schools and made the following motions:

- 24-52 **MOTION:** *That the Board invite the BC Human Rights Commissioner to a future Public Board meeting for a presentation from VicPD and the Mobile Youth Services Team (MYST) regarding the negative effects on student safety and service gaps created with the cancellation of the School Police Liaison Officer program in School District 61.* **MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**
- 24-53 **MOTION:** *That the Board and School District 61 write a joint letter to the Minister of Education and Child Care requesting a review of student safety in School District 61 in light of the SD61 Board’s reluctance to reinstate the School Police Liaison Officer program and the Ministry’s Safe and Caring School Communities policy.*
MOVED/SECONDED/FAILED
- 24-54 **MOTION:** *That the Board write a letter to the Minister of Education and Child Care requesting a review of student safety in School District 61 in light of the SD61 Board’s reluctance to reinstate the School Police Liaison Officer program and the Ministry’s Safe and Caring School Communities policy; and that the letter to the Minister be sent only if it is deemed necessary following the second meeting with SD61 prior to the end of the school year.* **MOVED/SECONDED/FAILED**
- 24-55 **MOTION:** *That the Board write a letter to the Minister of Education and Child Care requesting a review of student safety in School District 61 in light of the SD61 Board’s reluctance to reinstate the School Police Liaison Officer program and the Ministry’s Safe and Caring School Communities policy.*
MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED OPPOSED: Cull, Kituri, Yakimchuk

f. Committees Update

Refer to the report provided. Committee matters arising included:

- Review of procedures and/or practices for Service or Policy complaints
- Purchase of copies of the *Police Act*
- Email usage for Mayors
- Proposed timelines for 2025 budget process
- Monthly Financial report

- 24-56 **MOTION:** *That any Board member who wishes to obtain a hard copy of the Police Act may request one when the updates to the Act are completed in the Fall.*
MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED

g. Board Member Engagement Update

Board members Dhillon, Faoro, Hayes and Kituri attended the Governing in the Public Interest seminar on April 26, 2024. A summary of the conference highlights and content were provided.

h. BC Association of Police Boards Executive Update

The BCAPB have recently established their vision, mission, and values statements.

Board member Dhillon left the meeting.

i. Chief Constable Update

Refer to the report provided – for information. Operational calls and files of note were highlighted.

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

Refer to the report provided – for information.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. **VicPD Community Survey Results**

Refer to the presentation provided. Director C. Major provided the background, methodology, and timeline of the 2024 survey. The response rate was 20% with a 79% satisfaction rate compared to 82% in 2023.

b. **Police Act Amendments**

The legislation makes changes to municipal police governance, oversight, and police superintendence. The changes address recommendations from the 2022 Special Committee on Reforming the *Police Act* and from the 2019 Special Committee to Review the Police Complaint Process, and addresses legislative changes requested by the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner. Relevant governance highlights include:

- Police Boards may elect their Chair; the Mayor is not automatically required to be the Chair
- Municipal councils will determine their representative on police boards
- Mandatory training, a new code of conduct, and requirements for handling Service or Policy complaints will be introduced.
- The council or police board may, at any time before May 15 of the year to which the provisional budget relates, request the director to determine whether the item or amount must be included in the budget.

The Victoria & Esquimalt Police Board is in a unique position and the 2002 Order in Council #365 still takes precedence over this new legislation. Police Services will advise the Co-Chairs accordingly.

EA Lamoureux left the meeting.

c. **City of Victoria Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan**

This plan will identify opportunities and actions for the City and multi-sector partners to help make the community safer and to improve the wellbeing of all citizens.

24-57 **MOTION:** *That the Board request a presentation at a future Board meeting regarding the City of Victoria Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan along with their goals and objectives.* **MOVED/SECONDED/CARRIED**

3. RISE & REPORT *(when applicable)*

The following motion carried on March 19, 2024:

#24-21 *That the Board support the reintegration of the School Police Liaison Officer program in SD61 with agreed upon modifications as a public safety measure in our communities.*

4. CORRESPONDENCE *(for information only)*

a. **240508 Letter from Board to Delta PD re: OPCC #24-25449**

Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.