

Transit Police Chief's Community Council Meeting  
September 29, 2016  
Sapperton, Room 427  
287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster, BC

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**Attendees:**

Diane Gillis, Co-Chair	Chief Officer Doug LePard
Karen Reid-Sidhu	Deputy Chief Officer Ed Eviston
Kim Wood (for Leonor Vlug)	Taryn Barton, Recording Secretary
Norma-Jean McLaren (exited at 6:30 p.m.)	Lance Talbott
Rick Parent	Pat Koch (exited at 6:00 p.m.)
Tyler Lee (for Valerie Clement)	
Wanda Mulholland	

**Guests:** Vicki Yee (ASL Interpreter – arrived 5:27 p.m.), Sea Reid (ASL Interpreter), Nathan Edelson (Norma-Jean McLaren's Guest – exited at 6:30 p.m.)

**Regrets:** Bonnie Sainsbury, Dave MacDonald, Jane Dyson, Leonor Vlug, Lianne Ritch, Lorraine Logan, Sherman Chan, Valerie Clement

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m.

**2. Review – Chair Gillis**

- **Approval of June 28, 2016 Minutes:** M/Karen S/Wanda – All in favour: Minutes Approved
- **Additions to the agenda/timekeeper:** Karen volunteered to be timekeeper
  - No additions to the agenda; Item 3 'Piggybacking at Fare Gates' will be deferred to the next meeting.
- **June 28 meeting action items update:** The following action items were reviewed:
  - Mr. Talbott is working with Mr. Chan to have the texting card translated.
  - Website – member's bios are included on the TPCCC page on the Transit Police website. Terms of Reference and Minutes to be added.
  - Youth Representation - With the school semester just starting, Ms. Reid-Sidhu and Dr. Parent will reach out to youth who may want to be part of the Transit Police Chief's Community Council (CCC).

**3. Piggybacking at Fare Gates**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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#### **4. Chief's Update & Vision for TPCCC - Chief**

The Chief provided an update on the following:

- Continue to focus on improving operational procedures by providing first class training. All members attended training on how to respond to critical incidents on an urban transit system. There is also ongoing training in crisis negotiation and interview skills in policing.
- Neighbourhood Police Officers (NPO) have been deployed and are based at each of the six hubs.
- Two Staff Sergeants have been promoted to Inspector and one will be seconded from another police department.

The Chief answered a question in regards to emergency situations and awareness for deaf or hard of hearing passengers. The Chief outlined various tools available at many of the stations as well as messaging through the On Duty app. It was noted that signs at the Fare Gates provide a phone number for people to call in the event that they are having difficulty, however a deaf or hard of hearing person would not be able to make the call. The Chief will pass on the comments received tonight to colleagues at TransLink.

***\*5:27 pm – Vicki Lee arrived***

#### **5. Neighbourhood Police Officers – Deputy Chief Eviston**

Deputy Chief Eviston provided a further update on the Neighbourhood Police Officers (NPOs). Six NPOs have been deployed at the hubs and are working on completing environmental scans. The next step will be to develop business plans from their findings that will guide the work they do around the hubs, in conjunction with policing and community partners.

Deputy Chief Eviston outlined how to report incidents, suspicious activity and individuals by using the text line, calling Transit Police or speaking to any officer out on patrol. In an emergency, 911 should be used.

#### **6. Public Education Campaign: Sexual Offenders - Chief**

The Chief advised that Transit Police is working to get more information out to make it easier to report sexual offending. Part of this initiative includes sending out preventative messaging. Transit Police is working with TransLink to get the information out on buses and trains. Two posters have been developed and have received the endorsement of various anti-violence agencies. The posters were handed out on table and the TPCCC provided comments and asked questions.

## **7. Transit Police at Community Events – Chief**

The Chief expressed appreciation for the information sent in to date and encouraged TPCCC members to continue submitting the details of community events for Transit Police to potentially attend. TPCCC went around the table to note upcoming events.

***\*6:00 pm – Pat Koch exited the meeting.***

## **8. Presentation: SFU School of Criminology – Rick Parent**

Dr. Parent outlined his background as a police officer and university education specializing in police shootings, use of force, ethics and accountability. He currently works at Simon Fraser University in the Police Studies section. In addition to his work at SFU, Dr. Parent spends much of his time researching and writing, including writing a book about community policing. Dr. Parent presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding police performance against use of force. He noted that the TPCCC is part of an important process to hold the police accountable as well as provide feedback to improve. He overviewed statistics regarding police deaths, fatal shootings as well as explained some of the differences between Canada and the USA. He spoke about evidence based research compared to advocacy based research and cautioned against media sensationalism.

Dr. Parent provided a paper on table that he authored titled “Opinion: Police Use of deadly force much higher in U.S. than Canada”, answered questions and listened to comments.

*Note: The Chair suggested it may be beneficial for Ms. Wood or Ms. Vlug to meet with a member of the Transit Police to discuss some of the specific issues being raised.*

***\*6:30 pm – Norma-Jean McLaren & Nathan Edelson exited the meeting.***

## **9. Terms of Reference & Membership Update – Diane Gillis**

The Terms of Reference (TOR) has been reviewed by the TOR Sub Committee, Chief and Deputies; amended; and finalized. The term for the Co-Chairs has changed to two years for each with an overlap: i.e. Co-Chair for a year, then Chair the following year.

TPCCC represents various communities and the Chair encouraged all members to communicate and share information. Ideal candidates for membership should be submitted to the Chief for consideration.

## **10. Election of Co-Chair – Diane Gillis**

Ms. Gillis and Mr. Hill have co-chaired the TPCCC up to this point. Mr. Hill has decided to step down as Co-Chair due to his schedule keeping him away until the new year. The TPCCC members in attendance were asked to put their name forward for the vacant Co-Chair position. Once the nominations have been received a vote will be conducted by email. The Chair outlined some of the

responsibilities of the position including attending a daytime meeting with the Chief to develop the Agenda, keeping the meetings running on track and contributing at meetings. The Chair called for nominations and the following was received:

- Karen Reid-Sidhu.

To allow the entire TPCCC the opportunity of putting their names forward, a message will be sent by email. If other names are received the TPCCC will be asked to vote by email.

**Action:** Chief/Diane/Taryn to draft message to send out by email calling for nominations for the Co-Chair position.

## 11. Roundtable

The following items were discussed during the Roundtable:

- Length of Meetings: The Chair asked for feedback on the length of meetings, which is currently two hours. TPCCC were in favour of shortening meetings to 90 minutes. Going forward meetings will run from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Senior Citizens suffering from brain disease: The need to raise public awareness on this issue was discussed and the Chief was asked how police are being trained to deal with the aging population. Skytrain attendants, bus drivers and supervisors are also highly adept at recognizing vulnerable people and people in crisis. This could be a potential topic for a future meeting (potentially bring in a speaker).
- The Chief was asked about police interactions with deaf people.
- The Chair passed on the following: If there is a concern on how a bus is being operated it is helpful to report the route, bus number, direction of travel and the time and location of where the incident occurred.

## 12. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29, 2016 at 1700 hours, Room 427, Transit Police Building, 287 Nelsons Court, New Westminster, BC.

## 13. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 7:02 pm.

Certified Correct:

*Original Signed Minutes on File*

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Diane Gillis, Co-Chair

*Original Signed Minutes on File*

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Taryn Barton, Recording Secretary