

Metro Vancouver Transit Police
Chief's Community Council Meeting
November 27, 2018
Sapperton, Room 427
287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster, BC

Attendees:

Rick Parent, Chair
Diane Gillis
Heather Cowie
Justina Loh
Lianne Ritch

Chief Kross
Deputy Chief Cumberworth
A/Deputy Chief Hicks
Taryn Barton
Stephen Crosby

Regrets: David MacDonald, Karen Reid-Sidhu, Kimberly Woods, Lynn Mandrusiak, Sherman Chan, Valerie Clements

1. Call Meeting to Order - Chair

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. by the Chair.

2. Review: Approval of Agenda/Minutes – Chair

- **Additions to the agenda:** There were no additions to the agenda.
- **Approval of the September 24, 2018 Minutes: Motion/Seconded - Approved**

3. Chief's Update

Chief Kross provided a PowerPoint presentation on the following recent initiatives of the Metro Vancouver Transit Police (Transit Police):

- Operation RailSafe – Deputy Chief Cumberworth provided further detail on Transit Police's participation in the international awareness campaign.

***5:10 p.m. Ms. Gillis arrived**

- Safety Outreach in the last few months including:
 - Neighbourhood Police Officers (NPOs) worked with ICBC to engage the public on pedestrian safety and hand out reflectors.
 - Coffee with a cop events.
- Awards and Recognition: Three Transit Police members received awards at the annual Police Honours Night; Sergeant Wendy Hawthorne received a Leadership in

Excellence Award at the annual Canadian Urban Transit Association (CUTA) Conference for her anti-graffiti work on transit.

- Retirement Dinner – celebrated 21 retiring staff members.
- Initiatives for 2019:
 - BC First Responders' Mental Health Conference – two-day mental health conference in January. Deputy Chief Cumberworth provided more detail about the Committee that planned the conference. Chief Kross spoke more about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and resources available for those returning to work. The TPCCC deliberated and shared their comments including the importance of strength based language around mental wellness.
- Facilities improvements planned for HQ, Bridgeport Divisional office and New Westminster Station sub-office.
- Recruitment and Promotions Update - 21 officers hired year-to-date as well as the promotion of three officers to Sergeant and one to Staff Sergeant.
- Service Delivery Model – Overview of NPO actions that improve station environments, community areas and beyond. Chief Kross outlined each Community Service Area and the organizations that the NPOs regularly engage with.
 - In regards to TPCCC membership, some of the organizations highlighted may want to be considered. The corresponding slides will be provided to the TPCCC for information.

In closing, Chief Kross shared his appreciation for the TPCCC and noted the benefits of having a regular conduit for feedback. The Chief would like to increase TPCCC membership and encourage others to come onboard.

The Chief answered a question about volunteers and considerations for front-facing office space at HUB stations.

4. Social Media – Stephen Crosby

Mr. Crosby provided an update on social media activity. At the last TPCCC meeting, Ms. Woods had advised of International Week of the Deaf and Transit Police were able to promote some applicable safety messaging and direct traffic towards their website. IRAYL is using social media to share information about their transit-specific teams, who are on the SkyTrain system five days a week, and Transit Police was able to retweet this information on its own feed and cross promote the partnership. It would be ideal to promote one or two TPCCC initiatives each month. The TPCCC was asked to let Mr. Crosby or Ms. Barton know of any upcoming events or initiatives that may be applicable to promote. Mr. Crosby provided an update in regards to safety messaging for the holidays.

5. See Something Say Something Campaign Updates – Stephen Crosby

Mr. Crosby provided a PowerPoint presentation that outlined statistics in regards to 87-77-77 text reports. There has been a significant increase in the last year of text reporting as well as an increase in police files generated from text reporting. Transit Police is currently looking at more spaces across the system that will allow for permanent advertising. There will be 800 spaces on SkyTrains dedicated to Transit Police early in the new year. The TPCCC deliberated and provided feedback noting the importance of consistent placement of messaging and consideration of colours that will be used.

6. Membership and Terms of Reference – Diane Gillis

Ms. Gillis has been working with Ms. Clement on TPCCC membership and the Terms of Reference. TPCCC members may serve a maximum of six years as per the Terms of Reference. As the TPCCC started in 2014, original members' terms will expire at the end of next year (2019). Ms. Gillis offered to phone current members to obtain feedback and suggestions for immediate and future representation. Ms. Gillis would also like to ask all TPCCC members to assign an alternate to ensure continuity and optimize participation. The Chief encouraged members to bring forward suggestions and the Chair offered to speak to some of the organizations highlighted on the slides shown earlier in the meeting. Ms. Barton will work with Ms. Gillis to draft a message to be sent to the TPCCC that will accompany the slides. Mr. Crosby has contacted New Westminster Pride and suggested that he could present to the organization with a TPCCC member and NPO about having representation on the TPCCC.

7. Police and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Operational Stress Injury – Chief

This item was discussed during the Chief's Update (Agenda Item #3).

8. Pedestrian Awareness Campaign – Stephen Crosby

Mr. Crosby handed out reflectors and presented a couple of PowerPoint slides outlining the annual Pedestrian Awareness Campaign and corresponding safety statistics. The NPOs partnered with ICBC early in the morning to raise awareness and hand out reflectors. The TPCCC deliberated on safety issues for pedestrians such as the use of phones, wearing headphones and dark clothing. Mr. Crosby reviewed tips for drivers and pedestrians to ensure safe walking. There was a brief discussion about a pedestrian safety initiative launched by the Delta Police Department as well as today's announcement from ICBC that it is increasing funding for police to support road safety.

9. Meeting Schedule for 2019

Currently the TPCCC meets five times a year on the last Tuesday of the month. The TPCCC was asked to consider moving to the third Tuesday of the month instead. Ms. Barton will send out an email to canvas availability. Once a schedule has been determined, confirmation will be sent and electronic calendar invites will be forwarded.

10. Round Table: Community Updates

Lianne – no update at this time.

Justina – Poverty reduction legislation was just passed and new strategies will launch in the spring.

Diane – Recently presented to Canada Post carriers about safety and NPO Constable Biggs helped secure wristbands to hand out; thank you to Transit Police for having their own call-takers, especially after experiencing problems with 911 not being available; have worked on a nomination for Sergeant Hawthorne; NPO Constable Biggs to meet with a Cadet group; asked Chief to share with members how much they are appreciated for the work they do.

Rick –Attended a presentation by Simon Fraser University President celebrating the new building by SkyTrain.

Heather – January is Alzheimer’s Awareness month - will connect with Mr. Crosby in regards to social media.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled in January 2019 on a date to be determined.

12. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 6:26 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed Minutes on File

Rick Parent, Chair

Original Signed Minutes on File

Taryn Barton, Recording Secretary