



Metro Vancouver Transit Police 2022 Awards



METRO VANCOUVER TRANSIT POLICE AWARDS 2022

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Police Officer Commission

Police Officer Commissions are a provincial honour to formally recognize high-calibre, senior members of municipal police departments and designated policing units for their rank, professionalism and dedication to policing in B.C.



Photo (L-R): Deputy Chief Anita Furlan with Chief Officer Dave Jones.



Photo (L-R): Chief Officer Dave Jones with Retired Inspector Daffydd Hermann.



Photo (L-R): Chief Officer Dave Jones with Inspector Barry Hicks.



Photo (L-R): Chief Officer Dave Jones with Inspector Dexter Huber.

Congratulations to all the recipients on receiving the Police Officer Commission for your dedication and service.

Police Exemplary Service Medal

The Police Exemplary Service Program recognizes police officers for long and exemplary Canadian police service in qualifying Canadian police forces. Two recipients have dedicated 20 years of service and one officer 40 years of service to keeping our communities safe.



Photo: Chief Officer Dave Jones with Police Exemplary Service Medal recipients (L-R) Sergeant Gord McGuinness, Sergeant Kelly Dyer and Sergeant Cheryl Dics.

Receiving the second bar to the Police Exemplary Service Medal, recognizing 40 years of service:

Congratulations to Sergeant Gord McGuinness for completing 40 years of exemplary service to public safety in Canada.

Receiving the second bar to the Police Exemplary Service Medal, recognizing 20 years of service:

Congratulations to Sergeant Kelly Dyer and Sergeant Cheryl Dics for completing 20 years of exemplary service to public safety in Canada.

Manager Commendation

Lisa Vendrinsky

Since 2020, Lisa Vendrinsky has been instrumental in updating processes for the seizure, detention, extension and disposal of exhibits requiring legal authority to hold. This involved recreating over 12 forms and establishing associated processes with all of the different courts and CROWNs for consistency, a complex and challenging undertaking. Lisa has now successfully delivered on the processes and forms, which have been reviewed and accepted for use by all the courts. Lisa's work benefits not only employees of Transit Police but also our police agency partners across the region. For demonstrating outstanding commitment and diligence in establishing clear and consistent system for seized property Lisa Vendrinsky is presented with a Manager Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Information Systems Manager Sanjit Manak with Lisa Vendrinsky

Doreen Manning

Doreen Manning took on the complex and challenging process of setting up the Intellibook fingerprints and photo booking station for members to process prints for out of custodies from the HQ Office. The project involved coordination at many levels and with many stakeholders. Doreen was the key Coordinator to liaise with all involved, including PRIME Corp and the vendor. The initial procurement, setup, testing, roll out, evaluation and training was all led by Doreen, resulting in a streamlined setup for members to use.



Photo: (L-R) Information Systems Manager Sanjit Manak with Doreen Manning

For demonstrating an outstanding commitment and diligence in establishing an in-house Intellibook fingerprinting station for members of Transit Police that utilizes new technologies and increases operational efficiencies and communications, Doreen Manning is presented with a Manager Commendation.

Manager Commendation

Jessy Johal

When the pilot for the electronic note taking application ScenedDoc ended in June 2021, Jessy Johal was assigned to extract and sort large datasets from 2016-2021. Under a very tight deadline of less than 3 months, he completed the migration of over 1500 files containing large amounts of data to our internal drives. The integrity, commitment and professionalism Jessy exhibited during this tedious and technologically challenging task far exceeded expectations. Jessy applied analysis and demonstrated speed, accuracy and sound judgement on how to proceed with over 1500 files. His determination and focus was exceptional. Recognizing Jessy for outstanding commitment and diligence in extracting and processing large datasets of information out of an end of life application to our internal drive archives, he is presented with a Manager Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Information Systems Manager Sanjit Manak with Jessy Johal

Helga Rogers

Helga Rogers modernized and streamlined the member notebook tracking system with high success and initiative. Helga took a paper process inventory and created an Excel workbook with links and formulas to track receipt, maintenance and expiry of notebooks all in one workbook. She created templates for labels and re-arranged the notebooks for easier access and tracking. All these efforts have significantly improved the way we track and manage members notebooks as well as save a noticeable amount of physical space in the File Room. For showing great initiative and working with patience, diligence and motivation, Helga Rogers is presented with a Manager Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Information Systems Manager Sanjit Manak with Helga Rogers

Inspector Commendation



Photo: (L-R) Inspector Dexter Huber, Constable Julie Turtle, Constable Junjie Hu and Inspector Bryce Graham.

Constable Julie Turtle and Constable Junjie Hu

On December 19, 2021, Constable Julie Turtle and Constable Junjie Hu were on patrol when they responded to an incident at Metrotown Mall. A suspect had reportedly stabbed a female and had then fled from the crime scene. With other police units arriving at the mall, Constables Turtle and Hu headed a few blocks away where intuition told them the suspect might have fled.

As they began performing an area search southwest of Metrotown Station, they received an update from police dispatch that the suspect may be armed with a handgun as well as a knife. A short time later, the officers came across a man matching the description and successfully took him into custody at gunpoint. For their quick response in performing a systematic search resulting in the location and arrest of a homicide suspect, Constable Julie Turtle and Constable Junjie Hu are each presented with an Inspector Commendation.

Inspector Commendation

Constable Peter Kwok

On May 7, 2022, a distraught man climbed onto a ledge at Granville Plaza, positioning himself above the train tracks 50 feet below. Constable Kwok responded and instantly determined the extreme danger of the man falling to his death.

Recognizing the need to immediately build rapport, Constable Kwok engaged in verbal communication and negotiation with the man. Through the course of the conversation, Constable Kwok was able to successfully keep the man from jumping or falling until Vancouver Police negotiators could arrive. The man was eventually extracted from the ledge.

For his quick thinking in a crisis situation, which led to a successful conclusion, Constable Peter Kwok is presented with an Inspector Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Inspector Dexter Huber, Constable Peter Kwok and Inspector Bryce Graham

Constable Shawn Basi

On June 6, 2021, Constable Shawn Basi and his partner responded to a report of a man bleeding profusely from his arm at New Westminster Station. Upon arrival, it was determined that the individual had suffered a cut to his right forearm. Constable Basi applied a tourniquet to prevent further bleeding. Constable Basi assisted with medical care until paramedics and fire services arrived. He then attended the hospital to check-in with the medical staff. It was determined that the incident causing the man's sliced forearm had occurred in another municipality. Constable Basi spoke to the police of jurisdiction, who took on the police file for investigative follow-up.

For performing potentially life-saving first aid, Constable Shawn Basi is presented with an Inspector Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Inspector Dexter Huber, Constable Shawn Basi and Inspector Bryce Graham

Deputy Chief Officer Commendation

Sergeant Gord McGuinness

In In 2021, Sergeant Gord McGuinness developed the idea that the next Transit Police dogs would be named in honour of fallen Canadian police officers. He wanted to recognize the dedication of those fallen officers by deploying the newest canine team members as teams of three: handler, dog and honouree. In June 2022, Transit Police dogs Harnett and Chopper completed their training and received their badges. Harnett is named for Sergeant Andrew Harnett of the Calgary Police Service and Chopper is named for Constable Ryan "Chopper" Masales of the Abbotsford Police Department. For recognizing the service of fallen police officers and finding a new way to honour their memory, Sergeant Gord McGuinness is presented with a Deputy Chief Officer Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Sergeant Gord McGuinness with Deputy Chief Officer Mike Cumberworth

Constable Clint Hervias

On October 29, 2021, Constable Clint Hervias was off duty and riding a SkyTrain approaching Surrey Central Station. Upon arrival, he heard yelling and several loud bangs while passengers began running from the front to the rear of the train. Constable Hervias observed a man yelling at an unidentified group of passengers and striking sections of the train interior with a baseball bat. Constable Hervias pushed the emergency strip and intercom, and instructed a nearby passenger to phone 9-1-1. As the train approached Gateway Station, the man exited the train and began hitting the train exterior. Constable Hervias verbally engaged the man, instructing him to drop the bat. The man did not comply and continued to escalate his behavior. At this point, Constable Hervias tactically engaged the man and removed the baseball bat. With the assistance of a nearby passenger, he took the man to the ground and subdued him until RCMP and additional Transit Police officers arrived. For going above and beyond to ensure passenger safety, Constable Clint Hervias is presented with a Deputy Chief Officer Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Constable Clint Hervias with Deputy Chief Officer Mike Cumberworth

Deputy Chief Officer Commendation

Judy Parker

Judy is a positive and engaged team player who has exceptional planning skills, which she consistently applies to proactive initiatives for the benefit of the department. Judy takes on numerous tasks that are above and beyond the scope of her usual duties. In 2021, Judy created "The Informer" newsletter. This bi-monthly newsletter is one of the most read communication pieces at Transit Police that significantly increases information sharing between different sworn and civilian sections.

Furthering support for the organization's culture and relationship building between employees, Judy was instrumental in the facilitation of an "Amazing Race" based NCO Training Day. This event left a lasting impression for participants for its fun activities, teamwork-building, and camaraderie, while familiarizing senior members with some of the evolving nuances of our transit system.

For going well above and beyond in building a team culture and employee awareness, Judy Parker is presented with a Deputy Chief Officer Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Judy Parker with Deputy Chief Officer Mike Cumberworth

Chief Officer Commendation

Beth Nielsen

On November 23, 2022, the Community Safety Officer program was approved by the Provincial Government. This completed a three-year approval process that has required Senior Policy and Planning Advisor Beth Nielsen to provide supplementary material, often on a weekly basis, which accounted for feedback from internal, government and community stakeholders.

The successful completion of this application and the establishment of a designated law enforcement unit is one of the most significant changes at Metro Vancouver Transit Police since inception.

Research into a Community Safety Officer program began back in 2017 with the examination of tiered policing models in Canada and the US. Beth assisted in the drafting of several reports, detailing legislative and regulatory considerations. Beth then developed a formal application to the Province in 2020. Subsequently, Beth led revisions to the proposal in 2021 and 2022 based on feedback from the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, consulted community groups, as well as the Transit Police Board, Executive Team and TransLink.

For her extensive work in securing approval for a Transit Police Community Safety Officer program, Beth Nielsen is presented with a Chief Officer Commendation.



Photo: (L-R) Chief Officer Dave Jones, Beth Nielsen and Deputy Chief Officer Mike Cumberworth.



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