

**Metro Vancouver Transit Police
Chief's Community Council Meeting
September 20, 2022**

Room 427/428 – 287 Nelson's Court, New Westminster

Attendees:

Larry Hayes, Chair	Deputy Chief Officer Anita Furlan
Dean Barbour	Deputy Chief Officer Mike Cumberworth (<i>arrived at 5:14 p.m.</i>)
Diane Gillis	Inspector Suzanne Muir
Karen Reid-Sidhu (<i>by phone</i>)	Sergeant Cheryl Simpkin
Karima Jivraj (<i>by phone</i>)	Taryn Barton
Michele Lemarie (alternate)	Stephen Crosby
Royce Shook	
Sana Aziz	

Guests: Murray Dinwoodie, Transit Police Board

Interpreters: Tyler Churchman and Alana Mckenna (*exited at 5:05 p.m.*)

Regrets: Dave MacDonald, Helene Love, Kimberly Wood, Sean Weatherill (alternate attending), Sherman Chan, Val Clement

1. Call Meeting to Order & Traditional Land Acknowledgement - Chair

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting is being held on the unceded homelands of the Qayqayt First Nation and that the Metro Vancouver Transit Police ("MVTP") operate throughout the traditional territories of the Lower Mainland Coast Salish peoples and gave thanks for their hospitality on these lands. The Chair took a few moments to explain the importance of the land acknowledgement. The TPCCC went around the table and introduced themselves.

***5:05 p.m. ASL Interpreters exited as services were not required**

2. Consent Agenda – Chair

The following items were received for information and/or approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

- a) September 20, 2022 Agenda – Amendment to Standing Item #7 Community Engagement Team - update will be given by Insp. Muir; **Moved/Seconded – all in favour/Approved as amended**
- b) June 20, 2022 Minutes; **Moved/Seconded – all in favour/Approved**

- c) Alzheimer Society of BC Call for Nominations – Sana provided some additional information and highly encouraged nominations. - **Moved/seconded –Received for information.**

3. Chief's Update

Deputy Chief Furlan provided the Chief's Update in regards to recent activities at MVTP.

***5:14 p.m. Deputy Chief Cumberworth arrived**

Inspector Muir provided an update on the Community Safety Officer program and advised that work is underway to ensure that the program can advance once approved by the Province. It is anticipated that the program will move forward in 2023 but will depend on when approval is received. Deputy Chief Furlan shared a PowerPoint slide outlining the following 2022 Q1/Q2 Statistics:

- Rates of crime against persons
- Rates of crime against property
- Perceptions of Safety/Security
- Sec. 28 Mental Health Apprehensions
- Client Referrals (Mental Health)
- Client Referrals (Homelessness)

Deputy Chief Furlan shared some additional information about mental health apprehensions. Moving to the next slide, the TPCCC was advised that the ASL Interpretations Services Renewal Agreement has been renewed. The agreement is between the Wavefront Centre for Communication Accessibility and municipal police agencies across Metro Vancouver. Deputy Chief Furlan and Mr. Crosby provided an update on a CEPTED walkabout in Burnaby that included a number of stakeholders such as representatives from TransLink, City of Burnaby, residents from the area, Transit Police and a third party engineering firm. Diane shared some comments and provided some historical information on the issue. Diane offered to write up a synopsis. Deputy Chief Furlan answered questions on ridership levels and mental health apprehensions. Sgt. Simpkin provided some additional information.

4. TPCCC Member Presentation

There was no presentation.

5. Discussion Item: Safety Measures on Transit – Stephen Crosby

Mr. Crosby provided an overview of safety measures available on the various modes of transit. Transit Police is currently developing a safety ad campaign that will be specific to

each mode of transit. The text number will be highlighted as well. One of the objectives of the campaign is to educate passengers on the availability of the different safety features on transit and at transit stations such as CCTV cameras. Mr. Crosby shared some specific safety features on various modes of transit. Regardless of which mode of transit that passengers are on, the campaign will highlight appropriate safety measure available. It is anticipated that digital ads will be up by the end of the year with print ads expanding in the future. The TPCCC shared comments and asked questions. Deputy Chief Furlan and Inspector Muir provided some additional information on what happens once a call or text is received. Deputy Chief Furlan received some positive feedback in regards to the Transit Police call takers and the usefulness of the texting service. Inspector Muir will connect with Sana to continue discussions on supporting those with Alzheimer's.

6. Membership Update (Standing Item) – Diane Gillis

Diane provided an overview of the current membership and various groups and communities represented. Disability Alliance BC has had to step off the TPCCC at this time. Diane noted that the TPCCC does not have the following representation: Indigenous, women's group, LGBTQ2S+ and homelessness. The TPCCC was asked to let Diane know if there are other groups or geographic areas that are not currently represented. Sana suggested a Disabilities Community Group. Taryn was asked to circulate a membership list.

At the last meeting the TPCCC discussed increasing membership from a maximum of 15 in the Terms of Reference to a maximum of 20. The increase to membership was supported by Chief Jones and accordingly:

The Metro Vancouver Transit Police Chief's Community Council supports amending the Terms of Reference to increase membership from a maximum of 15 to a maximum of 20:
Moved/Seconded – all in favour/Approved

Diane spoke about the importance of having an alternate to ensure continuity. If a member misses three consecutive meetings without reasonable cause, they give up their position on the TPCCC as per the Terms of Reference.

7. Community Engagement Team Update –Inspector Suzanne Muir

Inspector Muir provided an update on the following activities and initiatives from the Community Engagement Team:

- Blue Eagle Community Cadets Program
- Hosting a BC Law Enforcement Diversity meeting on September 22nd
- Waterfront Community Policing Centre Volunteers

- Citizen Police Academy – Looking at potentially having people from the community come in to learn more about law enforcement.

In closing, Insp. Muir recognized and thanked Sgt. Simpkin for her commitment and work with the Blue Eagle program and with the Community Engagement Team. Sgt. Simpkin will be starting a one-year secondment with TransLink soon. Insp. Muir answered questions from the TPCCC in regards to the Blue Eagle Community Cadet program and how many youths are involved. Registration is currently open for youths from 12 to 15 years old.

8. Strategic Services Update – Stephen Crosby

Mr. Crosby provided an update on the Strategic Plan. The first semi-annual report for the 2022-2026 Strategic Plan will go to Police Board this week. Once the Board has received the report, it will be electronically distributed to the TPCCC. Mr. Crosby went over some highlights of the report such as EDI initiatives and the EDI Strategy being developed. In regards to the recommendations from the previous Strengthening Support to Indigenous Peoples Report, progress continues to be monitored and reported on through the Strategic Plan reporting. Sgt. Simpkin's new role at TransLink will assist with continuing to make progress.

9. Roundtable

The TPCCC was asked to share community updates:

Karima – Shelter has openings at night (only open at night, hoping to get it to 24 hours); will be giving a presentation at the next TPCCC meeting on a new initiative coming to New Westminster – Peer Assistance Crisis Team (PACT).

Karen – King George hub had its grand opening; report to the TransLink Board on the number of volunteer hours provided around transit; shared some statistics regarding volunteer hours and what they would equal in a dollar amount; continuing community work; recent job fair with 14 police agencies attending including Transit Police.

Royce – Working with seniors in Port Coquitlam and Coquitlam in regards to keeping/giving up drivers license after 80 – RCMP and ICBC came in to talk to seniors about safety and Transit Police will be coming in to talk about staying safe on transit; Tri-City Seniors Action Network newsletter is sent out regularly and reaches a lot of seniors - if there is anything that anyone would like to be included, let Royce know.

Dean – Safety is one of the biggest concerns coming up over the last couple of years, especially from seniors; TransLink CEO walked around the community to discuss how to address safety concerns and how to provide information to make people feel at ease.

Insp. Muir – Transit Police canine unit was represented at the Canadian Police Canine Association 2022 National Championships and won first place overall for the Top Detection Dog; the canine unit is an important visible reminder to people of keeping the transit system safe.

The TPCCC discussed CEPTED for future and existing SkyTrain lines. TPCCC shared comments.

Sana – Continuing work to create inclusive and safe communities and would like to talk about how the information can be shared; with a diagnosis usually the first thing gone is a drivers license so would like to spread the word on safe, inclusive transit stations.

Stephen noted that he can assist with providing information. Transit hubs should be areas of safety within the community as there are many safety features available within the hubs. Deputy Chief Furlan shared some additional information and noted some updates made to deployment efforts to cover more areas within the transit network. Sgt. Simpkin advised that Transit Police created a transit safety video that is available in different languages on YouTube. The [link](#) will be emailed to the TPCCC for sharing.

10. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. and will be in person.

11. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 6:25 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Original Signed Minutes on File

Original Signed Minutes on File

Larry Hayes, Chair

Taryn Barton, Recording Secretary