Metro Vancouver Transit Police
Chief's Community Council Meeting
September 9, 2025

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

Attendees:

Karima Jivraj, Chair
Anna Markey - *by videoconference*
Chaplain Duku
Jaqueline Michell
Royce Shook
Sandy Lam *(arrived at 5:38 p.m.)*
Shana Vanderark – *by videoconference*
Sherman Chan
Tommi Leigh *(arrived at 5:10 p.m.)*
Chief Officer Suzanne Muir
Deputy Chief Officer Bryce Graham
Deputy Chief Officer Randy Fincham
Taryn Barton
Stephen Crosby

Regrets: Diane Gillis, Laura Clarke, Samuel Booth, Valerie Clement

Guests: Murray Dinwoodie, Metro Vancouver Transit Police Board
Kimberly Wood, Canadian Deaf Grassroots Movement *(by videoconference)*

ASL Interpreters: Sheri Burtnick, Vicki Yee

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1. Call Meeting to Order & Land Acknowledgement

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:06 p.m. and acknowledged that Metro Vancouver Transit Police ('MVTP') and the Chief's Community Council ('TPCCC') respects the Indigenous Nations within Vancouver and acknowledges all First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples for their continued resilience, sustainable stewardship and as active members of the community for generations to come. It was recognized that working within the region's transportation system, we have a role to play in supporting reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. The TPCCC went around the table and introduced themselves.

Timekeeper: Deputy Chief Fincham

2. Consent Agenda – Chair

The following items were received and approved as part of the Consent Agenda:

a) September 9, 2025 Agenda: **Moved/Seconded – all in favour/Approved**
b) June 3, 2025 Minutes – **Moved/Seconded – all in favour/Approved**
c) MVTP 20 Year Event – **Moved/Seconded – Received for information**

5:10 p.m. Tommi arrived

3. Chief's Update

Chief Muir provided some opening remarks and shared a short video about MVTP that was featured during a presentation at the recent Canadian Association of Police Governance ("CAPG") Conference. Following the video, a PowerPoint presentation titled 'Chief's Community Council' was presented to support the Chief's update.

Deputy Chief Fincham provided updates from the Operations Division on the following:

- Deployment for major events during summer such as Canada Day and Celebration of Light
- Stats and results from projects related to retail theft from malls located around the transportation region such as Metrotown
- Safe Spaces campaign in partnership with TransLink
- Update on encampments at or around transit stations
- Blue Eagle Community Cadets wrap up and graduation events
- CPTED assessments at various areas to make transit a safer experience for transit users
- K9 Unit received a new accreditation
- Recent highlights from Targeted Mobile Enforcement Team
- Recent arrests from Investigations Unit

Chief Muir noted the value in the Roundtable from the last meeting and some of the response initiated as a result. Chief Muir also advised that in honour of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Transit Police will hold a ceremony to Raise the Survivors Flag.

Deputy Chief Graham provided updates from the Administration Division on the following:

- Recruiting update and recent hires
- New Inspector of Innovation and Project Delivery position filled by Insp. Hurst
- Bicycle Patrol Team is active and outlined the benefits of the program

Chief Muir provided an update on the following:

- MVTP's 20 Year Anniversary event is open to TPCCC members
- CAPG Conference held in August in Victoria and Chief Muir along with the Board Chair and two members of the Leadership Team presented on MVTP
- Human Trafficking training
- Government funding update
- Focus on high visibility on the system
- Completion of the Community Safety Officer ("CSO") Evaluation

Deputy Chief Graham provided an overview of the CSO program and noted that 8 CSOs have transitioned to full time police officers with MVTP. The Chair shared an example of a recent incident she witnessed and the compassionate nature of the two CSOs that were on scene. The TPCCC shared comments and observations in regards to recruitment. Deputy Chief Graham answered a question about recruiting and provided a brief overview of recent activities of the recruiting team. The TPCCC also shared comments about some of the advantages of having Bike Patrol.

5:38 p.m. Sandy arrived

Kimberly shared an experience from a job fair where she met a Transit Police officer who knew ASL. Kimberly shared some considerations for police when interacting with deaf people and provided some training suggestions.

4. Community Safety Survey – Stephen Crosby

Mr. Crosby presented a PowerPoint presentation titled "Metro Vancouver Transit Police Community Survey". Mr. Crosby outlined the background of the Community Safety Survey and ensuring that the BC Policing Standards established in 2023 were met. Mr. Crosby outlined the methodology of the survey and shared some examples of the approach taken by other police agencies. The purpose of the survey was to measure public awareness, gauge perceptions of safety and learn what people witness during their transit journey. One of the challenges was trying to ensure adequate representation for all of the 21 municipalities that MVTP operates within. There were also minimum quotas for various demographics and Mr. Crosby shared some examples. The survey was offered in multiple languages and was only for those that used the transit system or had interacted with a Transit Police Officer within the last year. Mr. Crosby outlined the following key insights:

- Transit usage
- Perceived safety of transit
- Awareness and perceptions of Transit Police
- Interactions with Transit Police
- General perceptions of Policing
- Incidence of personally witnessing or experiencing crime on transit.

The TPCCC deliberated and discussed how to increase participation and engagement with Indigenous communities. Mr. Crosby answered a question about the texting service. The TPCCC discussed the texting service and shared comments. The TPCCC discussed perspectives on police from certain demographics. Some communities may be afraid of retaliation or consequences when reporting incidents to police based on their experience from other parts of the world. The TPCCC deliberated and shared comments and

observations. Mr. Crosby continued with the update and shared further information about the incidence of reporting of crime on transit. The TPCCC discussed and shared experiences from other international transit systems. The TPCCC also discussed reasons that crime may not be reported. Mr. Crosby shared further information on the results around perceived Transit Police performance, areas to focus on and considerations for future surveys. Chief Muir suggested that further discussion on building trust and relationships be added to a future meeting. The Chair was in support and a discussion item will be added to the next meeting.

5. Terms of Reference – Karima/Val/Royce

Karima provided an update on the work done to date by the working group and asked the TPCCC if there was any other feedback. With no further feedback provided, the following motion was made:

It was MOVED (Royce) and SECONDED (Sherman)

THAT the Metro Vancouver Transit Police Chief's Community Council approve the Terms of Reference as circulated.

All in Favour/CARRIED

Chief Muir thanked the Working Group for all of their efforts in modernizing and updating the Terms of Reference.

6. Roundtable

The following community updates were shared:

- Kimberly – no updates
- Shana – no update but asked how Transit Police handles aggressive protesters
    - Deputy Chief Fincham advised that Transit Police takes a measured approach and works closely with policing partners
- Anna – recently completed a grant cycle on a national project; wallet card with accompanied video for communicating with people living with dementia
- Sandy – shared concerns regarding the deaf/deafblind community with the large crowds on transit during FIFA
    - Deputy Chief Fincham shared some comments on previous large events in Vancouver and considerations for FIFA; Transit Police works closely with TransLink and there will be increased capacity, support and resources in place during FIFA
- Tommi – currently doing research work on forensic genealogy
- Jacqui – walk to Grandview Park on September 30th in honour of National Indigenous Peoples Day; there will be coffee, snacks, music and cultural presentations between 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
- Sherman – a new bill is being debated between Canada and the United States that if passed would expand the sharing of information, including immigration, which is raising concern for immigrants and refugees

- Chaplain – volunteer work and the appreciation for what the volunteers do; noted appreciation to Transit Police for the work they do to keep people safe
- Murray – appreciate the comments raised by the group tonight, especially the discussion on building trust with police and all sectors of the population
- Royce – October 1st is National Seniors Day and Tri-Cities will have a couple of events; upcoming health fair in Port Coquitlam
- Karima – passed along a request from shopping plazas in New Westminster for police officers to drive through the malls/plazas when in the area; Columbia area experiencing an increase in theft, vandalism and drug use; New Westminster Chamber is hosting Voices for a Safer community on October 24th; New Westminster Chamber and BIA are planning a Waves Wednesday event and will look to have MVTP Community Engagement Team talk about safety on transit; November 28th event on Transportation in New Westminster will include Chief Muir on the panel
    - Deputy Chief Fincham provided an update on recent work at Columbia

Chief Muir provided some closing comments and recognized Murray's contributions to the Board.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. and will be in person.

8. Closure

There being no further business, the meeting was terminated at 6:39 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Signed Minutes on File	*Signed Minutes on File*
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Karima Jivraj, Chair	Taryn Barton, Recording Secretary