



Guardian of Public Trust

**EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
VIA WEBCAST**

MINUTES

**Thursday, June 18, 2020
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, City Hall
Edmonton, Alberta
12:05 P.M. to 2:22 P.M.**

PRESENT

(In Person)

Chair Micki Ruth
Vice-Chair John McDougall
Commissioner Janet-Sue Hamilton
Commissioner Karen MacKenzie
Commissioner Erick Ambtman

(Via Webcast)

Commissioner Laurie Hawn
Commissioner Tim O'Brien
Commissioner Aneela Hussainaly
Commissioner Ashvin Singh
Councillor Sarah Hamilton, Commissioner
Councillor Tim Cartmell, Commissioner

EPC STAFF

(In Person)

Matt Barker, Executive Director
Bonnie Riddell, Strategic Policy & Research Analyst
Chris Skaggs, Secretary to the Commission
Bev Atkey, Administrative Assistant

(Via Webcast)

Deana MacFadyen, Public Complaint Director/Legal Counsel

GUESTS

(In Person)

Chief Dale McFee, Edmonton Police Service (EPS)
Deputy Chief Greg Preston, EPS
Deputy Chief Al Murphy, EPS
Deputy Chief Kevin Brezinski, EPS
Deputy Chief David Veitch, EPS
Deputy Chief Darren Derko, EPS

Chief Innovation & Technology Officer (CITO) Ron Anderson, Innovation & Technology Bureau, EPS

Chief of Staff Brian Sinclair, EPS

Executive Director Enyinnah Okere, Value & Impact Division, EPS

Executive Director Justin Krikler, Legal & Regulatory Services Division, EPS

Executive Director Darren Eastcott, Human Resources Division, EPS

A/Executive Director Michael James, Corporate Communications Branch, EPS

Director Lori Solon, Strategy Branch, EPS

Steven Amrhein, Alberta Health Services

(Via Webcast)

Members of the Public (3)

Members of the Media (3)

	Agenda Item	Action By
1.	<p><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:05 P.M.</p> <p>Prior to the meeting Commissioner MacKenzie performed a smudging ceremony for those in attendance.</p>	
2.	<p><u>PROTOCOL ITEMS</u></p>	
2.1	<p><u>Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement:</p> <p><i>“We begin by acknowledging the traditional land on which we are gathered today which is Treaty 6 Territory and the traditional homeland of the Metis people. We would like to acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous people whose ancestors’ footsteps have marked this territory for centuries such as: Cree, Dene, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota Sioux, as well as Metis and Inuit. It is a welcoming place for all people who come from around the world to share Edmonton as a home. Together we call upon all of our collective honoured traditions and spirits to work in building a great city for today and future generations.”</i></p>	
2.2	<p><u>National Indigenous History Month</u></p> <p>Commissioner MacKenzie spoke to when Treaty Six Territory was first acknowledged by the Commission, noting that the Edmonton Police Commission was the first Commission to acknowledge treaty territory. She advised</p>	

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	<p>that treaty land is acknowledged using two themes – the story of change and the story of relationship. Her teaching spoke to how</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring is a new beginning and how this became evident with COVID-19 • Last year Edmonton welcomed a new Chief of Police who is Metis. The first Chief of Police to take his Oath of Office with an eagle feather • When gathering with indigenous people they say we are all related to each other and nature • Indigenous people speak for the land and those who cannot speak <p>Commissioner MacKenzie presented Chief McFee with sweetgrass from this land. The sweetgrass was made of three stands that stood for body, mind and spirit.</p>	
	<p>2.3 <u>Pride Month</u></p> <p>Commissioner McDougall commented that society as a whole is starting to change. He spoke about historical times and incidents of the past to show gender and diversity and what took place during those times. He added that society has come a long way and still has a long way to go; however, strides are being made today. He spoke to each of the “Pride” colors and what they stand for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red – Life • Orange - Healing • Yellow - Sunlight • Green - Nature • Blue - Harmony • Violet - Spirit 	
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u></p> <p>Members unanimously approved the agenda as presented.</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION</u></p> <p>In response to Chair Ruth there were no conflict of interest declarations.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p>Members unanimously adopted Consent Agenda items</p>	

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	#5.1 Edmonton Police Commission Public Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2020 #5.2 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance by Major Category for the Period Ending April 30, 2020 #5.3 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance by Major Category for the Period Ending April 30, 2020 #5.4 Professional Standards Branch Extension Requests - May 2020 #5.5 Professional Standards Branch 2019 Annual Report #5.6 2019 Attrition Report for Sworn and Civilian Members #5.7 Calendar of Upcoming Events	
6.	<u>PRESENTATION</u>	
	<p>6.1 <u>EMS Mobile Integrated Healthcare – Steven Amrhein, Alberta Health Services</u></p> <p>Steven Amrhein introduced himself as the Operations Manager for this provincial program and advised that his presentation will speak about how the program was created and the core desire for collaboration within the healthcare system as well as key external stakeholders.</p> <p>He spoke about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Program – its purpose, goal and model • EMS and Paramedic Opportunity - why the program was started • Provincial MIH Coverage • Accessing MIH Services • Medical Direction • Clinical Services/Interventions • MIH Coordination Center – staffed by community paramedics who are called Patient Coordinators • Crisis Response and EMS (CREMS) – operates in all areas where there is a need inside and outside Edmonton • City Center Team (CCT) • Community Health and Prehospital Support (CHAPS) • Health Outcomes for Edmonton Zone MIH <p>Mr. Amrhein responded to questions.</p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth thanked Mr. Amrhein for his presentation.</p>	

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7.	<p><u>INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Three members of the community addressed the Commission with their comments in support/non-support of the police.</p>	
8.	<p><u>CHIEF REPORT</u></p>	
	<p>8.1 <u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>Chief McFee acknowledged and proudly supported the work of sworn and non-sworn members of the Edmonton Police Service.</p> <p>He spoke to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • some of the positive things being done by the Service and the support received from many members of the community • some of the non-support expressed to police officers verbally by members of the community • crime statistics • recent arrests including that of an individual who ran a theft ring for catalytic converters • a number of internal initiatives underway by the Edmonton Police Service with respect to new programs, change and training • an update on Vision 2020 with respect to what is being done and what has been done to date <p>He acknowledged that the community is frustrated and commented that it is important the Service listens to the voices being heard and integrates change for the better, adding that he will continue to make changes. He advised that the Service is working with the community to get things into the right social areas adding that effective partnerships and proper resources are what is needed.</p> <p>He responded to questions.</p>	
	<p>8.2 <u>Initiatives or Projects Underway at Edmonton Police Service Addressing Racism and Marginalization</u></p> <p>Chief McFee presented the report for information.</p>	
	<p>8.2.1 <u>Diversity & Inclusion Policy</u></p>	

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	<p>Executive Director Okere advised that a lot of work has been done on this policy. He spoke to each of the definitions that apply to the “Equitable, Diverse and Inclusion Workplace Policy” adding that the Service as a whole supports the policy.</p> <p>Chief McFee and Executive Director Okere responded to questions.</p>	
	<p>8.3 <u>Edmonton Police Service Racism Response</u></p> <p>Executive Director Okere advised that this is community engagement. The Diversity and Inclusion Branch has a Community Engagement Section that works with different communities and different areas within the Service to ensure there is community engagement as the demand continues to grow. The Service also has a Hate Crime Unit that works with the community when it comes to racism. As well, there is a new Chief’s Community Council designed to work with community partners and diversities. Although there is still a long way to go many individuals want to step up to make the changes.</p> <p>Chief McFee added that the Service is working with First Nations on a compassion series to learn more about indigenous communities. Following COVID-19 the Service plans to get back into community work and bring partners to the table to assist with understanding.</p>	
	<p>8.4 <u>Body Worn Cameras</u></p> <p>Chief McFee advised that seventy studies have been done on body worn cameras. Recently the studies were pulled together to review the study evaluations.</p> <p>He added that body worn cameras are not only costly but are outward facing and see only the outside scene and not the officer. The Service is investing in Dash Cams as it sees both and is good value for the money.</p> <p>Councillor Hamilton expressed an interest in having the Service provide a presentation on body worn cameras versus dash cams at a future public Commission meeting.</p> <p>CITO Anderson provided a brief history on body worn cameras which were first introduced in the US - the rationale being accountability of police and use of force.</p>	<p>EPS</p>

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	Canada was waiting to see what happened in the US. He added that the Calgary Police Service uses body worn cameras but has not yet released its evaluation. He advised that a reduction in use of force has not been seen in the US. There is a public document done by a researcher that he will provide to the Commission and post on the Service's website.	EPS
9.	<u>CHAIR REPORT</u>	
9.1	<u>Appointment to President of the Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG)</u> Chair Ruth advised that she has been appointed President of the CAPG, which will be an active appointment.	
10.	<u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT</u> There was no report.	
11.	<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	
11.1	<u>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</u> There was no report.	
11.2	<u>FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE</u> There was no report.	
11.3	<u>PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</u>	
11.3.1	<u>Summary of Compliments</u> Commissioner J-S Hamilton shared six compliments received by the Edmonton Police Service.	
12.	<u>EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA</u> There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda.	

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13.	<p><u>EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION INQUIRIES</u></p> <p>There were no Commission inquiries.</p>	
14.	<p><u>OTHER BUSINESS</u></p>	
	<p>14.1 <u>Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Update - Chair Ruth</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth advised that the CAPG Conference scheduled for 2020 has been cancelled. The CAPG is looking at breaking the conference presentations into modules for viewing throughout the year.</p>	
	<p>14.2 <u>Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Update - Commissioner McDougall</u></p> <p>Vice-Chair McDougall advised that AAPG Annual General Meeting will be held on line June 23, 2020. The Conference has been rescheduled to September 18-19, 2020 in Brooks, Alberta.</p>	
	<p>14.3 <u>REACH Update – Commissioner Hawn</u></p> <p>Commissioner Hawn reported on the Operational Highlights for May, 2020 for the REACH organization.</p>	
15.	<p><u>COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS</u></p> <p>There were no comments/concerns/commendations.</p>	
16.	<p><u>MEDIA INQUIRIES</u></p> <p>Members of the media in attendance brought forward inquiries for the Chief on Dash Cams, excessive force and carding, and release of the name of the individual charged with the kidnapping of a child.</p>	
17.	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 2:22 P.M.</p>	

Minutes of Public Meeting
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Edmonton Police Commission

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission's June 18, 2020 Public Meeting.

Micki Ruth
Chair, Edmonton Police Commission

Chris Skaggs
Secretary to the Commission