**EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**VIA ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 17, 2020**

**Edmonton Police Commission Office**

**Scotia Place, Tower 2**

**Suite #1803, 10060 – Jasper Avenue**

**Edmonton, Alberta**

**12:00 P.M**. **to 2:10 P.M.**

**PRESENT**

**(In Office Via Zoom)**

Chair Micki Ruth

Commissioner Janet-Sue Hamilton

**(Via Zoom)**

Vice-Chair John McDougall

Commissioner Karen MacKenzie

Commissioner Laurie Hawn

Commissioner Tim O’Brien

Commissioner Aneela Hussainaly

Commissioner Ashvin Singh

Commissioner Erick Ambtman

Councillor Sarah Hamilton, Commissioner

Councillor Tim Cartmell, Commissioner

**EPC STAFF**

**(In Office Via Zoom)**

Matt Barker, Executive Director

Bonnie Riddell, Strategic Policy & Research Analyst

Deana MacFadyen, Public Complaint Director/Legal Counsel

Bev Atkey, Administrative Assistant

Chris Skaggs, Secretary to the Commission

**GUESTS (Via Zoom)**

Chief Dale McFee, Edmonton Police Service (EPS)

Deputy Chief Kevin Brezinski, EPS

Deputy Chief Al Murphy, EPS

Deputy Chief Darren Derko

Deputy Chief David Veitch, EPS

Chief Innovation & Technology Officer Ron Anderson, Innovation & Technology Bureau, EPS

Chief of Staff Brian Sinclair, Office of the Chief, EPS

Inspector Trevor Hermantuz, Professional Development Branch, EPS

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

Executive Director Enyinnah Okere, Value & Impact Division, EPS

A/Executive Director Jason Halyko, Fleet Management Section, EPS

Director Michael James, Corporate Communications Branch, EPS

Director Stacey York, Materials Management, EPS

Administrative Assistant Echo Baxter, Office of the Chief, EPS

Executive Director for Addictions & Mental Health Mark Snaterse, Alberta Health Services

Director for Addictions & Mental Health Pamela Coulson, Alberta Health Services

**(Via Zoom)**

Members of the Public (2)

Members of the Media (7)

* Anna Junker, Edmonton Journa
* OMNI
* Nicole Weisberg, CTV Edmonton
* Janice Johnson, CBC
* Carly Robinson, City News
* Jacqui Sundquist, CBC Edmonton
* CTV Edmonton

|  | **Agenda Item** | **Action By** |
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| **1.** | **CALL TO ORDER**  Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M. |  |
| **2.** | **PROTOCOL ITEMS** |  |
|  | **2.1 Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory**  Chair Ruth opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement:  “*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.”* |  |
|  | **2.2** Chair Ruth welcomed everyone and advised that in order to  maintain physical distancing practices still prescribed by Alberta Health the meeting is being conducted through Zoom and teleconferencing. She outlined the meeting process. |  |
| **3.** | **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**  Members unanimously approved the agenda as presented. |  |
| **4.** | **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION**  In response to Chair Ruth there were no conflict of interest declarations. |  |
| **5.** | **CONSENT AGENDA**  Members unanimously adopted Consent Agenda items  #5.1 Edmonton Police Commission Public Meeting Minutes –  July 16, 2020  #5.2 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance by Major  Category for the Period Ending June 30, 2020  #5.3 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance by Major  Category for the Period Ending July 31, 2020  #5.4 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance by Major  Category for the Period Ending June 30, 2020  #5.5 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance by Major  Category for the Period Ending July 31, 2020  #5.6 Edmonton Police Commission Policies  #5.7 Professional Standards Branch Extension Requests – July  2020  #5.8 Calendar of Upcoming Events |  |
| **6.** | **PRESENTATIONS** |  |
|  | **6.1 Community Urgent Services & Stabilization Team –**  **Alberta Health Services**  **6.2 Assertive Community Treatment Service – Alberta**  **Health Services**  Executive Director Snaterse introduced Director Coulson.  He advised that   * Addiction and Mental Health Services is a provincial authority across Canada * Addiction, mental health and youth services is integrated under the same structure, which is unique * There are 3000 staff members; 150 psychiatrists * Volume of clients is 60,000 – 65,000/year, the majority being in Edmonton with 10% outside Edmonton. Youngest person who has used the service is 3 years, the oldest is 108 years * There are 400 supporting beds in Alberta * It provides contracting funding to other providers * Common theme is that it is difficult to navigate services. A single point of entry has been created * Access 24/7 is across from the Royal Alexandra Hospital   He spoke to   * Current state of access to Addiction and Mental Health Services * Creating Access 24/7 * “Off Ramps” out of the Criminal Justice System * Edmonton Police Service and Crisis Team (PACT) * Mental Health Court * Psychiatric/Risk Assessment for the Courts * Community Treatment Orders   Commissioner J-S Hamilton spoke about the difficulty accessing Access24/7 in a timely manner as there have been some problems.  **MOVED** Commissioner J-S Hamilton - Commissioner  McDougall  That the Commission write a letter to Alberta Health Services around the concerns with accessing “Access 24/7” in a timely manner.  **CARRIED** | EPC |
| (Commissioner Ambtman joined the meeting) | | |
|  | Executive Director Snaterse and Director Coulson responded to questions. |  |
| **7.** | **INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC**  No members of the public addressed the Commission. |  |
| **8.** | **CHIEF REPORT** |  |
|  | **8.1 Key Issues**  Chief McFee acknowledged and proudly supported the work of sworn and non-sworn members of the Edmonton Police Service.  He spoke to the following and responded to questions   * Restorative Justice process taking place with the Indigenous Community with respect to the issues that went on in the Service’s Canine Unit * Community Solutions Accelerator challenged entrepreneurs to create a successful solution to liquor store thefts. There were 222 submissions. A team from Grant MacEwan was the winner * Sergeant Kerry Bates received the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) Road Safety Lifetime Achievement Award for outstanding contributions to road safety through education, enforcement, training and community-based programs * On September 21, 2020 the Service will start engaging with 50 of the City’s black, indigenous, racialized and under-served communities regarding racial injustice and improving community engagement. This will transpire over 18 months * The Edmonton Police Service and the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police will continue to ask the Province to allow the seizure of vehicles travelling 50 kms over the speed limit as speed is a contributing factor to collisions * Property crime has increased to a serious level. There has recently been a rash of break and enters on the south side of Edmonton * The Detox and Long-Term Residential Services Program has resulted in a positive outcome with a reduction in 34% of occurrences * The use of drones (aerial system) with respect to incidents has been beneficial * A long-serving member of the RCMP has commended and expressed his appreciation following his work with PACT which resulted in a positive outcome * The Edmonton Police Service received a commendation from a paramedic who interacted and worked collaboratively with the Service in a medical situation   Councillor Hamilton asked if a memo could be sent to City Council outlining the challenges the Service is seeing in the City and statistics around community safety. This will assist Council with its decisions regarding speed limits and advocating for change to that legislation. Chief McFee responded that he will provide the information.  In response to Commission members, Chief McFee spoke to the recent concern with the Service’s purchase of APV equipment and its transparency. He outlined the benefits of the equipment and his discussions with the media.  Members asked how members of the public and media will be informed of these types of purchase decisions going forward and how the Service will be more transparent. Members agreed that this be discussed with the Service at the October Governance Committee meeting. | EPC/EPS |
|  | **8.2 Control Tactics Statistics Report – January 1, 2020 –**  **June 30, 2020**  Inspector Hermanutz presented the report and spoke to   * Control Tactics Report Process * Total Use of Force Comparison * Changes from January to June, 2019 * Next Steps   + Training staff (looking at Professional Standards Branch complaints)   + Reinstating the Training Advisory Committee that will look at trends. Diverse members of the public will sit on the Committee   + He will work with different areas of the Service on trending, as there is a need to change the way training is being done   + A real time review of uses of force will be done. He will review the use of force calls daily to determine if there is an issue   + He is a member of the Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Working Group that is reviewing use of force. He is reaching out to other agencies to see what they are doing with respect to use of force   Inspector Hermanutz and Chief McFee responded to questions. |  |
| **9.** | **CHAIR REPORT**  There was no report. |  |
| **10.** | **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT** |  |
|  | **10.1 City of Edmonton Community Safety and Well-Being**  **Task Force – Edmonton Police Commission Nominee**  Executive Director Barker advised that last week the City established this Task Force. It had a requirement that the Commission elect a nominee to sit on the Task Force.  **MOVED** Commissioner J-S Hamilton - Commissioner  Singh  That Commissioner Karen MacKenzie be nominated to sit on the City of Edmonton’s Community Safety and Well-Being Task Force.  **CARRIED** |  |
| **11.** | **COMMITTEE REPORTS** |  |
|  | **11.1 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**  Commissioner Hawn advised that the matters that came forward at the Governance Committee’s September meeting were included under Items #5 (Consent Agenda) and #8 (Chief’s Report(s)). |  |
|  | **11.2 FINANCE & AUDIT COMMITTEE**  There was no report. |  |
|  | **11.3 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE** |  |
|  | **11.3.1** **Summary of Compliments**  Commissioner J-S Hamilton shared five compliments received by the Edmonton Police Service. |  |
| **12.** | **EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA**  There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda. |  |
| **13.** | **EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION INQUIRIES**  There were no inquiries. |  |
| **14.** | **OTHER BUSINESS** |  |
|  | **14.1 Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG)**  **Update - Chair Ruth**  Chair Ruth advised that all Commission members and a member of the Edmonton Police Service can attend the 31st Annual CAPG Conference being held in a new virtual format October 29-November 1, 2020, adding that it is cost effective. The theme is “Prioritizing Wellness Through Governance”. |  |
|  | **14.2 Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG)**  **Update - Commissioner McDougall**  Vice-Chair McDougall advised that depending on the COVID situation, the AAPG Conference is scheduled for September 2021. |  |
|  | **14.3 REACH Update – Commissioner Hawn**  Commissioner Hawn reported on the Operational Highlights for September, 2020 for the REACH organization, noting that there is an increase in mental health incidents. |  |
| **15.** | **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS**  There were no comments/concerns/commendations. |  |
| **16.** | **MEDIA INQUIRIES**  Chair Ruth advised that members of the media are asked to limit their questions to one, adding that there will be an opportunity to follow-up with the Chief following the meeting.  Members of the media in attendance brought forward inquiries for the Chief on the following for which the Chief responded:   * Nicole Weisberg, CTV Edmonton   + What is happening with use of force   + Difference between CEW and Stun   + Reason for evaluating training * Carly Robinson, City News   + Armored police vehicle costs should be outside the Commission and more to City Council * Janice Johnson, CBC   + Use of Force report being broken down to include use of force based on race |  |
| **17.** | **ADJOURNMENT**  The meeting adjourned at 2:10 P.M. |  |

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission’s September 17, 2020 Public Meeting.

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|  |  | Micki Ruth  Chair, Edmonton Police Commission |
|  |  | Chris Skaggs  Secretary to the Commission |