**EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION**

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**VIA ZOOM**

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 10, 2020**

**Edmonton Police Commission Office**

**Scotia Place, Tower 2**

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

**Edmonton, Alberta**

**12:02 P.M**. **to 1:43 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

Chris Skaggs, Secretary to the Commission

Bev Atkey, Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS (Via Zoom)**

Chief Dale McFee, Edmonton Police Service (EPS)

Deputy Chief Kevin Brezinski, EPS

Deputy Chief Al Murphy, EPS

Deputy Chief Darren Derko, EPS

A/Deputy Chief Enyinnah Okere, EPS

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

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

A/Staff Sergeant Michelle Greening, Office of the Chief, EPS

Constable Chelsea Elmquist, Recruit Selection Unit, EPS

Constable Dan Tallack, Southwest-Whyte Avenue Beats, EPS

Executive Director Rob Davidson, Finance Division, EPS

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

Director Michael James, Corporate Communications, EPS

Methods Analyst Matthew Cheung, Equity, Inclusion & Human Rights Branch, EPS

Administrative Assistant Heather Jacobsen, Office of the Chief, EPS

**(Via Zoom)**

Members of the Public (0)

Members of the Media (7)

|  | **Agenda Item** | **Action By** |
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| **1.** | **CALL TO ORDER**  Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M. |  |
| **2.** | **PROTOCOL ITEMS** |  |
|  | **2.1 Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory**  Chair Ruth opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement:  *“The Edmonton Police Commission acknowledges the traditional land on which we are gathered today, is on Treaty 6 Territory. I would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestors' footsteps have marked this territory for centuries such as: Nehiyaw (Cree), Dene, Anishnaabe (Saulteaux), Nakota Sioux and Niitsitapi (Blackfoot) peoples. We also acknowledge this as the Métis homeland and the home of one of the largest concentrations of Inuit south of the 60th parallel. It is a welcoming place for all peoples 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 Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Fallen Officer**  On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth paid tribute to Constable Marc Hovingh who died in the line of duty November 19, 2020. She expressed the Commission’s heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. |  |
|  | **2.3 HUoS Award**  On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth congratulated the Edmonton Police Service on receiving the 2020 Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police/Motorola Solutions Community Safety Award for its Heavy Users of Service (HUoS) Program. The award was presented to Sergeant Lee Bieraugle and his team. |  |
|  | **2.4 Edmonton Police Service Patrol Officers of the Year**  **2019**  On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth congratulated Sergeant Gallagher and Constable Rashotte on receiving the 2019 Patrol Officers Of The Year award which recognizes officers who exemplify leadership and dedication on the frontlines of policing. They were nominated by their peers and named by the Edmonton Police Association. |  |
|  | **2.5 2019 Top Cop Award**  On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth congratulated Constable Jed Winter on receiving the Kiwanis Club of Edmonton’s Top Cop Award for 2019 for going above and beyond the call of duty as a police officer, volunteering countless hours coaching and mentoring children at local schools and raising thousands of dollars to help children fight cancer. |  |
|  | **2.6 Farewell to Commissioners Tim O’Brien and Karen**  **MacKenzie**  Chair Ruth recognized this as being the last Commission meeting for Commissioner O’Brien and Commissioner MacKenzie who are retiring from the Commission at the end of 2020. On behalf of the Commission she thanked them for their hard work and dedication and spoke to what they have brought to the Commission, adding that Commissioner MacKenzie joined the Commission in 2015 and Commissioner O’Brien joined in 2016. They drove change in the Edmonton Police Service and positioned the Service for being a leader in Canada. Their legacy will be long lasting. |  |
| **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 –  November 19, 2020  5.2 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance for the Period  Ending October 31, 2020  5.3 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance for the Period  Ending October 31, 2020  5.4 Professional Standards Branch Extension Requests –  November 2020  5.5 Edmonton Police Commission Policy Update |  |
| **6.** | **PRESENTATION** |  |
|  | **6.1 Promoting Queer Inclusivity: Edmonton Police Service**  **and the LGBTQ2S+ Community**  Methods Analyst Cheung introduced Constables Elmquist and Tallack who were in attendance for the presentation.  Methods Analyst Cheung and Constables Elmquist and Tallack spoke to the following and responded to questions:   * EPS LGBTQ2S+ Employee Resource Group * Pathways to Reconciliation: Apologies and other Initiatives at a Glance * Curriculum Review: Understanding the LGBTQ2S+ Community * Next Steps for LGBTQ2S+ Inclusivity   On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth thanked the presenters for what they are accomplishing.  Chief McFee commended Methods Analyst Cheung and Constables Elmquist and Tallack and the team for their work and helping the Service get to where it is today. |  |
| **7.** | **INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC**  There were no members of the public in attendance at the meeting. |  |
| **8.** | **CHIEF REPORT** |  |
|  | **8.1 Key Issues**  Chief McFee thanked Commissioner O’Brien for the business acumen asset he brought to the Commission and the Service and Commissioner MacKenzie for her assistance in helping the Service to understand the indigenous community.  Chief McFee spoke to the following:   * He received a letter from Jared Zsombor, Death Investigator with the Office of the Medical Examiner, acknowledging the positive relationship and friendship he has had with the Service * He acknowledged the accomplishments of Constable Jed Winter who was awarded the 2019 Kiwanis Top Cop Award * The Service found housing for an individual requiring assistance from the HELP Unit * The Service received international attention with its recruit mentoring academy * The Service is taking weapons off the street which is still a problem * An incident involving Air 1 and patrol members responding to a weapons complaint, which showed the benefits of Air 1 * The recent surge in homicides * Weapons have been found in many of the stolen vehicles seized * The Community Engagement Team provided a number of games to the Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society * Between August and December 2020 there were 39 incidents involving non-compliance of wearing masks |  |
| **9.** | **CHAIR REPORT**  There was no report. |  |
| **10.** | **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**  There was no report. |  |
| **11.** | **COMMITTEE REPORTS** |  |
|  | **11.1 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**  Commissioner Hawn advised that the matter that came forward at the Governance Committee’s December meeting was included under Item #5 (Consent Agenda). |  |
|  | **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.** | **MEDIA INQUIRIES**  Members of the media were in attendance as participants or observers.  The following members of the media brought forward inquiries for which Chief McFee responded:   * Dave Ewasiuk, CTV Edmonton   + Police pride pin pilot project (history and how it came about) and how soon will it be rolled out to all members * Jessica Robb, Global   + The Southgate Mall incident (will hate crime charges be laid) * Lauren Boothby, Edmonton Journal/Sun   + Timelines for LGBTQ2S+ training to the greater Edmonton Police Service membership   + Details on gang and drug related homicides   + Conflict around masking and the decision to enforce (The Service’s media will provide her with details on masking that will not include the tickets for masking events that occurred where criminal offences were involved) * Janice Johnston, CBC   + Anti-mask violence and the Chief’s recent comments | EPS |
| **13.** | **EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA**  There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda. |  |
| **14.** | **EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION INQUIRIES**  There were no inquiries. |  |
| **15.** | **OTHER BUSINESS** |  |
|  | **15.1 Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG)**  **Update - Chair Ruth**  Chair Ruth advised that the CAPG will be meeting with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) January 15, 2020. |  |
|  | **15.2 Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG)**  **Update - Commissioner McDougall**  There was no report. |  |
|  | **15.3 REACH Update – Commissioner Hawn**  Commissioner Hawn reported on the Operational Highlights for December, 2020 for the REACH organization. |  |
| **16.** | **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS**  Commissioner MacKenzie expressed her gratitude for the honour of serving on the Commission and thanked the Service for its willingness to listen. She thanked the Chief for his kindness and laughter and for leading from the heart. She offered her assistance to the Commission and the Service in future if required.  Commissioner O’Brien thanked City Council for the opportunity to sit on the Commission, adding that being on the Commission the past five years he has learned a lot about the City. During this time the City has changed and the Service has kept pace. |  |
| **17.** | **ADJOURNMENT**  The meeting adjourned at 1:43 P.M. |  |

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission’s December 10, 2020 Public Meeting.

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