



Guardian of Public Trust

**EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
(VIA ZOOM)**

MINUTES

**Thursday, June 17, 2021
Edmonton Police Commission Office
Scotia Place, Tower 2
Suite #1803, 10060 – Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
12:02 P.M. to 1:18 P.M.**

PRESENT

(In Office Via Zoom)

Chair Micki Ruth

(Via Zoom)

Vice-Chair John McDougall
Commissioner Laurie Hawn
Commissioner Janet-Sue Hamilton
Commissioner Aneela Hussainaly
Commissioner Ashvin Singh
Commissioner Erick Ambtman
Commissioner Jodi Calahoo-Stonehouse
Commissioner Kemi Kufuor-Boakye
Councillor Sarah Hamilton, Commissioner
Councillor Tim Cartmell, Commissioner

EPC STAFF

(In Office Via Zoom)

Matt Barker, Executive Director

(Via Zoom)

Bonnie Riddell, Strategic Policy & Research Analyst
Deana MacFadyen, Public Complaint Director/Legal Counsel
Chris Skaggs, Secretary to the Commission

GUESTS (Via Zoom)

Edmonton Police Service

Chief Dale McFee
Deputy Chief Kevin Brezinski, Investigations Bureau
Deputy Chief Al Murphy, Community Policing Bureau
Deputy Chief Darren Derko, Corporate Services Bureau
Chief Innovation & Technology Officer Ron Anderson, Innovation & Technology Bureau

A/Chief Administrative Officer Enyinnah Okere, Office of the Chief
 Superintendent Dwayne Lakusta, ALERT
 Chief of Staff Brian Sinclair, Office of the Chief
 Inspector Mitch Flaman, Equity & Inclusion Branch
 Executive Director Rob Davidson, Business Development Division
 Executive Director Justin Krikler, Legal & Regulatory Services Division
 A/Executive Director Lori Lorenz, Strategy & Engagement Branch
 Director Michael James, Corporate Communications
 Administrative Assistant Heather Jacobsen, Office of the Chief
External
 Strategic Advisor Chris Taylor, ATF Bureau, US Embassy, Ottawa

	Agenda Item	Action By
1.	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u> Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M.	
2.	<u>PROTOCOL ITEMS</u>	
2.1	<u>Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory</u> Chair Ruth opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement: <i>“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.”</i>	
2.2	<u>2020 Kiwanis Top Cop Award</u> Chair Ruth recognized and congratulated Detective Rocky Hanson on being named as the Kiwanis Club of Edmonton’s 2020 Top Cop for his outstanding dedication and volunteer service to the community.	
2.3	<u>Dempsey Service Award</u>	

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	<p>Chair Ruth recognized and congratulated Detective Coral Spiker on receiving the Dempsey Service Award in May, 2021. She received the award for changing the face of policing through many of her interactions and for sharing her years of experience through an insider’s look at policing for potential recruits using social media.</p>	
<p>2.4</p>	<p><u>Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police (AACP) Achievement Award</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth recognized and congratulated Dave Elanik, Lesley Paxton and Carlos Cardoso for receiving the AACP Outstanding Achievement Award. They were instrumental in developing provincial Police Information Check disclosure procedures.</p>	
<p>2.5</p>	<p><u>Pride Month</u></p> <p>Vice-Chair McDougall recognized June as Pride Month, which is dedicated to providing more insight, appreciation of culture and support for the pride community. The original Pride flag was created in 1978. He spoke to what the colors on the flag stand for, adding that the flag has been adapted to include four new colors – black/brown/light blue/pink. 2021 is the 50th anniversary of the 1st Pride Parade. A gay rights activist started the first protest. He thanked the Edmonton Police Service for acknowledging its wrongs in the past, its efforts in mending its relationship with the Pride community, and its involvement with the community.</p>	
<p>2.6</p>	<p><u>National Indigenous History Month</u></p> <p>Commissioner Calahoo-Stonehouse advised that June is National Indigenous History month. There are 45 First Nations in Alberta. She spoke to the different practices and most common languages. Alberta is the only Province in Canada with Metis settlements and regions. Mayor Iveson is the first Mayor to declare a day of Treaty Recognition. She spoke to how June is celebrated by the indigenous communities, who live to celebrate culture with dances and ceremonies. She also spoke to what is done to receive a feather in recognition.</p>	

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	<p>She encouraged everyone to do something they have not done yet to connect with the land to honor this month and welcomed them to join pow wows when COVID allows.</p>	
<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> <p>5.1 Edmonton Police Commission Public Meeting Minutes – May 20, 2021</p> <p>5.2 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance for Period Ending April 30, 2021</p> <p>5.3 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance for Period Ending April 30, 2021</p> <p>5.4 2020 Professional Standards Branch Annual Report</p> <p>5.5 Calendar of Upcoming Events</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><u>PRESENTATIONS</u></p>	
	<p>6.1 <u>Edmonton Police Service Know Your Rights</u></p> <p>Inspector Flaman spoke to the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know Your Rights initiative and the launch of the campaign May 10, 2021 • Translations – the initial campaign was lodged in English but is now available in 15 different languages • Know Your Rights pocket brochure and card, advertising strategy and resources <p>Commissioner J-S Hamilton commended the Service and the recruit who brought this initiative forward, a few classes ago.</p> <p>Inspector Flaman responded to questions.</p>	
	<p>6.2 <u>Edmonton Police Service Firearms Initiative</u></p>	

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	<p>Superintendent Lakusta provided a brief overview on ALERT's initiative to suppress violent gun crime across Alberta, together with the Edmonton Police Service's efforts. He spoke to the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Crime Guns Seized in 2020 (vast majority in Northern Alberta) • Current Status • Edmonton Police Service's Progressive Response • Provincial Progressive Response • Benefits of Provincial Focus • Early Successes • Section 2 Mechanical Testing <p>Deputy Chief Brezinski introduced Chris Taylor, who was in attendance at the meeting, adding that Mr. Taylor was seconded from the United States to Canada as a strategic advisor to the US Ambassador and Canadian government.</p> <p>Mr. Taylor spoke to his expertise and the work he does as an ATF (Alcohol/Tobacco/Firearms) Attaché in Canada in matters relating to firearms and explosives enforcement, international trafficking activities, enforcement strategies and operational practices. He advised that he conducted Section 2 Mechanical Testing training with the Edmonton Police Service and has a strong partnership with them.</p> <p>Superintendent Lakusta responded to questions.</p>	
7.	<p><u>INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>There was no input from the public.</p>	
8.	<p><u>CHIEF OF POLICE 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 (EPS).</p> <p>He spoke to the following and responded to questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buy and sell exchange zones established – expanding to most Divisions • More weapons being picked up in vehicles • Increase in homicides 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidents involving weapons and drugs found in vehicles • Progress made with complaints involving youth and the additional steps being taken to intercept and connect them with support groups • Referral of a 13-year-old to the YMCA Youth Diversion program, following which the patrol member who made the referral kept in contact with the individual • Referral to the Outreach Program which resulted in positive progress and housing found for a young male who was charged 59 times since March 2020 and called for assistance • Recognition by residents of Councillor Dziadyk's Ward on the June 8th anniversary of Constable Daniel Woodall's death 	
	<p>8.2 <u>Nisohkamâkewin Council Recommendations Update re Systemic Review of Issues Affecting Indigenous Peoples</u></p> <p>A/Executive Director Lorenz advised that the Council was developed to support the implementation of a systemic review of issues affecting indigenous peoples and to develop best practices of policing indigenous communities. The Service works with the Council, which has met four times, and is working on recommendations from the last reports. The Service now recognizes sacred objects from other religions and cultures.</p> <p>Inspector Flaman advised that he is the President of the Council which met most recently June 15, 2021. There are 21 recommendations from the report, of which the Service has met 10. It is meeting with the Council to discuss the recommendations. He presented a short Eagle Feather video.</p> <p>Chief McFee advised that he will provide the full video to the Commission to view.</p>	EPS
9.	<p><u>CHAIR REPORT</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
10.	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT</u></p>	

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	There was no report.	
11.	<u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u>	
	11.1 <u>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</u>	
	<p>11.1.1 <u>Edmonton Police Commission New Policy – Fair & Equitable Policing</u></p> <p>Executive Director Barker advised that the proposed draft policy is presented for the Commission’s consideration. He added that the Service has been pro-active over the years and this policy ensures this philosophy continues for future years. The policy requires annual reporting by the Service to the Commission.</p> <p>MOVED Commissioner Ambtman – Vice-Chair McDougall That the Commission approve the proposed new Edmonton Police Commission Policy – Fair & Equitable Policing.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	
	<p>11.2 <u>FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
	11.3 <u>PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</u>	
	<p>11.3.1 <u>Summary of Compliments</u></p> <p>Commissioner J-S Hamilton shared five compliments received by the Edmonton Police Service.</p>	
12.	<p><u>MEDIA INQUIRIES</u></p> <p>The following member of the media brought forward an inquiry for which Deputy Chief Brezinski responded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Tricia Kindleman, CBC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Asked about the recent hate crime incidents in the City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where the investigation is at 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Have there been any discussions on how to communicate these seemingly increasing situations more broadly to the public 	
13.	<p><u>EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p>There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda.</p>	
14.	<p><u>EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSIONER INQUIRIES</u></p> <p>There were no Commissioner inquiries.</p>	
15.	<p><u>OTHER BUSINESS</u></p>	
15.1	<p><u>Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Update - Commissioner Ruth</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth reminded members of the June 30, 2021 Governance Summit.</p>	
15.2	<p><u>Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Update - Commissioner McDougall</u></p> <p>Vice-Chair McDougall advised that the AAPG is preparing its package for next year's conference which will be held in St. Albert, Alberta.</p>	
15.3	<p><u>REACH Update – Commissioner Hawn</u></p> <p>Commissioner Hawn reported on the Operational Highlights for June 2021 for the REACH organization.</p>	
16.	<p><u>COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS</u></p>	
	<p>Vice-Chair McDougall thanked the Service for its compassion and quick action regarding a hate crime incident at the Pride Parade. He also thanked the Service for its commitment to the Pride community.</p>	

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17.	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u> The meeting adjourned at 1:18 P.M.	

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission's June 17, 2021 Public Meeting.

Micki Ruth
Chair, Edmonton Police Commission

Chris Skaggs
Secretary to the Commission