



Guardian of Public Trust

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

MINUTES

**Thursday, March 17, 2022
Edmonton Police Commission Office
Scotia Place, Tower 2
Suite #1803, 10060 – Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
12:08 P.M. to 3:18 P.M.**

PRESENT

(Via Zoom)

Chair John McDougall
Vice-Chair Erick Ambtman
Commissioner Aneela Hussainaly
Commissioner Ashvin Singh
Commissioner Kemi Kufuor-Boakye
Commissioner Jodi Calahoo-Stonehouse
Commissioner Irfan Chaudhry
Councillor Sarah Hamilton, Commissioner
Councillor Anne Stevenson, Commissioner

ABSENT

Commissioner Shazia Amiri

EPC STAFF

(In Office Via Zoom)

Matt Barker, Executive Director

(Via Zoom)

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

GUESTS (Via Zoom)

Edmonton Police Service

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

Chief Operations Officer Enyinnah Okere, Community Safety & Well-being Bureau
 Chief of Staff Justin Krikler, Office of the Chief
 Superintendent Dean Hilton, Operational Support Division
 Inspector Trevor Hermanutz, Police Training Branch
 Inspector Brenda Dalzeil, Equity & Inclusion Branch
 Inspector Christa Pennie, ECOM Branch
 Corps Sergeant Major, Christa Laforce, Office of the Chief
 Staff Sergeant Glen Klose, EFAS & Reintegration Section
 Sergeant Brad Yanick, Early Intervention Unit
 Sergeant Shelby Cech, North East Division
 Executive Director Brian Kisilevich, Supply Services Division
 Executive Director Rob Davidson, Business Development Division
 Executive Director Lori Lorenz, Value & Impact Division
 Executive Director Darren Eastcott, Human Resources Division
 Director Louise Fitzpatrick, Audit & Risk Branch
 Director JoAnn Kirkland, Partnership & Stakeholder Development Branch
 Director Donna Munro, Employee & Organization Wellness Branch
 Director Geoff Crowe, Legal Services Branch
 Supervisor Jeff Awid, Digital Media Unit
 Manager Kalie Anderson, Operational Support Section
 Manager Carlos Cardoso, Professional Standards Branch
 Indigenous Relations Advisor Christie Pace, Community Relations Section
 Administrative Assistant Heather Jacobsen, Office of the Chief

External

Dr. Keli Furman, Registered Psychologist, Edmonton

Members of the Public
 Members of the Media

	Agenda Item	Action By
1.	<u>CALL TO ORDER</u> Chair McDougall called the meeting to order at 12:08 P.M.	
2.	<u>PROTOCOL ITEMS</u>	
2.1	<u>Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory</u> Chair McDougall 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.</i>	

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	<p><i>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></p>	
2.2	<p><u>International Women’s Day – March 8, 2022</u></p> <p>Chair McDougall recognized March 8, 2022 as International Women’s Day, a day to celebrate women’s and girls’ social, economic, cultural, and political achievements. He highlighted the accomplishments and leadership of the Commission’s female members.</p>	
2.3	<p><u>Congratulations to Commissioner Ambtman</u></p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair McDougall congratulated Commissioner Ambtman and his partner in welcoming baby Zayah into their family and wished them many happy and wonder-filled days ahead.</p>	
3.	<p><u>CHAIR REPORT</u></p>	
3.1	<p><u>Officer Involved Shooting</u></p> <p>Chair McDougall reported that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 23, 2022, the Edmonton Police Service was involved in a fatal shooting of a robbery suspect and an innocent bystander who was the resident manager of a Central McDougall apartment complex • The incident is currently under review by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) who is assessing if there were any criminal wrong doings by the officers involved • Following the review, if ASIRT recommends criminal charges be laid against the officers, the process will take over and unfold through the justice system • If no charges are laid, the Edmonton Police Service will conduct an internal investigation to assess if policy, training, or other requirements were met and followed • When completed, the ASIRT and Edmonton Police Service findings will be reported to the Commission 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commission takes its oversight role in these matters seriously and will closely review the reports from ASIRT and the Edmonton Police Service • If the Commission determines that additional information is required, it will explore other avenues for review • The Fatality Review Board will conduct a fatality review of this incident <p>Chief McFee introduced those members of the Service in attendance and available to respond to questions.</p> <p>Chief McFee and Inspector Hermanutz responded to questions.</p>	
4.	<p><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u></p> <p>Members unanimously approved the agenda as presented.</p>	
5.	<p><u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION</u></p> <p>In response to Chair McDougall there were no conflict of interest declarations.</p>	
6.	<p><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p>Members unanimously adopted Consent Agenda items</p> <p>6.1 Edmonton Police Commission Public Meeting Minutes – February 17, 2022</p> <p>6.2 Edmonton Police Service 2021 Attrition Report for Sworn and Civilian Members</p> <p>6.3 Calendar of Upcoming Events</p> <p>6.4 Letter About Problem Properties in the Alberta Avenue District</p>	
7.	<p><u>INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC</u></p> <p>Chair McDougall welcomed members of the public who have come to the meeting to address the Commission.</p> <p>The following member expressed concern with vulnerable detainees being released from the new Northwest Division Station and requested dialogue with the Edmonton Police Service and stakeholders to determine a solution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sam Mason 	

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(Commissioner Kufuor-Boakye and Councillor Hamilton joined the meeting)		
	<p>The following residents of the Alberta Avenue District expressed concern with the violent and illegal activities occurring in their community, and the need for assistance and support to resolve the problems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Christy Morin ➤ Maggie Glasgow ➤ Erick Estrada ➤ Karina Hurtado ➤ Jane Samson <p>Chair McDougall thanked each of the members of the public for bringing forward their concerns. He encouraged them to continue to meet and engage with the Edmonton Police Service and the City and commended them for their passion, dedication, strength and commitment to their community, adding that he hopes assistance can soon be found to resolve the problems that have arisen.</p>	
8.	<u>PRESENTATION(S)</u>	
	<p>8.1 <u>Early Intervention Unit</u></p> <p>Sergeant Yanick advised that he is in charge of the Unit. He presented the report and spoke to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Early Intervention Program - started as a program led by one individual in 2003 before it became a Unit which now has two sworn (Sergeant and Constable) and two non-sworn members (analyst and data processing clerk). The program focuses on personal development • The access to early intervention • How the Unit supports the Edmonton Police Service • Critical incident assistance • Key achievements of the Unit • The Unit's development of itself and others. The Unit continues to learn to keep up with the demands of the Service <p>Chief McFee, Chief of Staff Krikler, Staff Sergeant Klose, Sergeant Yanick, Executive Director Eastcott and Director Munro responded to questions.</p>	
	8.2 <u>Commitment to Action Implementation Plan</u>	

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	<p>Executive Director Lorenz advised that the Service is committed to engage with the community and the Commitment to Action is in line with the Service’s 2020-2022 Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Inspector Dalziel spoke to this initiative which was launched by the Service in September 2020. Community stakeholder feedback was gathered with 64 sessions being held, including in-person, on-line and lunch and learns. The major themes and concepts were gathered in the Community Feedback Report that was released in November 2021.</p> <p>Director Kirkland advised that to address community needs, six priorities were identified. An implementation plan was created to adjust the recommendations from the Community Feedback Report. She spoke to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationship building • Partnership development • Training and professional development • Communication and transparency • Innovation • Community engagement <p>She further advised that the Service’s commitment is ongoing, adding that an interactive road map will be developed and posted on the Service’s website.</p> <p>Chief McFee, Chief Operations Officer Okere, Executive Director Lorenz, Director Fitzpatrick, Director Kirkland and Director Crowe responded to questions.</p>	
	<p>8.3 <u>Black History Month Symposium</u></p> <p>Advisor Pace spoke to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How this unfolded in February • Goals for the symposium • Panelists • Key considerations • Outcomes • Next steps <p>Chief Operations Officer Okere and Advisor Pace responded to questions.</p>	
9.	<u>CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT</u>	
	9.1 <u>Key Issues</u>	

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	<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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GBEF is bringing a video team from the United States at the end of April to look at the proactive things the Service is doing • Last week he and Chief Operations Officer Okere did a podcast on building bridges with a cross-represented group. There was positive community interaction • The March 12th Ertale Lounge shooting • 27 shooting events since 2021 • February 18th firearms offence charges • March 7th recruit class consists of members fluent in many languages, indigenous, racially diverse, and gender diverse • 271 participants in the Youth Recruit Academy • 33 members and civilians away from work with COVID • Staff working from home will return to work April 18th. Continuing to work from home will be looked at on a case-by-case basis • The Service will continue to work with those communities experiencing problem properties • The Telus Community Safety Wellness Accelerator program and the Edmonton Police Foundation received many accolades 	
10.	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
11.	<p><u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u></p>	
11.1	<p><u>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
11.2	<p><u>FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
11.3	<p><u>PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</u></p>	

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	<p>11.3.1 <u>Summary of Compliments</u></p> <p>Commissioner Calahoo-Stonehouse shared six compliments received by the Edmonton Police Service in February.</p>	
<p>12.</p>	<p><u>MEDIA INQUIRIES</u></p> <p>The following members of the media brought forward inquiries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ – Duncan Kinney – Progress Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Asked why his press credentials with the Service were revoked. Director Crowe responded. ➤ – Madeline Smith – Edmonton Sun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Asked why the uptick in gun violence is happening now and if any of those being investigated are linked. Chief McFee and Deputy Chief Brezinski responded. ➤ Asked if individuals were taken into custody with respect to the Ertale Lounge shooting incident, and if so, how many. Deputy Chief Brezinski responded. ➤ – Mack Male – Taproot Publishing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ With Progress Report meeting the definition of the Canadian Association of Journalism, he asked why their press credentials were revoked and the rationale being reviewed, and why the Service’s requirements are more stringent than other institutions. Director Crowe responded. ➤ – Sean Amato - CTV <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Asked how many people were charged in the Ertale Lounge shooting. Deputy Chief Brezinski and Chief McFee responded. 	
<p>13.</p>	<p><u>EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p>There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda.</p>	
<p>14.</p>	<p><u>OTHER BUSINESS</u></p>	
	<p>14.1 <u>Downtown Business Association Meeting</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	

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	Commissioner Singh advised that he was unable to attend the meeting.	
15.	<u>EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSIONER INQUIRIES</u>	
	<p>15.1 In response to questions brought forward by Commission members regarding media access, Director Crowe outlined the three barriers to speaking about any specific case under review regarding media access and credentials, adding that policies and process can be discussed but not specific files. He explained.</p> <p>MOVED Chair McDougall – Vice-Chair Ambtman That the Edmonton Police Service review the “Media Guidelines” policy with respect to how they assess who is deemed accredited media. Thought should be given to setting detailed standards, specifying which code of conduct practices media entities are expected to align with, a review of triggers that would cause a review of credentials, and a detailed process setting out how an entity who is not accredited could request a formal reconsideration.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CARRIED</p> <p>Absent for the Motion: Commissioner Amiri</p> <p>Members agreed that the report come back from the Service as soon as possible.</p>	EPS
	<p>15.2 MOVED Councillor Stevenson – Vice-Chair Ambtman That the Edmonton Police Service provide a report detailing lessons learned with respect to the recent convoy protests. The report should contain, at a minimum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A review and articulation of what policies and procedures worked well, what did not, and what could be improved • Recommended policy changes to strengthen processes that worked well and recommended changes to fill gaps on what did not work well or needs improvement. • Information on the following topics should be covered with respect to how they are addressed in policy, procedure, or process and as they apply to use in major policing events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ traffic and road closure strategies ➤ response to the use of vehicles/heavy machinery in protests ➤ responses to counter protesters 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ responses to displays of hate symbols ➤ responses to harassment of bystanders ➤ responses to significant disruptions of the peace (noise) ➤ public communications during protest events <p>Amendment:</p> <p>MOVED Councillor Stevenson – Vice-Chair Ambtman That the wording for the motion be changed to read <i>“That the Governance Committee undertake to develop the scope of work for lessons learned with the recent convoy protests“.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CARRIED</p> <p>Absent for the Motion: Commissioner Amiri Against the Motion: Commissioner Calahoo-Stonehouse, Commissioner Singh, Commissioner Kufuor-Boakye”</p> <p>Motion as Amended, put:</p> <p>MOVED Councillor Stevenson – Vice-Chair Ambtman That the Governance Committee undertake to develop the scope of work for lessons learned with the recent convoy protests.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CARRIED</p> <p>Absent for the Motion: Commissioner Amiri Against the Motion: Commissioner Calahoo-Stonehouse, Commissioner Singh, Commissioner Kufuor-Boakye”</p>	Governance Committee
	<p>15.3 Councillor Stevenson asked for an update on the concern with recent social media posts and the officers who participated in the convoy protest. Chief McFee responded that this is all being reviewed. The officers involved in the convoy protest are currently on leave without pay.</p>	
16.	<p><u>COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS</u></p> <p>Vice-Chair Ambtman asked the Service if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is an adult release policy • there will be an additional beat team on 118 Avenue <p>Commissioner Calahoo-Stonehouse asked if</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Service could partner with community organizations around assisting with rides for those individuals being released <p>Chief McFee advised that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • additional resources were planned before the Service's decrease in funding but the Service now has to look at other options • those individuals leaving the Detainee Management Unit are offered rides; however some of them decline and the Service has no legal ability to keep them from leaving in whatever manner they choose 	
17.	<p><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 3:18 P.M.</p>	

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission's March 17, 2022 Public Meeting.

John McDougall
 Chair, Edmonton Police Commission

Chris Skaggs
 Secretary to the Commission