



*Guardian of Public Trust*

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

**MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 18, 2021  
Edmonton Police Commission Office  
Scotia Place, Tower 2  
Suite #1803, 10060 – Jasper Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
12:00 P.M. to 3:08 P.M.**

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**PRESENT**

**(In Office Via Zoom)**

Chair Micki Ruth

Councillor Anne Stevenson, Commissioner

**(Via Zoom)**

Vice-Chair John McDougall

Commissioner Laurie Hawn

Commissioner Janet-Sue Hamilton

Commissioner Aneela Hussainaly

Commissioner Erick Ambtman

Commissioner Ashvin Singh

Commissioner Jodi Calahoo-Stonehouse

Commissioner Kemi Kufuor-Boakye

**ABSENT**

Councillor Sarah Hamilton, 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

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 Al Murphy, Community Policing Bureau  
 Chief Innovation & Technology Officer Ron Anderson, Innovation & Technology Bureau  
 Chief Operations Officer Enyinnah Okere, Community Safety & Well-being Bureau  
 Inspector Mitch Flaman, Value & Impact Division  
 Staff Sergeant Michelle Greening, Office of the Chief  
 A/Staff Sergeant Patrick Ruzage, Community Relations Section  
 Sergeant Scott Henning, Office of the Chief  
 Sergeant Ian Robertson, Strategy & Engagement Branch  
 Executive Director Rob Davidson, Business Development Division  
 Executive Director Darren Eastcott, Human Resources Division  
 Executive Director Justin Krikler, Legal & Regulatory Services Division  
 Director Kathryn Reynolds, Financial Management Branch  
 Director Michael James, Corporate Communications Branch  
 Director Louise Fitzpatrick, Audit & Risk Branch  
 Director JoAnn Kirkland, Partnership & Stakeholder Development Branch  
 A/Director Mariam Masud, Strategy & Engagement Branch  
 Audit & Risk Coordinator Steven Duong, Risk Management & Quality Assurance Section  
 Community Relations Coordinator Yasin Cetin, Equity & Inclusion Branch  
 Equity & Inclusion Coordinator Mathew Cheung, Community Relations Section  
 Administrative Assistant Heather Jacobsen, Office of the Chief

**External Organizations**

Jackie Foord, Branch Manager, Social Development, Citizen Services, City of Edmonton  
 Christel Kjenner, Director Affordable Housing & Homelessness, Citizen Services, City of Edmonton

Members of the Public  
 Members of the Media

|     | <b>Agenda Item</b>   | <b>Action By</b> |
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| 1.  | <b><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></b><br><br>Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.  |                  |
| 2.  | <b><u>PROTOCOL ITEMS</u></b>   |                  |
| 2.1 | <b><u>Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory</u></b><br><br>Chair Ruth opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement:<br><br><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</i> |                  |

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|     | <p><i>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><b><u>Welcome Councillor Appointees</u></b></p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth welcomed Councillor appointee Sarah Hamilton to the Commission, adding that Councillor Hamilton, who has been with the Commission since 2017, is returning to the Commission following the civic elections. She congratulated Councillor Stevenson on being elected as a new member to City Council and welcomed her as a Councillor appointee to the Commission. She also thanked Councillor Tim Cartmell for his two years of service to the Commission.</p>           |           |
| 2.3 | <p><b><u>Top 40 Under 40</u></b></p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth acknowledged and congratulated Commissioner Ashvin Singh, Edmonton Police Commission, Chief Operations Officer Enyinnah Okere, Edmonton Police Service, and Michelle Okere, CEO Compassion House on receiving the Top 40 Under 40 2021. She shared their contributions to the City which recognized them for this honor, adding that they, along with the other honorees are great examples of community leaders who give countless hours to make Edmonton a better place to live.</p> |           |
| 2.4 | <p><b><u>Alberta Women in Public Safety (AWIPS) Award Winners</u></b></p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth congratulated Language Services Coordinator Iman Saidi and Superintendent Derek McIntyre on being virtually honored by the AWIPS group for their dedication in working to advance opportunities and outcomes for women working in public safety in Alberta.</p>   |           |

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|    | <p><b>2.5 <u>Commissioner Farewells</u></b></p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth extended a farewell to Commissioner Laurie Hawn and Commissioner Janet-Sue Hamilton who will be leaving the Commission at the end of this year. She thanked them for their contributions and positive impact to the Commission's success, acknowledging Commissioner Hawn's ongoing Commission representation on the REACH board, and Commissioner Hamilton's representation on the ALERT Civilian Advisory Board.</p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Vice-Chair McDougall thanked Chair Ruth, who will also be leaving the Commission at the end of this year, for her service to the Commission. Her background, expertise and passion have had a positive impact and have served the Commission well. Chair Ruth sat as the Commission's Chair for the past two years, as well as Chair of the Canadian Association of Police Governance (where she will remain as a member).</p> |                  |
| 3. | <p><b><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u></b></p> <p>Members unanimously approved the agenda as presented.</p>   |                  |
| 4. | <p><b><u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION</u></b></p> <p>In response to Chair Ruth there were no conflict of interest declarations.</p>  |                  |
| 5. | <p><b><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></b></p> <p>Members unanimously adopted Consent Agenda items</p> <p>5.1 Edmonton Police Commission Public Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2021</p> <p>5.2 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance for Period Ending September 30, 2021</p> <p>5.3 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance for Period Ending September 30</p>   |                  |
| 6. | <p><b><u>PRESENTATIONS</u></b></p>   |                  |
|    | <p><b>6.1 <u>Shelter Standards – Citizen Services – City of Edmonton</u></b></p> <p>Branch Manager Foord introduced the presentation advising that it talks about the work to prepare the standards,</p>   |                  |

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|     | <p>implementation approach and the next steps. She also advised that Council held discussions yesterday around funding and shelters and the creation of a Task Force.</p> <p>Director Kjenner spoke about</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Edmonton Emergency Shelter Services           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Number of people experiencing homelessness</li> <li>➤ Government of Alberta funding for emergency shelters</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Approach to Developing the Standards           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In 2020 City Council asked Administration to develop emergency shelter standards</li> <li>➤ Engagement sessions were conducted</li> </ul> </li> <li>• What Administration Heard           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Key themes coming out of the engagement sessions</li> <li>➤ Emergency shelters are not a long-term resolution for homelessness</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Minimum Emergency Shelter Standards</li> <li>• City Council Discussion – August 2021           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Council adopted Minimum Emergency Shelter Standards</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Next Steps           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Four initiatives</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Branch Manager Foord and Director Kjenner responded to questions.</p> |                  |
| 6.2 | <p><b><u>Commitment to Action – Community Feedback Report</u></b></p> <p>A/Director Masud advised that Community Engagement is one of the Commitment to Action actions for the Service. Robust engagement took place during COVID and immediate steps were taken by the Service. Commitment to Action was launched September 2020. She provided background on the Citizen Perception Survey which was conducted by a marketing company engaged in 2020 by the Service.</p> <p>Inspector Flaman spoke to the Commitment to Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who the Service Heard From           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Community groups</li> <li>➤ How the Service engaged, and the input gathered from the engagement sessions</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Priorities – Across the Spectrum of Engagement           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 6 overarching priorities identified</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Six Co-created Community Solutions Underway</li> </ul>  |                  |

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|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Commitment to Action – What’s Next (4 phases)</li> </ul> <p>A brief “Community Relations Sessions” video was presented.</p> <p>Chief McFee and COO Okere responded to questions.</p>   |                       |
|  | <p><b>6.3 <u>2021 Street Check Report Audit</u></b></p> <p>Coordinator Duong highlighted the agenda for the presentation and spoke to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Audit Overview (street check is defined by Edmonton Police Service policy)             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Objective and scope</li> <li>➤ Background</li> <li>➤ Methodology</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Findings (detailed in the report)</li> <li>• Three Recommendations (First two - accepted by management. Third - partly accepted)</li> </ul> <p>Coordinator Duong responded to questions.</p>  |                       |
|  | <p><b>7. <u>INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC</u></b></p> <p>The following members of the public addressed the Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Kim Beaudin, National Vice-Chief of the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples and a decendent of Treaty 6             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spoke about reconciliation and the police service and the focus of his organization. His organization would like to address, with the Service, the relationship of the indigenous people with the police in their community. He added that what is happening with the justice portfolio in the next five years will impact the Provinces. Chief McFee committed to working with Mr. Beaudin and his organization and to discuss partnering, as they have common interests.</li> <li>○ Mr. Beaudin expressed his interest in presenting to the Commission. Chair Ruth responded that this will be noted.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Heather Steinke-Attia, Lawyer             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spoke about her experience as a lawyer and her work with the police. She also spoke about the failing system of police oversight and public accountability of police misconduct, adding that there is an overwhelming backlog of investigations into serious police misconduct, evidenced by ASIRT’s need for</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p>EPS</p> <p>EPC</p> |

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|    | <p>urgent resource support. She would like to see the Service and the Commission doing something about these serious cases and not waiting for ASIRT. Chief McFee thanked Ms. Steinke-Attia for her comments adding that this will be taken into consideration in the decision-making process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Judith Gale, Bear Clan Beaver Hills           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Spoke about unidentified bodies of over-dose victims within the Service’s system and asked about clarity on the process to identify these victims. Chief McFee spoke to the process and advised that he would have someone from the Service contact Ms. Gale to discuss this further or provide her with information.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  | EPS              |
| 8. | <b><u>CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT</u></b>   |                  |
|    | <p><b>8.1 <u>Key Issues</u></b></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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed Councillor Stevenson to the meeting</li> <li>• Thanked Chair Ruth, Commissioner J-S Hamilton and Commissioner Hawn for the leadership they’ve given the Service, and for their commitment, hard work and long hours put in on the Commission</li> <li>• Shared incidents that resulted in positive outcomes involving           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ EDGE Unit</li> <li>➤ Community Policing</li> <li>➤ West Branch Members</li> <li>➤ HELP Team</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Many of the 31 members in Recruit Training Class #153, come from various cultural communities and speak different languages</li> <li>• The Edmonton Police Service has launched the first Animal Cruelty Investigation Unit in Canada. The Unit is led by Constable Ilka Cunningham and Constable Ted Dyck</li> <li>• Equity &amp; Inclusion Branch recently hired Christie Pace who previously worked at Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society</li> </ul> <p>Commissioner Ambtman asked Chief McFee about the Service’s conversations around use of force. Chief McFee</p> |                  |

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|     | <p>advised that a high standard of training is provided and assured the Commission that the standards are highly defensible. He added that the final phase of Reasonable Officer Response (ROR) is not yet underway. Commissioner Ambtman referred to a study out of the University of Alberta regarding Edmonton and Calgary Police Service members that he will send to the Chief and asked if the Chief could talk about it at the next Commission meeting.</p>                     | EPS              |
| 9.  | <p><b><u>CHAIR REPORT</u></b></p> <p>There was no report.</p>  |                  |
| 10. | <p><b><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT</u></b></p>   |                  |
|     | <p><b>10.1 <u>2022 Proposed Edmonton Police Commission Meeting Schedule</u></b></p> <p>Executive Director Barker presented the proposed meeting schedule.</p> <p><b>MOVED</b> Vice-Chair McDougall – Commissioner Hawn<br/> That the Commission approve the Edmonton Police Commission Proposed 2022 Meeting Schedule as presented.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p>   |                  |
| 11. | <p><b><u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u></b></p>   |                  |
|     | <p><b>11.1 <u>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</u></b></p>   |                  |
|     | <p><b>11.1.1 <u>Edmonton Police Commission Code of Conduct and Breach of Oath of Office or Code of Conduct Policy (Revisions)</u></b></p> <p>Strategic Policy &amp; Research Analyst spoke to the revisions.</p> <p><b>MOVED</b> Commissioner Ambtman –<br/> Commissioner Hawn<br/> That the Commission approve Edmonton Police Commission Policy #4.2.2 and Appendix C – Breach of Oath of Office or Code of Conduct as revised.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p> |                  |



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|                   | <p><b>11.2 <u>FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE</u></b></p> <p>There was no report.</p>   |           |
|                   | <p><b>11.3 <u>PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</u></b></p>  |           |
|                   | <p><b>11.3.1 <u>Summary of Compliments</u></b></p> <p>Commissioner Hawn shared one compliment received by the Edmonton Police Service.</p>  |           |
| <p><b>12.</b></p> | <p><b><u>MEDIA INQUIRIES</u></b></p> <p>The following members of the media brought forward inquiries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Frankline Agbor – Diversity Magazine           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to the Commitment to Action presentation and commended the safety and mental health action. He asked about the major obstacles encountered in the process, how they were overcome and the lesson that can be shared with other organizations, police services and the multi-cultural communities. Chief McFee and COO Okere responded.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Duncan Kinney – Progress Report           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to the study published by academics at McMaster University and the University of Alberta with respect to officers carrying Narcan and asked about the acceptability of the numbers. Chief McFee responded and offered to provide Mr. Kinney with the statistics on how many times Narcan was used this year.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Anna Junker – Edmonton Journal           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to the Street Check Report and asked               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ if the 83% compliance was for the entire audit period</li> <li>➤ if there was insight into a trend with the total numbers decreasing</li> </ul>               Chief McFee and Director Fitzpatrick responded.             </li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Janice Johnson – CBC           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to the Dumas case involving a head injury in 2020 and asked about the officer involved still being on duty in a forward-facing role and not suspended while the case is being investigated. Chief McFee responded.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |           |

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|            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Nicole Stillger – Global Edmonton               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to the Service’s Commitment to Action and asked                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ if efforts to address systemic change are working</li> <li>➤ what the hardest challenges are to making change</li> </ul> </li> </ul>               Chief McFee responded.             </li> <li>➤ Natasha Riebe – CBC               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referred to the shelter standards adopted by the City of Edmonton in the summer and asked what the Service has done to address these with minimal funding. Chief McFee responded.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ Sean Amali - CTV               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Why the increase in hate related crime in 2021 and what can be done to bring the numbers down. Chief McFee and Deputy Chief Brezinski responded.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |                  |
| <b>13.</b> | <p><b><u>EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA</u></b></p> <p>There were no exemptions from the Consent Agenda.</p>  |                  |
| <b>14.</b> | <p><b><u>EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSIONER INQUIRIES</u></b></p> <p>There were no Commissioner inquiries.</p>  |                  |
| <b>15.</b> | <p><b><u>OTHER BUSINESS</u></b></p>   |                  |
|            | <p><b>15.1 <u>Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Update - Commissioner Ruth</u></b></p> <p>Commissioner Ambtman advised that the CAPG held its first Board meeting this week.</p>   |                  |
|            | <p><b>15.2 <u>Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Update - Commissioner McDougall</u></b></p> <p>Vice-Chair McDougall advised that AAPG continues to meet monthly with the Ministry of Justice &amp; Solicitor General.</p>   |                  |
|            | <p><b>15.3 <u>REACH Update – Commissioner Hawn</u></b></p>  |                  |

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|            | Commissioner Hawn reported on the Operational Highlights for November 2021 for the REACH organization.       |                  |
| <b>16.</b> | <b><u>COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS</u></b><br>There were no comments/concerns/commendations. |                  |
| <b>17.</b> | <b><u>ADJOURNMENT</u></b><br>The meeting adjourned at 3:08 P.M.  |                  |

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission's November 18, 2021 Public Meeting.

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Micki Ruth  
Chair, Edmonton Police Commission

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Chris Skaggs  
Secretary to the Commission