



Guardian of Public Trust

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

MINUTES

**Thursday, September 16, 2021
Edmonton Police Commission Office
Scotia Place, Tower 2
Suite #1803, 10060 – Jasper Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
12:02 P.M. to 1:10 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 Erick Ambtman
Commissioner Ashvin Singh
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
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, Corporate Services Bureau

Chief Administrative Officer Enyinnah Okere, Community Safety & Well-being Bureau
 Chief Innovation & Technology Officer Ron Anderson, Innovation & Technology Bureau
 Superintendent Devin Laforce, Investigative Support Division
 Inspector Trevor Hermanutz, Police Training Branch
 Inspector Mike Morgan, Professional Standards Branch
 Staff Sergeant Michelle Greening, Office of the Chief
 Staff Sergeant Dave DeMarco, Training Section
 Sergeant Scott Henning, Office of the Chief
 Sergeant Curtis Rakievich, Legal Application Support Unit
 Detective Mike Elliott, President, Edmonton Police Association
 Executive Director Rob Davidson, Business Development Division
 Executive Director Darren Eastcott, Human Resources Division
 A/Executive Director Lori Lorenz, Strategy & Engagement Branch
 Director Michael James, Corporate Communications
 Director Louise Fitzpatrick, Risk Management
 Administrative Assistant Heather Jacobsen, Office of the Chief

	Agenda Item	Action By
1.	<p><u>CALL TO ORDER</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth called the meeting to order at 12:02 P.M.</p>	
2.	<p><u>PROTOCOL ITEMS</u></p>	
2.1	<p><u>Acknowledgement of Treaty Six Territory</u></p> <p>Commissioner Calahoo-Stonehouse opened the meeting with the following acknowledgement and acknowledged the passing of Elder Roxanne Tootoosis, the work she offered the City of Edmonton and the many indigenous women she mentored in this City. :</p> <p><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></p>	

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	<p>2.2 <u>Edmonton Down Syndrome Society Event</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth advised that October is Edmonton Down Syndrome Awareness Month and took the opportunity, on behalf of the Commission, to thank several Edmonton Police Service officers who took part in the Society's Family Party on August 27th. Northwest Beats Team #1 members Steven Viesel, Lee Schell, Stefanie Engeroff, Marcus Siemens and John Thorpe all participated in the television production "Uniquely Me" which will be aired every Saturday in October across Alberta.</p> <p>Mr. Alan Clay, the Executive Director of the Edmonton Down Syndrome Society, contacted the Commission to pass along his thanks to these officers for attending and wanted them to know that it meant a lot to the attendees.</p>	
	<p>2.3 <u>Edmonton Police Service Commendation for Life-Saving</u></p> <p>Chair Ruth advised that Constables Mark Carson, Jenna Johnson, Ian Strutynski, Dan Tallack, Justin Johnston and Sgt. Darryl Fox were recognized for their courageous efforts in applying their knowledge and skills in first aid. They received the St. John's Ambulance Life-saving Award and the Edmonton Police Service Commendation for Life-Saving this past week for events that took place in 2020.</p> <p>On behalf of the Commission she publicly recognized these officers and thanked them for their service and commitment to others in need.</p>	
	<p>2.4 <u>Congratulations for Councillor Hamilton</u></p> <p>On behalf of the Commission, Chair Ruth congratulated Councillor Sarah Hamilton and her partner Nick on the newest addition to their family – their son, August, who was born August 26th.</p>	
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u></p> <p>Members unanimously approved the agenda as presented.</p>	

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4.	<p><u>CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION</u></p> <p>In response to Chair Ruth there were no conflict of interest declarations.</p>	
5.	<p><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></p> <p>Members unanimously adopted Consent Agenda items</p> <p>5.1 Edmonton Police Commission Public Meeting Minutes – July 22, 2021</p> <p>5.2 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance for Period Ending June 30, 2021</p> <p>5.3 Edmonton Police Commission Budget Variance for Period Ending July 31, 2021</p> <p>5.4 Edmonton Police Service Budget Variance for Period Ending July 31, 2021</p> <p>5.5 Professional Standards Branch Extension Requests–July 2021</p> <p>5.6 Edmonton Police Commission Semi-Annual Report to the Community</p> <p>5.7 Calendar of Upcoming Events</p>	
6.	<p><u>PRESENTATION</u></p>	
	<p>6.1 <u>Vision 2020</u></p> <p>Deputy Chief Derko advised that this initiative started with Chief McFee. The Committee struck is led by Inspector Laforce.</p> <p>Inspector Laforce presented the report and spoke to the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three main objectives, from which 75 recommendations came forward • Successes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Setting a new direction for the Service (from on-going feedback) ➤ Creating an environment for good ideas ➤ Measuring and evaluating the impacts of change • Lessons learned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Approaching change in the future <p>He advised that Vision 2022 is a step towards developing an organizational culture of innovation and agility that encourages change and grows good ideas from within the Service’s membership.</p>	

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6.2	<p><u>Control Tactics Statistics</u></p> <p>Staff Sergeant DeMarco presented the report which focuses on the first six months of 2021.</p> <p>He spoke to the</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Control tactics report process – statistics for January through June 2021 ➤ Total use of force comparison (2019-2021) ➤ Comparative Analysis of Category I and Category II Occurrences ➤ Comparative Analysis of Category I and Category II Control Tactics Reports <p>Inspector Hermanutz explained the difference between Category I and Category II occurrences. He advised that the Edmonton Police Service is the first Service in Canada to capture and categorize use of force events and conduct reviews. Chief McFee added that Inspector Hermanutz co-chairs a national Use of Force Committee.</p> <p>Inspector Hermanutz, Staff Sergeant DeMarco and Chief McFee 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>	
8.1	<p><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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He thanked the City and the Edmonton Police Commission for recognizing the Government of Canada’s legislation declaring September 30th as a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The provisions for this day will be the same as for a statutory holiday • The Service currently has 11 active COVID cases. It will have a plan to increase the number of 	

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	<p>vaccinations. It has communicated to the Unions the steps that will be taken.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still of significant concern is the increase in homicides, shooting events, violence/domestic abuse and catalytic converter thefts • Community Policing & Wellbeing Bureau has had some positive interventions • Liquor store thefts have decreased, particularly in those stores that have controlled entrances 	
9.	<p><u>CHAIR REPORT</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
10.	<p><u>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
11.	<p><u>COMMITTEE REPORTS</u></p>	
	<p>11.1 <u>GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE</u></p>	
	<p>11.1.1 <u>Rescheduling of October 21, 2021 Edmonton Police Commission Meeting</u></p> <p>Executive Director Barker advised that the City Clerk’s Office asked if the Commission would consider moving its October 21st meeting to allow new Council members appointed to the Commission, after the October elections, to attend.</p> <p>MOVED Commissioner Ambtman – Commissioner Hawn That the October 21, 2021 Edmonton Police Commission meeting be rescheduled to October 28, 2021 to accommodate the City Clerk’s request.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	
	<p>11.2 <u>FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE</u></p> <p>There was no report.</p>	
	<p>11.3 <u>PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE</u></p>	

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	<p>11.3.1 <u>Summary of Compliments</u></p> <p>Commissioner Hawn shared four compliments received by the Edmonton Police Service.</p>	
12.	<p><u>MEDIA INQUIRIES</u></p> <p>There were no media inquiries.</p>	
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>	
	<p>15.1 <u>Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Update - Commissioner Ruth</u></p> <p>EPC Chair Ruth advised that the 2021 CAPG Conference will be held on-line. There will be a one-day session September 27, 2021 on First Nations Police Governance. She encouraged all members to attend. She further advised that Commissioner Ambtman's name is being put forward to sit on the CAPG Board as the Commission's representative.</p> <p>She also advised that she has been asked to remain involved with the CAPG after she has completed her term with the Edmonton Police Commission at the end of December 2021.</p>	
	<p>15.2 <u>Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Update - Commissioner McDougall</u></p> <p>Vice-Chair McDougall advised that the AAPG continues to plan for its 2022 conference being held in St. Albert, Alberta. He further advised that the AAPG will be meeting with the Solicitor General at the end of October, 2021.</p>	

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	<p>15.3 <u>REACH Update – Commissioner Hawn</u></p> <p>Commissioner Hawn reported on the Operational Highlights for September 2021 for the REACH organization.</p> <p>He advised that the Commission will require a member to sit as its representative on REACH in the new year, as his term with the Commission will end December 31, 2021. This matter will be included on the agenda for the Commission’s October, 2021 meeting.</p>	EPC
16.	<u>COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS</u>	
	<p>Commissioner Ambtman suggested that the Commission hold a small recognition ceremony for retiring Commission members and find a mechanism that leverages past Commissioner skills in a way useful to the Commission, as currently they leave and there is no way to have them assist the remaining or new Commissioners. Chair Ruth advised that this is being discussed.</p>	EPC/EPC Administration
	<p>Commissioner Hawn thanked the eleven members of the Service who participated in the Glenrose Drive for Rehabilitation. There were 160 attendees and \$182,000 was raised. He will send the information to Chief McFee.</p>	Commissioner Hawn
	<p>Chair Ruth advised that she attended the Recruit Problem Solving presentations September 15, 2021. She commended the presentations as they focused on assisting the community and making changes to better the police service.</p>	
17.	<u>ADJOURNMENT</u>	
	<p>The meeting adjourned at 1:10 P.M.</p>	

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the Commission’s September 16, 2021 Public Meeting.

Micki Ruth
Chair, Edmonton Police Commission

Chris Skaggs
Secretary to the Commission