

**EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING**

**THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015
Heritage Room, Main Floor, City Hall
Edmonton, Alberta
6:10 P.M. – 7:40 P.M.**

PRESENT

*Chair S. Sandhu
Vice-Chair G. McCuaig
Commissioner D. Hudson
Commissioner C. Palmer
Commissioner J. Lilley
Councillor S. McKeen*

*Mr. J. Rodgers
Ms. K. Carlson
Ms. H. Gulyas
Ms. C. Skaggs*

ABSENT

*Commissioner K. Tamaklo
Commissioner K. MacKenzie
Councillor M. Oshry*

GUESTS

*Chief R. Knecht, Edmonton Police Service
Deputy Chief B. Simpson, Edmonton Police Service
Deputy Chief D. Campbell, Edmonton Police Service
Deputy Chief T. Harder, Edmonton Police Service
Inspector A. Murphy, Edmonton Police Service
Inspector C. Tawfik, Edmonton Police Service
Inspector E. Johnson, Edmonton Police Service
Mr. B. Roberts, Edmonton Police Service
Mr. C. Schafer, Edmonton Police Service
Ms. J. Graham, Edmonton Police Service*

*Members of the Public (7)
Members of the Media (9)*

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Shami Sandhu called the meeting to order at 6:10 P.M.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED Commissioner Palmer - Commissioner Hudson

That the Agenda for the Commission's May 21, 2015 Public Meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: Commissioner MacKenzie, Commissioner Tamaklo,
Councillor Oshry

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 16, 2015**

MOVED Commissioner Lilley – Vice-Chair McCuaig

That the Minutes for the Commission's April 16, 2015 regular Public Meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: Commissioner MacKenzie, Commissioner Tamaklo,
Councillor Oshry

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

Items #4.2 and #4.3 were exempted.

MOVED Commissioner Hudson – Commissioner Palmer

That Consent Agenda Items #4.1, #4.4, #4.5 and #4.6 be accepted for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: Commissioner MacKenzie, Commissioner Tamaklo,
Councillor Oshry

5. **PRESENTATION**

5.1 **NSCVE and Counter-Terrorism**

Inspector Chad Tawfik, Intelligence Branch, introduced the National Security and Countering Violent Extremist (NSCVE) and Edmonton Police Service Counter-Terrorism Strategy presentation.

He spoke on the

- *Objectives of the presentation*
- *Organizational alignment*
- *NSCVE Committee*
- *Counter-Terrorism Strategy*
- *Training initiatives*
- *Local events and impacts*

He and Deputy Chief Brian Simpson responded to questions.

Chair Sandhu thanked Inspector Tawfik for his presentation.

(Inspector Tawfik left the meeting)

6. CHIEF'S REPORT

6.1 Annual Policing Plan 2015 First Quarter Report

Mr. Brian Roberts, Executive Director, Office of Strategy Management, introduced Mr. Cal Schafer, Strategic Analyst, Strategic Planning Evaluation and Research Unit, Edmonton Police Service.

Mr. Schafer presented the report and spoke on each of the Annual Policing Plan initiatives and their target status.

(Councillor McKeen left the meeting)

Deputy Chief Tony Harder and Mr. Roberts responded to questions.

Chair Sandhu thanked Mr. Schafer for the report.

(Councillor McKeen rejoined the meeting)

(Commissioner Palmer left the meeting)

6.2 Downtown Revitalization Policing and Transit Policing

Mr. Roberts introduced Ms. Joanne Graham, Director, Business Intelligence Competency Centre, Edmonton Police Service.

Mr. Roberts spoke to the goal with respect to downtown revitalization and transit policing.

(Commissioner Palmer rejoined the meeting)

Ms. Graham spoke on the research conducted, the impact of proposed developments, the impact of licensed establishments on policing, and all Edmonton Police Service dispatched activity from March 31, 2014 to April 1, 2015.

Mr. Roberts spoke to the policing resources approved by Council.

Deputy Chief Harder provided comments on the model being embarked on. The Service is developing relationships and meeting with stakeholders in the downtown core. Positions have been posted City wide and will be in place this fall.

Chair Sandhu thanked Mr. Roberts and Ms. Graham for the presentation.

6.3 Key Issues

- 1. Chief Rod Knecht advised that three recruit classes of forty officers each are on target for 2015, along with two experienced officer classes of nine officers in the first class and ten in the second. In 2016 there will be four recruit classes of forty officers each, and two experienced officer classes (spring and fall) of fifteen officers in each class.*

ACTION BY

2. *At the request of Chair Sandhu , Chief Knecht provided an update on Project Watch. He advised that there are ongoing investigations with respect to criminal aspects. One of the motels in question was closed down. The Service is getting support from the provincial and municipal governments. It is working with the private and public sector agencies. Deputy Chief Harder added that the program is moving along positively.*

MOVED Vice-Chair McCuaig – Commissioner Lilley

That the Commission send a letter, under the signature of the Chair, to the responsible provincial cabinet Minister asking that the lack of suitable social housing in Edmonton, particularly as highlighted by the Edmonton Police Service Project Watch, be immediately addressed, and request a meeting with the Minister as soon as practicable.

EPC

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Absent for the Motion: Commissioner MacKenzie, Commissioner Tamaklo, Councillor Oshry

3. *The Service did a comprehensive study of its Special Duty Policing program. Inefficiencies were determined and the program was revamped to make it more efficient.*

Vice-Chair Gary McCuaig suggested that the Service let the public know, through the media, that the Service's program does not operate like that of other police agencies. Chief Knecht agreed.

(BREAK 7:25pm – 7:30pm)

7. INPUT FROM THE PUBLIC

Chair Sandhu welcomed members of the public to address the Commission with a five minutes time limit. He advised that their comments will not be recorded either through minute-taking or audio/video recording devices; however, the Commission will accept any submissions.

EPC

There was no input from the public.

8. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sandhu thanked the Service and Commission staff for organizing the Citizen Awards Ceremony that was held May 20, 2015.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

There was no report.

9.2 FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

There was no report.

9.3 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Vice-Chair McCuaig advised that of the extension requests brought forward to the Commission for approval at its March 19, 2015 closed meeting

- *Extensions were not required on seven files*
- *Extension times were amended on thirteen files*
- *Quorum was lost for one file*
- *The changed time extensions and the remaining time extensions requested by Professional Standards Branch in its April, 2015 report, prepared for the Commission's May 21, 2014 Closed Meeting, were granted by the Commission as set out in the attached table "May 2015 PSB Extension Requests"*

He advised that the Professional Standards Committee is encouraged by the trends seen in the report.

10. EXEMPTIONS FROM CONSENT AGENDA

4.2 EPC 2015 Budget – Q1 Report

Commissioner Cathy Palmer no longer had a question regarding this item.

4.3 Edmonton Police Service Financial Results for the Period Ending March 31, 2015

In response to Commissioner John Lilley's question on the specialized vehicle (John Deere Loader) noted in the report, the Service advised that it is used to move the vehicles in the Service's vehicle storage lot.

11. EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSIONER INQUIRIES

There were no Edmonton Police Commissioner inquiries.

12. OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Update – Commissioner Cathy Palmer

Commissioner Palmer advised that the issues raised at the recent CAPG 2015 Advocacy Days she attended in Ottawa, are outlined in the document she provided to Commission members earlier this week. She added that, following the Advocacy Days, CAPG had a productive meeting with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Police Association.

She reminded members of the 2015 CAPG Conference being held in August, 2015 in Toronto.

She also spoke about the CAPG's positive webinar series with respect to governance training for Police Commissions.

12.2 Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG) Update – Commissioner Derek Hudson

Commissioner Derek Hudson advised that the AAPG Board did not meet this month. The AAPG is looking forward to establishing a relationship with the new Minister.

13. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/CONCERNS/COMMENDATIONS

Commissioner Lilley commended the Citizen Awards Ceremony as being an excellent opportunity for citizens to be recognized for connecting with the Edmonton Police Service.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M.

CERTIFIED as being a record of the matters dealt with at the May 21, 2015 Public Meeting.

*Shami Sandhu, Chair
Edmonton Police Commission*

*Ms. Chris Skaggs
Secretary to the Commission*