



**OPEN LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
March 26, 2014
4:00 p.m. – Lethbridge Council Chambers**

In Attendance

Sandy McKay, Chair	A/Chief Catonio
Adam Zaroni, Vice-Chair	Inspector Ascroft
Councillor Sherrie Duda (Arrived 4:45 pm)	
Councillor Liz Iwaskiw	Inspector Dobirstein
Councillor Ryan Parker	A/Inspector Anderson
Lee Cutforth	Dan Paskuski
Peter Deys	Kristen Harding
D. Jean Valgardson	Brenda Kenward
Marion Wiebe	Monica Elder (Recording Secretary)

Regrets

**Chief McKenzie
Inspector Kaye**

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order by Chair, Sandy McKay, at 4:02 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
 - Addition to agenda
 - 6(g) Reaccreditation – A/Chief Catonio
 - **Motion by Councillor Iwaskiw, Seconded by Mr. Cutforth that the agenda be approved as amended.....Carried.**
- 3) Enquiries by the Public
 - Mr. Merv Hudemka asked if there were any statistics available on distracted driving use of phones and seatbelt use – are they still an issue?
 - Inspector Ascroft advised distracted driving continues to be a problem. He will provide stats at next meeting.
- 4) Minutes of the February 26, 2014 Open Meeting
 - a) Approval of Minutes
 - **Motion by Mr. Zaroni, Seconded by Mrs. Valgardson that the minutes be approved as circulated.....Carried.**

- 5) Business Arising
- a) ALERT Update – A/Inspector Anderson
- CFSEU Lethbridge remains actively engaged in tackling the organized crime problems within our communities and the surrounding region.
 - During the last 30 days, CFSEU Lethbridge executed 3 search warrants in the City of Lethbridge.
 - Total of 7 persons were charged with 22 criminal offenses. 9 of those were drug related and remaining under the Criminal Code.
 - Charges ranged from possession of illicit drugs for the purpose of trafficking, trafficking in illicit drugs, as well as possession of proceeds of crime, possessing a firearm contrary to a court order and several breaches of judicial interim release conditions.
 - Total amount of drugs seized was 132 grams of cocaine and 76 grams of marihuana, total of \$7,160 of cash proceeds of crime were seized. Several weapons were seized.
- b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
- Demolition and renovation is currently underway at the old courthouse. Training and Human Resources will be moving in with other units, moving in as their space is renovated. Ultimately approximately 40 staff will work there for the duration of the expansion.
 - Collision Reporting Centre will move into the former tourist information building on the brewery hill. This will reduce parking/traffic congestion at headquarters.
 - Development permit has been submitted and almost ready for approval.
 - First tender package is complete for concrete and will be released next week.
 - Still concerned with parking and actively working to mitigate the shortage.
- c) Update as per Pursuit Policy – Sandy McKay
- Policy Manual was amended to reflect annual reporting.
- 6) New Business
- a) Community Survey – Inspector Ascroft
- Inspector Ascroft provided power point presentation on 2 surveys. Citizen Society Research Lab conducted phone interviews of 607 randomly selected adult Lethbridge and Coaldale residents in February 2014. In 2013, a total of 116 residents of Lethbridge and Coaldale responded to the online community survey.
 - On 2013, the following themes were consistent between the online community survey and the survey conducted by Dr. Faron Ellis

- The majority of respondents indicated that they believe the LRPS is doing a good job policing their community,
 - Respondents believe that LRPS is doing a good job meeting expectations,
 - Attitudes and behaviours of members – residents reported that most officers are polite and respectful when conducting their duties,
 - Perceptions of safety – a vast majority of residents felt safe or very safe in their neighborhood. The majority of respondents also indicated that they feel safe in downtown Lethbridge.
 - Police website survey will be reviewed to determine if it is useful and likely will be eliminated in 2014.
- b) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
 - Calls for Service for January (updated) and February were distributed.
 - Inspector Ascroft pointed out Selected Crimes are from Niche system (Records Management System) while Top 5 Calls from CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch).
 - There were some discrepancies in the reports – Inspector Ascroft will check with analyst and report back.
- c) Financial Report – A/Chief Catonio
 - Report by Object for Quarter Ending December 31, 2013 was distributed in packages.
 - LRPS is in a surplus position of \$96,000 at year end due to higher than anticipated revenues of \$119,000 for Provincial program funding related to a member's secondment which extended beyond the initial expiry date, unexpended wages totaling \$109,000 related to 4 maternity leaves and retirements (historically LRPS has experienced 4 retirements annually, in 2013 there were 9 retirements and 2 resignations), and other operating accounts (Fleet Services, equipment, cellular telephone, travel, training, legal services etc) being in a deficit position of \$132,000.
- d) Chief's Contract – Sandy McKay
 - Mr. McKay has received Chief McKenzie's Extension Agreement and will forward a copy to Commission members.
- e) Policy re Jurisdiction – Sandy McKay
 - LRPS policy dictates we have the opportunity to provide policing services outside our jurisdiction when requested. Chief is obliged to advise the Chair of Commission of this request. Previous Police Commission manuals allowed police officers to have that jurisdiction as long as the Chief notified the Chair. The new Commission policy manual does not provide for that service.

- o Discussion on whether Commission is authorized to deny outside jurisdiction. A/Chief Catonio advised members are peace officers for the Province of Alberta. LRPS has previously sent members to investigations and members routinely leave the city for surveillance or interviews. When RCMP have requested investigations, they have paid and LRPS resources are good.
 - o Inspector Dobirstein also pointed out we have MOUs in place with other Services such as Medicine Hat. When needed we call them and they call us in return.
 - o Mrs. Wiebe volunteered to update the Policy Manual so the language is consistent with the LRPS Policy.
 - o Tabled to April meeting.
- f) Report on Search for New Chief – Sandy McKay
- o Process is ongoing – tabled until next meeting.
- g) Re-Accreditation – A/Chief Catonio
- o LRPS had onsite assessment in December of 2013. Recently Chief McKenzie, Deputy Chief Catonio, Staff Sergeant Borbandy and two Accreditation Coordinators attended a CALEA conference and were awarded accreditation.
 - o Mr. McKay congratulated LRPS staff on this award.
- 7) Enquiries by the Police Commission
- Mr. Deys enquiry was in regards to a Diamond City resident who was charged with fraud by LRPS – why not RCMP?
 - A/Chief Catonio advised some of the victims are residents of Lethbridge. It is not unusual when a victim reports to a police service, that service would initiate the investigation, become the lead investigator and begin to identify victims elsewhere.
- 8) Enquiries by the Public
- Mr. Merv Hudemka enquired what Coalhurst's jurisdiction is. It is in the RCMP jurisdiction.
- 9) Meeting Adjournment
- **Motion by Councillor Iwaskiw to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 p.m.Carried.**