



**OPEN LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES
March 25, 2015
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers
4:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

**Sandy McKay, Chair
Lee Cutforth, Vice-Chair
Councillor Ryan Parker
Peter Deys
D. Jean Valgardson
Marion Wiebe
Carmen Hellawell (Recording Secretary)**

**Chief Robert Davis
Deputy Chief Colin Catonio
Inspector Bill Anderson
Inspector Tom Ascroft
Inspector Jason Dobirstein
Kristen Harding
Patrick Balfour
Staff Sergeant Chadsey**

Regrets

**Councillor Liz Iwaskiw
Adam Zaroni**

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order by Chair, Sandy McKay, at 4:04 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
 - **Motion by Mr. Deys, Seconded by Mrs. Valgardson that the agenda be approved as circulated.....Carried**
- 3) Enquiries by the Public
 - Merv Hudemka, Lethbridge, inquired about the replacement of police vehicles from Crown Vic model, asked about the testing of vehicles
 - Insp. Ascroft explained that LRPS will mainly sole source FORD vehicles for now, including pick-up trucks, which should be in operation in the next few weeks. Calgary Police Service using similar vehicles
- 4) Approval of Minutes of February 25, 2015 Open Meeting
 - **Motion by Mrs. Wiebe, Seconded by Mr. Cutforth that the minutes be approved as circulated.....Carried**
- 5) Business Arising
 - a) ALERT Update – Inspector Anderson
 - o Presented March 2015 monthly report for Lethbridge Region ALERT

- Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit focused on alarming rise in use of fentanyl within the Lethbridge Region, particularly the Blood Reserve. Drug having a significant impact in communities across Alberta
 - Last month over 350 fentanyl pills in Lethbridge were seized
 - Since April 2014, ALERT has seized more than 14,000 fentanyl pills from across the province
 - CFSEU will continue education, prevention and enforcement activities around the abuse of fentanyl
 - Insp. Anderson answered questions from Commission
- b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
- Project is on time and on budget
 - Contractor was able to take advantage of good weather
 - Interior renovations appear to be moving steadily forward
 - Decking is in place on the addition, main level concrete floor will be poured shortly
 - Quartermaster area is on target for completion and occupancy in early May, as is the renovated Exhibits area
 - Front counter/reception area is on target for late June
 - Staff morale regarding the project is high and there have been very few problems from a business continuity perspective
- 6) New Business
- a) Subject Behaviour Officer Response 2014 Report – Insp. Dobirstein
- Staff Sergeant Chadsey presented the SBOR 2014 Report
 - Previously named Annual Use of Force Report, changed due to provincial standardization of use of force
 - SBOR form is submitted through officer with oversight by supervisor, for data gathering and analysis
 - Small percentage of individuals arrested had force used and officers conducted themselves in a way not to incur injury to themselves
 - In most cases over five year span, absence of injury to subjects and officers is improving - a positive trend
 - Officers following through on their training incredibly well
 - New training model being used to reduce costs and increase quality with 90 minute sessions over 10 months
 - S/Sgt. Chadsey answered questions from Commission
 - Loss of life pertaining to wildlife - due to collisions
 - Decline in CEWs due to LRPS aligning with Solicitor General guidelines. S/Sgt. Chadsey to report back to Commission regarding change in reporting
 - Officers deal with “persons in crisis”. Work in progress regarding training, currently have Crisis Intervention Training, online training
 - Acknowledgement provided to LRPS from Commission regarding total calls for service vs. SBOR reports
 - Mr. McKay thanked S/Sgt. Chadsey for his presentation
- b) Fail to Stop 2014 Report – Inspector Ascroft
- Previously named Pursuit Report
 - Total of 30 Fail to Stop Reports - no pursuit initiated
 - Only three pursuits last year, one driver sustained minor injuries
 - Spike belts were not deployed in 2014

- Question relating to use of spike belts. LRPS will still use them but circumstances did not arise to initiate use
 - Less pursuits occurring but LRPS will continue pursuit option
 - Mr. McKay thanked Insp. Ascroft for his presentation
- c) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
- Calls for Service for February were distributed
 - As requested at last meeting, three year data added where applicable
 - Calls for service increasing, 243 more calls than in 2013
 - Collisions for February down
 - Step initiative for February is on distracted driving
 - Nothing unusual regarding assaults
- d) Financial Report – Chief Davis
- As Mr. Balfour compiles the financials, was turned over to him
 - Financial information for 2015 not available due to City of Lethbridge March 30 cutoff. Mr. Balfour hopeful to have quarterly summary in April
 - Financial information for December was provided to Commission
 - Mrs. Valgardson inquired about the need to keep reporting at the start of each year if information is not available, rather provide first quarter report in April
 - **ACTION: Mr. Balfour to submit a quarterly report next month and Commission review their bylaws to verify whether quarterly reporting can be provided in future**
 - Previous discussions about changing the layout of reporting. Mr. Balfour is working on this, will have a new version next meeting
 - Explanation provided regarding RMU deficit
- 7) Enquiries by the Police Commission
- Mrs. Valgardson inquired about the snake crossing sign on Bridge Drive. Since snakes are a protected species, what is the advice given?
 - Deputy Chief Catonio explained that laws are in place to protect wild life from those who want to intentionally harm
- 8) Enquiries by the Public
- None
- 9) Meeting Adjournment
- **Motion by Mr. Deys to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 p.m.**