



**OPEN LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 30, 2015
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers
4:00 p.m.**

In Attendance

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

**Chief Robert Davis
Deputy Chief Colin Catonio
Inspector Bill Anderson
Inspector Tom Ascroft
Inspector Jason Dobirstein
Kristen Harding
Brenda Kenward**

Regrets

Councillor Ryan Parker

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
 - The meeting was called to order by Chair Sandy McKay at 4:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
 - **Motion by Mr. Deys, Seconded by Mrs. Valgardson that the agenda be approved as circulated.....Carried**
- 3) Presentation
 - Chief Davis presented a Chief's Commendation to Constable Chris Stock for his actions in the saving of a man's life
 - Chief Davis presented a Chief's Commendation to Deputy Chief Colin Catonio for his actions in the saving of a man's life
- 4) Enquiries by the Public
 - Mr. Merv Hudemka asked about the enforcement of the 72 hour street parking bylaw and the tagging process. He notices vehicles parked for weeks, months, years and nothing seems to be done. He has been told that City of Lethbridge Bylaw does not have the resources to proactively enforce the bylaw.
 - Inspector Ascroft explained that LRPS enforces this bylaw after City Bylaw operating hours. As this is not deemed as a high priority, it is enforced through complaints.

- Councillor Iwaskiw explained that the City counts on neighbours to report these situations, then follow up action will be taken. Discussion ensued regarding the enforcement of snow routes due to the Snow Route Bylaw.
 - Mr. Hudemka asked whether there have been any drug reports from the London Road Neighbourhood. Inspector Anderson explained that the sale or use of illicit drugs is occurring throughout the city and there is no information that it is more of a concern there than in other areas of the city.
 - Mr. Kelly James has been involved in the Lethbridge Area Search and Rescue for the past 18 years. He shared how his team has been working to help police and shared a few scenarios. They are well known in the policing world and wonders if they can add more value to the city. They know they are not the law and would walk away if something serious was to occur. Inspector Ascroft shared that LRPS appreciates their work with missing persons and crime scenes. As far as crime prevention, being eyes and ears is appreciated. LRPS will keep their organization in mind and Chief Davis thanked Mr. James for their assistance over the years.
- 5) Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2015 Open Meeting
- **Motion by Councillor Iwaskiw, Seconded by Mr. Cutforth that the minutes be approved as circulated.....Carried**
- 6) Business Arising
- None
- 7) Standing Items
- a) ALERT Update – Inspector Anderson
- Presented July, August and September 2015 monthly reports for Lethbridge Region ALERT
 - Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU) intercepted a shipment of fentanyl pills along with cocaine, heroin and methamphetamine destined for Lethbridge. Another incident relating to the interception of a resident returning to Lethbridge with illicit and prescription drugs, which included the seizure of several weapons. CFSEU remains active in respect to several on-going investigations
 - Lethbridge ICE assisted with an investigation involving a Medicine Hat man and have participated in a lengthy investigation which focused on an Albertan involved in child exploitation. Lethbridge ICE continues to advance an investigation regarding a Lethbridge resident
 - Chair McKay thanked Inspector Anderson for his report
- b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
- Project remains on budget and close to on time
 - Quartermaster and Exhibit areas have been completed and turned over to us
 - Front Counter/Reception area is nearing completion and it should be turned over in the next few weeks
 - Framing and drywalling is in various stages of completion on all three levels of addition and on target for completion December/January
 - Backfilling around addition is underway, then construction of prisoner sally port will begin
 - Parkade is expected to be ready for use by the end of October, as will some of the parking lots

- Once the addition is completed, demolition and renovation of remaining original station will begin
 - Time frame for completion is December of 2016 or early January 2017
- c) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
- Calls for Service for June, July and August was distributed in agenda package
 - Inspector Ascroft provided highlights from the reports
 - Discussion about the June Step Initiative of commercial/passenger vehicle safety and the number of vehicles that had violations. Mrs. Valgardson asked how often do these inspections happen? Inspector Ascroft advised there is a full-time officer dedicated and the inspection typically occurs in June. The officer works in partnership with other communities as well.
- d) Financial Report – Mrs. Kenward
- Reporting period January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2015, was distributed in agenda package
 - Mr. Zanoni asked about the high value listed under Legal Expenditures. Mrs. Kenward stated LRPS will be undertaking forecasting and that will be reviewed
 - Chair McKay explained the reason there is a surplus is due to outstanding positions that have not been filled and the budget for next year is based on some retirements. Chief Davis explained that there are a number of vacancies but a number of them are short term for various reasons which he could further explain in-camera
- 8) New Business
- a) Deu Raj Puri Fatality Inquiry – Chief Davis
- Letter from LRPS legal counsel Kubik & Company indicates there were no recommendations that came from this fatality inquiry
 - Chief Davis explained if best practices stem from fatality inquiries, LRPS will review and incorporate them
- b) CAPG Conference – Chair McKay
- Chair McKay reported that the Canadian Association of Police Governance Conference was held in Markham, Ontario in late August
 - Conference Theme - “Get Connected”
 - Discussions ranged from victim’s rights, diversity, missing and murdered aboriginal women, radicalization, round table discussions, CAPG Annual Meeting, afternoon breakout sessions
 - Overall themes discussed were similar to what was discussed in Halifax the year prior. Suggestion to make sure there is value in attending in future
 - Mr. Deys shared that in some sessions you will get value, some not. He enjoyed the breakout session on managing social media risk and the benefits vs. risks. Came away wondering if LRPS has media policy/training for recruits
 - Discussion about involvement with Safety City
 - Mrs. Valgardson enjoyed the session on policing in a diverse community with a focus on mental illness where officers are communicating with the mentally ill before there is a crisis situation. On-line training developed with police college. Mrs. Valgardson wonders if this occurs with our officers

- Session on collaboration and partnerships, extremism, radicalization – oversight role of the Commission is paramount to changing what happens in our part of the world
 - Phrase heard at conference - Role of Commission is not to make the Chief happy, the role of the Commission is to make the Chief successful
- 9) Enquiries by the Police Commission
- None
- 10) Enquiries by the Public
- Mr. Merv Hudemka wondered if LRPS is using body cameras. Inspector Ascroft reported that LRPS is not using body worn cameras but have cameras in the traffic cars. Mr. Hudemka explained of a recent situation while he was in Calgary.
- 11) Meeting Adjournment
- **Motion by Mr. Zanoni to adjourn the meeting at 5:07 p.m.**