



## LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION

### OPEN LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 30, 2016  
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers  
4:00 p.m.

#### In Attendance

Lee Cutforth, Chair

Peter Deys, Vice-Chair

Councillor Liz Iwaskiw

Victoria Chester

Simon Griffiths

D. Jean Valgardson

Marion Wiebe

Carmen Hellowell (Recording Secretary)

Chief Robert Davis

Inspector Bill Anderson

Inspector Tom Ascroft

Inspector Jason Dobirstein

Kristen Harding

Brenda Kenward

#### Regrets

Councillor Joe Mauro

- 1) Swearing In of New Member Councillor Liz Iwaskiw
  - Chair Cutforth swore in new Lethbridge Police Commission member Councillor Liz Iwaskiw
- 2) Meeting Called to Order
  - The meeting was called to order by Chair Cutforth at 4:03 p.m.
- 3) Presentation – Chief’s Certificate of Commendation to Constable Marco Pagliericci
  - Chief Davis presented Constable Pagliericci with a Chief’s Certificate of Commendation for performing CPR which saved a man’s life
- 4) Approval of Agenda
  - **Motion by Peter Deys, Seconded by Victoria Chester that the agenda be approved as circulated....Carried**
- 5) Approval of Minutes of October 26, 2016 Open Meeting
  - **Motion by Marion Wiebe, Seconded by Jean Valgardson that the minutes be approved as circulated....Carried**

- 6) Business Arising
  - There was no business arising
  
- 7) Standing Items
  - a) ALERT Update – Inspector Anderson
    - Presented November report for Lethbridge Region ALERT, including the following highlights:
      - Provided information to Calgary which assisted in the recovery of 2,771 Fentanyl pills and cash at a Calgary residence resulting in the fourth largest Fentanyl pill seizure to date, residents were charged
      - Conducted an investigation into the trafficking of illicit drugs in a Lethbridge residence near an elementary school
      - ALERT Lethbridge and LPS Tactical Unit executed search warrants on two Lethbridge residents where occupants were believed to be in possession of firearms. Cocaine and money seized, four individuals charged
      - ICE Unit remains active and will be wrapping up several investigations in the weeks to follow
  
  - b) Building Expansion Update – Inspector Ascroft
    - Renovations to the second floor essentially complete
    - Demolition of the old cells complete
    - Victim Services scheduled to move into their new offices this week
    - Construction in new Patrols area underway, last major area of renovation
    - Utilizing basement classrooms and combative room for in-service and R2MR training
    - Furniture to be delivered and installed in December for the Records area who will move back when completed
  
  - c) Calls for Service – Inspector Ascroft
    - Calls for Service for October distributed in agenda package and Inspector Ascroft provided highlights from the report:
      - Down 2400 calls over the same period last year. Factor could be having found better ways to deal with calls (e.g. alarm calls)
      - Top 5 calls are typical, many of the traffic violations are parking complaints, planning to look for better ways to handle those calls
      - STEP initiative – Occupant Restraints with 25 violation tickets
    - Questions from Commission:
      - Peter Deys asked for LPS thoughts as Calgary has noticed a decrease in distracted driving violations but it doesn't necessarily mean fewer people are driving distracted, rather hiding it better. Inspector Ascroft thought the comments fair but LPS does write a lot of distracted driving tickets and the new LPS truck assists in catching those trying to hide it.
  
  - d) Monthly Compliments – Chief Davis
    - October Compliments: 3 Citizen/External, 4 Community Partners, 1 Internal

- 8) New Business
- a) Truth & Reconciliation Commission – Chief Davis
    - As this information was at the request of Councillor Mauro who was absent, this was deferred to the next meeting
  
  - b) CALEA Presentation – Inspector Anderson
    - Acknowledged LPS staff members Jodie Kelly, Accreditation Coordinator, and Erin Lix, Policy Analyst, for their work in organizing information required for CALEA Accreditation
    - Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) is a credentialing authority with the primary mission to accredit public safety agencies, law enforcement agencies, training academies, communications centres and public safety agencies
    - Voluntary program which allows agencies to pursue excellence
    - Explained the goals of CALEA, major memberships
    - The 484 standards address six major law enforcement areas
    - Lethbridge Police Service has been accredited since 1999 and is scheduled for their seventh re-accreditation on-site assessment December 4 -7, 2016
    - Explained the accreditation process, the Assessment Team and the phone in and public information session that will occur during the on-site visit
    - On-site Assessment Team can make recommendations if LPS is not compliant with certain processes/procedures, common to find some deficiencies as it is a very intensive review
    - Encouraged Commission to take part or encourage the public to participate in the re-accreditation process
    - Questions from Commission:
      - Confirmation that LPS references CALEA accreditation on letterhead
      - Advertising for this re-accreditation process included social media, newspaper, library, university, college, as examples
      - Suggested messaging on Whoop-Up Drive, Insp. Anderson will look into
      - Congratulated LPS on being re-accredited every three years
      - Confirmation that if the Lethbridge Police Commission wanted to attend the public information session they are more than welcome
      - Insp. Anderson explained that not many police services in Canada are CALEA accredited as it is a voluntary process, a lot of work and commitment but very beneficial
    - Chair Cutforth provided thanks for the presentation and work involved
  
  - c) Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE) Presentation – Constable Richmond
    - ICE Units investigate the sexual exploitation of children through the internet and works to reduce harm through public education and prevention programs
    - Unit has two teams operating in the Province – northern Alberta Team and Southern Alberta ICE Team
    - ICE Units investigate any Internet facilitated child sexual abuse, child luring and child sex trade/tourism

- Comprised of RCMP, Calgary Police Service, Medicine Hat Police Service and Lethbridge Police Service
  - Eight specialized investigators, seven embedded Qualified Digital Forensic Analysts, five dedicated Specialized Prosecutors from Alberta Justice
  - Explained current trends, provided an example of file geography and the timeline of a file, covert investigations, assistance provided to ALERT, 2014 and 2015 statistics and what is currently being done in 2016
  - Questions from Commission:
    - Regarding coping strategies, every six months there is a psychological assessment and there is high peer support
    - With only one of the eight investigators being from Lethbridge Commission noted it is obvious there could be additional assistance placed in this capacity. Cst. Richmond agreed but advised many areas within LPS could use more officers. Files are triaged as best as they can
- d) Australia Conference – Chief Davis
- Asked to partake in two conferences held this past November as a result of a professional relationship developed with the Queensland Police in 2010, with all costs sponsored by three agencies (Queensland Police, Neighbourhood Watch Queensland, Australian Institute of Criminology)
  - Keynote and panel participant at the Crime Prevention and Communities held in Brisbane Australia November 3 & 4
  - Conference was aimed at crime prevention and bringing science/academia into partnership with police to allow evidence based decisions – scientific data to augment operational police efforts
  - Only Canadian speaker and there were academics from all over Australia, the UK and New Zealand and attendees were from police agencies in Australia and New Zealand
  - Shared practitioner’s experiences of what has worked and not worked with policing Aboriginal populations both on reserve policing and perspectives from a municipal setting
  - Visited aboriginal communities in the area and learned of similarities with reserves in Canada with the challenges they are facing
  - First day was keynote speaker, second day on the academic panel – issues identical yet Canada is more progressive in some areas and vice versa
  - Chief’s contribution was based on his experience in aboriginal populations both urban and on reserve
  - Apparent that both governments acknowledge that we cannot continue to ignore inquiries, can’t have another inquiry where the recommendations are not implemented
  - Looks forward to working on Truth & Reconciliation regarding the true need for engagement of the aboriginal community for Commission, and the greater Corporation of the City of Lethbridge, which will help guide the police service into the future

- Absolute need for inclusion – Chief’s belief is to attract and retain aboriginal police officers for true inclusion as they can bring the understanding that no textbook can explain
- Takeaways from the conference were aimed at the integration of science with the police community
- Officers must embrace academic rigor in decision making for evidence based decisions
- We can no longer rely on anecdotal stories or the practices of 10, 20, 30 years ago. Our population changes and so must our response
- Chief gave example of over laying data with geographical data and targeting enforcement efforts right down to the length of deployment
- Need to focus on the de-escalation piece in situations, explained differences between Canada, Australia and USA
- LPS is currently looking at evidence based decision making with a consultant and Chief is encouraged where we are as a police service
- Keynote speaker at the 2016 Neighbourhood Watch Queensland Conference November 5, 2016 in Brisbane
- Takeaway for the Chief was how Queensland Police genuinely support Neighbourhood Watch and thereby increase their capacity and ability to serve community
- Spoke of his past success in implementing Crime Stoppers into remote communities where he worked
- Goal is to establish crime prevention strategies in aboriginal communities
- Emphasized the need for genuine trust, mutual respect, support and two way communication
- Differences in ways of doing things doesn’t mean it is wrong or better but different and we need to find ways to get to the common goal
- Ended trip by participating in patrolling the Islands in the Torres Strait to see how their version of remote communities compares to Canada

9) Enquiries by the Police Commission

- There were no enquiries from the Police Commission

10) Enquiries by the Public

- Merv Hudemka
  - Confirmation that LPS has a requirement to report discharge of service firearms
  - Wondered if there is any form of harassment within the police service and if that would affect accreditation. Insp. Ascroft advised the accreditation process would ensure there is policy to deal with any harassment if there was any

11) Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.