



## LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION

### OPEN LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, June 27, 2018  
City of Lethbridge Council Chambers  
4:00 p.m.

#### In Attendance

Peter Deys, Chair  
Simon Griffiths, Vice-Chair  
Mayor Chris Spearman  
Councillor Jeff Coffman  
Victoria Chester  
Dawna Coslovi  
Rachel Hopf  
D. Jean Valgardson  
Robert Van Spronsen  
Carmen Hellawell (Recording Secretary)

Acting Chief Scott Woods  
Inspector Bill Anderson  
Inspector Tom Ascroft  
Inspector Jason Dobirstein  
Sergeant Cam Van Roon  
Kristen Harding  
Kamran Ali

#### Regrets

Chief Robert Davis

- 1) Meeting Called to Order
  - The meeting was called to order by Chair Deys at 4:00 p.m.
- 2) Approval of Agenda
  - Addition to 6.a. Annual Lethbridge College Community Survey
  - **Motion by Mayor Spearman, Seconded by Victoria Chester that the agenda be approved as amended....Carried**
- 3) Approval of Minutes of May 30, 2018 Open Meeting
  - **Motion by Rachel Hopf, Seconded by Dawna Coslovi that the minutes be approved as circulated....Carried**
- 4) Business Arising
  - None
- 5) Standing Items
  - a) ALERT/CID Update – Inspector Ascroft
    - June 2018 update of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (CFSEU), Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE) and Criminal Investigation Division (CID) distributed in agenda package and highlights provided
    - Commission asked for examples of property crime suppression projects

- b) Calls for Service – Inspector Dobirstein
    - Calls for service highest over prior three years
    - Review of the calls for service maps per beat
    - Last meeting Commission asked whether the increase in assaults was related to the drug problem or another issue – analyst could not determine a specific reason
    - Question about the increase in calls this year and possible backlog. Backlogs do occur depending on the day of week. Other ways to deploy officers will be considered through collective bargaining
  - c) Community Issues – Inspector Dobirstein
    - Nothing to report
  - d) Monthly Compliments – A/Chief Woods
    - May Compliments: 5 Citizen/External, 1 Community Partners, 3 Internal
    - Highlights:
      - Constables Lomness, Burke, Stewart, C. Stock, Sergeant Meyers, Victim Services Unit and PSCC – appreciation for the assistance in locating an elderly neighbour
      - Forensic Identification Unit – practicum student provided thanks to staff
      - LPS - appreciation for hard work and dedication on a daily basis from staff and residents of a seniors’ residence
      - Constable Steve Veale – for his compassion provided during a sudden death
      - Constable Jon Blackwood – an amazing professional who demonstrated empathy
- 6) New Business
- a) LPS Stakeholder Survey & Annual Lethbridge College Community Survey – Dr. Faron Ellis
    - Insp. Ascroft introduced Dr. Ellis and explained the stakeholder survey will assist with business planning and the community survey is performed via Provincial and CALEA standards
    - Highlights of the LPS Stakeholder Survey:
      - Stakeholders feel safe in their community, nighttime safety downtown is a concern
      - Evaluate LPS performance positively in all service areas
      - Evaluate LPS financial management positively
      - Prioritize a new High Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) as their most preferred new public security initiative, second being more video surveillance in public spaces
      - Overwhelming support making greater use of Community Peace Officers or special constables
      - Support of new beat zones and principles behind them
      - Priorities – drug trafficking and property crimes, public intoxication and crime prevention programs, traffic enforcement and cyber crime
    - Questions from Commission:
      - Total percentage of demographic was estimated at half of the total stakeholders
      - Not completed surveys could be thought of as not a high priority at the time
    - Annual Lethbridge College Community Survey was circulated and Executive Summary reviewed which showed strong support overall for LPS
    - Questions from Commission:
      - Satisfied with the respondent rate as a representation of the community as it was a huge sample size giving extremely accurate subsample data

- Previous survey questions could be compared but there have been additions/changes to some of the questions to keep relevant
  - Chair Deys on behalf of Commission thanked Dr. Ellis for his presentation
- b) Big Valley Jamboree – A/Chief Woods
  - For information purposes, LPS has once again been requested to assist at the Big Valley Jamboree with two uniformed officers
- 7) Inquiries by the Police Commission
  - Potential safety issue raised that during the parade this past Saturday there was traffic flowing in the opposite direction. LPS will look into this and report back to Commission
- 8) Inquiries by the Public
  - Bob Stewart
    - Policy concern he has been dealing with for over a year with LPS officers working outside of the city limits undertaking traffic enforcement
    - Due to LPC Policy & Procedures Manual, had asked Commission to provide direction to LPS
    - Received prior correspondence from then Chair Cutforth without a satisfactory outcome
    - Commission will discuss 3.3 subsection 3 as part of their annual review of LPC Policy & Procedures
  - Mike Vercillo
    - Concern of the trespassing and vagrancy with properties downtown and unintended consequences to actions made in trying to deal with situations
    - Discussion about needle distribution and debris cleanup
    - Mr. Vercillo was encouraged to discuss his concerns further with City Council
  - Tony Sprado
    - Mr. Sprado spoke about concerns relating to past presentations to Commission
    - Chair Deys apologized for not asking Commission whether they had any questions during the last Open Meeting and shared there were none raised in the Closed Meeting
    - Chair Deys, on behalf of Commission, read aloud legal advice regarding Mr. Sprado's concerns
    - Commission now considered the matter closed
- 9) Meeting Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.