

**City of Chilliwack**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF REGULAR SESSION**  
**WEDNESDAY, February 21, 2024 – 8:00 am**  
**VIDEO CONFERENCE / DOGWOOD ROOM**

**In attendance:**

Councillor Nicole Read, Vice-Chair	Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development
Corporal, Carmen Kiener, Media Relations Officer, RCMP	Ian Josephson, Fire Chief
Krista Minar, Assistant Fire Chief	Tanis Bieber, ICBC
Garrett Schipper, D/Director of Development and Regulatory Enforcement	Mark Klassen, SD33, Manager of Facilities
Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice	Joe Koczur, Director of Public Works and Parks
Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services	Justin Mallard, Chamber of Commerce
Joanne Jefferson, Stó:lō Justice	Michelle Price, Community Member
Paisley Hammerton, Recording Secretary	

**Regrets:**

Councillor Bud Mercer, Chair	Holly Ferris, Manager of Social Development
Inspector, Harinder Kheleh, Operations Officer, RCMP	Trevor McDonald, Executive Director, Downtown BIA
Brian Foote, Education/Crime Prevention	Chuck Stam, Community Member

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Chair Read called the meeting to order at 8:01 am and provided territorial acknowledgement.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved / ) That the Agenda of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee held  
 Seconded ( Wednesday, February 21, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Moved / ) That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Public Safety Advisory Committee held  
 Seconded ( Wednesday, January 17, 2024, be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

**4. DELEGATION**

**5. PRESENTATION / COMMITTEE DISCUSSION**

**6. CURRENT ISSUES TO ADDRESS**

**7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

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**8. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

**9. REPORTS**

**a) RCMP**

Corporal Carmen Kiener, Media Relations Officer, RCMP, reported on the following:

1. RCMP have been doing several high visibility initiatives, traffic section has completed additional road checks.
2. Island 22 encampment eviction concluded peacefully and no major issues from an enforcement perspective
3. The Community Response Team has started bike patrols with Bylaw
4. Have been doing “Donut with a Cop” to engage with kids, it has seen positive results.
5. Chilliwack Youth Advocacy Centre (CYAC) – launches at the new Paramount Building in the second week in April. CYAC handles child abuse allegations and investigations.

**b) Fire Department**

Fire Chief Ian Josephson reported on the following:

1. Completed quarterly report. It is posted on the City website.
2. Chief Ian Josephson has announced his retirement as of March 15, 2024.

Assistant Fire Chief, Krista Minar, reported on the following:

1. Put together a great display for the Chilliwack Home Expo.
2. Worked with Holly Ferris on a solution for small fires during the recent cold snap.

**c) BIA**

No Report.

**d) Bylaw Department**

Garrett Schipper, Deputy Director of Development and Regulatory Services, reported on the following:

1. Provided the following statistic: Received 2600 calls in 2023 – the highest percentage being highway and traffic enforcement complaints. Numbers are staying consistent. Busiest months are May, June, July, and August
2. Island 22 site has been cleaned up. Estimated 100 bins taken to the landfill. Bylaw Enforcement has had to follow-up on lingering issues.

**e) ICBC**

1. Distracted driving campaign is coming up next month.
2. Working with the City and RCMP on a “Think of Me” campaign which educates the public on traveling in school zones.
3. Road safety speaker program is in full swing – working with School District as grad season is upcoming.
4. Choose your ride event coming up in May.

**f) School District**

Mark Klassen, Manager of Facilities, School District 33, reported on the following:

1. Starting to see significant decrease in individuals experiencing homelessness on school district sites.
2. Two dedicated staff members monitoring School District sites during Spring Break.
3. Issued several section 177's in the last month. These individuals can be banned from school district property for a year.

**g) Public Works & Parks**

Joe Koczur, Director of Public Works and Parks Operations, reported on the following:

1. Cleaned Vedder Bridge on Monday with the help from a contractor and city crews.
2. Working with Engineering to assist with distracted driving efforts by using the aerial bucket truck.

**h) Social Development**

Karen Stanton, Director of Public Safety and Social Development, reported on the following:

1. Adult shelters have been averaging around 200 people a night. Wellness Centre has been taking in about 96 visits per day.
2. Received notice that the Wellness Centre is closed from February 20 – 26 due to renovations.
3. Extreme Weather Centre is now closed as the United Church has changed ownership.

Mayor Popove did note that he noticed an increase in people in alcoves within the downtown core. Corporal Carmen Kiener noted that the CRT team noticed an abundance of people out and about due to the Wellness Centre closure.

**i) Restorative Justice**

Steve Roukema, Executive Director, Restorative Justice, reported on the following:

1. 12 referrals in January: 7 from RCMP, 3 from Loss Prevention Officers, 1 from BC Corrections.
2. 49 active files.
3. Completed 11 Restorative Circles in January.
4. 22 files with mentors.
5. 46 peace circles in 6 different schools – started peace circles in 7 new schools.
6. Restorative Cycle – donated 3 bikes and 3 helmets.
7. 40 active volunteers, completed 320 volunteer hours.

**j) Stó:lō Justice**

Joanne Jefferson, Stolo Justice, reported on the following:

1. Completing programs on respectful relationships.
2. Meeting with the Director with the Justice Centre – hoping to come together to educate those on the Justice Centre.
3. Hosting a clinic with Steven Point – support people with documents they may not understand.

**k) Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services (City of Chilliwack)**

Michelle Wulff, Chilliwack Crime Prevention Services, reported on the following:

1. Speed Watch completed 8 deployments in January.
2. City Watch successfully located 1 impaired driver.
3. Working on framework for full time Block Watch Position.
4. Senior Safety Presentation at Auburn Place in January.
5. Worked with RCMP to spread flyers out regarding scams and frauds.
6. Crime Free Multi Housing – setting up quarterly meeting with property owners, working with fire regarding Home Safe education.

**l) Legal Representative**

No report.

**m) Chamber of Commerce**

Justin Mallard, Chamber of Commerce, reported on the following:

1. Hosting a meeting with various businesses about membership and public safety.
2. Looking at opportunities to do more business walks in May

**n) Crime Prevention/Education**

No report.

**o) Corrections**

No report.

**p) Community Members**

Michelle Price, Community Member:

1. Chilliwack Community Services is moving in the middle of April.

**10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**11. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

Moved / ) That, in accordance with Section 90 (1)(f) of the *Community Charter*, the Committee hold a  
Seconded ( Closed meeting.

Carried Unanimously

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Councillor Mercer, Chair