



RCMP Advisory Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 18, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Council Chambers, Town Hall

359 Main Street

Agenda

Meeting called to Order

1. Approval of the Agenda

2. Approval of Minutes:

- a. June 19, 2018 RCMP Advisory Board Meeting

3. Oath – Kathy Bird

4. Question Period / Public Input

Procedure: A thirty-minute time period will be provided for members of the public to address the Advisory Board regarding questions, concerns and/or ideas. Each person will have a maximum of two minutes to address the Board with a second two-minute time period provided if there is time remaining within the thirty-minute Public Input/Question Period timeframe.

5. RCMP Report:

- a. Quarterly Update
- b. Annual Performance Plan



6. Unfinished Business

- a. Cannabis Update / NSFM Report - Blair MacMurtery

7. New Business

- a. Welcome Week – Blair MacMurtery
- b. Acadia & Wolfville Partnership Agreement – CAO
- c. Intersection of Highland and Pleasant – Bob Lutes

8. Roundtable Discussion

9. Next Meeting – Tuesday, December 11, 2018

10. Regular Meeting Adjourned



Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Kings District – Wolfville Office

June 1st – September 5th, 2018

Employees

The following employees are assigned to the Kings District – Wolfville office:

Bev ELLIOTT – Detachment Assistant

Sgt. Andrew BUCKLE – Operations NCO – Kings East

Cst. Byron Mclean

Cst. Corey KNOWLES

Cst. Patrick (Duffy) QUINTIN

Cst. Brendan McInnis

Cst. Brad Thomas

Cst. Winslow DUYAN

Cst. Darin JOHNSTON

Cst. Damon CALDWELL

2018 – 2019 Annual Performance Plan

Safe Roads and safe highways in Nova Scotia

1 - Contribute to Safe Roads by:

Impaired Driving charges – 5 Charges + 4 Roadside Suspensions

Summary Offense Tickets – 20 Charges (Includes Traffic Services)

Check stops – 21

2 – Safety and security of all Nova Scotia’s

Human Trafficking Presentations – Ongoing throughout county

Domestic Violence Strategy – County Domestic Violence Position

Other Crime Reduction Strategies – ongoing efforts to address cyber bullying, sexting, senior safety

3. Wolfville, Safety and Peaceful Community

Liquor Act - 5 Charges

Police Presence – Foot Patrols (ongoing)

Noise Bylaw – 0 Charges (34 Complaints)

Calls for Service

Total: 438

Traffic Collisions

14 traffic collisions were investigated:

0 non-fatal injury collision,

10 reportable property damage collisions,

4 non-reportable collisions.

Failure to remain at the scene of an accident:

6 offences were investigated.

Dangerous Operation of a Motor Vehicle

NIL

Driving with Suspended Licence

3 - Charges

Assault Offences

1 Sexual Assaults

1 Assault with weapons allegations

12 common assaults were investigated. (0 charges)

Uttering Threats

6 complaints - 0 Charges

Fail to Comply with Undertaking / Probation Orders

1 Complaint – 0 charges

Mental Health Act

Police responded to 31 calls for assistance under this act.

Foot Patrols

Approximately 32 hours* of foot patrols within the Town of Wolfville.

- Liquor charges.
- Intoxicated individuals.
- Visibility within the town core.

*Approximate

Welcome Week (Weekend)

Aug 31st – Sept 2nd.

26 complaints received

1 Liquor charge

6 Bylaw complaints (No Charge)

2 Mischief complaints (No charge)

Various other complaints such as traffic etc.

Notable Investigations

June 1st – Sept 5th

June 2018

- Male made a complaint of an assault, declined to lay charges.
- 43 year old male detained and charged with Impaired Driving on Gaspereau Avenue.
- 27 year old male issued a roadside suspension for consuming alcohol while driving.
- 53 year old male investigated for voyeurism at local facility. No charges laid after it was determined the male was cognitively delayed.

July 2018

- Break and enter occurred on Summer Street where a number of electronics were stolen. No suspects identified.
- Number of attempted frauds were reported using the CRA scam, as well as attempts to threaten individuals that the scammers have pornographic pictures or possessed material to say the individual was a pedophile. No charges laid.
- 26 year old male stopped for failing to stop at a stop sign on Main Street and subsequently charged with Impaired Driving.
- 2 charges under the liquor act were issued to individuals who were intoxicated in a public place.

August 2018

- Male locked himself into his residence with his care workers outside and set fire to items on the stove to start a fire. 24 year old male charged.
- Ongoing investigation into a male Possessing Child Pornography.
- 32 year old male charged with Impaired Driving after driving with no lights on. Occurred on Gaspereau Avenue.
- 39 year old male charged with Impaired Driving after leaving local bar.

School Resource Officer

Kings District once again has two School Resource Officers to service all schools in the county after there had been a recent transfer. Cst. Jennifer BRITTON has been working regular patrol duties over the summer but is now back to School Resource Officer duties. Will be active with the Wolfville School along with the Kings County Community Policing Officer.

Street Crime Enforcement Unit

The Street Crime Unit continues to investigate a number of investigations resulting in the execution of search warrants and the seizure of drugs throughout the county.

SCEU were recently involved with Operation SABOT where a helicopter is used to identify Marijuana in various local areas in the county that can be reached by police. The locations were attended by local members of the RCMP and over 100 plants of cannabis were removed and destroyed.

Sgt. Andrew Buckle

AS INCLUDED IN THE INTERIM RESOLUTIONS REPORT SEPT. 7, 2018

CANNABIS

Issue Identification:

The federal government has mandated the legalization of cannabis, effective October 2018, and the Province has now determined a regime for the legalization of cannabis in Nova Scotia. But municipalities have been left to implement the legislation and respond to community concerns without any additional funding.

Background Information:

The Province of Nova Scotia has established a regime where cannabis will be sold through the NSLC, although this may change over time and as edibles become legal. Municipalities have been left to deal with illegal cannabis retail operations. Consumption of cannabis is restricted in a few areas, and Municipalities have been provided with the ability to limit smoking in their communities. Police enforcement will receive some financial support for training and equipment.

The NSFM Municipal Working group has identified multiple municipal services that could be impacted by the legalization of cannabis. This will be largely driven by decisions councils make around further restrictions to the consumption and locations of cannabis-related facilities. Meeting expectations around enforcement is of concern – councils may pass bylaws in response to community concerns, but enforcement is both difficult and costly.

Staff from the FCM have held discussions with the federal government on municipal concerns regarding the legalization of cannabis. The FCM has communicated that the federal government clearly recognizes the impacts of marijuana legalization on municipalities, and that the federal government expects provinces to share in the new revenues generated.

Meanwhile, the Province is incurring its own costs related to marijuana legalization, and has indicated they believe, at least in the short run, that new revenues will not exceed costs. There seems to be a perception that current municipal resources being used to deal with illegal cannabis will be freed up and reallocated to address cannabis-related activity. In recent years, some police forces have not been as aggressive in pursuing illegal cannabis activity, but their time is simply being devoted to other, more pressing police matters – there is no free time.

The Province has indicated it is willing to continue discussions with municipalities on the implications of cannabis legalization and is asking for concrete numbers around the impacts. Concrete numbers are not presently available, yet municipalities are now incurring costs in relation to policing, reviews of bylaws, changes to bylaws, hiring of enforcement officers, and so forth. Unlike provinces, municipalities are not permitted to incur deficits, so these costs will need to be recovered either through cuts in other areas or increases in property taxes.

All of this is being done in the context of other increasing demands on municipalities such as responding to provincial regulations around accessibility, as well as expectations that municipalities will support investments in high speed internet, doctor recruitment, surplus schools – cumulatively the impact is significant.

Impact on Municipalities

The NFSM Municipal Cannabis working group has identified the following areas for potential impact:

- Administration:
 - Time spent by senior municipal departmental staff, city senior leadership teams, and staff in corporate support departments such as Finance, Legal and Communications to implement, administer, coordinate and support all cannabis legalization work. This could include FTE hours for both start-up and ongoing administration in positions such as policy coordination, project management, business licensing administration, legal, communications and IT. These positions could be spread across several existing departments or centralized in a new department/secretariat specifically for cannabis legalization. It may also be necessary to track programs and bylaws that are amended because of cannabis legalization. Specific tasks may include, without limitation: prosecution lawyers reviewing the enforceability of by-laws, a legal team providing ongoing support for enforcement of by-laws, intergovernmental staff to engage with other orders of government on this complex, multi-layered file, and development of a communications plan to help citizens understand by-law changes.
 - There are also material costs such as public consultations, advertising public notices and communications products for specific local rules.

- Enforcement: This includes personnel and capital costs required to monitor and enforce the additional activities associated with cannabis legalization as predicated on municipal by-laws and services. This includes the costs associated with additional staffing requirements for bylaw management and enforcement in the following areas:
 - Property use inspection – to investigate cannabis business license complaints
 - Zoning enforcement – to ensure cannabis retail and other cannabis related establishments are in adherence with local zoning by-laws; and the need to deal with illegal operations.
 - Property standards enforcement – to address issues/complaints related to potential degradation/danger to property such as smoke dispersion in multi-residential units or issues related to home cultivation.
 - Training – time and capital is required to develop and undertake learning exercises related to the roles and responsibilities of municipal staff tasked with administering and enforcing municipal aspects of the cannabis framework such as business licensing.

- There will also be costs for Community Standards, Public Spaces and Smoke-Free or Second-Hand Smoke Bylaw enforcement, and a predicted increase in service demand with new by-laws such as smoke-free by-laws and municipal rules for vaping lounges, restaurants and cafés (where applicable) and public consumption.
- Other Enforcement – service changes such as increased transit authority time spent addressing consumption and odour issues on public transit; costs associated with training transit workers about the rules around cannabis consumption (i.e. length of time before transit worker must abstain from consuming cannabis before arriving for work).
- Planning/Zoning:
 - Personnel and capital cost to conduct by-law reviews and updates, as well as the ongoing management of zoning bylaws. In addition to both in-house and consultant contracting, this also includes the cost to undertake required public consultation processes and public education related to adding new criteria to zoning by-laws, business licensing and building code permits and inspections.
- Fire Services: Cost increases directly or indirectly incurred by the municipal department responsible for fire safety, prevention and submission. This includes the following positions and activities:
 - Process Changes - amendments to the fire inspection component of business licensing approval process, protocol for one-time and ongoing inspections
 - Training – for fire department staff regarding revisions to the Fire Code, and on immersing hazardous home cultivation processes such as for the extraction of cannabis oils and the use of flammable hydrocarbons
 - Public education – Education campaigns informing the public about the dangers related to oil extraction processes and flammable hydrocarbons; development and printing of fire safety messaging;
 - Fire investigation costs – costs primarily due to overtime pay for fire safety officers investigating code and safety issues (e.g. hazards in retail establishments); and to a small extent for manufacturing/processing establishments / responding to fires associated with legal/illegal home cultivation.
 - There are also public education, communications and citizen services costs to properly engage with the public and provide preventative public education campaigns.
 - HAZMAT Response - for both licenced and illegal producers
- Human Resources:
 - Internal and external staff time committed to ensuring municipal drug policies are up-to-date/adequately address non-medical cannabis and that municipal employees are well informed of the new policies. This could include substance use policy, substance use guidelines, workplace smoking policies and hosting

social event guidelines. There may be additional FTE time spent engaging and negotiating with municipal staff unions over the drug policy changes.

- Staff resources and capital costs may also be incurred to ensure there is capacity in place for testing municipal employees if necessary, new staff training to address safety related to cannabis in the workplace and additional adjustments to safety integrate HR policies related to cannabis edibles when they are regulated federally.
- Possible non-policing costs that have been identified by municipal partners include:
 - Provincial Offenses Act (POA) Court Costs - Moving cannabis regulation and enforcement from criminal courts to POA courts will add a considerable workload to municipally funded courts, and this needs to be further explored for its relevance to Nova Scotia.
 - Environmental Health and Safety - Amendments to workplace safety related policies, air quality testing and complaints related to production and consumption of cannabis (indoor and outdoor), food inspection concerns when edibles get introduced.
 - Social Housing – In some jurisdictions where municipalities have responsibilities over social housing there will be costs associated with writing provisions in tenancy agreements which prohibit smoking cannabis in social housing units; additional FTEs to enforce the new provisions; and an O&M budget to address violations
 - Public Health – In some jurisdictions, municipalities address varying areas of public health not covered by provincial or territorial budgets. Anticipated municipal costs related to public health include public education initiatives (consumption, health, harm reduction, prevention, rules for restaurants and festival organizers)
 - Additional social workers
 - Municipal signage and advertisements
 - Developing and undertaking health outcome assessments
 - Data collection
 - 311 Services – Increased staff time, particularly during implementation, to handle citizen inquires regarding cannabis legalization. This could also include time and resources to train 311 staff on the new changes and which municipal departments address the principle areas of concern.
 - Waste Management - The development of municipal policies and procedures that address the proper disposal of refuse from cannabis cultivation, concerns around humidity in composting.
 - Emergency Services - Increase in calls related to overconsumption of Cannabis. This may be particularly prevalent when cannabis edibles are made legal.
- Policing costs
 - SFST Training for drug impaired driving
 - Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Training

- Facilities to store cannabis seizures
- General training on Bill C-45/46
- Roadside screening equipment and supplies
- Costs to close illegal dispensaries/growth operations
- Youth education and prevention in schools, community engagement
- Increase in forensic laboratory capacity: blood draws, testing equipment, forensic analysis
- Additional officers/work: drug seizures, RIDE spot checks, drug related criminal investigation, drug complaints, cannabis specific violations, motor vehicle collisions, cannabis related demands for services, DRE testing, SFST training.

These cost areas have been identified to assist municipalities in understanding the possible implications of the legalization of cannabis.

The federal government has provided a new revenue stream to provinces to assist in their initiatives related to the legalization of cannabis, without requiring them to justify or document their costs.

With a new revenue stream from an area involving both the province and municipalities, it is only fair that municipalities receive a share. The federal government decreased their share of these revenues specifically recognizing the need for provinces to share this revenue with municipalities. Municipalities already deliver a large component of citizen services with a disproportionately small share of the tax pie.

As well, where cannabis is grown outdoors on agricultural land, the Assessment Act will likely classify this land as agriculture, eligible for a provincial subsidy and lower property tax. As cannabis is not food, it should be regarded as an agricultural crop. It should be classified as commercial for property tax purposes. This will require a change in the assessment act.

Proposed Action:

The legalization of cannabis involves the delegation of a considerable number of responsibilities to municipal governments in Nova Scotia. However, many municipal governments in Nova Scotia already struggle to make ends meet. The Province should not expect municipalities to be able to assume these additional responsibilities without better financial and material resources. Municipalities need a new revenue source.

Cannabis Resolution

WHEREAS the Government of Canada decided to legalize cannabis; and

WHEREAS the Government of Nova Scotia decided how cannabis would be dealt with within the province; and

WHEREAS the legalization of cannabis is creating a new revenue source for both the federal government and the province, and there are no new revenues accruing to municipalities

THEREFORE be it resolved that NSFM request the Province to provide a share of the revenues being generated through the sale of cannabis to municipalities

THEREFORE be it resolved the Province ensure agricultural properties used for growing cannabis be classified and taxed as commercial property.