
ATTENDING

- Vice Chair, Councillor Ian Palmeter
- Mayor Wendy Donovan
- Emily Kathan
- Shelley Fleckenstein
- Cpl. Travis Collins
- Const. Kelli Hennessy
- Chief Administrative Officer Erin Beaudin
- Recorder, Laura Morrison

ALSO ATTENDING

- Councillor Wendy Elliott

REGRETS

- Chair, Councillor Isabel Madeira-Voss
- David MacKinnon

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair, Councillor Ian Palmeter at 10:05am.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED TO INCLUDE SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INPUT:

- No public in attendance

4. RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT

Cpl. Collins presented the pre-circulated RCMP quarterly report.

Acadia University Welcome Event saw a general downward trend in number of complaints received. Some parties and gatherings took place but less than expected. There were opportunistic thefts of E-bikes which were being taken, driven around and then left at side of the road.

Acadia University Homecoming was better attended, as expected. Operational plan was executed which included an additional 8 members and 10 Tactical Support members resulting in 28 officers for that event. Crowd surging in neighbourhood of around 400-600 students on Summer St. There were 47 dispatched occurrences, which were a mix of assaults, liquor related offences, Nuisance Party Order, residential related, and motor vehicle offences.

There were a lot of positive interactions with students and property owners. People in the main were very respectful. A few altercations, including resisting arrest earlier in the day and couple of drunken fights towards the end of the night. There was a large presence of officers doing their best to implement a progressive approach to enforcement, a lot of communication and positive interactions with public and students. Long term plan is that student population realizes these big parties will not be tolerated. This will be consistently messaged with positive communications with students, continued fines and enforcement of liquor statutes.

The stats contained in these reports are used to look at general trends. Challenge is it's a new batch of students, but Societal change is the goal.

Crime statistics increase from last quarter in relation to liquor act, municipal bylaws, and noise which was expected due to the major university events and new student arrivals in this quarter.

Increased emphasis on traffic patrols in Wolfville as per the request from this committee, Maple Ave was a focused area.

Media releases for done for homecoming and motorists to be cautious of pedestrians.

Two incidents of Failing to Yield to Pedestrian in Crosswalk and a further two where there were actual collisions with pedestrians.

Discussion on reducing speed limit from 50km to 30km in Halifax and other methods of traffic slowing by environmental design, narrower roads, increased sidewalks.

Emily advised residents of Stirling Ave are very happy with the signage and speed bumps that were introduced; traffic has lessened and different behaviours from drivers are being displayed. Would suggest it is a strong argument for other streets.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Introduction of Constable Kelli Hennessy.** Cpl. Collins introduced Const. Hennessy who works for the Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE). A member of Kings District who transferred to this section which is an integrated ICE Team and comprises of members in Halifax Regional Police as well as RCMP. Const. Hennessy has a history of working in this area as general duty member and is very familiar with Wolfville and surrounding area. This is a very specialized unit taking a lot of dedicated training and the work is extremely labour intensive, which general members do not have time to do.
- b. **Human Trafficking Presentation: Constable Kelli Hennessy**
- The Unit bolsters and helps frontline members in investigations into internet crimes against children.
 - Different ways this unit would get involved, might be a 911 or non-emergency line call report regarding a concern, for example a parent worried their child is being lured online. The frontline member would gather the initial information then call ICE to either give advice or take over the whole file and do an investigation.
 - Also have proactive and online tools that help. One is Child Rescue Coalition – available only to police officers in ICE unit and is an international system. It is run by Artificial Intelligence which shows worldwide if someone is file sharing child sexual abuse material. The AI scans the internet, picks out material and reports to ICE. It is then investigated. The system shows the IP addresses and locations of where it is believed the file sharing is happening.
 - Other investigations are done if there is suspicion of luring of children online by means of telecommunications such as texting or messaging.
 - While images on Snapchat may disappear, there can still be charges laid.
 - Computer Forensics Services and Forensic Data Recovery Services help pull information from devices. ICE unit draws on expertise of colleagues to get the results. Very much team-based approach.
 - Also available are online tools for people who don't necessarily require the police, for example if someone was concerned there was an inappropriate picture of their child being shared. NeedhelpNow.ca can help scan the internet looking for the image and take it down.
 - While technology is evolving, there are lots of tools to assist. Since 2017 Cypertip.ca has taken down almost 7 million images of child sexual abuse.
 - Child sexual abuse typically relates to children under the age of 16 years old.
- c. **RCMP bike patrols for 2024 Discussion:** Cpl. Collins would like to introduce a proactive community-based bike patrol program in Spring, Summer, Fall in the Town. Wolfville

has lots of different functions geared to members of the community. Believed bike patrols would facilitate members being able to attend those events and have a real visible RCMP presence, engage with the public and do some bike safety training.

6. Additional Agenda Item – Selection of Chair & Vice Chair

- Each year a Chair and Vice Chair are to be selected. It was agreed unanimously by members present that Councillor Madeira-Voss will continue as Chair and Councillor Ian Palmetter will continue as Vice Chair of the RCMP Committee.

7. ROUND TABLE

- CAO advised the first meeting with Public Safety Canada and Dept of Justice will take place on Monday regarding the new Municipal Police Services contract.
- Comments around traffic calming will be shared with Director of Engineering & Public Works.
- Cpl. Collins confirmed every police vehicle has a radar and that routine road checks are typically carried out later at night. Roadside screening for sobriety also carried out.

8. Next Meeting: April 9, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 11:01am.

CARRIED

**Approved at RCMP Advisory Board Meeting April 2023.
As recorded by Laura Morrison, Town Clerk**