
ATTENDING

- Chair, Councillor Isabel Madeira-Voss
- Mayor Wendy Donovan
- Councillor Ian Palmeter
- Emily Kathan
- David MacKinnon
- Shelley Fleckenstein
- Cpl. Travis Collins
- Sgt. Ed Nugent
- Recorder, Laura Morrison

ALSO ATTENDING

- Deputy Mayor Wendy Elliott
- Interested members of the public

REGRETS

- Interim Chief Administrative Officer Rob Simonds

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Councilor Madeira-Voss at 10:00am.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 12, 2023, BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INPUT:

- No public input

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Introduction of Staff Sgt Nugent, Kings District Commander

- Sgt. Nugent was Acting Inspector over past year.
- Inspector Jodrey now in the role.

b. Body Worn Camera Project for Front Line Members (*Cpl. Travis Collins & Nicole Illsley, Jamie Smith*)

- Body Worn cameras – field tested with positive results.
- Videos maintained for as long as the file is which is a minimum of two years. Will correspond with records management system e.g. assault file is 8 years go forward.
- Every front-line officer will have body worn camera.
- Not be using it for intel surveillance such as watching a home over a period of time when nothing is happening as opposed to out in the general public which is not considered as mass surveillance.
- Anticipate start date in the fall.

c. Proposal on Wolfville Bike Patrols for summer (*Cpl. Travis Collins*)

- More interaction with the public - opportunity to be on trails , improved accessibility to areas not easily accessed by car.
- Have 3 bikes.
- Currently aimed at specific community events only.
- Officers will be out in pairs.
- Five-day mountain bike course.
- Expenses will be on personal safety equipment.
- Looking for Town events information and ideas when the bikes should be utilized.
- Consensus of support from RCMP Advisory Board Committee

d. Community Wellness Safety Pilot Discussion (*Barb Shaw*)

- Background – community harmony – policing services review – community engagement. All showed gaps in service. Concerns with vandalism, Nuisance Parties, traffic complaints etc.
- Policing Review Committee was set up.
- Dr Schneider was engaged to look at one individual in community safety role working with other stakeholders would look like.
- Since the work started with Dr Schneider, changes in RCMP personnel happened. Working much more collaboratively with RCMP and Acadia. Very much with a community safety mindset.
- Also change from PPSA to MPSA.
- Lots of interviews and research from Dr Schneider, survey around crime.
- Draft report delivered with final report to come.
- Conclusion of Dr Schneider’s report is a not for profit body, a community safety office – separate from Town, RCMP and Acadia. A society which would employ Community Navigator and two other coordinators for community safety and

prevention working group, social development and wellness – each would support working groups for around 13 members from the community.

- Shift from the basic community safety model to community wellness.
- A complex model, cost a lot of money, suggestions made are not practical, would require a significant amount of fundraising.
- Ideas are critical, remain working in partnership with key stakeholders in community, which we are currently doing.
- Council members to provide feedback on the draft report which will help inform the final report. Comments from council to be returned to Manager of Communications
- Dr Schneider will be a guest at the Town and Gown Committee meeting on April 22nd.
- Acadia was a joint funder.
- Draft report will be circulated to members of the RCMP committee.
- Examples of where office like this implemented was a community safety office in Vancouver which is issue based and crisis response.
- No example of small-scale model included in the report.
- Dr Schneider presented to RCMP before Council and the feedback provided by them was the same as Council.
- Council were surprised at some of the information provided and have concerns around the stats.

e. Parked Cars/Crosswalks Safety Discussion

- Council received a couple of resident concerns. Discussion with compliance and public works staff.
- Traffic Act, cars parked close to crosswalks, education on pedestrians not crossing until cars have stopped.
- Signage for pedestrians saying push the button and wait.
- Infrastructure discussions involve RCMP and Active Transportation meetings.
- Lot of visitors in area not aware of culture.
- Opportunity for RCMP on bike patrol.
- Annual Policing Performance Plan subject - key community ideas – discussion at next meeting. Traffic safety.

5. RCMP QUARTERLY REPORT

- Cpl. Collins presented the pre-circulated RCMP quarterly report.
- Two hard staff vacancies currently in Wolfville – one will be filled later this month. Second position harder to find due to requirement of a bilingual officer.
- Two short term vacancies – no major concerns.
- Priority response levels are not impacted.

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- Calls for service - December included, 4 months result in numbers a little higher. Nothing significant.
 - Cheaton cup event elevated issues of mischief.
 - Drug enforcement – 1 possession related file.
 - Traffic related offences – enforcement consistent with last quarter – Jan/Feb are quieter months.
 - Other calls listed under Other are mainly assisting other police agencies, federal depts, non-federal depts like wildlife, EHS etc.
 - Violations under Mental Health Act – 21 in total – calls for service related to mental health – not charges.
 - Sexual assaults are under reported to the police. Could only proceed with one charge out of 6 calls. Could be because there is not enough evidence to present in court or they know the person so do not want to report or the suspect could be deceased as a lot of historical cases. Evidence can be stored until victim is ready to go to the police.
 - Most sexual violence is carried out by someone known to the complainant.
 - Random acts are typically reported to the police. We are not seeing random acts of sexualized violence in Wolfville.
 - Dr Schneiders report implied a lot more sexual assault happening. Report indicates national and provisional crisis, not at the local level. He interviewed the Crisis Coordinator at Acadia who indicated there had been around 50 disclosures of sexual violence and violence against persons on campus.
 - If person over age of 18 yrs. they don't have to report. If under 18yrs, it will be reported to the police.
 - Consider inviting Sexual Health Advisor to attend next meeting.
 - Domestic violence offences are not overly high in comparison to other areas. Sample size is small.

6. ROUND TABLE

- Commend staff, Acadia and RCMP on Cheaton Cup and St Patrick's Day events.
- After Action report for Cheaton Cup included in RCMP report. Reaching out to landlords and getting their support in writing letters to their tenants. Trending in right direction. Students were responsive. Students were understanding and respectful. Two people were held overnight in custody not from Acadia.
- Encourage RCMP to set up on edge of town to catch drivers speeding into town.
- Apple Blossom weekend is June 1st.
- Mobile unit options.

7. Next Meeting: July 9, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 11:50am.

CARRIED

**Approved at RCMP Advisory Board Meeting July 2024.
As recorded by Laura Morrison, Town Clerk, Office of the CAO**