

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ross Siemens, Chair
Gordon Holloway, Vice-Chair
Paula Olmstead
Amar Rai
Shannon Charney

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM & STAFF PRESENT:

Chief Constable Colin Watson
Deputy Chief Constable Jason Burrows – Administration
Deputy Chief Constable Dan Culbertson – Operations
Director Bea Nicolato – Finance & Budget Branch
Sgt. Adam Klaver – Sex Crimes Unit

REGRETS:

Amrik Narang
Mandy Padda

GUEST(S):

Special Advisor - Chris Dominato
Aird Flavelle*
Brent Trueman

MINUTE RECORDER:

Shyanne Bergen

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 AM.

1. Adoption of Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

2. Presentation: New Sex Crimes Unit

Sgt. Klaver presented on AbbyPD's new Sex Crimes Unit, copy of the presentation is included in these minutes. The primary focus of the unit is trauma-informed and survivor-centered, providing support mechanisms for survivors.

Brief discussion of more community outreach, specifically to the South Asian community, and was advised that both SARA for women and Archway assist the South Asian community.

Brief discussion of social media impacts on youth and online pornography.

Sgt. Klaver advised that he is working with Strategic Communications (Sgt. Paul Walker) on branding and community awareness for the new unit.

Sgt. Klaver exited the meeting.

3. Consent Agenda

It was moved and seconded that the consent agenda be **approved**, with the removal of the Crime Overview report for discussion. The motion was **adopted**.

- a. Minutes from previous meeting – February 19, 2025
- b. Financial Statements – draft unaudited for the year ending December 31, 2024
- c. Media Report – January 28 to March 8, 2025
- d. Policies
 - i. I.B.060 Respectful Workplace – REVISED
 - ii. I.B.XXX Sexual Harassment – NEW
 - iii. I.C.030 Rules of Conduct – REVISED
 - iv. I.D.XX Financial Management – NEW

Crime Overview Report – February 2025 – There was a brief discussion of the drivers of violent and property crime. It was advised that overall, the categories are mostly down, but that they are mostly low-level drivers, including street disorder and mental health illness. It was advised that last year, there was a significant increase in intimate partner violence, and this year, it is down.

The community's focus has recently been on road safety, specifically addressing impaired drivers, which the AbbyPD is working to address. Last year, there were 4 fatalities, and this year there have already been 3.

4. AbbyPD Strategic Communications Strategy

Chief Watson advised that the provided document will be treated as a living document and will be updated.

5. Compliments Report

Chief Watson reported on the new compliments report process.

6. BCAPB Report

No report was provided.

7. Chief's Report

Chief Watson, Deputy Burrows, and Deputy Culbertson reported on the following:

2024 Annual Report – Working with Strategic Communication to change the format and hope to have a draft for the next meeting. Once the format is established, future reports will be sent out earlier in the year.

JIBC Funding – Ongoing conversation between the Province and the JIBC about when the money will arrive.

AbbyPD Youth Leadership Program – The location and program director have been identified. APF has undertaken significant work and fundraising efforts for the program. A report will come to the Board once it is more established. Currently, AbbyPD has two members observing the program that is happening on the island.

Recent stakeholder meetings this month – Chief Watson met with ARJAA, MLA Neufeld, Character Abbotsford, and is happy to continue to meet with more stakeholders.

Community Survey – Is underway, and a door hanger has been drafted.

Strategic Plan – Is underway, and the board will be updated at a later date.

Police Honours – Five of our officers have been awarded Medals of Valour or Merit. The ceremony will happen at the Government House in April. Chief Watson is in the process of notifying the officers.

Graduation of recruits – Four recruits recently graduated from the JIBC; three of them participated in other AbbyPD programs prior to being sworn in. A brief discussion of the people's movement throughout the numerous AbbyPD programs, including the Youth Mentoring Program, the OSO program, and reserve constables, which eventually leads to recruitment.

BC Special Olympics Polar Plunge – Over 100 people attended, including Abby PD officers, staff members, and family members, as well as representatives from various support agencies. The Abbotsford team raised \$30K.

8. Standing Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Nothing to report.

Governance & Policy Committee – Nothing to report.

Human Resources Committee – Nothing to report.

9. Other Business

None raised.

10. Questions from the public relating to today's Agenda

Nothing.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:14 AM. The motion was **approved**.

“Original Signed”

Chair – Ross Siemens

“Original Signed”

Minute Recorder – Shyanne Bergen