

**April 28, 2021**

Video Conference \* and City Hall, Room 530 – 32315 South Fraser Way, Abbotsford, BC

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**POLICE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Henry Braun, Chair  
Yvon Dandurand\*  
Mike Welte\*  
Mark Warkentin\*  
Chris Dominato\*  
Amanda MacPherson\*

**MANAGEMENT PRESENT:**

Chief Constable Mike Serr  
Deputy Chief Constable Brett Crosby-Jones – Operations  
Deputy Chief Constable Paulette Freill – Administration  
Randy Millard – Director of Finance\*  
Sgt. Judy Bird – Public Media Officer  
Insp. Jason Burrows – Operations Support Branch\*

**REGRETS:**

None

**RECORDING SECRETARY:**

Donna Macey

**GUESTS**

Ms. Cathy Peters (Agenda Item 4 only)\*

The meeting was called to order at 12:01pm.

**1. Adoption Of Agenda**

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

**2. Consent Agenda**

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

- a. Minutes of previous meeting - March 31, 2021
- b. Financial Statements - March 2021
- c. Operational Crime Overview - to March 31, 2021
- d. POLICIES
  - i. I.C. 010 Commendations and Awards  
I.C. 120 Service Recognition
  - ii. II.A. 040 Policy and Procedure Direction  
II.F. 181 Written Directives
  - iii. II.A. 090 Police Pursuit  
II.A. 095 Box and Pin Maneuvers  
III.A. 100 Emergency Vehicle Operations

**3. Business Arising Out of Previous Minutes**

None raised

**4. Presentation – Human Sex Trafficking**

Cathy Peters of Be Amazing presented on the problem of human sex trafficking to raise public awareness and education on this matter. Ms. Peters explained that human sex trafficking is when someone uses force, fraud, or coercion to cause a commercial sex act with an adult or causes a minor to commit a commercial sex act. A commercial sex act includes prostitution, pornography, and sexual performance done in exchange

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for any item of value, such as money, drugs, shelter, food, or clothes. Ms. Peters attended the meet to seek support and to share her message that more needs to be done to stop human sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and child sex trafficking. She noted that the problem has become exacerbated with COVID as children have more time on the internet. The actions that local communities can take to safeguard against trafficking were discussed, along with proactive enforcement initiatives.

Chief Serr reporting on some initiatives that are underway to help support parents around social media use by their children. AbbyPD is hosting five (5) free webinars on social media and digital literacy in cooperation with The White Hatter organization. The five webinar topics are:

- (1) Social media safety & digital literacy for parents
- (2) Online predation and exploitation: What is the threat and what can parents do to reduce the risk
- (3) Sexting, Nudes, and Intimate Images: What is the Problem, What does the law say, and What do parents need to know
- (4) Online gaming: Facts, fiction, and mental wellness and what parents needs to know
- (5) The dark and dangerous side of the internet and social media: What parents need to know

Chief Serr also reported on a sex trafficking ring from March 2021 that originated back east and set-up business at a local hotel in Abbotsford. AbbyPD detectives quickly engaged and aggressively addressed the matter which led to criminal charges against a male. AbbyPD is engaged with organizations such as Deborah's Gate anti-human trafficking program and is working with local business to provide education on the problem and ensure there is understanding of the role business have to report and not allow their establishments to be used for human sex trafficking. Chief Serr noted that the AbbyPD's internet child exploitation unit was expanded by two officers, but a provincial unit would be helpful in combatting this issue.

Yvon Dandurand commented that for the last five (5) years Abbotsford has had a program to assist the reintegration of sex workers into society through a joint effort between the Elizabeth Fry Society, ArchWay's WEAVE program, and SARA for Women. Mr. Dandurand also reported that UFV has prevention programs that train faculty to identify students who may be vulnerable to recruitment and awareness campaigns for the students.

It was moved and seconded that the presentation by Cathy Peters on Human Sex Trafficking be **approved**. The motion was **adopted**.

*Ms. Peters exited the meeting at this time.*

## **5. Correspondence – Letter from PSD Re Survey Goals and Objectives**

It was agreed that the survey will be completed by Board staff and circulated for review prior to submission.

## 6. Chief's Report

Chief Serr and Deputies Crosby-Jones and Freill reported on the following matters:

- **Community Cleanup** – AbbyPD's Street Outreach Team (SORT) planned, with other community organization, and cleanup of the area around West Railway and Gladys Ave. There were approximately 100 volunteers who showed up to help, with the team running out of clean-up supplies due to the overwhelming success of the initiative. The event was a collaborative effort to make Abbotsford clean and green. It brought together key service agencies who provide support to the homeless community, along with many individuals who have previously experienced homelessness. Lunch was donated by the nearby McDonalds Restaurant. This was a great example of our community coming together and representing the AbbyPD's mantra of *Strength in Community*.
- **COVID**  
*Vaccination* – with thanks to Fraser Health, all AbbyPD officers have now been given the opportunity to obtain their vaccination, along with frontline civilian staff who have direct contact with the community on a regular basis, with approximately 15 staff left who were not yet eligible.  
*PHO road checks* – AbbyPD is not directly impacted by this order and will not be doing any type of random check roadblocks. If an AbbyPD officer encounters someone during routine duties who is clearly outside of their health region the officer will assess the situation and address as they deem appropriate.
- **Recruiting** – three AbbyPD members have moved to the new Surrey Police Service and more expected over the next few years. Mitigating through hiring of exempt members and new recruits.
- **Youth Squad** – Recent news announcing that the School District Boards in Vancouver and New Westminster have voted to remove school liaison officers. Abbotsford SD is supportive of the program. The program is valued in Abbotsford due to the positive relationships created throughout the schools with the staff, students, and parents.

## 7. ARJAA Update

Yvon Dandurand reported that ARJAA is preparing for their May AGM and looking forward to meeting the new AbbyPB representative. Insp. Burrows has initiated discussion with ARJAA on the departments policies for restorative justice.

## 8. BCAPB Update

Mark Warkentin reported on the correspondence received from the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General which acknowledges the resolutions put forward by the BCAPB following the March 6, 2021 AGM.

## 9. E-Comm Update

Mike Welte reported that E-Comm is planning for a Special General Meeting to ask Members to approve certain amendments to the E-Comm Members' Agreement and to the Company's Articles which are being recommended to the Board of Directors.

Mike reported that the next Board meeting is planned for May 7<sup>th</sup> and there would be discussion on how to fund the issues identified in the operational review and related recommendations.

## 10. Standing Board Committee Report

- a) **Finance Committee** – no update for this meeting
- b) **Governance & Policy Committee** – Mark Warkentin reported that there were more interviews conducted since the last meeting for the current and upcoming vacancies on the Board.
- c) **Human Resources Committee** – no update for this meeting

## 11. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Braun announced that this is Yvon Dandurand's final meeting, with his full term of six years as the Police Board member being met. Yvon's contributions and thoughtful insights to the Board, Department, and community were recognized with thanks and gratitude.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50pm.

"Original signed"

Chair – Henry Braun

"Original signed"

Recording Secretary – Donna Macey