

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Ross Siemens, Chair
Paula Olmstead
Gordon Holloway
Amrik Narang
Mandy Padda

MANAGEMENT PRESENT:

A/Chief Constable Jason Burrows
A/Deputy Chief Constable Tom Chesley – Operations
Director Bea Nicolato – Finance & Budget
Director Elaine Klassen – Support Services Branch
Inspector Kevin Murray, Patrol Branch

REGRETS:

Chris Dominato

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Donna Macey

Guest Presenter

Kim Riddell, ARJAA

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm.

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 – February 22, 2023
- b. Financial Statements – February 2023
- c. Crime Overview - to February 28, 2023
- d. Media Report
- e. POLICIES
 - i. Package A of policies for REPEAL:
 - II.C.010 Patrol Responsibilities
 - II.D.090 Laying Charges
 - II.D.170 Correction Services Canada Investigations
 - II.D. 190 Case Status
 - II.D.200 Victim Notification
 - ii. II.D.XXX Major Case Management

3. Business Arising Out of Previous Minutes

None

4. PRESENTATION – ARJAA

Inspector Murray introduced Kim Riddell who is the Executive Director at Abbotsford Restorative Justice and Advocacy Association (ARJAA). Kim explained that ARJAA is a non-profit organization that has been operating in Abbotsford for over 20 years. ARJAA engages community conflict outside of the traditional court system, concerned primarily with finding innovative ways to impact restorative values and practices.

ARJAA actively applies the restorative justice lens of crime viewed as harm done to people and relationships, rather than the breaking of laws, strives to repair harm, restore relationships, rebuild trust and, in doing so, transform the community of Abbotsford. Kim noted that the four programs are Restorative Justice (referred by AbbyPD), Restorative Action (working with the School District and students), Restorative Mentoring (at-risk youths), and Community Restorative Practice (community groups experiencing conflict). Insp. Murray reported that currently diversion is not part of the mandate and shared the collaboration process between the AbbyPD and ARJAA, noting that it is the most symbiotic relationship and that AbbyPD benefits significantly from this process. Insp. Murray explained that conflict resolution is much more expedient through ARJAA which is beneficial for victims, offenders, and police officers. Working with ARJAA, AbbyPD has identified ways further expand the utility of how ARJAA services are accessed and used. For example, using direct referrals to ARJAA for low level thefts/offences, removing the police from the process. This is being done through the development of User Agreements between stores and ARJAA. Kim reported that ARJAA were successful in obtaining three-year funding from the Federal Government and have partnered with UFV's Community Health & Social Innovation (CHASI) to assess the referral process with AbbyPD, improve upon and make the program more robust, and expand capacity to take on more files. There is a 1-year pilot project through Federal Crown Counsel for ARJAA to assist in post-charge files was described, noting that that this is a slight shift toward diversion. There are five Abbotsford cases being considered for the project. Another new area of work is through provincial probation where a judge has ordered restorative processes as a condition of probation sentencing.

5. Chief's Report

A/Chief Burrows reported on the following:

Pathways program: Guns and Gangs – Insp. Murray reported that the provincial government has funded this program for the past three years. The funding is the reason that the program exists, but staff recognized that future funding would be difficult to obtain. Knowing a sustainable funding challenge existed, AbbyPD proactively looked for other options, applied for federal funding, and were successful through the Building Safer Communities Fund with four years of funding. AbbyPD will collaborate with ARJAA, the School District, and UFV to transform Pathways from evidenced-informed to evidence-based that is peer reviewed.

Reconciliation and Allyship Course – one year course through UFV – 2 members and 3 senior leader team members enrolled in the course.

Positive Media and Engagement

- **March 4, Car Meet**, targeting early 20s car enthusiasts to create positive relations.
- **March 4, It's a No** campaign event at Rotary organized by Youth Squad and Recruiting members in response to the sextortion of Surrey teenager who committed

suicide. The campaign focuses on providing youth tools and resources to deal with sextortion related issues.

- **Community Pop-up event** – held first Community Pop-Up event at Whatcom and Vye week of March 20th – using a retrofitted utility trailer to connect community policing with the public; will be hosting many other pop-up events throughout the year and will advertise through social media.

Repeat Violent Offending Intervention Initiative (ReVOII) – announced by BC Public Prosecution Services; rapid investigation by Butler and LePard into random stranger attacks, lead to the announcement of this initiative that will split the province into zones and dedicates 20 dedicate crown and 20 dedicated support staff. The program will identify 400 offenders that meet this criteria; AbbyPD region will identify 20 and through the investigation support branch, the intel hub will be embedded into the initiative to help identify the 20 that crown will focus on.

Fallen officers in Edmonton, Cst. Travis Jordan and Cst. Brett Ryan, and in Quebec, Sgt. Maureen Breau, were recognized.

6. STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance Committee – Gord Holloway now becomes the Chair of the Finance Committee, with Chris Dominato moving from Chair to member of the Committee.
- b. Governance & Policy Committee – There was nothing to report for this meeting.
- c. Human Resources Committee – There was nothing to report for this meeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

None raised.

8. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC RELATING TODAY'S MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44pm.

"Original signed"

Chair – Ross Siemens

"Original signed"

Recording Secretary – Donna Macey