

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, November 20, 2025

TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Committee Room
Coquitlam City Hall
3000 Guilford Way
Coquitlam, BC

CALL TO ORDER

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, September 18, 2025

Recommendation:

That the Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, September 18, 2025 be approved.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2. Community Safety Discussion (Presentation by Ian Waters, Strategic Analyst)**
7:05 - 7:35 p.m. (30 minutes)
- 3. Hate Speech Considerations and Response (Presentation by Inspector Aaron Lloyd, Operations Support Officer)**
7:35 - 8:05 p.m. (30 minutes)
- 4. What to Expect When Calling 911 (Presentation by Jill Van Os, Acting Manager Police Support Services)**
8:05 - 8:25 p.m. (20 minutes)
- 5. 2025 Year-End Review / 2026 Work Plan Development (Presentation by Sean O'Melinn, Manager Business and Innovation)**
8:25 - 8:45 p.m. (20 minutes)
- 6. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)**
8:45 - 9:00 p.m. (15 minutes)

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OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE - 2026

ADJOURNMENT

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 18, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, September 18, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair
Councillor Trish Mandewo, Vice Chair
Leo Chen, Coquitlam Youth Council
Andrea Corrigan, Hope for Freedom Society
Ron Coulson, Citizen Representative
Julianne (Jewels) Cressman, Citizen Representative
Carol Metz, Citizen Representative
Ally Wang, Citizen Representative

ABSENT: Judy Payne, School District No. 43 (Regrets)
Mezie Odigboh, Citizen Representative (Regrets)
Ravinder Safaya, Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce (Regrets)
Amandeep Sangha, Citizen Representative (Regrets)
Mohammad Ziaei, Block Watch Program

STAFF: Jim Ogloff, General Manager Community Safety
Scott Young, Fire Chief
Kim Singh, Senior Manager Police Services
Aaron Hilgerdenaar, Senior Manager Bylaw Services
Eva Kaczmarczyk, Manager Risk and Emergency Programs
Sean O'Melinn, Manager Business and Innovation
Lawrence Dunks, Manager Traffic and Street Use
Sergeant Jaime Myles, Coquitlam RCMP
Anagha Krishnan, Team Lead Road Safety and Operations
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, May 22, 2025**

The Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, May 22, 2025 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Pedestrian Safety Improvements**

The Team Lead Road Safety and Operations gave a presentation entitled “Pedestrian Safety Improvements: Towards Vision Zero” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Councillor Mandewo entered the meeting at this point (7:06 p.m.).

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The cost of Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFBs) installation, maintenance, and asset replacement budgeting as well as suggestions to explore local and/or domestic manufacturers and sourcing.
- Consideration that collision data from ICBC and police reports does not include near misses, unreported incidents, or collisions of non-motorized vehicles.
- The need for pedestrian education regarding intersections and phone distraction, and suggestions that ICBC programming be promoted in schools and that new communication platforms be used to broaden audiences.
- Concerns about neighbourhoods without sidewalks and/or streetlights, particularly near schools and in winter.
- Whether preferred accessibility routes to and from schools are provided by the School District.
- The understanding that the City’s Sidewalk Program plans construction over the coming five years and that the plan considers proximity to schools.
- Ways that neighbourhood groups could become involved in communications, for example with a social media challenge.

3. Extreme Weather Planning and Policies

The Manager Risk and Emergency Programs gave a presentation entitled “Extreme Weather Response” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The communication of cleaner air facility locations in event of air quality events.
- The availability of commercially prepared household emergency kits, and the possibility of community organizations preparing some for distribution.
- Recent efforts to coordinate responses to extreme weather, particularly extreme heat, across the region including municipalities and the health authority.
- The possibility of extending cleaner air and cooling facilities operations to 24 hours a day when extreme heat does not sufficiently dissipate in the night.
- Different ways to support vulnerable individuals who do not seek assistance during extreme weather.
- A suggestion to use household mailers to inform residents annually or seasonally about extreme weather resources in the community.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Vulnerable populations can be supported during extreme weather through personal communications and neighbourhood relationships, support for pets that might keep people isolated at home, and health checks requested through 911.
- Following the Coroner’s Inquest into the 2021 heat dome, updated emergency programs legislation by the province suggested that municipalities make plans to support vulnerable populations.
- Communications from the City about extreme weather is typically responsive to specific circumstances, which may limit the effectiveness of prescheduled communications content.

4. Fire/Rescue Incident Responses: Types and Trends

The Fire Chief gave a presentation entitled: “Fire and Rescue Incident Responses – Types and Trends” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The change to 24 hour shifts and improvements to work-life balance and sleep patterns.
- Appreciation of the compassion displayed by firefighters and fire inspectors in interactions with the community, particularly vulnerable populations.
- Timeliness of responses in west Coquitlam where the transit corridor is supporting population growth and the possibility of building a new Fire Hall nearby.
- The proportion of medical calls that are responses to overdoses.

- The establishment of the training centre at Fire Hall #1 and opportunities for youth to get involved through School District No. 43's Junior Firefighter Program.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Response times in west Coquitlam are within the acceptable range, but response times and growth of high-rise structures have been identified as a risk.
- A study of Fire Hall locations found the ideal location of Fire Hall #3 would be slightly further north on Blue Mountain Street and a new Fire Hall is planned to serve the south and southeast of the City.

Ally Wang left the meeting at this point and did not return (8:29 p.m.).

The Team Lead Road Safety and Operations left the meeting at this point and did not return (8:32 p.m.).

5. Homelessness and Encampment Response

The Senior Manager Bylaw Services gave a presentation entitled "Homelessness and Encampment Response" and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The critical role of making appropriate and attractive housing available and the challenge of addressing safety issues, such as fire risk, without feasible alternatives for the affected population.
- Comparative statistics of supportive housing provided in other municipalities, and opportunities to follow successes.
- The need for collaboration between the province, municipalities, and service providers to address the issue comprehensively and regionally.
- The distinction between supportive housing being constructed versus ongoing operating impacts and between the provision of land versus capital to build housing.
- A desire for a housing-first approach and enhanced mental health services, with the HEART & HEARTH program and the involuntary care model as examples to be built upon and s̄amiq̄w̄əʔel̄ə as a potential land resource.
- The fiscal and social costs of homelessness that are incurred without preventative or targeted investment, and the relative size of investments to the growth of the unhoused population in recent years.
- Challenges faced by community organizations with respect to receiving funding and the inability of some organizations to seek funding due to administrative overhead demands.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The unhoused population of a nearby encampment is 69-76% men and 23-30% women.
- The City is part of a working group of municipalities for the HEART & HEARTH program to review its successes and challenges, particularly the need for greater wrap-around services and social integration.

Leo Chen left the meeting at this point and did not return (8:51 p.m.).

6. Committee Members’ Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

The Committee Clerk made the following announcements:

- Members are encouraged to promote the campaign to recruit volunteers to other City Boards and Advisory Committees.
- The annual Volunteer Recognition Event will take place in spring 2026, rather than fall 2025, and further information will be provided in the coming months.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, November 20, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Councillor Dennis Marsden, Chair

Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk



City of Coquitlam

Neighbourhood Safety Discussion

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Session Guidelines

- Facilitate discussion that will help us understand what safety looks like in Coquitlam and how people are feeling.
- Please be respectful when others are speaking and try to share the talking time.
- All perspectives are valid, this conversation is about experiences, not right or wrong answers.



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Facilitated Question

Do you feel safe in your neighbourhood?

Facilitated Question: Follow-Ups

What does feeling safe mean to you?

What factors make you feel more or less safe?

Did you feel safer in the past? Why?

Discussion Summary

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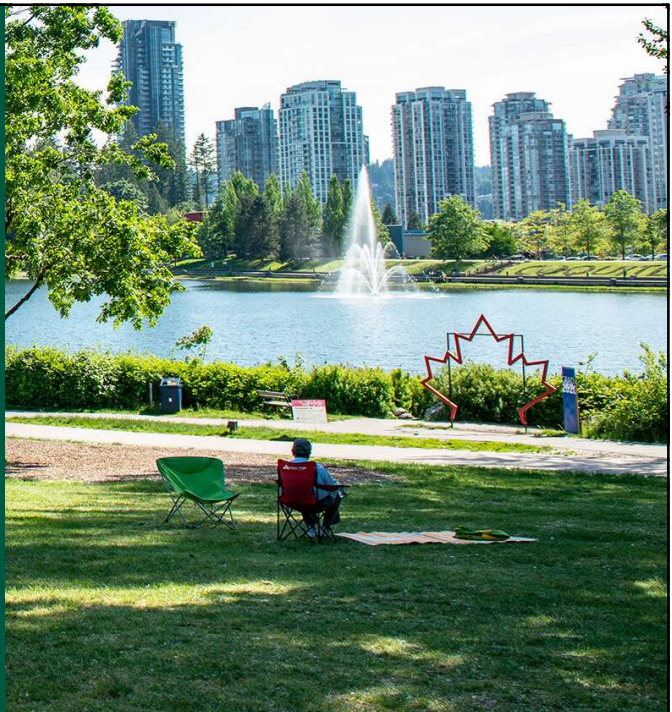
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Thank you

Ian Waters
Strategic Analyst
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City of Coquitlam
Community Safety

Hate Crimes & Incidents

Agenda

1. Definitions & Legal Distinctions
2. Trend Analysis: National, Provincial, and Local
3. Coquitlam Detachment Actions
4. Barriers and Challenges



Definitions and Legal Distinctions

Hate Crime	Hate Incident
Criminal offence	Non-criminal actions or behaviors
Motivated by bias, prejudice, or hate	Motivated by bias, prejudice, or hate
Examples: Assault, threats, mischief, or promotion of hatred	Examples: Derogatory comments, online abuse, insensitive behaviour that may contribute to community harm, fear, and trauma

Why does the distinction matter?

Distinction between hate crime and hate incident is foundational for legal response and statistical reporting

- ❖ Determines police response
- ❖ Affects how analysts compile statistics

To prosecute as a hate crime the offence **must be proven to be motivated by** hate or bias

- ❖ Raises the evidentiary bar

Criminal Code Provisions

There are several provisions available within the *Criminal Code* that address hate crimes:

- Section 318 - Advocating Genocide
- Section 319(1) - Public Incitement of Hatred
- Section 319(2) - Wilful Promotion of Hatred
- Section 319(2.1) - Wilful Promotion of Antisemitism

Section 718.2 of the *Criminal Code* can be applied at sentencing:

- If suspect motivated in whole or in part by hate, prejudice or bias; **and**
- If proven beyond a reasonable doubt
 - ❖ Considered an aggravating factor that can increase the offender's sentence.

National and Provincial Trends

Hate crimes have trended upwards in Canada and British Columbia over the past five years, with particularly sharp increases during and following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Year	Canada	BC	% change (YOY)
2020	2,646	519	+62%
2021	3,355	725 (est.)	+42%
2022	3,576	757 (est.)	+3%
2023	4,828	1,012	+34%
2024	4,882	1,061	+5%

Sources: Statistics Canada, RCMP, Provincial Annual Reports

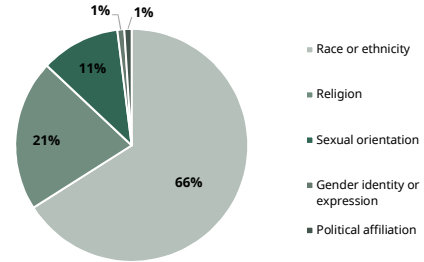
National and Provincial Motivations and Targeted Groups

Motivation Breakdown (Canada/BC, 2019-2024)

Group	Proportion of Cases
Race/Ethnicity	45%
Religion	28%
Sexual Orientation	10%
Other (disability, language, etc.)	4 – 6%
Sex/Gender	1.8%

Sources: Statistics Canada, 2024

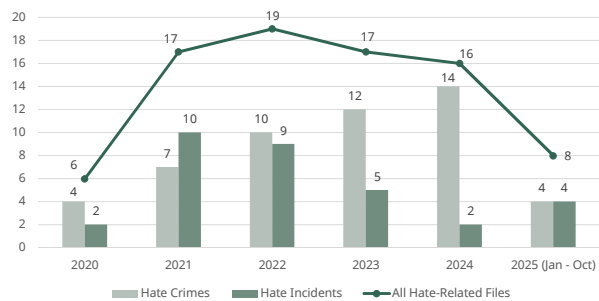
Targeted Groups (2020-2025)



Coquitlam Trends

- Reports rose sharply from 2020 to 2021, peaked in 2022, stabilized in 2023-2024, and dropped significantly in 2025 (with two months remaining).
- While hate crimes increased through 2024, hate incidents declined.
- File types shifted with societal events

Coquitlam Hate-Related Files (2020-2025)



Comparison to Peer Municipalities

- Coquitlam's hate crime rate is generally **comparable to peer municipalities of similar size, diversity, and urbanization**
 - Burnaby
 - Richmond
 - Surrey
- Most common file types:
 - Mischief
 - Cause disturbance
 - Unspecified assistance
 - Uttering threats against persons

Coquitlam Detachment Strategies

In 2022, Coquitlam RCMP launched Hate Crime and Hate Incident training

- Awareness campaign with in-person sessions
- Supervisors received extra training to monitor related files and were responsible for reporting incidents to senior management.

In 2022, Coquitlam Detachment appointed a Hate Crime Coordinator

- Training on hate crimes and incidents
- Reviewing and monitoring related reports
- Liaising with municipal and provincial partners, including the BC Hate Crime Unit

Barriers, Challenges, and Gaps

Despite high-profile cases and outreach, hate crimes and hate incidents remain significantly underreported

- Language, cultural, and immigration status barriers undermine willingness to report.
- Community trust is fragile, particularly among groups with prior negative police encounters or histories of discrimination.
- Victims sometimes fear retaliation, community ostracism, or secondary trauma from the legal process.

Efforts to Overcome Barriers:

- B.C.'s new Racist Incident Helpline (1-833-HLP-LINE) launched in 2024.
- Intended to lower threshold for support and reporting, connecting victims to culturally sensitive resources as a first step even where a police report is not made.

Questions?

Insp. Aaron Lloyd

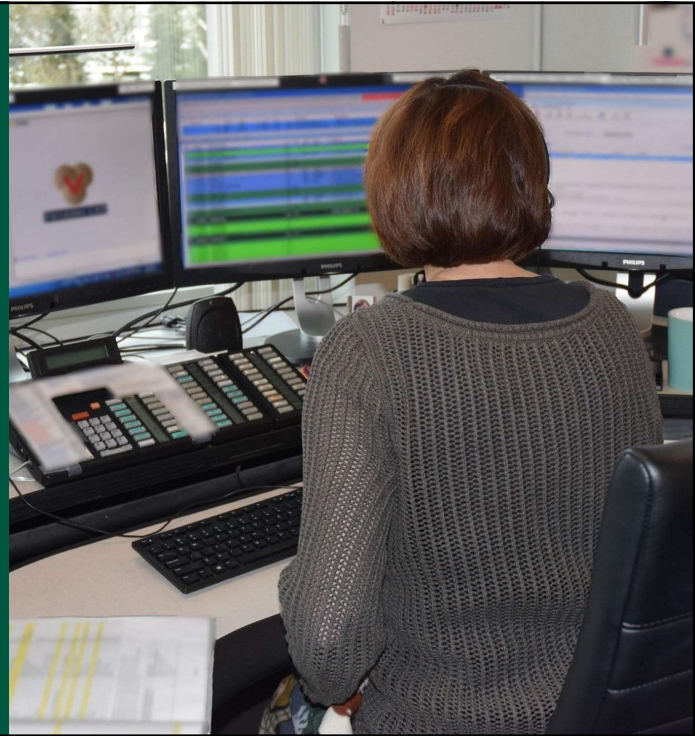
Aaron.Lloyd@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

City of Coquitlam
Community Safety

What to expect when calling 9-1-1


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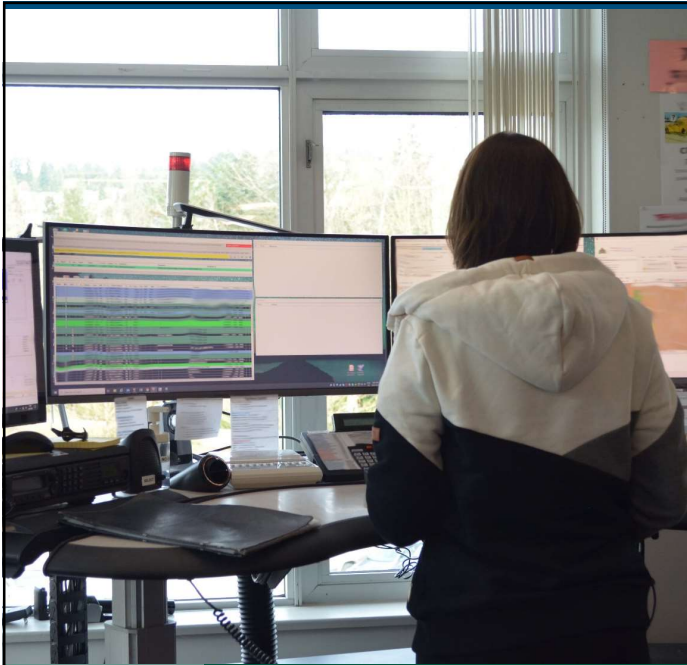
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**What information would be
helpful for the public to feel
more comfortable calling 9-1-1?**

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Calling 9-1-1

When to Call 9-1-1

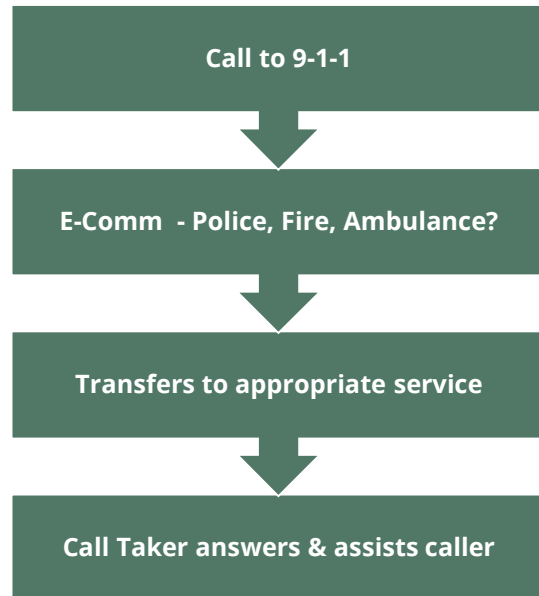


For police, fire, or medical emergencies when immediate action is required.



When someone's health, safety or property is in jeopardy, or a crime is in progress or just occurred.

How 9-1-1 Works



Questions to Expect



Where?



What?



When?



Who?



Weapons?



Drugs & Alcohol

When Police are Dispatched

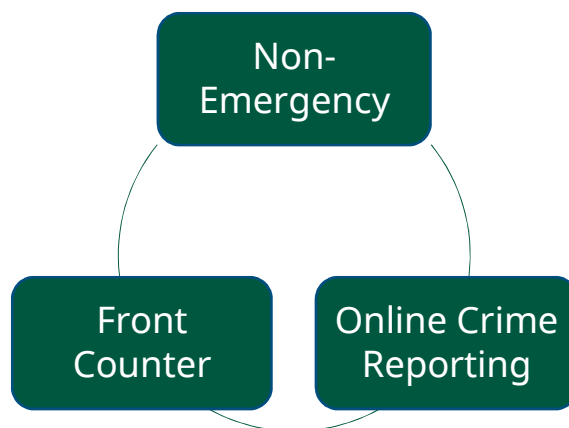
If there is no immediate risk:

- Call taker will give direction to call back if anything changes

If there is an immediate risk:

- Call takers will stay on the line
- Provide updates on police's location to reassure the caller
- Direct caller to meet police when scene is secure / situation is safe

Other Ways to Contact Police



What information would be helpful for the public to feel more comfortable calling 9-1-1?

Questions?

Jill Van Os

Manager Police Support Services

jvanos@coquitlam.ca



City of Coquitlam – Community Safety Advisory Committee Year-End Review and 2026 Work Planning

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Agenda

1. Summary of 2025 Meetings
2. Feedback on 2025
3. 2026 Work Plan Development



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Summary of 2025

What we accomplished:

- Victim Services Overview
- Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Program
- Coquitlam Crime Trends
- Youth Gang Exit Program
- CGET including Inadmissible Patrons Program
- Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Basics
- Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan Update
- Pedestrian Safety Improvements
- Extreme Weather Planning and Policies
- Fire/Rescue Incident Responses: Types and Trends
- Homelessness and Encampment Response
- Hate Speech Considerations and Response
- Community Safety Discussion
- What to Expect When Calling 911

Summary of 2025

What we could carry over in 2026:

- Disaster Risk Reduction Program Update
- Youth Cyber Bullying & Sexting
- Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) Team



2025 COSAC Feedback

- Which items were of most interest/relevance to you?
- Which items were of the least interest/relevance to you?
- Do you have any other comments or thoughts on your experience?

2026 Work Plan Input

- What topics should be considered for inclusion on the 2026 work plan?
- Would you support exploring fewer items more in-depth?

Rollover of items from 2025:

- Disaster Risk Reduction Program Update
- Youth Cyber Bullying & Sexting
- Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) Team

Potential new work plan items:

- Fraud Prevention, Response and Recovery
- Shoplifting Prevention and Response
- Fire/Rescue Responses Types and Trends
- Community Wildfire Preparedness Update
- Fire Prevention and Life Safety Bylaw Updates
- BCEHS Fire/Rescue (First Responder) Service Agreement

Thank you –
See you in
2026

    
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