

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**Thursday, November 30, 2023**

A Regular Meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Craig Hodge, Chair
Councillor Teri Towner, Vice Chair
David Krenz, Citizen Representative
Amandeep Sangha, Citizen Representative
Kevin Volz, Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce
Chloe Chen, Youth Council

REGRETS: Ron Coulson, Citizen Representative
Sarah Ramji, Citizen Representative
Tom Bowlware, Hope for Freedom Society
Kelly Zimmer, School District No. 43
Tháбата da Costa, Tri-Cities Local Immigration Partnership

STAFF: Sean O'Melinn, Manager Business and Innovation – Community Safety
Chrystal Santos, Manager Business and Innovation – Finance Business Services
Kim Singh, Manager Police Services
Bob Hieltjes, Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention
Staff Sergeant Jolaine Percival, Coquitlam RCMP Detachment
Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, September 28, 2023

The Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, September 28, 2023 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2. SPICE Event Overview

Staff Sergeant Jolaine Percival, Coquitlam RCMP Detachment, provided a presentation entitled “Coquitlam RCMP – Special Post-Incident Community Engagement (SPICE)” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of Coquitlam RCMP Detachment’s SPICE initiative
- Public safety incidents and impact on public perceptions of safety in Coquitlam
- The importance of adapting to shifting public safety trends and involving community by raising awareness of public safety events and concerns
- Surrey RCMP Detachment’s Neighbourhood Incident Response Support Team (NIRST)
- Comparison between SPICE and other local RCMP safety initiatives such as NIRST
- RCMP community partnerships including block watch programs and public safety marketing campaigns

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Whether the RCMP provides advanced publicity for SPICE events
- Committee desire for the RCMP to have a duty to warn community regarding chronic offenders and the importance of long-term monitoring for chronic offenders
- Difference between RCMP SPICE initiative and Community Response Team (CRT)
- RCMP efforts to alleviate public concerns regarding chronic offenders who live in local communities
- Appreciation for Coquitlam RCMP Detachment’s efforts to address public safety concerns and support for post-SPICE event public forums
- The importance of acquiring objective crime data through monitoring
- Challenges of limiting the spread of misinformation regarding SPICE events and RCMP efforts to combat this issue

3. Fire Risk Reduction Dashboard and Targeted Community Outreach

Bob Hieltjes, Assistant Chief of Fire Prevention, Coquitlam Fire Rescue, provided a presentation entitled “Community Fire Risk Reduction Dashboard – Targeted Community Outreach” that covered the following topics:

- Overview of the Community Fire Risk Reduction Dashboard and the Coquitlam Fire Rescue Smoke Alarm Program – Targeted Community Outreach
- Data breakdown of fires attended by firefighters and fire-related deaths in BC from 2017 to 2022
- Overview of the BC Office of the Fire Commissioner’s (OFC) FireSafe Program (hereon “the Program”)
- Many fires occurring due to lack of or improperly installed smoke detectors
- High-risk groups and buildings where fires are more likely to occur
- The Program’s primary focus being single-detached homes, marketing campaigns, online fillable public forms and community outreach events

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Whether video surveillance systems will be installed in future commercial buildings and schools to deter arson
- Legislative and legal requirements regarding fire suppression technology in buildings including schools
- Roles and responsibilities of the Program's Junior Firefighter volunteers in terms of registering residents and providing information
- Carbon monoxide versus smoke detector cost and carbon monoxide deaths trending downward
- The Program's smoke detectors and funding sources

4. 2023 Year-End Review/Identify Potential Items for the Draft 2024 Work Plan

The Manager Business and Innovation – Finance Business Services provided a presentation entitled "2023 Year-End Review and 2024 Work Planning" that covered the following topics:

- Overview of 2023 Work Plan items and meetings
- 2024 Work Plan drafting process
- Staff appreciation for Committee feedback throughout 2023

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Potential items for the Draft 2024 Work Plan, including a community policing presentation, providing Coquitlam residents with crime and public safety statistics, a presentation regarding Coquitlam RCMP Detachment's gang initiatives and Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) teams, and an update on the City's public safety efforts and initiatives
- Community safety being a key Council priority for Coquitlam's 2024 Business Plan and 2024 Budget
- The Red Fish Healing Centre on səmíqʷəʔelə (Suh-MEE-kwuh-EL-uh)/Riverview lands, including funding sources, jurisdiction, operator and concerns regarding required Coquitlam RCMP Detachment resources
- Whether the City is collaborating with School District No. 43 (SD43) on school safety initiatives and concerns
- Mental health's impact on crime, homelessness and addiction issues
- Canadian Mental Health Association's (CMHA) Peer Assisted Community Teams (PACTs) and where they operate

5. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues

The Chair invited Committee members to share details regarding emerging safety issues in their communities.

The following information was shared:

- Concern regarding continued Lower Mainland population growth and impact on local transportation infrastructure, services and resources
- The Provincial Government's recent housing legislation, Bills 44, 46 and 47, and impact on municipal governments
- Introduction of the Manager Business and Innovation – Community Safety

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING – TBD (2024)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Craig Hodge, Chair

Caley Amundsen, Committee Clerk