

**VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD
SERVICE & POLICY COMPLAINT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Meeting minutes

June 24, 2021, 1:59pm to 2:54pm

7TH Floor Boardroom 2120 Cambie, Vancouver & via VIDEO CONFERENCE

Board Members Present

Allan E. Black (Committee Chair)
Faye Wightman (Acting Board Chair)
Patricia Barnes
Frank Chong
Merrilee Robson
Wendy John
Rachel Roy

Staff Present

Chief Constable Adam Palmer
DCC Howard Chow
DCC Fiona Wilson
DCC Steve Rai

Stephanie Johanssen, Executive Director
Minutes by Ali Huculak, Executive Assistant

Absent:

Mayor Kennedy Stewart

1. Consent Agenda

The Chair called the meeting to order.

- 1.1 Agenda for June 24, 2021
- 1.2 Minutes of April 15, 2021 Service or Policy Complaints Review Committee Meeting
- 1.3 OPCC/Service or Policy Correspondence

Motion to approve the consent agenda.
MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

2. New Service or Policy Complaint & Investigation Report

- 2.1 Complaint #2021-002: BC Place Roof**
- 2.2 Report #2106C02: Report on SP #2021-002**

Mr. Manojlovic spoke to the complaint stating the VPD acknowledges the complainant's frustration with the situation. The VPD found no evidence of criminality or wrongdoing and no evidence to support the complainant's assertion that a criminal offence occurred in this matter.

Motion to conclude the review of the complaint, based on the information outlined in the report.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

3. New Service or Policy Complaint & Investigation Report

3.1 Complaint 2021-006: Property Damage

3.2 Report # 2106C02: VPD Report on S&P #2021-006

Inspector Kevin Bernardin spoke to this complaint noting the VPD acknowledges the concerns raised by the complainant. The complainant has been advised that it was Vancouver Fire that breached the door, causing the damage and not the VPD. The VPD did not recommend any changes to policy or procedure and asked the committee to conclude its review of this complaint based on the information provided.

Insp. Bernardin explained the City looks at reimbursement at a case by case basis and depending on the circumstances, the Risk Management Department would take everything into consideration and make a decision.

Motion to conclude the review of the complaint, based on the information outlined in the report.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

4. New Service or Policy Complaint & Investigation Report

4.1 Complaint #2021-004: Online Hate Crime Reporting

4.2 Report # 2106C03: Report on S&P #2021-004

Sgt Val Spicer spoke to this report, noting the Diversity, Inclusion and Indigenous Relations Section will continue outreach and dialogue to identify and reduce barriers to reporting hate crime incidents.

Sgt Val Spicer provided a brief outline, noting in March/April of 2020 there was a significant and concerning trend regarding anti-East Asian hate crimes. Sgt Spicer noted this trend was increasing in volume but also in level of violence in random assaults. The VPD met with the community early on in this trend, and since to discuss strategies to increase accessibility for reporting for the community. The community requested an online form be translated into simplified and traditional Chinese language so this could be offered within various community settings. The VPD created a form and distributed it to a number of different agencies, and also at the VPD front counter.

This particular service or policy complaint requests for more languages, specifically English forms. The VPD has since met with the complainant to discuss their concerns, and also additional complainants who came forward as a result of the open letter. The VPD has now made the forms available in English, Japanese, Korean, Punjabi, Tagalog and Vietnamese, and are currently working on Arabic, Farsi, French, Hindi and Spanish. Sgt Spicer stated the VPD is also working on a translated video that will explain how and when to report to police, as well as liaising with government agencies to expand reporting mechanisms through other means.

Motion to conclude the review of the complaint, based on information outlined in the report and given the actions taken by the VPD in response to the complaint.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

The Board discussed the recommendations made by Mr. Steven Ngo, and stated they would like to see the Diversity Inclusion and Indigenous Relations section follow up on the recommendations that Mr. Ngo was speaking to, as well as report back to the Board and Mr. Ngo on how the VPD is moving forward regarding the five points mentioned.

DCC Chow and Chief Palmer both provided context as to how the Department is moving forward with respect to this complaint and the recommendations made.

Ms. Roy raised a *Point of Order* and ask that the Board gets to ask questions and make comments about the report from the Department before the motion is moved recommended by the department.

5. OPCC Recommendation

5.1 Report #2020-026: Block Watch Lobbying

5.2 Recommendation

The Board discussed correspondence received with respect to an email that went out from the VPD to BlockWatch regarding the 2021 budget and determined how they will deal with this complaint under section 171(1) of the Police Act.

Board member Ms. Rachel Roy spoke to her questions and concerns about how this correspondence occurred and asked for clarification on how this came to be.

DCC Chow spoke to a Board member's concerns stating the VPD reached out to different community groups to illicit their comments or concerns, either for or against the budget, to ensure they are given an opportunity to express that. The survey was conducted by the VPD independent of this complaint, the VPD conducted a survey through Leger that the VPD reported to the Board on in the Fall of 2020.

The Board discussed and determined action 171(A) under the Police Act;

Motion to ask the Chief Constable to investigate and report back to the Board on the complaint.

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

6. New Service or Policy Complaint & Investigation Report
6.1 Complaint #2021-008: Handcuffing and Detention

Board member Ms. Roy asked for a list of all the service or policy complaints that are currently deferred.

Acting Chair Faye Wightman spoke to creating an interim policy on handcuffing, and have the policy reviewed by an external consultant, such as a retired judge on the short term. Ms. Wightman added that Police Services should be looking at the handcuffing policy in the long term, specifically about creating a Provincial wide policy, and determined this will be discussed at a later date. The Board approving a final handcuffing policy is currently on hold, pending the outcome of the conduct investigation into the incident at the Bank of Montreal.

Motion to take the current VPD draft policy on handcuffing and detention and have it independently reviewed by an external agency, subsequently bringing it back as an interim policy for approval, under section 171 (1) (e) of the Police Act. (take any other course of action it considers necessary to respond to the complaint)

MOVED/SECONDED

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 2:54pm.