

CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, November 9, 2017

The Lakes Banquet Room, 4670 Elk Lake Drive, Victoria

Members: Corey Burger, Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition
A/S/Sgt. Ron Cronk, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit
Judy Dryden, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact
Chris Foord, Community Member (Vice-Chair)
Dr. Murray Fyfe, Medical Health Officer, Island Health
Jeff Groot, RoadSafetyBC
Janelle Hatch, Island Health
Todd Litman, Walk On Victoria
Barb McLintock, BC Coroner's Service
Alan Perry, Media
Colin Plant, CRD Director (Chair)
Dr. Holly Tuokko, Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, University of Victoria
Rudi Wetselaar, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

Associates: S/Sgt. Marc Chateau, Saanich Police
Sgt. Al Gurzinski, Saanich Police
John Hicks, CRD
Dr. Richard Stanwick, Island Health

Regrets: Marnice Jones, School Districts
Bill Laughlin, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Tina Rogers, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety Division

Guests: Erin Anderson, RoadSafetyBC
Dr. Geoff McKee, Island Health

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED by Jeff Groot, **SECONDED** by Rudi Wetselaar, that the agenda be approved. **CARRIED**

2. **Approval of Minutes – October 12, 2017**

MOVED by Jeff Groot, **SECONDED** by Rudi Wetselaar, that the minutes of the meeting held on October 12, 2017 be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

3. **Chair's Remarks**

Chair Plant advised that the new CRD Board Chair is Sidney Mayor Steven Price, replacing Barb Desjardins. It is the CRD Chair that appoints people to committees and of interest to us would be the Transportation Committee and the new committee related to the proposed regional transportation service. Dr. Richard Stanwick commented that as the Town of Sidney had been interested in the scooter issue in the past and as it is something in which the TSC had invested some time and resources, this may possibly be of interest to the new Chair. It was decided to invite Mayor Price to attend the December TSC meeting so he could see what the Commission does.

A meeting was held between Chair Desjardin (prior to Steven Price's appointment as Chair), Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, and other government officials and CRD staff. Chair Plant was unable to attend, however, Jeff Groot was in attendance in his role at RoadSafetyBC. On the recommendation of the TSC, the CRD had forwarded a letter to the

province asking for interval cameras on the Malahat as a trial project. Chair Plant commented that the preferred term is “point to point” cameras rather than speed cameras. Minister Farnworth’s position is that he is “all ears” but he wants to hear from the public to see if there is community support and he wants to hear individual views, rather than any kind of survey or poll. The province is not going to act on this unless there is more input and the timeline for feedback has been set as the end of 2017. As a Commission, we certainly can be the coordinators of a campaign to get the word out that the province is interested in people’s feedback on this issue. Our general approach needs to be adopted today so we will consider our next steps under other business. If this does go ahead, there would be legislative changes required. John Hicks advised that some email correspondence from the public regarding the proposed project has already been received and he will forward this to Chair Plant.

Dr. Richard Stanwick asked if there would be a role for education beyond our usual campaigns, e.g., possibly hosting a webinar series. As a Commission we could elevate the conversation by saying this is the evidence that needs to be discussed and having an informed public dialogue. This will be discussed further under other business.

Alan Perry said that the Malahat is a high consequence corridor that causes huge delays for people and commerce when there is an accident and that’s an important point that must be made in any campaign. Terminology will be critical and “point to point” should be used. S/Sgt. Cronk said that he spoke with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure last week and they have created a dollar figure for every hour that the Malahat is closed. A closure really does shut down the economy on the South Island.

Action: Add Malahat campaign as an agenda item for December

4. **Media clips**

Alan Perry showed two pictures submitted by members.

5. **Priority Business**

➤ **Budget Planning**

John Hicks gave a budget update. Budget preparation for the Commission is very straight forward. Expenditures don’t need to be determined until next year. Each year, the TSC is provided with approximately \$70,000. Of that, \$14,000-\$15,000 is allocated for administration, with the remainder being for education/advertising campaigns. At this stage, the budget has gone through to the CRD Board for the approval process. That money will become available at the beginning of next year. In terms of last year’s budget, the final expenditure figures won’t be available for a few weeks. There will probably be a very small carryover, so approximately \$55,000 will be available for expenditure next year. John is checking into some of the web issues around opening of the website so that people can apply for funding online. John will put together a package at the beginning of next year which will identify what general commitments have been made.

Chair Plant commented that we may want to keep in mind to proportionally release funds so that all the money isn’t spent early in the year, and some funds are left for people who apply later.

There is an application from Beacon Community Services in process for car seat funding. This is typically the time of the year that they have applied for new funds in the past. They did apply online but somehow it didn’t go through. Even though this is an annual request, we do need to get the application first before we can approve allocating the funds. John Hicks is speaking to the web provider to see what happened and he will follow up with Elaine Venables from Beacon Community Services.

MOVED by Corey Burger, **SECONDED** by Holly Tuokko, that the budget as presented of approximately \$14,500 for administration and \$27,500 each for advertising and programs be approved and sent forward through the CRD budget process. **CARRIED**

➤ **Advertising – Chek TV Proposal**

Alan Perry advised that Chek TV was unable to give a lower quote for advertising than the one they had already given. He will ask them for a quote on a short campaign regarding the feedback to Minister Farnworth around the Malahat.

➤ **Letter re Recommendations from Ernst and Young Report – “ICBC - Affordable and Effective Auto Insurance”**

Discussion took place on a letter to ICBC which had been drafted by Dr. Richard Stanwick and Barb McLintock.

MOVED by Corey Burger, **SECONDED** by Murray Fyfe, that the letter to ICBC re the Ernst and Young report be sent on to the CRD Board as distributed. **CARRIED**

First Amendment:

MOVED by Chris Foord, **SECONDED** by Alan Perry, that the letter to ICBC re the Ernst and Young report be sent with the following change: add the word “potential” before “road safety benefits” in the last line of paragraph 3. **CARRIED**

Second Amendment:

MOVED by Chris Foord, **SECONDED** by Alan Perry, that the letter to ICBC re the Ernst and Young report be sent with the following change: replace the words “photo radar” with “automated enforcement.” **CARRIED**

Final Motion:

That the letter to ICBC re the Ernst and Young report be sent on to the CRD Board for approval with two amendments as noted. **CARRIED**

OPPOSED: S/Sgt. Cronk

A question was posed as to whether TSC members can vote by email.

Action: John Hicks will check to see if the TSC Procedure Bylaw allows members to vote by email.

➤ **Roads and Traffic at Night**

Chair Plant advised that this item was added to the agenda in response to an email from a member of the public expressing concern about the poor visibility of lane divider markings on roads at night. During discussion, Todd Litman suggested that a local municipal traffic engineer be invited to attend a TSC meeting to provide more information. Chris Foord mentioned a presentation given to the TSC several years ago on Rainline road markings.

Action: Todd Litman will invite a municipal traffic engineer to attend the December meeting. John Hicks will look up and circulate the minutes from the meeting at which Rainline presented.

➤ **Commission Membership**

Organizations and sectors represented on the Commission with terms that expire on December 31, 2017, were identified. In accordance with the Commission’s bylaw, members may be appointed for more than one term.

The following incumbents expressed interest in serving another two-year term to represent their respective sectors: Chris Foord, Bill Laughlin, Alan Perry and Colleen Woodger.

MOVED by Barb McLintock, **SECONDED** by Judy Dryden, that it be recommended to the CRD Board that effective January 1, 2018, Chris Foord, civilian with related experience; Bill Laughlin, Vancouver Island Safety Council; Alan Perry, Media; and Colleen Woodger, Insurance Corporation of BC; be nominated for reappointment to the CRD Traffic Safety Commission for a two-year term. In addition, Shawn Hayes, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, is replacing Tina Rogers; and Erin Anderson, RoadSafetyBC, is replacing Jeff Groot and it is

recommended that they be nominated for appointment to the CRD Traffic Safety Commission for a two-year term. **CARRIED**

6. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

➤ UVic Report on Roy Watson Traffic Safety Report

Dr. Richard Stanwick gave some background on the Roy Watson Traffic Safety Award. It was initially established as a writing or poster development contest. This was popular 20 years ago but over time a dramatic drop-off of entries occurred. At the suggestion of our partners at the UVic Centre for Youth and Society, it has morphed into a single award with students getting an opportunity to work on a project related to traffic safety, with the benefit being that this is something that can be added to their CV. The amount of the award continues to increase because of the success of the UVic investments. UVic handles it all and the student who is the successful applicant and their mentor come and give a presentation on their project to the TSC.

7. Member Updates

➤ RoadSafetyBC

Jeff Groot provided the following update:

- Government has made a change to distracted driving penalties to increase them further. The change that's been made is that two tickets in any 3-year period make you subject to a different driver risk premium program. Two tickets now cost \$1996, instead of the previous cost of \$520. The other advantage is that it is attached to your driver's license and will show up in the mail for you to pay annually and it escalates. The idea behind it is a balance between improving road safety and changing behaviour.
- Jeff introduced Erin Anderson, who is Manager of Road Safety Strategies at RoadSafetyBC, and will be replacing Jeff as a Commission member.
- RoadSafety BC will be co-hosting a conference with the Canadian Association of Road Safety Professionals next June in Victoria and TSC members are encouraged to attend. There is currently a call for abstracts if any organization at the table would be interested in presenting and there is also an opportunity to exhibit. Erin will forward information on the conference. Dr. Holly Tuokko advised that she will be attending this conference in her role at UVic.

➤ ICBC

No update

➤ Youth and Children

Judy Dryden gave the following update:

- This week there were eight firefighters from the Victoria Fire Department who went through the child passenger safety educator training.
- Judy now has a BCAA email address which is judy.dryden@bcaa.com.

➤ Seniors

No update

➤ Active Transportation

John Hicks provided the following update:

- The Origin-Destination survey has gone out to about 40,000 households. Feedback will help determine priorities for most of the municipalities across the region.
- Saanich has completed their draft active transportation plan. It is posted online and there is the opportunity to provide feedback until December 8.
- The Safe and Active Routes to School initiative is continuing with a focus on Saanich schools thanks to Saanich continuing the program themselves.

➤ IRSU

S/Sgt. Cronk provided the following update:

- Christmas counterattack season will begin on December 2.

- **CVSE**
No update
- **Vancouver Island Safety Council**
No update
- **GVCC**
Corey Burger provided the following update:
 - GVCC will be bringing forward to next month's meeting a draft letter they would like to have the TSC send to Attorney General David Eby via the CRD Board regarding proposed changes to the Motor Vehicle Act.
- **Walk On Victoria**
No update

8. **Other Business**

➤ **Intersection texting for pedestrians/cyclists**

Chair Plant was asked about this topic by the media. Alan Perry commented that he was also asked about this while he was on the air earlier this week. Ontario is proposing to make walking while texting, especially at intersections, an offence carrying a \$50 fine. Chris Foord commented on the media ploy from a couple of years ago in New York where seeing eye people tethered texters while they were crossing intersections. Alan Perry will bring this clip to next month's meeting. Barb McLintock said this could be replicated quite easily and a one-day educational blitz could take place.

Corey Burger mentioned that data from Ontario shows that distracted walking collisions are decreasing and have been for about ten years. Jeff Groot pointed out that there are already violations in the Motor Vehicle Act for pedestrians who don't obey traffic signals.

After discussion, it was agreed that this issue is not currently a priority for the TSC.

➤ **Strategy to provide feedback to Minister Farnworth**

Chair Plant suggested a small working group be established to meet and produce a plan and within the next two weeks operationalize a strategy to provide feedback by the end of the year. Working group members will be Colin Plant, Todd Litman, Alan Perry, Barb McLintock and Colleen Woodger. Chair Plant will contact people about a meeting.

Chair Plant thanked Jeff Groot from RoadSafety BC and Tina Rogers from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for their contributions as they are leaving the Commission.

9. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14, 2017 at noon in The Lakes banquet room.

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.