

CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday, July 12, 2018
The Lakes Banquet Room, 4670 Elk Lake Drive, Victoria

Members: Erin Anderson, RoadSafetyBC
Corey Burger, Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition
S/Sgt. Ron Cronk, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit
Chris Foord, Community Member (Vice-Chair)
Janelle Hatch, Island Health
Bill Laughlin, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Todd Litman, Walk On Victoria
Barb McLintock, BC Coroner's Service
Colin Plant, CRD Director (Chair)
Dr. Richard Stanwick, Island Health (for Dr. Murray Fyfe)
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety Division

Associates: S/Sgt. Marc Chateau, Saanich Police
Sgt. Andy Duke, Central Saanich Police
John Hicks, CRD

Regrets: Judy Dryden, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact
Dr. Murray Fyfe, Island Health
Shawn Haley, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Marnice Jones, School Districts
Alan Perry, Media
Rudi Wetselaar, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement

Guest: Kate Berniaz, CRD

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Proposed new initiative - Dr. Richard Stanwick
- Future guest speakers - Corey Burger

MOVED by Colleen Woodger, **SECONDED** by Richard Stanwick, that the agenda be approved as amended. **CARRIED**

2. Approval of Minutes – June 14, 2018

MOVED by Bill Laughlin, **SECONDED** by Janelle Hatch, that the minutes of the meeting held on June 14, 2018 be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

3. Chair's Remarks

- Chair Plant thanked members who have been doing work outside of the monthly meeting. In this month the Scholarship Committee has met and the informal e-mail-based group on the road sign wording. He also acknowledged Erin Anderson of RoadSafetyBC for her work on the recent Canadian Association for Road Safety Professionals Conference.
- The CRD origin destination survey has come out and we may want to add this to a future agenda.
- Chair Plant received a copy of an email sent to the media from the Minister's office in response to a request regarding the results of the survey on the proposed point to point speed trials on the Malahat. The email response indicated that the results are still being tabulated and that the province is always interested in ways to make roads safer.
- Thanks to Chris Foord and Barb McLintock who gave the annual presentation to the the CRD Transportation Committee on the recent activities and upcoming initiatives of the TSC.

Chris and Barb provided a brief summary on their presentation and noted that it was very well received. The number of road deaths has been decreasing over the years and Committee members had some questions around that. Presenting to the Transportation Committee rather than the Board allowed more time for questions and answers and some discussion. The Committee requested information from the TSC on three items. (1) The rep from Saltspring Island asked about getting some statistics on Fulford/Ganges Road. Colleen Woodger will connect with him about this. (2) The provincial stats on fatalities to the end of 2017 from the Coroner's office. These have just come out and Barb will forward them for Colin to pass on to CRD Board members. (3) Lack of helmet usage by cyclists using U-bikes and how those numbers could be improved.

In discussion about bike helmets, Corey Burger commented that bike share in North America is very safe, with only 3 or 4 fatalities in the last several years. Part of the reason is because the bikes have running lights that are always on and the bikes' upright positioning means they can't go as fast.

Todd Litman asked if safety in numbers analysis was being incorporated into the CRD's active transportation program. Safety in numbers research indicates that any increase in pedestrian and bicycle casualties is more than offset by reduction in total crashes as more walking and cycling occurs and that should apply to U-bikes. Kate Berniaz replied that they don't have consistent numbers but they are looking at getting more permanent counters so there is more annual data.

Dr. Richard Stanwick asked if the number of km travelled by these bikes could be tracked and then matched to the number of individuals and injury rate per km travelled. John Hicks said that the U-bike agreements are done with each municipality, so it is dependent on what is written into their contract.

Corey Burger said that the City of Victoria prepares an annual crash summary and suggested that total km travelled within the municipality could be taken from the origin destination study and compared to the city's crash numbers which would show some trends.

Barb McLintock noted that province-wide stats from the coroner's office show significant decreases in fatalities for pedestrians and cyclists last year.

Action: Add the topic of helmets on U-bikes to next month's agenda

4. **Presentation – Kate Berniaz, CRD, on conclusion of People Power/Active and Safe Routes to School**

Chair Plant introduced Kate Berniaz from the CRD.

Kate talked about the People Power program that has just ended. This was a CRD led 2-year pilot program with the aim to encourage people to walk, bike and roll safely more often. The TSC contributed to funding components of the program, including the Active and Safe Routes to School Program, bike skills courses, Think of Me, Back to School Brakes, and Helmets and Lights Program. Many organizations from across the entire region were involved which translated into a lot of different projects that looked at serving specific communities, e.g., seniors, new Canadians, students, etc.

One of the big components of the People Power Project was Active and Safe Routes to Schools which saw twenty schools across all four school districts in the region participate in the full program. Work was done with those schools for a year and half on recruiting, data collection, planning, implementation and evaluation, and looking at what challenges each school faced in getting kids walking and biking to school and what actions the participating organizations could contribute. In the 20 schools that were surveyed, 47% of the students were being driven to and from school; 23% walked; 4% were in a carpool; 10% used public transit; 6% used the school bus; 6% cycled; and 2% walked partway. 67% of the students live within 3 km of their school and of students who live within 500 m, 23% are driven. There is an opportunity to increase walking and biking for students who live close to their schools.

Neighbourhood walkabouts were done to look at infrastructure challenges around the school. From that, action plans were created which identified what improvements needed to be made and then looked at programming.

After implementation, a follow-up survey was done which found that important impacts were achieved. There was an increase in the use of active transportation and decrease in using a car as the usual transportation mode to/from school.

Other components in the People Power Program were:

- Bike skills courses were provided to 24 students in grade 4/5 at each school which included safety education, bike checks, etc. A family bike skills course was also offered with parents and children learning to safely ride together in traffic.
- Think of Me Campaign was delivered at six schools across the region in partnership with ICBC and local police. Students were given blank cards to fill out and draw in and on the back of the cards, enforcement information was provided. These were handed out to drivers and at some schools, the cards were made into lawn signs.
- The Back to School Brakes Program provided lawn signs to schools.
- Helmets and Lights Program – Work took place with Tsawout First Nations, Kelset Elementary School, Galiano Community School and Songhees First Nations to provide helmets and lights to students who were taking bike skills courses and included helmet fittings, attaching lights to bikes and bike safety checks.

Overall, this program engaged 27,369 people in the CRD over two years and was recently recognized by the Planning Institute of British Columbia as a gold winner for excellence in planning practice.

Chair Plant thanked Kate Berniaz for her presentation and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to see how TSC funds contributed to this program. He commented that it was very powerful to see the youth drawings and that the TSC may wish to think of that for use in future campaigns.

A question and answer period followed the discussion. Kate said that they would like to see more partnership with UVic around research and evaluation and Chair Plant suggested that may be possible through our working relationship with the UVic School of Youth and Society.

Action: John Hicks will follow up on this issue with Kate Berniaz

Kate asked for the TSC's endorsement of the 2018 Walk and Wheel to School Week.

MOVED by Bill Laughlin, **SECONDED** by Colleen Woodger, that the TSC endorse in principle the 2018 Walk and Wheel to School Week, October 1-5, 2018. **CARRIED**

5. Priority Business

➤ Budget Update

John Hicks advised there is \$9,000 remaining in the current budget and asked that any pending invoices be sent in as soon as possible. He also advised that he has received some inquiries and expects that two or three applications for funding will be received in the next couple of months.

Chair Plant suggested that any funding applications should be sent to members at the same time as the meeting agenda and said that he and John Hicks will create a process for that to happen.

6. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

➤ Cst. Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship

Chair Plant thanked Colleen Woodger and Barb McLintock for meeting with him to go through the applications and John Hicks and the CRD staff for providing the applications in a redacted form. The criteria for the scholarship is to support people who are entering law enforcement, have economic need, and have some community service involvement. There were five applications received and after review, the scholarship sub-committee has recommended a winner and are now asking for endorsement of the recommendation. The recommended winner has been accepted into the Criminal Justice Program at Camosun College.

MOVED by Chris Foord, **SECONDED** by Richard Stanwick, that the Cst. Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship be awarded to Applicant #4 as recommended by the scholarship sub-committee.

CARRIED

Chair Plant will connect with John Hicks and CRD staff and will advise the winner. As the winner is from the Westshore, he would like to coordinate a presentation at the Westshore Detachment.

➤ **Wording on Road Signs**

This was discussed at last month's meeting and suggestions for changes given. Colin and Colleen reviewed the feedback and showed some revised signs.

- "Who is watching the road" sign – Change capitalization, i.e., should the "w" in "watching" be capitalized or "who" be all in caps rather than "road"; check font to be sure it is the font that has been developed specifically for road signs
- "Look, scan and shoulder check" sign – Icons shouldn't be faded out; move TSC to centre

There will be five 3' x 6' signs and they should be ready fairly quickly. Bill Laughlin suggested that if needed, extra signs could be stored and hung up in the VISC classroom.

Colleen also mentioned that she still has wristbands if anyone wants to do more distribution.

➤ **Malahat**

Erin Anderson gave a brief update on the survey regarding a proposed Malahat point to point speed trial. In response to a media request, the Minister advised that the results were being tabulated and a response letter to the CRD with the survey results would be coming shortly. The Minister has said in the past he is interested in looking at any options that will make roads safer.

7. Member Updates

➤ **RoadSafetyBC**

Erin Anderson provided the following update:

- The CARSP conference went well
- Currently moving into more of an implementation phase especially with cannabis legalization

➤ **ICBC**

Colleen Woodger provided the following update:

- BC Elders gathering took place on the island over the last two days with all the First Nations coming together. Pedestrian safety is an issue and education around reflectors was provided. Cell phone use was also discussed
- CounterAttack road checks are happening right now. ICBC will be coming out with some form of a drugs and driving message
- Drive Smart begins on Monday. This is a large campaign which is going to have practice tests for drivers online. It is hoped that larger organizations will address this through their employee wellness to get as many staff as possible to go online and have a look
- Supported Saanich Police youth and schools by providing funding for their community involvement program
- Provided support to the BC summer games for their traffic management program and were able to fund traffic needs through the ICBC community involvement program
- In September will be looking at back to school and a distracted driving campaign

➤ **Youth and Children**

No update

➤ **Seniors**

- Chair Plant advised that the CRD Board approved the appointment of Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul to the TSC to replace Dr. Holly Tuokko as the UVic representative

➤ **Active Transportation**

John Hicks provided the following update:

- The origin destination data survey results have recently been released and showed active transportation has increased approximately 5% over the last five years. Distance travelled across the region has increased, while the number of trips has declined slightly

- Working on key indicators for transportation specifically and working with municipal and provincial partners to try and get something which could be measurable on an annual basis, and a longer term census

➤ **IRSU**

S/Sgt. Ron Cronk provided the following update:

- Summer CounterAttack is currently underway

➤ **CVSE**

No update

➤ **Vancouver Island Safety Council**

No update

➤ **GVCC**

Corey Burger provided the following update:

- The draft letter regarding suggested revisions to the Motor Vehicle Act has been reviewed with Barb McLintock and Sgt. Al Gurzinski, Saanich Police, and there will be a copy ready for review next month

➤ **Walk On Victoria**

No update

➤ **Municipal Police Forces**

S/Sgt. Marc Chateau provided the following update:

- Lots of excessive speeders are being ticketed in Saanich. There are a lot of speed reader boards that are moved around and although speeders are found everywhere, overall percentages in most locations are not high

➤ **BC Transit**

No update

➤ **Working Group for UVic Centre on Youth and Society Joint Project**

No update

8. **Other Business**

Proposed New Initiative - Dr. Richard Stanwick

Dr. Stanwick noticed recently at a local street market the large number of booths giving out liquor samples and suggested that people who try out a lot of samples are likely to be impaired. After discussion on this issue, it was agreed there should be signage at the street markets regarding having a designated driver. Colleen Woodger indicated she has signage available and will connect with Dr. Stanwick.

Future Guest Speakers – Corey Burger

Corey suggested two possible guest speakers:

- Neil Arason, author of “No Accident.” He has a great perspective and is currently working on injury prevention for the Ministry of Health. After discussion, it was agreed that Erin Anderson will issue the invitation to Mr. Arason to speak at the August meeting.
- CRD Parks re traffic safety on trails. They will be invited to speak at a future meeting.

9. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 9, 2018 at noon in The Lakes banquet room.

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.