

CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Thursday, January 10, 2019
Greek Community Hall, 4648 Elk Lake Drive, Victoria

Members: S/Sgt. Ron Cronk, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit
Chris Foord, Community Member (Vice-Chair)
Marnice Jones, School Districts
Bill Laughlin, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Todd Litman, Walk On, Victoria
Cliff McNeil-Smith, CRD Director
Edward Pullman, Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition
Dr. Richard Stanwick, Island Health (for Dr. Murray Fyfe)
Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul, UVic
Rudi Wetselaar, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety Division

Associates: S/Sgt. Marc Chateau, Saanich Police
Cst. Glen Davies, Central Saanich Police
Sgt. Al Gurzinski, Saanich Police
John Hicks, CRD
Cst. Bruce Johnson, Sidney/North Saanich RCMP
Dallas Perry, BC Transit

Regrets: Erin Anderson, RoadSafetyBC
Judy Dryden, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact
Shawn Haley, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Janelle Hatch, Island Health
Alan Perry, Media

Guests: Allison Kelly, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
Jocelyn Pedder, Transport Canada

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Nominations were called for the position of Chair for a one-year period. Dr. Murray Fyfe, Medical Health Officer, was nominated and as there were no other nominations, Dr. Fyfe was appointed by acclamation. Dr. Fyfe's alternate, Dr. Richard Stanwick, Chief Medical Health Officer, will act as Chair in his absence.

Nominations were called for the position of Vice-Chair for a one-year period. Current Vice-Chair Chris Foord was nominated and as there were no other nominations, Vice-Chair Foord was reappointed by acclamation.

2. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- Advertising proposal from Chek TV
- Webinar - Thursday, January 24: The epidemiology and control of cell phone use while driving

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

3. Approval of Minutes – December 13, 2018

MOVED by Colleen Woodger, **SECONDED** by Richard Stanwick, that the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2018 be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

4. Chair's Remarks

Vice-Chair Foord spoke about the sudden passing on December 29 of long-time TSC member Barb McLintock and mentioned the many tributes that have been written about her, including in the Colonist, Province and Globe and Mail Newspapers, as well as reports on Chek TV and Global News. Barb was a trail-blazing reporter in the early 70's and the author of two books. After leaving the journalism field in 2003, she became a coroner, and was the spokesperson for the Coroner's office for several years. She will be greatly missed.

Vice-Chair Foord commented on the announcement yesterday that the Province is planning on looking into a viable short-term emergency alternative to the Malahat. While doing some media interviews earlier in the week, he suggested there is a need to look at longer term alternatives as well. He also hopes that the Province will implement the point to point speed camera program.

It was mentioned that we need to be careful about giving conflicting messages on any CRD issues. The mandate of the Commission is focused on safety and education with an aim to mitigate deaths and injuries from travel in this region. We don't generally comment on engineering roles and our position as a Commission is to make recommendations to the CRD Board, through the Transportation Committee.

Regarding other issues for 2019, the McKenzie Interchange will be completed this year and Vice-Chair Foord said he is impressed with the work done there so far. He is concerned about the West Burnside Road intersection and the possibility of large back-ups with drivers trying to exit McKenzie Avenue. Another big issue for 2019 will be cannabis and driving.

5. Priority Business

➤ Budget Update

John Hicks advised that the 2019 budget is \$70,000 and there is a carryover of approximately \$5,000 from last year. There are commitments of about \$35,000, which leaves \$40,000 for this year. The motion for 2019 funding of the project with the UVic Centre for Youth and Society should be brought forward.

➤ Strategic Planning for 2019

Discussion took place on the following four issues which the Commission has decided to give priority to in 2019.

• Interacting with Commercial Vehicles

- Rudi Wetselaar commented on the recent report by the Auditor General on commercial vehicle safety. The report shows that in most of the fatal collisions involving commercial vehicles, the commercial driver is not at fault. CVSE would like to see an education campaign for other road users on interacting with commercial vehicles, as well as more enforcement.
- S/Sgt. Chateau said that Saanich Police receive many complaints every week about drivers cutting off commercial vehicles, etc., and they do follow up with those drivers.
- Dr. Stanwick suggested that the TSC look at the Auditor General's report to see what elements we could focus on to provide some education.
- John Hicks pointed out that this would fit in with the theme of "take it seriously" as discussed at last month's meeting. A take it seriously campaign could cover all road users.
- S/Sgt. Cronk suggested that truck drivers need a voice and we should get them involved to provide input on how we can help with some education.

• Cannabis and Other Impairments

- Dr. Stanwick commented that we will be getting more information on this next month when Dr. Grouzet from UVic's Centre for Youth and Society will be presenting to the TSC. The indifference to driving and cannabis use among youth is a major concern. We may want to look at what would be the best programming after we get the UVic data.

Peer to peer dialogue seems to make the biggest difference so we need to find a new way to reach out besides TV advertising, including the use of social media.

- **Pedestrian/Cyclist Safety and Visibility**
 - Ideas for anything that could be done to enhance pedestrian and cyclist visibility will be considered, including distributing more wrist bands
- **Road/Sidewalk/Trail User Attitudes – Take it Seriously**
 - Todd Litman suggested the idea of possibly having a speaker on each subject to help focus on the problem and specific issues so that at the end of the meeting, we come away with a list of actions

➤ **Options for Twitter and Facebook Accounts**

The TSC Twitter account that had previously been managed by Colin Plant was discussed. The CRD Corporate Services office has concerns that we have a Twitter account that is not being used and TSC members agreed it should be shut down.

Action: *John Hicks will follow up on this*

➤ **Funding Application from Beacon Community Services**

The funding application from Beacon Community Services for \$11,550 for the Beacon Child Passenger Safety Program was discussed. The TSC has provided funding for this initiative for several years and it is seen as a very important and valuable program that reaches vulnerable families and communities. While members are supportive of this program, the amount of funding Beacon is requesting is more than in past years, and concern was expressed that the cost seems high. It was mentioned that this program has been consistently funded by the Commission, and consideration needs to be given to the fact that we seem to be the permanent funding source for this program which is not a sustainable model for any agency run program.

MOVED by Cliff McNeil-Smith, **SECONDED** by Richard Stanwick, that funding for the Beacon Community Services Child Passenger Safety Program in the amount of \$10,000 be approved. Beacon Community Services will be asked to provide an account of last year's work prior to the funds being released. Additional information on the child passenger safety kits as mentioned in the application will also be requested before consideration is given to approval of the balance of funding.

CARRIED

Action: *John Hicks will request additional information from Beacon Community Services*

6. **Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

- **Update re VISC discussion with Coroner's Service**
Deferred

7. **Member Updates**

- **RoadSafetyBC**
No update
- **ICBC**
No update
- **Youth and Children**
No update
- **Seniors**
No update
- **Active Transportation**
No update

- **IRSU**
No update
- **CVSE**
Rudi Wetselaar provided the following update:
 - The Auditor General's Report on commercial vehicle safety was released last month and CVSE is going through some changes and restructuring
- **Vancouver Island Safety Council**
No update
- **GVCC**
No update
- **Walk On, Victoria**
Todd Litman provided the following update:
 - Walk on, Victoria is working on a request to local jurisdictions to develop pedestrian-level mapping as part of the Geographic Information System map service
- **Municipal Police Forces**
S/Sgt. Marc Chateau, Saanich PD, provided the following update:
 - Enforcement kicked off well this year with a lot of speeders being ticketed on Highway 17, including one driver who was going 120 km/hr.
- **BC Transit**
Dallas Perry provided the following update:
 - Thanks to Victoria Police Department for the education and enforcement around the new Douglas Street bus lanes, which are being shared by bus drivers and cyclists
- **MOTI**
No update
- **Working Group for UVic Centre on Youth and Society Joint Project**
No update

8. Other Business

- **Advertising proposal from Chek TV**
An advertising proposal was received from Chek TV and has been distributed to members via email. This will be included at a future meeting when discussions are held on 2019 advertising.
- **Webinar - The epidemiology and control of cell phone use while driving**
This webinar will take place on January 24 from 10:00-11:00 and more information on it will be distributed to members via email.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, February 14, 2019 at noon at the Greek Community Centre.

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.