

CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Members: Kash Akinkuowo, RoadSafetyBC (EP)
Corey Burger, Capital Bike (EP)
Dr. Frederick Grouzet, Centre for Youth and Society, UVic (EP)
Shawn Haley, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (EP)
Fred Haynes, CRD Director (Chair) (EP)
Sgt. Andy Harward, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit (EP)
Todd Litman, Walk On, Victoria (EP)
Joe Perkins, Media (EP)
Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul, Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, UVic (Vice-Chair) (EP)
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety and Community Involvement (EP)

Associates: John Hicks, CRD
S/Sgt. Jason Bland, Saanich Police (EP)
Sgt. Davindar Dalep, Oak Bay Police (EP)
Cpl. Andy Sanchez, Sidney/North Saanich RCMP (EP)

Regrets: Hailey Bergstrom-Parker, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact
Ron Cronk, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Rudi Wetselaar, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
Angela Wheeler, Island Health

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

EP – Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

John Hicks provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Colleen Woodger, **SECONDED** by Corey Burger, that the agenda be approved with the following additions to be added under Other Business as 7(a) and (b). **CARRIED**

- Update on the Transportation Working Group
- Questions to police members re data collection when ticketing

3. Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2022

MOVED by Colleen Woodger, **SECONDED** by Corey Burger, that the minutes of the meeting held on February 8, 2022 be approved. **CARRIED**

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Haynes commented that he is looking forward to today's discussions.

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

6. Priority Business

➤ **Budget Update**

The budget is going through the final approval process. We are in a very healthy position with a budget of approximately \$70,000 plus the carryover which is still being finalized. The carryover will be between \$20,000-\$30,000 depending on how the scholarship money will be classified.

John Hicks said that he is working with CRD Legislative Services on a framework for releasing donated scholarship funds to a third party, so we have the capability to award additional scholarships.

➤ **BCACP Calendar**

- March – Distracted Drivers Campaign/Occupant Restraint Campaign
- May – High Risk Driving Campaign
- July – Summer Impaired Driving Campaign

The purpose of putting the BC Association of Chiefs of Police calendar initiatives on our agenda is to act as a reminder for the Commission re the focus of our partners and to try and frame our advertising to support them. ICBC, RoadSafetyBC and other partners use the BCACP traffic enforcement calendar to structure their own campaigns. Colleen Woodger commented that BCACP sets the provincial calendar for the year. ICBC assists with enforcement and advertising and run additional awareness campaigns to support the BCACP campaign with social media and regional activities. Frederick Grouzet confirmed that an ad on distracted driving will be produced as part of the Commission advertising plan on Chek.

7. Other Business

7(a) Update on the activities of the Transportation Working Group

John Hicks advised that the Board directed CRD staff to form a working group amongst partner organizations which includes the 13 municipalities, 3 electoral areas, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and BC Transit. The working group meets every two months. Each partner has provided baseline information as to where they are in terms of their safety policy, transportation demand management, reporting, and key targets. The information shared showed some gaps and work will be done with the group to fill in those gaps. The focus at the next meeting is largely related to the regional trails network and looking at how we can work together to make the connectivity as consistent as possible. There is also a lot of other work going on in terms of transportation demand management, and the group is getting involved in considerable new work as well so the work plan is still being defined.

Todd Litman referred to the discussion the Commission had a few months ago regarding the potential to reduce traffic speeds on regional roads and what that would look like, along with other engineering strategies discussed. Are there opportunities for the Commission to look at some of these and see what an ambitious regional traffic safety program would look like? John Hicks noted that Saanich staff will be reporting back next week with an update on the proposed default speed limit. There are also off table conversations taking place with the smaller, more rural municipalities on how their safety needs can best be met, recognizing that they are different. The electoral areas and Metchosin and the Highlands are working differently than the broader group, specifically on these plans.

Chair Haynes advised that Saanich Council has given unanimous support for the engineering report on a new approach to advance traffic safety in Saanich which basically moves away from an auto centric approach to a user centric approach. It is an extensive report and will build the foundation for what is moving forward to committee next week, along with information coming from the Saanich Active Transportation Advisory Committee. Also, within three weeks, it is hoped to have a Council agenda item re approval for the pilot project on reducing speeds on residential roads to 30 km/h.

Todd Litman would like to see the Commission get regular updates from the Transportation Working Group and possibly have some interaction with them.

7(b) Questions to police members re data collection when ticketing

Corey Burger requested information on what kind of demographics are collected when a road safety ticket is issued. S/Sgt. Bland responded that for any violation ticket issued, the requirements to be provided as per the provincial form are name, date of birth, driver's license number or BC ID number, and address. Ethnicity is not collected. There is no means to collect specific data on a person being unhoused so the address would be left blank. There is no subsequent report issued for violation tickets issued so there wouldn't be any data regarding this on the Police Records Information system.

Corey commented that in other jurisdictions there are some differences related to violation ticket numbers for housed and unhoused people, as well as ethnicity, and lesser so for gender. As a Commission, we might want to put our minds to how we could achieve traffic safety for people that are disadvantaged. If the baseline data is not available, it will be difficult to figure that out.

The question was raised as to whether someone could get a driver's license without a fixed address, however, the answer wasn't readily available and would need to be looked into. Colleen Woodger commented that when there is a collision, just the basic information is collected, and ethnicity is not included. If there are specific questions on what can be pulled from ICBC data, Colleen can find a contact for that. Kash Akinkuowo commented that RoadSafetyBC would be open to providing any data they have.

Action: Chair Haynes will report back re demographic/data collection information

Action: Kash Akinkuowo will provide available data to members prior to the April meeting

8. Member Updates

- **RoadSafetyBC – Kash Akinkuowo**
 - RoadSafetyBC is supporting the distracted driving campaign and the occupant restraint campaign as per the BCACP calendar.
- **ICBC – Colleen Woodger**
 - Schools are having in person presentations for their Grade 11 and 12 students with road safety speaker Kevin Brooks talking about his choices and telling his story.
 - Visited a number of schools this past month to do work around graduated licensing.
 - Volunteers are coming back and lots of training is taking place.
 - This week there will be some work in Oak Bay re the distracted driver campaign and then out on the Peninsula on Friday there will be joint forces awareness and enforcement. Appreciate all the municipal enforcement support with this campaign and hopefully will get the message out as there are too many vulnerable road users injured by distracted driving.
 - Attended the Let's Get Visible kickoff at UVic. It was a great day.
- **Youth and Children – Hailey Bergstrom-Parker**
 - No update
- **Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health – Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul**
 - The report prepared by graduate student Helia Sehatpour in conjunction with Paweena which summarizes the literature review on the effectiveness of the red-light camera program on health and safety, collisions and fatalities will be circulated. Kash Akinkuowo and his team at RoadSafetyBC are working on a more extensive evaluation of the program.
- **CRD – John Hicks**
 - The Board has directed that some work take place on equity in transportation. Will be working with the Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria to look at developing an equity lens re transportation and doing some quality deduction and reasoning for the distinction in gender usage on the regional trail network, i.e., looking at what the barriers are and then considering mitigation strategies.
 - The Let's Get Visible campaign kickoff took place at UVic on March 1. It was a great day with over 500 participants. Thanks to Oak Bay Police for their incredible support. We are also looking forward to seeing the results of their pilot project for a crosswalk safety program.
 - Chair Haynes commented on information received from Saanich Parks staff on the use of parks and trails in Saanich and the ability to track usage using data from iPhones. There has been a significant increase in parks and trail usage. John Hicks noted that the CRD does gender counts through their manual counts and does look at other information but need to make sure we are using the same data points for all our examinations. John will touch base with Saanich engineering.
- **Integrated Road Safety Unit – Andy Harward**
 - Working with ICBC on their distracted driving campaigns in Oak Bay and on the Peninsula.

- **Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement – Rudi Wetselaar**
 - No update
- **Vancouver Island Safety Council – Ron Cronk**
 - No update
- **Capital Bike – Corey Burger**
 - Winter Go by Bike Week took place last month.
 - Have recently launched a bike lending library so parents can borrow bikes for kids. This is their first foray into this so will see what the uptake is.
 - Chair Haynes asked about the possibility of recycling discarded bikes from Hartland Road. Corey commented that there are other bike organizations in North America that do it. Bike Edmonton has been very successful with this and run two community owned non-profit bike shops. There are some issues to consider before Capital Bikes takes something like this on, but they are always looking for new opportunities.
- **Walk On, Victoria – Todd Litman**
 - No update
- **Municipal Police Forces – Sgt. Davindar Dalep, Oak Bay Police**
 - Happy to be out at the Let's Get Visible kickoff at UVic.
 - They will be joining IRSU with the distracted driving campaign and also doing some traffic safety lectures at schools.

John Hicks commented on the great role the police play and said he can not overstate how much of a difference it made having a police member present at the kickoff.

- **BC Transit – Dallas Perry**
 - No update
- **Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Shawn Haley**
 - Keating Cross Rd. project sitting at 90% detail design. Further discussions on funding taking place and hopefully a decision will be made by spring to go forward with that.
 - Mt. Newton Cross Road transit queue jumper project currently out for construction and should be completed by the end of summer
 - Starting some work on the Malahat this week with tree cutting and falling and there will be some short duration closures.
 - Highway 14 – Otter Point to Woodhaven. Large project which will hopefully be completed by the end of 2022.
 - Highway 14 – Gillespie interchange project currently underway. A new park and ride area will be built. Large project to be completed in next two years.
 - In terms of minor projects, there are over 60 road recovery sites happening from atmospheric floods. Giant culvert failure on Pat Bay Highway across from Plant Health Laboratory.
 - Shawn has recently accepted a new position as Operations Manager for Service Area 1 – Chemainus to Victoria. The person who is appointed to the Road Area Manager position will be sitting on the Commission.
- **Island Health – Angela Wheeler**
 - No update
- **Working Group for UVic Centre on Youth and Society Joint Project – Dr. Frederick Grouzet**
 - Still in the process of making a video with Chek media on driving at night and paying attention to vulnerable road users.
 - Working with Tik Tok influencers on road safety messages.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on April 12, 2022 at 12:30 pm. On motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:22 pm.