

**CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
Tuesday, July 12, 2022**

Members: Kash Akinkuowo, RoadSafetyBC (EP)
Neil Arason, Island Health
Hailey Bergstrom-Parker, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact (EP)
Dr. Frederick Grouzet, Centre for Youth and Society, UVic (EP)
Fred Haynes, CRD Director (Chair) (EP)
Todd Litman, Walk On, Victoria
Steve Martin, Community Member
Edward Pullman, Capital Bike (for Corey Burger) (EP)
Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul, Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, UVic (Vice-Chair)

Associates: Natalie Bandringa, CRD (for John Hicks)
Sgt. Manny Montero, Oak Bay Police (EP)
Sgt. Ryan O'Neill, Victoria Police
Cpl. Andy Sanchez, Sidney/North Saanich RCMP

Regrets: Ron Cronk, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Shawn Haley, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure
Sgt. Andy Harward, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit
Joe Perkins, Media
Rudi Wetselaar, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety and Community Involvement

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

EP – Electronic Participation

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 pm.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Haynes provided a territorial acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Frederick Grouzet, **SECONDED** by Hailey Bergstrom-Parker, that the agenda be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes – June 14, 2022

MOVED by Hailey Bergstrom-Parker, **SECONDED** by Paweena Sukhawathanakul, that the minutes of the meeting held on June 14, 2022 be approved. **CARRIED**

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Haynes commented that it is good to be back, and he is looking forward to today's discussions.

5. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

➤ **Update on Transportation Working Group**

Minutes from the previous meeting have been sent out. There is no summer meeting, so the next meeting will take place in the fall. Over the summer, staff will be working with municipalities on crossings where the CRD trails cross intersections and will also be working on the regional cycling map network.

A Transportation Committee meeting will be held on August 3. There are two carry forward items that may get referred to the Commission, i.e., the regional trails widening and lighting study, and detours.

➤ **Cst. Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship**

Two or three Commission members are needed to review the applications received for the Cst. Sarah Beckett Scholarship. We will be able to provide two \$2000 scholarships, one from the Commission and one from donated funds.

Vice-Chair Sukhawathanakul provided information on the review process. There is established criteria that is used to evaluate the merit of the applicants. One meeting may be needed, but otherwise it can be done via email. When the review is completed, a recommendation on awarding the scholarship is brought to the Commission.

Action: Chair Haynes and Hailey Bergstrom-Parker volunteered to evaluate the scholarship applications and bring forward recommendations for scholarship winners

6. **Priority Business**

➤ **Budget Update**

2023 preliminary budgets are being finalized. The budget will be approximately \$73,000, with a carryover from 2022. It is important that the Commission endeavor to minimize the carryover through advancing education and marketing campaigns and through the support of local grants.

At the June meeting, the Commission had agreed to order some reflector strips that were going out of stock, however, after seeing a sample, it was felt they were poor quality so this purchase will not be going ahead. It is hoped to find another source for a similar product.

➤ **BCACP Calendar**

- July – Summer Impaired Driving Campaign
- September – Distracted Drivers Campaign/Occupant Restraint Campaign
- October – Drive Relative to Conditions Campaign (Speed/Pedestrian)

The purpose of putting the BCACP 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. We could do the advertising ourselves or support any of our partners with additional funding to expand their campaigns.

Natalie Bandringa noted that this year could be the first year that BC will not be doing a time change in the fall which would mean it will be darker in the mornings. This is something we could focus on and the CRD Let's Get Visible campaign could be brought back for the fall.

It was suggested that the Commission should look at reaching out to schools to have a conversation around safety related to darker mornings if the change to permanent Daylight Savings Time goes ahead.

Action: Add to August agenda for further discussion and update on fall Let's Get Visible Campaign

Chair Haynes said that there is an issue with crossing guards in School District 61 and Saanich Council is reaching out to the district about the program in place in School District 63 where the municipality provides funding directly to the district for crossing guards. It is hoped to have an update for the next Commission meeting.

Todd Litman commented that he is interested in seeing detailed data research done on crash rates for our region and seeing if pedestrian and bike crashes are overrepresented, with data disaggregated by age and time of year. We would be able to see if there is a spike in pedestrian and bike crashes in the fall when school starts, and whether a lot of students are being injured.

Discussion took place on this topic, and it was agreed that the best source for data would be ICBC. Steve Martin noted that in response to a question at last month's Commission meeting, Colleen Woodger had commented that there are statistics and data available on the ICBC website. However, the data would need to be disaggregated and manipulated. Getting overall data would be informative for the Commission in terms of establishing spending priorities. We may need to fund that project. The first step would be to see what data we could get and then find people to analyze it, possibly university students.

Action: Inform Colleen Woodger about this discussion so she can provide information at next meeting

Todd Litman commented that for pedestrian and cyclist risk analysis a key factor is to have some indication of exposure, i.e., the number of bike/pedestrian injuries compared with the portion of travelled kilometers by those users. The CRD travel survey could provide some indication of this. He would like to see this included in the data request.

7. Other Business

8. Member Updates

➤ RoadSafetyBC – Kash Akinkuowo

- Currently focusing on supporting the BCACP calendar with respect to the summer impaired driving campaign

➤ ICBC – Colleen Woodger

No update

➤ Youth and Children – Hailey Bergstrom-Parker

- “Slow Down, Kids Playing” signs are available again at BCAA service centres to help keep kids safe and encourage slower driving in neighbourhoods.
- The BCAA car seat program has partnered this year with S.U.C.C.E.S.S., a social service agency that focuses on refugees and newcomers to Canada, and an additional 700 seats have been given away this year. Since 2013, over 13,500 car seats have been donated to families who don't have access or can't afford them.

➤ Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health – Dr. Paweena Sukhawathanakul

- Will be getting focus groups going towards the end of the summer for older adults to discuss their active transportation needs. Questions for participants are being compiled so if members have any questions they would like to see included, please contact Paweena.

➤ CRD – Natalie Bandringa

- The lessons learned from the Ready Step Roll Program are being extended to a sustainable commute initiative as a pilot program this year. CFB Esquimalt, Seaspan and the Hope Shipyards are signed up as participants.

➤ Integrated Road Safety Unit – Andy Harward

No update

➤ Commercial Vehicle Safety Enforcement – Rudi Wetselaar

No update

➤ Vancouver Island Safety Council – Ron Cronk

No update

➤ Capital Bike – Edward Pullman

- Capital Bike have partnered with Better Environmentally Sound Transportation, an active transportation group out of Vancouver, and were successful in their RFT to provide bike valet parking just outside of City Hall. It has been very successful and well received.
- Corey Burger has been doing extensive media interviews re the cyclist/truck crash at Wharf and Store Streets. There has been a lot of discussion about the road design changes being confusing, however, the changes have been in place for about two years and crashes at that intersection have dropped substantially. Capital Bike hopes to bring two issues to the Commission for further discussion, i.e., the installation of a red-light camera at that intersection; and guard rails on trucks.

- **Walk On, Victoria – Todd Litman**
 - As mentioned, there is a lot of interest in understanding the overrepresentation of pedestrian and bicycle injuries in the traffic crash statistics so looking forward to seeing the Commission work on that.
- **Municipal Police Forces – Sgt. Ryan O’Neill, Victoria Police**
 - Have started the July impaired campaign and several roadblocks are planned. The first one took place last Friday and was very successful with the highest stats he has come across in a long time. Dealt with eight separate impaired drivers and issued 30 tickets for various offences.
- **BC Transit – Dallas Perry**

No update
- **Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure – Shawn Haley**

No update
- **Island Health – Neil Arason**

Neil Arason was introduced as a new member on the Commission. He works as the Lead in Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion for Island Health. He previously worked at RoadSafetyBC, and years ago attended Traffic Safety Commission meetings. Road safety is one of Island Health’s top three priorities. Road crashes cost Island Health \$50 million annually and are a direct cost to the health system budget. Neil is looking forward to helping to support actions and communities across the island to reduce injuries.

 - Neil talked about the Vision Zero in Road Safety Grant Program. In year one, \$100,000 was available and six grants were provided in the Island Health region with amounts ranging from \$10-\$20,000. Year 2 begins in October with a callout for grant programs and there will be increased money available to fund road safety initiatives. They are looking for Indigenous communities as well to apply for grants.

Neil commented on Section 6 of the Commission bylaws which states that “the Regional Board hereby delegates the Commission the duty to advise the Board with respect to recommendations for the purpose of reducing or eliminating traffic safety problems” and asked for clarification on whether that is the main duty of the Commission. While education and awareness are good, he is thinking of big things that could be done to improve traffic safety and mentioned the Commission’s advocacy for point-to-point speed cameras on the Malahat. What is the Commission’s capacity to shape some things that could be really consequential?

Action: Add Commission mandate as an agenda item for September

- **Working Group for UVic Centre on Youth and Society Joint Project – Dr. Frederick Grouzet**
 - Work is currently taking place on two videos in partnership with Chek media. One is on visibility and driving when it is dark and will be ready for a fall campaign. The second video will be ready this summer and is about driving when fatigued.
 - Working on an application for a project with the Oak Bay Police Department on crosswalks and it is hoped to announce this project in September.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on August 9, 2022 at 12:30 pm. On motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.