



Corporation of the City of North Vancouver
Community Safety Advisory Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held at City Hall in Conference Room A,
141 West 14th Street, North Vancouver, BC on April 10, 2025

The City of North Vancouver respectfully acknowledges that this meeting is held on the traditional and unceded territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) and Səlíl̓wətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

Members Present

Cllr. Holly Back (Chair)
Evan Damkjar
Nicholas De Lucrezia
Brian Fixter
Olga Kens
Ann McAlister
Gursimran Gill
Andrew van Eden
Greg Schalk

Absent

Cllr. Shervin Shahriari
Matthew Turner

Staff Present

Tanis Huckell, Legislative Services Advisor
Eleanor Parrott, Committee Clerk – Secretary

Guests Present

Philip Yong, Manager, Projects and Initiatives,
Police Support Services

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm. T. Huckell thanked E. Parrott for her dedication to this committee and the City of North Vancouver during her time here.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1.1 The Agenda for April 10, 2025 was adopted as circulated.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 The Minutes of February 6, 2025 were approved as circulated.

3. CITY STRATEGIES – COMMUNITY SAFETY ELEMENTS

3.1 The Public Safety Director and Fire Chief provided a presentation on City Strategies – Community Safety Elements. Key points included the following:

- Multiple bodies share the responsibility for community safety in the City of North Vancouver: the RCMP, the North Vancouver City Fire Department, the Squamish Nation, the Tsleil-Waututh Nation, CNV Bylaw Services, and the City itself.
- The municipal responsibilities include several components, such as law enforcement and crime prevention, public health and safety, fire services and emergency response,

traffic and transportation safety, mental health and substance use support, bylaws and regulation enforcement, community engagement and public education, and collaboration with provincial and federal agencies.

- We continue to look for ways to align our work with multiple agencies. Discussion ensued on the value of potentially enlarging the work of the committee to include the District of North Vancouver in some capacity. As this committee is working as a pilot project, something could be included in the year-end summary as a recommendation.

4. CRIME REDUCTION UNIT (CRU)

4.1 The Manager, Projects and Initiatives, Police Support Services provided a presentation on the North Vancouver RCMP and the Crime Reduction Unit. Key points included the following:

- The North Vancouver RCMP has a strategic plan that includes priorities to improve road safety, increase a sense of security, partner for social impact, and optimize people capacity.
- Crime prevention can include increased police involvement elements, such as: traffic safety, Car 22 (police mental health intervention unit), proactive policing, and an opioid replacement therapy program.
- It can also include community involvement elements, such as: engaging youth, volunteers, ICBC safety blitzes, and public education campaigns.
- Recent changes affecting policing include the decriminalization of illicit drugs (January 2023), the legalization of marijuana (October 2018), and the relaxation of the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*, allowing consumption in parks and public areas.
- Common calls for service include bike theft, fraud, mental health crises, theft from a motor vehicle, and other theft under \$5000.
- The mental health crisis is creating a challenge for our front line officers.

4.2 Ensuing discussion included various ways to approach the mental health crisis and what additional resources and partnerships might we be able to tap into, as well as what bodies typically get involved in such an event when someone has called 911.

5. SAFETY METRICS

5.1 The Fire Department's most numerous calls for service are medically related; about 60% are in support of ambulance service. We continue to look for ways to work with our partner agencies. Some are mental health related; the call gets driven from the BC Ambulance Service.

The numbers pertaining to encampments are also growing; in 2024 we had 227 encampment situations. We manage those situations in partnership with Bylaws, the Parks Department, and the RCMP. The numbers are rising and represent a growing concern in how to work with the unhoused population.

In 2024 we had 54 total residents displaced from 5 structure fires. The atmospheric river in October displaced 12.

6. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGY UPDATE

6.1 The Community Safety Strategy has been written and is being vetted by the City's Purchasing Manager. The Request for Proposal (RFP) should be out by the next meeting.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7.1 The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 4, 2025.

8. ADJOURN

8.1 The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:44pm.

"Certified Correct by Chair"

Councillor Holly Back, Chair

05/06/2025

Date