



ATTENDING

Councillor Wendy Donovan, Mayor Jeff Cantwell, Deputy Mayor Carl Oldham, Joan Boutilier, Michael Jeffrey, Department of Justice Representative Terry Hennigar, Chief Administrative Officer Erin Beaudin, RCMP Sgt. Andrew Buckle, and Recording Secretary Karen Outerleys

ABSENT WITH REGRETS

Robert Lutes

ALSO ATTENDING

Director Public Works Kevin Kerr

CALL TO ORDER

Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 am

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS CIRCULATED

CARRIED

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 26, 2017 BE APPROVED

CARRIED

3. RCMP REPORT

Quarterly Update - December 12, 2016 -March 27, 2017

- Total calls for service in Town of Wolfville: 404 (very similar to last quarterly report)
- Approximately 25 hours of foot patrols within the Town of Wolfville
- 2016-2017 Annual Performance Plan (APP):
 - Safe roads and safe highways in Nova Scotia
 - Safety and Security of all Nova Scotians (Crime Reduction)
 - Reduction of Cybercrime in Nova Scotia
 - Enhance relationship with Aboriginal Communities
 - Safe and Peaceful Community (Wolfville) – ongoing:
 - Foot patrols
 - Enforcement of the Motor Vehicle Act
 - Noise Bylaw enforcement

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Cheaton Cup / St Patrick's Day Debrief

- The collaboration between each of the different organizations is really improving
- Leading up to these events, representation from the Town, the RCMP, the Town's Compliance Officer, Acadia University and the Student Union met several times to conduct operational planning to prepare for the events
- The Town actively disseminated information to the public via Social Media and the Town's website reminding the community that the events were coming and who to call if there were any issues



- The proactive work with Town of Wolfville Bylaw Enforcement, Acadia Sports Teams and the RCMP was fundamental in the outcome of the weekend
- A much better job was done having everyone around the table and agreeing to what the weekend should look like

Highlights from the events:

- Leading up to Cheaton Cup was a Team event for operational planning
- St. Patrick's Day was a non-event for the Town with very few issues
- There was a large number of students around for Cheaton Cup
- Unified policing approach was taken during Cheaton Cup weekend with liquor offence tickets being issued
- There were approximately 13-15 police officers working in the Wolfville area over Cheaton Cup weekend
- Overall it was a positive weekend event compared to past Cheaton Cup weekends. Compared to events from two to three years ago, this weekends Cheaton Cup was a huge success with working together
- RCMP met with Acadia University's football team and Hockey Coach in advance of Cheaton Cup to discuss what was expected of them, in terms of behaviour, over the Cheaton cup weekend
- There is a debrief scheduled with all stakeholders for Wednesday, March 29th to talk about the event and review any lessons learned
- One lesson learned from the Town's perspective is that during winter months, Public Works crews have different hours and as a result, the staff that do cleanup in the Town work Monday to Friday, so during non-winter hours there is staff available over weekends to help cleanup. For Cheaton Cup, Public Works will review staff work hours to have staff available for weekend cleanup
- CAO recognized the Acadia Student Union for organizing an on-campus event, encouraging students to remain on campus for the event instead of off-campus events – a very proactive move on part of Acadia ASU leading to a successful event
- Chair suggested that for next year's Cheaton Cup, there be a Joint Town & Gown / RCMP Advisory Board meeting in advance of Cheaton Cup so that all are apprised of issues that may arise with respect to Cheaton Cup

b. Potential Town use of RCMP Space

- CAO highlighted that staff are looking at bringing a report to Council in May for further discussion with regard to the Town's potential use of the RCMP space. The Town is reviewing 'Space Needs' and looking at opportunities to bring staff together, specifically, the Community Development staff – Recreation, Planning and Bylaw Enforcement so that the Town has a more storefront location for staff that is accessible to the public, and that staff are located all 'under one roof'
- One of the options being looked at is the use of the RCMP space located next to Town Hall but that would mean that the RCMP are no longer located in that building
- There is a new detachment being built in New Minas, with construction starting in May 2017, with a tentative completion date of 18 months. Once that is complete, the Traffic Division will move to New Minas
- Discussions being held with the RCMP as to the impact of the remaining RCMP Staff reporting to New Minas



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- There are a few issues that need to be worked through and CAO identified the following possible challenges:
 - There is more of a perception of RCMP presence in Wolfville than there is a reality because of the Traffic Division and all the RCMP cars in the parking lot – this does not translate into RCMP Officers in Wolfville but looks like there is a presence
 - About 90% of the traffic through the RCMP Building is criminal record checks
 - Response time is another issue of discussion - if the RCMP are reporting out of New Minas instead of Wolfville, what does that mean for a resident with regard to response time. The short answer is no, response times would not be compromised. The same number of RCMP officers would be assigned to Wolfville and services should not be impacted
 - Operationally, the number of Police Officers assigned to Wolfville would remain the same even if all staff are moved to the New Minas facility
 - CAO will work with the RCMP to develop a “Frequently Asked Questions” information sheet so that when the Staff Report goes to Council in May, the information document will be available to the public outlining implications to the public
 - The draft of this document will be circulated to the RCMP Advisory Board once completed
 - CAO’s recommendation to Council will be that a Public Information session be held for the citizens of Wolfville to provide an opportunity for those that have any concerns to voice their opinions before Council makes a final decision

 - c. **4-Way Stop Traffic Control (Main St-Gaspereau Ave)**
 - Chair highlighted that during the election period this was the single most discussed issue
 - The following issues were put forward for discussion:
 - The concept that there would be an individual that could serve as a “Traffic Cop” in the intersection of Main Street and Gaspereau Avenue during big events due to the higher volume of traffic. This was determined to not be a viable option as the intersection is too small and unsafe – RCMP Officers would not undertake the responsibility of standing in the intersection due to safety considerations
 - The concept of changing the four-way stop back to a two-way stop
 - One of the biggest issues with the four-way stop is that pedestrians always have the right of way and cross without thinking about it
 - The benefit of having traffic lights is the control of the flow of traffic and pedestrians
 - There are times that staff will have to get out ahead of busy weekends through the effective use of Communications to advise the citizens of Wolfville that there may be traffic delays along Main Street
 - Traffic lights for Main Street and Gaspereau Avenue intersection are slated for Year three of the Town’s Capital budget
 - Discussions will continue to take place with regard to traffic control at this intersection
 - Communications is key leading up to the installation in year three, especially during key signature events
 - It would be worthwhile to explore the use of a temporary light system for the Main St/Gaspereau Ave intersection for the months of September/October to see how it works in the control of pedestrian and vehicle traffic
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5. ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

- There does appear to be a cavalier attitude from pedestrians in the Town of Wolfville drifting across Main St without adhering to established cross-walks, and this does contribute to the traffic issues along Main St
- Communication and education are key to addressing the mess left in front of Harvest Gallery and the alley by the Theatre with regard to smoking within 400 meters of a store front

6. NEXT MEETING

- The next meeting of the RCMP Advisory Board was amended from June 20, 2017 to Tuesday, July 11, 2017

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: IT WAS REGULARLY MOVED AND SECONDED THAT THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE RCMP ADVISORY BOARD BE ADJOURNED AT 11:43 AM

CARRIED

Approved at the July 11, 2017 RCMP Advisory Board Meeting

As recorded by Karen Outerleys, AA Public Works