



# New Westminister Police Department

## New Westminister Police Community Policing Committee Minutes for Thursday, January 18, 2018

### **In Attendance:**

New Westminister Police Department – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) Dave Jansen  
New Westminister Police Department – Jenniffer Sanford  
New Westminister Police Department – R/Cst. Jocelynn McLeod  
West End Residents' Association – Gavin McLeod  
Moody Park Residents' Association – Philip Walkinshaw  
Downtown Residents' Association – Kate Abel  
Queens Park Residents' Association – Bev McLellan  
Douglas College – Nancy Constable  
Connaught Heights Residents' Association – Mike Walmsley  
Lookout Housing and Health Society – Shamina Kally & Ian Fraser  
Quayside Community Board – Paul Jackson  
Queensborough Residents' Association – Ross Hood  
Brow of the Hill Residents' Association – Susan Pearson  
Sapperton Business Association – Brett Pavan  
River Market at New Westminister Quay – Alice Cavanagh

### **Absent/Regrets:**

New Westminister Downtown Business Improvement Association (BIA)  
Massey Victory Heights Residents' Association  
McBride-Sapperton Residents' Association  
Glenbrooke North Residents' Association  
West End Business Association  
Braid Business Association  
Shops at New West

### **Welcome/Introductions**

- A roundtable of introductions was conducted to allow new committee members to meet the representatives from the various Resident or Merchant Associations they represent.



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## ROUNDTABLE/DISCUSSION:

### New Westminister Police – Deputy Chief Constable (DCC) Dave Jansen

- ❑ **Police Updates** – DCC Jansen provided information regarding Calls for Police Service (CFS) and updates on crime statistics for New Westminister. Calls for service (CFS) are an indicator of the number of calls to police and are not necessarily criminal code matters; they can also be social issues that police attend. A file may be generated for a CFS however police may not always attend. Overall across the city and by the end of 2017, there was a reduction in CFS by 4% compared to 2016.
- ❑ **Crime Rates in New Westminister for the end of 2017 (year to date):  
By Area (focus centered only on areas with notable changes)**
  - Downtown has seen a 13% decrease
  - Queensborough has seen a 5% increase**Crime Categories**
  - Break and enters decreased by 25%
    - In 2017 there were 94 break-ins to residences compared to 126 in 2016
  - Break and enter (business) decreased by 1%
  - Robberies decreased by 16%
  - Theft from auto increased by 2%
    - NWPDP finds that between 30-45% (not a yearly statistic) of these files, the vehicle doors have been left unlocked
  - Theft of auto saw an increase of 9% (approximately 20 car difference)
  - Stolen auto recovery has increased 26% (this number includes vehicles stolen from other communities and recovered in New Westminister)
- ❑ **Two new initiatives at NWPDP**
  - Approximately 2 years ago, a PhD student reviewed NWPDP's School Liaison section and its youth programs. As a result of this review, NWPDP expanded its focus and services and now has a dedicated officer, *Youth at Risk Officer*, to work with kids outside of the tradition school system. With the addition of this new position, the School Liaison section is now called the *Child and Youth Resources Unit* <https://www.nwpolice.org/community-services/school-liaison-officers/>.
  - After The Globe and Mail article *Unfounded: Why Police Dismiss 1 in 5 Sexual Assault Claims as Baseless* by Robyn Doolittle (published February 3, 2017) was published, NWPDP completed a review on power-based crimes. Starting this year in March, NWPDP will have a new section called Special Investigations Unit that will handle all power-based crimes. This new section will mirror our Domestic Violence Unit



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(<https://www.nwpolice.org/inside-new-westminster-police-department/organizational-structure/#domestic>) and will have specialized constable with enhanced training to deal with these crimes.

## **West End Residents' Association – Gavin McLeod**

- ❑ **No new reports or concerns.**

## **Moody Park Residents' Association – Philip Walkinshaw**

- ❑ **Residents' Association Meeting** – Moody Park Residents' Association has an upcoming meeting. Please contact the Association for dates: [moodyparkra@gmail.com](mailto:moodyparkra@gmail.com).
- ❑ **Homeless** – Philip Walkinshaw discussed seeing homeless individuals sleeping in the Moody Park/Uptown area.

## **Downtown Residents' Association – Kate Abel**

- ❑ **Homeless** – Kate Abel reports that there was an incident at the church located in the 500 block of Carnarvon Street during the early morning hours where a homeless individual had camped out on the property and refused to leave resulting in police being called for assistance. Kate Abel added that generally individuals asked to leave the church premise do so without incident.
- ❑ **Possible Drug Activity** – Kate Abel found suspicious looking pills outside of an apartment complex parkade located in the downtown area.

## **Queens Park Residents' Association – Bev McLellan**

- ❑ **Homelessness** – Bev McLellan had questions around whether or not to report to police when there are homeless individuals in Queens Park (especially in the lower part of the park). Bev McLellan highlighted that the homeless individuals have not been a problem in the park and typically move on but she has concerns for their well-being. DCC Dave Jansen explained that homelessness is a challenge and stated that police will respond to calls regarding homeless if it is a criminal matter but police are not able to remove individuals off the street. If there are concerns around homeless individuals in the city, please do not hesitate to call police but there may be a delay in response depending on the reason for the call. DCC Jansen added that Lookout Housing and Health Society may be a resource for assisting with the well-being of homeless individuals (see Lookout Housing and Health Society section of the minutes for contact information). Shamina Kally from Lookout Housing and Health Society highlighted that their outreach workers could possibly come out and check on these individuals if they are contacted or simply providing these individuals with shelter information is also an option.
- ❑ **New Skatepark Location** – New Westminster Secondary School (NWSS) is being redeveloped and the existing Mercer Stadium/Anne Monk Memorial Field skatepark will be relocated. Bev McLellan discussed the proposed location for the new skatepark which would be where the Queens Park Arenex was previously located up until it



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collapsed. Bev McLellan suggested that a much more suitable location would be between the Justice Institute of BC and Glenbrooke Fire Hall #1 as it is a much more visible location. Bev McLellan asked DCC Dave Jansen whether NWPD would be involved in the discussion of where the new skatepark should be located. DCC Jansen explained that NWPD would be involved if requested by the City. For more information on the new skatepark project visit: <https://www.newwestcity.ca/planning-building-and-development/projects-on-the-go/articles/5911.php>.

## Contact Information

To get on the email list for regular updates, learn more about the project or share your comments with the project team, contact:

Erika Mashig, Parks and Open Space Planner  
[emashig@newwestcity.ca](mailto:emashig@newwestcity.ca)

John Stark, Senior Social Planner  
[jstark@newwestcity.ca](mailto:jstark@newwestcity.ca) or 604-515-3777

## Douglas College – Nancy Constable

- ❑ **Homeless** – Nancy Constable talked about an incident where a homeless couple had set up camp in the school's underground parking facility and when campus staff approached them, they became aggressive resulting in a call to police.
- ❑ **Counterfeit Money** – Nancy Constable reported that someone tried to use a counterfeit \$50 bill at the campus cafeteria and unfortunately the bill was not retrieved.

## Connaught Heights Residents' Association – Mike Walmsley

- ❑ **City of New Westminister Capital Program** – Mike Walmsley talked about the new sidewalk and lighting improvements in the Connaught Heights area. As part of the City of New Westminister's capital program for walking infrastructure improvements, the City installed new sidewalk, crosswalks, let downs, and street lighting along 21<sup>st</sup> Street from 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue to London Street [https://www.newwestcity.ca/planning-building-and-development/roadworks/sb\\_expander\\_articles/1128.php](https://www.newwestcity.ca/planning-building-and-development/roadworks/sb_expander_articles/1128.php).
- ❑ **Problem Property** – Mike Walmsley was looking for a police updated regarding the problem property in the Connaught Heights area. DCC Dave Jansen asked Mike Walmsley to connect with Jenniffer Sanford for an update.

## Lookout Housing and Health Society – Ian Fraser (Russell Housing Centre)

- ❑ **No new reports or concerns.** Ian Fraser adds that things have been relatively quiet with not many calls to police. Ian Fraser notes that when the weather was colder, there were more frequent visitors for the shelters.



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**Lookout Housing and Health Society** – Shamina Kally (Cliff Block Residence & Extreme Weather Shelter)

- ❑ **Emergency Shelter** – Shamina Kally reports that the emergency shelter has been closed since January 4, 2018. Jenniffer Sanford added that when an emergency shelter notice alert is issued, she will send it out to all Community Policing Community Representatives to be disseminated into the community.
- ❑ **Lookout Emergency Aid Society** – Is a charitable organization and social safety net that provides housing and a range of support services to adults with low or no income who have few, housing or support options.

**Administration address:** 544 Columbia Street, New Westminister V3L 1B1

**Telephone:** 604-255-0340 / **General email:** [info@lookoutsociety.ca](mailto:info@lookoutsociety.ca)

**Website:** <http://lookoutsociety.ca/>

**Emergency Shelter**

**Telephone:** 604-529-9126 Ext. 101 / **Email:** [lookoutnewwest@lookoutsociety.ca](mailto:lookoutnewwest@lookoutsociety.ca)

DCC Jansen thanked Shamina Kally, Ian Fraser and everyone at the Lookout Housing and Health Society for all the work that they do out in the community in New Westminister.

**Quayside Community Board** – Paul Jackson

- ❑ **Quayside Community Board Meeting** – Quayside Community Board has their Annual General Meeting coming up on February 7, 2018. For meeting details, visit: <http://quaysideboard.com/>.

**Queensborough Residents' Association** – Ross Hood

**Development/Road Closure** – Ross Hood notes that there has been a lot of new development in the Queensborough area and with the construction has lead to some roads closures. The City of New Westminister has established a project webpage <http://www.newwestcity.ca/ewenavenue> where a continuously updated construction schedule will be posted. You can also sign up for email construction alerts.

- ❑ **Community Event** – Ross Hood highlighted that the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual New Year's swim in the Fraser River was a success.

**Brow of the Hill Residents' Association** – Susan Pearson

- ❑ **Homelessness** – Susan Pearson had questions around whether police should be contacted if there are individuals sleeping in public areas. Please refer back the Queens Park Residents' Association discussion above.



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## **Sapperton Business Association – Brett Pavan**

- ❑ **No new reports or concerns.**

## **River Market – Alice Cavanagh**

- ❑ **Mental Health** – Alice Cavanagh mentioned that there have been some occasional mental health issues that have come up but there has been nothing specific to report.
- ❑ **Theft** – Alice Cavanagh reports that there have been a few tip jar thefts recently at River Market.

## **New Westminster Police Department – Jenniffer Sanford**

- ❑ **Connecting Between Meetings** – Jenniffer Sanford can be contacted if an issue or concern comes up between meeting dates.

**Next Meeting Scheduled: Thursday, March 15, 2018 at 7pm.**