

COMMUNITY SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 19, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Community Safety Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair
Alvin Chen, Coquitlam Youth Council
Winston Choo, Block Watch Program
Ron Coulson, Citizen Representative
Julianne (Jewels) Cressman, Citizen Representative
Carol Metz, Citizen Representative
Mezie Odigboh, Citizen Representative
Judy Payne, School District No. 43
Ravinder Safaya, Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce
Amandeep Sangha, Citizen Representative
Ally Wang, Citizen Representative

ABSENT: Councillor Dennis Marsden, Vice Chair (regrets)
Andrea Corrigan, Hope for Freedom Society (regrets)

STAFF: Jim Ogloff, General Manager Community Safety
Inspector Todd Balaban, Acting Officer-in-Charge, Coquitlam RCMP
Staff Sergeant Mark McCutcheon, Traffic Services Commander,
Coquitlam RCMP
Kim Singh, Senior Manager Police Services
Sean O'Melinn, Manager Business and Innovation
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

The Chair announced her role as Chair for 2026, and acknowledged the service of Councillor Marsden as Chair in 2025.

The Chair invited members to provide introductions to welcome new members. Alvin Chen is the representative of Coquitlam Youth Council and Jacqueline Ma, not in attendance, is the alternate representative. Winston Choo is the alternate representative of Block Watch.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES**1. Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, November 20, 2025**

The Minutes of the Community Safety Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, November 20, 2025 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS**2. Committee Orientation Review**

The Committee Clerk gave a presentation entitled “2026 Advisory Committee Orientation” and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Understanding accessibility provisions during an evacuation.
- Clarifying the Committee meeting schedule.
- Understanding the Committee mandate to “consider the quality of life of residents related to the feeling of safety”, particularly the value of multiple subjective perspectives on how a feeling of safety is realized to supplement objective policy evaluation.
- Understanding the dissemination and use of input from the Committee and the broader public by City staff, RCMP, and Council, and the means by which that is accomplished.

The Chair thanked the Committee members for their service and for their valuable input.

3. Community Safety Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan

The Manager Business and Innovation gave introductory comments and referred to the document contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Understanding the role of Committee members to bring information and perspectives to staff and Council as well as share information with the broader community, with opportunities for iterative discussion.
- Appreciation that the Work Plan is focused to fewer items with greater opportunity for discussion.

- Desire for the Committee to have more opportunities to contribute as well as to be informed; for example, safety-related capital planning could provide opportunities for input while operational matters are left to staff.
- Suggestion to have the Bear Awareness and Safety discussion at the May meeting of the Committee since bears are coming out of hibernation at that time of year.
- Suggestion that the Committee undertake a concerted, proactive effort to engage the community in giving feedback on safety, through a survey for example, to inform its work in coming years.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- There is an opportunity for all members of the public to provide input to the budget process through a survey; specific recommendations from Advisory Committees to Council would not benefit from the comprehensive staff presentations provided to Council.
- Results of the 2025 Community Satisfaction Survey, conducted by Ipsos, may be presented to the Committee based on interest in this type of data.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

MOVED

AND SECONDED

The Committee recommends to Council to approve the Community Safety Advisory Committee 2026 Work Plan as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) Team

The Acting Officer-in-Charge gave a presentation entitled “Mobile Integrated Crisis Response (MICR) Team” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Appreciation of the MICR program and desire to see its expansion in both Coquitlam and other communities.
- Understanding what information can be provided to the MICR Team to best inform their response to calls; for example, personal support networks for vulnerable people may have information to provide.
- Understanding protocols and preparations for de-escalation during wellness checks, particularly related to language barriers and cultural sensitivity.
- Understanding RCMP partnerships in schools to address youth in crisis.
- Interest in the proportion of MICR calls related to drugs and alcohol, as these are primary or exacerbating factors in similar cases in the healthcare system.

- Suggestion to lobby provincial representatives to continue and enhance funding for the MICR program.
- Suggestion to involve nursing practicum students in the program to provide support and to gain experience with this model.
- Concern about the prevalence of mental health issues amongst youth and that youth often suffer privately; they may perceive counsellors, principals, and RCMP as disciplinary figures rather than supports.
- Suggestion of an RCMP presentation to schools to provide information but also address stigma and hesitance in reporting mental health needs.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- RCMP have access to a *Health IM* application on their phones, a service provided by the province, which compiles information for risk assessment; it could incorporate information from the personal networks of persons at risk.
- Coquitlam RCMP training addresses the use of force comprehensively; it includes six months of scenario-based training, as well as ongoing training and recertification on topics of diversity, inclusion, and de-escalation; language barriers may be addressed by officers who speak multiple languages and potentially through machine translation in the future.
- Coquitlam RCMP has eleven dedicated officers as school liaisons and a strong partnership with the School District; incidents such as those that occurred recently are reviewed for continuous improvement; there is limited capacity to engage with all schools in the District so prioritization by risk is necessary.
- MICR calls address a wide variety of circumstances, and there are limitations on sharing statistics between Fraser Health and the RCMP.

5. Traffic Safety and Enforcement Priorities

The Traffic Services Commander gave a presentation entitled “Traffic Safety and Enforcement Priorities” and referred to slides contained in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Appreciation of and interest in increased use of “Constable Scarecrow”, the life-size model of a traffic enforcement officer placed roadside to deter speeding.
- Concern that driving lessons are not sufficiently accessible to youth due to cost, and suggestions to subsidize or otherwise provide affordable driving lessons through schools or educational videos.
- Interest in whether the number of tickets issued per capita is comparable to other municipalities, and how the number compares to a target if there is one.

- Interest in restarting use of photo radar, and a report that municipalities are lobbying the provincial government to authorize municipalities to install photo radar.
- Suggestion to post signs at high accident zones to encourage more cautious driving behaviour.
- Suggestion to lobby for speed restriction regulations on vehicles to prevent excessive speeding.
- Suggestion to use artificial intelligence to evaluate dash camera video as a teaching tool for new drivers.
- Report that municipalities are lobbying the federal government to harmonize traffic laws between provinces to reduce confusion.
- Suggestion to add to traffic rule tips to the Coquitlam RCMP social media.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Constable Scarecrow is a labour intensive program in which staff from Engineer and Public Works must secure it in place and retrieve it; use of the program is dependent on staff availability.
- ICBC publishes crash statistics and data online including many interactive tools such as maps.
- The objective of traffic enforcement is to change behaviour rather than to issue tickets; it may be that tickets are more effective than warnings in changing behaviour due to the consequence, but the RCMP has no incentive to issue tickets.
- Residents can request the installation of a Black Cat radar recorder on a street by contacting the City or RCMP Traffic Services.
- Photo radar enforcement was phased out by the provincial government, but ICBC has subsequently implemented them at high accident intersections.
- Engineer and Public Works collaborates regularly with RCMP in the design of roadways.

6. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

There was no discussion related to this item.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, May 21, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair

Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk