



The Police Governance Post

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!



Message from AAPG Chair John McDougall

A very happy hello to everyone.

I know these have been very trying times as we continue to adjust to the constraints Covid has placed on us all. I hope you and your families have remained well throughout it all.

I would like to thank everyone who linked into our question and answer with the ADM, it was an excellent opportunity to have the questions you provided be answered and allowed the ADM to elaborate on other initiatives from their office.

It's time for our members to start planning for our AAPG conference coming up in St Albert this spring. Early bird registration and pricing is now available on our web page.

The Board has been looking at opportunities to ensure all the policing community members of AAPG are engaged. To that end, the Board has been considering incorporating our Associate membership into Full membership to allow more voices to be heard and more collaboration.

AAPG has also gone to great lengths to ensure we have seated ALERT-CAC with members for the next two-year term. As well, we have solid and ongoing representation with Alberta Interim Police Advisory Board (AIPAB) and the Police Act.

We have reached out to the Solicitor General Manager of Policing and have set up monthly meetings to ensure we have continued, accurate and open communication. One of the anticipated outcomes of collaboration will be shared web links and/or documents to all things policy & governance related.

And finally, great news on the budget front! Our budget has been approved and it includes funding for the AAPG 2022 Strategic Plan Facilitation.

We strive to keep you informed but if there are any questions, please feel free to email us. If we do not have the answer, we will source the information and get back to you with a response.

I hope you have a very safe and happy holiday season. Please stay well and stay safe.

Best Wishes,
John McDougall
Chair



ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE GOVERNANCE

P.O. Box 36098
Lakeview Post Office
Calgary, AB T3E 7C6
www.aapg.ca

AAPG 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & AGM REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!!!

Hosted in St. Albert, Alberta
Friday April 29th & Saturday April 30th

Supporting excellence in civilian governance and oversight of police services in Alberta by providing our members, and potential members, with an enjoyable opportunity to learn, network, and connect.

We invite all those participating in community policing oversight to attend!

Our venue is the Kinsman Club with the Best Western Plus off-site hotel (shuttle provided). The Hotel is located in the heart of St. Albert making it easy to explore local attractions and fare, such as the nearby Central Social Hall for drinks or late-night dining. The hotel offers Family Suites, so bring your family along to play in the pool! (Be sure to add-on your significant other as a Gala Banquet guest during registration). All rooms include daily breakfast. *Block of rooms are limited, **BOOK EARLY!*** Call the hotel for reservations at (780) 470-3800 and reference AAPG.

WestJet has provided a Discount Code for those of you wishing to fly into Edmonton; 5% off Econo & 10% off Premium! Enter Coupon Code P13FO24 in the search screen.

Along with a schedule filled with Educational Presentations and Round-table sessions, we have prepared the following **Experience Events**:

Friday 3:45 to 5pm: RCMP Air Services Helicopter and Army Unit Portable Medical display!

Friday Evening Gala Banquet Extraordinaire!

Networking Reception event with **Beer, Spirits & Mocktail TASTINGS** by local distillers/brewers, local musicians, Carved Alberta Beef, Lemon cream seared Cod, and Quinoa Pilaf supper with wine and cheesecake! **Test your BAC with Covid-safe Breathalyzers** during the evening!

REGISTER NOW at www.aapg.ca and click on the Conference tab. On-line payment of registration fees, e-transfer, and invoicing is available.

Health & Safety Protocols: We're excited about getting together in April for an in-person conference and AGM! The health and safety of everyone is of paramount importance to us, therefore AAPG will be following the Restriction Exemption Program (REP). REP currently requires that **all attendees provide proof of full vaccination and masking during all indoor events** (unless eating or drinking), or as regulations stipulate at the time of the event. At Registration you will be asked to show your proof of full vaccination with a QR Code or documents reflective of medical exemption or negative Covid test (taken within the prior 72 hours by an authorized professional provider). Should you forget to wear/display your name badge after registration, you will be asked to once again provide proof of vaccination. Hand sanitizer and disposable masks will be provided with your registration package. The Kinsman Club venue is 4300sqft and, depending on final registration total, AAPG expects to be at or under the 1/3 maximum capacity. Table seating in the main hall will be set 30% lower to allow for reasonable social distancing. We will continue to monitor guidelines for health and safety measures from the federal, provincial and local public health organizations and make adjustments as medical recommendations evolve. We all hope by April 2022 restrictions have relaxed.

Thank you to our Conference Sponsor MNP LLP!!!

Conference Program Highlights *Along with New Member Orientation and Round-table Discussions:*

BULLYING ENDS HERE – THE LIVED EXPERIENCE

This presentation shares Constable Tad Milmine's heart-breaking childhood of being confined to a basement for twelve years while holding onto the dream of wanting to be a Police Officer.

Presented by Cst. Tad Milmine, M.O.M.

POLICE ACT & AIPAB UPDATE: Current status & Plans

Meeting the Moment: REIMAGINING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

Police agencies and governing bodies worldwide face complexities never imagined by their peers of the past. We'll seize the moment by exploring how police governing bodies can apply innovative evidence-based decision-making strategies and change management initiatives to better support police services and the diverse communities they serve.

Presented by Dr. Doug Abrahamson

COMMITTEE ONLY: Public Complaint Director Role for PACs

How can we successfully have a Public Complaint Director? Can communities share a Public Complaint Director?

Presented by the Provincial Public Complaint Director, Office of the Solicitor General

COMMISSION ONLY: Commission Oversight; Internal and External

Reviewing the powers of oversight Commissions have with the service and internal oversight for commissioners.

Presented by Solicitor General's Office

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT (Citizen & Youth)

How to engage the Community in the Policing and Governance & Oversight process. **Presented by** Edmonton PACE (Police And Community Engagement)

ROADSIDE BREATHALYZER TESTING: What is tested, how it works and reliability. **Presented by** Kerry Blake, Provincial Breath Testing Coordinator

ALERT-CAC UPDATE: Presented by ALERT Board member

Body Worn Cameras; Evidence & Impact

How they will help and the challenges faced. **Presented by** Ron Anderson, Chief Innovation & Technology Officer, Edmonton Police Service

Automated Vehicles & Challenges to Policing

How the future of autonomous vehicles may affect policing. **Presented by** Wendy Doyle, Executive Director of Carrier & Vehicle Safety AB Dept. of Transportation

Alberta Sheriffs Safer Communities Neighborhoods (SCAN) unit

An alternative avenue the citizens of Alberta have to report & resolve certain illegal activity in their community.

Presented by Karen Stenberg, SCAN Investigator

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All-Member Call with ADM Degrand

The AAPG membership submitted six questions in advance, which were provided to ADM Degrand with his gratitude. Two most relevant to AAPG Membership are provided in detail below with others summarized.

1. Can you share what is being examined and considered that would impact Municipal Police Commissions in the ongoing review of the Police Act? Will things fundamentally change for commissions? Still a live question for Minister. First rounds of consultation complete and a lot of feedback has been heard. Main areas are complaints, independence of investigations, and governance models, including those under contract with the RCMP. In terms of impact to Commissions, we have to examine the role of Government in our oversight role of Commissions, the LERB and Chiefs. Also heard was a need for an independent public complaints body similar to ASIRT on the criminal side, and if the Minister supports this direction, what would that entity interface with groups and the role. There could be changes of responsibility in the areas Commissions are charged with under the Act for oversight and complaints, depending on the direction the GOA goes. From a broader perspective, there was a lot of conversation around governance models in the non-municipal police service areas which mirrored AB provincial police discussions as well. There is potential for changes that will impact those areas as well, the consequence impacting all members of AAPG. No final direction or specifics at this time. Once we understand the direction, SolGen will seek very specific and focused feedback in a number of areas from various stakeholders such as AAPG Commissions and Committees. While we are given broad guidelines on general direction, there is a lot of work between now and the target of legislation next Fall. The proposed schedule includes stakeholder feedback in Spring with Ministerial review and drafting of legislation in Summer to table in Fall.

2. Provide an update on the establishment of the new provincial hate crimes office, including staffing and availability. A couple components; a small professional unit of two seconded officers, one North and one South, that will be imbedded within policing agencies but be representing the interests of all police services. Their role will be to act as a conduit for information to flow between services, best practice, intelligence information, identifying trends and emerging groups or individuals that can be a threat, and working with all police services to ensure they are alive to trends as well as provide clearing house for services that may not have, or can benefit from, the expertise. The two liaisons along with a central analyst will also be looking for development of in-house training as well as crown prosecutors in the area of hate crimes to make sure the best available tools are out there. The lead position is in the process right now and the two seconded officers have been identified and agreements being finalized. There will be a community liaison position appointed by the Minister to be the connection to various communities that may be marginalized or more susceptible to, or targeted by, hate crimes. This role will be the conduit for reaching those communities, understanding what is going on, hearing what they are feeling/seeing, communicating back to the GOA, police services and other agencies. Providing every opportunity to have a fulsome picture of not only what is going on, but what is working. Hopeful the hate crimes unit will be up and running reasonable soon.

- Support for victim services. We are contemplating a completely new financial support and benefits program that is right now going to the Minister along with the MLAs review results. {The Minister has} heard the current program is modest and not meeting the needs of most. Results should come very soon.

- Why municipalities are not allowed to have their Community Peace officers trained to deal with administrative penalties and Immediate Roadside Sanctions under the Traffic Safety Act similar to their provincial counterparts. The CPO training requirements, equipment requirements and oversight mechanisms are much different from police services. Structurally the change would not be responsible given current gaps, and differing oversight standards, but he is open to the conversation.

- Access to the RCMP AFRRCs talk groups. A couple pilots were run in two or three locations and looked at proof of concept, policy requirements, and technical requirements to find ways to address the security requirements that are on them and yet still deal with the very apparent officer safety communication need that has been voiced. It appears they have done good in those pilot areas, though he cannot speak for the RCMP.

- In closing, discussions on facilitating training. As we reorganize and rebuild capacity, our goal is to execute on our mandate to provide training and work closely with AAPG on what training looks like. Thanks were extended to the ADM and the ADM commented on his high regard for the relationship with AAPG.



NEW HIRES IN THE SOLICITOR GENERALS' OFFICE

ADM Degrand was asked if he had any other items to report, his reply included the reorganization within the department.

Key changes include;

A new Chief Sheriff, **Farooq Shaikh**, coming from the West Indies Police force with time spent at the Executive level at the MET in London, and a number of years in Canada with the Calgary Police Service, Saanich Police Service and Corrections Canada. Expected to take up post mid-November.

Replacement of ADM Degrand's prior position as Executive Director of Law Enforcement and Oversight will also be filled by Superintendent **Dwayne Lakusta** with Edmonton Police Service and CEO of ALERT as of November 1st.

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IMPORTANT UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Alberta Community Crime Prevention Association (ACCPA)

2022 Conference May 9th to 11th - Canmore AB

<https://www.albertacrimeprevention.com/2022-conference/>

Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Conference

First Nations Police Governance Council (FNPGC) Conference

September 7th to 10th, 2022 - Saskatoon, SK

<https://capgconference.ca/>

Alberta Association of Police Governance 2022 Membership Invoices coming soon!

Membership with AAPG supports excellence in civilian governance and oversight of policing services in Alberta. Through AAPG, members are provided with educational opportunities, access to best practices, forums for liaison with other members and related agencies, and proactive representation in order that police oversight in Alberta speaks with one voice when advocating for change to law or policy.

Please complete the Contact form for any distribution updates.

Contact us about becoming a member. With membership cost starting at just \$100, it is affordable to join and collaborate.

admin@aapg.ca



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