

LAC LA BICHE COUNTY

ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIC SESSION

DATE: August 7, 2014
TIME: 10:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers
County Centre

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
3. INFORMATION
 - 3.1 Briefing – Enforcement Services.
4. DELEGATIONS
 - 4.1 10:00 a.m. Tammy Spink, Manager, Peace Officer & Security Services Program, Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General;
 - 4.2 11:15 a.m. Henry VanDorland & Steve Visnoski, RCMP – Lac La Biche Detachment.
5. DISPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS
 - 5.1 Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General;
 - 5.2 RCMP – Lac La Biche Detachment.
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - 6.1 Discussion – Enforcement: Next Steps & Council Priorities.
7. IN CAMERA SESSION
 - 7.1 Personnel Matters (section 17 FOIP).
8. ADJOURNMENT

**LAC LA BICHE COUNTY
ENFORCEMENT
STRATEGIC SESSION**

COUNTY CENTRE, LAC LA BICHE

AUGUST 7, 2014 – 10:00 a.m.

Minutes of the Lac La Biche County Strategic Session held on August 7, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER Mayor Moghrabi called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

PRESENT

Omer Moghrabi	Mayor
Wanda Austin	Councillor
Robert Richard	Councillor / Deputy Mayor
Richard Olson	Councillor (entered at 11:27 a.m.)
David Phillips	Councillor
MJ Siebold	Councillor
Tim Thompson	Councillor
John Nowak	Councillor (entered at 10:07 a.m.)
Hajar (Jerry) Haymour	Councillor

**STAFF IN
ATTENDANCE**

Shadia Amblie	Interim Chief Administrative Officer/ Manager, Communications
Melanie McConnell	Interim Assistant Chief Administrative Officer/Manager, Legislative Services
Dan Small	Senior Manager (in part)
Julie MacIsaac	Communications Coordinator

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

SS.14.019 Motion by Councillor Richard to approve the August 7, 2014 Strategic Session agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

INFORMATION

3.1 Briefing – Enforcement Services.

Shadia Amblie, Interim Chief Administrative Officer, provided an overview of the agenda for the strategic session, invited delegations and desired outcomes. Ms. Amblie advised that the purpose of the session was to explore models for municipal enforcement.

DELEGATIONS

4.1 Tammy Spink, Manager, Peace Officer & Security Services Program, Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General;

Mayor Moghrabi welcomed the delegation and introductions were made.

Councillor Nowak entered Council Chambers at 10:07 a.m.

Tammy Spink, Manager, Peace Officer & Security Services Program was in attendance to provide Council with a fundamental understanding of the program. Ms. Spink reviewed her presentation, as attached to and forming part of these minutes, highlighting the following:

- The Ministry provides the structure, standards and support for the program;
- Communities/municipalities administer the program in a manner that meets the local needs;
- Communities/municipalities control local enforcement, depending on the authorizations and local policies;
- There are two levels of Community Peace Officer appointments:
 - o Level 1 has highest authority for enforcement and requires completion of the 6 week training program;
 - o Level 2 has a more restricted authority and training is designed by the community/municipality and approved by the Ministry.
- Municipalities with Community Peace Officers enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with local RCMP with respect to enforcement;
- Complaints against Peace Officers are submitted to the authorized employer and the Ministry oversees how the complaints are disposed of by the employer, in accordance with the employer's human resource policies (i.e. investigations, discipline, resolution etc.); and
- The March 2014 audit of Lac La Biche County raised no issues or concerns.

RECESS Mayor Moghrabi called a recess at 11:25 a.m.

RECONVENE Mayor Moghrabi reconvened the meeting at 11:40 a.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance, including Councillor Olson and excluding Councillor Nowak.

DELEGATIONS

4.2 Henry VanDorland & Steve Visnoski, RCMP – Lac La Biche Detachment.

Steve Visnoski, Staff Sergeant and Constable Caroline Jackson of the Lac La Biche RCMP Detachment were present and provided an overview of how Peace Officers assist the RCMP and further provided their opinion that the Level I appointment would be best suited for the community.

Discussion ensued regarding advanced policing options available to Lac La Biche County.

RECESS Mayor Moghrabi called a recess at 12:20 p.m.

RECONVENE Deputy Mayor Richard reconvened the meeting at 1:35 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance, with the exception of Mayor Moghrabi and Councillor Olson. Mayor Moghrabi did not return to the meeting.

DISPOSITION OF DELEGATIONS

5.1 Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General;

5.2 RCMP – Lac La Biche Detachment.

Councillor Olson returned to Council Chambers at 1:35 p.m.

SS.14.020 Motion by Councillor Nowak to forward a letter of thanks to both the Minister of Justice and Solicitor General and the RCMP – Lac La Biche Detachment for their presentations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Discussion – Enforcement: Next Steps & Council Priorities.

Ms. Amblie provided an overview of what neighboring municipalities have with respect to Enforcement. Discussion ensued regarding the same.

Further discussion included the need for a bylaw enforcement officer, the need to review the current Memorandum of Understanding, and the need to strengthen the County's current policy.

Councillor Nowak left Council Chambers at 2:09 p.m.

Councillor Nowak returned to Council Chambers at 2:09 p.m.

SS.14.021 Motion by Councillor Haymour to defer decision on municipal enforcement until such time as Administration provides additional information including, but not limited to:

- Enforcement models/options and recommendations, including costs;
- Bylaw enforcement requirements and costs, including training, vehicles and uniforms;
- Enhanced RCMP position, including costs;
- Hiring and/or funding sheriffs; and
- Complete costs for Level 1 Peace Officers, including equipment and vehicles.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RECESS Deputy Mayor Richard called a recess at 2:25 p.m.

RECONVENE Deputy Mayor Richard reconvened the meeting at 2:38 p.m. with all those Members of Council previously listed in attendance.

IN CAMERA SESSION

SS.14.022 Motion by Councillor Siebold to go in camera at 2:38 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Personnel Matter (section 17 FOIP).

RETURN TO REGULAR MEETING

SS.14.023 Motion by Councillor Haymour to proceed with the meeting out of camera at 3:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF “IN CAMERA SESSION”

9.1 No action required.

ADJOURNMENT

SS.14.024 Motion by Councillor Nowak to adjourn the Strategic Session of August 7, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Robert Richard, Deputy Mayor

**Shadia Amblie
Interim Chief Administrative Officer**

Public Security Peace Officer Program



Alberta Justice and Solicitor General

Program Overview

The Public Security Peace Officer Program:

- is unique in Canada
- provides different levels of government the opportunity to obtain peace officer status for:
 - enhancement of community safety, or
 - to meet specialized law enforcement needs.

Program Overview

- Designed to ensure minimum standards on training, accountability and professionalism
- Duties vary greatly from out-of-province police officers to parking control, automated traffic enforcement and enforcement of the *Gaming and Liquor Act*



Program Overview

Peace Officer Act
Peace Officer Regulations
Peace Officer (Ministerial) Regulations
Policy and Procedures Manual



Authorization to Employer POs

- Legitimate need
- Government or quasi-government agency
- Carry out enforcement of federal or provincial legislation



PO Status

- Powers and protections not available to ordinary citizens including ability to deprive citizens of freedom through powers of arrest and authority to use reasonable force
- Only valid while “on duty”
- Limited to statutes and within jurisdiction on Appointment
- Work with local police services



Level I CPOs

- Employed by municipalities and counties in Alberta
- Full a range of roles that includes enforcement of multiple provincial statutes, including moving violations under the *Traffic Safety Act* and elements of the *Gaming and Liquor Act*



Level I CPOs

- Responsibility for providing a safe and secure environment for large amounts of public/private property
- Armed with baton and/or OC spray
- Examples of this category are municipal and other governments, transit security agencies operated by a municipality, some post secondary institutions, and hospitals.



Level II CPOs

Range of specific roles:

- Administrative functions such as exhibit room custodians for police services
- Parking enforcement officers
- Animal control specialists



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Enhanced Program Authorities

- **Non-Urgent Community Calls:** Criminal Code authority may be granted for the offences of 'Theft under \$5000' and 'Mischief under \$5000'
- **Criminal Code Warrants:** Ability to arrest and release, unless Judicial Interim Release hearing required
- **Motor Vehicle Collisions:** Ability to investigate and submit reports involving non-injury events

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Memorandum of Understanding

- Developed in conjunction with the police service of jurisdiction
- enhanced framework allowing for closer interaction between police and POs
- Intent is to assist in clearly defining the role of peace officers and coordinating peace officer services with police services



Training

- Level 1 - Community Peace Officer Induction Program (CPOIP)
- Level 2 – In-house or 3rd party / specific to job function and approved by Ministry
- Enhanced Authorities – course developed by Ministry available for in-house use



Agency Policy + Appointment

- Parameters of enforcement authority including:
 - Jurisdiction
 - Use of force
 - Use of weapons
 - Disciplinary measures
 - Rank structure

Standardization

- Policy
- Uniforms
- Vehicle markings
- Training
- Public complaints process
- Investigations

Uniforms and Vehicles

- Standardize uniform to improve public recognition (exemptions apply for some peace officers)
 - Level I & II APOs
 - Level I CPOs
- Flash identifies employer and specific role of POs.
- Vehicles: consistent markings – include organizations logo



Complaints against POs

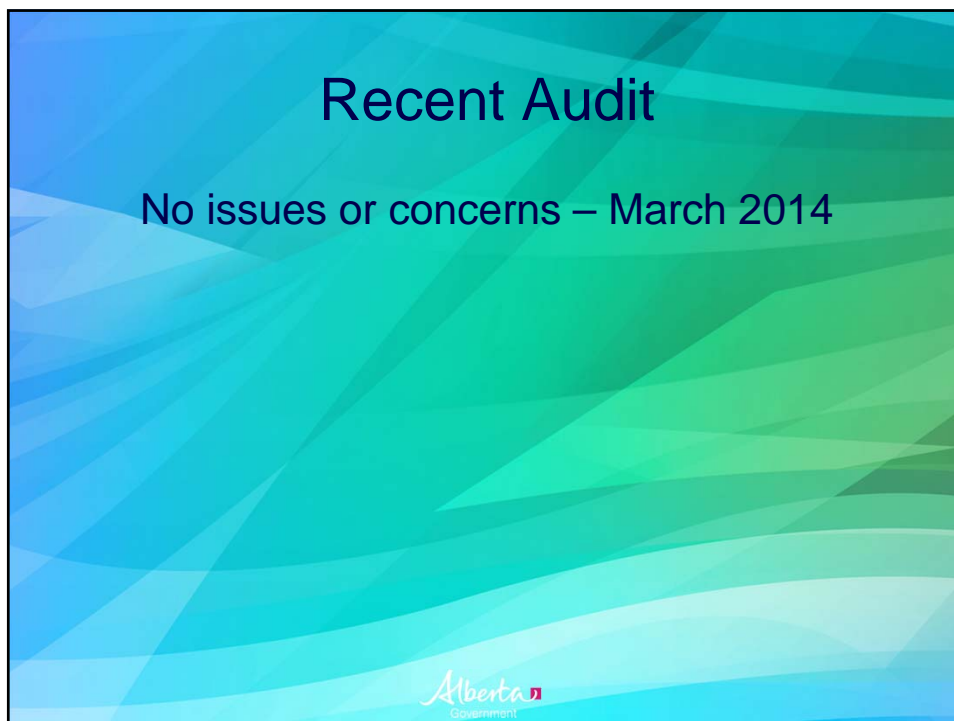
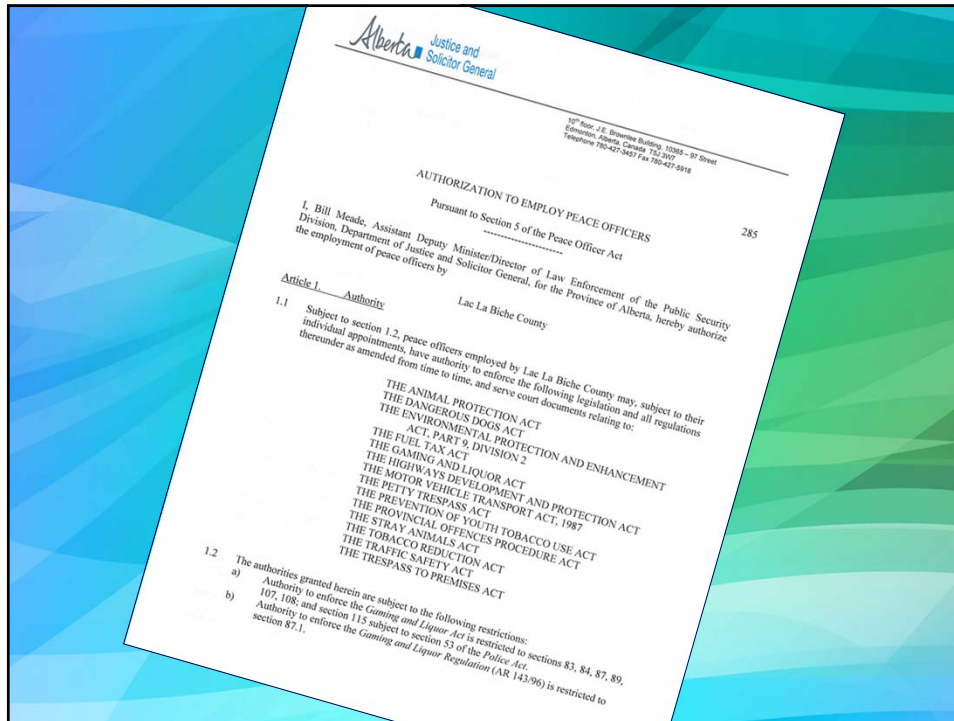
- Through Part 2 of the Act and Part 5 of the *Peace Officer (Ministerial) Regulation* the program directs authorized employers to adhere to minimum requirements for handling these occurrences
- Made in writing to the authorized employer
- Formal and informal resolution options



Complaints

- It is recognized that some complaints will be made under circumstances in which an investigation is not required
- Example: frivolous, vexatious or complaints made in bad faith
- Complainant's Right of Appeal – request Director review disposition. Decision of the Director is final.

Lac La Biche County Peace Officer Authorization



Law Enforcement & Oversight Branch



Law Enforcement Standards & Audits

What do we do?

1. Establish Policy
2. Oversight
3. Inspections/Audits
4. Investigations



Successes to Date

1. Improved Handling of Public Complaints
2. Improved Relationships Between Police and Peace Officer Agencies
3. Clearer understanding of roles/responsibilities of peace officers
4. Enhanced data collection (serious incidents, weapon deployment)



Current Challenges

1. Police understanding of limitations of peace officer authority
 - Pursuits
 - Participation in criminal events
 - Appointments/Authorizations
 - On/off duty differences
2. Some CPO agencies still operationally disconnected from police service of jurisdiction (MOUs).
 - Missed opportunity for enhanced service delivery in some cases.



Resources to Keep in Mind

Peace Officer Website for:

- Common Questions
- Bulletins
- Commonly used forms
- Policy and Procedures Manual
- https://www.solgps.alberta.ca/programs_and_services/public_security/peace_officers
- or give the Peace Officer Program a call



Contact:

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Manager, Peace Officer Program

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QUESTIONS?

