



# EPC PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL – Apr. 28, 2022



## Who We Are



Chair McDougall



Vice Chair Ambtman



Commissioner Hussainaly



Commissioner Singh



Commissioner Stonehouse



Commissioner Amiri



Commissioner Chaudhry



Commissioner Kufour-Boakye



Councillor Stevenson



Councillor Hamilton



# Commission's Authority

Police Act &  
Police Service  
Regulation

City of  
Edmonton  
Bylaw

Commission  
Policies



Edmonton Police Commission

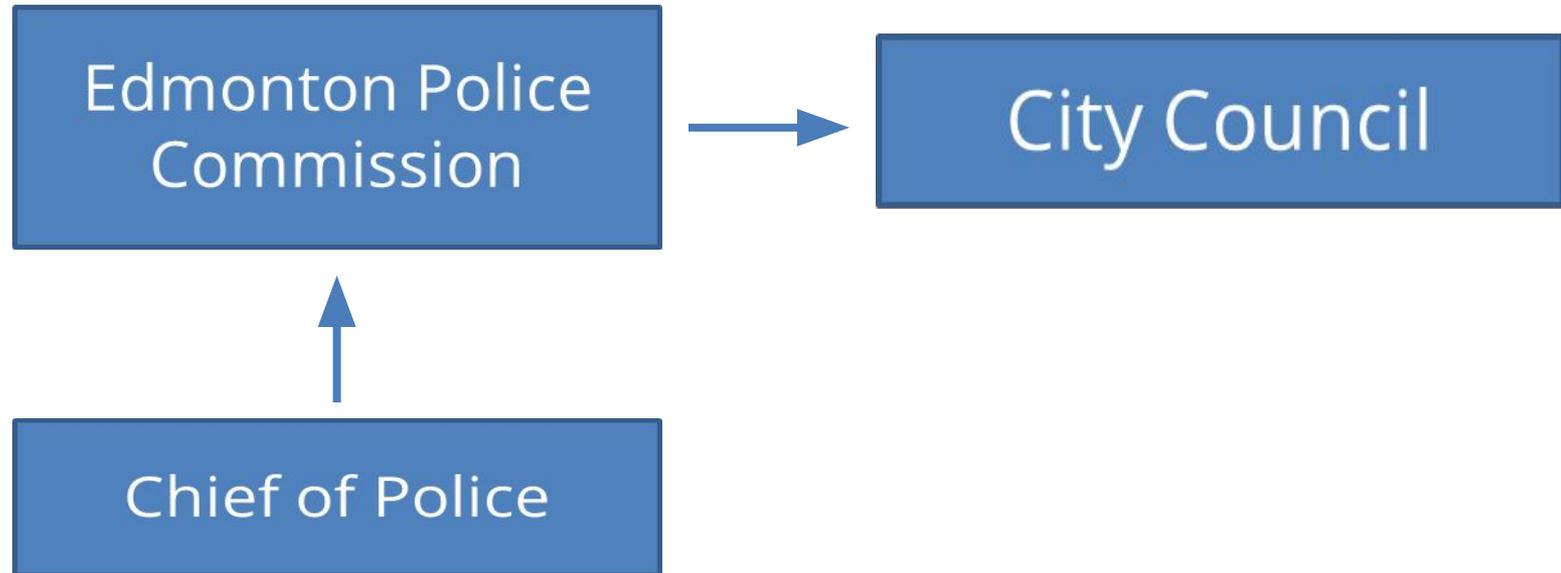


# Roles of EPC in Providing Oversight and Accountability

- **Regular Meetings - 11 meetings per year of the Commission, as a whole, and through four standing committees (Governance, Finance and Audit, Human Resources, and Professional Standards) which meet approximately 39 times per year.**
- **Hiring a Chief to advance the Commission's strategic goals and tracking progress on those goals.**
- **Police communication to Commission on all serious incidents happens when they occur. This includes shootings, injuries, protests, etc.**
  - We have access to information that cannot be shared publicly due to privacy, active investigation status, or law enforcement sensitivity.
  - We use our access to confidential information to ensure our governance and oversight role is carried out in the best way possible.



## Role of Council





## Role of Chief





## Provincial Role



Province of Alberta

### **POLICE ACT**

Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000  
Chapter P-17



# Commission and Police Standards

**The Government of Alberta, under the Police Act, sets out standards for Commissions and police services they must follow.**

**Commissions standards require a broad range of activities and policies to be in place such as:**

- Recruitment standards for Commissioners
- Training expectations
- How a Public Complaint Director must function
- Financial, records and governance standards

**Police standards set out 100s of individual standards for services to follow such as:**

- Requirements for community policing
- Management of human relations matters
- Operational policing standards
- Requirements for support services (Victims service, tactical units, forensic services, etc.)



# Edmonton Police Commission – Desire for Police Act changes

**The Act has not undergone comprehensive modernization to address many aspects which are dated and no longer meet the needs for the delivery of policing oversight and services in Alberta.**

Top requests for change:

1. Establishment of an independent external agency to manage all complaints regarding officer conduct. (underway)
2. Modernization of standards related to qualifications and police basic training curriculum.
3. Allow for the Chief of Police to appoint Special Constables under the Police Act.
4. Provisions requiring an emphasis on community based policing (as Ontario)



# Oversight of Complaint Process

- The Commission is responsible for civilian oversight of investigations into allegations of police misconduct.
- The key parties responsible for overseeing the public complaint process are the Public Complaint Director, members of the EPC Professional Standards Committee, and the Commission as a whole.
- The Commission employs a full-time Public Complaint Director, who is responsible for assisting with the day-to-day administration, monitoring and oversight of public complaints.
- The EPC Professional Standards Committee's mandate is to monitor and oversee the public complaint process and to ensure that investigations are thorough, fair to both the complainant and the subject officer, and conducted in accordance with law and policy.



# Oversight of Complaint Process

**The following are provided to the Commission regularly to enhance the oversight process:**

- Professional Standards Branch Quarterly Reports
- Professional Standards Branch Annual Report
- Weekly 45 Day Letter Reports (indicating stage of complaint files)
- Monthly Relieved from Duty Reports (providing background and status of investigations or criminal proceedings for police officers who have been relieved from duty)
- Bi-monthly Extension Requests (providing background, investigative steps taken and tasks remaining on complaint files which require time extensions to continue investigations beyond the six-month timeline set out in section 7 of the Police Service Regulation)
- Serious incident notifications made pursuant to section 46.1 of the Police Act, concluding letters on investigations conducted by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT), disciplinary hearing decisions, and Law Enforcement Review Board decisions.



# Additional Oversight through Statutory Decision-Making

**The Commission is a statutory decision-maker under the Police Act and the Police Service Regulation and is required to make decisions on the following matters related to the complaint and disciplinary processes:**

- Extending the time limit for complaint investigations
- Reviewing complaints that are frivolous, vexatious or made in bad faith
- Reviewing the Chief's decision to relieve an officer from duty without pay
- Appeals from policy or service complaints
- Dealing with complaints against the Chief of Police



# Role of the Public Complaint Director

**The EPC must appoint a Public Complaint Director (PCD), who assists the Commission in the day to day management of its complaint oversight role. The PCD is specifically responsible for:**

- Receiving complaints and referring them to the Chief of Police
- Acting as a liaison between the Commission, the Chief of Police, and the complainant as applicable
- Performing the duties assigned by the Commission with respect to complaints
- Reviewing the investigation conducted by EPS during the course of the investigation and at the conclusion of the investigation
- Offering ADR to complainants when considered appropriate
- Reviewing the manner in which ADR is delivered
- Providing reports to the Commission as required



# Officer Conduct Appeals

## **Role of the Law Enforcement Review Board (LERB):**

- The Law Enforcement Review Board hears appeals by complainants (for officer conduct complaints) and police officers not satisfied with the conclusion of the Chief of Police.
- A complainant, or the affected officer, has 30 days to appeal the decision of the Chief of Police in writing to the Law Enforcement Review Board
- The Law Enforcement Review Board decision is final unless it appears the board misinterpreted the law in coming to its decision. In this case the decision may be appealed to the Court of Appeal within 30 days.



# Fatality Inquiries

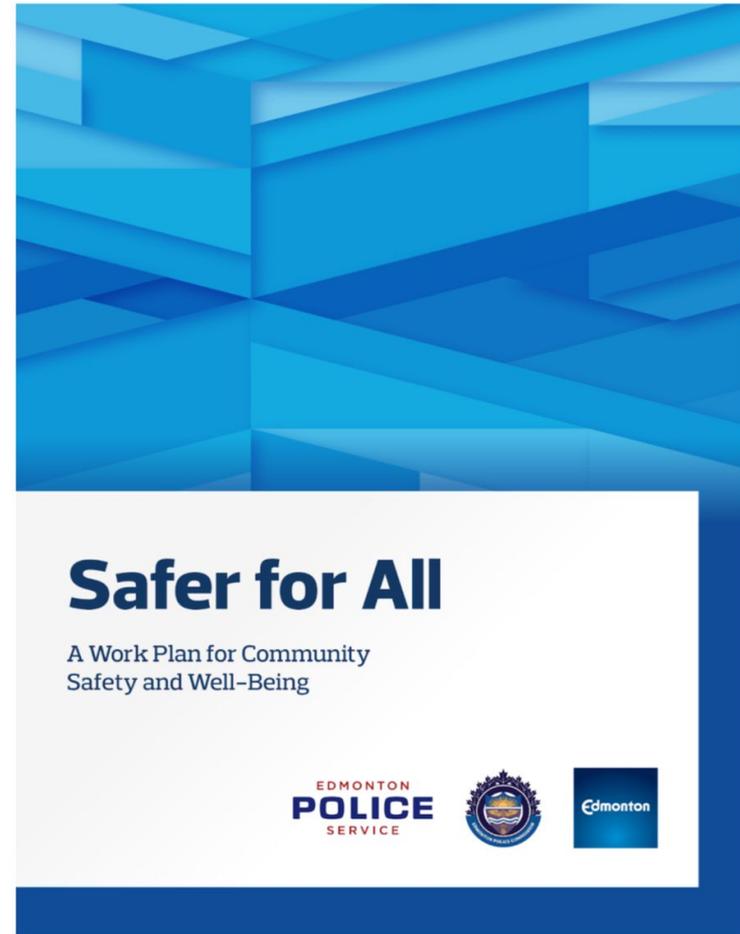
**The Fatality Review Board reviews specific deaths across the province under the *Fatalities Inquiry Act*. The board may recommend a fatality inquiry into someone's death to help:**

- prevent similar deaths in the future
- protect the public
- clarify the circumstances surrounding the death



## Closing

*"Providing independent civilian oversight and governance of the Edmonton Police Service to ensure a safe community."*





Questions?

