



## LETHBRIDGE POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 29, 2025  
Council Chamber, City Hall  
4:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Commission Members:

Members Brett Carlson, Clement Esene (*participated remotely*), Hunter Heggie, Matthew McHugh, Nick Paladino, Noella Piquette, Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, Douglas Thornton, Jen Visser

Lethbridge Police Service Executive:

Acting Chief Grobmeier, Acting Deputy Chief Lawrence, Inspector Dobirstein, Inspector Walper

Other:

Legal Counsel to Lethbridge Police Service Lee Cutforth, Finance Manager Kim Ordway, LPS Strategic Communications Manager Kristen Saturley, Executive Assistant to the Chief Carmen Hellawell, Commission Clerk Elizabeth Thompson, Deputy City Clerk David Sarsfield (*arrived at 5:18 p.m.*).

### 1. Meeting Called to Order

Clerk Thompson opened the meeting of the Lethbridge Police Commission January 29, 2025, the time being 4:00 p.m. The Clerk began with a roll call and quorum was met.

### 2. Election of Chair and Vice Chairs

Moved by Jen Visser, to nominate Commissioner Noella Piquette for the position of chair.

Commissioner Piquette accepted the nomination.

Moved by Matt McHugh, to nominate Commissioner Doug Thornton for the position of chair.

Commissioner Thornton accepted the nomination.

Ballots were distributed and counted by Clerk Thompson and colleague Talmann Frostad. One ballot was collected electronically.

Clerk Thompson declared Commissioner Noella Piquette elected as chair.

**Chair Piquette assumed the Chair following the election.**

Moved by Matthew McHugh, to nominate Commissioner Jenn Visser as First Vice Chair.

Commissioner Visser accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations, and the Chair declared Commissioner Visser appointed as First Vice Chair by acclamation.

Moved by Jenn Schmidt Rempel, to nominate Commissioner Matthew McHugh as Second Vice Chair.

Commissioner McHugh accepted the nomination. There were no other nominations and the Chair declared Commissioner McHugh appointed as Second Vice Chair by acclamation.

Moved by Jenn Schmidt Rempel, that the Lethbridge Police Commission direct administration to destroy the ballots.

CARRIED

**3. Acknowledgment Statement**

Chair Piquette read the Acknowledgement Statement.

**4. Conflict of Interest Declaration**

Chair Piquette called for a declaration of conflict of interest. None were noted.



**5. Approval of Agenda**

- a. Moved by Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the agenda for the January 29, 2025 Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting as amended to move item *ALERT Presentation – Staff Sergeant Sheppard* to be heard as item 9a.

CARRIED

**6. Consent Agenda**

The minutes of the November 27, 2023, Lethbridge Police Commission Meeting were circulated for approval in the consent agenda.

Moved by Clement Esene, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

**7. Recognitions**

Chief Mehdizadeh was recognized as a recipient of the King Charles III Coronation Medal.

The following police service members were recognized as new constables: Cst. Collin Basso, Cst. Riely Blinco, Cst. Brayden DeValter, Cst. Sam Dumoulin, Cst. Austin Lamontagne, Cst. Austin Lindsell, Cst. Scott MacQuarrie, Cst. Nolan McElroy, Cst. Chase McMurphy, Cst. Kyle Renkema, Cst. Perry Van Den Berg, Cst. Mitchel Versteeg, and Cst. Brock Wallace.

**8. Inquiries from the Public**

None

**9. Presentations**

- a. Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team Presentation – Staff Sergeant Sheppard

Moved by Jenn Visser, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the presentations on Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team.

CARRIED

- b. Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) – Sgt. Christos & Cst. Realini

Moved by Clement Esene, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the presentation on Violence Threat Risk Assessment

CARRIED

- c. Early Intervention & Reintegration – Ms. Petite, Wellness Coordinator

Moved by Brett Carlson, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the presentation on Early Intervention and Reintegration.

CARRIED

## 10. Standing Items

- a. Lethbridge Police Service Report – Acting Chief Grobmeier  
b. Monthly Compliments - Acting Chief Grobmeier  
c. Lethbridge Police Service Crime Report – Acting Deputy Chief Lawrence

Moved by Hunter Heggie, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the following reports:

- Lethbridge Police Service Report,
- Monthly Compliments, and
- Lethbridge Police Service Crime Report.

CARRIED

## 11. New Business



- a. 2025 Annual Police Plan

Moved by Matthew McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission receive as information the update on the 2025 Annual Police Plan.

CARRIED

- b. Commission Member Conduct Declaration Renewal

- c. 2025 Committee Appointments

## 12. Closed Session

Moved by Jen Visser, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission enter into a closed meeting at 6:03 p.m. to discuss confidential matters as per sections 17 (Harmful to Personal Privacy), 20 (Harmful to Law Enforcement), 23 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 24 (Advice from Officials).

CARRIED

*The Commission and the Commission Clerks attended the entirety of the closed session meeting, excepting Commissioner Carlson who recused himself for item 7 - LERB Investigation - due to his position as the Presiding Officer.*

*The LPS executive exited the closed session at 6:19 p.m.*

Moved by Commissioner Esene, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission adjourn the closed meeting at 7:40 p.m.

CARRIED

Moved by Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission appoint the following members to serve on the Lethbridge Police Commission temporary 2025 committees for a period of three months, as follows:

Finance Committee:

Doug Thornton

Jenn Visser

Nick Paladino  
Hunter Heggie

Human Resources Committee (Policy and Governance Subcommittee):

Brett Carlson  
Matthew McHugh  
Clement Esene  
Jenn Schmidt Rempel

With Chair Noella Piquette as ex officio on both committees; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Commission review the temporary committee structure in April 2025.

CARRIED

**13. Reports**

a. Finance Committee Report

Moved by Jen Visser, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lethbridge Police Commission accept the Finance Committee Report as information and

FURTHER THAT the travel plan for the Chief of Police be approved by the Commission.

CARRIED

b. Policy and Governance Report

Moved by Doug Thornton, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission accept the Alberta Association of Police Governance Report as information and

FURTHER THAT any Commissioners wishing to attend the Alberta Association of Police Governance Annual Conference in Westlock be authorized by the Commission

CARRIED

c. Alberta Association of Police Governance



Moved by Jenn Schmidt-Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lethbridge Police Commission approve Doug Thornton to put his name forward as the Lethbridge Police Commission representative on the AAPG subcommittee.

CARRIED

d. Lethbridge Police Commission Bylaw

Moved by Commissioner Schmidt Rempel, BE IT RESOLVED the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Chief Report  
Monthly Compliments

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 17 (Harmful to Personal Privacy), 23 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 24 (Advice from Officials) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Police Commission proceed with the confidential direction provided during the Commission with Lethbridge Police Service Closed Session.

CARRIED

Moved by Matthew McHugh, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the closed session meeting discussions, reports, and documents relating to:

Professional Standards  
Lethbridge Police Commission Self Evaluation  
Finance  
Policy and Governance  
Alberta Association of Police Governance  
LERB Investigation  
Committees

remain confidential, pursuant to Sections 17 (Harmful to Personal Privacy), 20 (Harmful to Law Enforcement), 23 (Local Public Body Confidences), and 24 (Advice from Officials) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Police Commission direct administration to reopen the self-evaluation survey for one week.

Further be it resolved that the Police Commission proceed with the confidential direction provided during the Commission Only Closed Session.

CARRIED

Moved by Jen Visser, BE IT RESOLVED that Files 2023-058 and 2024-059 be extended to April 30, 2025; and

FURTHER THAT, File 2023-087 be extended to May 28, 2025.

CARRIED

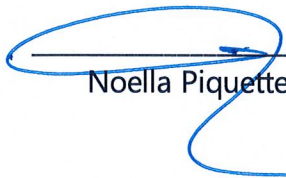
#### **14. Upcoming Events and Meetings**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.  
The committee meetings are to be rescheduled over email.

#### **15. Meeting Adjournment**

Chair Piquette adjourned the meeting, the time being 7:55 p.m.

CARRIED



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Noella Piquette, Chair



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Elizabeth Thompson, Clerk