



## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

### **SASKATOON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

Thursday, June 19, 2025, 1:00 p.m.  
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall

#### **COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner S. Greyeyes, Chair  
Commissioner J. Lagimodiere, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Mayor C. Block  
Commissioner K. Grier  
Commissioner Z. Jeffries  
Commissioner J. Santos Ong  
Commissioner S. Timon

Submissions providing comments and/or requesting to speak will be accepted for public meetings using the [online form](#) on the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners website. If your submission includes a request to speak, you will be contacted by a representative from the City Clerk's Office with further information.

**Pages**

#### **1. MINUTES/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

##### **1.1 Call to Order**

The Chair will call the meeting to order on Treaty 6 Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis People and confirm roll call.

##### **1.2 Confirmation of Agenda**

###### **Recommendation**

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

##### **1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

##### **1.4 Adoption of Minutes**

1 - 6

###### **Recommendation**

That the minutes of the public Board of Police Commissioners meeting held on May 15, 2025, be adopted.

##### **1.5 Delegations**

## **1.6 Chair's Report**

The Chair will provide a verbal report.

### **Recommendation**

That the information be received.

## **1.7 Chief's Report**

The Chief of Police will provide a verbal report.

### **Recommendation**

That the information be received.

## **1.8 Environmental Scan**

# **2. CORRESPONDENCE/CITY COUNCIL REFERRALS**

# **3. ROUTINE/STATISTICAL REPORTS**

## **3.1 Appreciation to the Saskatoon Police Service**

7 - 15

A report of the Chief of Police is provided.

### **Recommendation**

That the information be received.

## **3.2 Community Consultation Feedback**

16 - 24

A report of the Chief of Police is provided.

### **Recommendation**

That the information be received.

# **4. RESPONSES TO BOARD REFERRALS**

# **5. OTHER**

# **6. BOARD INQUIRIES/NOTICES OF MOTION**

# **7. IN CAMERA SESSION**

### **Recommendation**

That the Board move *In Camera* to consider matters exempt to the public under Section 27(15) of *The Police Act, 1990*, and Sections 16(1)(b) and (d), 21 and 28 of *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

8. RISE AND REPORT

9. ADJOURNMENT



## **PUBLIC MINUTES**

### **BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

**Thursday, May 15, 2025, 1:00 p.m.**

**Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner S. Greyeyes, Chair  
Commissioner J. Lagimodiere, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Mayor C. Block, via teleconference  
Commissioner K. Grier  
Commissioner Z. Jeffries  
Commissioner J. Santos Ong  
Commissioner S. Timon

**ALSO PRESENT:** Chief C. McBride, Saskatoon Police Service  
B. Wirth, Saskatoon Police Service, via teleconference  
Executive Director of Corporate Services M. Arscott, Saskatoon Police Service  
Solicitor S. Edmondson, Board of Police Commissioners  
Communication Consultant L. Nyirfa, Board of Police Commissioners  
City Clerk A. Titemore  
Secretary P. Walter

## **1. MINUTES/DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**

### **1.1 Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order on Treaty 6 Territory and the Traditional Homeland of the Métis People and confirmed roll call.

### **1.2 Confirmation of Agenda**

**Moved By:** Commissioner Santos Ong

That the agenda be confirmed as presented.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**1.3 Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There are no declarations of conflict of interest.

**1.4 Adoption of Minutes**

**Moved By:** Commissioner Lagimodiere

That the minutes of the public Board of Police Commissioners meeting held on April 17, 2025, be adopted.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**1.5 Delegations**

**1.6 Chair's Report**

Chair Greyeyes reported that the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation Urban Reserve Signing Ceremony was held on May 1, 2025.

**Moved By:** Commissioner Grier

That the information be received.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**1.7 Chief's Report**

Chief McBride reported on the following:

- Deputy Chief Pringle is in Ottawa, ON receiving the Order of Merit of the Police Forces. The Order of Merit of the Police Forces honours the leadership and exceptional service, or distinctive merit

displayed by the members of Canadian police services, and recognizes their commitment to Canada;

- Attended the swearing in ceremony of the first Saskatchewan Marshalls held on April 24, 2025 in Prince Albert, SK;
- Attended the Saskatchewan Chiefs of Police Spring meetings held on May 6 to 8, 2025. and highlighted several Saskatoon Police Service employees who received awards. The awards are provided to employees of police services who demonstrate proficiency and exemplary service;
- May 11 to 17, 2025 is National Police Week;
- Attended Red Dress Day events on May 5, 2025;
- Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police Canada Road Safety Week - May 13 to 19, 2025;
- Missing Persons Week - April 27 to May 3, 2025;
- Mental Health Week - May 5 to 11, 2025;
- Saskatoon hosted the Madison Sessions April 28 to May 1, 2025; and
- Maddison Sessions, a national summit hosted by anti-human trafficking group #NotInMyCity, was held in Saskatoon on April 28, 2025.

**Moved By:** Commissioner Mayor Block

That the information be received.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **1.8 Environmental Scan**

### **2. CORRESPONDENCE/CITY COUNCIL REFERRALS**

### **3. ROUTINE/STATISTICAL REPORTS**

### **3.1 2024 Evade Police Incidents**

A report of the Chief of Police was provided.

Chief McBride introduced the item. Inspector N. Berg presented the report and responded to questions of the Board along with Chief McBride.

**Moved By:** Commissioner Lagimodiere

That the information be received.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **3.2 2024 Use of Force Annual Report**

A report of the Chief of Police was provided.

Chief McBride introduced the item. Inspector L. Nowosad presented the report and responded to questions of the Board along with Chief McBride.

**Moved By:** Commissioner Santos Ong

That the information be received.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Moved By:** Commissioner Mayor Block

That Saskatoon Police Service add per capita reporting to future reports.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. **RESPONSES TO BOARD REFERRALS**
5. **OTHER**
6. **BOARD INQUIRIES/NOTICES OF MOTION**
7. **IN CAMERA SESSION**

**Moved By:** Commissioner Lagimodiere

That the Board move *In Camera* to consider matters exempt to the public under its Governance Policy No. 12.4, Section 10(2) of *The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners Bylaw No. 7531*, Section 27(15) of *The Police Act, 1990*, and Section 16(1)(b) and (d), 21 and 28 of *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The public meeting recessed at 1:49 p.m.

#### 8. **RISE AND REPORT**

The Board convened *In Camera* at 2:02 p.m. with the following in attendance:

- All Board members with the exception of Commissioner Jeffries (Commissioner Block virtual)
- SPS Administration (Solicitor Wirth virtual)
- Board Solicitor Edmondson
- Communications Consultant Nyirfa
- City Clerk Tittlemore
- Secretary Walter

Commissioner Jeffries entered the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

SPS Administration with the exception of Chief McBride, Executive Director Arscott and Solicitor Wirth left the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Executive Director Arscott and Solicitor Wirth left the meeting at 2:28 p.m.



Chief McBride left the meeting at 2:34 p.m.

Board Solicitor Edmondson left the meeting at 2:56 p.m.

The Board completed its In Camera session at 3:04 p.m. and reconvened publicly to rise and report, as follows:

**Moved By:** Commissioner Lagimodiere

1. That the request regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement from the Saskatoon Police Executive Officers' Association be forwarded to Administration for further handling; and
2. That the information and discussion remain *In Camera* under its Governance Policy No. 12.4, Section 10(2) of *The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners Bylaw No. 7531*, Section 27(15) of *The Police Act, 1990*, and Sections 16(1)(c) and (d), 21 and 28 of *The Local Authority Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

In Favour: (7): Commissioner Greyeyes, Commissioner Lagimodiere, Commissioner Mayor Block, Commissioner Grier, Commissioner Jeffries, Commissioner Santos Ong, and Commissioner Timon

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

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Commissioner S. Greyeyes, Chair

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P. Walter, Board Secretary



## **SASKATOON POLICE SERVICE**

**TO:** Shirley Greyeyes, Chairperson  
Board of Police Commissioners

**FROM:** Cameron McBride  
Office of the Chief

**DATE:** 2025 May 23

**SUBJECT:** Appreciation to the Saskatoon Police Service

**FILE #:** 12,002

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### **ISSUE:**

To keep the Board of Police commissioners apprised of appreciation and recognition to the Saskatoon Police Service.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That this report be received as information.

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

This report supports the foundational theme of Communication by ensuring accessibility and enhancing communications with the public.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The following items of appreciation/thanks were sent to the SPS as a result of communications and/or partnership opportunities in the community. They reflect a positive reaction from the public or are a recognition of service provided.

When a communication is received it is sent through the appropriate chain of command to ensure the members involved also receive it. In addition, a copy is sent to the Office of the Chief of Police.

## “PUBLIC AGENDA”

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 22, 2025 3:47 PM  
**To:** Police - Info Mailbox <[police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca)>  
**Subject:** Thank you for your help and support

[Warning: This email originated outside our email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]

Dear Saskatoon Police Service,

My teenage son, [REDACTED] was in a minor vehicle accident on Tuesday night at the intersection of Nelson and Attridge. We called 911 since the cars were not driveable. There were no injuries.

I want to mention that the police officer who attended the accident scene was friendly, supportive, and professional. He was able to put everyone at ease. He handled everything with great care. We could not have asked for a better police officer in such a situation. I did not notice his name amid all that was happening, but I am very thankful and grateful for his service and help last night. I was able to personally express my thanks to him last night, but I wanted to share my experience with you also as our police service.

It was our first time calling 911 too, and the responder on the phone was fantastic and supportive. The paramedic we spoke to for a few minutes was also very caring and encouraging. There were no injuries, but she nonetheless was there just in case.

Thank you for making Saskatoon a safe place to live and work.

[REDACTED]

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** January 30, 2025 11:10 PM  
**To:** Police - Info Mailbox <[police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca)>  
**Subject:** A tip of the hat  
Hi SPS,

On Monday, February 27, 2025, around 11AM I had to call you folks to help remove a fellow from my place of work. He was inebriated, known to your staff, and while not overly quarrelsome or aggressive, was definitely not in the right place for someone in his condition.

Within 20 minutes of my call, which I stressed was not an emergency, four officers arrived at my location and VERY professionally and sensitively removed the man to what I could only hope was a warm and safe place of detainment/detox.

I sincerely thank those officers, and the SPS team in general, for the way this incident was handled. It might seem a small and obvious thing to some, but the fact that this man was treated like a human being despite his habitual lapses speaks volumes about the state of policing services in our city.

No one wants to deal with people who are poverty-stricken, riddled with addiction issues or mental health problems, or just socially inappropriate, but we don't want to see them treated harshly either. So we ask a lot of our police services: protect us from uncomfortable or dangerous people, but don't hurt them either.

I'm appreciative that our SPS so often does exactly this. I like living in a city where I'm not afraid to call police, and can trust that the response to any given situation will likely make it better, not worse.

Thank you for doing what you do. Keep up the professional work.

[REDACTED]  
Saskatoon, SK

## “PUBLIC AGENDA”

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** February 13, 2025 8:46 AM  
**To:** Police - Info Mailbox <[police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca)>  
**Subject:** Great service from your officers  
Hi,

Last evening I was involved in a minor collision that required police attendance. Officer Couzens (No. 1111) responded with his partner. Ultimately I got a ticket but both officers were excellent service providers. They were empathetic and professional. I greatly appreciate their calm and easy demeanor. I can't think of any way that they could have improved. Overall 10/10 for the officers on a 0/10 evening for me.

kind regards,  
[REDACTED]

**From:** Brian Pfefferle  
**Sent:** February 16, 2025 13:58  
**To:** McBride, Cameron (Police) <[Cameron.McBride@Police.Saskatoon.Sk.CA](mailto:Cameron.McBride@Police.Saskatoon.Sk.CA)>  
**Subject:** Det. Sgt. Robbie Sampson #488

Dear Chief McBride:

I write in gratitude to acknowledge a Saskatoon Police Service member, Det. Sgt. Robbie Sampson, who recently welcomed U. of S. College of Law students as well as around 26 members of the Defence Lawyer's Association on February 14, 2025.

By way of background, I am the current President of the Defence Lawyer's Association (SCDLA), having served in this capacity since 2018. I am also the lead instructor for Law 498, an upper-year Juris Doctor course at the University of Saskatchewan College of Law. This course is known as the "Advanced Criminal Practicum," and I have served as the instructor for the last 11 years. Alumni of this class have gone on to careers in prosecutions, defence, private practice, and politics. Many are, in part, crediting the College of Law and this course for their successes.

Det. Sgt. Sampson has guest lectured in our Practicum on 6 previous occasions on "Polygraphs and Interview Techniques". His lecture is one of the yearly highlights for our program. He clearly spends considerable time on his presentation and creates an interactive and open dialogue with our students and practicing lawyers. It is always a learning experience and a privilege to be welcomed to the Saskatoon Police Service Headquarters.

Although he is not a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan, he has continued to support and volunteer his time to our College. It is clear he values building relationships with future and current justice system participants, and I believe that he is a great ambassador for the Saskatoon Police Service and law enforcement agencies across the Province.

As a sessional Faculty member at the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan, on behalf of myself and the College, I would like to personally thank the Saskatoon Police Service and Det. Sgt. Sampson for his contributions to our College over the last several years. He has greatly enriched the educational experience for our students, and we are grateful for that.

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As President of the Defence Lawyer's Association (SCDLA), on behalf of myself and the SCDLA, I would also acknowledge the important role Det. Sgt. Sampson has played in building positive relationships in a sometimes adversarial system.

I believe through my personal observations that Det. Sgt. Sampson has demonstrated a commitment to the principles of justice, fairness, and equality before the law – all of which are essential components of the rule of law. This respect reinforces the idea that everyone, including law enforcement, is subject to and protected by the law, which is the very essence of the rule of law in a democratic society. Furthermore, Det. Sgt. Sampson has continually demonstrated respect for all parties in the legal process, including victims, accused persons, and defence lawyers, which serves to enhance the legitimacy of our criminal justice system. This legitimacy is crucial for maintaining the rule of law and public confidence in the justice system. The legitimacy of such systems and constantly under attack, and the Canadian justice system is not immune.

For employing members like Det. Sgt. Sampson, I wish to thank your organization for your continued commitment to our great university, the University of Saskatchewan, and our greater community in Saskatoon.

Should your organization wish, I have several photographs of Det. Sgt. Sampson from recent and past presentations I would be happy to share.

With Gratitude,

Brian Pfefferle, K.C.

**"PUBLIC AGENDA"**

Chief of police  
City of Saskatoon

Mar. 16/25

On Saturday, Feb. 22/25, I took the bus from Preston Avenue to downtown. The bus was late so I missed my connection to the westside. As I got off the bus, there was a fight between 2 people by the transit office and a large crowd gathered to watch the fight. I had to go by the fight to get to a different bus home but thankfully the fight ended and everyone left so I was okay to walk by fight scene to my next bus.

As I crossed the street, I noticed a police truck parked at the corner across from library and by city hall. (When the police truck got there, the fight was over and everyone had left.) That is

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the perfect place to park because the officer can see down the street at the transit office, etc. and kitty corner where the #60s bus <sup>stop</sup> in front of a parking lot and on <sup>could see</sup> front of City hall. The truck was parked just far enough back so not in plain sight.

I felt safe when realized police had the perfect place to park.

I ~~to~~ briefly spoke to the officer to tell him thanks for being there but had to run to catch my bus.

Thanks for me feeling safe.

Randy

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** April 15, 2025 2:50 PM  
**To:** Police - Info Mailbox <[police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca)>  
**Subject:** Compliments

Hello Chief McBride,

I'm writing to offer praise and appreciation for your officers who responded to help our family deal with a very scary situation yesterday. Officer Ian Klassen (987), his partner, and I think two others, were compassionate, gentle, understanding and totally focused on keeping everyone safe and comfortable in what was a very awkward, distressing situation. It could have ended so differently and we are very grateful for their actions and guidance.

An appreciative mom and caregiver,  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

## “PUBLIC AGENDA”

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Police - Info Mailbox <[police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca](mailto:police.info@Police.Saskatoon.sk.ca)>  
**Subject:** Thank you

You don't often get email from [rasutherland1@outlook.com](mailto:rasutherland1@outlook.com). [Learn why this is important](#)

[Warning: This email originated outside our email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.]

Good morning,

I just wanted to send a quick email to share my gratitude to the police officers that helped locate my stolen cell phone yesterday. They were very helpful and I know they don't always have an easy job so I wanted to share that I appreciated their assistance. Unfortunately, I didn't get their badge numbers but they assisted me on April 28 around 3 pm on 1<sup>st</sup> St E.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]



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Thank you.Keep up the awesome work you do.

1w [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Hide](#)



Happy Natioal Police Day. Thank you for all you do to try and keep our city safe.may God bless each and everyone of you and watch over you.

1w [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Hide](#)



Thank you! God bless and protect you!

1w [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Hide](#)



Feeling blessed to have all of you !!  
May you you all be safe .

1w [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Hide](#)



After stopping to assist someone where the police arrived this weekend, and later reading the crime map for that single day, I am in absolute awe. The officer was legitimately the most calm, methodical human I've ever seen. It takes someone incredible.

[Ad](#) [Like](#) [Reply](#) [Send message](#) [Hide](#)



## “PUBLIC AGENDA”



[Redacted] You're the best, thank you for all you do for us!!!

1w Reply



[Redacted] Thank you ! Much needed in our community.

1w Reply



[Redacted] Thank you for all the work that you all do to make our community safe ! !!

1w Reply



\_ajor\_ Thank you SPS and all other police for the work you do! Be proud of your service! We love and appreciate you all. Stay safe, guardians



1w Reply ...

**Written by:** Alyson Edwards, Director, Public Relations and Strategic Communications

**Approved and**

**Submitted by:** Cameron McBride, Chief of Police



## **SASKATOON POLICE SERVICE**

**TO:** Shirley Greyeyes Chairperson  
Board of Police Commissioners

**FROM:** Cameron McBride  
Office of the Chief

**DATE:** 2025 June 06

**SUBJECT:** Community Consultation Feedback

**FILE #:** 2,022

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### **ISSUE:**

To provide a summary of feedback from our community consultation in support of the Saskatoon Police Service's strategic plan development.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board receives this report as information.

### **STRATEGIC PRIORITY:**

This report supports the strategic theme of Innovation through transparency, accountability and by ensuring sustainability through the development of leading practices.

### **DISCUSSION:**

Our strategic plan supports us in creating a shared understanding within the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) and the broader community on our priorities. To support development of our strategic plan, the SPS gathered feedback from Saskatoon residents through:

- A policing satisfaction survey open to the public on the SPS website in January to February 2025;
- In-person Community Consultation Meeting on February 27, 2025 where we held a facilitated discussion with community members on what is working and worrying with community safety;
- Consultation with the Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee on Diversity on March 4, 2025 on perceptions of community safety;

## **“PUBLIC AGENDA”**

- Consultation with the Chief’s Advisory Committee on March 18, 2025 on perceptions of community safety; and
- A Community Policing Satisfaction Survey in January 2025 through Advanis Inc. which we will report separately on in August.

The results of the Community Consultation help inform the development of the SPS’ Strategic Plan.

### ***Key Findings***

The following reflects the most mentioned themes we heard from residents for what is working and worrying with community safety and residents’ top three priorities for the SPS.

#### **Working well**

- *SPS Service:* Twenty-four SPS units, programs and services were mentioned as working well. Responses indicated the SPS’ balanced approach to enforcement enhances community safety.
- *SPS’ community engagement:* Residents stressed how the SPS’ engagement with the community has broken down barriers, built relationships and fostered trust and safety. Comments were made regarding the Service as a whole and the Community Engagement Division and Equity and Cultural Engagement Unit specifically.
- *SPS personnel:* As the quality of the SPS’ service and community engagement are dependent on SPS personnel, it stands to reason that SPS personnel are what is working best in how the SPS contributes to community safety.

#### **Worrying**

- *Crime and safety:* Residents indicated public spaces including malls and transit do not feel safe and may keep community members from accessing needed services.
- *Vulnerable people:* Residents are concerned about persons experiencing homelessness and mental health and addiction issues, the lack of funding and resources to assist them and the challenge of connecting them to available resources. At the same time the visibility of these vulnerable people decreases the public’s feeling of safety.
- *SPS service:* Residents have concerns about the quality of the SPS’ services and the capacity of the SPS to keep pace with the growing population and community needs.

#### **Priorities**

- *SPS community engagement:* Residents want the SPS to continue and expand the good work they are doing through hosting and attending events, educational presentations, robust communication, relationship building and casual interactions.
- *SPS service:* Residents want increased officer visibility, improved response and service—including for low priority calls, and balanced enforcement.

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- *SPS personnel:* Residents indicated the quality of service and community engagement is dependent on the quantity and quality of the SPS’ personnel. Residents want increased staffing for sworn and civilian employees and for SPS employees to receive continuous training and mental health supports.

### **ATTACHMENT:**

1. Community Consultation Feedback

### **CONCLUSION:**

The SPS has gathered valuable feedback from Saskatoon residents that has been instrumental in developing our Strategic Plan. The SPS is committed to and will be sharing the results of the Community Consultation with participants and everyone who was invited to attend.

Written by:	Karin Martel, Corporate Strategy Advisor
Reviewed by:	Tanya Stewart, Director, Police Information and Planning
Reviewed by:	Michele Arscott, Executive Director, Corporate Services
Submitted by:	Darren Pringle, Acting Chief of Police

## Community Consultation Feedback

To support the development of the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) Strategic Plan, the SPS gathered feedback from more than 750 Saskatoon residents through:

- An online policing satisfaction survey open to the public on the SPS website in January to February 2025. This survey consisted of the same questions from a survey conducted by Advanis Inc. in January 2025. The online survey provided an opportunity for all Saskatoon residents to provide feedback on community safety in Saskatoon.
- In-person Community Consultation Meeting on February 27, 2025 where we held a facilitated discussion with community members on what is working and worrying with community safety. Approximately 120 people representing a cross-section of Saskatoon community stakeholders attended this meeting.
- Consultation with the Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee on Diversity (SPACOD) on March 4, 2025. The SPACOD is made up of a cross-section of local organizations and several SPS employees.
- Consultation with the Chief's Advisory Council (CAC) on March 18, 2025 on perceptions of community safety. The CAC is made up of local Indigenous and Métis Elders, the Chief of Police and numerous SPS officers from different levels of the service.

The community consultation feedback is summarized by what is perceived as working, worrying and what the priorities should be related to community safety.

### Consultation at a Glance

Social issues of homelessness, poverty, and mental health and addiction were the connecting theme of community safety concerns. Residents expressed these issues are best addressed through collaboration between community partners and stakeholders, including the SPS.

On issues specific to the SPS, overall resident sentiment echoed that of Sir Robert Peel, *"The police are the public and the public are the police."* Residents expressed that the SPS' contribution to community safety is best achieved by securing public trust through building relationships with community members and partners.



Quality of service provided by the SPS was a consistent theme across *Working, Worrying and Priorities*. Whether or not the SPS's service is working depends on the ability to deliver timely and thorough response from well-trained personnel who conduct themselves in a professional and personable manner.

## What is working well with community safety in Saskatoon?

### SPS SERVICE | COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | PERSONNEL

For this question, residents' responses focused mainly on the SPS' role in community safety. The top three areas identified for how the SPS' efforts contribute to community safety are:

1. **SERVICE:** Over 20 units, programs and services were mentioned as working well. Responses indicated the **SPS' balanced approach to enforcement** enhances community safety. Most mentioned were:

- Alternative Response Officers (ARO)
- School Resource Officers (SRO)
- Police and Crisis Team (PACT)
- HUB

Residents also remarked on **officer visibility**. They appreciate seeing officers in their communities, not only for patrol and response, but for increased opportunities to build relationships with them.

*Pleasant Hill: Huge benefit to on-foot officers interacting with community members; police being able to recognize community members and vice versa.*

2. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION:** Residents stressed how important the SPS' engagement with the community has been to break down barriers, build relationships and foster trust and safety. Comments were made regarding the Service as a whole and the Community Engagement Division (CED)/Equity and Cultural Engagement Unit (ECEU) specifically. Positive remarks included:

- *Hosting and attending events and educational sessions*
- *Fostering relationships with newcomers, youth and the indigenous community*
- *Willingness to listen and learn from community members and partners*
- *Communication on various aspects of the SPS through multiple media streams*

*A representative from the Friendship Inn illustrated the benefits of the SPS' efforts to engage with the community and partners. Six years ago, the SPS was not welcome in their facility. Today, after years of building trust, the Friendship Inn and the SPS have a strong and positive relationship.*

3. **SPS PERSONNEL:** As the quality of the SPS' service and community engagement are dependent on SPS personnel, it stands to reason that SPS personnel are what is working best in how the SPS contributes to community safety. Comments specific to SPS personnel included:

- *Professionalism: **Officers are personable**, take concerns seriously and willing to take extra steps. A positive shift in attitude has also been noticed.*
- *Training: **Officers are trained** in understanding social issues, cultural differences and de-escalation. The updated recruit training was also noted.*
- *Diversity: Seeing themselves represented in the SPS contributes to community members' feelings of safety.*

*One participant commented that relatives noticed an increased level of compassion by SPS personnel and that they are treating people with complex needs like friends.*

## What is worrying about community safety in Saskatoon?

### CRIME | VULNERABLE PEOPLE | SPS SERVICE

For this question, residents' responses included social conditions in Saskatoon as well as the SPS in particular. The top three concerns about community safety in Saskatoon are:

1. **CRIME AND SAFETY:** Residents indicated public spaces including malls and transit do not feel safe and may keep community members from accessing needed services. Most discussed comments regarding crime and safety included:
  - Availability and **increasing potency and toxicity of drugs** and public consumption.
  - **Prevalence of weapons**, particularly bear spray and knives
  - **Property crime**— shoplifting, vandalism, bike thefts, mail theft, laundry room and common room break ins, binning
  - Increasing **gang violence** and gang youth recruitment
  - **Cybercrime/online fraud**

*Increasing public drug use, especially after dark, increases fear.*

2. **VULNERABLE PEOPLE:** Residents are concerned about persons experiencing homelessness and mental health and addiction issues, the lack of funding and resources to assist them and the challenge of connecting them to available resources. At the same time the visibility of these vulnerable people decreases the public's feeling of safety. Most discussed comments regarding vulnerable people included:
  - **Homelessness** number of homeless individuals is rising root cause not being addressed, freezing people, encampments, people sleeping in doorways, detention not appropriate, emergency rooms often only option
  - **Mental health/addiction** issues with a lack of resources and alternatives
  - **Youth** involvement in crime, drugs and gangs
  - **Elderly** exposed to financial abuse, elder scams

*We cannot arrest ourselves out of poverty, mental health and addiction issues.*

3. **SPS SERVICE:** Residents have concerns about the quality of the SPS' services and the capacity of the SPS to keep pace with the growing population and community needs. Most discussed comments included:
  - Inconsistent service and **negative interactions** with some SPS personnel
  - **Slow response time**, reactive policing
  - People **not reporting due to lack of trust in the SPS**, scared of retribution, are desensitized to crime or don't think anything can be done
  - **Ability of SPS to recruit and retain** quality personnel
  - **Focus on traffic enforcement** including accuracy of cannabis swabs, people feel targeted, concerns traffic enforcement means less resources for "real crime"

*People lose confidence if they experience slow/inefficient SPS response.*



## What should the SPS prioritize to support community safety?

### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT | SERVICE | PERSONNEL

For this question, residents indicated they would like to see the SPS continue to engage and build relationships with community members and partners and be adequately staffed with well trained personnel to do so. Residents' most mentioned priorities included:

1. **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** Residents want the SPS to continue and expand the good work they are doing through:

- *Attending and **hosting events and educational presentations** including town halls, SPS programs and services, fraud prevention, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), Hate Crimes*
- ***Building relationships** with newcomers, the Indigenous community, youth, elders and businesses*
- *Transparent and **robust communication** to the public: positive SPS stories, education*
- *Find opportunities for officers to have more **casual interactions** with public during patrol and events*

*Increase understanding of police work and what the community needs to know if they are victimized.*

2. **SERVICE:** Residents' sentiments mirrors that of Chief McBride and they want to see the right people in the right place doing the right job. Most mentioned priorities were:

- ***Visibility**– AROs, Community Liaison Officers (CLO), Bike officers, community policing/satellite stations, malls, Hot Spots, transit, public spaces, near shelters*
- *Response- improve overall response time, **improve response and service** for low priority calls, quick cold weather response*
- ***Balanced enforcement** – prioritize high risk offenders, use alternative measures/diversion when appropriate*

*Both foot patrols and cars make people feel safer.*

3. **PERSONNEL:** Residents indicated the quality of service and community engagement is dependent on the quantity and quality of the SPS' personnel. They would like the SPS to continue to prioritize its personnel through:

- ***Continuous training**– trauma informed, cultural competency, SPS values, youth engagement, cybercrime, community supports, customer service, technology, current issues, disability awareness*
- *Staffing– **increase sworn and civilian**, retain experienced officers, diversity in hiring*
- ***Wellness**– mental health supports, morale, self-care*

*Educate officers on individual service and discretion and not a one-size fits all approach.*

## APPENDIX: Saskatoon Residents' Suggestions

Saskatoon residents provided many suggestions which are listed below. While we may not be able to address every recommendation, we have begun to implement ones that we have prioritized, are in our mandate and believe will have the biggest impact on community safety.

### Personnel

- Mental health and wellbeing support for SPS staff
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Strategic Outcome 3.1: Enhancing the well-being of our people*
- SPS officers be representative of community
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Strategic Outcome 4.1: Enhanced recruitment and retention of employees*
- More AROs; expand ARO program; recruit retired members for ARO positions
- More SROs
- More Bike officers
- Increase Interpersonal Violence Team
- Have a Kookum in the lobby to make people feel welcome
- Create civilian positions to liaise with community groups
- More PACT teams/ youth PACT for high school
- Increased respect from recruits when elders are instructing.

### Service

- Increase warrant enforcement
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Initiative 1.1.2 Pilot a Warrant Enforcement Unit*
- Increase administrative support
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Initiative 4.1.2 Evaluate staffing needs across the organization to support increased operational police activity*
- Proactive policing in Hot Spots
  - *Addressed in 2024 Business Plan with the rollout of the Community Mobilization Unit*
- Advocate for bylaws regarding bear spray
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Initiative 1.2.3: Collaborate with key stakeholders to identify ways to regulate bear spray in our community*
- Streamline reporting process; Provide reporting accessibility for people with disabilities e.g. it can be hard to hand write reports
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Initiative 8.1.1: Identify and assess technology options for efficient and effective community interaction and investigation*
- Surveillance and safety through CPTED
- Increase Air Support Unit presence in the north end
- Increase North end patrol
- Have SROs do safety events
- Armed transit security/plain clothes officers on buses/bus blitzes
- Have safe spaces in the SPS lobby to accommodate traumatized people
- Community liaison for 33<sup>rd</sup> St Businesses/ foot patrol for 33<sup>rd</sup> St businesses
- Community policing/satellite stations
- Enhance investigative support through expansion of legal team for operational legal counsel
- Use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to triage calls/Use AI to detect crime
- Traffic enforcement: cell phones
- Have another agency take over traffic enforcement



### Community Engagement and Communication

- Consult and partner with businesses for theft prevention
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan under Initiative 1.1.4: Develop collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders to address retail crime and its impact on public safety*
- Increase education and awareness about what police are doing: social media, presentations
- Increase education about SPS programs and services including AROs, Crime Free Multi-housing, Victim Services, reporting
- Increase education and communication about domestic violence, hate crime, fraud prevention
- Increase communication about positive work done by the SPS
- Educate public on how they can contribute to public safety e.g. CPTED
- Communicate what behavior public can expect from police and the rights of the public
- When the SPS is presenting, make sure residents can hear them
- Town Halls
- Clarify violence in press releases e.g. gang on gang, youth targeting youth
- Regular community consultations
- Programs to divert youth from gangs
- Arrange with business owners and community associations to hold people accountable for crimes against properties
- Work with communities to establish crime watch/block parent programs
- Events at the SPS

### Training

- Increase understanding of Indigenous experience and history
  - *Addressed in [An Action Plan to Advance the Saskatoon Police Service's Journey Towards TRTI](#)*
- Continuous training
  - *Addressed in 2025 Business Plan, Strategic Outcome 3.2: Training for employees on policing best practices, wellness and leadership*
- Provide officers with cybercrime training and retain them
- Disability awareness

### Funding

- Transparency of SPS budget allocation
- Advocate for funding from province and feds

### Advocacy

- Redistribute proceeds of crime to community agencies
- Find solution to "Catch and Release" system