

CRD TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

MINUTES OF MEETING

Thursday, March 9, 2017

The Lakes Banquet Room, 4670 Elk Lake Road, Victoria

Members: Leo Belanger, Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement
Kim Bruce, Prevention Services, Island Health
Judy Dryden, Child Passenger Safety Program, BCAA Community Impact
Dr. Murray Fyfe, Medical Health Officer, Island Health
Jeff Groot, RoadSafetyBC
Marnice Jones, School Districts
Bill Laughlin, Vancouver Island Safety Council
Alan Perry, Media
Colin Plant, CRD Director (Chair)
Dr. Holly Tuokko, Institute on Aging and Lifelong Health, University of Victoria
Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety Division

Associates: Cst. Andy Brown, West Shore RCMP
Sgt. Marc Chateau, Saanich Police
Sgt. Andy Duke, Central Saanich Police
Sgt. Al Gurzinski, Saanich Police
Cst. Mark Hall, West Shore RCMP
John Hicks, Active Transportation, CRD
Cpl. Heinz Krauss, West Shore RCMP
Sgt. Ray Maxwell, Oak Bay Police
Sgt. Shannon Perkins, Victoria Police
Dr. Richard Stanwick, Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer, Island Health
Sgt. Alex Yelovatz, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit

Regrets: A/S/Sgt. Ron Cronk, CRD Integrated Road Safety Unit
Chris Foord, Community Member (Vice-Chair)
Barb McLintock, BC Coroner's Service
Tina Rogers, Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Guest: Clayton Steiro, ICBC

Recording Secretary: Arlene Bowker

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

MOVED by Jeff Groot, **SECONDED** by Alan Perry, that the agenda be approved. **CARRIED**

2. **Approval of Minutes – February 9, 2017**

MOVED by Colleen Woodger, **SECONDED** by Holly Tuokko, that the minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2017 be approved as distributed. **CARRIED**

3. **Chair's Remarks**

Chair Plant reported that at the CRD Board meeting yesterday approval and recommendation to send out to partner municipalities on the Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship was given unanimously. The intent to create the scholarship, along with the criteria as developed by the TSC, and the ability to award it this year were all approved. It is hoped that we can announce the scholarship this June. A subcommittee will be established to develop the criteria.

Chair Plant also advised that the Transportation Select Committee which was established a couple of months ago and is the Committee that the TSC now reports to won't be holding their first meeting until late April.

4. **Presentation by Dr. Richard Stanwick on Transportation of Special Needs Children**

Dr. Stanwick gave a presentation on issues that have arisen around the transportation of special needs children who can't be accommodated in a standard car seat. He acknowledged Judy Dryden in her capacity as specialist in car seat safety for bringing these concerns to the attention of the TSC. They have immediate and direct relevance for children with medical and physical needs.

These specialized products are not sold in Canada and in the past they were allowed to be bought in from the US through Transport Canada with a prescription from a doctor, an OT or PT. Transport Canada have said that they do not rate, approve or endorse children's car restraints and that their responsibility is to develop the regulations under which they are admitted to Canada and have prescribed very clearly what they expect from these devices. They say it is the manufacturer's responsibility to certify the products based on their regulations. In Canada, the Transport Canada sticker is required on these car restraints; the US approval sticker is not acceptable.

The BC Ministry of Children and Family Development are no longer willing to fund a product which is not certified in Canada for Canadian use. Families are now having to purchase these special items which can cost up to \$3500 and can only be used for a few months before they have to be changed. A lot of physicians are reluctant to prescribe because of potential liability issues in the event a child is injured in a car accident. The Canadian Paediatric Society and the Canadian Association of Paediatric Health Centres are looking at a best practice model. Some of the insurance companies are now saying they are not going to insure the loaner programs because they don't bear the certification.

Dr. Stanwick phoned all other provinces to see what advice they provided. In terms of looking at the legislation, there was no specific reference to specialized seating in several provinces, however, it was implied in many. Only Ontario, Nova Scotia, Quebec and BC specifically say "if you have a child with this problem, this is what you need to have them in." When the BC Government was contacted, there was uncertainty about who was responsible for this issue.

Dr. Stanwick wrote to the Minister of Transport in January but hasn't received a reply yet.

In these unique circumstances, should we looking at some sort of harmonization where if it's acceptable in the US, we will also accept it in Canada? It is very disconcerting that in BC poor families are not being allowed to have access to these seats because the seats lack the certification. We may want to focus our efforts at the provincial level.

Dr. Stanwick also pointed out that this highlights the fact that the TSC identified an issue and it's now being considered at the national level.

Judy Dryden commented that there are issues with the OT's and PT's being concerned with liability and they are working through their risk management groups to look into that. They are unable to access these seats and are trying to work out loaner programs if they do already have the seats. There is no provincial loaner program. If we were able to recognize the US standards for special needs seats, that could work very well.

Leo Belanger questioned why the car seats couldn't be brought in under a Memorandum of Understanding. There are understandings for certain levels of inspection where the US standards are accepted.

It was agreed that the TSC could provide advocacy on this issue by sending a letter to the appropriate Minister asking that rather than denying funding in the absence of a Transport Canada sticker, they accept a prescription from a doctor, OT, or PT.

Action: Dr. Stanwick and Judy Dryden will draft a letter and send out to members a week prior to the April TSC meeting for review.

5. **Media Clips**

There were no media clips.

6. **Priority Business**

➤ **Budget Update**

Chair Plant thanked Dr. Fyfe and John Hicks for meeting with him last week to review the budget.

John Hicks went over the document on 2017 TSC approved expenditures which was emailed to members yesterday. Expenses already committed are identified. A lot of expenditures haven't come through. From now on, every time an expense goes through, the TSC motion will be attached so that the funds can be released and payment made quickly. There is approximately \$37,500 available for media and about the same for programs and another \$75,000 available for new programs. The budget will basically have three categories: programs, advertising and administration.

The Sarah Beckett Memorial Scholarship will be for \$2,000 rather than the \$1,000 originally planned. There is also a request from Beacon Community Services for an additional \$1,000 to cover the purchase of car seats as part of their safety education program. This is on an as needed basis, so it may not necessarily result in an expenditure and would then be carried forward.

Two new items approved last month were the drone footage for the website and the Vancouver Island Safety Council motorcycle skills training.

Under advertising, the \$13,000 allocated for the video contest includes other elements of the campaign, e.g., prizes, the creation of posters, and ads for social media.

The process for dealing with education program requests was discussed. A project application form has been created for use by people applying for funding for partnership projects which promote and support traffic safety but there hasn't yet been a mechanism set up in terms of timelines for dealing with applications.

An application from the City of Victoria for funding for their Protected Bike Lane Road User Education and Awareness Project was just received this morning. As time is of the essence for this project, it was decided to deal with this application today and then formalize a structure for future applications. This project is aimed at working with all modes of transportation in terms of how to interact with the new protected bike lanes as there will be significant changes in the ways the intersections work, the way the movements are allowed and also parking restrictions. The City is asking for \$10,000 from the TSC and they would provide a \$12,500 cash contribution and \$10,000 of in-kind support. The funding from the TSC would be used for print, on-line or radio ads, educational materials, e.g., posters, placards, etc. As the bike lanes are opening towards the end of April, it is hoped to get the campaign underway as soon as possible.

Discussion was held on whether or not to approve funding for this project. Some questions raised were how much education would be directed to drivers and what type of signage will be used. Other comments made were that the money would be better spent for an on the ground presence, rather than education; \$10,000 seemed excessive as there are lots of other issues that could use the funding for education; and that more insight should be provided into what advertising the TSC would actually be funding. Victoria Police will be meeting with City staff to look at ways to mitigate potential problems as they are not in favour of the two-way lanes and feel that accidents will occur.

It was also pointed out that with Island Health opening up a supervised consumption site on that street there will be increased pedestrian traffic.

MOVED by Jeff Groot, and **SECONDED** by Alan Perry, that approval be given to the request from the City of Victoria for \$10,000 in funding for their Protected Bike Lane Road User Education and Awareness Project with the caveats that the funds be used for on the ground education (not just advertising) and that the TSC wishes to vet the messaging prior to agreeing to use of the TSC logo.
CARRIED

OPPOSED: Leo Belanger, Judy Dryden

➤ **Allocation of Surplus Funds**

Chair Plant proposed that the TSC project application form be amended to say that applications must be received by the 15th of the month so that members are able to receive and review them in advance of the monthly meeting. After discussion, it was agreed this practice would be in place until the surplus funds are spent, with a plan to review for 2018 and possibly move to quarterly intakes.

MOVED by Alan Perry, **SECONDED** by Judy Dryden, that project application forms must be received by the 15th of each month until the surplus funds are spent and then the timelines for funding projects will be revisited.
CARRIED

7. **Business Arising from the Previous Minutes**

➤ **Advertising**

Action: Deferred to the April meeting.

➤ **Commission Membership**

Action: Deferred to the April meeting.

➤ **Letter to CRD Board recommending mandatory use of bike helmets on trails**

Action: Deferred to the April meeting.

➤ **Updates from planning groups**

Action: Deferred to the April meeting.

➤ **Exploring other funding opportunities with UVic Centre for Youth and Society**

Action: Deferred to the April meeting.

7. **Member Updates**

➤ **RoadSafetyBC**

Deferred to the April meeting

➤ **ICBC**

Deferred to the April meeting

➤ **Youth and Children**

Deferred to the April meeting

➤ **Seniors**

Deferred to the April meeting

➤ **Active Transportation**

Deferred to the April meeting

➤ **IRSU**

Deferred to the April meeting

- **CVSE**
Deferred to the April meeting
- **Vancouver Island Safety Council**
Deferred to the April meeting

8. **Other Business**

9. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 13, 2017** at **noon** in **The Lakes banquet room**.

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.