

**YUKON POLICE COUNCIL**  
***Meeting Minutes***  
**September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Watson Lake**

*Section A: Yukon Police Council working session*

*September 9<sup>th</sup>*  
*8:30 am -10:30am*

**I. Roll Call:**

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC), Jeff Ford (Justice), and Claire Mehan (Justice).

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone.

**III. Agenda Items**

1. Overview of Watson Lake agenda

- Change in agenda for the day: Ann Maje-Raider has contacted the Secretariat to indicate that Liard Aboriginal Women's Society (LAWS), will be unable to meet with the YPC today.

2. Brief overview of the Liard First Nations (LFN) Community Tripartite Policing Agreement (CTA) (Jeff Ford)

- The Liard First Nation Community Tripartite Policing Agreement is an agreement between Yukon, Canada and Liard First Nation that provides for four officers dedicated to the Liard First Nation and for a Police Board.
- This is the only community tripartite agreement in any of the territories.
- There are currently 9 RCMP members in Watson Lake. The Detachment covers a large geographical area.

3. Review minutes and outstanding action items

a) Follow up items:

- Future minutes for website: Council agreed allocating specific comments by agency participants is not necessary and capturing the broad summary will suffice.
- Community Safety Awards: event date may change but the selection committee is confirmed to sit on September 23 and/or 24<sup>th</sup>.

b) Action items:

- Follow up with communities regarding issues brought to the Council:

Council agreed that the Secretariat will advise the communities once the information or questions have been passed on but will not follow up with agencies/departments to see if any progress has been completed as that is not the mandate of the Council.

**Section B: Yukon Police Council meet with Watson Lake Detachment members**

*September 9<sup>th</sup>  
10:30 am to 12:30 pm*

**I. Roll Call:**

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC), Jeff Ford (Justice), Claire Mechan (Justice), C/Supt Peter Clark (RCMP); Sgt. Cam Lockwood (RCMP); Cst. Billy Gossen (RCMP); Cst. Eric Robsen(RCMP); Cst. Julia Fox(RCMP); Cst. Mike Seidemann(RCMP); Cst. Justin Maloff(RCMP); Cst. Patrick McRorie (RCMP); and David Gilbert (RCMP).

Regrets: Cst. Adam Lightfoot (RCMP).

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone and asked for introductions. Bill Klassen introduced the YPC, briefly presenting their mandate and meetings to date.

**III. Discussion with RCMP regarding policing in Watson Lake**

- Chief Superintendent Clark and Sgt. Lockwood discussed the development process and signing of the Protocol between the Watson Lake Detachment and Liard Aboriginal Women's Society (LAWS).
- Sgt Lockwood also outlined the Detachment's working relationship with the Liard First Nation and the Dene Keh Community Justice and Police Advisory Board.
- There was a discussion on the types of calls for service the Detachment receives, and it was noted that many calls are related to drug and alcohol abuse. Calls are also related to domestic violence and sexualized assault, disturbances and a small percentage of property crime.
- There was discussion relating to the resources available in the community such as Social Workers and EMS workers (large area and limited personnel), and it was noted that these services are taxed.
- RCMP also has an agreement with British Columbia providing one (1) to member to support the police service to Lower Post, BC.
- There was discussion about how the Community Tripartite Agreement (CTA) policing commitments are being met by the Detachment.
- In meeting the CTA commitments logistically Detachment personnel police the community as required, not by designated populations. Detachment does make best efforts to have the First Nation members working directly with Liard First Nation. Forming relationships with community is important for the Detachment.

- The Detachment is resourced, when fully staffed, to participate in extracurricular activities in the community
- Geographical area of Watson Lake RCMP is large:  
South to Fireside on the Alaska Highway, West to Blue River on Highway 37, Young Creek, North to Frances Lake on the Campbell Highway, Northwest Territory border, Lower Post, including mining camps, and if there is an operational support requirement, they also assist Fort Nelson and Fort Simpson.
- Orientation for RCMP in Watson Lake:
  - LFN Justice Committee provides a Kaska orientation
  - A local Conservation Officer also completes an orientation of Kaska lands
  - An RCMP in-house presentation occurs upon arrival
  - Some have participated in the new Yukon First Nations History and Cultures Training offered by the Northern Institute of Social Justice ,at Yukon College.
  - The Detachment would like the opportunity to work with LFN to update and improve the orientation content and process.
- Restorative Justice referrals from the RCMP have not been made to LFN Dene Keh. Until recently there was a miscommunication between RCMP and Dene Keh about youth referrals. Post-charge referrals have been made from the Court to the Health and Social Services (HSS) youth probation/ social workers maintaining the diversion for youth.  
**Action:** RCMP seeking new protocol to work collaboratively with LFN Dene Keh for restorative justice cases.
- Relationship between Detachment and Watson Lake residents:
  - It was noted by a member who has been in the community for two years now that his experience has improved and the relationship with the community is positive.
  - The relationship with the RCMP and community cycles, some years very negative and some years very positive; in recent years there has been a large shift to positive and ongoing communication with the community.  
Relationships with local organizations such as the Help & Hope Women's Shelter have also improved. RCMP and the Shelter have established working arrangements.

### Section C: Meet with Liard First Nation (LFN)

September 9<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 pm to 2:30 pm

#### **I. Roll Call:**

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC), Jeff Ford (Justice), Claire Mechan (Justice), Chief Liard MacMillan (LFN), Councilor Sam Donnessey (LFN) and PJ Hombert (LFN-on conference call).

#### **II. Welcome and Introductions**

Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone.

Doris McLean presented the history and purpose of the Yukon Police Council

### **III. Discussion with LFN regarding policing and other community issues**

- Pressing issues for LFN
  - Negotiation of the Community Tripartite Agreement is not complete as the Government of Canada has not provided any comment on possible changes.
  - LFN is not a party to the RCMP Watson Lake and Liard Aboriginal Women's Society Protocol.
  - There is good communication and working relationship between May Stewart (Dene Keh/LFN) and the Watson Lake Detachment.
  - There are ongoing issues in the community regarding excess drinking and drug use/trafficking. LFN is interested in learning more about Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act, and its applicability in their community to address the ongoing issues
  - Watson Lake Detachment submits a bi-monthly report and statistical information to LFN but regularly scheduled meetings would be beneficial.
  - Increased drug abuse awareness programming could come from collaboration between RCMP, Education and LFN.
- How are the RCMP performing in the community and with LFN
  - Would like to see more foot patrols, winter patrols on skidoos, and ATVs.
  - Mental illness is an ongoing concern that needs to be addressed together.
  - Would like to see the Community Tripartite Policing Agreement implemented with a more visible presence of the RCMP at Two Mile and Upper Liard.
  - LFN would like a regular police presence at cultural and community events.
  - It is perception that the RCMP spend most of their time in their own "compound" rather than throughout the community to increase safety.
- RCMP orientation for new RCMP members in the community
  - The Watson Lake Detachment makes best efforts to become aware of the culture and community, they have been successful in reaching out to community for input, however, revisiting the process could be beneficial.
  - LFN offers to provide First Nations training to the RCMP and would like to make this training mandatory for all new Watson Lake RCMP. Other community professionals such as teachers and medical professionals would also benefit.
  - LFN would like to create an orientation training that includes history of Kaska, and has an evaluation component to ensure accountability and effectiveness of content and objectives.
- Domestic violence and sexualized assault
  - Suggestion that LFN Health and Justice form an interagency with Yukon Government to speak to and coordinate prevention and response services related to domestic violence and sexual assault.
  - There used to be a wellness committee working to increase awareness in the community and to bring agencies together to collaborate, i.e. victim services, EMS, social workers, etc.
  - Community needs to increase information sharing and promotion of resources; many families are not aware what resources are available to them through

government, non-profit and NGO programs – collaboration on social issues is important.

- Youth
  - Creation of youth justice council being discussed for Watson Lake and Lower Post, BC.
  - Suggestion that agencies work together on a conference focusing on prevention of drug abuse in youth, proactive solutions and increasing awareness.
- Resources for vulnerable people
  - LFN would like to be involved in emergency management response planning with various agencies and jurisdictions to reduce vulnerability of citizens, i.e. floods, fires, etc.
  - LFN are only involved on a case by case basis for mental health and child custody cases, would like more consistent processes and involvement.
  - Cross-jurisdictional issues come up with families living in both Yukon and BC – service and communication protocols should be developed to reduce the gap.
  - LFN are part of the selection committee for social workers but the high turnover rate reduces effectiveness.
  - Mental health team has limited resources which leads to some individuals being relocated to Copper Ridge facility in Whitehorse; but most do not qualify as they are not considered complex medical cases.
  - Many Rivers has received additional funding but staff are not always able to support severe medical conditions such as schizophrenia – this becomes a public safety issue.

### Section D: Yukon Police Council meet with Interagency Group

September 9<sup>th</sup>

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

#### **I. Roll Call:**

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC); Jeff Ford (Justice); Claire Mechan (Justice); Kelly Allen (Justice); Laurel Cole (EMS-Community Services); Sgt. Lockwood (RCMP); Christopher Cash (H&SS); Kristy Burgess (H&SS); Caron Statham (Help and Hope for Families Transition Home); Vicki Bragan (LAWS); Jim Bragan (Many Rivers); Duane Esler (Justice); Andre Dewolf (Many Rivers), Elizabeth Beuman.

#### **II. Welcome and Introductions**

Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone and asked for a roundtable of introductions.

#### **III. Discussion with Watson Lake agencies regarding policing and other community issues**

- Purpose of interagency meetings in Watson Lake
  - Meet on a regular basis to share information between agencies.



- Sharing is sometimes deterred by lack of freedom to be able to take a position on community issues.
- There is more than one interagency committee and no central coordinating agency.
- Networking with other agencies and making contacts is beneficial to workers and clients.
- Issues in the community/challenges for interagency representatives
  - Alcohol drug abuse, mental illness, elder abuse, domestic violence and sexualized assaults.
  - Lack of resources for EMS in communities, some paid positions but most are volunteers- limited retention of volunteers.
    - Limited training for EMS staff and large geographical area to cover.
    - Due to small population, if EMS workers are unavailable this can cause tension in the community with community members.
    - Time off for all first responders is challenging due to personnel shortage.
    - RCMP have had to drive ambulance on several occasions which reduces their ability to complete priority RCMP tasks.
    - It is difficult to be an enforcement or emergency worker in community.
  - The community requires a full time mental health nurse and addiction counselors.
  - Housing shortage for both individuals with mental health and addiction issues, and for staff.
- Additional issues that arose at meeting
  - RCMP living in one area instead of dispersed throughout the community makes the rest of the community feel vulnerable- Chief Superintendent Clark addressed the concern by advising that it is has to do with a prompt response time, housing all the RCMP members near the detachment increases response time.

*Section A con't : Yukon Police Council working session*

*September 10<sup>th</sup>*

*8:45 am to 9:45 am*

**III. Agenda Items (cont)**

4. BYTE/Youth Leadership training event (Pat and Michael)

- YPC members attended a Youth Leadership session facilitated by BYTE - the event was very positive, interactive and a good opportunity to gather feedback from youth.
- Future work with BYTE is something the Council is interested in - keeping collaboration going will enhance communication with youth.
- **Action:** work with BYTE to encourage a youth session at future meetings or attach to a future BYTE event.
- **Action:** follow up with BYTE to thank for their efforts, congratulate on a job well done and ask for suggestions for YPC future involvement.

5. Corrections Consultation (Bob)

- Department of Justice is seeking input from the YPC on a proposed amendment to the *Corrections Act 2009*.

- “Limit the applicability of the Act on persons held in the Arrest Processing Unit.”
- **Action:** if YPC have any concerns regarding the Act submit to Policy and Communications, attention Dan Cable which will then form part of the consultation report.

6. Emails and Public Correspondence (Bob and Jeff)

- Review and discussion of the emails and follow up.

Section A con't: Yukon Police Council working session

September 10<sup>th</sup>

8:45 am to 9:45 am

I. Roll Call:

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC), Jeff Ford (Justice), and Claire Mechan (Justice).

II. Welcome and Introductions

Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone.

III. Agenda Items

7. National & Yukon policing issues (Bob and Jeff)

- Recent publicity about a new Yukon RCMP TV program
  - Yukon RCMP and National Headquarters were in discussions with a U.S. production company with intentions to begin recording a TV program that would showcase the good work of Yukon RCMP.
  - The TV show was cancelled 10 days after filming started.
  - Department of Justice did express concerns but had no control over decision
  - Production has been ceased indefinitely after public concern due to two incidents where vulnerable people were exposed
- Resource Review
  - After 2012 signing of the Territorial Police Services Agreement a stronger strategic policing partnership between the Department of Justice Yukon and the RCMP was developed.
  - Deputy Minister and Commanding Officer meet four (4) times per year regarding resources RCMP require currently and in the future for delivery of effective policing.
  - Yukon is also advancing a review of RCMP human resources– the Request for Proposals is being advertised. The Review will be conducted over the next six (6) months.
  - Yukon has a high population to police ration and resource requests continue to rise. The Review will provide a base-line understanding of current deployment and needs for human resources is not readily available. The final product will inform decisions going forward.

8. YPC transition to the Public Safety and Investigations (PSI) branch (Jeff)
  - Sharing Common Ground implementation will move to the PSI branch.
  - The YPC Secretariat is part of this move – both Lareina and Claire will continue as Secretariat from the PSI branch.
  - Sharing Common Ground has brought fundamental change in how we administer policing in Yukon with increased partnerships and community involvement.
  
9. Communication Strategy (Norma)
  - The Draft was started with input from the YPC in June 2013 - progress will be reported at the next meeting.
  
10. Canadian Association of Police Board
  - Council agreed to try associate membership for one (1) year to see if it is beneficial.
  - **Action:** Obtain associate membership with CAPB
  
11. Planning for next meeting

Consider a day and a half in Whitehorse, possibly December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> in Whitehorse.

  - Agenda to be developed but to include Report preparation and discussion of current police priorities.
  - Consider a conference call in October (Lisa not available October 18<sup>th</sup> through 21<sup>st</sup>)
  - Consider the Secretariat reaching out to the stakeholders from last September's meeting, via email, to see if they have any more information, concerns or feedback on priorities that can be brought forward at December meeting.
  - **Action:** Secretariat to follow up with stakeholders by letter for input on policing priorities
  
12. Chairs report to YPC (Ron)
  - Federal Provincial Territorial Ministers of Justice and Public Safety are holding their annual meetings in Whitehorse October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> (rescheduled to November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>).
  - Arrest Processing Unit (APU) now in construction.
  - Yukon Government Internal Audit is beginning of the Whitehorse Correctional Centre (WCC).
  - Deputy Ministers of Health and Social Services and Justice have launched a working group to share information and work strategically on items that are of interest to both Departments.
  - Department of Justice Canada has launched a consultation on the development of a Federal Victims Bill of Rights.
  - A new Superintendent has been hired for the WCC as previous Superintendent Glen Dahl has retired.



Section E: Yukon Police Council meeting with Dene Keh- Community Justice  
Committee/ Police Advisory Board

September 10<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 am to 12:00 pm

**I. Roll Call:**

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC), Jeff Ford (Justice), Claire Mechan (Justice), Emma Donnessey (Dene Keh), Nargus (Lower Post NADAP Worker), Maggie Dick (Dene Keh), Debbie Groat (Dene Keh), Ann Szabo (Dene Keh), Hammond Dick (Dene Keh), , Roy Dick, , Clare Donnessey (Dene Keh), May Broadhagan (Dene Keh), May Stewart (Dene Keh), Chief Superintendent Peter Clark(RCMP), Sgt. Lockwood (RCMP), and David Gilbert (RCMP).

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone.

May Stewart, Chair Dene Keh, welcome and roundtable introductions.

Doris McLean gave a brief summary of the Yukon Police Council.

**III. Discussion with Liard First Nation Community Police Board and Dene Keh on policing and other community issues**

- History of Dene Keh “our ways” and the Police Advisory Board (May Broadhagan and Hammond Dick)
- Discussion: Current Issues Related to Policing
  - Land-based camps are an important resource for youth. Camps need ongoing support.
  - Alcohol and drug abuse are an issue in the community.
  - Social media and internet deter youth from participating in cultural activities.
  - Youth are bullying other youth through social media.
  - Working together to develop youth activities/programs.
- Possible improvements:
  - Orientation on land and culture for RCMP, teachers, EMS, and other professionals in the community by Dene Keh.
  - Work with victim services and other service providers to improve coordination and programming.
- Positive relationships in the community:
  - Great communication by the RCMP in the community
  - Good working relationship between Dene Keh and RCMP
  - Dene Keh noted that although they have a policing agreement they do not need to rely on it as the working relationship with the RCMP is so good

Section F: Yukon Police Council meets with Chamber of Commerce

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013

12:00pm to 1:00pm

**I. Roll Call:**

Present: Pat Daws (YPC); Bill Klassen (YPC); Michael Riseborough (YPC); Lisa Anderson (YPC); Doris McLean (YPC); Ron MacMillan (YPC, Chair); Robert Riches (Justice) Norma Davignon (Justice); David LeBarge (YPC), Jeff Ford (Justice), Claire Mechan (Justice), Chief Superintendent Clark(RCMP), Sgt. Lockwood (RCMP), and David Gilbert (RCMP).

**II. Welcome and Introductions**

Cheryl O'Brien, Chamber of Commerce (COC) Chair, welcomed everyone and YPC Chair. Ron MacMillan, YPC Chair, welcomed everyone and introduced YPC and DOJ staff. Bill Klassen gave a brief summary of the YPC.

**III. Discussion with Chamber of Commerce on policing and other community issues**

- COC discussion on RCMP:
  - RCMP vacancies affect the community;
  - Concern for RCMP members working alone at night;
  - Concerns that DARE was discontinued; would like to see elementary school programs that introduce the RCMP as positive role models.
    - Cam noted that they do have a presence in the schools.
  - RCMP has a very positive image in community.
- COC's Community Issues:
  - Prevention and enforcement focus should be on alcohol and drug related incidents, ie. drivers driving with suspended licences
  - There is a perception that court orders are not being enforced, i.e. no contact orders not being enforced.
  - 911 dispatch will not process calls unless the caller gives identification, many people are uncomfortable doing that and want to remain anonymous, i.e. tourists wanting to report a tip.
  - RCMP presence is very positive for after-hours involvement in programs, sports and school events
- Other items from meeting
  - Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Unit- request for more information on SCAN - Jeff will follow up.
  - The Chamber of Commerce will discuss and forwards any issues to the YPC.

**Section G: Yukon Police Council takes Watson Lake RCMP Detachment tour**

September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013

1:30pm to 2:30pm

**Appendix A: Summary of Action Items resulting from the Sept 9 & 10 meeting, and Outstanding Action Items to be carried forward**

Yukon Police Council Action Items	Status resulting from June 24-25 meeting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secretariat will arrange follow up presentations from the RCMP on the RCMP professional standards office, and the RCMP disciplinary process</li> </ul>	Defer until Bill C-42 implemented
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secretariat will draft a policy statement defining roles at meetings and the invitation of others for review</li> </ul>	Defer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Justice and RCMP to develop a visual which helps to show how ASIRT, the Commission for Public Complaints, internal RCMP Disciplinary processes and other related processes and investigations all intersect.</li> </ul>	Defer until Bill C-42 implemented
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Topics for future meetings: Liard Aboriginal Women's Society work, cross cultural awareness for Council and RCMP, tour of WCC</li> </ul>	Ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secretariat to provide a draft communications strategy for the Council's review at next meeting</li> </ul>	Deferred
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secretariat to inquire with RCMP re COYFNAC meeting dates and explore a joint meeting.</li> </ul>	By December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtain associate membership with CAPB</li> </ul>	New
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with BYTE to encourage a youth session at future meetings or attach to a future BYTE event.</li> <li>Follow up with BYTE to thank for their efforts, congratulate on a job well done and ask for suggestions for YPC future involvement.</li> </ul>	New
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secretariat to follow up with stakeholders by letter for input on policing priorities</li> </ul>	New