

# COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELLBEING STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Location:** Zoom

**Date:** June 30, 2021

**Time:** 2:00pm to 4:00pm

**Facilitator:** Paul Edginton, City of Wetaskiwin  
General Manager of Community & Protective Services

Time	Topic
2:00pm	<p><b>1. Land Acknowledgement - Treaty 6 Territory</b></p>
	<p><b>2. Welcome &amp; Introductions</b> Attendees: - Paul Edginton, Ren Goode, Heather Pratt, Inspector Keith Durance, Allison Adams-Bull, Misty Griffith, Lynn Ware, Jeff Chipley, Dean Billingsley, Dale Woitt, Gina Longjohn</p>
	<p><b>3. Background on the Committee and Pilot Project - Discussing what it's all about</b> Wetaskiwin was selected to be part of the Rural Crime Prevention Pilot Project. We were asked to build a Crime Prevention Plan within 2 years. Council had something similar so we just blended both of them together. We took the training with the association and drafted our terms of reference and now we can get the ball rolling. *Paul then showed the presentation* If anyone would like to view it on their own time Heather Pratt can email it to you.</p>
	<p><b>4. Terms of Reference - Does it make sense and what needs to change (if anything) and why?</b> Paul Edginton (City of Wetaskiwin): We wanted to create a sustainable platform so whatever work/plan we are building we can make sure we have policies and procedures in place within our communities. It also oversees challenges as they arise and helping agencies. The Community Safety and Wellness Steering Committee was approved by Council in April 2021, though afterwards a regional approach was determined as the best way forward. ***Feedback Below***</p> <p>Jeff Chipley (County of Wetaskiwin) says it's ok but needs to be more inclusive of the region in its vocabulary. We are all from different organizations and segments so it's an advisory not just to the city but to all parties involved.</p> <p>Keith Durance (RCMP) says that the reporting structure should state something about community reps reporting back to their respective community leadership. Different levels of government and associations.</p>

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Need to report back to the proper levels.

Paul asked for clarification on who everyone would report back to.

Gina and Allison would report back to Chief and Council.

Jeff would report back to Reeve and Council.

Paul would report back to Mayor and Council.

Keith - we need to identify risks in the community/region. Might want to get a circuit judge or crown's side to add to the Membership committee?

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## 5. **Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair**

Nomination for Chair: Paul Edginton nominated Misty Griffith from Wetaskiwin FCSS to chair the committee. Misty accepted.

*Lynn Ware and Keith Durance 2<sup>nd</sup> this nomination.*

Nomination for Vice Chair: Ren Goode nominated Allison Adams-Bull as vice-chair. Allison accepted.

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## 6. **Discussion on accountabilities and responsibilities for implementation (i.e., capacity)**

Paul: What capacity might you have to devote toward this committee? Able to devote any admin resources? Getting better sense of what organizations can potentially bring.

FCSS - can help guide prevention stuff and reaching out to community members and organizing things.

County of Wetaskiwin - can provide direction for admin and relay information to Reeve and Council. No financial resources to provide as this request needs to be brought forward to council first.

Allison - Louis Bull is very short staffed and can only contribute with her participation here. Will do her best and is committed to attend when meetings are held.

Keith - depending on topic, any tasks that come out of the committee meetings he can try to bring to the RCMPs Crime reduction team, SRO, can have some admin support and work together with Heather.

Lynn Ware - very few people in the office right now; Indigenous support workers willing to go out into the community, go to the parents and have tea and do what they can to make kids feel welcome. Hope mission has grants from government that goes directly to hope missions so they are trying to send food home on the weekends and over summer working with different people to ensure they get nutrition. Lynn will be at all meetings and do her best.

Gina says they have access to different networks in Maskwacis, so they are able to access the information as needed. They have a wealth of knowledge when it comes to providing stats or data on behalf of Maskwacis and nations. Gina serves as the DEM for their nation and

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has been managing covid for 15 months in the community. Can provide networking Allison says in terms of resources she has different organizations in Maskwacis, such as services or stats—whatever is requested from that side she can get that. If and when that occurs, she will reach out to organizations (Maskwacis Health Services; Maskwacis Cree Tribal Council, etc.).

#### 7. **Emergency Response Discussion - Heat wave (Misty)**

Misty received a call on June 29<sup>th</sup> from fire services to respond to issues from heat wave. People were experiencing heat stroke & heat exhaustion. Took out water, Gatorade, popsicles. When they met with fire and bylaw afterwards there is no protocol/policy in place. Have been trying to figure out a plan. Memorial Centre will be used as a cool down place. Red cross is coming tomorrow (they require 24 hours' notice to respond). They need help and have reached out for volunteers. If anyone can help FCFS please get in touch with Misty.

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#### 8. **Next Meeting:**

- a. August 2021 - create schedule with Misty and Allison (Paul)
  - b. Presentation from Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention (Jan Fox & Jean Bota)
  - c. Discuss Available Capacity and Resources
  - d. Training Discussion - CMNCP training for everyone so they are all on the same page.
  - e. Finding a facilitator to help us get this plan in place
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#### Comments/Questions:

Agenda approved 2:05PM approved by Dean Billingsley and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Misty Griffith

Samson Cree could not make it but will try to make it to the next one

Rural Crime Prevention Framework Project feedback- Jeff says pretty standard and we have heard many times. There is many different avenues in which we can mitigate them. Allison says what stood out was through community safety assessment first time she heard it through environmental design - overall with restorative justice that's the things we focus on in Maskwacis . she can see the links what we have done in Maskwacis and we did do a pilot project with safety Canada in 2016/2017. A lot of the work you're doing here is what Maskwacis was doing. Could not follow through with the process because the funding ended. We were trying to link with Wetaskiwin and Ponoka but it didn't work out.

Keith - prolific offender management side. What we are lacking is the follow through with justice system because of crowding judges are less likely to hold in custody with repeat offenders. We are losing the teeth of the prolific offender side. Hoping we can see a swing back after COVID ends to curb the behaviors. Getting people properly sentenced. Restorative justice. He doesn't see a problem getting people into programs we are going to have to find the follow through what the committee determines is going to happen with that offender.

What work will they have to do? We need some sort of programs for people. Who is going to monitor the hours of community service? Is it going to be community driven where we really want to see them doing something for the community itself?

Gina - definitely has a lot of thoughts and reactions. Talking about restorative justice and making people pay for their crimes. The sooner our neighbors understand those types of things then we can have open conversations about what we face because definitely things are spilling into Wetaskiwin, Ponoka and we want to do what we can to be good neighbors but you talk about the basic things you need in crime prevention, early child development, housing, recreation, 18,000 people and 2,000 homes. Gina wants to create an understanding between communities

Dale - what expertise can be get collaborated to get us on the right track. The justice system is failing us in different aspects and people are falling through the cracks and he hopes we can do something about it.

- Paul to reach out to Menasha to ask how it would work to have crown representation on steering committee.
- Paul to get in touch with Misty and Allison to figure out a schedule

Meeting ended at 3:33