

**Did VicPD have input into this process?**

The Advisory Panel was diligent in ensuring that input was received from all stakeholders as part of this process. This included meetings with representatives from Police Services and VicPD. In fact, Chief Graham attended a panel meeting and spoke with the Panel on service levels, organizational structure and other aspects of current policing.

**Why wasn't VicPD informed of this process?**

The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Panel were developed in June of 2010. These terms included the development of a request for information that would be provided to municipal police departments "interested in delivering a dedicated police service to Esquimalt." This information has been on the Township website since November of 2010. The Township has been open and transparent that, as part of the follow up to the audit recommendations, an RFP would be issued to all qualified policing organizations in the CRD.

**Does the Township of Esquimalt have the authority to engage in this process?**

The Advisory Panel has been in constant communication with the provincial Police Services Division to verify our process. We are confident with the integrity of the process and the authority to undertake it. We are following a process outlined by the Solicitor General's office, and the Solicitor General will be the recipient of the final report from the Advisory Panel. Any further questions regarding this process and our authority to conduct it should be directed to the Police Services Division.

### **Does the Township intend to end its partnership with VicPD?**

The Township is not conducting this process as a means to end its relationship with VicPD, but to explore options for a model of policing that is a better fit for the community. VicPD may well be partnered with the Township in the future.

### **Why was the Advisory Panel created?**

The Panel was formed through Order in Council # 303 in June 2010 as a result of an audit of the Victoria Police Department ordered by the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General. This audit—supported by both Esquimalt and Victoria Councils—detailed officer deployment, call load, response times and associated costs.

### **What are the concerns with the current model of policing provided by VicPD?**

The current service model approach has elements of both surge and community policing styles. This does not conform to the objective originally defined in the Implementation Plan for amalgamation with VicPD in 2002. This plan called for a dedicated patrol in the community. Our residents have spoken and they have told us they want community-based decision-making around policing, the best possible policing for their tax dollars, and a dedicated patrol based in the municipality.

### **Was the process prompted because of the 2011 budget request by VicPD?**

No. This process began long before VicPD presented its budget request in January of 2011. The Panel was, in fact, formed in June of 2010 stemming from an audit by the Solicitor General. However, Township Council has expressed concerns with the budget and the annual increases to taxpayers.

**Does the community support this process? Was there public input?**

There was considerable community input to the Advisory Panel through a series of three open forums at the Municipal Hall. (There were also three open houses on policing before the Panel was formed.) In November of 2010, residents provided input on strengths and weaknesses with the current policing model. They also provided input on opportunities and barriers for an alternate policing model. This input was provided in hard copy format at an open house, and online through the Township’s website. After reviewing this input, we believe that the community is 100% behind this process.

**How long will this process take, and what is VicPD’s role while the Township assesses proposals from other jurisdictions?**

The audit ordered by the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General required that a report be submitted to the Solicitor General by June 30, 2011. The Township anticipates meeting this deadline. During this process, our policing services will continue status quo.

**Is the Township looking for a “no call too small” option?**

No. The Township is seeking a model of police service that contributes to the quality of life in the Township. Our residents are looking for a sense of security and a police force that is part of the community. Important elements of the proposed policing model include capability, flexibility and style of policing.

## **What is the timeline for implementing the new model of policing?**

The following timetable outlines the anticipated schedule for the RFP and contract process. Timing and sequence of events may vary and the Township will ultimately determine the timing and sequence of events, which may also vary due to factors beyond the Township's control.

- March 3, 2011      *Issue RFP*
- March 10, 2011    *Receipt Confirmation Form returned 3:30 pm PST*
- Mar 17, 2011      *Site meeting*
- March 30, 2011    *Technical site meeting (at proponent request)*
- May 4, 2011        *RFP closing date 2:00 pm local time*
- May 11-12, 2011   *Proponent presentations*
- May 30, 2011      *Panel recommendation for Council approval*
- June 30, 2011     *Solicitor General Report submission*

If the Solicitor General approves of the report and its recommendations, contract negotiation and finalization will follow.

## **Do you have a budget in mind for this new service delivery?**

No. Our first priority is to look at the models that are presented by proponents. Any alternative service delivery model will include a process for budget review and dispute resolution mechanisms.

**What will be the term of the new policing contract?**

While we are seeking a 10-year contract with a five year renewal option, we may be willing to be flexible on the term and have requested in the RFP that any changes to the requested term be set out as an alternative.

**What is your plan for VicPD's budget request for 2011?**

Council is still deliberating on how to proceed with the policing budget for 2011.