

### **Backgrounder and Overview of Milestones of Transition Process**

Within this Backgrounder you will find embedded links to the specific reports, studies and Provincial Public Safety Minister announcement and Fact Sheet pertaining to the transition from RCMP to Surrey Police Service process. Additionally, there is a list, albeit not exhaustive, of milestones achieved by Chief Lipinski since December 2020.

In November 05, 2018, Surrey City Council unanimously passed a [motion](#) to undertake the necessary steps to establish an independent, locally led municipal police service.

In spring the following year, the findings of a [joint study](#) undertaken by the City of Surrey, the City of Vancouver, The Vancouver Police Department and a third-party assessor, PricewaterhouseCoopers, was submitted to the Provincial Government of British Columbia. The study outlined the feasibility of implementing a municipal police service. Based on the findings of that report, the Province gave the City of Surrey the green light to proceed in August 2019.

Additionally, a [Provincial-Municipal Policing Committee chaired by Wally Oppal](#), former Attorney General and Justice of both the Supreme and Appeal Courts of British Columbia, was established to “ensure all key issues and complex details were thoroughly addressed in the city’s transition plan.” This report confirmed a local police service was not only possible but would offer many benefits.

Based on the findings of these two studies, the City of Surrey received [approval](#) in February 2020 to establish a Police Board. The Provincial Government also provided a [Fact Sheet](#) outlining the transition process.

The Surrey Police Board was established via Provincial Order in Council effective July 06,2020. It completed its inaugural meeting on August 06,2020 passing a motion to create the Surrey Police Service. The hiring of a Chief Constable was a priority to move forward in the progression of the building of the Surrey Police Service (SPS). This landmark goal was achieved with the appointment of Chief Constable Norm Lipinski in December 2020.

The [Surrey Police Trilateral Transition Committee](#) ( SPTTC) was formed in keeping with a recommendation put forward in the Provincial-Municipal Policing Committee Report. The purpose of the multi-party committee is to support the implementation of the Surrey Police Service, as the new independent municipal police department serving the City of Surrey. The SPTTC is comprised of the City, the Province of BC, and Government of Canada (represented by the Department of Public Safety) with input from the RCMP and Chief Constable of the Surrey Police Service. The SPTTC is working collaboratively to ensure an orderly, efficient and timely transition of police service.

**SPS Transition Milestones (December 2020 – March 2021)**

1. created a draft organizational structure that will ensure a community responsive police service
2. appointment of three Deputy Chief Constables and recruitment and hiring of the senior leadership team
3. developing a Deployment Model for the transitional period from RCMP to Surrey Police Service operations in collaboration with all three levels of government and police partners through the Surrey Police Trilateral Transition Committee (SPTTC)
4. secured approval by RCMP National Police Services in Ottawa for Surrey Police Service as a Category 1 Police Agency with access to mandatory federal systems - this includes Canadian Police Information Center (CPIC)
5. Organizational Policy identified and moving through approval process
6. in conjunction with the Police Board, organizational Vision, Mission and Values were drafted in preparation for community consultation on the SPS Strategic Plan
7. signed Successorship Agreement which provides opportunity for City of Surrey Staff currently supporting the RCMP to transition to positions with the SPS
8. established terms and conditions for sworn officers (salaries & benefits and pension)
9. design of Crest that has been sent for Royal Assent
10. police vehicle decal in design stage

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