



Goal of This Presentation

- Primer for a larger discussion on safety and security in the community, with today's focus on the downtown
- Describe current service levels relating to safety and security in the downtown core
- Identify gaps in service provision in the downtown
- Provide recommendations to enhance safety and security in the downtown

RCMP Downtown

- Bike Patrol
- Crime Analyst – Intelligence-Led Policing
- Health-Based Responses to Addiction & Mental Health
- Situation Tables



Bylaw Downtown

Role of Bylaw in the Downtown:

- Parking enforcement
- City Parkades and Infrastructure security
- Property Maintenance
- Nuisance Property Abatement
- Parks Regulations
- Coordinated responses to homelessness with health, outreach, and police services
- Public safety, hazards, sanitation



Private Security Downtown

- Old City Quarter Community Connect (public/private)
- Casino
- Port Place Mall
- Nanaimo Port Authority
- Victoria Crescent Community Association
- Others



City-Funded Private Security

- Old City Quarter Community Connect (\$147,000 in 2021)
- Pauline Haarer School (Parks, Recreation and Culture Contract) (\$31,200 in 2021)
- City Hall (\$75,000 in 2021)
- Downtown Parkades (\$135,000 in 2021)



Community Connect

- Old City Quarter Pilot Project led by Volunteers
- Summer 2020 – December 2020 (\$136,500)
- January 2021 - June 30, 2021 (\$147,000)
- Cost: \$183,750 / 6 months
- 70% City funded
- Private Security Patrols, 3 safety officers 10pm – 6am
 - Central Helpline for residents and businesses to call to report concerns
 - Summer ambassador program
 - Enhanced daytime cleanup – John Howard Society



Potential Gaps in Service Provision

- Evening and Nighttime Services (maintenance, sanitation)
- Parking facilities vulnerability
- Diana Krall Plaza
- Victoria Crescent Neighborhood – security
- Park Warden / Caretakers
- Coordinated responses to homelessness, mental health and addiction incidents



Preliminary Recommendations

- Additional downtown security (expansion of *private security* to entire downtown)
- Permanent Downtown Sanitation Team
- Downtown Security Plan
- Investment in Security & Access Control Features
 - VICC Parkade Gates
 - Update Security cameras
- Graffiti Response Team
- Continued funding of washroom facilities

Budget Implications

2021 Budget

- Additional downtown security (expansion of *Private Security* to entire downtown) - \$400,000 for remainder of year (3 night patrollers)

2022 Budget – Business Cases to be developed:

- Expanded commitment to downtown security \$1,000,000
- Permanent Downtown Sanitation Team \$400,000
- Downtown Security Plan \$50,000
- Investment in Security & Access Control Features \$TBD
 - VICC Parkade Gates
 - Update Security cameras
- Continued funding of washroom facilities

Next Steps



- Return to a future Governance and Priorities Committee meeting for an in-depth discussion on safety and security in the downtown

