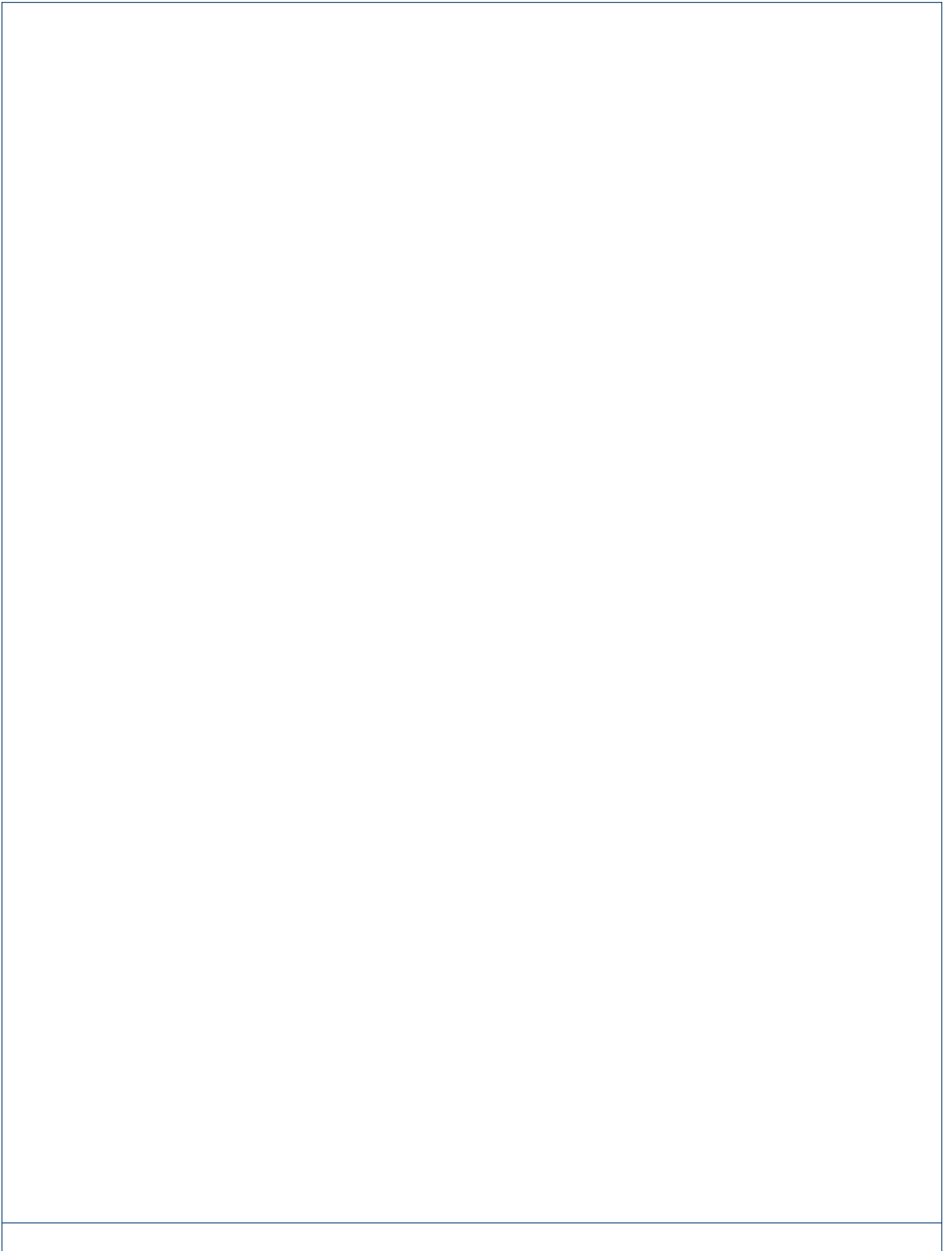




VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD ANNUALREPORT *20092010*





FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: MARY COLLINS, JASON McLEAN, PATTI MARFLEET, GREGOR ROBERTSON, GLENN WONG, SHERYL WILLIAMSON, WADE GRANT.

WHAT IS THE VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD?

The Vancouver Police Board is the governing body for the Vancouver Police Department (VPD). It provides civilian governance and oversight of policing. Its mandate is set out in British Columbia's Police Act. The Board performs four main governance functions:

- it sets policy and direction for the Vancouver Police Department, including strategic planning
- it provides oversight of the Department's finances
- it employs the Department's police officers and civilian staff
- it receives and acts on complaints made about the Department's services and policies

WHO IS ON THE BOARD?

In 2009 and 2010, Board members were:

Mayor Gregor Robertson, Chair

Mary Collins (from July 2009)

Wade Grant (from October 2010)

Jason McLean

Patti Marfleet

Dale Parker (until July 2009)

Sheryl Williamson

Glenn Wong

The Board has a staff of two: Shona McGlashan, Executive Director, and Rachelle Radiuk, Administrative Assistant (Acting Executive Director in 2009)



WHAT DOES THE BOARD DO?

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BOARD'S WORK IN 2009 AND 2010 INCLUDE:

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Police Board sets the VPD's strategic goals and then monitors its progress in meeting them. As well as briefings and updates given at public Board meetings, the Board receives regular reports on key performance indicators and progress on the VPD's annual business plans.

In 2010 the Board and Department began preliminary work on the 2012-2016 Strategic Plan. The Board held a day-long strategic planning session with the Chief and Deputy Chief Constables, allowing the Board and Executive to engage in in-depth discussions on the strategic direction of the VPD, succession planning, and the political landscape.

PLANNING FOR THE 2010 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Vancouver's hosting of the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games was one of the greatest events in VPD history. Over the years and months leading up to the Games, the Police Board oversaw the VPD's efforts to respond to the logistical, financial and security challenges presented by the Games. These efforts paid off with an incredibly successful Games, enjoyed by VPD members, Board members and the public alike.

POLICY OVERSIGHT

The Police Board approves all amendments to the VPD's Regulations and Procedures Manual (published at www.vpd.ca). In 2009 and 2010 the Board approved changes to the VPD's policies on varied subjects including: arrests under the Mental Health Act; seizure of photographic equipment; clandestine drug laboratories; extreme weather assistance; searches of detained persons; vehicle impounding; disaster procedures; hosting conferences; kidnapping and extortion; and donations and sponsorship to and of the VPD.

The Board also received briefings on topics including: policies and statistics on taser use and the use of force; gangs; homelessness; mental health issues; the VPD's annual public survey; and serving the deaf and hard-of-hearing community.

BOARD MEETINGS AND COMMITTEES

The Vancouver Police Board meets monthly. Much of its business is conducted in public, and members of the public can attend the meetings, address the Board as a delegation, and ask questions. The Board publishes its meeting agendas and minutes online. The agendas of in camera (private) meetings are also posted online, together with the reason for each item being held in camera and a list of the decisions taken.

Over 2009 and 2010, the Board heard 30 delegations and responded to questions from members of the public.

THE FINANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

leads the Board's oversight and control of the Police Department's budget. The Committee receives regular financial variance reports and budget projections, and reviews all proposals with financial implications before they are considered by the Board.

In 2009 and 2010 the Board received and responded to four requests for access to records under Freedom of Information legislation, advised by **THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION STANDING COMMITTEE**.

THE GOVERNANCE STANDING COMMITTEE

oversees the Board's annual Board effectiveness evaluation, which now includes a peer evaluation component. The Committee also considers the work of the Board's Ethics Advisor, and ensures that all Board members are aware of the Board's code of conduct and conflict of interest guidelines. It recently provided guidance to the Board on how it should evaluate proposals for shared services with the City of Vancouver without compromising the Board's role as an independent employer.

THE HUMAN RESOURCES AND COMPENSATION STANDING COMMITTEE

leads the annual evaluations of Chief Constable's performance; and considers labour matters and succession planning.

SERVICE AND POLICY COMPLAINTS

The Vancouver Police Board is responsible for responding to complaints about the services or policies of the VPD. In 2009 and 2010, the Board received nine such complaints. The outcomes of the Board's work on these complaints included:

- an examination of the procedures applying to the use of restraint devices on prisoners in VPD custody
- the creation of policy to guide police officers on the issue of seizure of still and video cameras that could contain evidence of a crime
- recommendations to reduce errors in police databases
- the implementation of new procedures to ensure that inaccuracies in traffic violation tickets and driver's records are corrected within a reasonable time



VANCOUVER POLICE BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information and contact details, please visit the Board's website at
www.vancouverpoliceboard.ca