

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 22, 2025

Mayor Ken Sim welcomes appointment of Chief Constable Steve Rai

VANCOUVER, BC — Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim has released the following official statement on the appointment of Steve Rai as Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department:

“After a rigorous and thoughtful selection process, I am proud to officially announce Steve Rai as the 32nd Chief Constable of the Vancouver Police Department.

“Chief Rai brings more than three decades of experience with the VPD. He has worked across nearly every area of the department, starting as a frontline officer in the Downtown Eastside and rising through the ranks to lead major citywide operations, including the 2010 Winter Olympics and the 2011 Stanley Cup Riot.

“From crisis response, to recruiting and training the next generation of officers, to implementing new technologies and championing wellness and cultural competency, Chief Rai has played a key role in shaping how the VPD serves our city today. He’s a decorated officer, a trailblazer, and a leader who embodies what it means to serve and protect Vancouverites.

“In addition to being a highly effective and accomplished commander, Chief Rai is a respected bridge builder who has championed reconciliation within the VPD and fostered stronger connections with Vancouver’s diverse communities.

“As Mayor, and as a Chair of the Search Committee for the Vancouver Police Board, I made it a top priority to find a leader who could meet the public safety challenges we face today and lay a strong foundation for the future. Chief Rai is the right person to lead that charge.

“I want to thank all those who participated in the selection process, and extend my gratitude to every candidate who put their name forward. Your commitment to public safety and to our city is deeply appreciated.

“With Chief Rai at the helm, Vancouver is in strong hands as we work to build a safer, more connected, and more resilient city.”

-30-

Media Contact:

Taylor Verrall

Press Secretary, Office of the Mayor

taylor.verrall@vancouver.ca