



Office of the
Police Complaint Commissioner

British Columbia, Canada

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Police Complaint Commissioner Orders an External Investigation Into Traffic Incident Involving a Vancouver Police Officer and Cyclist

Victoria – Today, Police Complaint Commissioner Stan T. Lowe has ordered that an investigation into an incident involving Vancouver Police Constable Ismail Bhabha and cyclist Kharazi Andisheh Akhavan on March 25, 2013, be undertaken by an external police agency, the West Vancouver Police Department.

In the earlier evening of Wednesday, March 27th, 2013, a member of the media contacted the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC) to inquire into an incident involving a member of the Vancouver Police Department and a cyclist during a traffic stop on Monday, March 25, 2013. At this point in time the OPCC had not received any information from any source in regard to this incident; the media source provided the OPCC with a link to a video posted on the internet depicting a portion of the incident.

The OPCC immediately contacted Management with the Vancouver Police Department Professional Standards Section, who also advised that they were not aware of any incident at that time, a link to the video was provided to the Professional Standards Section.

In keeping with a measured approach to incidents of this nature, the OPCC has carefully monitored the events and information available in the past few days from police sources and the media. The Commissioner has determined that it is in the public interest to exercise his discretion pursuant to the *Police Act* to appoint an external police agency to investigate this incident in or to maintain public confidence in the police complaint process.

Chief Constable Peter Lepine of the West Vancouver Police Department has agreed to oversee the external investigation into this matter.

Stan T. Lowe,
Police Complaint Commissioner

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Vancouver Police Department Chief Constable Jim Chu will retain the role of Discipline Authority for the Vancouver Police Department in terms of the Police Act process. Please find attached the Order for External Investigation.

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[April 2, 2013 Order for External Investigation](#)