



OFFICE OF THE
POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER

British Columbia, Canada

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OPCC 2015-11048

MEDIA STATEMENT

Commissioner Orders Additional Investigation into Conduct of Chief Constable Frank Elsner

Victoria - The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC) announced today that Commissioner Stan T. Lowe has ordered an investigation into new allegations of misconduct involving Chief Constable Frank Elsner of the Victoria Police Department, based on information received from the ongoing investigations. The Commissioner has determined that this disclosure is necessary in the public interest in order to maintain public confidence in the civilian oversight of law enforcement through enhanced transparency and accountability.

Our office has received information from Chief Investigator Chief Superintendent Sean Bourrie and senior members of the investigative team in accordance with the earlier *Orders for Investigation* and the provisions of the *Police Act*. The Commissioner has determined that the information discloses conduct which, if substantiated, would constitute three separate disciplinary breaches of public trust; one allegation of *Deceit* and two allegations of *Discreditable Conduct*.

Integrated External Investigation

The Commissioner has determined that it is in the public interest that these new allegations should be investigated by an external police force. He has designated the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to investigate these matters.

The Commanding Officer of the RCMP in British Columbia, Deputy Commissioner Craig Callens has assigned Chief Superintendent Sean Bourrie as Chief Investigator. Working under his supervision is a senior team of external investigators with the Vancouver Police Department under the command of Deputy Chief Constable Laurence Rankin. This is the same team of investigators assigned to the earlier investigations.

The Commissioner has appointed as Discipline Authority, Ian H. Pitfield, retired Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia.

It is important to note that the outstanding investigation involves allegations of misconduct, and in order to protect the integrity of the investigations and the *Police Act* process, the

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Commissioner respectfully requests that the public not rush to judgment or engage in speculation, and to await the completion of the process.

In order to preserve public confidence in the investigation of police misconduct and the administration of police discipline, the Commissioner will release a summary report to the public at the conclusion of the process.

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To learn more about the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner, please visit the OPCC webpage at www.opcc.bc.ca.

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