

British Columbia, Canada

## NEWS RELEASE

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## Public Hearing into misconduct charges against Vancouver Constables delayed by COVID-19

**VICTORIA** – The continuation of a hearing into misconduct charges against Vancouver Police Department constables has been delayed due to health concerns amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Public Hearing into the misconduct allegations facing Constables Eric Ludeman and Neil Logan began in early March and was set to conclude next week.

The continuation of the hearing is contingent upon ensuring the necessary protocols are in place in accordance with guidelines set by the Office of the Provincial Health Officer and WorkSafe BC.

The public will be advised of the rescheduled dates for the continuation of the hearing on the OPCC website.

The hearing centres on misconduct allegations against Constables Ludeman and Logan, stemming from a complaint of excessive use of force and improper entry into a private residence.

The complaint was investigated by the Victoria Police Department before being referred to a retired judge for review. The judge found that although the entry was unlawful, the officers had not committed misconduct.

The Commissioner granted the complainant's request for a Public Hearing into the allegations, noting that it was in the public's interest to do so.

The notice of Public Hearing in this matter is available here. The initial media advisory announcing the Public Hearing is here.

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## About the OPCC and Public Hearings:

- The Police Complaint Commissioner is a civilian, independent Officer of the Legislature overseeing complaints, investigations and discipline involving municipal police in British Columbia. For more on the OPCC, visit: <u>https://opcc.bc.ca/about-us/</u>
- Discipline Authorities are generally senior ranking police officers who are required under the *Police Act* to make determinations regarding the investigation and discipline of police officers alleged to have committed misconduct.
- Following a disciplinary process, the Police Complaint Commissioner can order a Public Hearing if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the decision of the Discipline Authority is incorrect or it is in the public interest to review the matter.
- Retired judges sit as adjudicators in Public Hearings. They review evidence, hear sworn testimony, and arrive at a decision of whether there is misconduct and, if so, determine the corrective or disciplinary measures.
- The judge's decision in a Public Hearing is final and conclusive.
- More on public hearings: <u>https://opcc.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Public-Hearings-General-Information.pdf</u>

**Note to media:** The OPCC is unable to comment on specific proceedings while they are underway. For general queries related to the OPCC's role and processes, please contact:

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Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner

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