NEWS RELEASE – UPDATE TO RELEASE POSTED ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

October 8, 2026

Victoria – Further to the news release posted on September 17, 2026, Adjudicator Brent Hoy has vacated the public hearing dates previously scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 6, 7, and 8, 2026, to allow for case management discussions about various evidentiary and procedural matters. The public hearing date will resume on Friday, October 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

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September 17, 2026

PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED TO START IN NELSON 'WHATSAPP' CASE

Victoria – Adjudicator Brent Hoy, formerly a Judge of the Provincial Court of BC, will preside over a public hearing into the conduct of six current and former Nelson Police Department officers involved in a WhatsApp chat group allegedly containing racist, sexist, or other discriminatory or inappropriate content.

Hearing dates are currently scheduled for September 21-24, October 5-9, and November 2-3 and 5-6, 2026. The hearing will be held in Vancouver at UBC Robson Square (800 Robson Street, Vancouver, BC, V6Z 3B7) in Room C485 on the Classroom Level. The hearing days are expected to start at 9:30 a.m.

Livestream audio will be available remotely through a link that will be posted on the OPCC website. Listeners will enter a virtual room to listen to the proceedings.

The background to the public hearing, including the Police Complaint Commissioner's reasons for arranging the public hearing, are set out in the Notice of Public Hearing posted on the OPCC website.

It is anticipated that the hearing dates currently scheduled for September, October, and November of 2026 will be used to address issues regarding the conduct of the investigation into the alleged misconduct and whether investigating officers had legal authority to obtain and rely on the contents of the WhatsApp chat.

Additional hearing dates may be scheduled, depending on what takes place during the currently scheduled dates.

All scheduled hearing dates are subject to change. Any new information about scheduling will be posted on the OPCC website as it becomes available.

While the public hearing is underway, the OPCC will not provide comments about the merits of the case other than through its counsel at the public hearing.

About the OPCC and Public Hearings:

- While the OPCC does not have a mandate to investigate or make determinations about police misconduct, it does act in the public interest to ensure allegations are fully investigated and fairly decided.
- A public hearing is not limited to the evidence and issues canvassed at the discipline proceeding. The Police Complaint Commissioner appoints Public Hearing Counsel to present to the

Adjudicator the case relative to each allegation of misconduct against the member. The Police Complaint Commissioner can also participate at a public hearing through Commission counsel.

- A retired judge is appointed to sit as the Adjudicator and review the evidence, hear sworn testimony, and arrive at a decision as to whether there is misconduct and, if necessary, determine the corrective and/or disciplinary measures to be imposed. The retired judge may also recommend changes in policy or practice.
- 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 https://opcc.bc.ca/about-us/

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