



OFFICE OF THE  
POLICE COMPLAINT COMMISSIONER

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British Columbia, Canada

## NOTICE

February 7, 2024

OPCC 2019-17245  
PH 2023-01

### Public Hearing for Victoria Police officer

**Victoria** – The Adjudicator appointed to preside at a Public Hearing into the circumstances involving a member of the Victoria Police Department following the death of a woman in 2019 will hear submissions in relation to applications made to produce records. This will be held on February 14, 2024, at 9:30 am at the Human Rights Tribunal offices located at #1200-605 Robson St., Vancouver, BC.

The Public Hearing is scheduled to commence on April 15, 2024, in Victoria, B.C. at 947 Fort Street (time to be determined).

Details on the Public Hearing may be found on the “Decisions-Public Hearings” page of the OPCC’s webpage, located at [www.opcc.bc.ca](http://www.opcc.bc.ca).

#### 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 <https://opcc.bc.ca/about-us/>
- The OPCC initiates mandatory *Police Act* investigations whenever death or serious harm results from an incident involving municipal police officers or in instances where someone is in the care or custody of police. These investigations are separate and distinct from investigations by the Independent Investigations Office (IIO) and are not restricted to evidence gathered by the IIO.
- A Public Hearing is not limited to the evidence and issues canvassed at the discipline proceeding. The Police Complaint Commissioner can appoint Commission Counsel to act on their behalf during Public Hearings.

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- A retired judge is appointed to sit as the Adjudicator and review the evidence, hear sworn testimony, and arrive at a decision of whether there is misconduct and if necessary, determine the corrective and/or disciplinary measures to be imposed. The retired judge's decision at a Public Hearing is final and conclusive.
- The appointed retired judge can also make recommendations to the Chief Constable or Police Board concerning any changes in policy or practice that the retired judge considers advisable.
- This was the first opportunity in the *Police Act* process for a Public Hearing to be arranged. A Special Committee of the Legislature has recommended that the *Police Act* be amended to permit the Commissioner to arrange a Public Hearing much earlier in the process. To date, this recommendation has not been acted upon by Government.

**Note to media:** The OPCC is unable to comment on this review while it is underway. For general queries related to the OPCC's role and processes, please contact:

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