



A Message from the Chief Constable

April 2022

April is an important month for many of Surrey's diverse communities and Surrey Police Service (SPS) staff with groups celebrating Passover, Easter, and Vaisakhi, as well as commemorating Ramadan and Sikh Heritage Month. With the cancellation of the popular Surrey Vaisakhi parade this year, SPS made a [short video](#) to acknowledge this special time for the Sikh community, and I also had the honour of attending the Surrey Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara Sahib a few weeks ago. My thanks for the warm welcome.

I also recently had the pleasure of attending the Surrey Rotary Club, Surrey Probus Club, and the Cloverdale District Chamber of Commerce to speak about how SPS will serve the community, and how a municipal police service will provide improved accountability and responsiveness to Surrey citizens. Thank you to these groups for the invitation and for the engaging dialogue.

In addition to our continuing engagement with Surrey communities and organizations, SPS is moving forward with the significant work to build Surrey's own police service. To-date, we have hired 196 police officers and 35 civilians, with an eye on experience and skill sets, as well as diversity in gender, culture and background.

To date, the 116 Constables we have hired have an average of over nine years of experience, which is significant at this rank. This means our Frontline officers who will be out on patrol and responding to calls for service will have significant experience behind them, resulting in a top-quality service for Surrey residents.

We are now hiring experienced Constables and Sergeants for our fall 2022 onboarding classes. These positions will be for Frontline policing in our Community Policing Bureau. We will also be opening up our second applicant pool for new recruits between May 2nd and 23rd, 2022. Information on all of these postings can be found in the "Careers" section of our [website](#).

We are pleased to now have more than 60 SPS officers taking calls for service in Surrey, with another deployment scheduled for May. This is part of the phased, integrated policing transition. Over time, our deployment numbers will grow and, eventually, SPS will become the official police of jurisdiction for Surrey. While the timeline has not yet been set for the transition of policing command, SPS is working hard to ensure we have the technology, equipment, and resources in place to make this a smooth transition.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge an important milestone SPS celebrated this week as we welcomed our first class of new recruits ([read the full news release](#)). This group is made up of 14 very impressive individuals who were selected from over 500 applicants. They all bring extensive volunteer and work experiences, and many have close ties to Surrey. This group will begin their training at the Justice Institute of BC Police Academy shortly, and they will graduate as “Certified Municipal Constables” in March 2023. This is a historic event as this is the first group of police officers who will start – and hopefully finish – their policing careers with Surrey Police Service.

Chief Constable Norm Lipinski

Surrey Police Service

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