

**The Mayor's Advisory Committee  
on Crime Prevention (MACCP)**

**Prepared for:**

**City of St. John's**

**Prepared by:**

**Marie E. Ryan, Chairperson  
MACCP**

**June, 2015**

**ST. JOHN'S**

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## 1.0 Introduction

The Mayor's Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention (MACCP) was constituted early in 2014 to provide information and advice to the St. John's Municipal Council on crime prevention issues that affect the City, as referred by St. John's City Council (the "Council") or Committees of Council and/or as initiated by the Committee or the community. The Terms of Reference for the MACCP is found in Appendix "A".

Membership to the Committee was determined through an application process. The membership represents diverse sectors and client groups bringing the desired expertise and experience needed to ensure a cohesive group focused on the goal of informing recommendations and a strategy designed to enhance community safety in the City of St. John's (the "City"). A list of Committee members is found in Appendix "B".

## 2.0 The Role of Local Government in Community Safety<sup>1</sup>

Mayors and local governments have played a major role in the evolution of community safety over the past twenty years in countries across Europe, North America, Africa and Australia. There have been increasing numbers of initiatives targeting crime, victimization and the social exclusion of individuals, minority groups and neighborhoods. The links between poverty and social disadvantage, crime and victimization have made it clear that many agencies need to work together to prevent crime.

Mayors and local governments have come to see community safety as a *basic human right* and an aspect of the *quality of life* of communities. They have been able to mobilize local partnerships with key actors - the police, agencies and organizations and residents - to develop safe, secure and lively communities in large metropolitan areas as well as smaller cities and rural areas:

- There has been a shift from a relatively narrow focus on crime prevention to the broader issue of *community safety and security* as a public good.
- There is a developing consensus about the need to work for community safety by tackling the *social and economic conditions* which foster crime and victimization.
- There is a move from seeing the primary responsibility as that of the police, to recognizing that *governments, communities and partnerships* at all levels need to be actively engaged.

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<sup>1</sup> This information was taken from the following report: The Role of Local Government in Community Safety - International Centre for the Prevention of Crime. Available from [http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Evenements/20\\_ans\\_du\\_CIPC/Role\\_of\\_Gov\\_in\\_Comm\\_Safety\\_2001.pdf](http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Evenements/20_ans_du_CIPC/Role_of_Gov_in_Comm_Safety_2001.pdf)

- There is a recognition of the crucial role which *local municipal leaders* play in this process through organizing and motivating coalitions of local partners to create healthy and safe communities.

## **2.1 A framework for community safety**

What has emerged in recent years is what can be described as an *understanding* of, and a *strategy* for, tackling community safety, which local governments can use. The framework which has emerged includes:

- recognizing safety as a right and crime an issue that impacts the quality of life
- working across jurisdictional boundaries horizontally as well as vertically
- the crucial role of political leadership
- adapting strategies to local needs on the basis of good analysis and targeted plans
- building capacity, and
- tools and tool boxes

### **2.1.1 Municipal Councils can provide leadership**

Mayors [and Councils] are strategically placed to make a difference. They can provide leadership to identify and mobilize key partners; develop an action plan with short- and long-term goals; implement, monitor and evaluate the plan and exchange expertise and good practice. This approach provides a method for tackling community safety which has been shown to bring results, as well being cost-effective in the short- and long- term.

## **3.0 The MACCP Engagement Process**

To ensure the Committee had the most relevant information on which to make recommendations, we tapped into the knowledge base within the community. We needed to better understand the perceptions of crime within the City and to identify trends and themes around crime including impacts and solutions, with the ultimate goal of creating recommendations for Council to address these many and varied issues. The following details the comprehensive engagement process in which the MACCP engaged over its term.

### **3.1 MACCP meetings**

The MACCP held its first meeting in February of 2014 and continued to meet until June 2015 - holding 8 meetings in total. Early on in its activity, it was agreed that Committee members would

provide short presentations on their organizations' experience with crime and related solutions. These discussions served as the catalyst for our engagement strategy with groups/organizations that could inform on current/emerging areas of concern regarding crime and safety in the City and speak to effective practices in addressing these areas.

It is important to note that the Committee was aptly supported in its efforts by the City staff, in particular the Office of Strategy and Engagement who guided and supported our consultation processes.

### **3.2 Survey**

With the support of the Office of Strategy and Engagement, the Committee designed and implemented a survey in June 2014 which sought input from a continuum of groups/agencies on, for example, their clients'/members' concerns and experience with crime, as well as crime prevention strategies which they had found effective. Based on the results of the survey, as well as the input of the MACCP members, it was agreed that the following three areas/groups should be further consulted for more focused discussions:

- Youth and youth-serving agencies
- Community Centres/neighbourhood groups/tenant associations
- Key stakeholders in the downtown business and bar industry

### **3.3 Focus groups**

In September, focus groups were held with representatives from each of these three aforementioned groups with the information garnered further defining crime prevention strategies.

As well, we held a focus group with the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Youth (M.A.C.Y) to seek their perspectives on crime in relation to their peer group and suggested approaches for addressing critical issues.

### **3.4 Other consultations**

In addition to the activities described above, a discussion was held with a representative of the George Street Association and feedback was sought from guidance counsellors at some of the City's schools (K-12).

In March, the Regional Manager for Public Safety in the Atlantic region (based in Nova Scotia), attended our meeting as we discussed effective practices in community safety related to the key areas of focus we had identified i.e., neighbourhoods, youth and the downtown.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

This section sets out a series of recommendations for Council to consider to enhance community safety for residents of the City. It is respectfully suggested that Council use its contacts and connections with municipalities across the country to learn from what they might have done in relation to each of these recommendations, so as to build on evidence-based practices.

### 4.0 Neighbourhoods

The focus group with neighbourhoods revealed that there is value in coming together to create a platform for sharing information on services and supports available to address issues of concern (e.g., disenfranchised youth, mental health and addictions, neighbourhood crime) and develop critical linkages to support collaborative efforts and partnership building.

#### *Hosting a Neighbourhood Forum*

*It is recommended that the City undertake a neighbourhood forum – drawing representation from existing community centres, tenant and resident associations, as well as areas which have established Neighbourhood Watch<sup>2</sup> programs. The focus would be on creating safe communities through crime prevention activities and would include, at a minimum, an overview of existing city and provincial programs/agencies which could support neighbourhoods/communities in exploring/implementing solutions in this regard.*

*It is recommended that the City undertake this initiative in concert with the RNC, NL Housing and the St. John's Citizen Crime Prevention Committee, which has a long and established history of undertaking and implementing crime prevention and safety initiatives.*

Note: It is understood that the City will explore this recommendation within the framework of its neighbourhood engagement strategy implementation plan.

#### *Supporting Neighbourhood Watch*

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<sup>2</sup> Neighbourhood Watch is a community-based crime prevention program that has been used internationally to reduce crime by reducing the opportunities for crime to happen. It involves neighbours working together, being alert to suspicious activities and looking out for one another to help create a safer environment for everyone. Further information is available at <http://www.stjohns.ca/living-st-johns/city-services/neighbourhood-watch>.

*It is recommended that the City continue to support the development of Neighbourhood Watch programs in the City. This would require ongoing attention to raising the profile of and promoting the program across the City and, in particular, disseminating information on relevant safety tips as detailed on the City's Neighbourhood Watch webpage ([www.stjohns.ca/living-st-johns/city-services/neighbourhood-watch](http://www.stjohns.ca/living-st-johns/city-services/neighbourhood-watch)):*

- *Light up the night - keep lights on over doors all night. Well-lit homes are less likely to be targeted by crime.*
- *Use timers set on random on lamps, televisions and/or radios to give the appearance of someone at home if you are out.*
- *Keep windows closed when you are not at home, or if you are in the garden or another part of the house.*
- *Lock up sheds and garages properly. If you have a ladder on the back fence, be sure it is attached with locks.*
- *Do not advertise your vacations on social media such as Facebook and Twitter - it is telling the world they have uninterrupted time to break into your home.*
- *Do not hide keys outside or leave notes that tell people when you will be returning.*
- *Stop mail and newspaper delivery when you are away or have a trusted neighbour collect them for you.*
- *Remove valuables from your car - if necessary, keep items in the trunk, out of sight.*
- *Be the neighbour you wish you had - report suspicious and criminal activity to the police.*

## **5.0 Engaging Youth**

The Recreation Division offers a variety of programs and services to youth in the City of St. John's. Many of these services are offered city-wide, and others are offered through neighbourhood community centres. A sample of the programming is found in Table 1.

**Table 1: Sample of youth programming**

<b>City-wide programs and services</b>
Weekly summer youth camps - various themes
Youth "Learn to" sessions (e.g., Learn to kayak, photography, archery)
GALS (Girls Active Lifestyles) programs
Babysitting courses
Specialized summer camps – arts related
Youth Leadership programs (12-14 yrs) and 15-18 yrs)
Youth Week and other special events

<b>Neighbourhood Community Centres ( Kilbride, Shea Heights, Southlands)</b>
Weekly Drop-in Programs (free)
Special events

The Division is completing a review of fees and services for the 2016-2018 budget periods. The plan is to ensure that a tiered system of programming is offered ranging from free / low cost programs and events to fees that are comparable to other youth services in the City. This will ensure that all youth are able to access some level of youth programming.

The City also utilizes the support of the R.E.A.L program to subsidize fees for children in families living on lower incomes. This includes youth from Newcomer/immigrant families. In addition, the Recreation Division works in partnership with other youth-serving agencies to extend the reach of programming and services including youth from Newcomer and immigrant families.

In preparation for the opening of new city-operated recreation facilities in the coming future, the Recreation Division is reviewing youth programs offered in similar facilities across Canada, with the goal of creating youth- friendly environments. This will include the ability to offer membership packages, free drop in services and a broader range of youth programs and services.

These efforts will undoubtedly reap positive benefits for the target population, but the Committee respectfully puts forward that there is a population of youth who would not engage in these programs and services, given their unique and difficult circumstances which create distrust of formal systems and structures. This population of at-risk youth is not only at-risk of being drawn into criminal activity but equally importantly they are at risk of being victims of crime.

## **5.1 Engaging and supporting at-risk youth**

As the City of St. John’s considers strategic priorities to address crime and crime prevention in the City it is critical that any strategy include an intensive and targeted approach towards individuals who are most at-risk to commit crimes. Research identifies that individuals are most at-risk of committing crime if they are marginalized due to, for example, low-self-esteem, mental illness, addictions, poverty, homelessness, lack of positive role models, transitioning out of institutional care and/or exposure to violence. Increasing evidence shows that intervention targeting risk factors can be *effective* and *cost- effective* in reducing crime and other social problems.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The Role of Local Government in Community Safety - International Centre for the Prevention of Crime. Available from [http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/Evenements/20\\_ans\\_du\\_CIPC/Role\\_of\\_Gov\\_in\\_Comm\\_Safety\\_2001.pdf](http://www.crime-prevention-intl.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Evenements/20_ans_du_CIPC/Role_of_Gov_in_Comm_Safety_2001.pdf).



Statistics Canada 2013 shows that youth crime in Newfoundland and Labrador is roughly 12 percent higher than the national rate. In focusing on crime prevention and creating safe communities, the City's strategy must include supporting children and youth who are at the highest risk for offending. Council can play a part in working with front-line community organizations and the private sector to address this problem in a meaningful way.

### ***Supporting youth-serving agencies***

*It is recommended that the City consider ways and means of supporting community organizations that are effectively working with at-risk youth and creating opportunities for positive engagement of their target groups. Suggestions include:*

- *Inviting community-based youth-serving agencies to provide an overview of their programs and services with a focus on initiatives which are demonstrating evidence-based positive outcomes with at-risk youth. Council can then consider how it could support those programs which are clearly contributing to creating safe communities. For example, there could be a focus on providing more support to existing initiatives via city grants program through providing a special category on “youth and safety programming”.*
- *Identify with the Recreation Division and youth-serving agencies mechanisms and opportunities for engaging at-risk youth in recreation activities which meet their needs. The youth in question are not generally receptive to engagement in regularly scheduled programming as their lives are often in chaos and not amenable to such structure. Flexibility and creativity will be demanded in enabling this youth engagement.*

## **5.2 Mayor's Advisory Committee on Youth (M.A.C.Y)**

M.A.C.Y is continuing to focus on youth engaging in drugs and driving as one of their primary areas of concern. The Committee is planning a Workshop on this issue for late October or early November 2015. The goal of the workshop is to assist with the campaign against drugs and driving, from a youth perspective. M.A.C.Y youth representatives want to know from youth themselves how this campaign should look, sound, be delivered and who to target. It is hoped that the Workshop will attract 60 youth from schools, community centres and other youth agencies.

At this early planning stage, it is expected that sessions for the Workshop will include:

- RNC presentation on Drugs and Driving
- M.A.C.Y led discussion and activity on Campaign against Drugs and Driving

## *Ongoing support to M.A.C.Y*

*The Committee commends the work of M.A.C.Y and encourages Council to continue to support and encourage their efforts.*

## **6.0 Creating a Safe Downtown for Residents, Business Owners, Patrons and Visitors**

### **6.1 Awareness campaign**

In a Customer Usage and Attitude Survey conducted in 2008 and most recently in a Downtown St. John's Membership Study 2010, respondents felt downtown St. John's was a safe place to visit, work, live and do business. However, livability crimes and property crimes were highlighted as an issue and on the rise.

In the last number of years, Downtown St. John's indicates they have seen an increasing number of livability crimes such as aggressive panhandling, public consumption of alcohol and drugs and violence. It is also felt that property crime is increasing at an alarming rate with commercial, residential and private property falling victim to, for example, graffiti vandalism, property damage and vehicle break-ins.

Studies have proven improved lighting reduces the risk of these types of crime. Efforts are currently underway by the City to improve lighting in the downtown. LED lighting upgrades to street lights, more effective property lighting and CCTV throughout the area will help reduce crime.

There is an opportunity to develop and promote safe practices for all users of the Downtown with a focus on addressing the issues of property and livability crimes. Safe practices such as utilizing secure parking; parking in well lit, high traffic areas; and securing valuable items out of sight need to be promoted jointly.

### *Enhancing individual and property safety in the Downtown*

*It is recommended that the City, in concert with the Joint Committee of Council and the Downtown Development Commission and the RNC, collaborate on the development and implementation of an awareness campaign focused on increasing individual and property safety in the downtown core.*

*It is recommended that the City, in concert with the Joint Committee of Council and the Downtown Development Commission, the RNC and Neighbourhood Watch program staff,*

*investigate the feasibility of initiating a "Neighbourhood Business Watch" program in the downtown.*

## **6.2 Dispersing patrons from George Street at closing time**

A significant issue contravening safety on George Street occurs at bar-closing time when hundreds of patrons are dispersed into a small and relatively enclosed space at the one time. It has been the RNC's observations that the large number of patrons that empty into the streets during the late night hours are very slow to move away due to, for example, these individuals accessing the mobile food vendors and vying for taxis in one area.

Another issue which impacts congestion in this area in the late night hours is vehicles dropping off/picking up persons along the west end of George Street from Queen Street to Adelaide Street. All of these factors, coupled with the different levels of intoxication by drug and/or alcohol, have resulted in incidents such as assault, causing a disturbance and malicious damage. Further, the congestion has resulted in access for Emergency Response Vehicles and police vehicles being constrained.

The RNC specifically identifies that if the City can implement a well-planned public/patron dispersion strategy in the downtown core, in particular for George Street, it will greatly reduce the incidents of crime in that area, especially between midnight and the bar closing hours and facilitate safety for all involved.

### ***Pilot project for taxi queues***

*It is recommended that the City undertake a pilot project in concert with the taxi industry to streamline dispersal of patrons from George Street and Water Street at bar closing times. It is suggested that the queuing system for taxis in the area be redesigned. Specifically, it is suggested that the existing taxi queue be removed from George Street and that a taxi queue be approved on both New Gower Street and Water Street. A queue on New Gower Street could accommodate patrons heading east (this would reduce the number of patrons trying to cross over four lanes of traffic). Another queue in the area of William Chafe's store would accommodate the patrons heading west. These "Taxi Only" parking queues would be set up for specific times, i.e. 10 p.m. to 4 a.m., thus not interfering with normal business operations in the downtown core.*

### ***Relocate mobile vendors***

*It is recommended that the City relocate the mobile vendors from George Street and/or restrict their hours as this would greatly assist the dispersion of patrons. If the vendors are relocated, new locations must be well-lit.*

### ***Additional street closure***

*It is recommended that the west end of George Street between Queen Street and Adelaide Street be closed from 10 p.m. – 4 a.m. to restrict vehicular traffic in this area.*

## **6.3 Municipal alcohol policies<sup>4</sup>**

One issue on which there were conflicting opinions from downtown stakeholders consulted by the MAACP is the issue of bar closing hours. The following provides a brief overview on the relationship between bar closing time, alcohol outlet density and crime. This issue is of particular interest as the City identifies crime prevention activities for the downtown region of the City where there is a recognized higher density of outlets.

Substantial international research demonstrates that high-alcohol outlet density and extended hours and days of alcohol sales are associated with high-risk drinking and alcohol-related problems. Effective policies are needed to regulate access and overall consumption, thereby reducing high-risk drinking linked to crime, social ills and chronic disease. Controlling alcohol consumption deserves a place on the municipal policy agenda.

There is a culture of over-consumption of alcohol in Newfoundland. The province's rate of heavy drinking, defined as five drinks or more on one occasion for a man, and four or more for a woman, is higher than the national average. In Newfoundland, we also consume and purchase more alcohol per/person than any other province. The World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that alcohol ranks second out of 26 risk factors for death, disease and disability with only tobacco causing more harm in high-income nations like Canada. Health and enforcement costs outweigh provincial/territorial revenues from alcohol in almost all provinces and territories.

The relationship between alcohol and harm to others is evident not only in regard to drinking and driving, but also in areas such as interpersonal violence, assault, sexual assault, child abuse, injuries and trauma. Alcohol contributes to a substantial percentage of suicides and other examples of deliberate self-harm such as victimization, family violence, relationship and financial problems.

A considerable body of research in criminology, economics and public health documents an association between alcohol availability, alcohol consumption and crime. Though much of the literature is focused on violent crime, many studies have also examined the link between alcohol and property crimes, nuisance crime and crimes that result directly from alcohol consumption, such as driving under the influence. Most of these studies have found a large and statistically

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<sup>4</sup> Sources used to inform this section are found in Appendix "C".

significant relationship between crime and alcohol consumption, liquor outlet density and liquor outlet closing time.

Minor restrictions in closing hours for on-premise alcohol sales could be an effective measure to curb night-time crime in city areas including entertainment districts. Long-term Australian research looking at the relationship between consumption, harm and hours of alcohol purchases for licensed premises in Australia has consistently demonstrated that extended hours of licensed establishments are associated with increased levels of consumption and/or harm. There is also a significant body of knowledge that supports staggering (on a rotating basis) the hours of operation of alcohol licenses in areas that have high outlet density such as George Street. The findings also provide evidence-based arguments against the relaxation of the trading hours that is commonly promoted by the industry.

In one Norwegian study, each additional 1-hour extension to the opening times of premises selling alcohol was associated with a 16% increase in violent crime. In a recent systematic review of 44 studies (published from 2000 to 2008) the majority of studies reviewed found that alcohol outlet density and hours and days of sale impacted variables including overall alcohol consumption, drinking patterns, and damage from alcohol.

In Windsor, Ontario, a study was conducted for four years before and three years after policy change for extended bar hours. After drinking hours were extended, results showed a significant increase in monthly motor vehicle casualties and crime occurring between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. Similarly, in Western Australia, research found that there is a relationship between the extension of closing times and an increase in assaults and impaired driving.

Policy options available to Newfoundland and Labrador municipalities to restrict bar hours fall under the Newfoundland Liquor Control Act. In Newfoundland and Labrador, licensed facilities have regulated hours of sales between 9:00am-2:00am with hours of consumption extended to 2:30am. Extended licenses are also available and allow hours of sale until 3:00am with hours of consumption set at 3:30am.

Generally, municipalities can, and do, use development agreements as a way to set bar/lounge hours. A development agreement acts as a contract between the municipality and business. In the agreement, the municipal unit sets out the conditions for operation of the business or facility. For example, the Town of Wolfville, Nova Scotia sets hours of operation for licensed establishments in the Municipal Planning Strategy and restricts the closing time to 1 a.m. rather than the provincial regulation of 2 a.m. This requirement is also included in a development agreement for a lounge. The town is engaged in a collaborative process with the local university, the business community and other stakeholders to identify potential opportunities to enhance community health and safety.

### ***Creating a municipal alcohol policy***

*It is recommended that the City undertake a jurisdictional review related to municipal alcohol policies in other Canadian towns/cities with a view to creating its own policy. It is recognized that there would have to be a balance with the business and economic interests, but the health and safety of the residents of the City are paramount. Documents which could inform this review include:*

- *Nova Scotia: Municipal Alcohol Policies - Options for Nova Scotia Municipalities*
- *Ontario: Promoting Healthy Communities – A Framework for Alcohol Policy and Public Health in Ontario*
- *British Columbia: A Local Government Guide to Creating Municipal Alcohol Policy*

## **7.0 Reporting Crime**

Lack of reporting on crime was a common theme across focus groups. Crime can go unreported for various reasons including concern about being identified and subsequently targeted for such reporting. It was noted that some business owners may not be reporting petty crime because the process to so do is considered onerous and time-consuming.

It is extremely important for all incidents of crime to be reported regardless of how insignificant a crime may be perceived. If crimes go unreported the Policing community does not have the data/evidence it needs to effectively allocate its resources to address this criminal activity.

### ***Raising awareness of the critical importance of reporting on crime***

*The City should engage in discussions with the RNC in relation to ways and means to encourage reporting on crime in the City, e.g., through an awareness campaign. Key messages of such a campaign would be safe ways to report and the critical nature of such reporting to appropriate allocation of police resources. Of note, the City's Neighbourhood Watch program may assist in planning such a campaign as they are "on-the-ground" and can speak to the concerns articulated by residents in relation to reporting crime.*

*Further, a discussion on reporting crime could be held during the Neighbourhood Forum referenced previously.*

## 8.0 Conclusion

The MACCP respectfully submits that, on provision of the report and recommendations to Council, it has met its mandate. In retrospect, we believe that perhaps we should have been identified as a Task Force/Working Group on Crime Prevention with a set time frame for activity, rather than an Advisory Committee with an ongoing mandate. The recommendations contained herein detail a road map for Council for enhancing community safety.

It is important to restate that community safety is not the responsibility of one entity, body or governing body. It is a shared responsibility - but one which requires significant leadership. We encourage Council to link with new and/or long-standing committees on crime prevention to explore other opportunities for collaborative activity. Such bodies include the Premier's Advisory Council on Crime and Community Safety and the St. John's Citizens Crime Prevention Committee.

More broadly, the City can also advocate to senior governments to invest in the protective factors which prevent crime - e.g., poverty reduction, violence prevention, housing stability, early childhood development, healthy aging, recovery-oriented mental health services and inclusion of persons with disabilities. At the end of the day, these are the factors which individuals, families, neighbourhoods and communities value most and which contribute to keeping us safe.

## **APPENDIX A – Terms of Reference for the MACCP**

### **Terms of Reference for the MACCP Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention Terms of Reference**

#### **1. Purpose**

The Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention (MACCP) provides information and advice to the St. John’s Municipal Council on crime prevention issues that affect the City, as referred by Council or Committees of Council, or as initiated by the Committee or the community.

#### **2. Responsibilities and Duties**

The Mayor’s Advisory Committee shall be responsible for:

- A. Advising and making recommendations to Council or to a standing committee of Council, in a manner that will support the mandates of various Departments, concerning but not limited to the following areas:
  - i. Citizen safety and responsibility;
  - ii. Neighbourhood Strategies, (e.g. Neighbourhood Watch) ;
  - iii. Environmental planning and design;
  - iv. Vulnerable sectors , (e.g. youth at risk, elderly);
  - v. Vandalism, (e.g. graffiti, property damage);
  - vi. Social Development, (e.g. parenting skills, mental health issues); and,
  - vii. Innovative approaches to crime prevention.
- B. Providing a key communication and working link between Council and the community on matters relevant to crime prevention within the City limits.
- C. Preparing, with the assistance of staff, an annual written report to Council on the Committee’s activities and achievements for the preceding year, and an outline of its goals and objectives for the coming year.
- D. Advising on ways to increase public awareness of and commitment to issues related to crime prevention.
- E. Carrying out other tasks as may be approved or requested by Council.



### 3. **Composition/Membership**

- A. The Committee will consist of twelve (12) members comprising:
- i. Two (2) representatives of Council;
  - ii. Representation from the following organizations, who shall nominate alternates:
    1. Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
    2. St. John's Citizens Crime Prevention Committee
    3. Eastern Health
    4. School District
  - iii. Representation from four (4) other community organizations whose mandates include crime prevention and/or safety, who shall nominate alternates;
  - iv. Two (2) residents of the City appointed by Council, at least one of whom shall be between the ages of 18 and 35;
  - v. The Chair of the Committee shall be appointed by Council;
  - vi. Staff support and advice will be provided by the Department of Community Services, and other Departments, as required;
  - vii. Administrative support will be provided by the Office of the City Clerk;
  - viii. Other groups or organizations may be asked on occasion to nominate a representative on a temporary or permanent basis, as the Committee and Council deems necessary or appropriate;

Appointments to the Committee shall be made by Council at a Regular Meeting.

- B. The term of membership is up to four (4) years, with the option for organizational representatives to be recommended by their respective boards for reappointment as each board sees fit; ideally to be completed on a rotational basis.
- C. Attendance at scheduled meetings of the MACCP is expected. Members unable to attend a scheduled meeting shall inform the Committee Recording Secretary as soon as possible. A member missing three (3) consecutive meetings without cause shall be deemed to have resigned or forfeited his/her membership, unless the absence is approved by the MACCP.

#### **4. Meetings**

- A. Meetings shall be held a minimum of four (4) times a year, in accordance with a schedule established annually at the first meeting of the year. Special meetings shall be held at the call of the Chair or at the request of any three (3) members.
- B. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority, (50% + 1) of the total voting (non- staff) members.
- C. Whenever possible, decision-making will be by consensus. When a vote is necessary, a simple majority of those present will carry the question/motion. In the event of a tie, the Chair will cast the deciding vote.
- D. In the event a decision is required between regular MACCP meetings, the Chair will cause the Committee to be polled and, if required, make an informed decision on the results of the poll.

#### **5. Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality**

- A. In cases where the Committee agenda or Committee discussions present a conflict of interest for a member, that member is required to declare such conflict; to abstain from discussion; and remove himself/herself from the meeting room until the agenda item has been dealt with by the Committee.

(Definition) Conflict of Interest occurs when a Committee member participates in discussion or decision-making about a matter which may financially benefit that member or a member of his/her family, or someone with whom the Committee member has a close personal relationship, directly or indirectly, regardless of the size of the benefit.

- B. All Committee members are required to refrain from the use or transmission of any confidential or privileged information while serving with the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention.

## APPENDIX B – List of the MACCP’s members

Mayor’s Advisory Committee on Crime Prevention	
Ms. Marie Ryan	Chairperson
City of St. John’s Municipal Council	
Councillor Art Puddister	City of St. John’s
Councillor Jonathan Galgay	City of St. John’s
Community Organizations	
Deputy Chief Ab Singleton	Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (2014)
Deputy Chief Jim Carroll	Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (2015)
Kelly Piercey	St. John’s Citizens Crime Prevention Committee
David Dyer	Eastern School District
Wayne Bishop	Eastern Health
Cindy Murphy	John Howard Society
Wayne Follett	NL Housing
Angela Crockwell	Thrive
Darlene Scott	Community Sector Council
Sarah McHugh-Wade	Citizen Representative
City of St. John’s Staff Advisors	
Heather Hickman	Department of Recreation
Brian Head	Parks & Open Spaces, Public Works
Gordon Tucker	Planning, Development & Engineering
Victoria Etchegary	Office of Strategy & Engagement

## **APPENDIX C – References for the “Municipal Alcohol Policy” Discussion**

Note: this has not yet been adopted by Council.

## References:

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