



Tseshahat First Nation

March 10, 2021

Port Alberni RCMP
4444 Morton St
Port Alberni BC V9Y 4M8
Telephone: 250-723-2424
Fax: 250-724-8986

Sent by email: Dionne, Peter peter.dionne@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Rochette, Eric eric.rochette@rcmp-grc.gc.ca
Donahue, Jay Jay.Donahue@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

RE: Letter of Expectation

This is the Letter of Expectation (LOE) between the Tseshahat First Nation and the Port Alberni RCMP Detachment. This LOE is intended to define and promote positive and cooperative working relations and aids in the clarification of the policing relationship. The goal is to ensure that the Tseshahat First Nation receives dedicated and responsive First Nation Community Policing over and above existing core policing provided by the RCMP.

This is a living document and will be reviewed and update as required, **or at least annually**, in order to address the Tseshahat First Nation priorities.

Priorities

The priorities for the year 2021 as identified through meetings between the RCMP and the Tseshahat First Nation are as follows:

1. Children, Youth and Families

- a. Working collaboratively with USMA and RCMP and increase communications to ensure nothing or no one falls through the cracks
- b. Stronger understanding and closer working relationship
- c. Creating a better understanding of investigations
- d. Regular meetings to discuss at risk youth, youth struggling or other prevention
- e. Communication increased with Tseshahat, USMA and Ministry on those with parents who are struggling
- f. Update phone call/ "heads up"

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Tseshahat.com

2. Mental Health, Opioid Crisis and those at-risk or vulnerable

- a. More frequent meetings
- b. Presentations to staff, council and community
- c. Understanding of how investigations proceed, work and help everyone understand the process, policy and steps required
- d. Explore potential supports for crisis calls
- e. Information sharing and updates on resources available to Tseshahat both on and off-reserve
- f. Regular meeting with RCMP, Tseshahat staff and Tseshahat mental health supports/counsellor(s)

3. Community and Traffic Safety

- a. RCMP notification process/system of emergency situations happening on-reserve (TBD)
- b. RCMP support, advice, communication process for **COVID-19 Wellness Checkpoint/Wellness Patrol staff** starting in Feb/March 2021 (reporting to RCMP of suspicious behaviour, ensure markers/visibility is important, amber lights)

Action Plan

The following is the Action Plan(s) to accomplish the priorities as agreed to by both parties:

1. Communication

- a) Community Consultative Group (TBD)- Staff, Council, community member (at least once a year)
- b) Monthly vulnerable/ at-risk Tseshahat members meeting/check-in (Usma, BC Mental Health, RCMP, MCFD, Quu-asa etc. and other stakeholders)
- c) Quarterly meetings with Tseshahat First Nation Chief and Council
- d) Regular check-in with appropriate staff on at minimum monthly basis
- e) When possible, provide Tseshahat administration with heads up of emergency potential situations in community
- f) The RCMP will provide monthly Aboriginal policing reports for the Tseshahat First Nation community.
- g) RCMP provide quarterly or bi-monthly Facebook video education and information updates on various topics through Tseshahat communications on Tseshahat Facebook page and/or Tseshahat Community Zoom engagements on different topics every month
- h) RCMP members will work closely with Chief and Council and Tseshahat Administration to resolve community policing problems and to support community policing priorities.
- i) RCMP patrols regularly of community on-reserve
- j) Explore other ways to create a Tseshahat presence and celebrate the work that RCMP with members, especially those off-reserve/living in town
- k) Tseshahat provide space for **“Tseshahat 101”** Workshop once developed and implemented (history of Tseshahat, ‘Creation to Now’)

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2. Mental Health, Opioid Crisis and those at-risk/vulnerable

- a) Monthly vulnerable/ at-risk Tseshaht members meeting/check-in (Usma, BC Mental Health, RCMP, MCFD, Quu-asa etc. and other stakeholders)
- b) Explore and advocate for funding to support the need for a Tseshaht/ mental health outreach in downtown Port Alberni

3. Children, Youth and Families

4. Monthly vulnerable/ at-risk Tseshaht members meeting/check-in (Usma, BC Mental Health, RCMP, MCFD, Quu-asa etc. and other stakeholders)
 - a) Participate in youth/community activities several times per year. (note COVID-19 restrictions)
 - b) Regular school visits to all schools attended by Tseshaht First Nation youth (note COVID-19 restrictions)
 - c) Participation in youth group activities including the Tseshaht Warrior Program (note COVID-19 restrictions)
 - d) Participation in special community events, such as potlatches, Halloween party, Christmas Party and other cultural events /activities (note COVID-19 restrictions)

5. Community and Traffic Safety

- a) Tseshaht to consider developing a *Community Safety Plan* and invite RCMP to support/participate
- b) RCMP provide safety and security advice once a year to improve security and safety
- c) RCMP work with volunteer **community speed reader/radar board** group to come to Tseshaht “Boom” and Tseshaht highway near “pump stations/billboards”
- d) RCMP staff potentially attend cultural safety and humility training with recommendations of workshops from Tseshaht

Thanks for your time and consideration. We look forward to working together with the local Port Alberni RCMP and Indigenous policing team/staff. We look forward to reviewing this in partnership with you one year from now on March 10, 2022.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me(250-720-6100 or kenwatts@tseshaht.com).

Kleco, Kleco



Wahmeesh (Ken Watts), Elected Chief Councillor

CC- Tseshaht Administration, Elected Council and Ha'wiih

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