



Meeting Highlights

February 19, 2026

Grande Prairie Police Service Transition Update

Recruit Training Class #3 is on track for graduation on March 13, 2026

The development of the Records Management System (RMS) continues. Canadian-specific system configurations are being finalized, and a comprehensive charge table is being built to include federal, provincial, and municipal offences, with appropriate coding for statistical reporting. Technical planning continues to ensure proper file submission to the Canadian Centre for Justice and Community Safety Statistics. Twelve GPPS forms are ready for import into Axon, GIS integration is underway, and additional engineering resources have been secured to support CPIC integration. A training version of Axon Records has been prepared for Recruit Training Class #4.

Operational coordination has also advanced. A mutually agreed-upon RCMP member transfer schedule is in place to align with GPPS recruitment and deployment timelines. Work continues with the City of Grande Prairie to establish a joint dispatch centre in partnership with GP911. Executive leadership remains present at the detachment to support members. Additional initiatives include procurement of the first Forensic Identification Section van, development of an RFP for FIS equipment, exploration of virtual reality firearms training with Lethbridge Polytechnic, and collaboration with local Crown prosecutors to improve disclosure processes using Axon records.

Grande Prairie Police Service Engagements

- Chief Lakusta attended engagement sessions with the Alberta Centre to End Human Trafficking January 27-28th in Calgary. Several best practices were identified and the establishment of key contacts to support the development of the Community Safety and Wellness Board (CSWB) model in Grande Prairie.
- A meeting to discuss the CSWB plan took place between Deputy Minister Evan Romanow, Chief Lakusta, Superintendent Respet, and Senior Strategic Advisor Melissa Byers.
- On February 3rd, Chief Lakusta attended the annual winter Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police (AACP). It included sessions between Chiefs and the Alberta Crown Prosecution Services to discuss areas of interests and shared concerns.
- On February 4th, Chief Lakusta attended the quarterly ALERT Board meeting in Sherwood Park.

Native Counselling Services of Alberta – Indigenous Courtwork Program Presentation

The Commission was pleased to receive a presentation from Laurie Emin, Melody Parker, and Britany Ghostkeeper of Native Counselling Services of Alberta (NCSA). NCSA provides Courtworkers in courthouses throughout Alberta who offer free support to Indigenous individuals involved in Criminal, Family, and Youth Court matters.

Courtworkers assist clients in understanding charges and court procedures and may speak on their behalf in court. In criminal matters, they provide information about bail, adjournments, pleas, and sentencing. In family matters, they offer guidance related to Children's Services investigations, court orders, and Circle processes. They also support participation in Youth Justice Committees and Extra Judicial Sanctions, assist with completing required forms, and provide information about Legal Aid and legal counsel. Additionally, Courtworkers help clients understand court-imposed conditions and agreements and connect them with appropriate community resources, including treatment centres, parenting programs, life skills training, education, and employment services.

CSWB Presentation

The presentation by Sr. Strategic Advisor Melissa Byers provided an overview of Community Safety and Wellbeing (CSWB) initiatives as of February 19, 2027, highlighting alignment with the Police Act and Alberta Provincial Police Priorities. It outlined a structured approach focused on proactive crime prevention, early intervention, diversion and recidivism reduction, mental health and addictions response integration, and coordinated system stabilization pathways. Emphasis was placed on reducing repeat harm, strengthening collaboration across justice, health, recovery, and social systems, and embedding measurable outcomes into service delivery to enhance public confidence. The presentation also identified next steps, including integrating CSWB principles into frontline policing, formalizing roles in prevention and victim response, strengthening partnerships and referral pathways, and implementing clear performance measures and transparent reporting.