



### **A warm welcome from our new CEO**

It is an honour and a privilege to lead the PRC, an organization with such a meaningful public service mandate. Establishing a new agency is not a simple feat, particularly while managing incoming work, building teams, and developing new processes. Since joining the PRC on June 8th, I have seen an organization that is working hard to get it right. There has already been meaningful progress in setting a strong foundation for the PRC's work, and that is due to the dedication of the people involved.

At the same time, we know this is very much a work in progress. As with any new organization, some processes are still evolving, and we are continuing to refine how we do our work. That is both expected and necessary. We are listening carefully to what we hear from our partners and the broader community, and we are committed to responsiveness and continuous improvement.

Your perspectives are important in helping us strengthen our approach and ensure we are meeting our mandate in a way that is transparent, consistent, fair, and effective.

Since joining the PRC, my immediate focus has been on learning. I'm taking time to understand our processes and meet with staff across the organization to hear directly about their work, what is going well, and where there are opportunities to improve. I am also looking ahead to

connecting more directly with services, commissioners, associations, organizations, and communities across the province. Building those relationships is a priority for me, and I look forward to those conversations in the months ahead.

Thank you for your continued interest in and support of the PRC's work. We will continue to share updates as we build on the progress made to date.

Katherine Murphy  
Chief Executive Officer

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### **PRC sets clearer rules for date of birth information**

We have released a new CEO Rule: *Access to Date of Birth Information*. This rule establishes clear direction on how date of birth information may be accessed, used, and protected across the organization.

Date of birth is considered sensitive personal information. This rule reinforces our commitment to privacy, ensuring that access is limited to authorized purposes only and handled securely and responsibly. It outlines when access is appropriate, who may access the information, and the safeguards required to protect it from unauthorized use or disclosure.

For more details, please review the full [CEO Rules on our website](#).





### **PRC Explores Tsuut'ina Peacemaking Program to Inform Resolution Approach**

On June 16<sup>th</sup> Loni Heavenfire, Peacemaker Coordinator with the Tsuut'ina Peacemaking Program, provided the south resolution team a tour of Tsuut'ina's Peacemaker Courthouse, and a presentation of their Peacemaking program. Their restorative approach is inspiring in repairing relationships, ensuring accountability, and addressing root causes bringing people into the justice system. The visit provided valuable insights that will help inform the continued development of PRC's resolution approach and incorporating more culturally diverse resolution practices.



### **PRC joins national conversations on police oversight**

PRC staff were pleased to contribute to this year's Canadian Association for Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement (CACOLE) Conference in Saskatoon, joining oversight professionals from across the country to share knowledge and strengthen practice.

PRC Executive Director of Corporate Services Jessica Thomson and Director of Resolution Deanna Frey participated in a panel alongside legal counsel with the Calgary Police Association and Brenna Barrett, Executive Director of the Edmonton Police Association. Together, they explored trauma-informed investigations, and the value of this approach

for the public, individuals involved, and subject officers alike.

PRC staff also contributed to key discussions shaping the future of police oversight. ASIRT Acting Executive Director, Matthew Block presented on recent legal updates, and ASIRT Investigator Tom Hewitt shared insights on bridging trust and accountability, including the important role of Indigenous community liaisons in strengthening police oversight across Canada.



### **Elders advise PRC on culture, history and community**

In early June, Elders and PRC staff came together in Red Deer to learn, connect, and collaborate.

Six months into our work as an agency, the guidance of Elders remains essential to our foundation. They bring knowledge grounded in culture, history and lived experience. Their teachings help us respect the people and communities we serve when taking on our day-to-day work, while linking policy, practice and community insight.

As we celebrate National Indigenous History Month in June, this gathering is a reminder of the importance of listening, learning, and working in a good way.

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### **Alberta Ombudsman meeting clarifies oversight roles**

Our team recently presented an overview of the Police Review Commission (PRC) to Kevin Brezinski, the Alberta Ombudsman, and staff at the Alberta Ombudsman's office.

The Alberta Ombudsman is an independent, impartial officer of the Legislative Assembly who investigates complaints of unfair treatment by provincial authorities, municipalities, and provincial organizations.

The Alberta Ombudsman can review concerns about administrative fairness in how the PRC handled a complaint, such as delays, communication, or whether proper procedures were followed. However, the Ombudsman does not re-investigate complaints, overturn findings, or substitute its decisions for those of the PRC. Formal appeals of certain PRC decisions are handled through the Law Enforcement Review Board.

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## Taber conference brings PRC together with police associations

PRC staff presented at the Alberta Federation of Police Associations Annual Conference and AGM in Taber at the end of May. Our team spent time with Alberta's municipal and First Nations police associations, shared a few updates and heard directly from association representatives.



## Local police commissions discuss important issues with PRC

We recently met (separately) with both the Camrose Police Commission and the Lakeshore Regional Police Commission to discuss the complaint and information-sharing processes, as well as the importance of improving communication, education, and in-person engagement across communities. Conversations around cultural context and reporting practices are critical as we continue to build and strengthen Alberta's police oversight model in a way that reflects and serves the communities we support.

Thank you to both commissions for your collaboration, insight and continued support — we look forward to building on this work together.

(Congratulations to Camrose Police Service Chief Dean LaGrange on his upcoming retirement after a long career in policing and public service!)



### **PRC recognizes Moose Hide Pin Day and Red Dress Day**

On May 5, PRC employees wore red to mark the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two-Spirit+ People (Red Dress Day). This day recognizes the ongoing, disproportionate violence faced by Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit+ people, and the lasting effects this history has on trust in public institutions.

On May 14, PRC employees participated in Moose Hide pin day. This campaign reminds us that gender-based violence remains widespread but preventable, and that Indigenous women are disproportionately impacted.

In our work, this means applying a trauma-informed and culturally aware approach, and ensuring concerns are received and assessed in ways that are respectful, fair, and safe. Acknowledging days of significance like Red Dress Day and Moose Hide Pin Day reinforces our commitment to accountability, community trust, and Indigenous perspectives within the public service.

## **Hong Kong Journey of Time festival connects PRC with Calgary residents**

The PRC team was at the Hong Kong Journey of Time festival in downtown Calgary meeting members of the public and answering their questions about our agency. The event was inspired by the vibrant culture of Hong Kong, with live music, traditional lion dances and street food. Thank you to the Hongkongers Association of Calgary for inviting us to this event and giving us an opportunity to connect with the community in such a fun and approachable way.



We also happily answered many questions about working for the PRC — a reminder that you can view open positions at the PRC by visiting the Careers page at [albertaprc.ca](http://albertaprc.ca).

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## **Police services workshop sparks practical conversations**

The PRC hosted leaders from police services across Alberta for a workshop focused on operational policies, shared processes and priorities.

One of the advantages of building something new is the opportunity to listen, learn and improve in real time.

The conversations were practical, candid and constructive — exactly the kind of



collaboration needed to support clear, fair and effective oversight across Alberta.

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### **PRC shares knowledge at the Slave Lake MMIP Symposium**

PRC Indigenous Liaison Dana Middleton and ASIRT Indigenous Liaison Officer Tom Hewitt attended the MMIP Symposium at the Slave Lake Friendship Centre where they presented on the police complaint process.

This symposium brought together advocates, presenters, and organizations to share knowledge on safety, investigations, and available supports relating to personal safety, missing persons process, homicide investigations, police complaint process, and community resources and supports.

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### **PRC Shares Early Insights at Alberta Police Governance Conference**

The PRC's Senior Manager of Community Connections, Jason van Rassel, and our Community and Commission Liaison, Ojemire (Benjamin) Daniel, attended the Alberta Association of Police Governance conference in Taber from May 28-30 to share an update on our first few months of operation.

We covered how the PRC operates and what governance bodies need to know, the role of public reporting and systemic reviews, and how we can build stronger connections between oversight bodies and communities.

Police commissions are an important link between police and their communities. We appreciated our dialogue with the AAPG prior to our launch, and the conference was an opportunity to continue that conversation, while also engaging face-to-face.

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### **Staff come together to learn, connect and look ahead**

PRC's all-staff event in early June offered a chance to connect as a team and centre our shared role in supporting public trust, fairness and accountability in police oversight. It was a meaningful start to the next chapter for Katherine and everyone at the PRC.

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