



NEUQUINN

CONSULTING

Caring-Connected-Communities

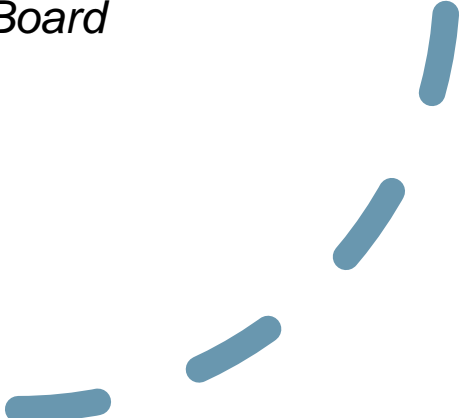
- Township of Esquimalt
- Committee of the Whole Report
- For the Meeting of June 20, 2022



Council 2019-2023 Strategic Priorities Plan

“efficiently and effectively provide local services and infrastructure”:

Work to achieve equitable costing and optimization of policing in Esquimalt:

- *Explore all possibilities to ensure compliance with Victoria and Esquimalt Police Framework Agreement*
 - *Review all alternatives for provision of police services to the community*
 - *Clarify and establish Esquimalt position on the Framework Agreement with Victoria & Esquimalt Police Board*
- 

Esquimalt Community Policing Engagement Strategy

Order in Council
amalgamating police
services

2003

2011

Request to have RCMP service was not supported by the Solicitor General = current Framework Agreement (FA) expires December 31, 2023

FA Notification
period

Fall 2022



Our process and methodology

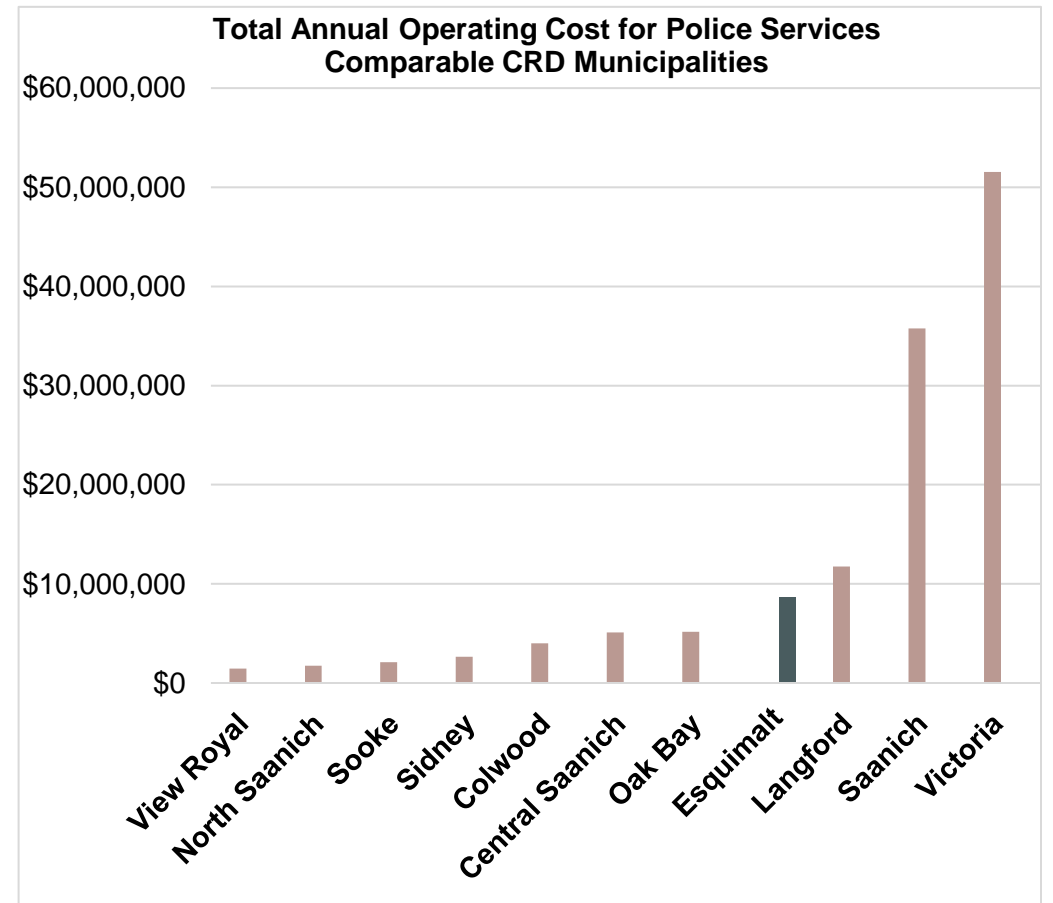
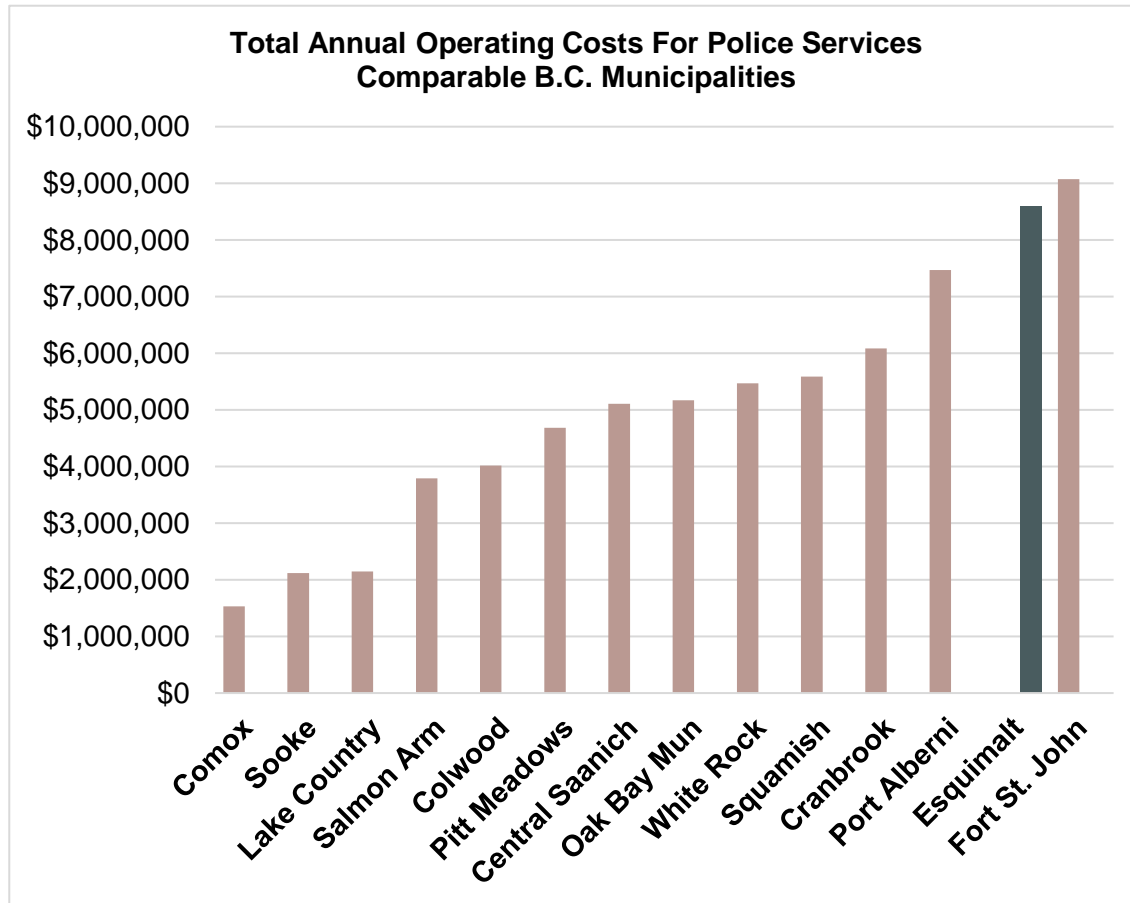
Assessing community experience with community policing services

*Research, analysis and what
we heard*



Value for Money

**13 comparable municipalities across
British Columbia with populations between
15,000 – 25,000 residents**

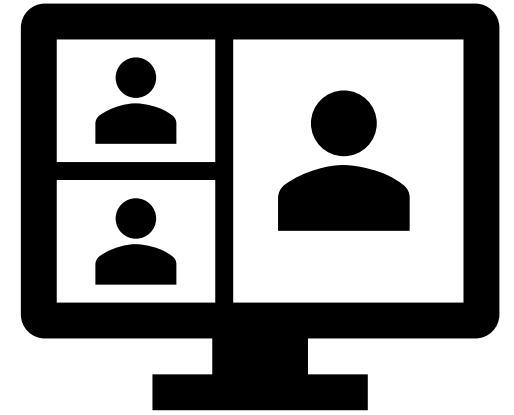


- 9,800 post cards mailed
- 8,700 Current Newsletter - online & print Nov & April
- Over 450 Web page view
- 4,800+ Facebook reach
- 6,200+ Facebook ad impression
- 650+ Twitter impressions
- 400+ Instagram posts

9,800

Post cards mailed

Community Engagement



473 survey respondents



6 individual interviews, 3 Focus Groups

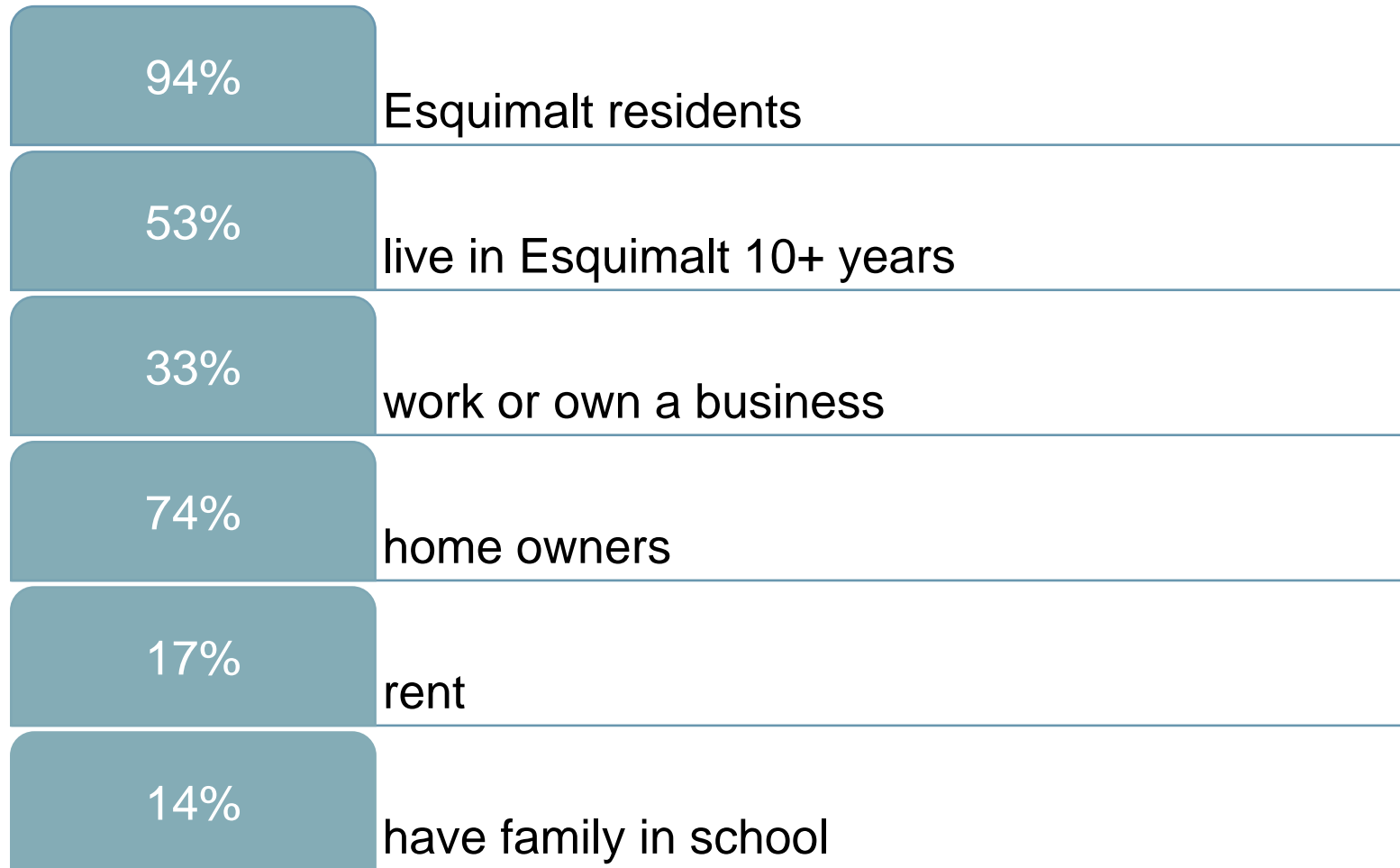


Estimated 50 Open House attendees

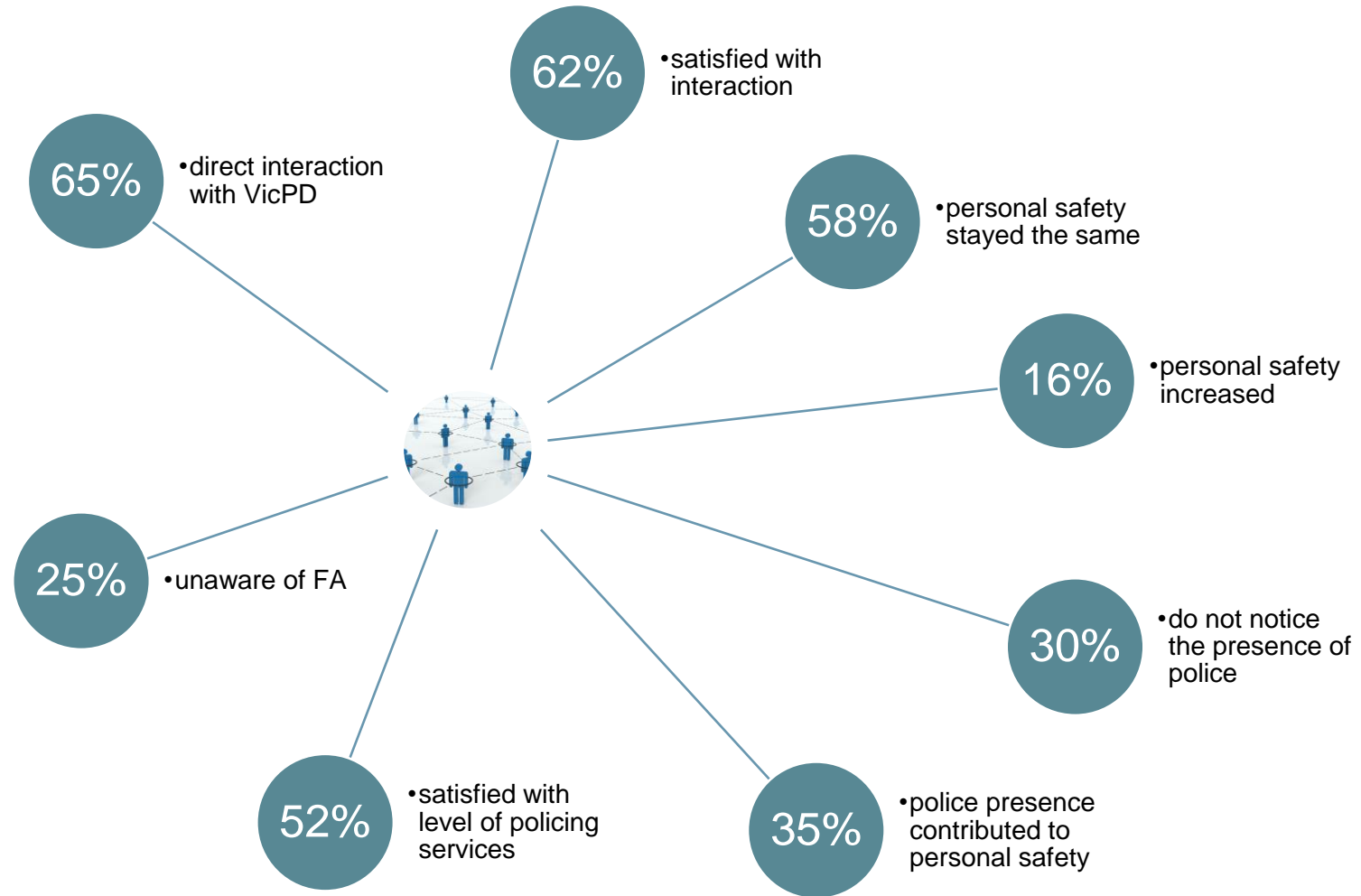


1,101 comments from 4 survey questions

473 Survey Respondents



473 Survey Respondents



Perception of Value for money

33% are very unsatisfied with benefits and costs of policing services

27% report being somewhat unsatisfied

8% were neutral on this question

74% support further view

We heard... *perception of community policing and feeling safe in Esquimalt was highly correlated to a sense of community and community connectedness*

What contributed to feelings of safety

- adequate lighting
- having people around
- presence of police
- a friendly and welcoming community

What could enhance feelings of safety

- officers further integrated into, and interacting with the community
- more out of their vehicle patrol, on bikes and in parks
- community watch programs such as block watch

What's needed

- additional information regarding the funding formula
- deeper level of analysis and data reporting
- clear communication on police-related issues and updates specific to Esquimalt
- higher visibility of police in non-emergency situations

What else we were told

- Esquimalt is a safe place to live, work and conduct business
- perceptions of safety to the "small town" lifestyle vs the presence of policing
- policing can contribute to overall feelings of safety, it is but one of many factors



Recommendations and Next Steps

Based on the comparative analysis and community feedback through the Community Policing Engagement Strategy, the following are recommended next steps for Esquimalt Administration and Council consideration.



Recommendation #1: **Provide notice to the Province of B.C.**

Provide notice to the Province of B.C. of the Township's desire to Elect Not to Extend the current Agreement under Section 2.3 of the Framework Agreement set to expire December 31, 2023, including rescinding the 2002 Order in Council amalgamating Victoria and Esquimalt police departments



Recommendation #2: Zero-Based Review

Conduct a Zero-Based Review to determine actual costs and resource allocations for the future policing model



Recommendation #3: One-Time Funding

Request the Province provide one-time funding of up to \$150,000 for the Township of Esquimalt to conduct the Zero-Based Review



Recommendation #4: Police Reform Act

Explore the 'Reforming Police Act' report



Recommendation #5

Communicate to Community

Communicate to the community the status of the current Framework Agreement and associated future work regarding an Esquimalt police model



Recommendation #6

Results-Based Accountability

Consider application of Results-Based Accountability to future on-going community surveys

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