

PRC Update

March 2026

Seeing the full picture: oversight in an era of complexity

A note from our CEO



Policing and oversight are community enterprises. They reflect the pressures, priorities and trust of the people they serve.

Lately, I've been thinking about how much more complex policing has become and what

that means for the cases we handle at the Police Review Commission. Understanding the environment in which police are making decisions helps us assess them fully and objectively.

In Alberta, that environment is increasingly complicated. Many serious matters we review involve some combination of mental health crisis, addiction and suicide risk. Often it isn't one issue. It's several — intersecting in ways that are urgent, unpredictable and deeply human.

These situations don't unfold in controlled settings. They unfold in homes, on streets, and in moments of acute vulnerability. They are not simple files, and they are not "just" policing matters. They are also health matters and social matters, and they reflect the realities facing families, service providers, and front-line responders across Alberta.

Oversight has to meet that reality with balance and clarity. Recognizing baseline complexity is the starting point. It shapes how we review evidence, assess decisions, and communicate outcomes.

Complexity demands rigour and consistency. That's why the professionals at the PRC approach each file with discipline: we examine the facts, test conclusions against policy and law, and document our reasoning clearly. As we gain experience, we will keep strengthening the structures that support this work.

Michael Ewenson, KC
Police Review Commission CEO

The numbers

We received **228** total submissions between Feb. 1, 2026 - Feb. 28, 2026. This includes submissions that were withdrawn, redirected, dismissed, and those awaiting classification. As we evolve, we will have the data to support additional reporting and context around the numbers.



Three new CEO rules released

Our work is governed by a hierarchy of processes and procedures, as set out in the *Police Act* and the *Police Conduct and Oversight Regulation*.

CEO rules offer more specific instructions on how we implement requirements set out in legislation. We've recently added three additional CEO rules to the website:

Releasing Information

This rule governs the process by which we may release information to the public about the findings of Level 1-3 complaints.

Traffic Related Complaints and Traffic Collisions

This rule allows the CEO to clearly define the scope and priorities of the PRC when handling traffic-related complaints and traffic collisions involving police officers.

Systemic Reviews

This rule governs how we conduct reviews into trends that emerge from police services, complaint data regarding the interactions between police officers and people in Alberta, as well as trends in complaint processing data and investigative findings that may indicate process challenges or inefficiencies.



For more details on CEO rules, visit the Rules and Regulations section of [this page](#) on our website.

PRC in the community

PRC staff attend the First Nations Police Governance Council conference



The FNPGC conference lineup of speakers included Mike Ellis, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services (L), Teddy Manywounds, chair of the FNPGC (above), and Chief Keith Blake of the Tsuut'ina Nation Police Service (R).



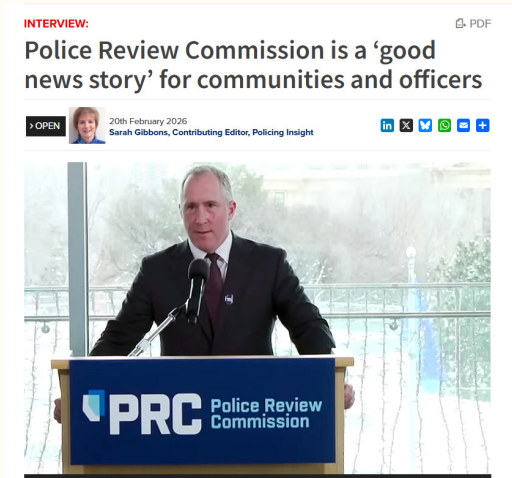
Several PRC staff members attended the First Nations Police Governance Council conference on Feb. 18 & 19 at Grey Eagle Resort & Casino in Calgary. The event was an engaging forum for FNPGC council members and community leaders to come together and discuss transformative approaches to First Nations police governance. There were sessions on sustainable funding models, culturally-grounded policing practices, and the integration of Treaty rights in public safety. Attendees had the opportunity to share insights, ask questions, and help shape the future of governance that truly reflects community values and aspirations. "As an Indigenous liaison, this conference provided a valuable opportunity to understand community perspectives, gather firsthand insights on emerging priorities, and integrate this knowledge into our ongoing work in the PRC," said Dana Middleton, the PRC's Indigenous liaison.

PRC presents to Alberta Advisory Council on the Francophonie

March is Francophonie month in Alberta, and Jason van Rassel, PRC's senior manager, community connections recently presented to the Alberta Advisory Council on the Francophonie (AACF) about engagement efforts with French-speaking Albertans by the PRC implementation team and dating back to the *Police Act* review of 2018-2021. The AACF is a 10-member body that advises the minister of Arts, Culture and Status of Women on implementing the province's French Policy. It ensures the francophone community has a voice in government, advocates for improving services in French, and fosters vitality for Alberta's French-speaking population.



PRC featured in UK publication *Policing Insight*



The PRC has made news across the pond with a feature in the UK trade publication *Policing Insight*. Contributing editor Sarah Gibbons interviewed PRC CEO Mike Ewenson about the "groundbreaking" launch of the PRC, and why it's a good news story for communities and officers.

Read more [here](#). (full article is paywalled)

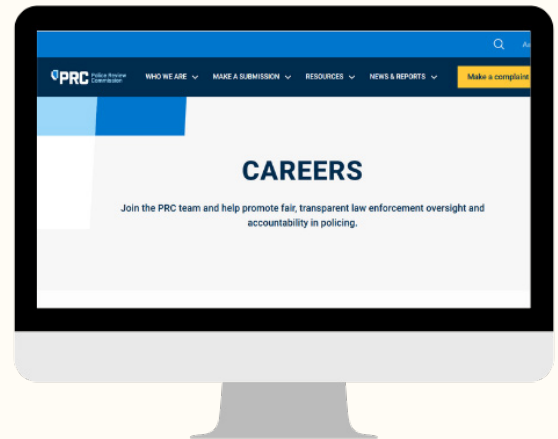
Careers page now live on alberataprc.ca

We've recently launched a careers page on our website with information on working for the PRC, and a link to open positions. As an arm's-length agency of the Government of Alberta (GOA), PRC employees are considered members of the Alberta Public Service, and enjoy all associated benefits.

The careers page also has information on becoming a presiding officer for disciplinary hearings. We're building a pool of qualified presiding officers to ensure police officers accused of misconduct have their case heard by a neutral third party.

Visit our careers page [here](#).

If you notice missing or incorrect information on our website, please contact us at prcmedia@gov.ab.ca.



Did you know?

We've added more paths on our website for users to submit compliments about a police officer or police service. Users can click **Send a compliment** from the **Make a Submission** drop down on the header menu, or click the **Send a compliment** button on the home page.

