



**EDMONTON COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION  
FINAL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**September 13, 2021  
7:00 PM  
Online via Google Meet**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Daniela O'Callaghan, at 7:05 pm.

**1. Roll Call, Recording of Attendance**

**Present:** Chair Daniela O'Callaghan, Vice-Chair Trevor Kelly  
Commission Members: Sandy Bugeja, Manav Deol,  
Graham Smith  
Executive Director, Troy Courtoreille  
Recorder, Tracey Poberznick

**Absent with Regrets:** Tye Babb, Kevin Malahy

**2. Call for Requests to Speak from the Public**

There were no requests to speak from the public.

**3. Adopt Agenda**

MOVED: That the agenda be adopted as presented. CARRIED

**4. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting**

MOVED: That the July 12, 2021, minutes be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

**5. Appeals Working Group Update**

The Working Group held its first meeting on September 7, 2021, with S. Bugeja, M. Deol and T. Kelly in attendance.

The first objective of the Appeals Working Group is to present to the Commission a recommendation and rationale on whether or not the Commission should maintain its jurisdiction to hear appeals or to request that the City of Edmonton transition this decision-making process to the Community Standards and Licensing Appeals Committee (CSLAC). Work will be divided into three key categories including resources and potential costs if an appeal was subject to judicial review, apprehension of bias and pros and cons of subject matter expertise. The working group plans to provide a written report to the Commission by December with findings and a recommendation to debate.

## **6. Stakeholder Engagement Working Group Update**

The update has been deferred to the October meeting when K. Malahy is in attendance.

G. Smith will connect with K. Malahy about retaining a stakeholder engagement consultant and revisit the timeline.

## **7. Promoter Inquiry - One Championship**

Mixed martial arts promoter, One Championship, contacted T. Courtoreille in July of 2021, about the possibility of Edmonton sanctioning an event.

MOVED: To accept the Executive Director's recommendation to have One Championship provide a presentation on their rule sets and what their intentions are promotion-wise with the understanding that this is an information-gathering session. The Executive Director would reach out to ABC counterparts to see if they have ever made a statement on these rule sets or on this particular promoter. CARRIED

## **8. Executive Director Report**

The Executive Director provided information on the history of Bare Knuckle Boxing and the risks associated with it.

MOVED: That the Commission will not be accepting applications for Bare Knuckle Boxing events at this time as the ECSC is completing a legal and policy analysis. CARRIED

MOVED: That the Commission (through the Executive Director) will request that the City's Law branch undertake an analysis of whether these types of events are legal and if the Commission has the authority to approve events of this nature. CARRIED

Information will be posted on the website indicating that the ECSC is not accepting applications for Bare Knuckle Boxing at this time.

T. Courtoreille will be transitioning out of the Executive Director's role within the next year.

Dr. Karpman, the Chief Medical Advisor, announced his resignation. T. Courtoreille will reach out to Dr. Terry DeFrietas who has expressed interest in stepping into the role and was recommended by Dr. Karpman. The website will be updated to acknowledge Dr. Karpman's service with the Commission.

MOVED: That the Executive Director arrange to recognize Dr. Karpman's contribution to the Commission for his years of service in an amount not to exceed \$600. CARRIED

### **COVID-19 Update**

The official's training refresher is tentatively scheduled for the end of September but may change depending on COVID. COMMAND instructors may be willing to make provisions to allow previously certified officials to do a one-day refresher course. There is a possibility of a province-wide training session for officials that the ECSC would sponsor. Working on the pool of officials is a priority.

There is uncertainty around approving a pro-boxing event in December at a City facility. Recommendations were provided but it is contingent on COVID-19 and the increasing case numbers.

T. Courtoreille is looking for input from physicians regarding requirements for contestants, officials and spectators. He is also working with the Government of Alberta.

Alberta Health Services will not provide recommendations on business standards for supporting the combative sports industry. The ECSC may need to default to City of Edmonton standards.

MOVED: That the written report from the Executive Director be accepted subject to the amendments as presented. CARRIED

### **9. Financial Statements – June 30 and July 31, 2021**

The June statement includes a refund of KO Boxing's promoter fee for an event cancelled due to extenuating circumstances.

The training deposit for the administrative tribunals training is included in the July statement.

MOVED: That the June 30 and July 31, 2021, Financial Statements be approved as presented.

CARRIED

## 10. Chair Report

The Chair discussed recent amendments to *Bylaw 18156* and its implications to Commission members. The Code of Conduct for members has also been approved by City Council.

Effective January 1 2022, Commission members will begin to receive honouraria. D. O'Callaghan will determine where the money will come from.

D. O'Callaghan and G. Smith received an invitation from the Penhold Commission to attend an event on September 24, 2021, at River Cree. G. Smith will provide a quick update at the next meeting.

The Chair reached out to John Barber with the Government of Alberta and asked to be added to the list of attendees for Alberta Commission meetings. It would be beneficial to have representation of an appointed member of the ECSC and be included in policy discussions. G. Smith offered to be an alternate along with T. Kelly.

The December meeting will be short, followed by dinner and a social. Commission members will be reimbursed for their meals.

MOVED: To receive the Chair's verbal report as presented.

CARRIED

## 11. Next Meeting - October 18, 2021

The next Commission meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on October 18, 2021.

S. Bugeja sends her regrets for the October meeting.

## 12. Adjournment

MOVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 pm.

I certify that the preceding minutes represent an accurate account of the proceedings at the Commission meeting on September 13, 2021.

**Daniela O'Callaghan**

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Daniela O'Callaghan, Chair

**10.23.2021**

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Date



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Tracey Poberznick, Recorder