Notes for RCMP Meeting May 15th

- The PSB would like to thank the RCMP for their continued partnership in keeping Island communities safe, particularly in their role supporting schools and other institutions that serve children and vulnerable populations. The PSB deeply appreciates the work already done by law enforcement to uphold safety and enforce background screening processes that many organizations rely on as a critical first line of defence.

- Recent events involving former substitute teacher Matthew Craswell have exposed serious gaps in our collective systems for screening and accountability. The PSB is committed to addressing these weaknesses with urgency, transparency, and collaboration.

- The PSB would like to work closely with RCMP to clarify what complaints need to be escalated to police versus those of less serious nature.

- We respectfully acknowledge that the RCMP plays an essential role in background checks, and we are hopeful you will support our call for reforms that can improve their effectiveness nationwide.

- **The PSB is advocating for the expansion of vulnerable sector checks to include interprovincial and international records. In this specific case, had such measures been in place, Craswell would not have been eligible for employment in our system.**

- **While we are addressing what we can within the education sector, the limitations of current background screening processes remain a systemic issue that requires broader federal and national policing support to resolve.**

- We are encouraged by the establishment of a formal inquiry led by former Chief Justice David Jenkins and are fully cooperating to ensure a comprehensive review of vulnerabilities and resource gaps.

- The PSB is committed to system-wide improvement and is sharing its experience in the hope that other institutions serving children across Canada can learn and adapt as well.

- We ask for our local RCMP's support in advocating for and implementing more thorough, cross-jurisdictional vulnerable sector checks as part of a national safety reform effort.

- This is a difficult moment, but also an opportunity to create lasting change. With your support, we believe we can make our communities safer and restore public confidence in the safeguards that protect our most vulnerable.

DRAFT