



'UNDER ATTACK'
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MONDAY, MARCH 27, 2023

PROUDLY CALGARY SINCE 1883

POSTMEDIA

NEWS

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Chestermere mayor slams report

Findings of municipal inspection a 'complete distortion of the facts'

MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ

Chestermere Mayor Jeff Colvin is taking aim at a province-ordered probe of his city's embattled government, lambasting the lengthy report and findings stemming from that investigation as a "fictional document" built on hearsay.

In a nearly half-hour-long video posted to the city's YouTube channel Saturday — answering what the city said were questions asked by residents about the report

— Colvin showed his battle with his provincial overseers isn't over. He again highlighted his frustrations with the investigation and made multiple pointed allegations at the province and the third-party inspector it appointed to conduct the probe.

"The report that we had was a complete distortion of the facts by (inspector) George Cuff and ... (Municipal Affairs Minister Rebecca Schulz) was dropped into this mess that was created by the previous minister, minister

(Ric) McIver," Colvin said. McIver ordered the rare municipal inspection into Chestermere's governance — the first of its kind in Alberta since 2018 — in May last year and Schulz took over the municipal affairs portfolio last November.

Earlier this month, Schulz handed the city a slate of 12 binding directives based on the scathing 215-page report's findings, bringing the 10-month-long inspection process to a close. If the minister's edicts aren't followed, it could result in action as severe as the dismissal of the mayor, councillors or city administrators.

Ultimately, Colvin claims Cuff's report — which found 25 instances

of "irregular, improper and improvident" governance, including at least 17 legislative infractions — was unfair and based largely on hearsay without any opportunity for the city to review or respond to the evidence, nor were the people the inspector spoke with over the course of his investigation required to give information under oath.

"(Usually) you're entitled to see what you're being accused of and then provide evidence that it's incorrect or provide evidence that it's to the contrary. But with George, he wasn't willing to provide anything and that was really odd," Colvin said.

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NP



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YOU



FITNESS

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Police, fire and military personnel from across Canada are in Edmonton to take part in Monday's funeral at Rogers Place for Const. Travis Jordan and Const. Brett Ryan. The two police officers were gunned down while responding to a report of family violence on March 16. *DAVID BLOOM*

Two fallen Edmonton police officers to be honoured by regimental funeral

ANNA JUNKER

EDMONTON The lives and service of Edmonton Police Service constables Travis Jordan and Brett Ryan killed in the line of duty will be honoured on Monday.

The constables, both in their 30s, were gunned down just before 1 a.m. on March 16 when they responded to a family violence call at the Baywood Park apartment complex in Inglewood.

The 16-year-old shooter Postmedia has identified as Roman Shewchuk also shot his mother during a struggle over the weapon before killing himself.

It is the first regimental funeral

for a city police officer to take place since 2015, when Const. Daniel Woodall was shot and killed during an arrest.

Jordan had been with EPS for more than eight years. Originally from Nova Scotia, in 2020 he made headlines for helping remove snow from a woman's vehicle instead of giving her a ticket.

Ryan was a paramedic in Alberta before becoming a police officer and was involved in the minor hockey and slow-pitch communities in Spruce Grove, just west of Edmonton. He was a member of EPS for five-and-a-half years and was expecting his first child when he was killed.

The funeral will begin at 1 p.m. at Rogers Place. It will start with a procession at approximately 11:45 a.m. at the Alberta legislature and is expected to take about 45 minutes. The procession will head north on 107 Street from the Alberta legislature, east on Jasper Avenue, north on 105 Street and east on 104 Avenue, turn north onto 102 Street and enter Rogers Place.

Police, fire, and military personnel from 35 agencies across the country will be participating in the procession, as well as one member from the New York State Police.

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