



**EDMONTON COMBATIVE SPORTS COMMISSION  
FINAL  
MEETING MINUTES**

**March 17, 2025  
7:00 PM  
Online via Google Meet**

**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Trevor Kelly, at 7:01 pm., Monday, March 17, 2025.

It was acknowledged that the Edmonton Combative Sports Commission meets on the traditional territories of the indigenous peoples of the Treaty 6 region and the Métis settlement in the Métis Nation of Alberta in regions 2, 3 and 4. The Chair acknowledged that we respect the histories, language and cultures of First Nations, Métis and Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada whose presence continues to enrich our community.

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

**Present:** Chair Trevor Kelly, Vice-Chair Andrew Soto  
Commission Members: Brandy Badry, Tye Babb,  
Rashi Khullar, Nateram Seecharan  
Executive Director, Forrest Gavins  
Recorder, Tracey Poberznick

**Absent with Regrets:** Kevin Malahy

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

There were two requests to speak from the public.

Parwez Ghulam, an amateur Muay Thai fighter, inquired about holding pro-am cards in Edmonton, as his gym doesn't have the 4,000-person capacity required for

pro fights. T. Kelly explained that the 4,000 capacity requirement is a new regulation administered by City Administration.

T. Kelly also clarified that kickboxing and Muay Thai fall outside the ECSC's control. To permit the commission to regulate these sports, the bylaw needs to be changed. It was suggested that Ghulam contact a City Councillor to raise concerns about amending the bylaw.

Chris Mead from the Gold Bar constituency, asked about creating a provincial commission. T. Kelly and the Executive Director met with all the Alberta commissions on December 17, 2024, to discuss the future of the sport in the province. While a provincial commission hasn't been established yet, the ECSC is in favour of it and is willing to support the transition. A draft policy will be sent to the ECSC for review and discussion.

#### **4. Adopt Agenda**

MOVED: That the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

#### **5. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting**

MOVED: That the February 10, 2025, minutes be adopted as circulated. CARRIED

#### **6. Policy Review Project Working Group Updates**

Tabled until April.

#### **7. Funding Request - Executive Director Attendance at CCSCC 2025 Conference**

F. Gavins has requested to attend the Canadian Combative Sports Commissioners Committee (CCSCC) in Moncton, NB this August. The ECSC will continue to advocate for a provincial commission and a representative from the ECSC has been requested to attend this convention.

MOVED: To approve the Executive Director's attendance at the 2025 CCSCC in Moncton and fund it up to \$3,000 to cover expenses.

CARRIED

#### **8. Chair's Report**

The monthly meeting of the Chair, the Vice Chair and the Executive Director was held on February 25. They discussed the finalization of the City's response to the province regarding the fatality report and F. Gavins provided an update on how the Unified MMA report is coming together for the April 12, 2025, event.

On March 3, the Branch Manager of Community Standards, David Jones, submitted the City's formal response to the fatality inquiry report. T. Kelly, F. Gavins, Dr. Defreitas and D. Jones all signed the letter.

On March 10, the Chair presented the Commission's annual report, work plan and budget to City Council. It was approved unanimously by Council. Updates were provided to Council regarding the Commission's 2024 business including the UFC event, fatality inquiry reports being released and the possibility of moving to a provincial commission.

The Chair presented the membership report and candidate shortlist to the Community and Public Services Committee on March 11.

There is an Alberta Commissions meeting scheduled for March 19. F. Gavins will be there and T. Kelly will try to attend.

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

CARRIED

## **9. Executive Director Report**

F. Gavins reviewed the written Executive Director's report.

The definition of older fighters is tabled until May.

April event planning is underway. F. Gavins has a tentative list of officials. ECSC members would be provided with access to the event.

Refresher training is in the works for inspectors who need it. Concussion protocol training will also be done if time permits.

The ECSC response to the recommendations from the fatality inquiry has been reviewed.

Bare Knuckle Fight Championship (BKFC) reached out to the City. They are looking at the next steps towards holding a legal event in Edmonton. There are Criminal Code issues and the bylaw does not include Bare Knuckle Boxing. The City has declined a meeting at this time. The BKFC reached out to other provincial commissions hoping to discuss this further at the CCSCC in August.

MOVED: That the written report from the Executive Director be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

## **10. Financial Statements – January 31, 2025**

Finance made some adjustments so funds are allocated correctly.

Money that was held over from a Unified that was later cancelled has been moved to the upcoming event.

Finance advised that Pat Reid's name is still on the bank accounts and arrangements need to be made to remove him.

While cashable GICs are an option for ECSC funds, the TD representative indicated that this would require online access, which no one currently has. TD is expected to provide further instructions.

MOVED: That the January 31, 2025, Financial statements be approved as presented.

CARRIED

## **11. Next Meeting - April 14, 2025**

The next Commission meeting will be held virtually on April 14, 2025, at 7:00 pm.

## **12. Adjournment**

MOVED: That the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

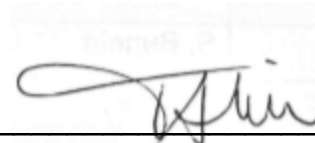
I certify that the preceding minutes represent an accurate account of the proceedings at the Commission meeting on March 17, 2025.



Trevor Kelly, Chair

April 14, 2025

Date



Tracey Poberznick, Recorder