



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
June 19, 2017**

PRESENT: Commissioner Steve Craig, Chair  
Commissioner Steve Graham, Vice-Chair  
Commissioner Tony Mancini  
Commissioner Wayne Mason  
Commissioner Sylvia Parris  
Commissioner Carlos Beals  
Commissioner Carole McDougall

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer  
Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police  
Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP  
Deputy Chief Robin McNeil, Halifax Regional Police  
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, Halifax Regional Police  
Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police  
Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, HRM Legal Services  
Jennifer Weagle, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board are available online:  
[halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m., and the Board adjourned at 2:22 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 15, 2017**

MOVED by Commissioner Sylvia Parris, seconded by Commissioner Mason

**THAT the minutes of May 15, 2017 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

MOVED by Commissioner Beals, seconded by Commissioner Graham

**THAT the agenda be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES - NONE**

**5. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS - NONE**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**7. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**7.1 Correspondence - None**

**7.2 Petitions - None**

**7.3 Presentation**

**7.3.1 Overview of the Nova Scotia Department of Justice - Public Safety & Security Division – Don Spicer and Roger Merrick**

The following information was before the Board:

- Presentation “NS Department of Justice – Public Safety & Security Division”

Roger Merrick reviewed the areas of the Public Safety and Security department, which includes Policing Services, Public Safety Investigations/SCAN/CyberSCAN, Private Security, Firearms Program, Crime Prevention & Restorative Justice, Provincial Police Service/CISNS, and Security Intelligence Management Service.

Roger Merrick and Don Spicer discussed the work of each unit, and the major initiatives of the Public Safety and Security department, as outlined in their presentation, including policing services, crime prevention and public safety investigations. A copy of the presentation is available on file and online.

Commissioner Mancini requested further detail on the restorative approaches program. Don Spicer indicated that they would be pleased to present to the Board more detail on that program at a future meeting. Commissioner Mancini also asked for information on the number of registered firearms in the province. Roger Merrick indicated he would get that number to Commissioner Mancini.

Commissioner Parris inquired, under the Policing Framework, whether the Joint Police Services and Community Safety Advisory Committee are connected to the Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods team. Don Spicer advised that they are not connected, as the Committee is through the Union of Nova Scotia Municipalities and that it involves the Department of Justice, Municipalities, and Municipal Affairs.

Commissioner Parris inquired whether there are proactive things that are complaints based through any of these initiatives, which could encourage communities to be mindful of. Roger Merrick advised that the unit provides presentations to police officers and works closely with community officers across the Province to get the message out that they have another avenue to resolve these issues.

The Chair thanked the presenters for attending and advised that they would be in touch for more specific topical information.

### **7.3.2 Drug Evaluation and Classification in Nova Scotia and the Impact of the Legalization of Cannabis – Constable Chad Morrison, Provincial Drug Recognition Expert Coordinator “H” Division**

The following was before the Board:

- Presentation “Drug Evaluation and Classification in Nova Scotia and the Impact of the Legalization of Cannabis”

Chief Superintendent Bergerman introduced Constable Chad Morrison, Provincial Drug Recognition Expert Coordinator “H” Division.

Constable Morrison presented to the Board on the topic of drug evaluation and classification in Nova Scotia and the impact of the legalization of cannabis. A copy of the presentation is on file and online.

Constable Morrison responded to questions from the Board.

Commissioner Parris commented on concerns for the rights and freedoms of marginalized communities with regard to the introduction of Bill C-46 respecting provisions surrounding drug and/or alcohol impaired operation of a motor vehicle and the constitutional challenges that may raise.

Commissioner Graham inquired whether any proactive lessons have been learned from Colorado or Washington States where cannabis has been legalized. Constable Morrison indicated that education of what constitutes impairment is important.

The Chair thanked Constable Morrison for the presentation.

## **8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

## **9. REPORTS**

### **9.1 STAFF**

#### **9.1.1 Update – Police Diversity Working Group – Terms of Reference and Membership**

The following was before the Board:

- A staff recommendation report dated June 14, 2017
- Revised Terms of Reference dated June 19, 2017

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini.

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the Terms of Reference and Membership for the Police Diversity Working Group, as outlined in Attachments 1 and 2 of the report dated June 14, 2017.**

The Chair indicated that the original intent was for a working group of the commission, although the staff report recommends a working group of staff. The revised Terms of Reference that were circulated at the meeting meet the original intent.

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini.

**THAT the motion be amended that the Board of Police Commissioners approve the revised Terms of Reference and Membership for the Police Diversity Working Group, as circulated at the June 19, 2017 meeting.**

**AMENDMENT PUT AND PASSED.**

The Chair noted that future appointments will be made through the Public Appointments Policy.

**AMENDED MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Board discussed the appointment of a representative on the Working Group.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Parris

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners nominate Carlos Beals as representative on the Police Diversity Working Group.**

The Chair called three times for any further nominations.

Hearing none, the **MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Chair asked the Legislative Assistant to send the amended Terms of Reference to relevant HRP staff.

### **9.1.2 Street Checks Discussion**

The following information was before the Board:

- Staff information report dated June 15, 2017

The Board held a brief discussion on this matter which, with Chief Blais updating that the Human Rights Commission and HRP are currently awaiting recommendation of an expert to undertake a collaborative analysis with Dr. Chris Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police.

The Chair offered to follow up with the Human Rights Commission respecting the status of the collaboration.

### **9.1.3 Roles and Responsibilities of the Board of Police Commissioners**

The following information was before the Board:

- A recommendation report to Regional Council dated May 19, 2017.

Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, provided a brief overview of the report submitted to Council on June 13, 2017; the staff recommendation was approved by Council at that meeting. The Solicitor advised that the next step going forward is to bring forward amendments to By-law P-100 Respecting the Board of Police Commissioners, as outlined in the staff report, which then require ministerial approval. Amendments to the By-law will include:

- A clarification of responsibilities, noting that the Board is responsible for the enforcing of policing, the CAO is responsible for enforcing corporate policy, and the Chief of Police is responsible for the operations of policing;

- The Board will oversee any competitions for and appointments of the Chief of Police;
- Terms of appointment for Commissioners will be for up to two terms, and terms will be staggered;
- The requirement for an annual report and work plan.

Commissioner Mason left the meeting at 1:51 p.m.

Jacques Dubé, CAO, left the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

## **9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

### **9.2.1 Surveillance Cameras in Public Spaces - *Commissioner Mancini***

Further to a recent homicide that occurred in North Dartmouth, Commissioner Mancini asked Chief Blais for comment on the use of surveillance cameras in public spaces.

Chief Blais discussed surveillance cameras as a public safety tool, noting that there is specific legislation and regulations relating to the use of cameras for an investigative purpose. The Chief indicated that their use needs to be looked at through a privacy impact assessment, and cautioned against the overestimation of cameras to prevent crime, rather as a tool to assist in solving crimes.

## **9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES**

### **9.3.1 Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan Update – *Commissioner Mancini***

Commissioner Mancini referred to the draft work plan which was updated at the last meeting, noting that the working group agrees that prioritization needs to take place of work plan items, with a focus on policy, and timeframes need to be set.

Commissioner Mancini gave Notice of Motion “THAT at the next regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners on August 21, 2017, I intend to move adoption of the Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan.”

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

**THAT, in preparation of adoption of the work plan, the Board strike two working groups to serve 1) Policy, and 2) Audit and Finance, to carry out the work of the Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Mancini requested that this item be kept as a recurring monthly agenda item for updates.

### **9.3.2 Nova Scotia Association of Chiefs of Police / Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Fall Conference, Pictou Lodge, September 27 - 29, 2017– *Commissioner Graham***

Commissioner Graham updated the Board on plans for the Nova Scotia Association of Chiefs of Police / Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Fall Conference to be held at Pictou Lodge from September 27 - 29, 2017, which will include a robust educational piece on board governance and process.

## **9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES - NONE**

## **10. ADDED ITEMS - NONE**

## **11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) - NONE**

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – August 21, 2017 (July 31, 2017 meeting cancelled)

It was suggested that reports from those attending the Canadian Association of Police Governance conference be add to next agenda.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle  
Legislative Assistant