



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
September 18, 2017**

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

**REGRETS:** Commissioner Sylvia Parris

**STAFF:** Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer  
Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police  
Chief Superintendent Lee Bergerman, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP  
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, Halifax Regional Police  
Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police  
Kathleen Patterson, Policy and Business Initiatives 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 12:32 p.m., and recessed at 1:32 p.m. The Board reconvened at 1:50 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 12:32 p.m.

A moment of silence was held for RCMP Constable Francis Deschenes.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 21, 2017**

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

**THAT the minutes of August 21, 2017 be approved as presented.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Addition:

10.1 Commissioner Mason – Notice of Motion

Commissioner McDougall requested that Information Item 3 – Information Report – Public Participation at Board Meetings – be added to the October 2017 Board of Police agenda for discussion.

MOVED by Commissioner Graham, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

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

Two-third majority vote required.

**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 RCMP Federal Policing Criminal Operations National Security Program – RCMP Constable Bruke Girma, “H” Division National Security Enforcement Section (NSES)**

The following was before the Board:

- Presentation entitled “RCMP Federal Policing Criminal Operations National Security Program” was before the Board.

Chief Supt. Bergerman introduced Constable Bruke Girma.

Constable Girma advised that the NSCI Program aims to reduce the threat of terrorist criminal activity in Canada and abroad by preventing, detecting, investigating, and gathering evidence to support the prosecution of those involved in national security-related criminal acts. Constable Girma provided an overview of the program.

The Chair thanked Constable Girma for the presentation.

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

## **9. REPORTS**

### **9.1 STAFF**

#### **9.1.1 Update - Street Checks Data – Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission**

The Chair introduced Christine Hanson, Director and CEO, Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission, who introduced Dr. Scot Wortley.

Dr. Scot Wortley addressed the Board, providing an outline of the Street Checks Data analysis, noting the following:

- Dr. Wortley and Dr. Christopher Giacomantonio, Research Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police will be working together to analyze the data.
- Issues of how different minority communities are policed is a global issue and a difficult topic.
- This will only be one of a handful of studies of this kind undertaken in Canada.
- The study will include a thorough review Canadian of research and literature and will put Halifax in the context of the larger Canadian policing context.
- The existing data will be explored, including how that is linked to other parts of the police data.
- A qualitative approach will be used, and will also identify data collections gaps and needs.
- Consultation will take place with the broader community to determine how street checks impact quality of life.
- They will be looking at the potential utility of street checks, and how it might improve public safety, including a thorough cost benefit analysis.

Dr. Wortley commented on improvements in openness and transparency with data collection and analysis in recent years, noting that it can increase police transparency, accountability, and relations with the community.

Dr. Wortley responded to question from Commissioners, clarifying that a final report should be ready in two to three months. Commissioners provided the following input and feedback:

- A request for regular updates on the status of the study.
- The need to get the completed information to the community in a timely manner.
- Caution against solely relying on information from community leaders, as they don't speak for the entire community.

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

**THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners waive Notice of Motion to consider the following motion:**

**THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report which shall review Canadian best practice, specifically the recent legislation and regulations in Ontario, and shall incorporate findings from the ongoing review by the NS Human Rights Commission, and upon completion of that review make recommendations for establishing an HRP policy regarding street checks.**

(requires 2/3 vote)

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

**THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report which shall review Canadian best practice, specifically the recent legislation and regulations in Ontario, and shall incorporate findings from the ongoing review by the NS Human Rights Commission, and upon completion of that review make recommendations for establishing an Halifax Board of Police Commissioners policy regarding street checks.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

The Board recessed at 1:32 p.m. and reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

**9.1.2 Halifax Regional Police Business Plan/Budget Events Timeline – Chief Blais**

The following information was before the Board:

- Halifax Regional Police Business Plan/Budget Events Timeline

Chief Blais indicated that the timeline before the Committee was developed with HRM Financial staff and HRP staff, to create a more streamlined budget process for this year and moving forward. The timeline is being proposed for feedback from the Board and approval. In accordance with the two-year budget process that was introduced last year, this budget year will follow the Year 2 outline.

Chief Blais indicated that at next month's Board meeting, according to the timeline, the current fiscal year 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter financial report will be presented to the Board and the Business Plan Deliverables will also be presented for approval.

The Chief advised that the Chief Financial Officer will attend the November meeting to provide a brief presentation to the Police Board on Budget Planning Process and Parameters for Year 2, including a high level overview of HRM's financial situation leading into the next fiscal year.

MOVED by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the HRP Business Plan/Budget Events Timeline, as presented at the September 18, 2017 Board meeting.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Graham inquired whether the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter financial reporting could also be provided from the Halifax District RCMP. Chief Superintendent Bergerman indicated she would look into this.

**9.1.3 Update – Interest Earned from Seized Drug Money – Katherine Salsman, Solicitor**

Katherine Salsman, Solicitor, advised that funds held in trust from drug crime investigations was placed in an interest accruing account, and accumulated interest in the approximate amount of \$13,000. The Solicitor clarified that these funds are not owned by anyone, although as per section 490 of the Criminal Code, an application can be made to the Crown to have the funds disposed of as the Attorney General sees fit. The Solicitor advised that an application will be made and going forward this will no longer be an issue as funds are no longer held in that account.

At the request of the Board, Deputy Chief McNeil clarified that the account was changed from interest bearing, to non-interest bearing.

## 9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS - None

### 9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

#### 9.3.1 Update - Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan – Commissioner Graham

Commissioner Graham updated that the working group began meeting, and are working to develop policy with Kathleen Patterson, Policy and Business Initiatives Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police.

### 9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

Chief Superintendent Bergerman provided updates that were not included in the monthly information report (Information Item No. 5), including:

- All RCMP members now have hard body armour.
- Chief Supt. Bergerman is the Chair of the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Drug Committee, which will be introducing mandatory reporting on naloxone deployment. This will allow for better data for a more robust harm reduction policy on fentanyl. The Committee has also been discussing cannabis legislation and will be involved in developing policy.

Deputy Chief McNeil advised that conversations have been taking place between HRP, the Public Safety Advisory, and the Director of Parks, Recreation and Communities about cannabis legislation.

Chief Blais updated that:

- All HRP staff will be attending training on Fair and Impartial Policing.
- An introduction of Neera Ritcey, the new HRP Communications Director.
- The Police Diversity Working Group is meeting September 21<sup>st</sup>.

## 10. ADDED ITEMS

### 10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - Councillor Mason

TAKE NOTICE THAT, at the next regular meeting of the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners, to be held on October 16, 2017, I propose to move the following motion:

THAT the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners request a staff report that shall outline recommendations regarding:

1. entering into dialog regarding the establishment of more formal relationships regarding possible partnerships and harmonization of policing, public safety and enforcement with First Nations with reserve lands adjacent to HRM; and
2. improve public safety for Indigenous people in Halifax and ensure police services meet the needs, values and expectations of Indigenous people.

## 11. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

No In Camera (In Private) session was held.

### 11.1 Approval of In Camera Minutes – August 21, 2017

The following motion was made during the public session:

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Craig

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the In Camera minutes of August 21, 2017, as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – October 16, 2017**

The Chief noted that the Fallen Police Officers memorial will be held on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in Grand Parade.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

Jennifer Weagle  
Legislative Assistant