



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
September 16, 2019**

PRESENT: Commissioner Natalie Borden, Chair
Commissioner Carole McDougall, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Lindell Smith
Commissioner Anthony Thomas

REGRETS: Commissioner Carlos Beals

STAFF: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer
Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Janis Gray, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP
Superintendent Colleen Kelly, HRP
Sergeant Chris Romanchych, RCMP
Amy Siciliano, HRM Public Safety Advisor
Duncan Read, Solicitor
David Perusse, 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:
www.halifax.ca*

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m. and moved In Camera (In Private) at 2:27 p.m. The Board reconvened in public session at 2:47 p.m. and adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 17, 2019

MOVED by Commissioner McDougall, seconded by Commissioner Thomas

THAT the minutes of July 17, 2019 be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions:

10.1 RCMP African Canadian Experience Course – Presentation

Information Item:

4. Halifax District RCMP Annual Performance Plan Fiscal Year 2019/20

Staff requested that the following items be deferred to the next regular meeting of the Board:

9.1.3 Police Complaints Communication & Public Education Plan – Update

9.1.4 HRP 2019/2020 Fiscal Year 1st Quarter Financial Report

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Two-thirds 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 Presentations - None

8. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD - NONE

9. REPORTS

9.1 STAFF

9.1.1 HRM Public Safety Strategy – Update

The following was before the Board:

- A staff presentation titled "Halifax's Public Safety Strategy: Introduction and Overview"

Amy Siciliano, HRM Public Safety Advisor, provided the Board with a presentation on the HRM Public Safety Strategy. The presentation provided an introduction and overview to the Public Safety Strategy, as well as an overview of some of the initiatives of the HRM Public Safety Office.

Responding to questions from members of the Board, Siciliano noted that the HRM Public Safety Office is consulted regularly by HRM staff to provide a public safety lens on various municipal initiatives. They noted that one of the main challenges their office encounters in terms of carrying out its mandate is staffing resources, which they hope will be alleviated by recent hires and an intern position. They further noted that they regularly meeting with HRP community response officers.

Councillor Smith requested that the Board receive a presentation from staff on the role of community response officers.

The Chair thanked Siciliano for the presentation.

9.1.2 Halifax Regional Police Foundation – Update

The following was before the Board:

- A staff presentation titled "Halifax Regional Police Foundation Update for BOPC"

Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police, provided the Board with a presentation on the Halifax Regional Police Foundation. In addition to outlining the Foundation's mission and strategic priorities, they also noted that the Foundation currently has a balance of approximately \$150,000 as of August 2019.

Responding to questions from members of the Board, Chief Kinsella and Neera Ritcey, HRP Public Relations and Communications Manager, noted that the appointment process for the Foundation's Board is not conducted under the HRM public appointment policy, but is advertised on the HRP's website.

Commissioner Borden noted that donations can be made to the Foundation through CanadaHelps.org.

The Chair thanked Chief Kinsella for the presentation.

9.1.3 Police Complaints Communication & Public Education Plan – Update

This item was deferred to the next regular meeting of the Board during the setting of the Order of Business.

9.1.4 HRP 2019/2020 Fiscal Year 1st Quarter Financial Report

This item was deferred to the next regular meeting of the Board during the setting of the Order of Business.

9.1.5 Street Checks Data Retention Policy – Update

Chief Dan Kinsella provided the Board with an update on the HRP Street Checks Data Retention Policy, noting that as of June 14, 2019, the HRP would be retaining deidentified street check data until December 2020, at which point the data will be purged. They added that members of the public can make a formal request to access their personal information in through HRM's freedom of information process. They added that HRP staff will be providing notices of this policy to the public through social media.

Responding to questions from members of the Board, Chief Superintendent Janis Gray, Halifax District Detachment, RCMP, noted that the Halifax District has their own process for the public to make formal information access requests, which is similar to that of the HRP.

The Chair thanked Chief Kinsella for the update.

9.1.6 Procedure for Amending By-law P-100

David Perusse, Legislative Assistant, provided the Board with an overview of the process for amending By-law P-100 Respecting the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality. They noted that the Board's request to amend the By-law has been forwarded to Halifax Regional Council, who has the authority to approve amendments to HRM by-laws. Council, should they choose to proceed, will request that staff prepare a recommendation report, which will come back to Regional Council. If Council chooses to proceed, they will then have to provide first reading for the amendment. The proposed amendment would then have to be advertised for a period of two (2) weeks. If Council subsequently approves the amendment, it will come into effect when the Notice of Approval is advertised, or the date specified by Council.

The Chair thanked Perusse for the overview.

9.1.7 HRM Police Services Review – Update

Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer, provided the Board with an update on the Police Services Review, noting that the review is in its final stages. A draft report has been provided to Chief Kinsella and Chief Superintendent Gray for their input. The final report is expected to come forward to Regional Council in October 2019. They noted that the report can be forwarded to the Board after it goes to Council.

The Chair thanked Dubé for the update.

9.1.8 HRM Wortley Report Recommendations – Update

Commissioner Borden noted that the Board had requested that the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission (NSHRC) obtain an independent legal opinion on the legality of street checks, which Borden noted may be coming forward to the Board for its October meeting.

Commissioner Borden additionally noted that the Nova Scotia Department of Justice has struck a committee to examine the recommendations outlined in the Wortley Report. The Committee is currently examining the scope of its work. Commissioner Borden noted that they would provide the Board with an update once the Committee's work proceeds.

Chief Kinsella provided the Board with an overview of some of the actions taken by the Halifax Regional Police since the release of the Report, noting that HRP officers have received training in fair and impartial policing and various diversity and inclusion-based models.

Chief Kinsella noted that staff are currently reviewing the fifty-six (56) recommendations outlined in the Report. They added that it will be important to receive the independent legal opinion from the NSHRC, as it will instruct how the HRP approach the recommendations.

The Chair thanked Chief Kinsella and Chief Superintendent Gray for the update.

9.2 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner McDougall took the Chair at 1:33 p.m.

9.2.1 Commissioner Borden - Data Collection on Police Stops

The following was before the Board:

- A request for consideration from Commissioner Borden.

MOVED by Commissioner Borden, seconded by Commissioner Thomas

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request that the HRP Chief of Police and the Chief Superintendent of the RCMP, Halifax District, prepare a plan to address the recommendations in the Wortley report that addresses data collection on police stops. The plan should identify:

- **Responsibility - which organizations and/or resources are responsible and should be involved in implementing the recommendation;**
- **Specific action steps;**
- **Estimated timeline; and**
- **The method for tracking progress that can be reported back to the Board of Police Commissioners.**

Commissioner Borden spoke to the motion, noting that while the Department of Justice is taking longer than hoped to advance work on the recommendations outlined in the Wortley Report, it is the responsibility of the Board to try and advance any of the actionable items that they can.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Commissioner Borden retook the Chair at 1:43 p.m.

9.2.2 Commissioner McDougall – Board Work Plan Session

Commissioner McDougall spoke to the Board about scheduling a special meeting for the purposes of updating and developing the Board's Annual Work Plan. They noted that staff are currently looking at an October date, and asked Commissioners and staff to provide their input as to which dates would work best. Once a date has been agreed upon, a special meeting will be scheduled.

9.3 COMMISSIONER UPDATES

9.3.1 Management Employee Relations Committee - NONE

9.3.2 Canadian Association of Police Governance Board

Commissioner McDougall provided the Board with an update on the Canadian Association of Police Governance Board, noting that the Board will be meeting at the end of September.

The Chair thanked Commissioner McDougall for the update.

9.3.3 Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Board

Commissioner McDougall provided the Board with an update on the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance Board, noting that there is an annual conference taking place on September 18, 19, and 20th in Kentville, which they will be attending.

The Chair thanked Commissioner McDougall for the update.

9.3.4 Canadian Association of Police Governance Annual Conference Calgary, August 8-11, 2019

Commissioner McDougall provided the Board with a briefing on their experience attending the Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) Annual Conference in Calgary in August 2019. They noted that the First Nations Conference was held prior to the commencement of the CAPG Conference, which consisted of a number of information and cultural events. Other notable events at the Conference included tours of the Calgary Police's Youth Interpretive Centre as well as a police dog demonstration. Commissioner McDougall noted that the Conference provides an excellent opportunity to learn from others across the country on challenges and opportunities relating to police governance.

The Chair thanked Commissioners McDougall for the update.

9.4 HRP/RCMP CHIEF UPDATES

Chief Kinsella provided the Board with a number of updates on HRP activities. They noted HRP's role in the integrated response to hurricane Dorian, and the high level of professionalism demonstrated from all involved. They also noted that HRP are working with community partners in the Draw the Line public awareness campaign to raise awareness of sexualized violence on university campuses. Chief Kinsella additionally noted the Peace Bond Navigator Program being undertaken by HRP Victims Services Unit, which seeks to assist individuals to successfully navigate the peace bond process.

Commissioner Smith requested that the Board be provided with a presentation from staff on the Victim Services Unit and the HRP's policy and process for handling sexual assault cases.

The Chair thanked Chief Kinsella for the updates.

10. ADDED ITEMS

10.1 RCMP African Canadian Experience Course – Presentation

The following was before the Board:

- A presentation titled "The African Canadian Experience"

Sgt. Craig Smith, Halifax District, RCMP, provided the Board with a presentation on the RCMP African Canadian Experience Course. They noted that the training seeks to provide officers with an immersive experience aimed at building their understanding of the obstacles and circumstances faced by African Canadian communities.

Responding to questions from members of the Board, Chief Superintendent Gray and Sgt. Smith noted that two (2) courses have been held to date with more planned. Chief Superintendent Gray noted that while the training is not strictly mandatory for officers, they are working to ensure that all officers receive this training.

Chief Kinsella noted that while the HRP do not currently have a comparable training course, they are consulting with the RCMP to adopt some of this training.

The Chair thanked Sgt. Smith for the presentation.

11. IN CAMERA (In Private)

11.1 Approval of In Camera (In Private) Minutes – July 17, 2019

The following item was dealt with by the Board In Camera (In Private), and the following was ratified during public session:

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners approve the July 17, 2019 In Camera (In Private) minutes as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 Personnel Matter

The following item was dealt with by the Board In Camera (In Private), and the following was approved in public session:

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner McDougall

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners direct the Chief Administrative Officer in accordance with the direction provided during the September 16, 2019 In Camera (In Private) meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

12. NOTICES OF MOTION - NONE

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- October 21, 2019
- November 18, 2019

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 p.m.

David Perusse
Legislative Assistant