



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
July 12, 2023**

PRESENT: Commissioner Becky Kent, Chair  
Commissioner Harry Critchley, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Lindell Smith  
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn  
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju  
Commissioner Gavin Giles  
Commissioner Anthony Thomas

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer  
Josh Bates, Policy Advisor, Board of Police Commissioners  
Martin Ward, Solicitor  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant  
Catie Campbell, Legislative Assistant

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

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m. The Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 4:40 p.m. and reconvened at 7:04 p.m. The Board adjourned at 7:39 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS – NONE**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 3, 2023 and June 14, 2023**

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Thomas

**THAT the minutes of May 3, 2023 and June 14, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

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

Additions:

- Item 13.3 - PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential

Deletions: None

Deferred to a future meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners:

- Item 10.2.3 - Halifax Regional Police Quarterly Fiscal Update and Strategic Plan

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Commissioner Blackburn requested that Item 13.2 - PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report and Item 13.3 - PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential be considered prior to item 6.

As provided for in section 37 (1) of Administrative Order One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Council*, Commissioner Blackburn requested that Item 10.2.1 Implementation of Bryan Report Recommendations on Race-based Data Collection, Item 10.2.4 Halifax Regional Police Response to the Nova Scotia Police Review Board May 16, 2022 Recommendations and Item 10.2.5 Halifax Regional Police Response to Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia Review Report 22-12 Recommendations be considered after item 10.4.2.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

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

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the following items be deferred to a future meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners:**

- **Item 10.2.1 Implementation of Bryan Report Recommendations on Race-based Data Collection**
- **Item 10.2.4 Halifax Regional Police Response to the Nova Scotia Police Review Board May 16, 2022 Recommendations**
- **Item 10.2.5 Halifax Regional Police Response to Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia Review Report 22-12 Recommendations**
- **Item 10.4.2 Board of Police Commissioners' Logo Report**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the following items be deferred to a future meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners:**

- **Item 10.1.1 Halifax Regional Police Recruiting and Staffing Update – Presentation**
- **Item 10.2.2 Board of Police Commissioners Report on the Mass Casualty Commission Findings**
- **Item 10.4.1 Board of Police Commissioners Policy Subcommittee Priorities**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – April 3, 2023**

**7.1 Update on Options for the Implementation of the Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review Model**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 5, 2023
- Extract from the June 20, 2022 Board of Police Commissioners minutes

Commissioner Kent stepped down from the Chair and exited the meeting and Commissioner Critchley assumed the Chair.

Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police, Superintendent Andrew Matthews, Halifax Regional Police and Sunny Marriner, Project Lead, Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review Model spoke to the implementation of the Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review Model (VACR) and responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Matthews clarified future implementation could not significantly impact ongoing police operations and highlighted the VACR model options before the Board. Matthews and Kinsella noted resourcing for the VACR model options required further analysis. Marriner provided a jurisdictional analysis of other municipalities who implemented the VACR and noted the importance of data in implementation.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Halifax District RCMP) responded to questions of clarification from the Board regarding the RCMP's relationship with the VACR. Christie noted the RCMP's commitment to collaborating with Halifax Regional Police.

Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer responded to questions of clarification from the Board regarding the timeline for potential implementation.

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners request that Halifax Regional Police provide a follow up update on the progress of the implementation of the Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review Model by the end of October 2023.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Critchley stepped down from the Chair and Commissioner Smith assumed the Chair.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence – None**

**8.2 Petitions – None**

**8.3 Presentation – None**

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE CHIEF UPDATES**

**10.1.1 Halifax Regional Police Recruiting and Staffing Update – Presentation**

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

**10.2 STAFF**

**10.2.1 Implementation of Bryan Report Recommendations on Race-based Data Collection**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated April 26, 2023
- Extract from the October 5, 2022 Board of Police Commissioners minutes

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

**10.2.2 Board of Police Commissioners Report on the Mass Casualty Commission Findings**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated May 18, 2023
- Extract from the April 3, 2023 Board of Police Commissioners minutes

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

**10.2.3 Halifax Regional Police Quarterly Fiscal Update and Strategic Plan**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 5, 2023
- Staff report dated July 5, 2023

This matter was deferred during the approval of the Order of Business.

**10.2.4 Halifax Regional Police Response to the Nova Scotia Police Review Board May 16, 2022 Recommendations**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 5, 2023
- Extract from the September 7, 2022 Board of Police Commissioners minutes

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

**10.2.5 Halifax Regional Police Response to Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for Nova Scotia Review Report 22-12 Recommendations**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 6, 2023
- Extract from the December 14, 2022 Board of Police Commissioners minutes

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

### **10.3 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS – NONE**

#### **10.4 COMMISSIONER UPDATES**

##### **10.4.1 Board of Police Commissioners Policy Subcommittee Priorities**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated June 7, 2023

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

##### **10.4.2 Board of Police Commissioners' Logo Report**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 5, 2023

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

### **11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE**

### **12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE**

### **13. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

#### **13.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – May 3, 2023 and June 14, 2023**

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Critchley

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of May 3, 2023 and June 14, 2023 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Thomas

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 13.2 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report and Item 13.3 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

#### **13.2 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before the Board:

- Private and confidential staff report dated July 6, 2023
- Private and confidential staff presentation dated July 12, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Critchley, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners:**

1. **Adopt the direction provided In Camera (In Private); and**
2. **Direct that the private and confidential report dated July 6, 2023 and the private and confidential presentation dated July 12, 2023 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13.3 PERSONNEL MATTER - Private and Confidential**

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Critchley

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners adopt the direction provided In Camera (In Private).**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 2, 2023**

**16. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Catie Campbell  
Legislative Assistant