



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS for the HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

DRAFT MINUTES September 3, 2025

PRESENT:

Commissioner Greg O'Malley, Chair
Commissioner Becky Kent, Vice Chair
Commissioner Tony Mancini
Commissioner Virginia Hinch
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju
Commissioner Vincent Beswick-Escanlar
Commissioner Brian Carter

STAFF:

Bill Moore, Commissioner of Public Safety
Martin Ward, K.C., General Counsel
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant
Simon Ross-Siegel, Legislative Assistant

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by Board of Police Commissioners at a future meeting.

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.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:09 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.

1.1 Swearing In of Commissioner Brian Carter

Brian Carter was sworn in as a Commissioner of the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality.

2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 4, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Hinch, seconded by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar

THAT the minutes of June 4, 2025 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

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

Additions: None

Deletions: None

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Kent

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

As provided for in section 10 (5) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners*, Commissioner Mancini requested that Information Item 2, Violence Occurring on Halifax Transit Buses and Terminals, be brought forward at the October 1, 2025 Board of Police Commissioners meeting.

As provided for in section 10 (5) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners*, Commissioner Mancini requested that Information Item 3, Interim update on HRP use of the RCMP H Division Sexual Assault Investigations Review Committee (SAIRC) process, be brought forward at the next October 1, 2025 Board of Police Commissioners meeting.

As provided for in section 10 (5) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners*, Commissioner Hinch requested that Information Item 5, HRM Police Use of Emergency Alerts, be brought forward at the next October 1, 2025 Board of Police Commissioners meeting.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence – None

8.2 Petitions – None

8.3 Presentations

8.3.1 Nova Scotia Citizens on Patrol Involvement with local Law Enforcement and Communities – Loring Day, President of NS Citizens on Patrol

Loring Day, President of Nova Scotia Citizens on Patrol Association spoke to the work their association's volunteer citizens on patrol groups performed with Nova Scotia policing services and their objective to develop volunteer citizens on patrol groups within Halifax Regional Municipality. Day responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

8.3.2 Department of Justice Audit Reports – Accountability Tools for Governance Bodies

The following was before the Board:

- Presentation dated September 3, 2025

Chris MacNeil, Managing Auditor, Public Safety & Security Division, Nova Scotia Department of Justice gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD

9.1 Commissioner Mancini – Wortley Report Progress Update: Summary of recommendations – update

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated March 10, 2025
- Staff presentation dated September 3, 2025

Joanne Smith, Research and Development Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police and Inspector Jeff Mitchell, Management and Administrative Services Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

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

Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police spoke to HRP's response to recent major incidents and ongoing investigations, the recent successes of the police science program as well as general staffing and recruitment actions. MacLean spoke to the implementation of the HRP's Unmanned Aerial Reconnaissance Vehicle policy, recent domestic violence reporting statistics, road traffic control and traffic-related summary offense enforcement. MacLean also spoke to upcoming events. Including the 43rd annual Nova Scotian Fallen Peace Officers Memorial on October 19, 2025. MacLean responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Chief Superintendent John Duff, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment spoke to recent community engagements, past and upcoming events. Duff spoke to traffic enforcement initiatives and domestic violence investigations. Duff also spoke to recent major incidents and recent and ongoing investigations. Duff responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10.2 STAFF

10.2.1 Formal Adoption of BoPC Policy on Policing Encampments

These minutes are considered draft and will require approval by the Board of Police Commissioners at a future meeting.

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The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated August 5, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar, seconded by Commissioner Kent

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality adopt the policy entitled Policing Encampments, for inclusion in the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated August 5, 2025.

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist, Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police and Bill Moore, Commissioner of Public Safety responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.2 2024 Point-In-Time Count Highlights – Presentation

The following was before the Board:

- Staff presentation dated September 3, 2025

Max Chauvin, Director Housing & Homelessness and Rachel Boehm, Executive Director Community Safety gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10.2.3 Update on the HRM response to the Halifax Independent Civilian Review into August 18, 2021, Encampment Evictions

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated August 8, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Hinch, seconded by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality refer the staff report dated August 8, 2025 to Halifax Regional Council for information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.4 Governance Implication of Province of Nova Scotia Police Review

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated August 7, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality direct the Commissioner of Public Safety for the Halifax Regional Municipality actively engage with the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance and the Nova Scotia Department of Justice to share feedback and advance concerns regarding the Nova Scotia Police Review and report back to the Board on progress within 3 months.

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

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THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality defer consideration of Item 10.2.4 until the Board holds a workshop to discuss and review the Board's concerns about the Nova Scotia Police Review.

Martin Ward, K.C., General Counsel responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.5 Board of Police Commissioners Revised 2025 Meeting Schedule

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated July 16, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality approve the proposed revised meeting schedule for 2025 as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated July 16, 2025.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.2.6 HRP and RCMP HRD Semi-Annual Crime and Traffic Statistics January – June 2025 Information Report

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated August 18, 2025
- Staff presentation dated September 3, 2025

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for Halifax Regional Municipality receive the staff report dated August 18, 2025, and an accompanying staff presentation, as information.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police and Chief Superintendent John Duff, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Bill Moore, Commissioner of Public Safety responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

11. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

12. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE) – NONE

13. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – September 24, 2025

15. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Simon Ross-Siegel
Legislative Assistant