BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
for the HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

REVISED DRAFT MINUTES
October 28, 2026

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

STAFF: Bill Moore, Commissioner of Public Safety
Chris Giddens, Solicitor
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, 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 1:05 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 African Nova Scotian Affirmation

The Chair led the Board in the African Nova Scotian Affirmation.

2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 7, 2026, October 19, 2026 special meeting #1, October 19, 2026 special meeting #2 and October 21, 2026 special meeting

MOVED by Commissioner Hinch, seconded by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar

THAT the minutes of October 7, 2026, October 19, 2026 special meeting #1, October 19, 2026 special meeting #2 and October 21, 2026 special meeting 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

As provided for in section 34 (1) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures for Meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners*, Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant requested that Item 10.3.1 – Assistant Commissioner Dan Morrow, Commanding Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police H Division Nova Scotia - Introduction and Discussion and Item 10.4.2 – Commissioner Kent - Changes to RCMP Model for Community Policing be considered prior to Item 7.

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

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 – October 19, 2026 Special Meeting #1
7.1 Halifax Regional Police 2027/28 Budget

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated October 14, 2026
- Extract from the October 19, 2026 Board of Police Commissioners special meeting #1 draft minutes

The following motion was on the floor from the October 19, 2026 special meeting #1:

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar

THAT, having ensured that the proposed Halifax Regional Police operating budget for 2027/28 as presented at the October 19 meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners is consistent with those matters referred to in subsection 55(3) of the Police Act, the Board of Police Commissioners moves the following recommendation:

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality approve the proposed 2027/28 Halifax Regional Police Operating Budget of $103,791,000, as presented by Chief MacLean to the Board on October 19, 2026.

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

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS
8.1 Correspondence – None
8.2 Petitions – None
8.3 Presentations – None

9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION
10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HALIFAX REGIONAL DETACHMENT CHIEF UPDATES

Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) provided key operational updates including investigations, seizures and criminal charges. MacLean spoke to the referral of a file to the Serious Incident Response Team. MacLean noted work towards integration of the Criminal Investigation Division, the status of HRP's Police Science Program and recent HRP promotions. MacLean provided a statistical overview including summary offence tickets, impairment offences, traffic stops, firearms and intimate partner violence. MacLean noted recent and upcoming community events.

Superintendent Don Moser, Acting Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) spoke to recent community events including RCMP HRD's awards and recognition ceremony. Moser provided key operational updates including upcoming changes to RCMP HRD vehicle colours, investigations, seizures and criminal charges. Moser provided a statistical overview including road safety and traffic enforcement stops, collisions, summary offence tickets and intimate partner violence.

Moser and MacLean responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10.2 COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE

Rachel Boehm, Executive Director of Community Safety spoke to the difficulties posed by open drug use and noted the Crisis Assistance Response and Engagement (CARE) service team could be contacted for assistance and that the upcoming Public Safety plan would include programs to address the issue and its impacts on the community. Boehm provided an update on the CARE service team including number of calls and dispatches, the service's capacity and the potential for service expansion. Boehm spoke to Community Safety's involvement in the provincial Community Safety and Well-Being Initiative. Boehm noted recent homelessness statistics including number of unhoused individuals. Boehm responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10.3 STAFF
10.3.1 Assistant Commissioner Dan Morrow, Commanding Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police H Division Nova Scotia – Introduction and Discussion

Assistant Commissioner Dan Morrow, Commanding Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police H Division Nova Scotia introduced themselves to the Board, spoke to their 34 year career with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and their role as the Commanding Officer of RCMP H Division including priority setting and planning. Morrow responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10.4 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
10.4.1 Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar - Amendment to Community Engagement and Outreach Policy

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar

MOVED by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality amend its Community Engagement and Outreach policy dated September 2, 2026 to add the following:

1. **A definition of "Hosted" in reference to HRP and HRD Community Engagement Activities to mean Community Engagement activities that are planned, organized, coordinated, or led by HRP, HRD, either independently or in partnership with other organizations. Activities in which HRP or HRD participates solely as an attendee or invited participant are not considered hosted activities;**

2. **Reporting Requirements**

   The Chief Officer shall annually report to the board the total number of Community Engagement activities hosted throughout the year, including the location and number of participants at each activity. The Chief Superintendent is requested to annually provide to the Board the same information; and

3. **Revise the term "public engagement" to "Community Engagement" (which is defined) throughout the document.**

Chris Giddens, Solicitor responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Commissioner Hinch proposed the inclusion of part 4 that read "Revise statement 7 to include that two or more engagements be held each year, beginning in 2027." As provided for in section 50 (2) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures for Meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners,* the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Beswick-Escanlar, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality amend its Community Engagement and Outreach policy dated September 2, 2026 to add the following:

1. **A definition of "Hosted" in reference to HRP and HRD Community Engagement Activities to mean Community Engagement activities that are planned, organized, coordinated, or led by HRP, HRD, either independently or in partnership with other organizations.**

Activities in which HRP or HRD participates solely as an attendee or invited participant are not considered hosted activities;

2. **Reporting Requirements**

   The Chief Officer shall annually report to the board the total number of Community Engagement activities hosted throughout the year, including the location and number of participants at each activity. The Chief Superintendent is requested to annually provide to the Board the same information; and

3. **Revise the term "public engagement" to "Community Engagement" (which is defined) throughout the document.**

4. **Revise statement 7 to include that two or more engagements be held each year, beginning in 2027.**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

10.4.2 Commissioner Kent - Changes to RCMP Model for Community Policing

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Kent

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality:

1. **direct the Chair of the Board write a letter to both the Nova Scotia Minister of Justice and the Acting Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment that**

   a. **expresses the Board's sincere disappointment with the recent information provided by representatives of the RCMP at the Board's October 19, 2026 meeting, where it was disclosed changes were being proposed to the RCMP's in-community policing model, including the removal of satellite offices in Eastern Passage and Fall River, which the Board had previously approved;**

   b. **requests that the Board, no later than November 25, 2026, and in reasonable detail, be provided with the process used and decisions taken by these organizations, that resulted in the above changes to the RCMP in-community policing model;**

   c. **requests that each organization reevaluate the decision by the RCMP to not proceed further with the in-community policing model and satellite offices previously approved by the Board, with the intention of reestablishing the funding required to implement the two satellite offices as soon as possible; and,**

   d. **for the letter to the Nova Scotia Miniter of Justice, that such letter provides an invitation for the Minister to attend an upcoming meeting of the Board to offer the Minister the opportunity to discuss the points of view of the DOJ and the RCMP regarding the in-community policing model and the satellite offices.**

2. **request that HRM's Commissioner of Public Safety provide a report to the Board that**

   a. **sets forth options that HRM or the Board may undertake with Federal and Provincial stakeholders, to**

i. further advocate for a resetting of the proposed RCMP in-community policing model, including the reestablishment of funding for the RCMP satellite offices in Eastern Passage and Fall River; and,

ii. further discuss policies regarding payment for RCMP policing services in the municipality; and,

b. provides insight into whether or not the Halifax Regional Police would be in a staffing and financial position to provide the in-community policing services originally approved by the Board, including satellite offices in Eastern Passage and Fall River; and,

3. request that the Chair communicate to Halifax Regional Council the Board's disappointment with the recent information from the RCMP regarding the changes to the in-community policing models and request that Regional Council, as part of its upcoming 2027-28 budget deliberations, consider carefully the arrangements between HRM and its Federal and provincial partners regarding the funding models for RCMP policing services for the Municipality.

Commissioner Kent proposed that ", and deeming BLT Community Police office a "pilot" status" be included at the end of part 1 a. of the motion, that ", and removing the pilot status for the BLT Community Policing Office" be included at the of part 1 c. of the motion and that ", and removing the pilot status from the BLT Community Policing Office" be included at the end of part 2 a. i. of the motion. As provided for in section 50 (2) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures for Meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners,* the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion now read:

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality:

1. direct the Chair of the Board write a letter to both the Nova Scotia Minister of Justice and the Acting Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment that

a. expresses the Board's sincere disappointment with the recent information provided by representatives of the RCMP at the Board's October 19, 2026 meeting, where it was disclosed changes were being proposed to the RCMP's in-community policing model, including the removal of satellite offices in Eastern Passage and Fall River, which the Board had previously approved, and deeming BLT Community Police office a "pilot" status; and

b. requests that the Board, no later than November 25, 2026, and in reasonable detail, be provided with the process used and decisions taken by these organizations, that resulted in the above changes to the RCMP in-community policing model; and

c. requests that each organization reevaluate the decision by the RCMP to not proceed further with the in-community policing model and satellite offices previously approved by the Board, with the intention of reestablishing the funding

required to implement the two satellite offices as soon as possible, and removing the pilot status for the BLT Community Policing Office; and,

d. for the letter to the Nova Scotia Miniter of Justice, that such letter provides an invitation for the Minister to attend an upcoming meeting of the Board to offer the Request for Board of Police Commissioner Consideration - 2 - October 28, 2026 Minister the opportunity to discuss the points of view of the DOJ and the RCMP regarding the in-community policing model and the satellite offices.

2. request that HRM's Commissioner of Public Safety provide a report to the Board that

a. sets forth options that HRM or the Board may undertake with Federal and Provincial stakeholders, to

i. further advocate for a resetting of the proposed RCMP in-community policing model, including the reestablishment of funding for the RCMP satellite offices in Eastern Passage and Fall River, and removing the pilot status from the BLT Community Policing Office; and,

ii. further discuss policies regarding payment for RCMP policing services in the municipality; and,

b. provides insight into whether or not the Halifax Regional Police would be in a staffing and financial position to provide the in-community policing services originally approved by the Board, including satellite offices in Eastern Passage and Fall River; and,

3. request that the Chair communicate to Halifax Regional Council the Board's disappointment with the recent information from the RCMP regarding the changes to the in-community policing models and request that Regional Council, as part of its upcoming 2027-28 budget deliberations, consider carefully the arrangements between HRM and its Federal and provincial partners regarding the funding models for RCMP policing services for the Municipality.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Commissioner Kent spoke to the end of their term with the Board and acknowledged the work accomplished by the Board and its partners.

11. MOTIONS – NONE

12. ADDED ITEMS – NONE

13. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

13.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – October 7, 2026

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commissioner Hinch, seconded by Commissioner Mancini

THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of October 7, 2026 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

MOVED by Commissioner Mancini, seconded by Commissioner Hinch

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 13.2 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.2 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

The following was before the Board:

- Private and confidential report dated October 16, 2026
- Private and confidential presentation dated October 28, 2026

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – December 2, 2026

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Andrea Lovasi-Wood
Legislative Assistant