



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA
POLICE SERVICES BOARD
PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, September 22, 2022
Niagara Regional Police Service - Headquarters
Community Room 1st Floor, 5700 Valley Way, Niagara Falls

PSB MEMBERS:

B. Steele, Chair
H. D'Angela, Board Member
B. Gale, Board Member
K. Gibson, Board Member
J. Lawson, Board Member
T. McKendrick, Board Member

D. Reid, Executive Director
D. Cichocki, Executive Assistant

NRPS MEMBERS:

Chief of Police B. MacCulloch
Deputy Chief B. Flynn, Operational Services
Deputy Chief B. Fordy, Support Services
Superintendent B. Ash, Emergency Investigative Services
Superintendent R. Frayne, Corporate Services
Superintendent J. Mackay, Operational Support
Superintendent D. Meade, Executive Services
A/Superintendent P. McCauley, District Operations
A. Askoul, Director of Information Technology
Inspector M. Lagrotteria, 2 District
S/Sergeant S. Rose, Major Crime Unit
D/Sergeant K. Fiddes, Executive Officer to Deputy Chief
S. Sabourin, Corporate Communications Manager
M. Asher, Executive Assistant to the Chief

OTHERS:

D. Tilley, Policing Services Advisor, Ministry of the Solicitor General
B. Mercer, Administrative Coordinator, Elder Abuse
E. Sibbett, Chair, Crime Stoppers of Niagara
S. Stevens, Administrative Coordinator, Crime Stoppers of Niagara

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 9:01 am.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT STATEMENT

The Board began its meeting by acknowledging that the Niagara Region is situated on treaty land. This land is steeped in the rich history of the First Nations such as the Hatiwendaronk, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishinaabe, including the Mississauga's of the Credit First Nation. There are many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit people from across Turtle Island that live and work in Niagara today. The Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board stands with all Indigenous people, past and present, in promoting the wise stewardship of the lands on which we live.

3. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of conflict or pecuniary interest.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Tuesday, July 19, 2022

Moved by: B. Gale

Seconded by: K. Gibson

That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Tuesday, July 19, 2022 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. REPORTS FROM BOARD CHAIR

Welcome to Ministry Policing Services Advisor - On behalf of the Board, Chair Steele welcomed David Tilley to the meeting. David is with the Inspectorate of Policing at the Ministry of the Solicitor General and he serves as a Policing Services Advisor to Police Boards in Ontario. Over the past seven years, David served as a Police Services Advisor to Zone 2 in Eastern Ontario and Zone 6 in Southwest Ontario, and he is now assigned to Zone 4. He joined the Inspectorate of Policing in 2015 bringing with him over 16 years of experience in the police and justice field working across Canada, the UK and Europe. David held two previous positions with Ministry of the Solicitor General as a Policing Standards Development Officer and Team Lead of the Public Standards Section. He attended the meeting as part of routine visits by Policing Services Advisors to Police Boards across the Province. The Board looks forward to working with David and to his continued participation at future Board meetings.

International Association of Women in Police (IAWP) Conference - The Niagara Regional Police Service in partnership with the Hamilton Police Service and the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) hosted the 59th International Association Women Police (IAWP) conference from September 12 to 16, at the Fallsview Casino Convention Centre in Niagara Falls. The conference attracted approximately 900 delegates from over 40 countries across the world and it was the largest gathering of female law enforcement globally. On behalf of the Board, Chair Steele and Member Lawson had the privilege and honour of participating in the Opening Ceremonies and the Parade of Nations with uniform and civilian women in law enforcement marching in the tourist core of Niagara Falls while displaying their national flags.

NRPS Recruit Graduation Ceremony - On September 8, the Service held a Recruit Graduation Ceremony to welcome seven new recruits and one currently serving member to the Niagara Regional Police Service, and two new recruits to the Niagara Parks Police Service. Chair Steele attended the ceremony on behalf of the Board to congratulate the officers and extend the Board's best wishes.

Member Lawson Elected to CAPG Board of Directors - Member Jen Lawson was elected to the Board of Directors of the Canadian Association of Police Governors for a two-year term at its Annual General Meeting held on September 1, 2022. The CAPG is the only national organization dedicated to excellence in police governance in Canada. It has been in existence for 33 years working to improve the effectiveness of civilian bodies that govern local police services. Today, the CAPG represents 80% of municipal police service oversight bodies throughout Canada. This is a great appointment for the Police Services Board, the entire police community and Niagara Region. It also continues the great tradition of public service by Niagara Board Members well beyond the boundaries of our Region. This will be the first time our Board has combined representation at both the national and provincial levels for police governance with Member Gibson serving as a Director on the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards. The Board looks forward to contributing to the important advocacy work to improve police governance and enhance public safety both provincially and nationally.

CAPG Annual Conference - The Canadian Association of Police Governance Annual Conference was held from September 9 to 11, and was hosted by the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners. The theme of the conference was 'Community Partnerships and Engagement' and participants had the opportunity to hear from police leaders about key issues and emerging trends that will help strengthen police governance throughout Canada's local communities. Board Members participated virtually in the conference sessions.

CAPG – Webinar Sessions - The Canadian Association of Police Governance hosts monthly webinars as part of its educational strategy to keep police boards and police executives across Canada apprised of issues currently impacting the policing community. Since the last meeting in July, Board Members participated in five webinars related to police governance and civilian oversight. There is a webinar scheduled at 12:00 pm this day on Artificial Intelligence & Police Policy, Privacy & Operations; and on October 18 for an update on the implementation of body worn cameras.

Opening Ceremony - NRPS 1 District - On September 23 at 9:00 am, the Service will be hosting an Opening Ceremony to commemorate the new #1 District police facility, located at 198 Welland Avenue in St. Catharines. Board Members will be attending the official ceremony which will include opening remarks from key dignitaries and the placement of the time capsules from the old 1 District facility at 68 Church Street to the new building. This event will be live-streamed for public viewing on the NRPS website.

OAPSB - Zone 4 Quarterly Meeting - On September 28, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards will be holding their Zone 4 Quarterly Meeting from 9 am - 11 am by Zoom. Zone 4 consists of a total of 14 Police Services Boards, including municipal and OPP Contract Boards, and First Nations police governance bodies that are located within the regions or counties of Brant, Haldimand, Halton, Hamilton, Niagara, Norfolk and Oxford. These quarterly engagements allow Boards within a certain geographic area to meet for the purpose of discussing matters related to police governance.

Upcoming PSB Meetings - The next Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13 and the next Board Meeting will be held Thursday, October 27. Both meetings are being held in the Community Room at Niagara Regional Police Headquarters and will begin at 9:00 am.

6. REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

International Association of Women Police – Further to Chair Steele's comments, Chief MacCulloch took a moment to reflect on the recent International Association of Women Police conference held in Niagara Falls and hosted by the Niagara Regional Police Service in collaboration with Hamilton Police and the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement. Almost 900

women in law enforcement and their allies gathered for five days of training that was both empowering and insightful. The conference provided Chief MacCulloch with the opportunity to speak with many delegates who came from across the world including Ghana, the Ukraine and the United Kingdom, who all spoke about the success of the conference and the powerful message of “Connect, Empower and Lead”. He stated that as a male leader within the organization, it is crucial that men are no longer “just” allies, but advocates for female police officers ensuring women a vocal seat at the table. Niagara had a delegation of 40 members who were able to take in the keynote speakers and valuable breakout sessions.

In recognition of their efforts, Chief MacCulloch recognized Staff Sergeant Sarah Rose, who along with Hamilton Police Inspector Andrea Torre organized the entire conference over the last several years. They did an incredible job in providing a world class conference that showcased the professionalism of the Service and the beauty of Niagara.

Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT) Pilot Program - The Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT) Pilot program has been in place in 3 District since April of this year. The program follows in the pathway of successful full time MCRRT programs in 1 and 2 District. The expansion of the program to 3 District was particularly significant due to the relative scarcity of mental health resources in Welland/Pelham compared to other larger cities in the Niagara Region.

Since April 1, the MCRRT in 3 District have responded to 260 calls, and served 161 different people in crisis. There have been 186 occasions where the MCRRT has been able to divert the individual from having to be apprehended under the *Mental Health Act*, which routinely tie up two officers for over an hour while they wait for hospital staff to assess and admit the patient. More importantly, those 260 calls are all anecdotal evidence of the benefits of the MCRRT response, every one is its own success story. Stories about people from all walks of life and socioeconomic circumstance that are dealing with challenges and stressors and struggling to cope while suffering the whole range of mental health issues and are being successfully dealt with in a crisis situation and connected with support services. The program remains an example of the synergy that occurs when the police and mental health professionals team up to accomplish more, in more situations, than either could manage on their own. The grant that made this pilot project possible ends on March 31, 2023, and the Service and the Canadian Mental Health Association remain optimistic that the province will extend further opportunities for grant funding so that this vital program to the residents of south Niagara can continue.

Member Gale questioned if the program has had a positive effect on the dealings between police and hospital staff, more specifically if the program is having positive results on the freeing up officers' times spent at hospitals and completing the required police reports for these incidents. Chief MacCulloch stated that as everyone is well aware, hospitals are currently dealing with staffing shortages. Hospital staff continue to do their best when it comes to getting officers in and out quickly however; there are times, due to staffing challenges, that security guard personnel brought in to relieve police are unavailable and that does result in delays. Chief MacCulloch advised that there are protocols in place to allow police to speak with the charge nurse on duty in an effort to expedite any situation where an officer is there for a prolonged period of time. With that being said, Chief MacCulloch further noted that the Mobile Crisis Response program has delivered on all expectations and that there continues to be a great partnership between the Service and Niagara Health.

Member McKendrick elaborated on Chief MacCulloch's comments regarding the 186 diversions of individuals having to be apprehended under the HTA advising that this supports a reduction in emergency room volume given that historically, the only option for police officers would have

been to take these individuals to the hospital for assessment in accordance to emergency room procedures. The MCRRT program is having positive region-wide impacts on people needing immediate emergency care. Member McKendrick also echoed Chief MacCulloch's support toward the value added impact that the program has on the Niagara community and the optimism of further funding to ensure it's continuance.

Operational Statistics:

Attempted Homicides - Reporting Period of July 19 to September 16, 2022

- 2 for this reporting period with a total of 7 for 2022 to date.

Attempted Homicide – Incident of September 3, 2022 – At 4:25 am, 2 District officers responded to the area of Eastwood Crescent and Ontario Avenue, in the City of Niagara Falls regarding a stabbing that just occurred. Upon arrival, officers located the adult female victim suffering from multiple stab wounds. Niagara EMS paramedics attended the scene and ultimately transported the victim to an out-of-town trauma center for advanced medical care in serious but stable condition. District Detectives have assumed carriage of the investigation and they have learned the victim met the male suspect in the area of the Falls Avenue and Clifton Hill, in the City of Niagara Falls approximately 20 minutes prior to the assault. The victim and the suspect left the area in the suspect's pickup truck. The victim was stabbed shortly thereafter in the area of Eastwood Crescent and Ontario Avenue. The victim and the suspect are not known to one and other. As a result of the investigation, a suspect was identified. On September 13, Detectives arrested the 32-year-old male suspect and charged him with Attempted Murder. The victim in this matter has been released from hospital and continues to recover from her injuries.

Attempted Homicide – Incident of September 7, 2022 - At approximately 1:38 am, 2 District uniform officers were called to a report of a shooting on Summer Street near Main Street in Niagara Falls. Once on scene, officers located a male victim laying injured on the street suffering from multiple gunshot wounds. The male victim in his 20s was treated at the scene by Niagara EMS paramedics and transported to a local hospital. He was later flown to an out of region trauma hospital for further care in critical condition. The initial investigation by officers has determined a possible black sport utility vehicle and a possible black sedan were seen leaving the area of the shooting at a high rate of speed. District Detectives and Detectives from the Forensic Services Unit have been assigned to the investigation. Detectives have reasons to believe this was not a random incident.

Homicides - Reporting Period of July 19 to September 16, 2022

- 1 for this reporting period with a total of 6 for 2022 to date, compared to year-end totals of 6 in 2021, 5 in 2020, 7 in 2019 and 2 in 2018.

Homicide – Incident of April 8, 2022 – Further to this homicide shooting that occurred near the Great Canadian Midway on Clifton Hill, on July 19, Detectives arrested a 17-year-old male youth from Mississauga and charged him with the following offences:

1. Attempted Murder - contrary to S.239(1) of the Criminal Code (2 Counts);
2. Aggravated Assault – contrary to S. 268(1) of the Criminal Code (2 Counts);
3. Robbery – contrary to S. 344(1)(b) of the Criminal Code;
4. Discharge Firearm with Intent – contrary to S.244(1) of the Criminal Code (2 Counts);
5. Reckless Discharge of a Firearm – contrary to S.244.2(1) of the Criminal Code;
6. Possession of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle – contrary to S.94(1) of the Criminal Code;
7. Possession of Property Obtained by Crime – contrary to S.355(a) of the Criminal Code;
- and
8. Theft of Motor Vehicle – contrary to S.333.1(1) of the Criminal Code.

Furthermore, on August 10, Detectives arrested an 18-year-old male from Mississauga and charged him with the following offences:

1. Robbery – contrary to Section 344 of the Criminal Code;
2. Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm – contrary to Section 91(1) of the Criminal Code;
3. Possession of a Firearm in a Motor Vehicle – contrary to Section 94(1) of the Criminal Code;
4. Possession of Property Obtained by Crime – contrary to Section 354(1) of the Criminal Code;
5. Theft of Motor Vehicle – contrary to Section 333.1(1) of the Criminal Code; and
6. Fail to Comply with Undertaking – contrary to Section 145(4) of the Criminal Code.

Homicide – Incident of August 27, 2022 - At approximately 1:30 am, 1 District uniform officers attended an assist ambulance call in the area of Queenston Street and Riordon Street for a man in medical distress. The male made no mention of being assaulted and reported to the officers that he had fallen. He was subsequently transported to the hospital by Niagara Emergency Medical Services. The male's health quickly deteriorated, and he was transported to the Hamilton General Hospital (HGH) for treatment as he was diagnosed as suffering from a serious brain bleed. A physician at the HGH advised that there was evidence that the male had been assaulted. Thereafter, 1 District Detectives commenced an investigation into this matter and coordinated with the Forensic Services Unit and the Homicide Unit. On September 8, the male died from his injuries. The Homicide Unit has now taken carriage of this investigation.

Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collision (MVC) - Reporting Period of July 1 to August 31, 2022

- 0 for this reporting period.

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC) - Reporting Period of July 1 to August 31, 2022

- 2 for this reporting period with a total of 10 for 2022, compared to year-end totals of 21 for 2021, 16 in 2020, 13 in 2019 and 2018, and 16 in 2017.

Fatal MVC – Incident of July 2, 2022 – At approximately 10:07 pm, 2 District uniformed officers and EMS personnel responded to a report of a pedestrian having been struck by a pick-up truck at the intersection of Welland Street and Willoughby Drive in Niagara Falls. Officers arrived on scene to find a female pedestrian in critical condition. Prior to her being transported to a local hospital, the female victim, in her 70's, was treated at the scene by bystanders, members of the Niagara Falls Fire Service and Niagara EMS paramedics. Despite resuscitative efforts, the female was pronounced deceased. The investigation determined that the victim had been on the roadway when she was struck by a pick-up truck that fled the area without stopping. Detectives from the Collision Reconstruction Unit subsequently located and seized the involved vehicle. On July 14, the driver of the vehicle, a 45-year-old Niagara Falls male, was arrested and charged with Fail to Stop at the Scene of an Accident S.320.16(1) CC, and Careless Driving Cause Death S.130(3) HTA.

Fatal MVC – Incident of July 9, 2022 - At 10:35 pm, officers from 2 District responded with Niagara EMS paramedics and members from the Niagara-on-the-Lake Fire Department for reports of a single vehicle collision on York Road near Concession 1 Road in the Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake. Upon arrival, officers located a single vehicle that left the roadway and overturned. An adult female was pronounced deceased at the scene. An adult male who was determined to be the driver was extricated from the vehicle by members of the Fire Department and transferred to hospital. He was subsequently released from hospital with minor injuries. On July 15, detectives from the Collision Reconstruction Unit arrested and charged a 38-year-old St. Catharines male with Impaired Operation of a Conveyance Cause Death S.320.14(3) CC, and Impaired Operation of a Conveyance Exceed Blood Alcohol Concentration S.320.14(1)(b) CC.

Two Arrested Following Niagara Falls Investigation - On July 24, uniform officers from 2 District were called to a hotel in Niagara Falls following the report of a break and enter. When officers arrived, they located a male and female in one of the rooms who were not guests of the hotel; information of a firearm in the room led to the evacuation of neighbouring rooms while Detectives investigated. Shortly after, the male and female were taken into custody. They are facing over 20 charges collectively ranging from Possession of a Prohibited or Restricted Firearm with Ammunition to Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking.

Male Arrested in St. Catharines Stabbing - On August 22, uniform officers from 1 District responded to a report of a stabbing incident in St. Catharines. Officers attended the area of Albert Street and Lake Street in St. Catharines where paramedics were treating a male victim for serious stab wounds. He was transported to the hospital in stable condition. Investigation by 1 District Detectives found that the male had been involved in an altercation at a nearby residence, during which he was stabbed multiple times. Shortly after, a 48-year-old St. Catharines male suspect was identified, arrested and charged with aggravated assault.

Grandparent Scam Investigation Results in Two Fraud Arrests - On August 23, an officer from the Mobile Support Unit began a fraud investigation in relation to an incident in Welland. The officer spoke with the elderly male complainant who advised that he believed he had been scammed of \$9,000 cash the previous day. The investigation determined that the complainant had a received phone call from an unknown suspect claiming to be a grandchild in legal peril as well as a second unknown suspect claiming to be a lawyer. The complainant agreed to pay the legal bills attended his local bank and withdrew money. Later that day a courier came to his home and collected the money. While the officer was investigating the matter the unknown suspects contacted the complainant again demanding another \$10,000. Detectives became involved in the investigation and were able to identify and arrest two males from the Toronto area, each charged with fraud over \$5,000. Police continue to educate the public regarding these fraud scams with further information on the NRPS website at www.niagarapolice.ca

Back 2 School – Traffic Safety and Awareness Day - On September 6, the Service conducted its 22nd Annual Back to School Traffic Safety and Awareness Day to remind drivers about safe driving habits that can help protect the lives of citizens in Niagara. In addition to the general uniform patrol, another 45 officers took part given that each year senior officers and those who work in specialty units put on their uniforms all head out to the local schools to take part in this traffic safety and awareness day. While many officers did advise that the majority of the drivers were driving cautiously around the school zones, this year a total of 97 tickets and warnings were issued; 29 tickets issued for speeding, two for not properly wearing their seatbelts and one for distracted driving. Three other drivers were charged with driving while under suspension and another two were charged with operating their vehicles with no insurance. There were also 30 tickets issued for other various traffic offences and a total of 30 written warnings.

Member D'Angela questioned the use of data collected from this and other traffic enforcement initiatives and if year to year comparisons are made to identify hot spot areas. Chief MacCulloch advised that traffic enforcement is a priority for the Service in terms of enhancing traffic safety and reducing vehicle collisions. When performing traffic initiatives, officers are always positioned in a location where they are being as effective as can be. Any collected data is particularly helpful to the Traffic Enforcement Unit. Officers review traffic related data on a regular basis and are able to identify hot spots. Chief MacCulloch further advised that the Service has a hotline that allows citizens to provide feedback on traffic safety issues. The hotline allows the public to provide information on where traffic is dangerous, problems being encountered on the roads and other traffic safety concerns. This initiative doesn't replace existing methods of dealing with

accidents and other traffic issues, but serves as an additional way of reporting incidents that one may have witnessed or becomes aware of. By the public and police working together, the Niagara Region becomes a safer place for everyone. To use the NRPS traffic hotline, call 905-688-4111, extension 1025555.

Child Abuse Detectives Arrest Male - In September of 2022, Detectives from the Child Abuse Unit commenced an investigation into allegations of sexual assault. Subsequently on September 9, a male was arrested and charged in relation to a 13-year-old female. The alleged assault is believed to have occurred from between May and September 2022 when it was reported to police. The 39-year-old Niagara Falls male was arrested and charged with several sex offences as well as abduction of a person under 14 years of age. Through their investigation, Detectives have reason to believe social media was utilized to contact further victims. Anyone with information care asked to contact the police.

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Crime Stoppers of Niagara

Chair Ernie Sibbett, Crime Stoppers of Niagara, provided the Board with a presentation on this non-profit community based charitable program involving cooperative efforts of the community, the media and the police in the fight against crime.

Chair Sibbett advised that Crime Stoppers has been operational since 1976 and now operates in almost 40 countries around the world with the majority located in Canada and the United States. He spoke briefly to the program in Niagara advising that it is an anonymous hotline that people can report various crimes and receive a reward. Total anonymity is must for all individuals associated with Crime Stoppers. In order to adhere to this mandate, when a caller calls to report a crime, they are assigned a number and asked to call back in six weeks for any details regarding a reward. Reward amounts are determined through a computer program that assess the information in accordance to a standard set of guidelines that takes into consideration the severity of the crime. If a reward is warranted, the recipient is provided details on where to claim money when they call back after the six week wait period has ended. The funds are issued by a bank/credit union through association of the assigned number.

Member Lawson referenced Page 9 of the presentation which provides statistical information on the number of arrests, cases cleared, stolen property recovered, drugs seized and rewards approved in totality since the year 2000. She requested a breakdown of the information over the past 1, 3 and 5 years for any realized impacts due to COVID-19. She also questioned if the Crime Stoppers program could in any way assist the Niagara Regional Police Service with the release of information through their social media outlets to further seek the public's help for people to come forward with crime related information.

Chair Sibbett acknowledged there being a gap in reporting throughout the past couple of years due to the pandemic and he advised that those numbers will be reported in the information package that will be circulated to all Board members. As for assisting with encouraging people to come forward with information, Chair Sibbett advised that currently the Administrative Coordinator of Crime Stoppers tracks relating incidents and then posts them to the Crime Stoppers websites and social media outlets. As well, the Service does at times contact Crime Stoppers to advise of a situation in which police are

seeking the public's help and that information is released through the Crime Stoppers program. He stated that Crime Stoppers would welcome a system that realizes an automatic flow of information from police, however there may be logistical problems with implementing such a system.

Moved by: H. D'Angela

Seconded by: B. Gale

That the presentation be received.

Carried

7.2 Community Oriented Engagement & Response (CORE) Unit

Inspector Mario Lagrotteria, 2 District, Niagara Regional Police Service, provided the Board with a presentation on the Service's newly formed Community Oriented Response & Engagement (CORE) Unit, which is focused toward youth engagement, community outreach, and problem-oriented policing.

The program launched in April 2022 as a 12-month pilot project heavily linked to District Operations through the unification of what was previously known as the Community Engagement Unit, a centralized unit, and administrative units that were being housed at the District level. Officers assigned to the Unit can respond to calls for service requiring added time and resources while ensuring frontline policing resources remain available for emergency resources. Members of the CORE Unit provide frontline support and act as leads for Service-wide initiatives placing an emphasis on the Unit's goal of addressing root causes in order to resolve situations through community mobilization. CORE Officers liaise with various stakeholders, including local politicians, community partners, social services, and business improvement and they are actively engaged in crime prevention strategies, which include performing foot, bike, and ATV patrols in designated areas. They also provide public education by delivering presentations to focused groups. CORE initiatives will continue to be showcased using various NRPS social media platforms, Service-wide and at individual Districts and the CORE units will continue to evolve as community needs change. Following this one-year pilot project, a review will be conducted to assess performance metrics and both qualify and quantify responsibilities of the Unit.

Member Gale applauded the Service's executive staff for its due diligence toward community engagement initiatives. He questioned the Service's efforts toward police visibility and interactions. Inspector Lagrotteria advised that outside of the CORE unit, the Service has initiated initiatives for front line police officers which can include individual foot patrols where officers get out of their cruiser to engage and interact with members of the public. Crime analysts review data to determine trends in crime locations and officers are always made aware of those findings. Officers will routinely patrol those areas and as well park in those locations to complete paperwork while in their cruiser, which is essentially deemed their office. At times, the Service receives calls from the public for an enhanced police presence and that information is always relayed to the front line. Inspector Lagrotteria reassured that with the newly formed CORE Unit police now have that added flexibility to focus on community engagement.

Member McKendrick spoke to the reporting process for programs and she referenced 'Stop Hate Niagara' as an example. Recognizing that it may not always be a 911 emergency call she questioned the process for members of the public to report a crime of this nature. Inspector Lagrotteria advised the Service has separate lines for members of the public to call and report hate crime or hate incidents as well as a specific way to report. He advised that he will provide those details to the Board once confirmed.

Moved by: K. Gibson

Seconded by: J. Lawson

That the presentation be received.

Carried

8. CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Niagara College - Summary of Police Services Board Bursary

Letter dated July 25, 2022 from Dr. Marc Nantel, Vice President, Research & External Relations, Niagara College, providing a financial summary of the Board's Bursary Fund for the period April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022, as awarded to the named recipient.

8.2 Brock University - Summary of Police Services Board Bursaries

Letter dated August 26, 2022 from Sonia Dupte, Executive Director, Development & Campaigns, Brock University, providing a financial summary of the Board's Bursary Funds for the period April 30, 2021 to April 30, 2022, as awarded to the named recipients.

8.3 RMON - 2023 Budget Planning and Timetable

Letter dated August 29, 2022 from Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, RMON, advising of the Budget Review Committee-of-the-Whole recommendations as approved by Regional Council at its meeting held August 25, 2022 relating to the 2023 budget planning and timetable for Niagara's Agencies, Boards and Commissions (ABC's).

8.4 Quarterly Report - Administration of the Public Complaints System - April 1 to June 30, 2022

Service report dated August 24, 2022 submitted in accordance to the quarterly reporting requirements set out in Board By-law 301-2010.

8.5 Quarterly Report - NRPS Authorized Strength as at July 1, 2022

Service report dated August 18, 2022 providing a summary of the actual versus the authorized strength by rank/salary band of the uniform and civilian complement of the Niagara Regional Police Service.

Moved by: T. McKendrick

Seconded by: H. D'Angela

That the information be received.

Carried

9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1 Ministry of the Solicitor General - Guns, Gangs and Violence Grant Funding Approval

Service report dated September 20, 2022 requesting the Board approve the Ministry of the Solicitor General's cost-sharing grant funding in the amount of \$175,337.00, which is 50% of the total cost of the project, to enable the Service to purchase additional CCTV technology and video analytics software to address gang violence in Niagara Region.

Moved by: B. Gale

Seconded by: K. Gibson

That the Board approve the 2022-2023 Guns, Gangs and Violence Ontario Transfer Payment Agreement between the Ministry of the Solicitor General and the Niagara Police Services Board;

And further, that the Board Chair be authorized to execute all required documentation.

Carried

9.2 Police Services Board - 2023 Proposed Meeting Schedule

Correspondence dated September 5, 2022 from Deb Reid, Executive Director, Niagara Police Services Board, providing the 2023 proposed meeting schedule for the Niagara Police Service's Board's monthly Board and Committee meetings.

Moved by: J. Lawson

Seconded by: T. McKendrick

That the Board approve the Schedule of Regular Meetings for the Niagara Police Services Board and Committee meetings for the year 2023 as presented.

Carried

9.3 Police Services Board By-law - Special-Paid Duty Rates for the Years 2022 to 2026

Service report dated August 23, 2022 providing the Board with a revised by-law to accurately reflect the NRPS Special/Paid Duty Rates schedule based on the recently ratified contract settlement negotiated between the Niagara Region Police Association, Senior Officers Association and the Niagara Police Services Board, which have been updated for the years 2022 to 2026.

Moved by: H. D'Angela

Seconded by: B. Gale

That the Board adopt By-Law 397-2022 as appended to the report and authorize the Board Chair and the Executive Director to execute the required documentation;

And further, that staff be directed to ensure that all documentation be revised accordingly.

Carried

9.4 Police Services Board By-Law - Update to NRPS Schedule of Fees and Charges

Correspondence dated August 9, 2022 from Deb Reid, Executive Director, Niagara Police Services Board, providing a revised By-law to update the Niagara Regional Police Service Schedule of Fees and Charges.

Moved by: K. Gibson

Seconded by: J. Lawson

That the Board approve revised By-law 398-2022, a By-law to Provide for the Imposition of Charges for Police Services, as appended to the report and authorize the Board Chair and the Executive Director to execute the required documentation;

And further, that the revised By-law be provided to Niagara Regional Council for its information.

Carried

9.5 Purchase Order Issuance to Lightning Equipment Sales Inc.

Service report dated August 22, 2022 requesting Board approval to purchase up to \$250,000 in specialized equipment for police vehicles and that in accordance to the Board's Financial Reporting, Control and Procurement By-law, the Board approve awarding a sole source contract to Lightning Equipment Sales Inc., located in Burlington, Ontario, given it is the territorial distributor for emergency warning lights, sirens, and compartment barriers and is the sole source supplier available to the Service.

Chief MacCulloch supported this purchase as a sole source contract as the recommendation was made through the Police Cooperative Purchasing Group, an organization that ensures the best pricing for all police services across Ontario.

Moved by: T. McKendrick

Seconded by: H. D'Angela

That the Board approve the issuance of a \$250,000 purchase order for Lightning Equipment Sales Inc. for the annual purchase of various special equipment installed in police vehicles.

Carried

9.6 VMware Enterprise Licensing Agreement (ELA)

Service report dated September 6, 2022 requesting the Board approve the renewal of the VMware ELA, based on a Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) subscription licensing model to enable the Service to modernize its enterprise virtualization platform licences and unlock both on-premise/in the cloud hybrid deployment at the most cost-effective option.

Moved by: B. Gale
Seconded by: K. Gibson

That the Board approve the renewal of VMware ELA quote # Q-E00385342 between the Niagara Regional Police Service and VMware International Unlimited Company for a total 3-year fixed amount of \$548,125.44 plus applicable taxes in US currency, as appended to the report;

And further, that the Chief of Police be authorized to execute all required documentation on behalf of the Board.

Carried

9.7 Special Fund Request – NRPA Charity Golf Tournament

Report dated August 31, 2022 from Deb Reid, Executive Director, Niagara Police Services Board, providing a copy of a notice received from Lynn Dowding, Tournament Organizer, NRPA Charity Golf Tournament, requesting a donation to the 1st Annual Cliff Priest Memorial Golf Tournament. *(Previous donations to NRPA Golf Tournaments: 2007-\$150, 2008-2014-\$300, 2015-2017-\$250. Due to timing constraints, a donation was approved in advance on August 31, 2022 and the item is before the Board for ratification purposes).*

Moved by: J. Lawson
Seconded by: T. McKendrick

That the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$250.00 from the Special Fund to the Niagara Region Police Association for its 1st Annual Cliff Priest Memorial Golf Tournament.

Carried

9.8 Special Fund Request - 2022 United Way Campaign Kick-Off

Service report dated August 30, 2022 requesting the Board approve a donation for the NRPS United Way campaign kickoff event, specifically the entrance fees for the NRPS tug-of-war teams for the Firetruck Pull that was held September 14, 2022. *(Previous donations: 2007-2010: \$500; 2011-2012, 2014-2019: \$1,000; 2021 - \$2,000. Due to timing constraints, the item was pre-approved by the Board on September 2, 2022 by e-polling and is before the Board for ratification purposes).*

Moved by: H. D'Angela
Seconded by: B. Gale

That the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$3,000.00 from the Special Fund to cover the required fees to enter two teams in a Firetruck Pull event as part of the United Way Niagara 2022 Campaign Kick-off.

Carried

10. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Diverging Diamond Interchange

Member Gale asked if there are any concerns about traffic congestion when the new diverging diamond interchange at Glendale Avenue and the QEW in Niagara opens to drivers next week and if the Service had any discussions with the OPP about any major traffic issues, especially during the upcoming holiday season.

Chief MacCulloch advised that the Service has ongoing communication with the Region and will be assisting with public education to navigate the new interchange, which is a first in Ontario. Inspector Lagrotteria will reach out to the OPP to determine if there are any concerns with the flow of traffic and what their plans are if they need to shut down traffic in and around that area. The Service will keep the Board apprised of its findings.

11. IN CAMERA REPORTS

There were no in camera reports.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Meeting adjourned at 10:42 am.

William C. Steele, Chair

Deb Reid, Executive Director