



REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

POLICE SERVICES BOARD

PUBLIC MINUTES

Thursday, March 23, 2023

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

PSB MEMBERS:

J. Lawson, Chair
D. Eke, Vice-Chair
P. Chiocchio, Board Member
L. Ip, Board Member
N. Kapisavanhu, Board Member
T. McKendrick, Board Member
B. Steele, 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, District Operations
Superintendent R. Frayne, Corporate Services
Superintendent J. Mackay, Operational Support
A. Askoul, Director of Information Technology
A/Superintendent L. Hughes, Executive Services
A/Superintendent D. Masotti, Emergency & Investigative Services
L. Rullo, Finance Manager
S. Sabourin, Corporate Communications Manager
Constable M. Monreau, CORE Unit, Crime Stoppers
M. Asher, Executive Assistant to the Chief

OTHERS:

Mr. D. Tilley, Policing Services Advisor, Ministry of the Solicitor General
Mr. E. Sibbet, President, Crime Stoppers of Niagara
Mr. J. Snyder, Board Secretary, Crime Stoppers of Niagara

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 9:10 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 Thursday, February 23, 2023

Moved by: P. Chiocchio

Seconded by: D. Eke

That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, February 23, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. REPORTS FROM BOARD CHAIR

Official Welcome to New Board Member - Chair Lawson welcomed Nyarayi Kapisavanhu to the Police Services Board. Member Kapisavanhu joins the Board as its citizen appointee/community representative after being appointed by Niagara Regional Council on February 23, 2023. She was officially sworn in as a Member of the Board on March 16 and is now able to participate in all Board business. The Board looks forward to her participation and contributions while serving as a Member of the Board.

Welcome to the Ministry Policing Services Advisor - Chair Lawson 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. He attends meetings as part of routine visits by Policing Services Advisors to Police Boards across the Province. The Board is pleased to see his continued participation at Niagara PSB meetings.

Police Association of Ontario (PAO) - 2023 Employment Conference - On February 27 and 28, the Police Association of Ontario held its 2023 Employment Conference at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North Hotel. The conference provided delegates with comprehensive updates on Human Rights issues, Chief and Board operational responsibilities, collective bargaining and current trends, a review of recent grievance arbitration decisions, and civilian and uniform discipline trends and issues. Chair Lawson, Vice Chair Eke and Member Chiocchio attended the event.

International Women's Day – Open Dialogue Event - On March 8, the Women in Policing Internal Support Network Committee celebrated International Women's Day by hosting an open dialogue event. Meeting participants were encouraged to bring forward thoughts and ideas that will benefit women in policing. Chair Lawson, Vice Chair Eke and Board staff attended the event along with Chief MacCulloch and sworn and civilian members of the Service.

Auto Theft Summit - On March 10, Chair Lawson and Chief MacCulloch attended an Auto Theft Summit hosted by the Peel Police Services Board and Peel Regional Police Service. The purpose of the Summit was to discuss solutions for the growing problem of auto thefts and carjackings. Participants included police chiefs and police board chairs from the Big 12 Police Services, industry experts and stakeholders from auto manufacturers and insurance agencies, government partners, senior police officers, and other policing partners from across the province. Discussion focused on ways to disrupt auto theft through enhanced enforcement measures, by raising public awareness to address the vulnerabilities that are contributing to the increase of auto thefts, and by working together with multi-sector stakeholders.

Chief MacCulloch added that Niagara has not experienced the number of auto thefts that have occurred across the province. Provincially, auto thefts were up 86% in 2022. Niagara had a decrease of 7% while jurisdictions such as Peel and York realized increases in auto thefts well over 100%. Niagara is also trending low in the number of carjackings with three carjacking incidents that occurred during 2022. Other jurisdictions are trending significantly higher with over 100 carjacking incidents that occurred during the same period. Auto theft has become a billion dollar organized crime industry across the country, however the greater concern over the monetary aspect is the risk that is posed to public safety through organized crime outlets. Moving forward, the Service will be collaborating with stakeholders in the private sector as well as with their policing partners from both an educational and enforcement perspective.

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. Board members attended a webinar on March 21 entitled, “Tuning Up Your Police Governance Skills”. The next webinar is scheduled for April 6 at 12:00 pm for discussions on police budgets and governance authorities. Board members are pre-registered and for those who cannot attend at the specific date/time, a recording of the session will be circulated following the webinar.

State of the Region Address - Regional Chair Bradley - On April 12 at 11:00 am, Regional Chair Jim Bradley will be delivering the State of the Region Address. Chair Bradley’s Address will include a comprehensive overview of the current economic conditions, as well as key initiatives and projects that are underway to support growth and development within Niagara Region. Participants will include Niagara’s local business leaders, community members and elected officials. The event is being at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre on April 12 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Board Member Orientation Session - On April 14, the Police Services Board will hold an orientation session for Board Members with the Senior Officers of the Niagara Regional Police Service and representatives from the Ministry of the Solicitor General. The session will provide Board Members with an in-depth overview of the Niagara Regional Police Service and complete the required Ministry training about the civilian governance of police services. The session will be held from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm in the Community Room at Police Headquarters.

Upcoming PSB Meetings - Committee Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, April 13, and the next monthly Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 27. Meetings will begin at 9:00 am in the Community Room at Police Headquarters.

6. REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Line of Duty Death of Two Edmonton Police Officers – Chief MacCulloch spoke to the tragic deaths of two Edmonton Police Officers, Constables Brett Ryan and Travis Jordan, who were shot and killed in the line of duty while responding to an incident on March 16. Sadly, since September 2022, seven police officers in Canada have been killed in the line of duty; murdered for simply doing their job. These deaths have had a profound impact on the Members of the Niagara Regional Police Service and the entire policing profession. Despite the emotional toll that these deaths have on police officers and their families, they continue to serve and protect communities across this country.

Members of the Niagara Regional Police Service stand in solidarity with their brothers and sisters at the Edmonton Police Service, and their hearts go out to the family, friends, and colleagues of Constables Ryan and Jordan. Flags have been lowered to half-mast at all Districts and Service facilities in honour of the ultimate sacrifice made by these officers while serving their community. Chief MacCulloch and a contingent of officers will be travelling to Edmonton to attend the Regimental Funeral on March 27 and to pay respects to the fallen officers.

NRPS Spring Food Drive - On March 16, the NRPS concluded the 3rd Annual Spring Forward Food Drive, led by officers of the NRPS Community Oriented Response & Engagement (CORE) Unit who were supported by our Auxiliary Unit. CORE and Auxiliary Unit officers partnered with nine local food banks and 12 local grocery stores to help support the record demand for food and donations within Niagara. Where food drives in the past centered on the holiday season, the NRPS Spring Forward Food Drive has been designed to combat food insecurity that unfortunately now challenges the Niagara community throughout the entire year. Over the four days that donations were accepted, over 4,100 kilograms in food and \$10,113.45 in cash/gift cards was received. The three-year total is over 23,000 kilograms in food and \$35,113.45 in cash/gift cards. Chief MacCulloch extended thanks to Post Foods in Niagara Falls who donated nearly 1,200 kilograms of cereal products and a further special thanks to Constable Jay McCarthy for his efforts in organization of this important event.

Homicides - Reporting Period of January 1 to March 21, 2023

- 1 for this reporting period, compared to year-end totals of 8 in 2022, 6 in 2021, 5 in 2020 and 7 in 2019.
- *(This homicide charge relates to the Fatal Motor Vehicle collision of February 26, 2023, detailed below.)*

Attempted Homicides - Reporting Period of January 1 to March 21, 2023

- 1 for this reporting period.
- *(This attempt homicide charge relates to the Fatal Motor Vehicle collision of February 26, 2023, detailed below.)*

Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVC) - Reporting Period of February 1 to February 28, 2023

- 3 for this reporting period, compared to year-end totals of 18 for 2022, 21 in 2021, 16 in 2020, 13 in 2019 and 13 in 2018.

Fatal MVC - Incident of February 23, 2023 - Officers from 2 District along with Niagara EMS and the Niagara Falls Fire Department responded to a serious two-vehicle collision on Morrison Street near Lamarsh Street in Niagara Falls. One of the drivers, an 86-year-old male from Niagara Falls, was transported to a local hospital with injuries believed to be non-life-threatening. On February 25, the 86-year-old driver succumbed to injuries in hospital which were attributed to the collision.

Fatal MVC/Homicide/Attempt Homicide - Incident of February 26, 2023 – Uniform officers from 8 District responded to a collision in the area of Ridge Road West and Mountain Road in Grimsby. Upon arrival, they located a vehicle which contained an 82-year-old female without vital signs, and a 79-year-old male suffering from serious injuries. The female was transported to a local hospital where she was pronounced deceased, while the male was transported to an out-of-town hospital for treatment of his injuries. Investigation revealed that their vehicle was propelled into a ditch after it was intentionally struck by another vehicle. Police arrested the female driver of the other vehicle at the scene of the collision, and she has been charged with first degree murder and attempted murder. The Homicide Unit has taken carriage of the investigation, along with the Collision Reconstruction Unit who are providing technical assistance to the investigation.

Fatal MVC - Incident of February 27, 2023 - Officers from 2 District responded with the Niagara-on-the-Lake (NOTL) Fire Department and Niagara EMS for a motor vehicle collision on Glendale Avenue at Homer Road, in NOTL. The initial investigation determined that a 91-year-old male was operating a vehicle east on Glendale Avenue when a collision occurred with another vehicle travelling west on Glendale Avenue. Witnesses assisted by providing lifesaving measures to the driver of the first vehicle who was unresponsive after the collision. He was ultimately transported

to a local hospital where he was pronounced deceased. The driver of the other vehicle sustained no injuries. The cause of the collision remains under investigation by Collision Reconstruction Detectives supported by Forensic Services Detectives.

Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collision (MVC) - Reporting Period of February 1 to February 28, 2023

- 1 for this reporting period.

Life Threatening MVC - Incident of February 22, 2023 - Officers from 5 District responded with the Fort Erie Fire Department and Niagara EMS paramedics for a motor vehicle collision on Point Abino Road near Fox Road in Fort Erie. Upon arrival, officers determined an adult male was operating a sport utility vehicle north on Point Abino Road when a collision occurred with a Rugged Terrain Vehicle (RTV) also travelling north on Point Abino Road. As a result of the collision, the 64-year-old male operator of the RTV sustained life-threatening injuries and was airlifted to an out-of-town trauma centre for advanced medical care where he remains in serious condition. The cause of the collision remains under investigation by Collision Reconstruction Detectives.

Enforcement Initiatives:

Wainfleet Shooting Incident Leads to Arrests - On February 28, at 5:19 pm, 6 District uniform officers responded to a report of a disturbance at a rural residence in the area of Concession Road 6 and Wellandport Road in Wainfleet. The initial investigation determined that earlier in the day a male youth had been taken against his will by four suspects and driven to this location where the suspects, armed with knives and firearms, attempted to take a second male youth against his will. At least one shot was fired during the incident. During the altercation, the suspect vehicle became stuck in a ditch, stranding the four suspects in the largely rural area. The initial responding officers arrested one of the suspects near the scene. Additional uniform officers from across the Region attended to assist in establishing a perimeter. Officers from the K9 Unit and Emergency Task Unit (ETU) were also called to the scene to conduct a search / track for the remaining three suspects. The NRPS requested the assistance of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) who responded to the area with one of their helicopters.

Out of an abundance of safety, Wainfleet residents in the area were asked to shelter in place. At approximately 7:00 pm officers located and arrested two more suspects. Despite an exhaustive 4.5 hour search of the area, the fourth suspect was not located. Two 16-year-old males (one from Pelham and one from Niagara Falls) and a 20-year-old St. Catharines male have been jointly charged with several Criminal Code offences, including kidnapping and use of a firearm in the commission of an offence. On March 2, the fourth suspect, an 18-year-old St. Catharines male, was arrested and is facing numerous charges as well, including kidnapping, careless use of a firearm, and assault with a weapon. All parties believed to be responsible for original incident have been arrested. Detectives maintain that this was a targeted incident with no physical injuries to anyone involved.

911 Call for Suspected Impaired Driver Results in Arrest and Recovery of Firearm - On March 8, approximately 1:00 pm, our Communications Unit received a 911 call from a motorist regarding a suspected impaired driver. A black vehicle was observed driving erratically and swerving across lanes of traffic on Merrittville Highway near Port Robinson Road in Thorold. Uniform officers from 3 District responded to the area and located the suspect vehicle on Niagara Street near Merritt Street in Welland. A traffic stop was conducted and upon speaking with the driver, officers detected signs of impairment that resulted in an arrest for impaired driving. Officers

then located fentanyl in the suspect's pants pocket and they also observed a shotgun resting on the passenger side of the vehicle. A 20-year-old Welland man is facing several charges including possession of a firearm, careless storage of a firearm, impaired driving, and possession of fentanyl.

7. PRESENTATIONS

7.1 Crime Stoppers Niagara

Crime Stoppers of Niagara Board President Ernie Sibbett and Board Secretary Jason Snyder provided the Board with a presentation on the Crime Stoppers program, which is a citizen, media and police co-operative program designed to involve the community in the fight against crime and encourage the public to anonymously assist law enforcement agencies in the apprehension and conviction of criminals.

In 2020, Crime Stoppers of Niagara and the Niagara Police Services Board entered into a Memorandum of Understanding. Since that time, the Board has invested \$150,000 towards the Crime Stoppers Program. Throughout the lifespan of the MOU, Crime Stoppers has received 5,057 anonymous tips, averaging 4.6 tips each day and 32 tips each week. These anonymous tips have assisted the Niagara Regional Police Service with 125 arrests and 289 laid charges, resulting in the clearance of 84 cases and a total of six firearms being taken off the streets. As well, it has enabled police to seize \$332,342 in drugs, \$379,980 in recovered property and \$273,623 in recovered cash.

Crime Stoppers' promotes a variety of community safety and awareness programs. These programs include the Be Aware Take Care, Elder Abuse Awareness, Human Trafficking Awareness, Illegal Dumping, Fight for Youth Campaign and the Online Shopping Campaign. With respect to the Human Trafficking Awareness Program, Crime Stoppers will be expanding the program by working with the Niagara Parks Commission to raise awareness of this issue through signage in public washrooms and surrounding areas. As well, Crime Stoppers will be working with the District School Board of Niagara (DBSN) to raise awareness among students through educational programs and messaging. Crimes Stoppers will also be reaching out to other local school boards, local fire services and police districts for any interested involvement in this initiative.

Moved by: L. Ip

Seconded by: N. Kapisavanhu

That the presentation be received.

Carried

8. CONSENT AGENDA

8.1 Niagara Region - Appointment of Public Member to the Niagara Police Services Board

Correspondence dated February 24, 2023 from Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, Niagara Region, advising of the resolution passed at the Regional Council meeting held February 23, 2023 respecting the appointment of Nyarayi Kapisavanhu as the Community Member to the Niagara Police Services Board.

8.2 Short Hills Provincial Park - 2022 First Nations Deer Harvest Associated Costs

Service report dated February 9, 2023 advising the Board of the policing activities and associated costs of the 2022 First Nations Deer Harvest held at Short Hills Provincial Park in St. Catharines, Ontario, on October 12 and 25; November 5 and 23; and December 3 and 14, 2022, which accrued 20 hours of on duty officer time and a further 332 hours of overtime, resulting with a cost to the NRPS at an estimated total of \$26,818.13.

8.3 Quarterly Report - Overtime Incurred by the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) - October 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated March 3, 2023 providing the Board with a five-year uniform and civilian quarterly and year-to-date overtime trend analysis to include summaries of the overtime hours by activity category, which continues to be predominantly driven by the need to meet minimum staffing requirements and major investigation events.

8.4 Annual Report - Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) Tuck Shop - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 27, 2023 informing the Board that net proceeds in the amount of \$779.80 have been received from the sale of the NRPS Souvenir and Display Sales Program for the year 2022, and that those funds have been transferred to the Board's Special Fund Account.

8.5 Annual Report - Accessibility Standards & Accessibility Standards for Customer Service - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated March 2, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Laws 366-2017 and 367-2017.

8.6 Annual Report - Child Abuse and Neglect - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 8, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 219-2000.

8.7 Annual Report - Child Pornography (Internet Child Exploitation) Investigations - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 16, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 333-2013.

8.8 Annual Report - Illegal Gaming - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated March 2, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 224-2000.

8.9 Annual Report - Marine Unit - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 16, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 227-2000.

8.10 Annual Report - Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 24, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 395-2022.

8.11 Annual Report - Parental and Non-Parental Abductions and Attempts - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 16, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 295-2010.

8.12 Annual Report - Police Action at Labour Disputes - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated March 7, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 240-2000.

8.13 Annual Report - Sudden Death and Found Human Remains - January 1 to December 3, 2022

Service report dated February 16, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 229-2000.

8.14 Annual Report - Underwater Search and Recovery - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated February 16, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 273-2005.

8.15 Annual Report - Vehicle Theft - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated March 2, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 235-2000.

8.16 Annual Report - Witness Protection - January 1 to December 31, 2022

Service report dated March 2, 2023 submitted in accordance to the annual reporting requirements set out in Board By-Law 210-2000.

Moved by: T. McKendrick

Seconded by: B. Steele

That the information be received.

Carried

9. NEW BUSINESS

Prior to the Board considering the Special Fund requests (Items 9.3 - 9.10), Chair Lawson explained to members of the public that the "Special Fund" does not form part of the police operating budget and is separate from the Regional tax base. The "Special Fund" is a discretionary pool of funds, which is used for grants and donations. Disbursements from the fund are made in accordance with guidelines provided in the Police Services Act, and with Board By-Law 376-2018, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines.

Section 132(2) of the Police Services Act establishes that the Niagara Police Services Board has the sole authority for spending the proceeds from the sale of property, which lawfully comes into the possession of the police service. The Act stipulates that "the Chief of Police may cause the property to be sold, and the Board may use the proceeds for any purpose that it considers in the public interest." The proceeds from such sales are placed into a fund known as the "Special Fund." Board policy sets out the criteria and administrative processes for applications to the Board for funding from the Special Fund, as well as delegated categories of funding for assessment and approval by the Board.

9.1 Police Services Board - 2023 Committee Representation

Report dated March 1, 2023 from Deb Reid, Executive Director, Niagara Police Services Board, requesting the Board confirm the mandate and membership of Board Committees for 2023.

Moved by: D. Eke
Seconded by: L. Ip

That the Board approve the Committee mandate as outlined in this report and confirm its Committee membership for 2023.

Carried

9.2 Ontario Police Video Training Alliance (OPVTA) - 2023 Business Plan

Service report dated March 3, 2023 requesting the Board approve the 2023 OPVTA Business Plan, which reinforces both the NRPS and Board's commitment to public safety and organizational excellence through the continuance of developing and distributing police learning materials to over 25,000 police officers representing 76 member agencies.

Moved by: N. Kapisavanhu
Seconded by: T. McKendrick

That the Board approve the 2023 Ontario Police Video Training Alliance (OPVTA) Business Plan as outlined in the report.

Carried

9.3 Special Fund Request - Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) - Annual General Meeting and Spring Conference

Correspondence dated March 16, 2023 from Deb Reid, Executive Director, Niagara Police Services Board, requesting the Board consider a donation to support the opening reception at the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) 2023 Annual General Meeting and Spring Conference, being held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, from May 30 to June 1, 2023.

Moved by: B. Steele
Seconded by: P. Chiocchio

That the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$5,000.00 from the Special Fund to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) in support of the opening reception at its 2023 Annual General Meeting and Spring Conference.

Carried

9.4 Special Fund Request – Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) - Annual Awards Banquet

Service report dated March 2, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation to help offset the costs of the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) Annual Awards Banquet in support of the Board's commitment to the importance of police training and encouragement for women to consider a career and policing. (*Previous donation: 2019 - \$250.*)

Moved by: L. Ip
Seconded by: N. Kapisavanhu

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Special Fund in support of the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) Annual Awards Banquet.

Carried

9.5 Special Fund Request - Canadian American Law Enforcement Organization (CALEO) Training Symposium

Service report dated March 8, 2023 requesting financial support for the 27th Annual CALEO Training Symposium being held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, from April 26-28, 2023, for members of law enforcement agencies in both Canada and the United States. Funds raised will assist CALEO with offsetting costs relating to audio/video equipment for presentations, guest speaker transportation, accommodations, and meals. *(Previous donations: 2008-2019 - \$250.)*

Moved by: T. McKendrick
Seconded by: B. Steele

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$300.00 from the Special Fund to assist with operating costs at the Canadian American Law Enforcement Organization (CALEO) Annual Training Symposium.

Carried

9.6 Special Fund Request - Family and Children Services (FACS) Fundraiser Gala

Service report dated March 6, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation for the purchase of a corporate table at the Family and Children Services (FACS) Fundraising Gala being held at John Michael's Banquet Hall in Thorold, Ontario, on April 21, 2023. Funds raised at the event will contribute to helping children in need of protection. *(This is a first time donation request.)*

Moved by: P. Chiocchio
Seconded by: D. Eke

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$2,500.00 from the Special Fund for the purchase of a corporate table at the Annual Family and Children Services (FACS) Charity Gala.

Carried

9.7 Special Fund Request - Niagara Chapter of Native Women (NCNW) - Fundraising Event

Service report dated March 15, 2023 requesting the Board approve sponsorship to the Niagara Chapter of Native Women in support of the "Blockers and Attackers" fundraising event being held on April 14, 2023, to inspire the next generation of Indigenous women athletes, while advocating for health and wellness in both their own communities and across Turtle Island. Funds raised at the event will assist with the continuance of critical programs and services for Indigenous women and families. *(Previous donation: 2022 - \$500.)*

Moved by: N. Kapisavanhu
Seconded by: L. Ip

That the Board authorize a donation at the "Moccasins" sponsorship level in the amount of \$500.00 from the Special Fund to the Niagara Chapter of Native Women in support of the "Blockers and Attackers" fundraising event.

Carried

9.8 Special Fund Request - Pathstone Hope Gala

Service report dated March 6, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation for the purchase of a corporate table at Pathstone Foundation's 2023 Hope Gala on November 3, 2023, at the Fallsview Casino Resort's Grand Ballroom. Funds raised at the event will support the various services provided by the Pathstone Foundation as well as to help reduce the wait list, support research, and strengthen a child's experience at Pathstone. *(Previous donations: 2014-2018 - \$2,500; 2019 - \$3,000.)*

Moved by: T. McKendrick
Seconded by: B. Steele

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$2,500.00 from the Special Fund to cover the cost of a corporate table at the Pathstone Foundation's Annual Hope Gala event.

Carried

9.9 Special Fund Request - Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) Bicycle Registry Program

Service report dated March 8, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation for the purchase of 2,000 Project 529 Garage Shields to maintain and expand the NRPS Bicycle Registry Program, partnered with Project 529 Garage, that was initiated in 2022. *(Previous donation: 2021 - \$5,800.)*

Moved by: D. Eke
Seconded by: P. Chiochio

That the Board approve a donation in the amount of \$6,320.00 from the Special Fund for the purchase of 2,000 Project 529 Garage Shields in support of the crime prevention tool of the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) Bicycle Registry.

Carried

9.10 Special Fund Request - Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) Tug of War Teams

Service report dated March 3, 2023 requesting the Board approve a donation to help offset expenses incurred by the members of the Niagara Regional Police Service participating in the annual Tug of War cross border competition being held May 13, 2023 on the Rainbow Bridge in Niagara Falls. *(Previous donations: 2004-\$250, 2005-\$300, 2006-\$250; 2007-2009-\$300; 2010-2018-\$500; 2019-\$1,000; 2020-\$1,400.)*

The Board suggested that Chief MacCulloch consider asking NRPS Corporate Communications to work with the City of Niagara Falls to promote this event through social media for enhanced public awareness and attendance.

Moved by: B. Steele
Seconded by: N. Kapisavanhu

That the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$1,400.00 from the Special Fund to the NRPS Men's and Women's teams competing in the annual Tug-of-War competition.

Carried

10. OTHER NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Eligibility for Elected Official to Serve as Region's Citizen Appointee to the Police Services Board

Member Steele spoke to the Region's process for appointing its public citizen to the Niagara Police Service Board. He requested further clarification on the reading of the *Police Services Act* regarding the eligibility of an elected official to be appointed to the Board to serve in the capacity of a citizen/community appointed representative. He also suggested that this section be further defined and clarified in the new *Community Safety and Policing Act*.

The Board's Executive Director advised that the *Police Services Act* only refers to "Council" which in the context of the *Act* means Regional Council and that it does not take into consideration the council of an area municipality. The *Act* does not address upper-tier and lower-tier municipalities in a two-tier structure, such as Niagara.

The Board directed the Executive Director to correspond with the Ministry's Policing Services Advisor on this matter to ensure that the wording in the new legislation is clear and concise about eligibility for elected officials of both Regional and local councils.

11. IN CAMERA REPORTS

11.1 Special Investigations Unit - Case 22-OCI-038 - Incident of February 9, 2022

Service report dated February 2, 2023 advising that the SIU concluded their investigation in this matter and found no grounds for criminal charges against any police officer, and also advising that in compliance with S. 32 of Ontario Regulation 268/10 made under the Police Services Act, the Service completed its review and investigation into this matter and concluded that there are no identified policy/service/officer conduct issues.

11.2 Special Investigations Unit - Case 22-OCI-044 - Incident of February 15, 2022

Service report dated February 1, 2023 advising that the SIU concluded their investigation in this matter and found no grounds for criminal charges against any police officer, and also advising that in compliance with S. 32 of Ontario Regulation 268/10 made under the Police Services Act, the Service completed its review and investigation into this matter and concluded that there are no identified policy/service/officer conduct issues.

Moved by: B. Steele
Seconded by: T. McKendrick

That, in accordance with Board direction, the above noted In Camera reports be received for public information.

Carried

12. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Meeting adjourned at 10:18 am.

Jen Lawson, Chair

Deb Reid, Executive Director