

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK POLICE SERVICES BOARD

Report of the Executive Director – June 20, 2007

Ontario Association of Police Services Boards Conference

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Board receive this report in compliance with its Conference Attendance and Travel Expense Policy.
2. That the Board, as requested by the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, identify any issues of interest over and above the resolutions approved at the 2007 Annual General Meeting that the Association may include in its survey of provincial parties.

BACKGROUND

Chair Danny Wheeler, Vice-Chair Joe Persechini, Mrs. Daisy Wai and the Executive Director were among 318 delegates to the 45th Annual Meeting and Conference of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards in Owen Sound, May 3 - 5, 2007. Participants attended a variety of educational workshops on advocacy, policy development, the integration of public expectations into modern-day budgeting; emergency preparedness, methamphetamine and clandestine labs, the Special Investigations Unit, Provincial Offences Courts and executive evaluation, amongst others.

At the Annual General Meeting, Chair Danny Wheeler spoke to the Board's resolution on conductive energy devices and received overwhelming support for it. Delegates supported 11 resolutions which are summarized below.

On June 5, 2007, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards notified its Members that it will be surveying each provincial party on its respective position on matters of interest and concern to Police Services Boards. To that end, the Association has requested that each Police Services Board identify and submit to it, no later than July 13, 2007, any issues of interest over and above those resolutions endorsed by the membership at its 2007 Annual General Meeting. The Association will consider these issues for inclusion in its survey of provincial parties and subsequently will provide its members with a copy of the survey and its results.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Delegates supported the following 11 resolutions:

2007-06 CONDUCTIVE ENERGY DEVICES REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK POLICE SERVICES BOARD

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board call on the Ontario Government to authorize the use of the conductive energy device by trained front-line police officers;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the Canadian Association of Police Boards, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police express their support of this resolution.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

At its meeting on October 25, 2006, the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board considered the use of conductive energy devices which the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has determined to be safe and effective less lethal weapons than firearms in subduing an individual. The Board considered that the inclusion of less lethal conductive energy devices in the range of use-of-force options available to trained front-line police officers could, in some circumstances, prevent the use of a firearm and the possible death of a suspect. Furthermore, the Board agreed that front-line police officers at the scene of a crime should have access to the same use-of-force options as a supervisor who may not be at the scene.

2007-01 RIDE GRANT PROGRAM

FROM: OAPSB ZONE 2

THAT Zone 2 requests that the Ontario Government through the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services recognize that the number of police services applying for RIDE grant funding is increasing each year while the funding is remaining at the same level;

AND FURTHER that the Government increase the level of funding to at least correspond to the increase in new applications from police services;

AND FURTHER that the Government reimburse police services as they expend their resources than only at the end of the provincial fiscal year, which does not always coincide with municipal fiscal years.

2007-02 GUN CONTROL RESOLUTION BROCKVILLE POLICE SERVICES BOARD

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Brockville Police Services Board request that the Government of Canada should immediately:

- Cancel the amendments to eliminate the registration of unrestricted rifles and shotguns;
- End the amnesty for gun owners who fail to renew their licenses or to register their firearms;
- Ensure there are adequate resources to strengthen the license screening and renewal processes for firearms registration and licensing;
- Prohibit the sale of semi-automatic assault weapons to civilians and strengthen controls on handguns;
- Support increased awareness of the real threats of firearms, the risk factors and appropriate interventions; and
- Strengthen borders security controls and support international efforts to combat the illicit trade in firearms;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the appropriate Federal and Provincial authorities, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the Canadian Association of Police Boards and the Canadian and Ontario Associations of Chiefs of Police for consideration.

**2007-03 HIGH-RISK OFFENDERS
BROCKVILLE POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

THAT the Brockville Police Services Board supports stringent new rules to protect Canadians from dangerous and high-risk offenders as recently proposed by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, the Honourable Vic Toews, Q.C.; and

FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to appropriate Federal and Provincial authorities, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the Canadian Association of Police Boards and the Canadian and Ontario Associations of Chiefs of Police, and Leeds and Grenville M.P. Gord Brown and M.P.P. Robert Runciman.

**2007-04 VEHICLE LICENSE EXEMPTION
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards call on the Government of Ontario to provide the same exemption * for annual license fees for police vehicles. (* i.e. as it does for fire vehicles)

**2007-05 SALES TAX EXEMPTION – POLICE VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards call on the Government of Ontario to legislate a Retail Sales tax exemption for vehicles purchased for police use and related accessories.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION TO RESOLUTIONS 2000-04 AND 2000-05

The Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board considered a report outlining the response of the Minister of Finance to the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police resolutions 2006-10 and 2006-11 seeking the exemption of police vehicles from provincial sales tax and vehicle license charges.

The Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board is requesting that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards join the OACP in their lobbying efforts to gain exemption of police vehicles from provincial sales tax and vehicle license charges. The savings which would be realized by police forces across the province is substantial especially at a time when police forces must meet increasing demands for service without the provision of additional funding.

**2007-07 BLUE LIGHT INITIATIVE
WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE SERVICES BOARD / PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

THAT the Waterloo Regional Police Services Board support the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board in seeking changes to the *Highway Traffic Act* that will allow for standardized use of red and blue lights on police vehicles in Ontario

The Resolutions Committee noted that amendments to the Highway Traffic Act have recently been introduced to permit the use of the blue lights as proposed in this resolution.

2007-08 FOUR-YEAR BUSINESS PLAN
REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF PEEL POLICE SERVICES BOARD

WHEREAS currently Provincial Adequacy Regulation Section 30(1) requires police services boards, in conjunction with the Chief of Police, to prepare a business plan once every three years; and

WHEREAS the government of Ontario has moved to a four-year election cycle for municipalities in the Province of Ontario; and

WHEREAS it would allow for greater co-ordination between police services boards and their municipal councils, especially in relation to long-term planning, to have the business planning cycle match the election cycle for municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards request the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to seek an amendment to the Provincial Adequacy Regulation Section 30(1) to require a business plan be prepared at least once every four years.

2007-09 JUSTICES OF THE PEACE
OWEN SOUND POLICE SERVICES BOARD

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Owen Sound Police Services Boards request that:

- 1) The Attorney General immediately appoint sufficient Justices of the Peace to resolve the shortage in all areas of the province;
- 2) The Attorney General work with Ontario's Minister of Finance to identify new resources to address the Justice of the Peace shortage in the upcoming 2007/08 provincial budget;
- 3) The Province immediately begin appointing and assigning new per diem Justices of the Peace in all regions, as necessary, to serve until full-time justices can be appointed and assigned;
- 4) The Attorney General develop a replacement strategy for future Justice of the Peace retirements so that further shortages do not occur; and
- 5) The Province immediately establish a Review Committee for purposes of dispute resolution in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding governing the *Provincial Offences Act* court function;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier, the Attorney General, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Minister of Community Safety, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards and Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police.

2007-10 All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) USE ON PUBLIC HIGHWAYS
LANARK HIGHLANDS POLICE SERVICES BOARD

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Lanark Highlands requests that the province of Ontario review with municipalities and their associations the issue of All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) use on public highways with a view to ensuring consistency and sound decision making throughout all areas of the province.

**2007-11 COMPLAINTS AGAINST MEMBERS OF POLICE SERVICES BOARDS
PETERBOROUGH/LAKEFIELD POLICE SERVICES BOARD AND ZONE 3**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Ontario develop a standardized guideline for all police boards across Ontario to use, upon the receipt of a complaint against a member of that Board; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards and the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services be consulted during the development of such a procedure.

OAPSB Board of Directors

Delegates elected the following Board of Directors for 2007-2008:

OAPSB Executive Committee

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| President | Bernie Morelli | Hamilton |
| First Vice-President | Cheryl Jamieson | Peel |
| Second Vice-President | Mary Smiley | Perth |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Mike Fenchak | Town of Lakeshore |
| Past President | Curly Everitt | Blind River |

OASPB Zone/Section Directors:

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|
| John St. Amand | Terrace Bay | Director - Zone 1 |
| Gerald Petroski | Timmins | Director - Zone 1A |
| Mary Smiley | Perth | Director - Zone 2 |
| Wally Humfryes | Brighton | Director - Zone 3 (Includes YRPSB) |
| Mary Anne Silverthorn | Oxford Community | Director - Zone 4 |
| Kevin Eccles | West Grey | Director - Zone 5 |
| Nick Dzudz | Windsor | Director - Zone 6 |
| Dr. Alok Mukherjee | Toronto | Director - Toronto |
| Danielle Boulianne | Terrace Bay | Director - OPP Contract North |
| Terry Clayton | Durham | Director - Big 12 |
| Bob Maich | Halton | Director - Big 12 |
| Henry Jensen | Ottawa | Director - Big 12 |
| Cheryl Jamieson | Peel | Director - Big 12 |

HIGHLIGHTS OF TWO WORKSHOPS

1. SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

Maintaining and enhancing community confidence in Ontario police services through independent investigations.

- Mission of SIU

Established in 1990, the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is a civilian law enforcement agency that works independently from the police. Its jurisdiction includes 62 municipal, regional and provincial police services across Ontario, and approximately 23,000 police officers.

In accordance with its mandate under Part V of the *Police Services Act*, the SIU investigates incidents involving police and civilians that have resulted in serious injuries, including sexual assault. Its 54 investigators are experienced peace officers, with civilian or policing backgrounds. They receive extensive investigative and forensic identification training. The Director of the SIU has the power to cause criminal charges to be laid against police officers. Although the SIU reports to the Attorney General, its investigations and decisions are independent from the government.

In the last five years, the SIU investigated an average of 169 cases annually. In the vast majority of investigations, no evidence of criminal activity was found and therefore no charges were laid. From 2003 to March 31, 2007, a total of 11 charges was laid.

The SIU investigation involves:

- Examining the scene and securing all physical evidence;
- Monitoring the medical condition of anyone who has been injured;
- Seeking out and securing the co-operation of witnesses;
- Seizing police equipment for forensic examination;
- Consulting with the coroner if there has been a death;
- Notifying next-of-kin and keeping the family of the deceased of injured parties informed; and
- Keeping the investigative Supervisor, Executive Officer and Director fully informed of developments on the case.

The SIU prepares a final investigative report which is shared with the Chief of Police.

The SIU aims to increase the public's awareness and confidence in it as an independent investigative body. In carrying out its legislative mandate, the SIU strives to maintain investigative excellence and training standards for its investigators and to balance and foster good relationships with the police and the community.

MODERN-DAY BUDGETING: INTEGRATING PUBLIC EXPECTATIONS

Representatives from the Regional Municipality of Peel explored the question of how public expectations can be integrated into the budget planning process, considered trends in budget planning and processes, and examined the role of Police Services Boards.

Referencing Section 39 of the *Police Services Act*, the speakers noted that Council determines the format and timetable of operating/capital estimates but "does not have the authority to approve or disapprove line-item budget estimates." The *Police Services Act* authorizes the Board to request the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services to determine any question of dispute related to adequate staffing, equipment or facilities.

Today's budget consists of financial estimates based on established police service delivery guidelines to meet public expectations. Knowing your community and obtaining its feedback on police programs and services are key to establishing priorities and meeting public expectations. At all times, Boards should strive to achieve balance between public safety and proactive strategic direction.

The Chief of Police needs to determine how much is to be requested by:

- reviewing history and estimating what will be supported;
- assessing emerging trends that may necessitate the need for increased funding;

- ensuring a financial support network exists within the Police Service to encourage ongoing feedback and communication.

The Board needs to establish short and long-term goals in collaboration with the Chief of Police, and tie these goals to executive performance. Subsequently, the Board provides estimates to Council for the cost of adequate and effective police services on an annual and multi-year basis.

The public values accountability, sustainability, transparency and communication/collaboration. Therefore, Boards are encouraged to focus on the one year to long-term horizon and to shift from debt financing to reserve financing. They should share prepare business plans that clearly identify and justify budget pressures and additional resource requirements.

Acknowledging that funding is scarce and the need to safeguard the public's trust, the presenters identified three key messages for integrating public expectations into the budgeting process:

1. Engage the public through effective communication and collaboration;
2. Through the strategic planning process, establish long-term sustainable operational and financial plans; and
3. Create an environment that encourages transparency and financial accountability in providing effective policing services.

OAPSB SELF-STUDY GUIDES

The OABSB Training Committee (of which your Executive Director has been a member) has developed a series of self-study guides for members of Police Services Boards. These self-study guides are designed for use by Board Members who are interested in supplemental learning opportunities, are new to the Board, or who may be unable to attend OAPSB training sessions. Customized to our mandate outlined in Section 31 of the *Police Services Act*, the self-study guides include the following modules and are readily available in the Board office for your use:

- Orientation;
- Policy / Governance;
- Strategic Planning;
- Budgeting; and
- Community / Public Relations.

SUMMARY

The 45th OAPSB Annual General Meeting and Conference offered delegates an educational forum in which to discuss a variety of governance and policing issues of interest to them and the citizens they serve.

The Stratford Police Services Board will host the 46th OAPSB Annual General Meeting and Conference from April 24 – 26, 2008. For the Board's interest, the York Regional Police Appreciation Night is also on April 24, 2008.

Connie Phillipson
Executive Director