

# REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK POLICE SERVICES BOARD

Report of the Executive Director – September 24, 2008

## **2009 PUBLIC INTEREST AGENDA AND SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS**

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. That the Board approve the proposed public interest agenda and schedule of meetings for 2009.

### **BACKGROUND**

#### **A . Board Meetings**

Section 35 (1) of the *Police Services Act* requires the Board to hold at least four meetings each year. With the exception of July, August and December, the Board meets monthly to address policing and public safety issues of concern to the citizens of York Region.

#### **B. Public Interest Agenda**

In September 2004, the Board adopted a public interest governance model©, created by its Executive Director, which included the Board's vision "*to make a difference in our community*" and first mission statement "*to keep York Region safe and secure for living and commerce by encouraging and supporting excellence in policing.*" In January 2005, the Board implemented its first public interest agenda focusing on policing priorities in York Region.

The Board advertises its public interest agenda extensively through the internet and national and local media, including notices in community sections of local newspapers. Prior to each meeting, the Board also forwards an invitation highlighting a public safety issue to multiple stakeholders including: Mayors, Regional and Local Councillors; Provincial and Federal Members of Parliament (York Region); government ministries and their agencies (e.g. Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services); school boards, schools and community colleges; libraries; social and community agencies (e.g. children's aid societies; youth and family services); recreation centres and community centres for youth and seniors; seniors' residences; hospitals; multicultural, ethnic and faith groups; emergency services; York Region employees; York Regional Police chaplains, auxiliaries and volunteers, the Community Safety Village, the York Regional Police Appreciation Night Committee, and other Boards and Police Services, amongst others. The Executive Director also highlights the Board's public interest agenda in her presentations at the York Regional Police Adult Education Seminars (PACES), at workshops and conferences.

York Regional Police presentations are exceptional in quality. Feedback continues to be positive, and some participants, including elected representatives, attend regularly and many appreciate the opportunity to participate in the discussion after each presentation.

Since 2005, these interactive sessions have engaged the Board and the citizens it represents in a discussion of wide-ranging issues, including: crime prevention and education; policing in a multicultural community; traffic management, enforcement and road safety; youth crime; the Community Safety Village; protecting our seniors; police recruitment and training; a day in the life of a police officer; organized crime; emergency preparedness; guns and gangs; child pornography, sex offender registry, and internet crimes; drugs and grow operations; forensics and crime scene analysis (C.S.I.); building safe communities – cops with hearts; counter-terrorism/criminal extremism; street racing; civilian oversight; policing achievements and priorities; domestic violence;

fraud and identity theft, victim services, search and rescue, waterways and air support policing, and today's presentation on armed robbery, home invasions and carjackings.

## **2009 PUBLIC INTEREST AGENDA**

The attached 2009 public interest agenda was developed in consultation with Chief Armand P. La Barge. It focuses on policing priorities that are highlighted in the 2008-2010 Business Plan and provides citizens with an opportunity to learn about the response of York Regional Police to such high-profile public safety issues as weapons and illegal firearms, violence against women, engaging our youth and protecting our seniors, hate crimes, drugs and vice, impaired driving, road rage and speed, and emergency response.

## **2009 SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board generally meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 1 p.m. in Committee Room "A" in the Administrative Centre, Region of York, Newmarket. All citizens are welcome to attend the public meetings of the Board.

The Executive Director reviewed the proposed 2009 meeting schedule with the Chairman, the Regional Clerk, and the Chief of Police. Upon approval by the Board, the 2009 schedule of meetings and public interest agenda will be posted on the Board's web page at [www.yrpsb.ca](http://www.yrpsb.ca).

## **SUMMARY**

The Board aims to make a difference in our community through excellence in policing. To that end, the Board has been asked to approve an engaging public interest agenda that highlights policing priorities in its 2008-2010 Business Plan for the York Regional Police over nine meetings in 2009.

Connie Phillipson  
Executive Director

Attachment

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## 2009 PUBLIC INTEREST AGENDA

<b>Meeting Date &amp; Location</b>	<b>Topics for Discussion</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>January 28</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman 2009 Policing Priorities</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>February 25</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Emergency Preparedness and Response</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>March 25</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Drugs and Vice</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>April 29</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Responding to Hate Crimes</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>May 27</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Impaired Driving, Road Rage and Speed</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>June 24</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Protecting Seniors</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>September 23</b> <i>Committee Room A - 1 pm</i>	<b>Violence Against Women</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>October 28</b> <i>Committee Room A- 1 pm</i>	<b>Weapons and Illegal Firearms</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b> <b>November 25</b> <i>Committee Room A -1 pm</i>	<b>Engaging Our Youth</b>

**Website: [www.yrpsb.ca](http://www.yrpsb.ca)**