



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
March 9, 2015**

PRESENT: Commissioner Linda Mosher, Chair
Commissioner Russell Walker, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Fred Honsberger
Commissioner Stephen Adams

REGRETS: Commissioner Mike Moreash
Commissioner Phil Read

STAFF: Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police
Chief Superintendent Roland Wells, RCMP
Deputy Chief Bill Moore, Halifax Regional Police
Mr. Richard Butts, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Ashley Dutcher, Solicitor
Mr. Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, supporting documents, and information items circulated to the Board of Police Commissioners are available online: <http://www.halifax.ca/boardscom/bpc/150312bopc-agenda.php>

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m. The Board moved into an In Camera session at 2:00 p.m. and reconvened at 2:25 p.m. The Board adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order in Halifax Hall, 2nd Floor City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Halifax.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 9, 2015

Commissioner Walker noted an error on page nine of the February 9, 2015 minutes and noted that Commissioner Mosher had seconded the motion respecting his nomination as Vice-Chair.

MOVED by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Honsberger that the minutes of February 9, 2015 be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

3. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

Item No. 8.1 – Commissioner Walker – Report Request – Pedestrian/Vehicle Collisions

Item No. 8.2 – In Camera – Personnel Matter – RCMP Budget and Resourcing

MOVED by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Adams that the agenda be approved as amended. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES

5. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

6. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

6.1 Correspondence

6.2 Petitions

6.3 Presentation

6.3.1 RCMP - Hybrid Hub – An approach to Youth Intervention

Chief Superintendent Roland Wells provided a presentation respecting Hybrid Hub – An approach to Youth Intervention.

The Chair thanked Chief Superintendent Wells for his presentation and requested questions of clarification from Members of the Commission.

Commissioner Adams inquired if there are numbers available to support the success of youth intervention at the low and medium risk levels.

Chief Superintendent Wells replied in the affirmative and noted that RCMP in New Brunswick have similar numbers to that of Nova Scotia with very good success rates. He advised that the Halifax District is at the beginning of the process but noted that he will bring back the statistics with respect to the program in the near future.

Commissioner Adams expressed his interest in the hybrid hub model and noted that an examination of high, medium and low risks will assist in determining put a dollar figure on where resources will be most effectively allocated.

Commissioner Honsberger noted that the hybrid hub model was discussed extensively in law enforcement circles in the past. He noted that the implementation of the hybrid hub did not happen properly and expressed his view that it is good to see it implemented in the proper manner.

Chief Superintendent Wells commented that the model attempts to build a strong base as well as a strong understanding within policing and the social world with respect to Youth Intervention.

Commissioner Honsberger inquired if the RCMP is sharing information with other government agencies and social service organizations.

Chief Superintendent Wells replied in the affirmative and noted that familial consent is required to obtain and share information with partner organizations.

Commissioner Walker thanked Chief Superintendent Wells for his presentation. He expressed his opinion respecting the need to get the education system involved which can identify problems with at risk youth sooner rather than later.

Chief Superintendent Wells commented that every Hybrid Hub has school involvement and agreed with Commissioner Walker's assessment that the participation of the education system is completely essential to the success of Hybrid Hubs.

Further discussion ensued.

7. REPORTS

7.1 STAFF

7.1.1 HRP Dashboard Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP Dashboard Reports*

The HRP Dashboard Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.2 HRP Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP Reports*

Chief Jean-Michel provided a presentation to the Board regarding a recent summit on community policing and the economics of policing and gave an overview of the various presentations and topics such as change management, policing costs and cost drivers.

Chief Blais advised of a presentation by the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police on his police service and provided commentary with respect to decreases in criminal code calls within his jurisdiction while traffic calls and quality of life service calls have been on the rise. He noted increases in distracted and drug impaired driving charges in other jurisdictions and commented that there are more distracted driving deaths than impaired driving deaths in Canada.

With respect to the HRP Reports, Chief Blais noted block training for 140 police officers which included working with the deaf community, bomb training, training on Bill C-36 as well as the use of force. He advised that HRP has launched the Real Time Crime Centre which is still a pilot project for the next four

months. He provided commentary with respect to the recent HRP Gala which recognizes the work of Police Services' dedicated people.

Chief Blais referenced a recent call respecting a shooter at the Halifax Shopping Centre which was a very good lesson for HRP with respect to a call for an Active shooter. He commented that officers were able to ascertain what was going on and noted that the call was for a slingshot that was shot at the bus terminal. He further noted that notification of the active shooter situation was sent out via twitter which was a very good lesson in the power of social media.

Commissioner Adams commended both the RCMP and HRP with respect to the recent situation at the Halifax Shopping Centre. He inquired as to how police officers are able to determine drivers that are under the impairment of drugs.

Chief Blais noted that officers are required to have constant and consistent training with respect to identifying individuals demonstrate impairment by drugs.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner Adams, Chief Superintendent Wells commented that the Halifax District RCMP have had no losses in court with respect to drug impairment convictions.

Commissioner Walker commented that he would like more information pertaining to the recruitment for Citizens on Patrol to attract more volunteers and inquired if it would be acceptable for Councillors to share this information within their districts.

Superintendent Scott MacDonald noted that he would be happy to share recruitment information with Councillors to help recruit more volunteers.

The HRP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.3 RCMP Dashboard Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The RCMP Dashboard Reports*

Chief Superintendent Wells provided an overview of the RCMP Dashboard reports noting progress in the areas of collisions prevention and road safety.

The RCMP Dashboard reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.4 RCMP Reports

The following was before the Board:

- *The HRP Reports.*

The RCMP Reports were received by the Board as submitted.

7.1.5 Update - Public Safety Office

The following was before the Board:

- A report dated March 6, 2015

Staff Sargent Scott MacDonald gave an overview of the National Municipal Network on Crime Prevention report. He noted that the National Municipal Network on Crime prevention is a public safety group which comprises public safety offices and police representation from across the country. He noted that the group has a permanent employee based in Montreal to assist in coordinating the initiative and provided commentary on funding options for training events which are provided through the network. He advised

that participation in the network will be part of the vision for the new public safety office when it is established.

MOVED by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Honsberger that the Board of Police Commissioner as the HRM Public Safety Committee, endorse continued active participation in the National Municipal Network on Crime Prevention including taking part in the new inter-municipal cooperation program funded by the NCPC for the next three years and that this update be provided to Regional Council through the Board.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Staff Sargent MacDonald gave an overview of several other initiatives currently being undertaken by the Public Safety Office and stated that HRP is not absent from the Hybrid Hub program noting the participation of a number of HRP officers.

7.1.6 Update – Superintendent Auld – Coplogic

The following was before the Board:

- *A memorandum dated March 5, 2015*

Superintendent Sean Auld provided a presentation with respect to the Coplogic system which is used to collect data for service calls. He advised that the system is very efficient and is used by many organizations across the country and noted that that it usage will dramatically reduce the amount of time that police staff spend inputting reports, as it is now automated.

Further discussion ensued.

7.1.7 Update – HRP Reorganization

Chief Blais provided a brief overview of the reorganization of the Halifax Regional Police senior management structure noting that the Expression of Interests for the Senior Superintendent rank will close by the evening of March 9, 2015. He further advised that the Expression of Interests for Inspectors will close by March 25, 2015. He advised of changes to the rank insignias for HRP Superintendents.

Commissioner Adams noted that the overall budget has yet to be approved and inquired as to when the individuals will be hired.

Chief Blais noted that the individuals will be hired before the end of the current fiscal year. He noted that the resources required for the hire will come out of the current 2013-14 budget.

In response to a follow up question from Commissioner Adams, Chief Blais noted that he will provide more information respecting the impact on the budgetary figures for the reorganization for the Board.

7.1.8 Discussion – Orientation for new members

Commissioner Mosher noted that she had a discussion with provincial representatives regarding the provincial appointment for the Board. She provided further commentary respecting an orientation session for new members at HRP and RCMP Headquarters.

Commissioner Honsberger provided commentary respecting the proposed Orientation Manual and noted that it will assist in providing a shared focus for the Board. He further advised of the importance of providing board history and documentation that explains the legislation.

Commissioner Mosher thanked Commissioner Honsberger for his feedback and noted that that the draft Orientation Manual is currently with Legal Services for review.

7.1.9 Discussion – Implementation of Status Sheet

The Legislative Assistant provided an overview the proposal for a status sheet which is an internal document used as a tracking tool for report requests and motions passed by the Board. He noted its usage on other committees and stated that the document could be in place by May in consultation with RCMP and HRP staff members.

MOVED by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Honsberger that the Board of Police Commissioners adopt the usage of a status sheet. MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.1.10 Discussion – Proposed Orientation Manual

Ms. Ashley Dutcher, Solicitor stated that HRM Legal Services is currently in the process of providing a general legal opinion respecting the role of the Board pursuant to the applicable Legislation and noted that it will be completed in the near future.

MOVED by Commissioner Adams, seconded by Commissioner Walker that the Board of Police Commissioners postpone review of the Draft Orientation and Policy Manual until such time as comments are provided from the Municipal Solicitor in relation to the Police Act and Regulations, and By-law P-100 as referenced in the Draft Orientation and Policy Manual.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.1.11 Discussion – 2014-15 Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan

The following was before the Board:

- *The 2014-15 Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan*

Commissioner Honsberger noted that the Board approved its Terms of Reference and Work Plan documentation in July of 2014 and commented that the Orientation Manual will likely supersede the documentation that was approved in July if it is approved by the Board after obtaining the legal review. He noted that the work plan was created to help populate monthly agendas and to remind Commissioners of various tasks such as evaluations and budgetary responsibilities that must be dealt with.

MOVED by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Adams that Board of Police Commissioners review the 2014-15 Board of Police Commissioners Work Plan after comments are provided from the Municipal Solicitor in relation to the Police Act and Regulations, and By-law P-100 as referenced in the Draft Orientation and Policy Manual.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

7.2 COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES

7.2.1 Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Mosher provided commentary respecting a recent event for International Women's Day. She commented that she was very pleased to see Constable Carvery of the Halifax Regional Police in attendance and expressed her thanks for his attendance at the event.

8. ADDED ITEMS

8.1 Commissioner Walker – Report Request – Pedestrian/Vehicle Collisions

Commissioner Walker commented that he would like further information respecting the issuance of summary offence tickets to repeat offenders.

Chief Superintendent Wells inquired if the report will examine repeat offenders who are charged or those who are involved. Commissioner Walker commented that he would be interested in seeing information respecting person who are charged.

Chief Blais inquired if the report can be expanded to capture criminal charges. Commissioner Walker replied in the affirmative.

MOVED by Commissioner Walker, seconded by Commissioner Adams that the Board of Police Commissioners request a report which examines the issuance of summary offense tickets to repeat offenders and criminal charges over the last four years respecting Pedestrian/Vehicle Collisions.

A discussion ensued regarding the nature and reporting processes of criminal charges related to motor vehicle and pedestrian collisions.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

8.2 In Camera – Personnel Matter – RCMP Budget and Resourcing

This matter took place during an In Camera session later in the meeting. Please see page 7.

9. IN CAMERA

9.1 Private and Confidential Correspondence

This matter was discussed with during an In Camera session.

8.2 In Camera – Personnel Matter – RCMP Budget and Resourcing

This matter was dealt with during an In Camera session. No further action was required.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 11, 2015

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Liam MacSween
Legislative Assistant