

Item No. 11.2.1
Halifax Regional Council
November 19, 2013

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY:

Commissioner Micki Ruth, Chair, Board of Police Commissioners

DATE: October 28, 2013

SUBJECT: Establishment of a Halifax Regional Police Foundation

ORIGIN

October 7, 2013 meeting of Board of Police Commissioners, Item. No. 7.2.1

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

HRM Charter, Section 21 respecting the procedures of Advisory Committees

HRM By-Law P-100 Respecting the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality in particular section 8 (2) (c) "The Board in accordance with the Police Act and HRM Bylaws may in consultation with the Chief of Police, review priorities, goals, and objectives of the municipal police service"

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Police Commissioners recommends that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report considering the establishment of a Halifax Regional Police Foundation. The staff report should:

- 1) Consider existing Police Foundations in other jurisdictions such as Calgary; Vancouver; Edmonton; Abbotsford; Delta, B.C; Montreal; London; Ontario, and Winnipeg. And;
- 2) Examine the proposed administrative and governance structures regarding the establishment of Police Foundation as outlined in the discussion section of this report.

BACKGROUND

At the October 7, 2013 meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners, Commissioner Read gave a presentation proposing the establishment of a Halifax Regional Police Foundation. In his presentation, Commissioner Read noted that many police agencies in Canada (RCMP, Calgary, Vancouver, Edmonton, Abbotsford, Delta, Montreal, London, and Winnipeg) have created Police Foundations. These foundations have enabled Police Services in these jurisdictions, to leverage donations to implement the funding of programs that are ancillary to the police mandate. For example, the Calgary Police Foundation funds programs that focus on education, prevention and early intervention. The programs are collaborative initiatives between the foundation and its community partners.

DISCUSSION

In his presentation Commissioner Read outlined two options with regard to the administration of a proposed Police Foundation, a standalone independent registered charity or the creation of a foundation fund under the umbrella of the Community Foundation of Nova Scotia (CFNS). The Commissioner noted that working under the umbrella of the CFNS could enable the timely establishment of a Police Foundation, minimize costs and provide an immediate and robust fund management process. CFNS is known to HRM and is already the custodian of the HRM Black Firefighter fund.

In terms of governance, Commissioner Read proposed that a Halifax Regional Police Foundation would be governed by a Board with representation from the Board of Police Commissioners, the Halifax Regional Police executive and other community representatives to ensure full transparency. CFNS would handle all financial transactions and receipting, including complex gifting, such as stock, life insurance, real estate etc.

The Board of Police Commissioners, having reviewed this matter recommend that Halifax Regional Council request a staff report as outlined in the Recommendation section of this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No Financial Implications were discussed by the Board of Police Commissioners. The report should identify financial implications to the proposed establishment of a Regional Police Foundation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

All meetings of the Board of Police Commissioners are open to the public.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

No Environmental Implications have been identified.

ALTERNATIVES

No alternatives were discussed by the Board of Police Commissioners.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

Report Prepared by: Commissioner Phillip Read, Vice-Chair, Board of Police Commissioners
 Liam MacSween, Legislative Assistant, 490-6521
