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# Board Highlights for January 16th, 2024

**THUNDER BAY, ON, JANUARY 16, 2024** — The Thunder Bay Police Services Board (TBPSB) convened this morning. Following are notable items from today’s meeting:

Statement from Chair Karen Machado on recent Indigenous deaths in Thunder Bay

Chair Karen Machado spoke about the recent deaths of Mackenzie Moonias and Janna Ostberg, followed by a moment of silence to honour the lives lost and to reflect on the work the Board needs to do, along with the Service to keep everyone in Thunder Bay safe.

A transcript of Chair Machado’s comments is available [here](https://thunderbaypsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/01-15-24-Statement-from-Board-Chair-1.pdf).

A copy of the video including the moment of silence is available [here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LY0xjycH_rr9Y5LN-Z1i0CwWiCWqRpCS/view?pli=1).

Appointment of Chair and Vice-Chair

Chair. K. Machado and Vice Chair D. Baxter were re-appointed by acclamation as Chair and Vice-Chair, effective January 16, 2024, for the remainder of 2024, or until a replacement has been appointed.

Deputation Indigenous Relationship Policy

At the November 21, 2023 Regular Session of the Board, a proposed Indigenous Relationship Policy was presented for the Board’s information. After the meeting, it was distributed to Chief Fleury’s Indigenous Advisory Committee for comments and suggested edits.

The proposed Indigenous Relationship Policy was presented today for adoption and passed.

This marks an important step in the Board’s work towards building trust with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples in Thunder Bay. It also is in line with recommendations from the Sinclair report and the Independent Expert Panel.

The Policy enshrines in Board policy that “Indigenous peoples have a right to equitable and quality services” and ensures that there is regular reporting to the Board from the Chair and Police Chief on these efforts.

Administrator Malcolm Mercer thanked Cora McGuire-Cyrette, Executive Director of Ontario Native Women's Association, who is on the Governance Committee of the Board also, who was instrumental in the development of the policy.

Chair Karen Machado also thanked Administrator Mercer for his stewardship of the policy. **Missing Persons Procedure**

Copies of the Thunder Bay Police Service Missing Person Procedure, Part 6 Chapter 37, for the Board’s information. **(Distributed Separately with Agenda)**

Mr. J. Hannam, Secretary, provided an overview relative to the above noted.

Service procedure for Missing Persons, the Thunder Bay Police Services Board supports the subject procedure, as presented at the January 16, 2024 Regular Session of the Board. With respect to the Thunder Bay Police.

As well as an update on the Missing Person Procedure from the Service, developed after the Board passed its Missing Person Policy. This is important work in line with recommendations from OIPRD, the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, and out of the Epstein report.

Vice Chair K. Machado, Administrator M. Mercer, Councillor Etreni, and Mayor K. Boshcoff provided comments on the matter. The Service acknowledged they have received the feedback.

**Labour Relations Committee**

Mr. W. Bahlieda, Chair, provided an overview relative to the activities of the Labour Relations Committee. The committee will begin the process of bargaining with dates either March or April.

**Board Members Orientation**

At the December 19, 2023 Regular Session of the Board, Councillor K. Etreni provided an overview of proposed Board orientation for discussion purposes only.

Draft Policy on Board and Committee – Orientation and Training was presented for adoption.  **(Pages 32 - 33)**Councillor K. Etreni provided an overview relative to the above noted.

Board members spoke about the importance of having an orientation policy and agreed to refer voting on the motion to allow Councillor K. Etreni to complete more research and consultation for bring it back updated for a future meeting for vote on it.

**General Matters**

* Mayor Boshcoff noted that the City Council is meeting with provincial officials to stress the need for resources for a provincial guns and gangs unit.
* Vice Chair D. Baxter has agreed to be the liaison for strategic planning on behalf of the Board.

The full agenda can be accessed [here](https://thunderbaypsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2024-01-16-Agenda-PSB-Regular-FINAL.pdf).

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