



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board Highlights for March 19th, 2024

THUNDER BAY, ON, MARCH 19, 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 Malcolm Mercer

Chair Karen Machado acknowledged that this is the last monthly Board meeting for Administrator Malcolm Mercer. She thanked him for the hard work he did over his term, expressed that he clearly demonstrated why he was appointed, and noted that he continues to be an asset to the Board and community.

Presentation

At the January 18, 2022 Regular Session of the Board, the Board approved an increase in annual funding for the Thunder Bay Police Youth Corps to \$3,500 on the condition that an expenditure report be provided annually on the disbursement of funds.

Sergeant Sean Shorrocks, Deputy Commanding Officer, Thunder Bay Police Youth Corps presented the above report noting that the additional funding expenditure was mainly to purchase new uniforms.

Governance Committee Update

Committee chair Denise Baxter noted that the position for Deputy Chief of Police position is now live.

Governance Committee Composition

At the last Governance Committee meeting of March 1, 2024 the committee heard an overview of the changes to Board governance being introduced under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*. One of those changes is the way the Board can create committees, which include specifying that board members on committees must represent a majority on the committee. The Governance Committee's current composition is 3 members of the Board and 3 community representatives.

Rather than reduce the number of community representatives, or alternatively move one to a non-voting status, it was the consensus of the Committee that the Board be asked to change the composition to include 4 members of the Board.

The following motion was offered for the Board's consideration and passed:

With respect to the composition of the Thunder Bay Police Services Board's Governance Committee, we recommend that in order to comply with committee composition as provided for in the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, that the composition be amended from 3 members of the Board, and 3 community representatives, to 4 members of the Board and 3 community representatives;

AND THAT Board member Kasey Etreni be appointed to the Governance Committee to fulfil this change.

Information Sharing Policy

Memo from Malcolm Mercer relative to the Board's Information Sharing Policy, for the Board's information **(Page 18 – 28)**.

The recommended frequency and timing set out in the above memorandum includes the following amendments that were approved:

- paragraph 4 (an annual report outlining applications, disclosures and decisions made on secondary employment or activity for the preceding year) to semi-annually;
- paragraph 9 (Missing Persons Investigation Report) to semi-annually;
- paragraph 17 (complaints against Police Report) from July to June; and
- paragraph 23 (TBPS Annual Report) to be determined upon further review

OIPRD Report Recommendations

Chief of Police D. Fleury verbally provided an update on the OIPRD Recommendations noting that 60 percent of the recommendations have been met, while more are ongoing and processes are in place.

BriefCam Artificial Intelligence (AI) Update

Detective Inspector J. Pearson provided a general update on the use of BriefCam AI software by the Thunder Bay Police Service. The software has been used in three separate sudden death investigations.

General Matters

- Amendments to the Procedural Bylaw were proposed and approved with one amendment - the Board create a subcommittee with chair and vice chair to have authority to pass motions to schedule meetings. Memorandum from Mr. J. Hannam, for the Board's information **(page 37-38); By-law PC5-2020 was distributed separately due to the size of the document.**
- Mr. J. Hannam provided an overview of the 2024 OAPSB Spring Conference & AGM. The Board passed a motion for 5 members to attend and that all expenses incurred be paid from the Board's budget. Members attending will be determined later.

CSPA Transition

Memorandum and Report to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board from Karen Machado, Board Chair, and member Kasey Etreni, relative to the impacts of changes from the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*. **(Pages 42 – 47)**.

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

The *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* goes into effect on April 1, 2024. The Act presents several changes that directly affect the Police Service Board in its role, responsibilities, and operations. The memorandum and report: *Community Safety and Policing Act 2019: Impacts and Preparations* outlines those changes and the actions to be taken to prepare for them. Generally, there are changes that require the Board to adopt new policies, changes for which a new policy is not required but may be of benefit, new responsibilities to be carried out and changes that impact Board meeting operations. Unsurprisingly some of these changes are more impactful than others and so some priorities and targeted timelines are expressed here in response. There are also some changes that are optional, such as the size of the Board. The Act provides for municipalities to set the size of its Police Service Board. And it should be noted that the Act also presents many changes for the Service, some of which may indirectly will impact the Board in different ways. Those changes are not addressed here, and await a separate further report from the Chief of Police.

Funding Initiative Proposal

Memorandum to the Thunder Bay Police Services Board from the Special Account Committee, relative to a funding request of \$15,000 from the Thunder Bay and Area Victim Services (TBAVS), for the Board's information. **(Page 48)**

As the proposal outlines TBAVS seeks funding in 3 areas, their crises line for victims of crime, general operations, and a training initiative. The training initiative, titled 'Resource Sharing & Training for Trauma Informed Practice', would see TBAVS provide a resource booklet and training to members of the Thunder Bay Police Service that would provide trauma informed responses for victims. As well, new recruits would be offered the Learn2Help for victims affected by crimes as to how victims wish to receive assistance during crimes they are affected by.

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

The proposed was approved. \$10,000 will be funded from the Board's Special Account, and \$5,000 from the operating budgets of the Thunder Bay Police Service upon approval by the Chief of Police.

New Business

- Firearms data report and update provided by Chief Fleury
- Draft Board staffing recommendation report and memorandum by member Denise Baxter; presented by Board for information and discussion.

The full agenda can be accessed [here](#).

Media Contact:

John Hannam | Board Secretary

807 622 9585 | psbsecretary@hotmail.com