



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Board Highlights for June 18, 2024**

**THUNDER BAY, ON, June 18, 2024** — The Thunder Bay Police Services Board (TBPSB) convened this morning. Following are notable items from today's meeting:

### **GENERAL MATTERS**

#### **a) Board Evaluation Proposal (Pages 24 - 29)**

The Expert Panel appointed by the Board, in its final report, considered the governance structure and role of the Board. Regarding the recommendations made by former Senator M. Sinclair, the Expert Panel recommended that the Board, "Develop and implement a system for annual evaluation of Board performance and publication of a public report card. This should be conducted by an independent external panel."

John Hannam, Secretary, provided an overview. He asked the Board for approval to proceed with the annual evaluation of the Board's performance, including using an independent third-party evaluator, which is in line with evaluation best-practices and the Board's commitment to accountability and transparency.

Councillor Etreni commented that the Governance Committee should have more time to review the proposal, including the need to further study the cost of the evaluation. A Motion was carried to refer the Board Evaluation Proposal back to the Governance Committee for further review.

### **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

#### **a) Governance Committee**

Member Denise Baxter, Chair, Governance Committee, updated the Board that the committee has been reviewing and working on draft policies, including the Appointment to Committees policy, as recommended in the Sinclair Report, as well as the Board Evaluation Proposal.

Member Baxter noted she discussed best practices in board evaluations and what other police service board's evaluation processes entail at a recent conference. Member Baxter further indicated that interviews are continuing as part of the recruitment for the new Deputy Chief.

## **i) Approval of Policy – Appointees to Committees (Pages 17 - 19)**

The policy, “Appointees to Committees for the Thunder Bay Police Service Board” was put forward for the Board’s adoption. John Hannam, Secretary, suggested that original language in the policy be changed from:

“Failure to comply with this policy is grounds for termination of appointment,” to “Failure to comply with this policy is grounds for review of appointment,” to avoid deterring potential applicants. Mayor Boshcoff commented that he had no issues with the policy’s original language. Councillor Etreni agreed with Secretary Hannam’s suggestion. A Motion was carried to change the language and adopt the policy.

## **b) Labour Relations Committee**

Committee Chair, Mr. W. Bahlieda, indicated that negotiations are still ongoing.

## **REPORTS OF THE THUNDER BAY POLICE SERVICE**

### **a) TBPS Joint Health & Safety Committee Semi-Annual Report (Pages 20 - 22)**

Inspector G. Snyder, Thunder Bay Police Service Joint Health & Safety Committee, provided an overview of the statistics and data. The only recommendation from the Health and Safety Committee was to continue and enhance the work being done by the Service in relation to mental health supports for officers as this is the leading cause of lost time injuries within the Service.

Councillor Etreni was concerned to hear about injuries in training. She asked that the Health & Safety Committee look to have monthly meetings rather than quarterly, to allow for more timely identification of opportunities for improvements to prevent injuries.

### **b) Artificial Intelligence Report – BriefCam (Page 23)**

Detective Inspector J. Pearson told the Board that as per the TBPSB’s “Use of Artificial Intelligence” policy, the service will provide the first report on the its use of video analytics in July. The report will be publicly available.

### **c) Update on the Police Service in the Community**

Chief of Police D. Fleury provided an update on Police Service participation during Pride Month and on National Indigenous Peoples Day.

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

**Media Contact:** John Hannam | Board Secretary  
807 622 9585 | [psbsecretary@hotmail.com](mailto:psbsecretary@hotmail.com)