

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board Highlights for August 13th, 2024

THUNDER BAY, ON, August 13th, 2024 — The Thunder Bay Police Services Board (TBPSB) convened this morning. Following are notable items from today's meeting:

GENERAL MATTERS

a) Collaboration with Lakehead University

The Thunder Bay Police Service Board and Lakehead University Faculty of Business Administration are collaborating on an exciting new opportunity for 4th year students. Dr. Tim Hardie of Lakehead University met with Thunder Bay Police Service Members to learn about two prospective projects that were later agreed upon for students.

The two projects consist of identifying and meeting police service levels for the population serviced by Thunder Bay Police Service and maximizing recruitment efforts. These projects may consist of gathering and analyzing data while providing recommendations for improving the force. This program will have no cost to the service.

REPORTS OF THE THUNDER BAY POLICE SERVICE

a) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE REPORT

Detective Inspector Pearson provided an update to the board regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence. According to Inspector Pearson, all login issues relative to BriefCam have been resolved with IT.

Since the launch of BriefCam, the program has been used in three occurrences (a homicide, a vehicle collision and a missing person's report). As per Insp. Pearson, the success of the software is determined based on the video evidence collected by BriefCam. In the three investigations, BriefCam provided assistance to investigators with the speed of the investigations as it has saved them days of searching video.

b) HATE CRIME TRAINING

Inspector Anderson provided an update regarding hate crime training within the Thunder Bay Police Service. Training is expected to be given to all members of the force. This will help officers identify whether or not a crime can be constituted as a hate crime.

The current process requires the report to be referred to an investigator. After the investigator reviews the report, it will be handed over to the crown attorney and will be presented to a judge. However, this new training will add another layer to identifying a hate crime ahead of its presentation to court. It is expected for every officer in the force to be able to identify a hate crime following this training. Training will begin in late 2024.

c) OFFICE RENOVATIONS

The board approved new office renovations with amendments today. The Board will look to form partnerships to feature local and regional artists on a loan basis.

The full agenda can be accessed here

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