



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Board Highlights for December 16, 2025

THUNDER BAY, ON, December 16, 2025 — The Thunder Bay Police Service Board (Board) convened on Tuesday December 16. Following are notable items from the meeting:

Passing of Former Police Chief

The Thunder Bay Police Service Board was saddened to learn of the recent passing of former Thunder Bay Police Service Chief, J.P. Levesque, and extends its sincere condolences to his wife Colleen, other family members, friends, and former colleagues.

Chief Levesque dedicated more than three decades to policing in Thunder Bay, serving our community in a variety of roles throughout his long career.

In 2011, Chief Levesque was hired as the Service's eighth police chief. His policing career included roles in senior leadership, criminal and drug investigations, training, incident command, and administration.

Chief Levesque led the Service with commitment, professionalism, and a dedication to public service, until his retirement in 2018.

We salute Chief Levesque's many years of service, and the contributions he made to Thunder Bay.

Service 2026 Proposed Operational Budget

Discussions regarding the Service's budget have been deferred to a **Special Board Meeting, to take place Thursday December 18th at 3.15 PM at the Board Office.** The meeting will be in-person/via Zoom.

Service Joint Health & Safety Report

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<https://thunderbaypsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-12-16-REGULAR-Agenda-Package-V2-1.pdf>

This report is a review of the activities of the TBPS Joint Health and Safety Committee since the last Board report in June 2025. The incidents report 'year to date' for the 2025 calendar year up to December 3rd, 2025. Health and Safety Committee reporting is scheduled to occur twice annually.

Throughout the year, the Service is engaged in several preventative measures addressing the main causes of injuries employees are sustaining. **The leading cause of injury to members of the TBPS is always due to interactions with violent members of the public during arrests or apprehensions.**

The TBPS also has an evolving Peer Support and Wellness program that continues to support our members with the mental health impacts of policing. The program is continuously evolving based on the needs of our members **and directly addresses the second most common workplace injury —being exposure to traumatic events.**

The Board remains concerned regarding the safety and well-being of its members, particularly frontline officers who are most-vulnerable to injury.

The Board is encouraged to hear that the Service continues to implement several preventative measures to address the main causes of injuries employees are sustaining.

The Board is also encouraged to learn the Peer Support and Wellness Program continues to evolve based on the needs of members. We encourage all members to make use of this program.

Service Complaints Against the Police Report

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<https://thunderbaypsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-12-16-REGULAR-Agenda-Package-V2-1.pdf>

Oversight and accountability are central to the Board's mandate. We appreciate the quarterly update from Inspector Dampier and anticipate the next update in Q1 2026.

Board Budget Update

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<https://thunderbaypsb.ca/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/2025-12-16-REGULAR-Agenda-Package-V2-1.pdf>

The budget is currently on track with the exception of the '*Legal Fees - Indemnification*' account line.

The Board recognizes that its collective agreements require, in certain circumstances, that the Board indemnify members of the Thunder Bay Police Service from legal costs.

Recent activity, outside of the historic norm, has given rise to a negative variance due to indemnification requests, of which the Board has no control.

At the moment, with both expenses realized and anticipated, it is estimated that 2025 will conclude with an unfavourable variance.

2026 Board Meeting Dates

Tuesday January 20, 2026

Tuesday February 17, 2026

Tuesday March 17, 2026

Tuesday April 21, 2026

Tuesday May 19, 2026

Tuesday June 16, 2026

Tuesday July 21, 2026 (tentative)

Tuesday August 18, 2026 (tentative)

Tuesday September 15, 2026

Tuesday October 20, 2026

Tuesday November 17, 2026

Tuesday December 15, 2026

Watch each month's meeting LIVE:

<http://video.isilive.ca/thunderbay/live.html>

Thank You

The Board extends its thanks to all stakeholders, partners, and community members, and wishes you all the best for the holiday season.