



**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES
April 3, 2023**

PRESENT: Commissioner Becky Kent, Chair
Commissioner Lindell Smith
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju
Commissioner Gavin Giles

REGRETS: Commissioner Harry Critchley, Vice Chair
Commissioner Anthony Thomas

STAFF: Cathie O'Toole, Chief Administrative Officer
Josh Bates, Policy Advisor, Board of Police Commissioners
Martin Ward, Solicitor
Iain MacLean, Municipal Clerk
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant

The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.

The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at halifax.ca.

The meeting was called to order at 4:48 p.m., the Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 6:15 p.m. and reconvened at 7:30 p.m. the Board adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:48 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

The Chair spoke to the Mass Casualty Commission final report released on March 30, 2023. The Board observed a moment of silence for the victims of the April 2020 mass casualty.

2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioners noted special community announcements and acknowledgements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 9, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Smith

THAT the minutes of March 9, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS

Additions:

- Item 11.1 Briefing Note on Mass Casualty Commission Report
- Item 11.2 Canadian Association of Police Governance 2024 Annual Conference
- Item 13.3 PERSONNEL MATTER – Private and Confidential Report

Deletions: None

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

Later in the meeting, it was MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Smith

THAT the following item be deferred to the May 3, 2023 meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners:

- **Item 8.3.1 The use of polygraphs by Halifax Regional Police**

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE

6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE

7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE

8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS

8.1 Correspondence – None

8.2 Petitions – None

8.3 Presentation

8.3.1 The use of polygraphs by Halifax Regional Police – Matt Stickland

The following was before the Board:

- Request to present dated January 12, 2023

This matter was deferred; refer to the Order of Business.

9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE

10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION

10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE CHIEF UPDATES

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police (Halifax District RCMP) spoke to the final report released by the Mass Casualty Commission. Christie spoke to their comments made to the March 29, 2023 Budget Committee meeting including recognition of the recent losses of on-duty police officers, Halifax District RCMP's response to mental health calls and Halifax District RCMP performance metrics. Christie provided information regarding Halifax District RCMP's anti-black racism training. Christie spoke to recent and upcoming Halifax District RCMP public engagement sessions, provided a summary of recent and upcoming Halifax District RCMP initiatives, a summary of upcoming officer staffing and a summary of key operational activities. Christie responded to questions of clarification from the Board and provided details of the Halifax District RCMP's response to recent incidents of school violence.

Chief Dan Kinsella, Halifax Regional Police spoke to their attendance at the release of Mass Casualty Commission final report. Kinsella acknowledged the recent on-duty deaths of police officers in Quebec and Edmonton. Kinsella spoke to the Halifax Regional Police Recognition Board's recent awards of merit given to employees and citizens. Kinsella provided summaries regarding recruitment, ongoing response to gun violence and key operation activities including response to the March 20, 2023 incident at Charles P. Allen High School. Kinsella spoke to recent and upcoming Halifax Regional Police initiatives. Kinsella responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

10.2 STAFF

10.2.1 Wortley Report Tracking Document Draft Template

The following was before the Board:

- Handout dated April 3, 2023, revised April 3, 2023

Josh Bates, Policy Advisor, Board of Police Commissioners spoke to the changes included in the Wortley Report Tracking Document draft template and a plan for future improvements such as improved tracking of recommendations that are the responsibility of various bodies and are in various stages of completion beyond being marked as "in progress". Bates noted the potential to develop an online interactive dashboard to track progress accomplishment of Wortley Report recommendations and how interactive dashboards could be expanded to include tracking of the completion of the recommendations in the Defunding the Police report, the upcoming Police Transformation Study and the Board's response to the Mass Casualty Commission final report.

The Board spoke to the need that achievement of Wortley Report recommendation also be linked to achievement of to the Board's strategic priorities.

10.3 MEMBERS OF BOARDS OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS – NONE

10.4 COMMISSIONER UPDATES – NONE

11. ADDED ITEMS

11.1 Briefing Note on Mass Casualty Commission Report

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Critchley
- Handout dated March 30, 2023

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

THAT the Chair of the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners request that the Chief Administrative Officer direct the Policy Advisor for the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners to prepare a briefing note on the final report of the Mass Casualty Commission (the “MCC Report”), published March 30, 2023, outlining:

- a. The major factual findings of the MCC Report relevant to the Board’s statutory mandate;**
- b. The recommendations of the MCC Report that are within the Board’s statutory jurisdiction, either on its own or in tandem with other levels of government (i.e., municipal, provincial, federal, Indigenous); and**
- c. Any other information from the MCC Report that the Policy Advisor considers would be relevant to or helpful for the Board in fulfilling its statutory duties and functions.**

Cathie O’Toole, Chief Administrative Officer advised that the Board’s Policy Advisor work with Community Safety, Halifax Regional Police and Halifax District Royal Canadian Mounted Police in preparation of the briefing note. O’Toole and Martin Ward, Solicitor responded to questions of questions of clarification from the Board.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

11.2 Commissioner Kent – Canadian Association of Police Governance 2024 Annual Conference

The Chair provided the Board spoke to the Canadian Association of Police Governance 2024 Annual Conference which will be held in Halifax, including attendance of a Board representative at the closing breakfast of the Canadian Association of Police Governance 2023 Annual Conference. The Chair agreed to email Commissioners to determine interest in serving as the Board’s representative at the 2023 Annual Conference and as the Board’s representative on the 2024 Annual Conference’s planning committee.

12. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION – NONE

13. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to in camera to discuss Item 13.1 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, Item 13.2 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS and Item 13.3 PERSONNEL MATTER.

MOTION PUT AND PASSED.

13.1 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS – *Private and Confidential*

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

13.2 CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS – *Private and Confidential Report*

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

The following was before the Board:

- Private and confidential information report dated March 31, 2023

13.3 PERSONNEL MATTER – *Private and Confidential Report*

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private).

The following was before the Board:

- Private and confidential correspondence dated April 3, 2023

14. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – May 3, 2023

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Andrea-Lovasi Wood
Legislative Assistant