



TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD

Collingwood OPP Detachment Board

January 16, 2025, 9:00 a.m.

FreeSchools World Literacy Community Room and by Videoconference
Collingwood Public Library, First Floor, 55 Ste. Marie Street, Collingwood

Members Present: Claire Tucker-Reid, Chair
Councillor Kathy Jeffery
Mayor Yvonne Hamlin
Member Michael Edwards

Members Absent: Member Anthony Griffiths

Staff Present: Loris Licharson, OPP Detachment Commander
Sonya Skinner, CAO

Others: Jenny Haines, Administrative Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Chair Tucker-Reid called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Mayor Hamlin provided recognition and acknowledgement of the traditional territory of the Indigenous peoples.

2. Adoption of Agenda

OPP-001-2025

Moved by: Member Michael Edwards

Seconded by: Councillor Kathy Jeffery

THAT the content of the agenda for the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board meeting for January 16, 2025 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None.

4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Coordinator Haines reviewed the election process and called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board. Nominations

were brought forward for Claire Tucker-Reid. Coordinator Haines called a second time for nominations for the position of Chair. There being no other nominations for the position of Chair, Coordinator Haines closed the election. Claire Tucker-Reid accepted her nomination and was therefore acclaimed as Chair of the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board.

Coordinator Haines called for nominations for the position of Vice Chair of the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board. Nominations were brought forward for Councillor Kathy Jeffery. Coordinator Haines called a second time for nominations for the position of Vice Chair. There being no other nominations for the position of Vice Chair, Coordinator Haines closed the election confirming that Councillor Kathy Jeffery has accepted the nomination and was therefore acclaimed as Vice Chair of the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board.

5. Adoption of Minutes

OPP-002-2025

Moved by: Councillor Kathy Jeffery

Seconded by: Mayor Yvonne Hamlin

THAT the minutes of the regular meeting of the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board held on October 17, 2024 and the Joint Collingwood and Town of the Blue Mountains OPP Detachment Boards meeting held December 13, 2024, be approved as presented.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

None.

7. Deputations

None.

8. 2025 Financial Billing Statement

CAO Skinner provided the Board with an overview of the 2025 Financial Billing Statement confirming that there is a formula associated with the billing and that each variable is calculated differently based on the municipality. Mayor Hamlin noted that she has sent correspondence to the Solicitor General regarding the additional costs that Collingwood is responsible for as a result of having a Provincial Court in Town. CAO Skinner confirmed that any municipality with a Court is billed for the court security costs, regardless of usage by other municipalities.

Chair Tucker-Reid requested this item be added to an upcoming agenda, to ensure follow-up or response regarding the correspondence sent by Mayor Hamlin.

OPP-003-2025

Moved by: Councillor Kathy Jeffery

Seconded by: Member Michael Edwards

THAT the 2025 Financial Billing Statement be received.

CARRIED

9. Reports**9.1 Detachment Commander Quarterly Policing Report, Detachment Commander Licharson**

Detachment Commander Licharson introduced the Board to A/S/Sgt Mark Stadig and A/Sgt Andrew Thomas.

Detachment Commander Licharson provided a high level review of the 2024 Forth Quarter OPP Detachment Board Report noting statistics on collision reporting, recruitment, officer training, mental health response unit, auxiliary unit statistics, investigations, theft regarding vehicle break-ins and festive rides.

Detachment Commander Licharson noted awards and recognition presented to officers at the Central Regional Awards Ceremony and answered questions from the Board regarding whether the need for auxiliary officers impacts Staff levels and resources; how the Board could assist with promoting the need for Auxiliary Officers; and clarification on the acronym FTF.

Detachment Commander Licharson provided an overview on trending statistics noting the increase in the intimate partner violence category could be due to more fulsome data being collected. Detachment Commander Licharson answered questions from the Board regarding whether the OPP are doing anything from a preventative standpoint to prevent an increase in intimate partner violence; that the numbers regarding distracted driver offenses seem low and if there are challenges to pressing charges regarding this specific offence.

Vice-Chair Jeffery assumed the role of Chair at this time.

OPP-004-2025

Moved by: Claire Tucker-Reid

Seconded by: Mayor Yvonne Hamlin

THAT the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board offer sincere gratitude and recognition to detachment members P/Cst Rob Light and D/Cst Mark Smith who each received a Commissioner's Commendation for Lifesaving and a St John's Ambulance Award for their part in saving the lives of two individuals;

AND THAT the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board offer sincere gratitude and recognition to detachment member D/Sgt Jason Lloyd who received a Commissioner's Commendation for Outstanding Investigation for his part in a fatal fail to remain collision, that occurred in Springwater Township in 2018.

CARRIED

Mayor Hamlin left the meeting at this time.

Chair Tucker-Reid assume the role of Chair at this time.

10. Other Business

10.1 School Resource Officers Programs in Ontario Update, Detachment Commander Licharson

Detachment Commander Licharson provided the Board an update on the School Resource Officer Program. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that the program has seen success; that there is a lot of training that goes with the position; that the program is still on-going and that a consistent job description is required for the role.

Detachment Commander Licharson noted that although the recommendation report is not published at this time, he would, at the request of the Chair, provide a copy to the Board for review so the Board can see how the School Resource Officer has made an impact at the schools in Collingwood.

10.2 Review of the Updated School Board / Police Protocol, Detachment Commander Licharson

Detachment Commander Licharson provided the Board with a review of the updated School Board / Police Protocol noting the goals of the protocol and Provincial expectations. Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed that an update is required due to the changes in legislation and that there were minor changes operationally. Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed that the policy can be found on the School Boards website.

Detachment Commander Licharson answered questions from the Board regarding the role that the Board has with these protocols; if there is a role for the Board to work with the School Board and the OPP to set policy related to how policing is carried out in communities; and if there is a potential source for future engagement.

10.3 Summary of Satisfaction Levels with Local Policing, Detachment Commander Licharson

Detachment Commander Licharson provided an overview and summary of the results obtained from the satisfaction survey that went out to residents regarding local policing. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that a

research company was retained to administer the survey and that there was over 400 responses received by residents of Collingwood and the Town of The Blue Mountains.

Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed that he is pleased with the results, information and take-aways. Detachment Commander Licharson answered questions from the Board regarding where the report and information is kept; what the OPP will do next with the information obtained; if the results of the survey have an impact on the Board's priorities; and if the results impact the work of the OPP.

10.4 Defining the OPP Detachment Board Priorities – Discussion Regarding a Process (Chair Tucker-Reid)

Chair Tucker-Reid noted the importance of defining the OPP Detachment Boards priorities and asked Detachment Commander Licharson if a process to set priorities has been defined and if he feels the Board should start the process in order to be prepared to move forward. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that a timeline will be outlined in the next version of the OPP's Strategic Plan and confirmed he is unaware of what other Board's are doing at this time.

Board members discussed the notion of defining a process, reviewing best practices, using trends from statistics and survey results and working with community groups as a focus to begin the process. Board members noted the importance of working with the OPP on this and ensuring that Board priorities are evidence based.

Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed that he would reach out to the OPP's Corporate Communication Strategists to see how best this initiative can be supported.

Chair Tucker-Reid volunteered to reach out to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards and craft a process for consideration at the upcoming meeting. CAO Skinner confirmed she would provide Chair Tucker-Reid with the Town's Strategic Plan and survey results regarding residents priorities within the community.

10.5 Process to Develop a Service Level Agreement between the OPP Detachment Board and the Town of Collingwood (Staff Designate)

CAO Skinner noted that the Town currently has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Collingwood Downtown BIA Board of Management and suggested that a Service Level Agreement be established between the OPP Detachment Board and the Town as well. CAO Skinner noted that the framework of the agreement would be reviewed by the Board and it would be brought forward at the next meeting for consideration.

10.6 Update Regarding a Private Members Bill - Student Resource Officers in Ontario Schools (Chair Tucker-Reid)

Chair Tucker-Reid noted that the Private Members Bill regarding Student Resource Officers in Ontario Schools has received its second reading in the Provinces legislative process and would typically go out for public comment. Chair Tucker-Reid noted that privately funded schools are encouraged to have Student Resource Officer's and that she brought this matter to the Boards attention for their information only.

10.7 Draft Detachment Board Commendation Program (Chair Tucker-Reid)

Chair Tucker-Reid briefed the Board on the purpose and the criteria regarding the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board Recognition Program. There were no changes to the draft document requested by the Board.

CAO Skinner confirmed that Staff can assist in the development of the on-line application and process applications. Chair Tucker-Reid confirmed that the promotion of the program will be discussed at the April Board meeting.

10.8 2025 Spring Conference and Annual General Meeting

The Board discussed the upcoming OAPSB 2025 Spring Conference and AGM taking place in London, ON., on June 3 - 5. It was suggested that Member Griffiths and Member Edwards participate. Coordinator Haines confirmed she would follow-up with both Board Memebtrs to confirm attendance and coordinate registration.

11. Community Observations (how is policing going in the community)

11.1 Safety of the Collingwood Public Transit Depot (Member Griffiths)

Vice-Chair Jeffery asked Staff for confirmation on whether the Transit Terminal is an official warming center. CAO Skinner confirmed that it is not an official warming center. CAO Skinner noted that paid security at the Transit Terminal has been increased and that the OPP are aware of the concerns regarding the building and are present given their operational ability.

Vice-Chair Jeffery suggested that clear communication be put forward regarding the officially designated warming centers in Town, noting that the Transit Terminal should not be described as such. Detachment Commander Licharson noted that although the Transit Terminal is not advertised as a warming center, it is still going to be used as one and if there are no offences happening, the OPP cannot enforce the removal of people, but only encourage the use of supports available.

Chair Tucker-Reid asked Staff if there is a homelessness strategy in place for the Town of Collingwood. CAO Skinner noted that although the Town does not take a leadership role, she will be attending a joint meeting with Simcoe County and the OPP to discuss the Town's advocacy role in support of the services that are provided in Town.

Chair Tucker-Reid questioned if the Town is doing enough as a collective. CAO Skinner noted that the concern is warranted, but that Town cannot take the lead on its own and must must work with regional partners for support.

12. Correspondence

OPP-005-2025

Moved by: Councillor Kathy Jeffery

Seconded by: Member Michael Edwards

THAT the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board receive the Correspondence List as provided.

CARRIED

12.1 Support for Crime Stoppers of Grey Bruce

Vice-Chair Jeffery asked if Crime Stoppers of Simcoe County are still operational. Detachment Commander Licharson confirmed that he would reach out to Crime Stoppers of Simcoe County to confirm the status of their organization and determine if they are still operating and if they are in need of any support.

13. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board is scheduled for Thursday, April 17, 2025 at 9:00AM.

Future meeting dates:

Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 9:00AM

Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 9:00AM

Member Edwards confirmed he is unable to attend the meeting of April 17, 2025 and has asked for consideration to meet at another date.

14. Adjournment

Moved by: Vice Chair Jeffery

THAT the Collingwood OPP Detachment Board meeting be hereby adjourned at 10:52 a.m. **CARRIED**

Chair