

**From:** [OAPSB Training and Communications Team](#)  
**To:** [Jennifer Battista](#)  
**Subject:** Supporting Boards in Local Media Conversations  
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Dear Members,

Recent high-profile events involving policing elsewhere in Ontario have understandably increased public and media attention across the sector.

While these matters may have no connection to your local police service or board, boards may nonetheless receive questions from community members or local media seeking comment or reassurance. Some boards may choose to engage in those conversations, while others may decide it is more appropriate not to. Both approaches can be appropriate, depending on local context.

What is important is recognizing that police service boards play a role in shaping how these conversations unfold in their own communities. When boards do engage, clear, measured, and governance-focused communication can help reinforce public confidence, support local police service members and staff, and prevent unnecessary escalation or misunderstanding.

To support boards in navigating these situations, the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards has prepared a short, practical resource focused on:

- what boards may wish to say if contacted locally,
- what boards may wish to avoid saying,
- and how to remain grounded in the board's governance role while supporting public confidence.

The resource is optional and adaptable. It is intended to be used as a reference if and when it is helpful, not as a requirement to engage or respond.

You can access the resource [here](#) from the members portal.

As always, boards are encouraged to consider their local circumstances, established communication practices, and community expectations when determining how best to respond.

The Association will continue to monitor developments and share additional resources as appropriate.

We are here to help and only a request away for support.

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