

MAR2014 BoardMatters



OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA

*The Trusted Leader in Policing
Le chef de file de confiance dans la police*

A Newsletter from the Ottawa Police Services Board

THE OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD



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Welcome to the March 2014 issue of the Ottawa Police Services Board's newsletter - a vehicle for sharing information about the work of the Police Services Board. Additional information about the Board is available online at www.ottawapoliceboard.ca.

In this issue:

- Re-Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- Farewell to Adriana Doyle
- Traffic Stop Race Data Collection Project (TSRDGP) - Public Engagement Session
- Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWS) – Have Your Say!
- Reports recently received by the Board



RE-ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

In accordance with the *Police Services Act* of Ontario, the Board must elect a Chair at the first meeting each year. At the January 27, 2014 Board meeting, Councillor Eli El-Chantiry was re-elected Chair of the Board for the sixth consecutive year. Chair El-Chantiry was first elected to City Council in November 2003 representing the Ward of West Carleton-March. He is one of two Deputy Mayors for the City of Ottawa for the 2010-2014 term of Council. In addition, he is a member of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, Community & Protective Services Committee, Audit Sub-Committee, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority and Transport Pontiac-Renfrew.

At the same meeting, provincially-appointed community representative Jim Durrell was re-elected as Vice Chair for a third year. Mr. Durrell is best-known for the significant contribution that he made as Ottawa's mayor from 1985 to 1991. Today, Mr. Durrell is president and owner of Capital Dodge Chrysler Jeep. He also served as the first president of the Ottawa Senators NHL organization, President for the CFL's Ottawa Rough Riders, a governor of the Canada Sports Hall of Fame and as President of the Ottawa Sports Hall of Fame. He is a past Chair of the Ottawa International Airport's Board of Directors and the Ottawa Convention Centre. He currently serves as Chair of the Hydro Ottawa Holding Inc. Board of Directors.

FAREWELL TO ADRIANA DOYLE

Adriana Doyle was appointed by the Province of Ontario in February 2011 to serve on the Ottawa Police Services Board as a community representative. After serving her community with dedication for three years, the Board was sad to say good-bye to her when her term expired on February 9th.

Ms. Doyle was called to the Ontario Bar in 1984 and is a sole practitioner of law specializing in the areas of family law, arbitration, mediation and collaborative family law. She is very active in the legal community where she serves on numerous committees and boards, including Co-Chairing the Family Law Institute Planning Committee. She also serves as a Law Society of Upper Canada Adjudicator on discipline matters, and is a frequent presenter at Legal Continuing Education programs including the Bar Admission Course, University of Ottawa Law School, Algonquin College, Carleton University and high schools.

Despite her very busy career, Ms. Doyle made a significant contribution to the Board, serving on the Board's Policy & Governance Committee and attending many community events. Her contributions and voice of reason at board meetings will be greatly missed.



Photo Credit: C. Eastop

From Left to Right: Chief Bordeleau, Adriana Doyle, Chair El-Chantiry

TRAFFIC STOP RACE DATA COLLECTION PROJECT PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT SESSION

As part of the continued engagement plan to promote understanding of racial profiling and the Traffic Stop Race Data Collection Project (TSRDCP), the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) and the Ottawa Police Services Board (OPSB) hosted a public engagement session entitled, Let's Chat: Have Your Say, on February 6, 2014 at the R.A. Centre. The aim of the session was to continue the conversation about racial profiling and the next phase of the Traffic Stop Race Data Collection Project as we move forward together. There were 144 participants representing a wide variety of community stakeholders. Spokespersons for the evening (project sponsors and stakeholders) shared the collective action taken over the years to address issues of racial profiling, outlined the project components and stressed the importance of community-police input to the overall process.

Through two rounds of table chat discussions, community members shared their perspectives and insights to better understand the project and issues of racial profiling. The discussions were guided by trained table hosts comprised of community partners, COMPAC members, Advisory Committee members, and OPS members. Discussion themes, questions and recommendations are being compiled into a report that will be made available in the near future. Check www.ottawapolice.ca/race regularly for updates.

CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPONS (CEWs) – HAVE YOUR SAY!

The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) is conducting a review of its deployment of Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs), commonly referred to by the brand name 'Tasers'. This follows the release of revised guidelines from the Ontario Ministry of Community and Correctional Services that authorize Police Services Boards, in partnership with Chiefs of Police, to expand deployment of CEWs to additional officer classes. As part of the review, the OPS is consulting with the public and interested parties to gain a better understanding of community questions and concerns related to CEWs.

The [online questionnaire](#) has been designed to gather important community input that will be taken into account in the development of future options for CEW deployment. It will remain open until March 17, 2014. Community members are encouraged to provide their comments so they may be used to help inform a report in the spring of 2014, outlining recommendations for future deployment.

The questionnaire can be accessed at the above link or by visiting ottawapolice.ca/cew. You can also email written submissions to cew@ottawapolice.ca.



REPORTS RECENTLY RECEIVED BY THE BOARD

In the first quarter of 2014 the Board received the following reports that may be of interest to you; reports are available at www.ottawapoliceboard.ca:

- **Update on Traffic Stop Race Data Collection Project (TSRDGP)** – The TSRDGP is the result of an agreement between the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC) and the Ottawa Police Services Board (OPSB) under which police officers will record their perception of driver race (by observation only) at traffic stops for a two-year period that began on June 27, 2013. The largest study of its kind in Canada, the OHRC and the OPS believe that race-based data collection is an important tool to support bias-free policing services. Full information, updates and opportunities to stay engaged are available online at www.ottawapolice.ca/race.
- **Consultation Plan on Future Deployment of Conducted Energy Weapons (CEWs)** – In addition to the consultation plan (see the earlier article in this newsletter for information on the consultation), this report to the Board contained information about the history of the use of CEWs, training of officers, usage and accountability within the OPS, the Use of Force Model, communication and de-escalation training, and the review being conducted as a result of revised Ministry guidelines on CEW deployment.
- **Provincial Adequacy Standards Inspection Report** – In August 2013 the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services conducted an inspection into the Ottawa Police Service's policies, procedures and practices in the following four areas: Bail and Violent Crime; Police Response to High Risk Individuals; Preliminary Perimeter Control and Containment; and Missing Persons. The Ministry's report shows the OPS and Board in full compliance with the four Ministry standards that were the subject of the inspection.
- **Response to Inquiry** – Special Constables at Construction Sites – At the Ottawa Police Services Board (Board) meeting on January 27, 2014, Chair El-Chantiry inquired whether stationing special constables, instead of police officers, at construction sites would be a better use of resources. While the potential to use special constables at construction sites exists, any venture would require additional hiring of human resource capacities, equipment, training, administration and an assessment of legal and risk management liabilities. Options could include the delivery of these services by third parties. These and other options related to deployment of personnel are being explored under the OPS's Service Initiative (SI) Program and will be reported on to the Board in the spring.
- **Mental Health Unit Presentation** – The OPS Mental Health Unit (MHU) provided a presentation on a partnership they are part of, led by the Ottawa Hospital. The "Live Program" was launched in 2012 and teams up members from the OPS MHU with a psychiatric resident or

A Newsletter from the Ottawa Police Services Board



Continued from Page 3

staff psychiatrist from the Ottawa Hospital for three shifts a week. The team responds to Mental Health calls in progress or conducts follow up calls. The partnership is about finding different ways of delivering services that provide the best service to clients and is efficient.

The best resource, when mental health issues are suspect, is a medical professional who can determine whether or not the person in crisis requires medical attention or the police. The OPS will continue to assess the program and continue working to find the best solution for Ottawa.

- **2013 Board Activity, Training and Performance Report** – This annual report provides information on the meetings, events and training attended by the seven Board members during the previous year, as well as the results of an evaluation of the Board's performance in 2013. It was another productive and busy year for the seven members of the Board, who collectively attended a total of 20 formal Board and committee meetings and 107 other events related to their work. The other events include such things as community meetings, events and fundraisers, meetings with community partners or with Provincial officials and colleagues from other boards in the Province, police association functions, collective bargaining sessions, police recruit badge or awards ceremonies, and the list goes on. In total, Board members collectively spent 469 hours at meetings and other events as part of their duties, representing a significant commitment of time and effort in service to the community.
- **Board Work Plan for 2014** – The work plan sets out the tasks the Board intends to complete in 2014 in order to fulfil its legislative and governance responsibilities and strategic priorities.
- **Calendar of Board Monitoring Requirements for 2014** – The calendar lists all of the reports of a monitoring nature that must be submitted to the Board in 2014 and the months they are due, to ensure the Board is fulfilling its oversight responsibilities under the Police Services Act and its own policies.
- **Positive Workplace – 2013 Annual Report** – This report provides a general overview of the Police Service's Respectful Workplace Program and statistical information on the utilization and outcomes of that Program.
- **2013-2015 OPS Business Plan – Semi-Annual Report** – This report provides a progress report on action and success indicators on achieving the goals and objectives contained in the 2013-2015 Business Plan for each of four strategic priority areas.

The following fourth quarter 2013 reports were received:

- **Performance Report** – the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) monitors and evaluates information on a variety of performance metrics, such as total calls for service, emergency response calls for service, response time on priority 1 calls, amount of time spent on calls, and the number of Criminal Code offences per sworn officer.
- **Workforce Management Report** – presents statistical information on workforce activities such as hiring, retirements, resignations and promotions.
- **Legal Services Status Report** – includes statistical information and analysis of trends on variances against the approved budget, claims and actions against the Board, appeals and applications for judicial review, and any issues of significance the Board should be advised of.

The Ottawa Police Services Board is a civilian body established by provincial legislation that provides governance and oversight for the Ottawa Police Service. It is accountable to the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services, and the Ontario Civilian Police Commission. If you are interested in viewing past issues of the "Board Matters" newsletter or other information about the Ottawa Police Services Board, please visit www.ottawapoliceboard.ca.

The Police Services Board holds regular business meetings on the fourth Monday of each month except: June (meeting has been moved to June 17); August (no meeting); and December (the meeting is on the 3rd Monday). All meetings are open to the public and take place at 5:00 p.m. in the Champlain Room, Ottawa City Hall. Members of the public are welcome to speak to any item on the agenda or can speak to an issue not on the agenda but of concern to them, provided they give at least one week's notice to Board staff. A complete schedule of meetings is available online.