



A Newsletter from the Ottawa Police Services Board

The Ottawa Police Services Board:

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Welcome to the June 2012 issue of the Ottawa Police Services Board's newsletter - a vehicle for sharing information about the work of the Police Services Board.

In this issue:

- Ottawa Police Service releases 2011 Annual Report
- Recent community meetings
- Ottawa Police Board hosts provincial conference
- Change of Command Ceremony
- Reports recently received by the Board.

I hope you find the newsletter informative; additional information about the Board is available at www.ottawapoliceboard.ca.

Eli El-Chantiry, Chair

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

5:00 pm, Champlain Room, City Hall
Listen to meetings via audio-cast at ottawa.ca

June 25

July 30

(please note there is no meeting in August)



OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE RELEASES 2011 ANNUAL REPORT

On 28 May 2012, the Ottawa Police Service released its Annual Report – “2011: A Year in Review”. The report is a compilation of organizational achievements and operational initiatives, along with preliminary crime statistics and performance figures for the past year. This edition of the Year in Review has been given a fresh new look and delivers a dynamic and interactive online presence. The Review is a means of reporting progress on organizational goals related to the 2010-2012 Business Plan to members, the Police Services Board and the citizens of Ottawa. The 2011 Annual Report is available at www.opsannualreport.ca or in French, at www.rapportannuelspo.ca.

RECENT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

The Ottawa Police Service (OPS) and the Community and Police Action Committee (COMPAC) held two community consultations in partnership with the Catholic Centre for Immigrants (CCI): the first meeting was held on 24 May 2012 with the Iranian and Arab Communities; and the second was held on 30 May 2012 with the Jewish Federation of Ottawa and Jewish Family Services. The OPS and its community partners are continually working together towards building trust and partnerships with Ottawa communities by establishing open lines of communication.

OTTAWA POLICE BOARD HOSTS PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

After months of planning, the Ottawa Police Services Board welcomed over 300 delegates and their companions to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards 50th Anniversary Annual General Meeting and Conference from 18 – 21 April 2012. A reception was held at City Hall where Mayor Watson welcomed everyone to our beautiful city.

The OAPSB is the voice of civilian governance of policing in Ontario. It is a non-profit organization that represents approximately 150 police boards throughout the province. Its primary objectives are to advance collaborative dialogue among its members and policing partners regarding police governance issues and best practices, and to advocate for legislative changes that will improve policing and public safety.

The conference theme was “50 Years of Police Governance...What’s Ahead?” A very informative program was put together covering current topics such as: the Rising Costs of Policing, the Status of Civilian Police Oversight in Ontario, Police Oversight Issues, and Emerging Issues on Governance, Advocacy and Operations. Delegates had the opportunity to hear from knowledgeable guest speakers such as: André Marin, Ontario Ombudsman; Gerry McNeilly, Director, Office of the Independent Review Director (OIPRD); David Gavsie, Chair, Ontario Civilian Police Commission; Ian Scott, Director, Special Investigative Unit, as well as special guest speakers, Senator Mike Duffy and Senator Vern White.



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Delegates also learned about two emerging trends in policing from subject experts with the Ottawa Police: Inspector Uday Jaswal spoke about Human Trafficking; and Sergeant Will Hinterberger spoke about the “Freeman on the Land” movement. Delegates declared the conference an overwhelming success!



Gerry McNeilly, Director, Office of the Independent Review Director (OIPRD)



Ian Scott, Director, Special Investigative Unit



David Gavsie, Chair, Ontario Civilian Police Commission

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

The Change of Command Ceremony was held on 14 May 2012 and was highlighted by former Chief of Police Vern White presenting the Ottawa Police Service Tipp Staff to Chief Charles Bordeleau.



The first written reference to the Staff dates back to 1570. For hundreds of years the Tipp Staff has been an important symbol of law enforcement and the authority of the bearer. The Tipp Staff used today was first presented on 1 May 1977 when Thomas Welsh succeeded Léo Séguin as Chief of the Ottawa Police. It has been presented to the four Chiefs that have followed in the subsequent thirty years. More than a symbol of authority, the Tipp Staff is a symbol of the weighty responsibility borne by the person who accepts it.



REPORTS RECENTLY RECEIVED BY THE BOARD

In the second quarter of 2012 the Board received the following reports that may be of interest to you; reports are available at www.ottawapoliceboard.ca:

- **2012 Public Survey of Policing Services** – Every three years Ottawa residents are asked to share their perceptions of safety and security, satisfaction and confidence with police services, and their priorities for the Ottawa Police in the future. Key findings of the 2012 survey include: perceptions of crime are the best ever recorded; views on the performance of OPS remain very positive; citizens' concerns broadly remain the same; some police programs and services are not very well known or used; levels of victimization are relatively low, but policing challenges remain. Speeding cars and aggressive driving once again tops the list of citizens' concerns at both the neighbourhood and city-wide level. The public survey findings offer insights on how to improve service delivery.
- **Annual Financial Report: 2011** – presents the year-end financial position of the OPS and outlines operational issues that affected finances in 2011. The Service ended the year with an operating surplus of \$26,000 which was mainly the result of surpluses in various revenue and recovery accounts. An additional \$764,000 has been allocated to the OPS from the City of Ottawa as the OPS' share of the surplus from the taxation accounts for 2011.
- **Annual Audit Report: 2011** - reported on progress in implementing the 2011 Audit Plan. The plan was developed using a risk based, collaborative approach that identified risks to the 2010-2012 Business Plan for a Safer Ottawa. The Audit Plan focused on assessing the impact of change stemming from business process initiatives within OPS.
- **Professional Standards Section: 2011 Annual Report** – presented statistics on the number and type of complaints made by either the public or the Chief of Police about the conduct of police officers. It also presents statistics on complaints about policies or services provided by the OPS.
- **Byward Market Street Ambassador Program** - The Board received the 2011 Annual Report on the activities of the Street Ambassadors who work in the Byward Market area each summer assisting the police and community in dealing with aggressive panhandlers and public drunkenness. They also provide assistance to tourists. At the same time, the Board approved funding in the amount of \$10,000 towards the program's operation in 2012.

The following first quarter 2012 reports were received:

- **Financial Status Report** – the quarterly financial report summarizes the current financial position of the organization.
- **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.
- **Complaints Report – Part V, Police Services Act** – presents statistics on conduct complaints made by the public and the Chief of Police, as well as policy and service complaints made by the public.
- **Workforce Management Report** – presents statistical information on workforce activities such as hiring, retirements, resignations and promotions.

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- **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.
- **Calendar of Board Monitoring Requirements for 2012** – This calendar lists all of the reports of a monitoring nature that must be submitted to the Board in 2012 and the months they are due, to ensure the Board is fulfilling its oversight responsibilities under the *Police Services Act* and its own policies.

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 August (there is no meeting in August) and December (the meeting is on the 3rd Monday). There are some irregularities in 2012 – please check the online schedule for details. 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.