



MEDIA RELEASE

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OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD AND MAYOR WATSON SALUTE DEPARTING CHIEF VERN WHITE

Ottawa – Ottawa Chief of Police Vern White was appointed to the Senate today by Prime Minister Stephen Harper. His departure will take effect on February 20, 2012.

“I want to congratulate Chief White on his appointment and thank him for his service to our City,” said Mayor Jim Watson, who is also a member of the Police Board. “Vern has worked tirelessly to improve safety for all of our citizens and this has been reflected in declining crime rates. He is a community builder and I look forward having an Ottawa voice in the Senate of Canada.”

“Ottawa is losing a leader who worked hard to build a better police force,” said Councillor Eli El-Chantiry, Chair of the Ottawa Police Services Board. “His efforts reached beyond traditional policing, as demonstrated by his leadership in working to expand youth drug treatment programs in our City. On behalf of the members of the Police Services Board, I wish him all the best in his role in the Government of Canada.”

Chief White was sworn in as Chief of Police of the Ottawa Police on May 22, 2007. Before joining the Ottawa Police Service, he led the Regional Police Service in Durham, a community of approximately 600,000 immediately east of Toronto. Before becoming Chief in Durham in 2005, he spent over 20 years with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The Ottawa Police Services Board is a seven-member civilian body established under Provincial legislation, responsible for governing the Ottawa Police Service and for recruiting the Chief of Police.

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