

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **POLICE SERVICES BOARD CHAIR ELI EL-CHANTIRY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION**

The Ottawa Police Services Board is pleased to announce that its Chair, Councillor Eli El-Chantiry, was elected President of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) at the association's Annual General Meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> in Niagara Falls.

Chair El-Chantiry was Vice President of the OAPSB's Board of Directors for the 2015-2016 term. He also previously served on the OAPSB Board in 2005-2006 and in 2007-2008. Upon being elected, Chair El-Chantiry stated, "I am honoured to be elected by my colleagues to lead the OAPSB and I look forward to continuing the important work that is already underway to modernize the Province's *Police Services Act* and improve policing in our communities."

Councillor El-Chantiry has been a member of the Ottawa Police Services Board from January 2003 to the present, with a six-month break in service between January and June 2007. He served as Chair from October 2005 to December 2006, and from January 2009 to the present. During his years on the Police Services Board, Councillor El-Chantiry has played a leadership role in the province and has worked hard to address challenges facing policing and police governance.

He has been a leader in advocacy with the Provincial Government, including calling for changes to the *Police Services Act* with regard to the police arbitration process, suspension of officers with pay when they have been charged with serious criminal offences, and the need for sustainability of policing to address escalating costs.

Chair El-Chantiry was the very first recipient of the Emil Kolb Award of Excellence in Police Governance, awarded by the Canadian Association of Police Governance in 2014.

The Ottawa Police Services Board is the civilian body responsible for governing the Ottawa Police Service. It is responsible for the provision of adequate and effective police services to the City of Ottawa's residents.

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