BoardMatters



A Newsletter from the Ottawa Police Services Board

December 2015

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The Ottawa Police Services Board



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

Welcome to the December 2015 issue of the Ottawa Police Services Board's quarterly newsletter - a vehicle for sharing information about the work of the Police Services Board. Additional information about the Board is available at www.ottawapoliceboard.ca. In this issue:

- 2016 Regular Meeting Schedule
- 2016 Police Budget Approval
- Ottawa Police Android App
- Human Rights Learning Forum
- 2015 Ottawa Police Awards Ceremony
- Reports recently received by the Board.

On behalf of Board members and staff, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a joyful, safe and healthy Christmas season, and a happy and prosperous New Year.



Eli El-Chantiry, Chair

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PLEASE NOTE

The meeting scheduled for December 21st has been cancelled.

2016 REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

(Meetings are held at 5 p.m. in the Champlain Room at City Hall)

January 25 February 22 March 21 April 25

May 30 June 27 July 25 No meeting in August

September 26 October 24 November 28 December 19

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2016 POLICE BUDGET APPROVAL

On December 9, 2015 City Council approved the Ottawa Police Service 2016 Operating and Capital Budgets. The gross operating budget totals \$308.1 million. With the deduction of non-taxation revenue and recoveries, the net operating budget for the Police Service is \$277.1 million. This represents an increase of \$7.2 million over 2015. With an assessment growth assumption of 1.3% the resulting net increase to the police taxation revenues is 1.75%. For the residential taxpayer the increase for the police portion of the property tax bill will be 2%. This equates to approximately \$11 per year for the average urban resident.

The budget includes \$2.0 million of cost saving measures to help offset the cost of hiring 25 new officers. These will be the first officers hired to meet growth since 2009.



Android and Blackberry users can now download a new and improved compatible version of the Ottawa Police app. In addition to having access to news, traffic disruptions, police station listings, a collision toolkit, crime map, reporting options and crime prevention resources, users can also: browse updated photos of persons wanted by the Ottawa Police; access police contact information with one click; and be reminded to "Leave The Phone Alone" while driving. Download the Android or Apple Ottawa Police app today and visit ottawapolice.ca or email info@ottawapolice.ca to let us know what you think.

HUMAN RIGHTS LEARNING FORUM

The Ottawa Police Service hosted the first ever Human Rights Learning Forum on December 3rd attended by approximately 170 people.

Ms. Renu Mandhane, Chief Commissioner, Ontario Human Rights Commission, stated in her keynote speech that the Ottawa Police is viewed as a leader in the area of community police relations. Mr. Gerry NcNeilly, Director, Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD) also indicated that this type of dialogue is the first of its kind, not only in Ontario, but in Canada. Five community members representing intersectionality presented their narratives to a rapt audience. The brainstorming and feedback from their narratives provided a solid base from which to build a framework to balance competing human rights.

The final report from the day is being created by Lansdowne Technologies, an independent organization who attended as an observer. Once finalized, the report will be posted on the Police website.

2015 OTTAWA POLICE AWARDS CEREMONY

On Tuesday, December 1st, Chief Charles Bordeleau and Police Services Board Chair Eli El-Chantiry hosted the annual Ottawa Police Service Awards. This ceremony recognizes the service of members of the Ottawa Police with the presentation of different awards. There were 150 recipients who received one of the awards listed below:

- Police Exemplary Service Medal is presented on behalf of the Governor General of Canada to all sworn members of the Police Service who have completed twenty years of exemplary service with a Canadian Police Service. Police officers who have completed an additional ten years of exemplary service are entitled to receive a bar, which is worn with the medal.
- <u>Civilian Service</u> gift is presented in recognition of service to civilian employees who have completed 20, 30 and 40 years of full time service. Sworn and civilian members who reach 25 years of service are presented with a timepiece of their choice and sworn and civilian members who reach 35 years of service receive a gift.
- <u>Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal</u> was established to acknowledge the unique contribution to peace that Canadian peacekeepers have made since 1947. Two members were honoured for their overseas missions: Constables Garth Faubert and Jacky Lord.



REPORTS RECENTLY RECEIVED BY THE BOARD

In the third quarter of 2015 the Board received the following reports that may be of interest to you; reports are available at www.ottawapoliceboard.ca:

- 2016 Budget (see article on earlier page)
- Ottawa Police Service Initiative (SI) Update at the direction of the Board, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) launched the Service Initiative (SI) Program to address current challenges and pressures facing policing, namely budget expectations, growth, changing demographics, growing demands for service, and the increasing complexity of crime. These challenges are not unique to Ottawa and in fact, are being faced by police services across the country and throughout the world. In October the Service updated the Board on the Integrated Operating Model that has been developed to help address these challenges.
- National Capital Area Crime Stoppers The Board receives a semi annual report from <u>Crime Stoppers</u> in order to raise awareness of the Crime Stoppers Program and its impact in helping police, and to allow



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Crime Stoppers to update the Board on their recent activities and accomplishments.

- Report on Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Investigation Results of one Special Investigations Unit (SIU) investigation were reported to the Board.
- Letters of Commendation Members of the Ottawa Police Service come into contact with residents of Ottawa and visitors on a daily basis, often going above and beyond the call of duty. When they do, the Chief and the Board like to know about it. Each month the Board receives a Commendation Report comprised of excerpts from letters commending Ottawa Police members for their assistance in a time of need or for their personal contributions beyond the call of duty.

The following third quarter 2015 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.
- 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 usually on the fourth Monday of each month although there are some exceptions in 2016. 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 the matter falls under the jurisdiction of the Board and a written request is submitted at least one week in advance for the Chair's review. A complete schedule of meetings is available online.