

MEDIA RELEASE

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Changes to the Ottawa Police Services Board Membership and Election of New Chair

(Ottawa) – The Ottawa Police Services Board (OPSB) is announcing changes to its membership, including the election of a new Chair.

The City Council Appointees to the Board include Councillor Eli El-Chantiry and Councillor Jeff Leiper. A third Council appointee is expected to be announced at City Council's meeting on February 23, 2022.

Council's Citizen Appointee to the Board is Suzanne Valiquet.

The Board also met on February 17 to select a new Chair. Member El-Chantiry was elected to the role for the remainder of 2022.

"I would like to thank the members of the Board for their unanimous vote of confidence. It is an honour and a privilege to serve in this capacity," stated Chair El-Chantiry. "I would like to reassure the public that the Ottawa Police Service Board will strive to work together with purpose and unity. I would also like to thank the outgoing members of the Board for their service and dedication to the Ottawa Police Service and the community."

The Board will be deferring the election of a Vice Chair until the seventh Board member has been confirmed.

Biography of Eli El-Chantiry

Member El-Chantiry is the City Councillor for the West Carleton-March Ward, having been first elected to Ottawa City Council in November 2003. During the 2010-2014 term of Council, Member El-Chantiry acted as Deputy Mayor for the City of Ottawa. He also proudly served on the Ottawa Police Services Board from 2003 to 2018, with 12 consecutive years serving as Chair. From 2015 to 2018, Eli also served as Chair of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB). In addition to serving as a member of the Police Services Board, Member El-Chantiry currently chairs the Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee, and is a member of the Community & Protective Services Committee, the Finance & Economic Development Committee, the Transportation Committee, the Audit Committee, the Ottawa Board of Health, the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the Committee of Revision, the Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority, and the Mohr's Landing/Quyon Port Authority.

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

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