



BY-LAW NO. 259 - 2003

**A BY-LAW RESPECTING
POLICE UNIFORMS
(AI-010)**

1. PREAMBLE

- 1.1 WHEREAS subsection 31(1) of the *Police Services Act* provides that a Board is responsible for the provision of police services and for law enforcement and crime prevention in the municipality and shall:
- b. generally determine after consultation with the Chief of Police, objectives and priorities with respect to the police service in the municipality;
 - c. establish priorities for the effective management of the police service; and
 - e. direct the Chief of Police and monitor his or her performance;
- 1.2 AND whereas subsection 31(6) of the *Police Services Act* provides that the Board may, by by-law, make rules for the effective management of the police service;
- 1.3 AND whereas under O.Reg. 979 entitled Municipal Police Forces made under the *Police Services Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.15 as amended, prescribes that a Chief of Police shall establish procedures and processes consistent with the requirements relating to the wearing of police insignias and service badges;
- 1.4 AND whereas O. Reg. 3/99 prescribes standards for adequacy and effectiveness of police services;
- 1.5 AND whereas Part AI-010 of the Policing Standards Manual (2000), a copy of which is attached hereto as Appendix A, contains guidelines directing the Board, the Chief and members relative to police uniforms.

NOW THEREFORE THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

2 DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 "Act" means *Police Services Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c.P.15, as amended;
- 2.2 "Board" means the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board;
- 2.3 "Chief" means the Chief of the Niagara Regional Police Service;
- 2.4 "Manual" means the Policing Standards Manual published by the Ministry of the Solicitor General;
- 2.5 "Member" means a member of the Niagara Regional Police Service;
- 2.6 "Ministry" means the Ministry of the Solicitor General;
- 2.7 "Service" means the Niagara Regional Police Service;

3 BOARD POLICY

- 3.1 The Board recognizes the importance of having members of a police service maintain a disciplined and professional image and therefore, it is the policy of the Board that the use of standardized police uniforms while on duty be in accordance with the procedures set out by the Chief of Police as directed in this By-law.

4 DIRECTION TO THE CHIEF

4.1 PROCEDURES

- 4.1.1 The Chief shall develop procedures on the provision and use of a standardized uniform by the Service's uniformed police officers that are consistent with the requirements of the *Municipal Police Forces Regulation*, O. Reg. 929.
- 4.1.2. The procedures referred to above shall be in accordance with Appendix A.

5 REPORT TO THE BOARD

- 5.1.1 The Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30 of each year. The report shall include:
 - a. a summary of the written procedures concerning police uniforms; and
 - b. the status of Service compliance with said procedures.

6 IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 This By-law shall come into force upon the date of its passage.

6.2 The Chief shall implement this By-law, where applicable, through general order.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 25 day of SEPTEMBER, 2003.

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA POLICE SERVICES BOARD

Chairperson



Executive Director



Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

The *Municipal Police Forces Regulation* sets out requirements relating to the wearing of police insignias and service badges.

Sample Board Policy

Board Policy # _____

It is the policy of the _____ Police Services Board with respect to police uniforms that the Chief of Police will develop procedures on the provision and use of a standardized uniform by the police service's uniformed police officers.

Police Service Guidelines

Procedures

1. Every police service's procedures should require that:
 - a) all parts of the standardized police uniform, including body armour, use only blue graphite coloured material as defined by Pantone textile colour code 19-4015 TC, other than footwear, gloves and police identifiers;
 - b) all uniformed senior police officers, holding rank of Inspector or above, and all uniformed police officers of the rank of staff sergeant or sergeant major may wear a white shirt;
 - c) all front-line police officers be issued uniform pants, with cargo-style pockets on the side of the thighs that is sewn down on three sides, and a red stripe, or blue stripe for the OPP, be worn down each side of the pant leg;
 - d) all police officers be issued black polishable footwear that has a slip and puncture resistant sole;
 - e) the provision of Outer/Winter wear provides easy access to an officer's equipment;
 - f) the gloves of a front-line police officer be black and allow appropriate finger dexterity;
 - g) all front-line police officers have a shoulder flash containing the word "Police", or, in the case of the OPP, "OPP";
 - h) a personal identifier (that is, name or badge number) be visible on the uniform shirt or outer garment at all times;
 - i) rank insignia be displayed on shoulder epaulettes, with the exception of dress uniforms;
 - j) all front-line police officers use the type of headgear, if any, that is selected by the police service; and
 - k) notwithstanding paragraphs (a) – (j), the police service modify its front-line uniform to accommodate individuals or groups of individuals as required by the



Ontario Human Rights Code, and set out the procedures for making such an accommodation.

2. Nothing in this guideline precludes a police service from providing police officers, who are performing activities in relation to investigative supports, public order and emergency response services, specialized patrol (e.g., motorcycle, bicycle, mounted and marine), or any other police officer performing any function in any other extraordinary circumstances, such as unusual or extreme weather conditions, with a different uniform that is suitable to the operational circumstances facing those officers while performing their duties.
3. Every Chief of Police should ensure that, prior to making a final decision regarding the acquisition of, and modifications to, police uniforms, designated employee representatives are consulted.