



**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

***PUBLIC MINUTES***

**Thursday, October 25, 2007**

**Niagara Police Services Board  
Board Room 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 110 James Street, St. Catharines**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 8:34 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. L. Iggulden, Chair  
Mr. B. Smeaton  
Mr. T. Shoalts  
Mr. L. Tufford  
Mr. M. Woodhouse

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chief of Police W.E. Southall  
Deputy Chief of Police G. Beaulieu  
Superintendent D. Kane, Emergency/Invest. Services  
Superintendent J. Matthews, Executive Services  
Superintendent D. Parrent, Central Region  
Superintendent R. Wright, Eastern Region  
Inspector S. McLean, Executive Officer  
Inspector C. Scott, Emergency Services  
Inspector G. Skafffeld, 3 District  
Sergeant P. McCauley, Executive Officer  
P.C. S. Basilone, Media Officer  
Detective Constable Colin Hoare, Forensics  
Ms. M. George, Director of Business Services  
Ms. L. DiDonato-DeChellis, Finance Manager

Ms. D. Morton, Executive Director  
Ms. S. Taylor, Executive Assistant

**PRESENTER**

Mr. Damien O'Brien,  
Vice President, University Affairs  
Brock University Students' Union

**DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST**

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

208. Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, September 27, 2007.

Moved by: M. Woodhouse  
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

**That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, September 27, 2007 be adopted as circulated.**

**Carried.**

## REPORTS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Chair Iggulden reported:

### *NRPS Chief Administrative Officer – Mr. Guillermo Fuentes*

The Board undertook an extensive search, in consultation with Chief Southall and Deputy Chief Beaulieu, for a new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the Niagara Regional Police Service. The recruitment was part of an internal and external process, and the Board received a number of applications from highly qualified candidates. With the assistance of the executive search firm Renaud Foster, the Board developed a short list of candidates and interviewed each of those during the month of September. The candidates as a group had excellent qualifications. Out of this group, one emerged as the top candidate, and Chair Iggulden announced that the Board has selected Guillermo Fuentes as our new CAO. Mr. Fuentes is currently the Associate Director of Niagara EMS and has a unique background of strategic management in emergency response services. He will be starting on November 19 and will be formally introduced at our December 13 Board meeting. The Board looks forward to having Mr. Fuentes join us at our next Board meeting.

### *Facilities – Public Consultation Sessions*

The Board has embarked on a public consultation process to provide input into the development of a long-term accommodations strategy for the Niagara Regional Police Service. The Board is holding a series of public meetings at four locations across the Niagara Region. The first session was held on October 16 at the Roselawn Centre in Port Colborne. Chair Iggulden thanked Member Woodhouse for chairing the session in his absence, and advised that Member Woodhouse would be chairing the future sessions for consistency.

There are two more sessions scheduled in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines:

- The first being Tuesday, November 6 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m., at the MacBain Community Centre, in Niagara Falls.
- Followed by a session in St. Catharines on Wednesday, November 7 from 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Sir Winston Churchill Secondary School.

There will also be a separate consultation session with Regional Council on November 8 from 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at the Region of Niagara. These meetings are open to the public and the Board encourages everyone to participate in this process.

### *2007 NRPS Community Policing Symposium*

The Board has received an invitation to attend the NRPS 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Policing Symposium to be held on Saturday, October 27 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Double Tree Hotel, Niagara Falls. Vice Chair Doug Martin will be attending to present greetings on behalf of the Board.

*OAPSB Seminar*

The Ontario Association of Police Services Boards is holding a seminar with the theme 'Innovation, Issues & Information Critical to Police Services Board Members' in Richmond Hill on November 1-2, 2007, and it is open to any Board members who may be interested in attending. Members were asked to contact the Board's Executive Director for further details.

*Board Training Session – Ontario Police College – October 9, 2007*

Chair Iggulden thanked Board Member Todd Shoalts for attending a Governance Training Session on Tuesday, October 9th at the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ontario. The session was hosted by the Ontario Police Services Board in conjunction with Policing Services Advisors from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

*Upcoming Board Meetings – PSB Boardroom \**

As a result of the 3 public consultation sessions, the Board will be combining its November and December Board meetings to the second Thursday in December. Therefore, the regular monthly Board meetings scheduled for November 29 and December 20 are cancelled. The Board's next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, December 13 at 8:30 a.m., in the Police Services Boardroom, 110 James Street.

In addition, the Board's Human Resources and Licencing Committee meetings scheduled for November 8 and December 6 are cancelled. The Board will deal with all Human Resources and Licencing matters at its December 13 meeting.

**REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE**

Chief Southall reported:

*Operational Statistics*

*Marijuana Grow Operations*

For the period January 1 through October 24, 2007:

Total estimated seized street value	\$14,588,800;
Estimated value of seized equipment	212,320.

*Homicides*

For the period January 1 through October 24, 2007:  
2 homicides compared to 4, same period 2006.

*Traffic Fatality Statistics*

For the period January 1 through October 24, 2007:  
24 compared to 27, same period 2006.

*Serious Injury Collisions*

For the period January 1 through October 24, 2007:  
26 compared to 29, same period 2006.

*Detective Constable Colin Hoare*

In 1975 Colin Hoare commenced his policing career with The Kent County Constabulary, in the United Kingdom, where he was the designated foot patrol officer responsible for fostering ties with the community. In 1981, he transferred to the Support Group, where he was part of a small unit providing various specialized police functions such as, tactical, VIP protection, bomb and explosive training, and surveillance. He transferred to the Special Branch in 1984, the executive arm of the Security Services, where his responsibility was intelligence gathering on terrorists and organizations deemed a threat to the public.

In 1991, he immigrated to Canada with his family where he worked as a Correctional Officer before joining the Niagara Regional Police Service in 1996. Colin was assigned to 2 District Uniform Patrol prior to his current role with the Forensic Services Unit. Once assigned to the Forensic Services Unit in 2001, he quickly gained a reputation as a competent, dedicated and enthusiastic member of the unit. Colin realized the Forensic Services Unit and the Police Service would benefit from the addition of a Blood Stain Pattern Analyst.

Colin was required to successfully complete a Basic Bloodstain Pattern Recognition course, a Math and Physics course, and the Advanced Bloodstain Pattern Analysis Course to become certified as a Blood Stain Pattern Analyst. Following the course work, Colin was required to work with a mentor, review the work of certified Blood Stain Analysts, and analyze bloodletting crime scenes himself, which were then peer reviewed.

Colin continued to maintain a full workload within the Forensic Services Unit while still continuing his significant commitment to meet the various requirements and certification of a Bloodstain Pattern Analyst which required many hours of dedicated training extending far beyond his scheduled hours of work and well into his personal time.

On September 5, 2007, Colin successfully completed an oral board examination and was certified as a Blood Stain Pattern Analyst. This is a substantial achievement as there are only 17 certified Blood Stain Pattern Analysts in Ontario.

Colin will now be responsible for reconstructing bloodletting crime scenes using the bloodstains to determine the sequence of events and gather the full potential of the blood evidence at the scene. This qualification will greatly enhance Major Case investigations.

In typical selfless fashion, Colin wanted it emphasized today that he could not have completed this program without the active involvement of all the members of the Forensic Services Unit. Their constant encouragement, support, and willingness to help make this achievement truly a group effort, and the awarding of this certificate is a positive reflection on the professionalism, dedication and harmony of all members of the Forensic Services Unit.

#### *Official Launch - Think and Drive Campaign*

On October 16 Chief Wendy Southall and other members of the Niagara Regional Police Service participated in the official launch of the Regional Municipality of Niagara's *Think and Drive Campaign*. The introduction of the program took place at Saint Paul High School in Niagara Falls, and campaign partners include the Niagara Regional Police Service, the Niagara Region, the Regional Niagara Road Safety Committee, CAA Niagara and the Ministry of Transportation. The *Think and Drive* initiative is a 15-month road safety social marketing campaign that will target drivers and road users who live and work throughout all of the 12 area municipalities. The campaign's goals are to increase awareness about the Region's high-crash problem, to increase knowledge about road safety skills, and to change driver attitudes and behaviours, in an effort to reduce motor vehicle collisions.

#### *Emergency Response Training Exercise*

On October 17 the Niagara Regional Police Service, in conjunction with the St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, was successful in the planning and conducting of a large-scale training exercise in Thorold. The training exercise was based on a scenario situation that involved the notional explosion of a bomb in the Welland Canal with two suspects being seen in the area and mock injuries to St. Lawrence Seaway staff members. With the information provided, personnel from the Niagara EMS, the Thorold Fire Department, and the Niagara Regional Police Service responded to the area. Through the subsequent investigation, a suspicious package was identified and neutralized by the Service's Explosive Disposal Unit. The training exercise was very successful, and all agencies involved were impressed with the excellent cooperation and opportunity to improve response readiness to an actual occurrence.

*Integrated Guns and Gangs Enforcement Unit*

On October 18 the Niagara Regional Police Service's Morality Unit, assisted by the 1, 2 and 3 District Street Crime Units, and the Integrated Guns and Gangs Enforcement Unit, conducted an undercover investigation in relation to acts of prostitution occurring at the "Private Eyes" adult entertainment club.

Due to the investigative efforts of the officers, six adult entertainers were arrested and charged with communicating for the purpose of prostitution. In addition to the prostitution charges, two of the accused entertainers were also charged with Possession of a Controlled Substance.

*Major Marihuana Operation Terminated*

On October 3 members of the 8 District Detective Services Unit, in cooperation with the Niagara Regional Police Service's Morality Unit, conducted an investigation into a marihuana growing operation at 3460 Twenty Mile Road in West Lincoln. In conducting the investigation, a Controlled Drugs and Substances Act Search Warrant was executed. Due to the information that was gleaned, a second warrant was sought for the barn and outbuildings located across the street, at 3443 Twenty Mile Road in West Lincoln. On Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, officers were successful in obtaining a second search warrant. The warrant was executed and approximately 6,354 marihuana plants were located hanging from rope structures hung throughout the barn. Based on the seizures made, the estimated value of the marihuana was in excess of 7 million dollars. Eight persons are currently before the courts facing charges in relation to this investigation.

*Niagara Days – Ottawa Presentations*

On October 23 Inspector Carl Scott and Chief Southall attended *Niagara Days* in Ottawa, meeting with the Honourable Stockwell Day, Minister of Public Safety, regarding policing the borders and waterways of Niagara. The Chief is optimistic with the outcome of the discussions and will provide more information to Minister Stockwell's office.

**PRESENTATIONS**

209. **Brock University Students' Union**

The Board considered a letter received October 17, 2007 from Damien O'Brien, Vice President, University Affairs, Brock University Students' Union, requesting Board consideration of taxicab safety and taxi tariffs for Brock University students.

Mr. O'Brien was in attendance to address the Board, noting he was to attend a memorial services for a Brock University student killed on Hwy. 406 earlier this year. He requested Board consideration toward the creation of a bill of rights for taxicab passengers to ensure their safety, as well as enforcing consistency in the tariffs charged by taxicabs by posting the rates, and a review of the number of available taxicabs for hire by Brock students. Mr. O'Brien thanked the Service for its helpfulness toward Brock students.

Moved by: M. Woodhouse  
Seconded by: L. Tufford

**That the information be received;**

**And further, that the matter be referred to the Board's Licencing Committee for its consideration and that Mr. O'Brien be invited to attend.**

**Carried.**

## DEPUTATIONS

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. CONSENT AGENDA

210. **Ontario Association of Police Services Boards**

The Board considered the OAPSB *Bulletin Board* dated October 2007 providing the Board with news of interest regarding police governance, highlighting both provincial and federal legislative initiatives.

211. **Niagara Parks Police –Third Quarter 2007 Report on Special Constables**

The Board considered a Report 252/2007 dated October 10, 2007 submitted by Mr. John Kernahan, General Manager, Niagara Parks Commission, providing the Board with the Niagara Parks Police Service's Third Quarter 2007 Report containing information relating to public complaints, use of force, discipline and arrests made by the Special Constables employed through the Niagara Parks Police, period July 1 to September 30, 2007.

212. **Quarterly Report – Policing Standards Unit – Administration of the Public Complaints System**

The Board considered Service report 247/2007 dated October 12, 2007 providing the Board with information relating to the investigations of alleged police misconduct reported by members of the public for the second quarter, period July 1 through September 30, 2007 and statistical yearly comparison, pursuant to Board By-law 173/1997.

213. **Quarterly Report – Suspect Apprehension Pursuits**

The Board considered Service report 241/2007 dated September 4, 2007 providing the Board with Service compliance with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation LE-045 as to the required information relative to suspect apprehension pursuits conducted by Service members for the period April 1 to June 30, 2007, pursuant to Board By-law 237-2000.

214. **Annual Report – Firearms Training**

The Board considered Service report 239/2007 dated September 14, 2007 providing the Board with Service compliance with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation LE-029 relating to training and managing investigations involving firearms by members of the Niagara Regional Police Service; written procedures through General Orders involving the requirements of officers in the field or investigative capacity when dealing with firearm investigations and firearms response; confirmation of Service compliance with no reported injuries to officers or the public during response to incidents involving firearms; issues identified in the Courts area involving disposition of the firearm after an incident; availability of in-house training as well as through the Ontario Police College, and identification of course material requiring strengthening; Service accommodation to downloading of testing and verification of firearms for evidentiary purposes by the Ontario Centre of Forensic Sciences (CFS), pursuant to Board By-law 221-2000.

215. **Annual Report – Safe Storage of Police Service Firearms**

The Board considered Service report 242/2007 dated September 4, 2007 providing the Board with Service compliance with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation AI-009 relating to the safe storage of police service firearms; written procedures reflected in General Order 053 s.5.9 conforming to the Policing Standards Manual; reporting of one incident in 2007 relating to incorrect storage of a firearm resolved through the discipline process; Service compliance in the mandated annual accreditation of Service members for Use of Force training, pursuant to Board By-law 258-2003.

216. **Annual Report – Secure Holster**

The Board considered Service report 240/2007 dated September 10, 2007 providing the Board with Service compliance with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation AI-014 relating to the provision, use and function of secure holster equipment; summary of written procedures through General Orders relating to the inspection of equipment for both uniform or plainclothes duties, the maintenance of holsters for optimum operation, requirement of immediate report of any defect with subsequent investigation by the supervisor and repair or replacement of equipment if required; compliance through initial and annual training sessions at the Ontario Police College and during annual officer requalification; documentation of female officer concerns with the Level 2 CIB holster as well as potential replacement of particular aging holsters, pursuant to Board By-law 269-2005.

Moved by: L. Tufford  
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

**B. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

217. **NRPS Variance Report – to September 30, 2007**

The Board considered Service report 250/2007, dated October 12, 2007, providing the Board with a financial overview and year-end forecast for both the Service and the Board to September 30, 2007.

Chief Southall reported that Service staff has been asked for a high level review of the operating budget and capital levy to determine impact on year end, as well as the Marine Unit and the divers to better approach budgeting overtime in the 2008 budget.

Moved by: T. Shoalts  
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

218. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 14-2007 October 18, 2007 (CS 14-2007 October 10, 2007)**  
The Board considered a letter October 19, 2007 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the Regional Council approval on October 18, 2007 of the Corporate Services Committee recommendations:

“That Communication CSC 42-2007 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board (September 6, 2007) respecting NRPS Variance Report to July 31, 2007 138.2007 be received.”

And from the Closed Session:

“That confidential Communication CSC 41-2007 from Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board respecting NRPS Acquisition (Bomb Robot) C.214.2007 be received.”

Moved by: T. Shoalts  
Seconded by: L. Tufford

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

219. **Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 14-2007 October 18, 2007**  
The Board considered a letter October 19, 2007 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the Regional Council receipt of the Board’s response to Haldimand County’s request for the provision of policing services to Haldimand County, as well as Regional Council’s endorsement of the collaborative process for public consultation and format for the November 8 Committee of the Whole meeting as proposed in the Board’s September 25 report, “*Public Consultation Process, NRPS Long-Term Accommodation Strategy.*”

Moved by: L. Tufford  
Seconded by: T. Shoalts

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

220. **City of Thorold – Public Consultation Invitation – Police Facilities Accommodation Strategy**  
The Board considered a letter dated October 17, 2007 from Susan Daniels, Deputy City Clerk, City of Thorold, providing the Board with acknowledgment of the receipt by Thorold City Council at its October 16 meeting of the above-noted correspondence .

Moved by: L. Tufford  
Seconded by: B. Smeaton

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:04 a.m.

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**Chairperson**

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**Executive Director**