



**REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA  
POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

***PUBLIC MINUTES***

**Thursday, September 25, 2008**

**Niagara Regional Police Service  
Multipurpose Room, 1st Floor, 110 James Street, St. Catharines**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Public Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board commenced at 8:33 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. L. Iggulden, Chair  
Mr. D. Martin, Vice Chair  
Mr. B. Bentley  
Mr. T. Shoalts  
Mr. B. Smeaton  
Mr. L. Tufford  
Mr. M. Woodhouse

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chief of Police W.E. Southall  
A/Deputy Chief of Police D. Parrent  
CAO G. Fuentes  
Superintendent J. Matthews, 1 District  
Superintendent B. Wright, Emergency & Investigative Services  
Inspector S. McLean, Labour Relations  
Inspector D. D'Amico, 2 District  
Staff Sergeant B. Richardson, 3 District  
Sergeant L. Regnier, NRPS Issuer of Licences  
Sergeant P. McCauley, Executive Officer  
P.C. J. Forgeron, Media Officer  
P.C. J. Rotella, Executive Officer  
Ms. M. George, Director of Business Services  
Mr. A. Askoul, Director of Information/Communication Technology  
Dr. P. Divers, Corporate Analyst  
Ms. L. DiDonato-DeChellis, Manager Finance  
Ms. A. Hepplewhite, Manager Corporate Records  
  
Ms. D. Morton, Executive Director  
Ms. S. Taylor, Executive Assistant

**PRESENTERS:**

Mr. Stu Black, Executive Director, Crime Stoppers of Niagara  
Mr. Greg Mulvihill, Board Chair, Crime Stoppers of Niagara

**DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT/PECUNIARY INTEREST**

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

213. Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, August 21, 2008.

Moved by: D. Martin  
Seconded by: M. Woodhouse

**That the Minutes of the Public Board Meeting held Thursday, August 21, 2008 be adopted as circulated.**

**Carried.**

## REPORTS FROM THE BOARD CHAIRPERSON

Chair Iggulden reported the following:

### *New Boardroom Facility, 110 James Street, St. Catharines*

Chair Iggulden welcomed attendees to the new location of future Board meetings, which will be held in the NRPS multimedia room on the first floor of 110 James Street. It is a larger meeting space with better public accessibility.

### *Niagara Region Police Association – 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Day Picnic*

On September 6<sup>th</sup>, Chair Iggulden and his granddaughter attended NRPA's 1<sup>st</sup> annual Family Day Picnic at the Association's clubhouse on Merritville Highway. The day provided a great opportunity for police employees and their families to come together to socialize and have some fun and included horse rides and a reptile show for the youngsters, along with a tour of the new NRPA clubhouse facility.

### *OAPSB Labour Relations & Board Governance Seminar*

The Ontario Association of Police Services Boards is holding a Labour Relations and Board Governance Seminar on October 23 and 24 in Richmond Hill. The seminar is designed to provide Board members with a better understanding of how collective agreements impact the Board's ability to deliver police services. Topics for discussion will include current trends in collective bargaining, recent police arbitration decisions, and the role of Boards with OMERS supplemental plans. Member Todd Shoalts and Ms. Morton are registered to attend on behalf of the Board.

### *Upcoming Police Board Meetings – (locations as noted)*

- Licencing Committee – Thursday, October 9 at 8:30 a.m., Chief's Boardroom;
- Human Resources Committee – Thursday, October 9 at 9:30 a.m., Chief's Boardroom;
- Next Board Meeting – Thursday, October 30 at 8:30 a.m., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Boardroom.

## REPORTS FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Chief Southall reported the following:

### *September 24, 2008 – Currency Seizure*

A/Inspector Brian Richardson reported that \$1.77 million U.S. funds has been seized following a lengthy investigation by the NRPS Central Region Detective Support Unit with the involvement of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol in the seizure of a suspicious pleasure craft at Crystal Beach. Two occupants of the vessel were arrested on Canadian soil and their duffle bags contained in excess of one million in U.S. currency. The two residents of Cornwall, Ontario, have been charged with laundering proceeds of Crime and Possession of Proceeds of Crime over \$5,000. A third male was arrested by U.S. authorities for failing to stop for authorities.

Search warrants were executed in Crystal Beach and Port Colborne following which a 30 foot Mako boat, a truck and trailer were seized, and in the U.S., another seizure amounting to \$35,000 as well as another boat, and marijuana.

Enforcement agencies involved in this investigation included the Central Region Detective Services Unit, the Provincial Biker Enforcement Unit, the Integrated Proceeds of Crime Unit and the Border Enforcement Safety Task Force which includes members from the Canada Border Service Agency and U.S. Customs.

Chief Southall noted that this seizure, on the heels of the press release relating to 'Project 0-Mercury', two announcements in two days, presents significant drug and currency seizures by the Service in its efforts to protect the community from organized crime.

#### *Operational Statistics*

##### *Marijuana Grow Statistics*

For the period January 1 through September 24, 2008:  
Total street value seized \$19,326,000;

##### *Homicides*

For the period January 1 through September 24, 2008:  
6 compared to 2, same period 2007;

##### *Robberies*

For the period August 31 through September 24, 2008:  
24 with 7 cleared, a 30% clearance rate this period;

##### *Traffic Fatality Statistics*

For the period January 1 through September 24, 2008:  
22 compared to 25, same period 2007;

##### *Serious Injury Collisions*

For the period January 1 through September 24, 2008:  
22 compared to 23, same period 2007.

#### *Officer Rescues Man from Fire in Niagara Falls*

A 46 year old Niagara Falls man was rescued from an apartment fire by a quick acting first year Niagara Regional Police Service officer. Shortly before 12:30 p.m. on Thursday September 18, Police were dispatched to attend at 6267 Drummond Road in response to a working fire in one of the ground floor apartments. Constable Tracy Smith, amongst the first to arrive, immediately identified the apartment, gained entry into the smoke filled apartment via an unlocked door, where she located the occupant lying on his bed and removed him from the apartment. Upon exit, Constable Smith was assisted by additional emergency services personnel that had arrived. The victim received immediate emergency care from members of the Niagara Falls Fire Department and Niagara EMS, and was subsequently transported from the scene to the Greater Niagara General Hospital where he remains in critical condition. The other two apartment units were evacuated and the fire was extinguished by the Niagara Falls Fire Department.

Chief Southall again extended her personal congratulations to Constable Smith whose quick responses were responsible for saving the life of this individual, her selfless actions are to be commended and will be formally recognized at the NRPS annual Awards Ceremony in 2009.

*Eighth Annual Traffic Safety and Awareness Day*

On September 2, the Niagara Regional Police Service conducted its eighth annual Traffic Safety and Awareness Day, called Operation "All Hands on Deck", which coincides with the return to school for most of the Region's school children after the summer vacation and targets school zones throughout the entire region. Every on-duty police officer was assigned to traffic enforcement duties in the vicinity of schools in each of Niagara's 12 municipalities. An additional 86 officers, from the Chief of Police to Detectives were reassigned from their normal duties to participate in this operation.

During the "All Hands on Deck" – Traffic Enforcement, Safety and Awareness operation, officers stopped a total of 468 vehicles, of which 248 drivers were issued Provincial Offence Notices for aggressive driving violations (including speeding), 4 drivers were issued with Provincial Offence Notices for seatbelt/child safety restraint violations, 57 received warnings for traffic violations and 3 drivers were arrested for driving offences.

*Niagara's Sixth Homicide of the Year*

On August 23 Officers were called to attend at a residence on Carlton Street in the City of St. Catharines for a report of a male that had been shot and another injured in the course of a home invasion. Officers attended the residence and detained a vehicle thought to have been involved in the incident with the three males occupants taken into custody without incident. Other officers entered the home and discovered an adult male in the basement of the home suffering from a gunshot wound. Medical personnel pronounced the shooting victim dead at the scene.

Investigation revealed that four males, including the deceased, had forcibly broken into the residence where a scuffle broke out with the occupants of the house during which one of the attackers was fatally shot. An occupant of the residence, Jensen Young, 22 years of age, has been charged with one count of Manslaughter, and three of the intruders have been charged with Robbery with a Firearm, Forcible Confinement as well as Break and Enter.

*Launch of SPEARS Program - School Police Emergency Action Response (S.P.E.A.R.) Project*

On September 12 the NRPS "School Police Emergency Action Response" (S.P.E.A.R.) project was presented to the public. The S.P.E.A.R. action plan will enable emergency responders to have detailed, specific information pertaining to any of the schools in the Niagara Region as crisis situations should develop. Examples of these situations could be chemical spills, school lockdowns, or armed persons.

The project, which began in the fall of 2007, included input from the Niagara Regional Police Service, the District of Niagara School Board and the Niagara Catholic District School Board, Brock University, Niagara College and Niagara Emergency Medical Services. As a result of this joint effort Service members now have details at their fingertips in their on-board mobile workstations to assist them when every minute counts in an active emergency situation. We believe that this "Made in Niagara" project will assist us in the protection and safety of the students in our regional schools.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

214. **Crime Stoppers of Niagara**

Mr. Stu Black, Executive Director, and Mr. Greg Mulvihill, Board Chair, Crime Stoppers of Niagara, were in attendance and provided an overview of the Crime Stoppers Program and highlighted future challenges facing the organization.

Mr. Black advised that Crime Stoppers is a co-operative program between the citizens, media and police that is designed to involve the public in the fight against crime. The program provides citizens with an opportunity to anonymously supply the police with information about a crime and a reward is offered to anyone providing information, which leads to an arrest, the recovery of stolen property or the seizure of drugs. Recently, Crime Stoppers announced a technological breakthrough in anonymous tip reporting – anonymous text messaging. He advised that text messaging has become a very effective and popular means of communication, especially with youth, and he anticipates this new method of tip reporting will encourage youth to send information on crime to Crime Stoppers.

The Board was provided with a 'Quick Stats' handout that showed since the inception of Crime Stoppers in 1985, there have been a total 17,105 tips, resulting in 1,337 arrests; 2,847 cases cleared; over 1,200 charges laid; and more than \$12 million in recovered property and narcotics seized.

However, despite the statistical success of the program, Mr. Black said the Crime Stoppers program has been facing significant funding shortfalls over the past two years and that may jeopardize the future operation of the program. He explained that Crime Stoppers is a non-profit association that depends on the support of the local community through fundraising and marketing efforts.

The success of Crime Stoppers is dependant on the support provided by the local community. Mr. Black said Crime Stoppers needs about \$50,000 annually to cover its operations as well as a vehicle to help promote the program. The Niagara program has been without a vehicle for the past three years and Mr. Black is hopeful the organization will be able to arrange sponsorship with a local car dealership.

Mr. Black informed the Board that funding requests will be made to Region's Corporate Service Committee on October 8<sup>th</sup>, and that Crime Stoppers will turn its lobbying efforts to the Government for grants through the "Proceeds of Crime" dollars, which are generated through the seizure of property. Vice-Chair Martin suggested consideration of sustainable funding through the Provincial Offences revenues, which are received by the Region and local municipalities. Member Bentley noted that the annual operating costs equate to only 11 cents per person in the Niagara Region, a minimal cost to support the Crime Stoppers program.

Chief Southall expressed her support for the Crime Stoppers program, which provides a valuable tool for law enforcement. She said it is critical to find a long-term sustainable funding solution for the organization. Chief Southall anticipates presenting an interim solution at the October 30<sup>th</sup> Board meeting as well as bringing forward a business case and funding request as part of the Niagara Regional Police Service 2009 budget submission.

Chief Southall reminded members that the Provincial Government has designated the week of November 6<sup>th</sup> as Ontario Crime Prevention Week.

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

**That the presentation be received.**

**Carried.**

## **DEPUTATIONS**

**A. CONSENT AGENDA**

**215. Canadian Association of Police Boards**

The Board considered the Bulletin dated September 2, 2008, providing the Board with the preliminary report of the Canadian Association of Police Boards (CAPB) 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Conference in Toronto on August 14-17, 2008, the conference highlights, the 2008 resolutions passed by the membership including Resolution 08-2, *Canadian Military Reservists – Leave of Absence* submitted by the Niagara PSB, and the 2008-2009 CAPB Board of Directors and Executive.

Chief Southall highlighted Resolution 08-7, specifically as it relates to the sharing of policing costs with the Federal Government for time spent by local police services enforcing federal laws. She expressed concern that it should also include the Windsor and Niagara municipal policing areas due to the presence of international borders. A copy of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) report detailing recommendations on equity and efficiency in policing will be provided to the Board's Executive Director for distribution to the Board.

With respect to Resolution 08-1, Member Smeaton asked if statistics are available to indicate the prevalence of the use of knives versus guns used in crimes. Chief Southall noted that this is an issue currently under study by the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police.

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

The Board considered the OAPSB *Bulletin Board* dated September 2008 providing the Board with news of interest regarding police governance, highlighting both provincial and federal legislative initiatives.

**217. Regional Municipality of Niagara – CL 14-2008 September 4, 2008 CSC 11-2008 August 28, 2008**

The Board considered a letter dated September 5, 2008 from Pam Gilroy, Regional Clerk, RMON, providing the Board with the September 4 approval by Regional Council of the Corporate Services Committee recommendations for Communications CSD 111-2008, receipt of CSC 42-2008, CSC 44-2008, CSC 45-2008, CSC 46-2008, CSC 47-2008 and CSC 48-2008 from the Police Services Board.

**218. Annual Report – Community-Based Crime Prevention**

The Board considered Service report 245/2008 dated September 15, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the Crime Prevention and public safety programs available to the residents and visitors of Niagara in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation CP-002; participation by each member of the Community Services Unit in the existing community programs, as well as programs developed and delivered to the elementary schools, community partnership initiatives such as graffiti enforcement, recurring problems in the entertainment districts, misuse of designated recreational areas, drug use and traffic concerns; crime prevention and public safety presentations to 34,159 people through attendance at 214 organizations and service clubs, pursuant to Board By-law 192-2000.

**219. Annual Report – Criminal Investigation Management and Procedure**

The Board considered Service report 239/2008 dated August 1, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning Criminal Investigation Management and Procedures in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation LE-006; Service compliance with the said procedures including General Order 095.05 and another eleven General Orders as listed; confirmation of Service compliance through the recent Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services inspection; confirmation of the training courses for Service investigators and the appropriate use of investigate supports as established in a further six General Orders outlining support services, pursuant to Board By-law 198-2000.

220. **Annual Report – Search and Seizure**

The Board considered Service report 231/2008 dated August 19, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning Search and Seizure including NRPS General Orders, status of Service compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulations LE-011 and LE-012, and confirmation of both mandatory and optional training for members, pursuant to Board By-law 203/204-2000.

221. **Annual Report – Response to Emotionally Disturbed Persons, Mental Illness or Developmental Disability**

The Board considered Service report 247/2008 dated August 22, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning Police response to persons who are emotionally disturbed or have a mental illness or developmental disability in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation LE-013; Service compliance including General Order 167.02 defining police responsibilities and the activities of the NRPS Senior Support/Vulnerable Adult Coordinator to effect the necessary component of the accountability process; a summary of the training afforded to Service members; a summary of the issues raised and or discussed with community partners relating police response, pursuant to Board By-law 205-2000.

222. **Annual Report – Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse**

The Board considered Service report 252/2008 dated August 22, 2008 providing the Board with Service compliance to the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulations LE-213 for Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse; written procedures including the General Order 165.01 reflecting the response to the community by the Service; the status of Service compliance with the said procedures; a summary of the training given to members; a summary of the monitoring by the Service for evaluation; a summary of issues raised and/or discussed with community partners, pursuant to Board By-law 213-2000.

223. **Annual Report – Officer Note Taking**

The Board considered Service report 238/2008 dated September 10, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning Officer Note Taking in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation LE-022; Service compliance with the said procedures including General Order 168.04 identifying the prescribed method of note taking, and supervisory responsibility for storage of notebooks as outlined in General Order 163.04; confirmation of training for Service members, pursuant to Board By-law 214-2000.

224. **Annual Report – Sudden Death and Found Human Remains**

The Board considered Service report 240/2008 dated August 21, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning Sudden Death and Found Human Remains in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation LE-037; Service compliance with the said procedures including General Orders 028.06 and 024.03; confirmation of Service compliance through the recent Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services inspection; a summary of the memoranda from the Chief Coroner relating to sudden death which were appropriately disseminated to Service personnel to ensure compliance, pursuant to Board By-law 229-2000.

225. **Annual Report – Victim's Assistance**

The Board considered Service report 251/2008 dated August 4, 2008 providing the Board with Service compliance with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation VA-001 relative to Victim's Assistance as directed through the revised General Order 115.08; Service compliance status with the said procedures; activities and detailed evaluation of the Niagara Victim Crisis Support Service, pursuant to Board By-law 238-2000.

226. **Annual Report – Major Incident Command**

The Board considered Service report 233/2008 dated August 25, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning Major Incident Command in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation ER-004; Service compliance with the said procedures including General Order 089; confirmation of the development and maintenance of the mandated manual; total availability of trained Major Incident Commanders, and a summary of the deployment of the fifty (50) Major Incident Command situations from August 2007 to July 2008, pursuant to Board By-law 244-2000.

227. **Annual Report – Crisis Negotiation**

The Board considered Service report 232/2008 dated August 25, 2008 providing the Board with Service compliance regarding the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation ER-005 respecting Crisis Negotiation, a summary of the written procedures concerning Major Incident Command in compliance with Provincial Adequacy Standard Regulation ER-005; Service compliance with the said procedures including General Order 133.04; confirmation of the development and maintenance of the mandated manual; total availability of the six (6) trained Crisis Negotiators, and a summary of the deployment of the eight (8) incidents situations from August 2007 to July 2008, pursuant to Board By-law 245-2000.

228. **Annual Report – Speed Detection Devices**

The Board considered Service report 236/2008 dated August 25, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning use of Speed Detection Devices including NRPS General Order 124.03 updated in 2008; the status of Service compliance with the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulations AI-013; confirmation of member training, pursuant to Board By-law 270-2005.

229. **Special Fund – July 1 - 31, 2008**

The Board considered Service report 234/2008 dated September 7, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the transactions for the Niagara Regional Police Special Funds for the period July 1 to 31, 2008.

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

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

**B. OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

230. **Management of Police Records – Annual Report, Inactive Storage Requirements**

The Board considered Service report 243/2008 dated September 15, 2008 providing the Board with a summary of the written procedures concerning the Management of Police Records including General Orders 006.04, 036.02 and 031.03 with Service compliance regarding the Provincial Adequacy Standards Regulation AI-007; Service compliance with the retention periods as stipulated, however, due to the lack of a physical location for an inactive records centre, the out-source storage of inactive records to a commercial inactive records storage provider is recommended.

Moved by: D. Martin  
Seconded by: L. Tufford

**That the information be received;**

**And further, that the Board approve ‘Option 1’ as recommended in the report.**

**Carried.**

231. **R.I.D.E. Grant Program Monthly Statistical Report – Schedule D**

The Board considered Service report 248/2008 dated September 15, 2008 requesting the Board authorize the endorsement of Schedule D representing the April 2008 statistical report for submission to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.

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

**That the information be received;**

**And further, that the Board Chair be authorized to endorse the 2008/2009 R.I.D.E. Grant Program monthly statistics (Schedule D) as required, and submit to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.**

**Carried.**

232. **R.I.D.E. 2008/2009 Grant Program Application – Schedule E**

The Board considered Service report 250/2008 dated September 15, 2008 requesting the Board authorize the endorsement of Schedule E to the application for the 2008/2009 R.I.D.E. Grant Program which funding has been increased to \$45,000.

Moved by: L. Tufford  
Seconded by: D. Martin

**That the information be received;**

**And further, that the Board Chair be authorized to endorse Schedule E to the 2008/2009 R.I.D.E. Grant Program application to be submitted to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services.**

**Carried.**

233. **Funding Request – 2008 Ride to Remember –National Police Memorial, Ottawa**

The Board considered Service report 244/2008 dated September 14, 2008 requesting the Board consider a donation from the Special Fund to offset meal and accommodation costs to the Service members who will bicycle 350 plus miles to Ottawa to participate in the annual National Police Memorial ceremonies on Sunday, September 28, 2008.

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

**That the information be received;**

**And further, that the Board authorize a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Special Fund to support participating Service members in the 2008 Ride to Remember.**

**Carried.**

234. **NRPS Variance Report - to August 31, 2008**

The Board considered Service report 237/2008 dated September 8, 2008 providing the Board with a financial overview and year-end forecast for both the Service and the Board to August 31, 2008.

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

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

235. **Police Services Board – 2009 Proposed Meeting Schedule**

The Board considered a memorandum dated September 15, 2008 from Deb Morton, Executive Director, providing the Police Services Board's monthly Board and Committee meeting schedule for the year 2009.

Moved by: B. Bentley  
Seconded by: D. Martin

**That the Board approve the Schedule of Regular Meetings for the Niagara Police Services Board and Committee meetings for the year 2009 as presented.**

**Carried.**

**IN CAMERA REPORTS**

C.  
176.  
2008

***Special Investigations Unit Report  
#SIU-07-OCI-139 – July 6, 2007***

*At the Confidential Meeting of the Niagara Police Services Board held on Thursday, August 21, 2008, the Board considered Service report C.190/2008 dated August 1, 2008 providing the Board with the decision of the SIU Director following the SIU investigation into an in-custody injury suffered during an altercation between the suspect and the arresting Officer on July 6, 2007.*

*The following Motion was duly passed:*

***'That the information be received;***

***And further, that the Board make the report available to the public.***

**Carried.'**

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

**That the information be received.**

**Carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 a.m.

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Chairperson

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Executive Director