



## BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS for the HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY

### MINUTES June 17, 2024

PRESENT: Commissioner Beck Kent, Chair  
Commissioner Gavin Giles, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Lindell Smith  
Commissioner Lisa Blackburn  
Commissioner Yemi Akindoju  
Commissioner Greg O'Malley

REGRETS: Commissioner Anthony Thomas

STAFF: Bill Moore, Executive Director of Community Safety  
Martin Ward, Solicitor  
Andrea Lovasi-Wood, Legislative Assistant  
Jamie D'Angelo, Legislative Assistant

*The following does not represent a verbatim record of the proceedings of this meeting.*

*The agenda, reports, supporting documents, and information items circulated are online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca).*

*The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m., and recessed at 3:07 p.m., the Board reconvened at 3:20p.m., the Board moved into an In Camera (In Private) session at 4:11 p.m. and reconvened at 4:32 p.m., the Board adjourned at 4:34 p.m.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. and acknowledged that the meeting took place in the traditional and ancestral territory of the Mi'kmaq people, and that we are all treaty people.

**2. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS – NONE**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 1, 2024 and May 30, 2024**

MOVED by Commissioner Giles, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the minutes of May 1, 2024 and May 30, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**4. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS AND APPROVAL OF ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

Additions:

- Item 11.1 – Commissioner Kent – Police Transformation Study & MCC Report Recommendations

Deletions:

- Item 1.1 – Presentation to Commissioner Anthony Thomas

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

**THAT the agenda be approved as amended.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES – NONE**

**6. CALL FOR DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTERESTS – NONE**

**7. CONSIDERATION OF DEFERRED BUSINESS – NONE**

**8. CORRESPONDENCE, PETITIONS & DELEGATIONS**

**8.1 Correspondence – None**

**8.2 Petitions – None**

**8.3 Presentations – None**

**9. INFORMATION ITEMS BROUGHT FORWARD – NONE**

**10. REPORTS/DISCUSSION**

**10.1 HALIFAX REGIONAL POLICE/ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE HALIFAX REGIONAL DETACHMENT CHIEF UPDATES**

Acting Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) spoke to recent HRP promotions, including the appointment of Acting Deputy Chief Andrew Matthews and Acting Deputy Chief Dean Simmonds, recruitment, key operational activities and community outreach. MacLean updated the Board on May firearm and traffic crime statistics. MacLean informed the Board that HRP would host the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police in August.

Inspector Jeffrey Mitchell, Management & Administration Services Officer, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) spoke to key operational activities. They informed the Board of the Canadian Association of Police Educators conference co-hosted by RCMP HRD and HRP that included several integrated sessions. RCMP HRD conducted community outreach in the Tantallon, Lower Sackville and Waverley areas. Mitchell informed the Board that the highlighted concern from all areas were traffic complaints.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, RCMP HRD spoke to ongoing recruitment within RCMP HRD.

## **10.2 STAFF**

### **10.2.1 Status Update on Halifax Regional Police and RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment Body-Worn Camera Pilot Programs - Presentation**

The following was before the Board:

- Halifax Regional Police presentation dated June 17, 2024
- RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment presentation dated June 17, 2024

Inspector Greg Robertson, Acting Superintendent, Support Division, Joanne Smith, Research and Development Coordinator and Gursharan Singh, Manager of STIU, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) gave a presentation regarding Digital Evidence Management System (DEMS) and Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) and responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Robertson addressed court expectations around BWC and disclosure requirements. Robertson confirmed to the Board that the DEMS and BWC cloud storage would be stored within Canada. Robertson told the Board that a threat risk assessment was to be completed.

Acting Chief Don MacLean, HRP responded to questions of clarification. MacLean indicated that technology was changing and therefore cost could change in the future. MacLean confirmed that, based off other police services experiences, the use of one vendor for both BWC and DEMS was more efficient. MacLean indicated they would observe the RCMP HRD's roll out of BWC. MacLean confirmed that DEMS and BWC costs would be brought back to the Board in the fall for their review.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) responded to questions of clarification. Christie informed the Board they would explore how to demonstrate the use of BWC technology to the Board.

Inspector Jeffrey Mitchell, Management & Administration Services Officer, RCMP HRD, Christien Gallant, Head of IMIT Team and Jami Smith, Project Manager Nova Scotia RCMP Body Worn Camera, Nova Scotia RCMP Division gave a presentation and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

### **10.2.2 HRM Community Survey on Policing**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated May 27, 2024

Acting Chief Don MacLean and Joanne Smith, Research and Development Coordinator, Halifax Regional Police (HRP) spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Smith informed the Board that there were no stand-alone community surveys on policing, however questions regarding policing were included in Halifax Regional Municipality's (HRM) Resident Survey in 2021. Smith indicated the next Resident Survey in 2024 would also include questions on policing and that HRP and RCMP HRD were consulted during the development of the questions.

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Bates informed the Board that they could determine whether they are satisfied with five questions on policing in

the HRM Resident Survey and whether the police or whether the Board would take ownership of the community survey.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment recommended the Board create stand-alone survey questions, rather than the police creating the survey questions.

Martin Ward, Solicitor responded to questions of clarification from the Board and confirmed that the original motion requested that a proposal for a stand-alone survey be developed and was to come back to the Board.

Bill Moore, Executive Director of Community Safety suggested that the if the Board decided to approve a committee to develop a proposal for a stand-alone survey that they refer to the Background Information on Policing Surveys in HRM report.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Smith

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality create an ad hoc Committee comprised of Commissioner Blackburn and Commissioner O'Malley who will work with the Policing Policy Strategist to produce a proposal for a community survey of policing as requested by the Board in its 2021 motion and for the Board to forward this proposal to Regional Council.**

Commissioner Kent proposed the wording "for the Board to forward this proposal to Regional Council" be replaced with "return to the Board". As provided for in section 50 (2) of Administrative Policy One, *Respecting the Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners*, the amendment was accepted as friendly.

The motion as amended now read:

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality create an ad hoc Committee comprised of Commissioners Blackburn and O'Malley who will work with the Policing Policy Strategist to produce a proposal for a community survey of policing as requested by the Board in its 2021 motion and return to the Board.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **10.2.3 Board of Police Commissioners Budget Timeline**

The following was before the Board:

- Staff report dated May 27, 2024

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist spoke to the topic. Bates recognized the Board had an advisory role to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD), however in order to keep in line with the Police Transportation Study the RCMP HRD were now included in the Board's budget timeline.

Martin Ward, Solicitor and Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

MOVED by Commissioner Smith, seconded by Commissioner Akindoju

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality adopt the Board of Police Commissioners Budget Timeline, replacing the Halifax Regional Police Business**

**Plan/Budget Timeline, for inclusion in the Board of Police Commissioners' Policy Manual, as outlined in Attachment 1 of the staff report dated May 31, 2024.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **10.3 MEMBERS OF BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

#### **10.3.1 Commissioner Akindoju - Canadian Association for Police Governance Conference**

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Akindoju

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality consider the appointment of a Commissioner as the Board's nominee to serve on the Canadian Association of Police Governance Board of Directors for the term 2024-2026.**

Martin Ward, Solicitor responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

As provided for in section 92 of Administrative Policy One, *The Procedures of the Board of Police Commissioners Administrative Policy*, a motion was made to convene In Camera to discuss personnel matter.

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss 10.3.1 matter.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioner for the Halifax Regional Municipality approve the selection of Commissioner Yemi Akindoju to serve as the Commission's nominee to the Canadian Association of Police Governance Board of Directors for the term 2024-2026.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Kent stepped down from the Chair and Commissioner Giles assumed the Chair.

### **11. ADDED ITEMS**

#### **11.1 Commissioner Kent – Police Transformation Study & MCC Report Recommendations**

The following was before the Board:

- Request for Consideration form from Commissioner Kent

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners:**

- 1) **Direct the Chief of the Halifax Regional Police and advise the Officer in Charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to work together in reviewing each recommendation contained in the MCC Report, Volume 5, Policing;**

- 2) Direct the Chief of the Halifax Regional Police and advise the Officer in Charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to produce a joint staff report outlining those recommendations in which they are able to work together to implement; and**
- 3) Direct the Chief of the Halifax Regional Police and advise the Officer in Charge of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to provide joint quarterly updates using the Joint Chief Reporting Template**

Josh Bates, Policing Policy Strategist spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board.

Chief Superintendent Jeffrey Christie, Officer in Charge, Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Christie suggested Halifax Regional Police and RCMP HRD come back to the Board with recommendations after they jointly review volume 5 of the Mass Casualty Commission Report.

Acting Chief Don MacLean, Halifax Regional Police spoke to the topic and responded to questions of clarification.

Martin Ward, Solicitor responded to questions of clarification from the Board. Ward confirmed that the motion would need to be deferred to allow the police time to review the report.

MOVED by Commissioner Kent, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT Item 11.1 Commissioner Kent – Police Transformation Study & MCC Report Recommendations be deferred to a future meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners to allow the Halifax Regional Police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment to look at Volume Five of the Mass Casualty Commission Report recommendations.**

**MOTION TO DEFER PUT AND PASSED.**

Commissioner Kent resumed the Chair.

## **12. IN CAMERA (IN PRIVATE)**

### **12.1 In Camera (In Private) Minutes – May 1, 2024 and May 30, 2024**

This matter was dealt with in public.

MOVED by Commission Smith, seconded by Commissioner Blackburn

**THAT the In Camera (In Private) minutes of May 1, 2024 and May 30, 2024 be approved as circulated.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

MOVED by Commissioner Blackburn, seconded by Commissioner O'Malley

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioners convene to In Camera (In Private) to discuss Item 12.2 LEGAL ADVICE.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

### **12.2 LEGAL ADVICE - Private and Confidential Report**

This matter was dealt with In Camera (In Private) and ratified in public as follows:

The following was before Board of Police Commissioner:

- Private and confidential report dated June 17, 2024

MOVED by Commissioner Akindoju, seconded by Commissioner Giles

**THAT the Board of Police Commissioner for the Halifax Regional Municipality:**

- 1. Adopt the direction provided In Camera (In Private); and**
- 2. Direct that the private and confidential report dated June 7, 2024 be maintained private and confidential.**

**MOTION PUT AND PASSED.**

**13. NOTICES OF MOTION – NONE**

**14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – August 7, 2024**

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.

Jamie D'Angelo  
Legislative Assistant