

MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division

SUBJECT: *Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015 –
Amendments and Coming into Force*

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As a follow-up to All Chiefs Memo 22-0005, I am writing to confirm that amendments to the [Police Record Checks Reform Act, 2015](#) (PRCRA) will be coming into effect on April 1, 2022.

Amendments to the PRCRA

The amendments establish a definition of “volunteer” to clarify the eligibility for supports under the PRCRA. Under the amendment, a “volunteer” means a person who performs a service but who receives no compensation for doing so other than an allowance for expenses or an honorarium. It excludes a person receiving some other form of credit such as academic credit or fulfilling a sentence requirement.

Additionally, these amendments require police services to conduct and provide the results of Criminal Record Checks and Criminal Record and Judicial Matters Checks for volunteers at no charge. Police services are required to provide up to five free copies of the results if requested at the time of the initial request. Finally, these amendments expand the Lieutenant Governor in Council’s regulation-making authority to prescribe requirements for how police services conduct police record checks for volunteers and how long a police record check for a volunteer for a prescribed purpose could be relied upon.

Should you have any questions regarding fees charged by third-party providers who have agreements with your police service, please consult with your legal counsel to

ensure compliance with the legislation. The ministry will be monitoring the implementation of the legislative amendments to the act to ensure that the intent of the legislation is achieved.

The ministry has created a Fact Sheet that provides an overview of the amendments for your convenience. It is included with this memo.

We appreciate your support in operationalizing these amendments. We will continue to engage with policing partners on future development of any regulations under the act.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:

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Thank you for your continued collaboration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety