Report to / Rapport au:

OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA

27 February 2023 / 27 février 2023

Submitted by / Soumis par:

Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

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SUBJECT: APPOINTMENTS MADE UNDER THE INTERPROVINCIAL POLICING

ACT: 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

OBJET: NOMINATION EN VERTU DE LOI SUR LES SERVICES POLICIERS

INTERPROVINCIAUX: RAPPORT ANNUEL 2022

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de services policiers d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du présent rapport à titre d'information.

BACKGROUND

On December 15, 2009, the Interprovincial Policing Act (IPA) received Royal Assent and was proclaimed in Ontario on July 5, 2010. Québec gave assent to similar cross-border policing legislation at the same time.

For unplanned police operation purposes, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) uses the IPA to enable its officers to enter Quebec, as the OPP manage the appointment of officers entering from other provinces.

Under the IPA, the Appointing Officials are required to notify their police services board of any appointments made and/or terminated within the given reporting period, including the following information:

- Name of the province the extra-provincial police officer is from; and
- Duration of extra-provincial police officer appointment (which normally is set at three years unless there are special circumstances that would shorten that time frame).

The purpose of this report is to summarize for the Board the annual level of appointment activity under the IPA.

DISCUSSION

The IPA provides a mechanism whereby a Ministry-designated Appointing Official can grant police officer status to a police officer from another Canadian province or territory who is required to enter Ontario to perform policing duties. Limited and province-wide status is permitted under the Act. The IPA also provides indemnification for civil or criminal administrative actions or proceedings that may be incurred while Ontario or Québec officers are performing duties outside of their home province.

Québec Activities on Behalf of OPS Officers

Historically, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) has managed the appointment of officers from out of province police services for major events; however, because of the 2022 Convoy, the Chief of the OPS has now been provided these appointment powers.

In 2022, the OPS processed 279 applications (including renewals of previously approved applications which had expired in 2022) for OPS officers requiring status in the province of Québec to perform daily duties, including returning accused persons on warrants to Québec and continuing investigations where witnesses or accused persons are in Québec. The Sécurité Publique Québec has the authority to grant the appointment for the entire province or can limit it to certain geographic districts depending on the officer's duties and the scope of investigation. In 2022, all appointments were province wide.

This number represents a decrease from 2021 (315), however it is more representative of what is processed in a typical year. There were 210 processed applications in 2018 and 287 processed applications in 2019. There were only 34 processed in 2020 because of the pandemic.

Of note in 2022, due to the strength of the relationship between the OPS and the Sécurité Publique Québec, seven (7) OPS members that were designated on an Emergency Basis for an active murder investigation and a forensic search related to an Ottawa Homicide, were granted status within 24 hours from when the need for these appointments were identified.

CONSULTATION

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications incurred as a result of interprovincial policing activities.

CONCLUSION

The OPS is fortunate to have an excellent working relationship with our Interprovincial partner Sécurité Publique Québec with whom most of our IPA appointments are related. The implementation of the IPA has facilitated the granting of police officer status to an officer from another province that may require this status on a regular or temporary basis in the execution of their duties. It has proven to be an effective manner to administer the granting of police officer status, and the reporting requirements ensure that the Board is aware of potential activity within its jurisdiction.