

## **Chair's verbal report - OPSB agenda 84 - June 26 2023**

### Recognition of International Pride Month

- Earlier in the meeting I acknowledged that June was National Indigenous History Month.
- I would also like to note that June is International Pride Month.
- Relationships between police and members of the Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic + community have at times been strained.
- However its an opportunity for everyone to consider ways we can work towards achieving inclusive spaces in our communities and here at the City of Ottawa, as well as demonstrate solidarity with the 2SLGBTQQIA+ community and continue to fight for equality, safety and the sense of belonging.

### Ontario Medal for Police Bravery

- This past week, the Province announced the recipients of the 2022 Ontario Medal for Policy Bravery.
- A total of 21 police officers from across the province were recognized for having demonstrated great courage in risking their lives to save the lives of others.
- Here in Ottawa, we have the distinct honour of having three of our very own Ottawa Police officers receive this medal.

- On behalf of the Board I wish to congratulate:
  - o Constables Iain Campbell
  - o Constables Wayne Clayton; and,
  - o Constable Eric Douglas.
- Thank you for your courageous service.

#### Observations from my first 60 days on the Board/as Chair

- And finally, I would like to close my verbal report by sharing a few observations I have made in my first 60 days or so on the Board.
- During these last couple of months, I have heard from many members of the public, at events I've attended on behalf of the Board, at the Community Safety and Well Being Advisory Committee and in a meeting with members of the Community Equity Council Community Leadership Members and the School Board. I have met with leadership from both Associations as well. In addition, meetings are being scheduled throughout July and August in anticipation of Strategic Planning.
- A number of people are reaching out seeking opinions or asking how I will address certain issues. With this in mind, let me be clear. As Chair of the Ottawa Police Services Board, I am its servant. I ensure that members of the Board have the information they need to make decisions. The public statements I make will reflect the Board's decisions as their spokesperson.

- I look forward to working with the public and all community agencies to bring your opinions and counsel to the Board.