

## **Chair Beck Verbal Report**

### **Public Meeting**

**July 24, 2023**

#### Recovery of stolen vehicles

- Earlier this month there was a media report that OPS had recovered 75 stolen vehicles after wrapping up a months-long investigation into auto theft in the city.
- I recognize that auto theft is a property crime and for some, it may not seem like a priority; however for others, particularly the victims of these crimes, it is quite distressing.
- Perhaps more important though is the fact that organized auto theft is known to be used to fund other organized crime that poses a much greater public safety risk.
- I want to congratulate the Service for their work on this investigation.

#### Community meetings

- At the last meeting I spoke about events and meetings I had been attending to speak with various community stakeholders.
- I also noted that I would be continuing my outreach to the community on behalf of the Board to help inform our strategic planning process.
- Since the last meeting, I had an opportunity to meet with a broad spectrum of representatives from the community including:

- representatives from the Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory Committee;
  - an experienced and well-known lawyer who regularly defends clients who have had interactions with the Ottawa Police;
  - an individual who sits on the board for a local shelter;
  - a representative of an organization that provides wellness programming for police;
  - a City Councillor;
  - two representatives from organizations providing services and advocacy for the 2SLGBTQI+ community;
  - an individual with many years of experience working within a community health centre;
  - a representative from community housing;
  - representatives of organizations supporting various racialized and faith-based communities;
  - An advocate for elderly dementia patients; and,
  - A number of community leaders from the Community Equity Council.
- I am certainly starting to see some themes emerge through these engagements and I look forward to providing a more fulsome update on what I am hearing at the Board's special meeting on August 25.