

Acting Chair Fakirani Verbal Report

Public Meeting

December 18, 2023

- Given this is the Board's last meeting for the year, I would like to take a moment to provide a bit of an overview of 2023, as well as speak briefly on what's to come in 2024.
- Both the Board and the Service accomplished a lot this year, namely:
 - we developed an action plan in response to the Auditor General's audit of the convoy protest and have been actively working on addressing all of the recommendations from that report;
 - the Board hired two new permanent Deputy Chiefs, Trish Ferguson and Paul Burnett;
 - we approved a new staffing strategy for the Board office to ensure the Board has sufficient resources to support its work;
 - the Service developed - and the Board approved - two separate annual budgets for the years 2023 and 2024;
 - we broke ground on the new South Facility off of Prince of Wales Drive;
 - and the Board developed a new strategic plan in consultation with the Service, which included one of the most comprehensive consultation and data collection strategies to date.
- While as a Board and a Service we have a lot to be proud of, we also recognize that we still have much work to do.
- Back in April, the Board approved the 2023-2025 Drive2 Strategy – a roadmap for transformative change toward a more diverse, respectful, inclusive, values-based, equitable and engaging police service.
- That strategy has nearly 30 important actions to deliver on between now and 2025.

- We know racialized community members continue to experience disproportionate use of force by police.
- We continue to experience regular protests and demonstrations in our city, particularly in relation to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East;
- The City has experienced tragic acts of violence that the Service continues to investigate;
- We are expecting the new *Police Services Act* to come into force in April of next year; and finally,
- Now that we've identified our vision, strategic priority areas, and goals, we need to come up with tangible actions we will take to achieve those commitments, including measurements we can use to track progress.
- I know our Board and Service are up to the task and I am confident we can continue to make meaningful progress on policing in this city.
- I want to thank the Board, Board staff, Executive Command and Service staff, and all of our community stakeholders, for the ongoing work you all do to help keep our community safe and improve policing in Ottawa.