

Chair Fakirani Verbal Report

Public Meeting

March 25, 2024

Order of Merit

- On February 15, three members of the OPS were invested into the Order of Merit of the Police Forces by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Mary Simon, Governance General of Canada.
- I would like to recognize and congratulate on behalf of the Board Deputy Chief Steve Bell, Sergeant Maria Keen, and Retired Constable John David Stewart for this accomplishment.
- *J'aimerais féliciter, au nom de la Commission, le chef adjoint Steve Bell, la sergente Maria Keen et le policier retraité David Stewart pour cette réussite.*

Ceremonies

- On February 15, I had an opportunity to attend a recruit swearing-in ceremony, and then on March 18, I, along with Vice Chair Carr and Members Henschel, Doucet, and Donaldson, attended the Ottawa Police Service Awards where members were recognized for their years of service.
- In attending these events, it was really great to have an opportunity to meet those beginning their careers with the OPS, as well as those who have already dedicated so many years in service to the OPS and the community.

Community Safety and Policing Act

- The new *Community Safety and Policing Act* will be coming into force next week on April 1.
- *La nouvelle Loi de 2019 sur la sécurité communautaire et les services policiers entrera en vigueur la semaine prochaine, le 1^{er} avril.*
- I, along with the Executive Director, had an opportunity to attend a summit in late February to learn more about the new requirements of Boards and Services.
- The transition to the next Act will certainly take some time but we will continue to work through the changes with the Service and discuss updates as part of our regular meetings.

Community Safety and Wellbeing Advisory Committee

- On March 18, I attended the first meeting of the Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee.
- One of the main items discussed by the Committee included an update on the Poverty Reduction Strategy.
- I look forward to attending future meetings of the Committee on behalf of the Board.

Chief commendation

- Back in early February, the Board received a very touching letter signed by a number of Algonquin Anishinaabeg community leaders.
- The letter commended Chief Stubbs for his leadership and ongoing efforts to reconcile with Algonquin Anishaabag peoples.
- Chief, the Board is grateful for your dedication to fostering trust, understanding and cooperation between law enforcement and the community.

- Thank you for your commitment to creating a safer and more united community.
- *Merci de votre dévouement à créer une communauté plus sécuritaire et plus unie.*

Community Engagement

- As Chair, I continue to meet with various stakeholders on behalf of the Board.
- Board members are also engaged in various engagement activities as well.
- In February, the full Board had an opportunity to participate in a orientation with the Inspector General of Policing.
- I've also had discussions with the City's Auditor General, a number of community leaders, and the ED of the Canadian Association of Police Governance.
- The Board recognizes the value of community input and the meetings I and other Board members are having with members of the public and various community leaders and stakeholders are very helpful in informing our governance and oversight role.
- *La Commission reconnaît l'importance de l'opinion publique, et ces réunions que nous avons avec le public et les leaders de la collectivité, moi et les autres membres de la Commission, nous aident beaucoup à exercer notre rôle de gouvernance et de surveillance.*

Barrhaven tragedy

- I would like to finish my verbal report by saying a few words about the tragedy that unfolded in Barrhaven the evening of March 6.

- I had the opportunity, along with a few of my Board colleagues and a number of members of the Service, to attend a vigil in memory of the victims, as well as the public multi-faith funeral.
- It is evident that the community is in mourning, along with the loved ones of the victims.
- However, I would like to take a moment to specifically acknowledge the first responders who attended the scene, as well as those who continue to work on this case and support those community members who were impacted.
- The dedication and professionalism demonstrated by the members of the Ottawa Police has been nothing short of commendable.
- Seeing the number of OPS members at the funeral alone showed how much the Service deeply cares for the community and residents it serves.
- On behalf of the Board, I want to convey our deepest appreciation to all members of the Service for their bravery, compassion, and unwavering commitment to community safety.
- *Au nom de la Commission, j'aimerais remercier sincèrement tous les membres du Service pour leur bravoure, leur compassion et leur dévouement inébranlable à la sécurité communautaire.*
- This concludes my Chair's report.