

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICE DE POLICE D'OTTAWA**

24 June 2024 / 24 juin 2024

Submitted by / Soumis par:

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

Contact Person / Personne resource:

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**SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE IN THE PROVISION OF POLICING ON CANADA DAY
2024**

**OBJET: AIDE À LA PRESTATION DE SERVICES POLICIERS POUR LA FÊTE
DU CANADA DE 2024**

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Service Board delegate authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to approve:

- 1. appointments of special constable status in relation to Canada Day 2024;**
- 2. any requests for temporary assistance that are required by the Ottawa Police Service to secure resources from other police services to assist with the operational response to Canada Day, and sign any related memoranda of understanding pursuant to Board policy CR-17 "Major Events".**

Any exercise of this delegated authority will be reported out at the next regular meeting of the Board, to be ratified as part of the minutes.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de service de police d'Ottawa délègue le pouvoir au président et à la vice-présidente d'approuver :

- 1. la nomination de constable spécial relativement à la fête du Canada de 2024;**
- 2. toute demande d'aide temporaire requise par le Service de police d'Ottawa pour obtenir des ressources d'autres services de police afin de contribuer aux interventions lors de la fête du Canada, et de signer tout protocole d'entente connexe, conformément à la Politique CR-17 (Grands événements) de la Commission.**

Tout pouvoir délégué exercé sera déclaré lors de la prochaine réunion ordinaire de la Commission, afin d'être ratifié dans le procès-verbal.

BACKGROUND

As is often the case when planning for and responding to major events, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) may be required to request staffing support from other police services in the lead-up to and response to Canada Day 2024. To support its Canada Day 2024 planning and response activities, the OPS will first draw upon staff support from municipal services within the Province of Ontario and the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). Should staffing support requirements exceed the available support from these organizations, the OPS may be required to request support from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

The purpose of this report is to request that the Board provide delegated authority to the Chair and Vice-Chair to approve any special constable status requests pertaining to Canada Day events, should the need arise.

Providing this delegated authority will ensure that the OPS can provide special constable status to RCMP officers for the purpose of supporting Canada Day 2024 planning and response activities without requiring the Board to meet.

Should this be necessary:

- All appointments would be valid until July 10, 2024, only.
- The names of any RCMP members provided special constable status would not be posted in accordance with operational security requirements.

Following Board approval, via the delegated authority requested, and Police Service Board approval of the RCMP members, Approval of Appointment Forms would be provided and would require the Chair's signature.

Any exercise of this delegated authority will be reported back as part of the Board's next regular meeting.

DISCUSSION

The Board regularly approves the appointment of special constables for the RCMP, OC Transpo, Carleton University, and internal members of the OPS. These appointments ensure that respective employees can carry out the full scope of their assigned duties. Police Services Boards may appoint persons as special constables pursuant to Section 92 of the Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA).

The CSPA stipulates that the police service board shall issue a certificate of appointment to the person at the time of his or her appointment as a special constable. In normal circumstances, the appointments are valid for five years. In this instance, appointments would begin on June 30th and expire on July 8, 2024.

OPS and RCMP Memorandum of Understanding

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the OPS and the RCMP was established in 2016 with no expiry date. An RCMP indemnification letter was provided to the Board on January 25, 2016, by Chief Superintendent Bruce Kirkpatrick to address concerns raised by the Board respecting potential liability. The following is an excerpt from this letter:

“In the absence of a formal agreement between the RCMP and the Board, and in an effort to address the aforementioned concerns, I wish to assure you that the RCMP will, at its own cost, indemnify the Board from any claims, demands, actions, and judgments instituted or recovered by a third party, arising from any act, conduct, or omission of members of the RCMP appointed as special constables under subsection 53(1) of the Police Services Act (PSA) by the Board while carrying out their duties. To this end, the RCMP requires that the Board provide it with notice, in writing to the undersigned or the individual occupying that position without delay, or in exigent circumstances, as soon as reasonably possible of any claims, demands, causes of action, or actions arising from any act, conduct, or omission of members of the RCMP appointed as special constables under subsection 53(1) of the PSA by the Board while carrying out their duties.”

For the purposes of this agreement, the Board has the authority, pursuant to the CSPA, to appoint special constables for such purposes and with such powers as it sees fit.

For the administration of this agreement, the Chief Superintendent of the RCMP will be responsible for some or all of the administrative functions under each respective agreement. These leaders shall designate an employee for the day-to-day administration requirements.

Roles and Responsibilities

The RCMP and the OPS have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that outlines roles, responsibilities, and relationships regarding policing in the City of Ottawa accordingly.

Typical RCMP roles and responsibilities include:

- Safeguarding of designated Protected Persons (PP). Members on mobile patrol have a role in deterring and detecting potential terrorist activities and/or incidents impacting PP. Members are responsible for having knowledge of all zones and protected locations, many of which are located within the city of Ottawa and are responsible for answering security alarms and proactively gathering information for risk and threat assessment purposes relative to those locations.
- Enforcing moving violations/traffic violations on specific NCC roadways and bridges.
- Deterring and detecting criminal and provincial offenses other than highway traffic infractions by using different techniques such as car patrol, bicycle patrol, foot patrol, and vehicle checks.
- When observed and on duty, enforce violations of the Highway Traffic Act, Liquor License Act, Mental Health Act, and the Trespass to Property Act in which they have a duty to take action.
- Working with the OPS on all major visits, special events, and demonstrations taking place on federal, provincial, and municipal property. These occurrences generally start on City property and end up on federal property, and in the process of policing these events, the RCMP would assist the OPS with enforcement of the above-mentioned Acts.

RCMP officers who are appointed as special constables by the Board as part of this request will perform those duties noted above.

Approval will be obtained from the Ottawa Police Service Board for the appointment of RCMP officers as special constables, as required throughout the event, pursuant to Section 92 of the CSPA.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Document 1: Approval of Appointments as Special Constable to follow as required.

CONCLUSION

The appointment of special constable status for RCMP employees will allow these officers to undertake the full scope of their duties. Delegation of authority to the Board's Chair and Vice Chair will expedite any emerging need for RCMP special constable status requests for the duration of the Events in July 2024. All appointments would be valid until July 8, 2024.