

Report to / Rapport au:

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

23 September 2024 / 23 septembre 2024

Submitted by / Soumis par:

**Acting Executive Director, Ottawa Police Service Board / Directeur Exécutif par
intérim, Commission de service de police d'Ottawa**

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**SUBJECT: OTTAWA POLICE GALA - FUNDRAISER IN SUPPORT OF THE
SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT CENTRE OF OTTAWA AND THE
MULTIFAITH HOUSING INITIATIVE**

**OBJET: GALA DU SERVICE DE POLICE D'OTTAWA - COLLECTE DE FONDS
À L'APPUI DU CENTRE DE SOUTIEN AUX VICTIMES D'AGRESSION
SEXUELLE D'OTTAWA ET L'INITIATIVE MULTICONFESSIONNELLE
SUR L'HABITATION**

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

That the Ottawa Police Service Board approve the purchase of a table plus three extra tickets for the annual Ottawa Police Gala being held on November 2, 2024, at the Shaw Centre, at a cost of \$2,600.

RECOMMANDATION DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de service de police d'Ottawa approuve l'achat, pour la somme de 2 600 \$, d'une table et trois billets supplémentaires au Gala du Service de police d'Ottawa, qui aura lieu le 2 novembre 2024 au Centre Shaw.

BACKGROUND

The thirteenth annual Ottawa Police Gala is being held at the Shaw Centre on November 2, 2024. The evening will include dinner, dancing, a live band, a silent auction and a raffle. The cost of a ticket is \$200; the cost of a table for 10 people plus three extra tickets is \$2,600.

Since its inception, the OPS Gala has raised just over \$1 million for local charities, helping organizations across Ottawa help those most in need. Through the generous contributions of sponsors, donations, ticket sales and community members, the following beneficiaries have received donations as a result of the OPS Gala:

2010 – Project S.T.E.P. - \$50,000

2011 – The Ottawa Mission - \$90,000

2012 – Ottawa Youth Services Bureau - \$115,000

2013 – Christie Lake Kids - \$105,000

2014 – Boys and Girls Club of Ottawa - \$100,000

2015 - Ottawa Food Bank and the Caring and Sharing Exchange - \$85,000.

2016 – The Distress Centre of Ottawa and the Youville Centre - \$100,000

2017 – Big Brothers, Big Sisters Ottawa and Ottawa Victim Services - \$90,000

2018 – Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group Foundation, Great Canadian Theatre Company and Beechwood Cemetery - \$98,895

2019 – The Snowsuit Fund, Operation Come Home and Beechwood Cemetery – \$86,500

2022 – Youturn Youth Services and Màmawi Together - \$50,000

2023 – The Door Youth Centre and the Roberts Smart Centre -\$59,000

This year funds are being raised for The Sexual Assault Support Center of Ottawa and the Multifaith Housing Initiative.

The Sexual Assault Support Center of Ottawa has been providing crucial support, counseling, and resources to survivors of sexual assault for over a decade. Their tireless efforts in aiding survivors and raising awareness about sexual violence have made a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals in Ottawa.

The Multifaith Housing Initiative has been instrumental in addressing homelessness and housing insecurity in our community. Through its innovative programs and partnerships, it has helped provide safe and affordable housing options for individuals and families of diverse backgrounds and faiths.

BOARD POLICY

The Board's Discretionary Fund Policy sets out four categories for priority funding, one of which is Community Relations through Involvement with Police-Related Organizations. This category of funding is intended to enable the Board to purchase tickets or contribute donations to fundraising events. The attendance and participation of Board members at fundraising events for organizations whose work supports the vision and mission of the Ottawa Police Service serves to demonstrate the Board's support, goodwill and community involvement. The Ottawa Police Gala meets the policy criteria, and the Board has purchased tickets at each of the past galas.

CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This event is one that the Board has historically supported. Sufficient discretionary funds remain in the Board's 2023 budget to cover this expense.

CONCLUSION

This is an important opportunity for the Board to support the efforts of the Police Service in partnering and helping organizations serving Ottawa residents, as well as supporting the specific charities chosen each year to receive the funds raised through the Gala.