

Report to / Rapport au:

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

23 February 2026 / 23 février 2026

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: LETTERS OF COMMENDATION FEBRUARY 2026

OBJET: LETTRES DE MENTION ÉLOGIEUSE FEVRIER 2026

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Service Board receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

**Que la Commission de service de police d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du
présent rapport à titre d'information.**

BACKGROUND

Attached for the information of the Board are excerpts from letters of appreciation / thanks received from the public since the last regular meeting for services rendered by members of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS).

We are always happy to receive feedback about the great work our members do in service to the public. To help make that easier, we have introduced a new form on our website that will allow residents to provide direct feedback about the member who went above and beyond to help. Comments will be shared with the member and their supervisor and will be included in the monthly commendation report to the Ottawa Police Service Board (Board). All identifying information will be removed prior to its inclusion in this monthly report.

DISCUSSION

Date Received: January 12th, 2026

From: Member of the Public

Excerpt from Letter: I would like to comment on the behaviour of an Ottawa police officer from this morning. I do not know his name. I'm 70 years old and retired. Not quite sure how I did it, but I completely locked myself out of the house. No access at all. The officer was sitting in his vehicle on my street so I walked up to the car and asked if he could help me. He gave me a couple of suggestions which did not include knocking the door down. He was just so calm and reassuring. And yes, I did get in the house. Please send him my thanks.

Date Received: January 19th, 2026

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable R. Poitras, Constable Y. Monsour, and Constable E. Roshanafshar

Excerpt from Letter: On behalf of the Iranian community, we extend our sincere gratitude to the Ottawa Police Service, particularly Constables Poitras, Monsour, and Roshanafshar, as well as the City of Ottawa, for their professionalism, cooperation, and support in facilitating the recent Iranian-Canadian demonstration.

Your commitment to public safety, democratic values, and freedom of expression played a vital role in ensuring this peaceful gathering could take place in a safe, respectful, and dignified environment. Your support helped amplify the voice of the Iranian community as we stand in solidarity with the brave people of Iran who continue to fight for freedom, justice, and human rights—often at the cost of their lives.

We are deeply appreciative of your partnership, your respect for peaceful protest, and your role in upholding the principles of democracy and human rights.

Thank you for standing with the community.

Date Received: January 20th, 2026

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable M. Donoghue

Excerpt from Letter: I am writing to formally recognize an Ottawa Police Service Constable, Myles Donoghue whose compassion, professionalism, and understanding of mental health challenges made a meaningful difference in my daughter's life — and in mine as a mother.

During a period when my daughter was experiencing homelessness and struggling with addiction and mental health challenges, this officer encountered her while working patrol downtown. From the beginning, he treated her with dignity, respect, and genuine care. He clearly understood that many individuals he encounters are dealing with

complex mental health and life challenges, and he consistently approached my daughter with patience and humanity.

Through this approach, he earned her trust at a time when trust was incredibly difficult for her. As a parent, knowing that my daughter felt safe and believed that an officer was truly there to help gave me hope during a very dark period.

As her mother, knowing that my daughter trusted this officer meant everything. When she showed me his business card and told me that she believed he was truly there to help her, I took a photo of it so that I could reach out and thank him personally. During one of the most difficult periods of my life, simply knowing that there were officers like him working in our community gave me hope and reassurance when I needed it most. Later, when he was required to arrest my daughter due to an outstanding bench warrant, he handled the situation with kindness and professionalism. Because of the trust he had built, the interaction was respectful and became a turning point rather than another trauma.

Today, my daughter is released under court conditions, participating in a drug treatment program, and taking steps toward completing her high school equivalency. It is one day at a time, but every day that she chooses herself is a win. I believe this officer played an important role in helping her reach this point.

I wanted to ensure that his actions were formally recognized. He represents the very best of what policing can be, and our family is deeply grateful.

Date Received: January 22nd, 2026

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable M. Compton & Constable A. Curran

Excerpt from Letter: These beautiful horses and the officers riding them came for a visit at the school I work at. It was such an amazing experience for both the students and staff. I did not get the two officers names riding them but would love to know them if possible or have my thanks passed along. I was told afterwards by a coworker the amazing impact this visit had on one of their students and it was such a joy to hear that. Thank you so much again for such a wonderful experience from and educator and an animal lover! I always love having visits like we did today.

Date Received: January 24th, 2026

From: Member of the Public

Excerpt from Letter: Upon our first departure from the city since before COVID, my 16-year-old decided to throw a party that quickly got out of hand. A police officer dropped by and provided assistance to my girls. I appreciate this deeply and would like to offer my sincerest thanks. They were also deeply comforted by seeing a police car parked temporarily out front around 2AM when they were (still) cleaning up. The consequences

for my budding party host have been doled out, and I can assure you it will not happen again.

Date Received: January 27th, 2026

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member:

Excerpt from Letter: To Whom it May Concern, On Saturday January 24th, just after 5 pm my Stepdad went into cardiac arrest. My mom was able to call 911 and with the guidance of the dispatcher, she gave him CPR until first responders arrived. As soon as they took over the CPR my mom called me and I was able to arrive within a few minutes. The house was full of first responders, police officers, fire fighters and paramedics. They were able to get a pulse and got him to the hospital. Yesterday he woke, while a bit confused he is able to speak, stand, eat, drink and is able to converse with us. While he has no memory of the event and is struggling with his short-term memory the rest of his memory is intact. The doctors have credited my mom's initial CPR with saving his life and preserving his brain. She in turn is forever grateful to the woman on 911 that guided her through how to do CPR and kept her focused. I would like to thank all of the first responders that arrived at this call on Saturday evening and especially the 911 dispatcher that helped my mom give that initial CPR. Without all of them there is no doubt he would not be with us. The police officers were so kind, the paramedic took time to explain exactly what was happening in such a calm matter. Unfortunately, I do not know any of their names but if it is possible could you please thank them for us and let them know that he made it through. Especially the 911 dispatcher. My mom talks about her every day. Many of us have now signed up for a CPR course so that we can be better prepared to help others if anything like this happens again. Thank you, we are forever grateful.

Date Received: January 31, 2026

From: Member of the Public

Excerpt from Letter: Hello, I am writing to express my complete support for the Ottawa Police Service's efforts to combat shoplifting in Ottawa. Frankly, the amount of shoplifting is currently out of control. Both of my teenage children have part-time jobs in grocery stores in Orleans, and both have commented on this issue as being a large problem for retailers. I have personally witnessed a shoplifting incident at Winners in Orleans not too long ago, whereby a criminal brazenly walked out of the store with stolen goods while staff were loudly asking her to stop. The criminal simply walked, hurriedly, out to a waiting car and got in while her husband quickly drove away. Clearly this was not the first time these individuals have pulled a stunt like that. I am taking the time to express support for the OPS's Project Pantry given an article that appeared in

the Ottawa Citizen that was critical of it. A strong message needs to be sent to criminals that this type of behaviour will not be tolerated. Actions, quite simply, have consequences. The longer society makes apologies for criminals, the worse the problem will become. Thank you to Chief Eric Stubbs and the OPS for your continued efforts to keep Ottawa safe.

Date Received: February 2, 2026

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable G. Frechette

Excerpt from Letter: To whom it may concern, I would like to formally acknowledge Officer Frechette who was present at my home. Although Officer Frechette was not the lead officer and therefore did not direct the interaction, her demeanor stood out as calm, regulated, and respectful. She conducted herself with good manners, kindness, and emotional balance. She did not escalate the situation and appeared grounded, attentive, and human in her presence. While she appropriately deferred to the lead officer, her conduct reflected professionalism and composure, and she contributed to a calmer atmosphere by her manner alone. I believe this type of conduct reflects positively on the service and deserves recognition.

Date Received: February 2, 2026

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable K. Burke & Constable J. Harcourt

Excerpt from Letter: Constables were assigned to escort my mother from her retirement home to the Civic Hospital Emergency Department, as she was being admitted under a Form 1 designation. She was understandably resistant to go, hence the need for the officers. I caught up with her at the hospital and spent a few hours in emergency along with the officers. I wish to express my most profound thanks and appreciation for all that they did for my mother, and the kindness, compassion and patience they exhibited. They truly helped make an unpleasant situation more comforting for my mother and they are to be commended for their understanding and professionalism. In my opinion they set a standard that all should strive to attain.