

Artificial Intelligence Governance and Acceptable Use

Policy and Governance Committee

March 25, 2026



Purpose of this Update

- This presentation provides an update on the development of an internal OPS policy on artificial intelligence governance and responsible use.
- The focus is on developing a framework on how OPS will assess, approve, govern and monitor use of AI.
- This work aligns with the Board's AI policy.
- The objective is to ensure any future AI use is lawful, fair, respects human autonomy, and is supported by good governance.



Why is this Work Necessary Now?

- Police services across Canada are increasingly exploring and adopting AI.
- AI is influencing investigations, evidence review, and analytical decision-making.
- Criminal use of AI is increasing pressure for police modernization.
- Without early governance, AI presents risks to human and Charter rights and public trust.

Policy First, Not Technology First

- OPS is prioritizing internal policy development before expanding AI use.
- This approach reflects emerging best practice in Canadian policing.
- OPS will work with the Board to ensure the internal policy operationalizes the Board's AI policy.
- Governance will guide the planning, procurement/development, use and monitoring, and risk monitoring of AI tools.

Alignment with Board Policy

- The OPS internal policy will align with Board expectations for oversight.
- It applies a risk-based approach to AI assessment, with Board approval required for extreme/high risk AI tools.
- It embeds Charter, human-rights, and privacy obligations.
- Higher-risk AI uses remain subject to Board oversight.

AI Use in Canadian Policing: Context

Other police services are using AI for:

- Facial recognition to generate investigative leads;
- Report drafting and transcription to reduce administrative workload;
- Evidence triage and analysis; and
- Data analytics to support prioritization.

These examples inform policy development and are not approvals.

Potential Benefits for Community Safety

- Faster analysis can support timely investigative leads.
- Improved evidence review can enhance case quality.
- Better prioritization supports focused responses to serious harm.
- Modern tools help police keep pace with evolving crime.

Efficiencies and Cost Pressures

- AI can reduce administrative work such as report writing and file review.
- Automation can free sworn members for frontline and investigative duties.
- Corporate services may benefit from improved efficiency and consistency.
- These efficiencies support workload and cost management.

Risks and Community Concerns

- AI can introduce bias, error, or overreach if not governed properly.
- Some technologies raise privacy and human-rights concerns.
- Automated systems may reduce transparency and explainability.
- Public trust is affected if AI use is unclear.

Consultation and Engagement

- Engagement is essential to understand community expectations and concerns.
- Input from community members, academics, and human-rights experts strengthens policy.
- Consultation supports transparency and legitimacy.
- Engagement is coordinated with the Board's consultation plan.

Governance Safeguards in Development

- Risk-based approval pathways.
- Data protection and procurement controls.
- Mandatory human oversight and accountability.
- Ongoing documentation and review requirements.

Questions