

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA**

27 June 2022 / 27 juin 2022

Submitted by / Soumis par:

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

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

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SUBJECT: LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

OBJET: LETTRES DE MENTION ÉLOGIEUSE

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

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

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de services policiers 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).

Date Received: 24 May 2022

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Michael Blair

Excerpt from Letter: I would like to take this opportunity to extend a note of gratitude for the excellent service we received from Constable Michael Blair and other team members. We were caught out on the road in the middle of the storm that hit Ottawa, which had knocked down hydro poles in front and behind us, and a power cable landed across our vehicle; essentially requiring us to leave our car and wait for Hydro Ottawa to

clear the road. Each time I called the station for an update, I spoke to very helpful OPS members who ensured I had the most up-to-date information. During one such call for an update, I was connected with Cst. Blair, who was amazing. During our conversation, the call kept being dropped due to the poor connection caused by the storm. He called me back at least four times until we got a clear connection and he had all the information he needed. This afternoon, he called to inform us our car was ready for pick-up. We can't stress enough how grateful we are for the wonderful service we received from all staff and especially Cst. Blair, who went above and beyond. We can't thank him enough for his professionalism and exceptional service.

Date Received: 29 May 2022

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: I would like to thank you for all that you do in keeping the citizens of Ottawa safe. I wish you plenty of joy, happiness, peace, health, prosperity, and a long life in the name of Jesus. Have a wonderful night!

Date Received: 9 June 2022

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: Bravo vous avez vraiment de grand coeur , toujours au risque de blessures de critiques et même perdre vos vies. Je constate votre générosités humaine, vous représentez beaucoup plus que des uniformes. Vous êtes des êtres humains avec de grand coeur et aussi avec les vraies valeurs de la vie. Vous êtes toujours là à répondre à nos demandes. Je constate que vous êtes là beaucoup plus que pour répondre souvent à nos demande d'aide pour nos moments de détresses. Vous êtes plus encore une fois plus que des uniformes. Encore une fois bravo!

Date Received: 9 June 2022

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: Two years ago, I attempted to take my life by jumping off a 10-storey balcony. I do not remember that day or any day in that month of January. The police drove my sister and mom to the hospital. This gracious and kind gesture brought me to tears. I have been dealing with suicidal ideation for almost six years now, and the police were always understanding and will oftentimes bring me to the hospital. And for that, I am eternally grateful.

Date Received: 13 June 2022

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Zdzislaw Kogutowicz

Excerpt from Letter: I spoke to you earlier today concerning a police officer whom I think is an extraordinary man and a superb officer. I have a severe disability because I have

lost a significant amount of my brain as a result of surgery to remove a brain tumour. Last week, I got lost. I was going to visit a friend. They were not home, and I could not figure out how to get back to my home. I was dropped off by another friend and I got lost. Trying to find my way home, I asked a very nice lady for help. I do not know if she called 911 or if she called the police directly. About 10 minutes later a police car pulled up. She flagged him down and an officer got out. I can not tell you what he asked me, but nothing was unkind. Constable Zdzislaw Kogutowicz just wanted to try and figure out what was wrong. I told him I had a hard time talking and that I had lots of medical problems. The problem was, I was probably almost incoherent. All I knew was that I wanted to go home. Cst. Kogutowicz made some calls and then said that he would take me home, after finding my home address on his computer. He was very kind during the ride, reassuring me that all would be ok. When we got to my home, he made certain that I was ok. I cannot thank this man enough for what he did. Cst. Kogutowicz is an extraordinary officer. Please thank him for the great job he did to help me.

Date Received: 14 June 2022

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Jennifer Brazeau and Sergeant Michael Cathcart

Excerpt from Letter: I wanted to email my thanks to the Ottawa Police Service for an incident involving my son yesterday. My son struggles with some significant mental health challenges and he tried to jump off an overpass yesterday. The police got there just in time while we were losing grip on trying to pull my him off the bridge. Sergeant Micheal Cathcart was able to secure my son and keep him safe. The other officers that came onto the scene were also very compassionate and kind and treated my son with respect. I will be forever grateful for their service and for helping to save the life of my son.