

A. Overview

Acting Inspector Mark Patterson has been leading the OPS review of street checks. The purpose of the street check review was to develop a policy with clear guidelines for officers.

The project includes an important need for community-police engagement and consultation to obtain feedback and identify issues to support the policy development. The consultation has included police members, COMPAC, the Youth Advisory Committee, members of the legal and academic communities, and the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

Last month's provincial announcement to standardize street checks across the province is welcome news; and, it means the development of an OPS Street Check Policy must be put on hold until the provincial guidelines are released later this year. However, in pursuit of our ongoing work related to ensuring a professional and bias-free police service, it is still important to continue our local conversations on this topic with both police and community members.

The Ottawa Police Service is committed to developing and maintaining the trust of the community it serves by providing responsive, effective, and equitable policing to all residents. Through ongoing dialogue, training of officers, and a racial profiling policy developed in consultation with the community, the OPS continues to work to ensure that all persons live in a community with bias-free policing.

As part of this ongoing focus, and building on the extensive community-police dialogue over the last three years with the Traffic Stop Race Based Data Collection Project, we have developed an engagement plan that, if approved by the Board, will be carried out this summer. It provides an opportunity for continued dialogue and feedback on the topic. That feedback and commentary will be provided to the province this fall, and it will also be used as part of a larger conversation later this year.

B. Engagement Approach: Internal & External

1. General Principles of Consultation & Engagement

The engagement plan will provide meaningful and appropriate consultation by harnessing existing consultation policy, guidelines and best practices including:

- Community Policing Philosophy;
- Partnership in Action: The Ottawa Police framework for strategic community engagement and partnerships;
- Ottawa Police Services Board Public Consultation Policy, CR-6; and the
- International Association of Public Participation principles and values for public consultation.

Partnership in Action (PIA) is the Ottawa Police Service framework for public consultation and wider community engagement. PIA is more than a traditional consultative approach because it aims to identify and build upon community involvement and engagement within policing. For over a decade, it has been utilized to create community-police partnerships for initiatives such as district policing, the Community Police Action Committee known as COMPAC, accessibility, strategic business planning for a safer Ottawa, and the Youth Advisory Committee, to name a few.

PIA is the cornerstone of public consultation for the police service and supports the service's community-policing approach. It will be an important vehicle for continued relationship building between the community and the police service in relation to this project.

2. Street Check Review Project Engagement Goals (Internal & External):

- Raise awareness and understanding about street checks as an intelligence tool used by police to solve and prevent crime in neighbourhoods;
- Obtain feedback about street checks (questions, perceptions, suggestions);
- Contribute to development of provincial guidelines for street checks in the short-term and an OPS policy in the longer-term;
- Continue community-police dialogue about racial profiling concerns and perceptions; and
- Contribute to bias-free policing and diversity and inclusion goals.

3. Timeline (June 2014 to March 2016)

- Phase I (June 2014 – May 2015): Research and Initial Stakeholder Consultation – OPS Street Check Review Project.
- Phase II (June 2015 – September 2015): Engagement & Consultation – Continuing Street Check dialogue and contributing local consultation efforts to development of provincial guidelines.
- Phase III (November 2015 – March 2016): Engagement & Consultation – Local Implementation of Provincial Guidelines.

C. Engagement Methods & Communications Tools

The Ottawa Police Service also has extensive community outreach strategies and communications tools for reaching community partners, stakeholders and the general public. A stakeholder contact list will be utilized to reach stakeholders with project updates and consultation opportunities to support direct contact and relationship building efforts.

Communications Tools	When/Frequency
Project Web Page: ottawapolice.ca/streetchecks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General Project Information - Link to Provincial Announcement and contact information - OPS "Contact Us" information - FAQs 	
Project Page Intranet for Members	
Project Email Box	
Project Phone Line: 613.236.1222, Ext.#	

Project Presentation (Powerpoint)	
Project Information Handout(s)	
Frequently Asked Questions	
Stakeholder/Outreach List(s) for updates and feedback opportunities	
Media Release(s)	
Engagement Methods	When/Frequency
General Inquiries/Inputs - Emails - Phone - Social Media/Online Comments	July
Interviews	
Questionnaires	July 27 – Aug.31st
Feedback & Focus Group Sessions – External	August
Feedback & Focus Group Sessions – Internal	August
Partnership/Stakeholder Meetings	July - September
Public Forum – November 2015 Partnership in Action	Phase III – in development