



## Ottawa Police Services Board

### Minutes 38

Monday, April 26 2021, 2:00 PM

*Via Zoom*

**Krista Ferraro, Executive Director**

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**Krista.Ferraro@ottawa.ca**

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#### **Board Members:**

Councillor D. Deans, B. Johnson, Councillor R. King, Councillor C. Meehan, D. Nirman, L.A. (Sandy) Smallwood, R. Swaita

#### CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

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**That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm the agenda of the 26 April 2021 meeting.**

CONFIRMED

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES #35 OF 22 MARCH 2021

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**That the Ottawa Police Services Board confirm Minutes #35 of the 22 March 2021 meeting.**

CONFIRMED

COMMITTEE MEETINGS: REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS & MINUTES

FINANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE - DRAFT MINUTES #14 OF 8 APRIL 2021

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - DRAFT MINUTES #8 OF 20  
APRIL, 2021

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**That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this item for information.**

RECEIVED

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

The Board heard from the following public delegates on a range of topics. The Board welcomed delegations to provide their preferred pronouns and the phonetic pronunciation of their names.

1. ROBIN BROWNE (*he / him*)
3. JACK BELLEMARE
4. SAM HERSH
5. MAE MASON (~~*they / them*~~) *registered but could not attend*
6. JEN *registered but could not attend*

7. XUE XU
8. ~~JULIA FALCO~~ *registered but could not attend*
9. JAYDE LAVOIE
10. CASSIE SLACK
11. MAR KHORKHORDINA
12. ~~MOHAMED MIGUIL~~ *registered but could not attend*
13. GRACE XIN
14. EWART WALTERS

Some of the topics and feedback expressed during the delegations included:

- Concerns with the earlier start time of the meeting and the impact on public participation.
- The thin blue line flag still being flown outside the Ottawa Police Association even after the Board had sent a letter asking if it could be taken down as a result of community concerns.
- Clarification regarding an earlier statement made by Chair Deans to ensure it was not taken out of context; more specifically, her comments that there is no evidence to suggest that expanding police enforcement will result in better health outcomes specifically in relation to the additional police powers granted (later revoked) in enforcing the stay-at-home order.
- Various calls for service involving the OPS, including a 2019 incident where security camera footage was released which includes a conversation between officers with racist remarks and an incident from March 24 where officers attended the wrong address for a call for service.
- Concerns with the budget.
- Use of technology by the OPS and whether the agenda item related to the Enterprise Mobility Report was referencing new technology being onboarded; it was clarified the request for delegated authority is not to acquire new technologies; it is simply to renew licensing for existing IT infrastructure to enable their systems greater remote abilities.

- Requests not to pursue the South Facility.
- The Complaints Report and the number of complaints that resulted in no action or disciplinary measures.
- Request for more police presence/resources in Chinatown.
- The meeting agendas not being mobile-friendly.
- Request to hire a third Deputy Chief to better support Chief Sloy.

## INQUIRIES

### **Member Daljit Nirman, Stunt driving on Woodroffe Avenue**

Can the OPS please advise the Board as to whether there will be a traffic study conducted or traffic calming measures implemented on a primarily residential stretch of Woodroffe Avenue between Fallowfield Road and Strandherd Drive? Incidents of street racing have been noted by residents. Please respond with a specific timeline, detailing the action to be taken.

A brief response was provided; the OPS takes a “Triple E” approach to traffic violations, which involves education, enforcement and engineering. Incidents of stunt driving arise every spring, and officers have been out patrolling over the past two weekends. The OPS are actively working with their City partners to determine the engineering side, such as implementing traffic calming measures. A written response will be provided by way of report at a later date.

### **Member Daljit Nirman, May 2020 racist meme outcomes in light of recent TikTok Video**

Please detail the disciplinary measures taken following the release of the May 2020 racist meme and its subsequent redistribution.

It was noted that a full investigation was done into all versions of the meme being referenced. One investigation, involving the original meme, concluded successfully. The second and third investigation, involving the meme’s redistribution, have been unsuccessfully closed due to lack of information, however were there to be new information brought forth, the investigation would be reopened.

A more detailed written response was requested.

### **Member Rawlson King, Statistics related to mental health calls for service**

Would the OPS please respond to the following questions related to the 25 January Consultation Approach for Mental Health Response report:

- 1- Of the calls that were listed as Mental Health Act reports, either determined as such at the time of report or following response, how many originated in a 911 call?
- 2- Regarding calls that came in and were later deemed to involve mental health, can the OPS please breakdown how many involved violence towards a person, involved a weapon, or required specific police intervention or equipment.
- 3- Is there recorded demographic information, such as age, gender, race, etc., for calls classified as involving mental health?
- 4- What percentage of all 911 calls to the OPS specifically involve mental health?
- 5- The 25 January report detailed the approach taken by the Waterloo Regional Police Service. What steps are being taken by the OPS to streamline and accurately record mental health data?

The Service acknowledged Member King's inquiries, noting that the lack of Ottawa-specific data was flagged as an issue within the 25 January report. The OPS have a concerted effort underway to ensure that they are capturing the right data to establish the best outcome protocols for those suffering from mental health crises.

**Member Rawlson King, Wait times and fees associated with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act***

Can the OPS please detail how long it takes for an individual's request under said Act to be fulfilled. In doing so, please also indicate the average amount of time it takes for the request to be acknowledged and the average amount of time it takes to gain access to the requested information. Are there provisions in the regulation of the accompanying Act to waive fees for community members experiencing financial hardship? What about subsequent fees for photocopying and manual searches? Given the current public health restrictions, are cash payments accepted and if so, how?

**Vice Chair L.A. Smallwood, Coach Officer requirements and training in advance of appointment**

Please detail the review process conducted by the OPS prior to appointing someone as a Coach Officer. Over what period of time would their service records be reviewed, and what would the expectations of their records be? Please also breakdown the training they'd receive prior to appointment as well as thereafter, specifically with regards to de-escalation and mental health response.

**Vice Chair L.A. Smallwood, Pre-Charge Diversion - Follow up to I-20-07**

Please confirm whether the response to I-20-07 refers to diversions under "Judicial referral hearings," in section 523.1 of the Act. If it does not, please indicate how many hearings have been held under this section, and what policies and training exist in relation to it.

The below inquiry was raised while discussion was underway for Item 11:

**Vice Chair L.A. Smallwood, Fare evasion and enforcement of fare payment by OC Transpo Special Constables**

Please provide statistics pertaining to Special Constables being used to enforce fare payments or issue tickets for fare evasions.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

1. CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT

Chair's report

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Chair Deans delivered a verbal report, in which she spoke to the tragic events having occurred in Ottawa's Chinatown on 23 April. She expressed her condolences to the family of Carl Reinboth. She also provided an update on the motions carried by the Board last fall, detailing the work currently underway to achieve those directives. In addition, she touched on Covid-19 restrictions and the enforcement powers thrust upon the OPS. Finally, she provided a brief update on the CAO recruitment process currently underway.

Her full report can be read [here](#).

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

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2. CHIEF'S VERBAL REPORT

Chief's report

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A copy of the Chief's verbal report is available [online](#).

Following his verbal report, the depth and breadth of work undertaken by the OPS was commended, and the global influences with local impact here in Ottawa were acknowledged.

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

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3. NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA CRIME STOPPERS: SEMI-ANNUAL UPDATE

Presentation by Richard McMullen, President, National Capital Area Crime Stoppers

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Richard McMullen, President of the National Capital Area Crime Stoppers delivered a verbal update.

In 2020, Crime Stoppers received just over 2,500 anonymous tips, leading to 22 arrests, 15 criminal cases being resolved, 60 criminal charges, the seizure of \$12,000 worth of narcotics, and the seizure of three illegal firearms. The same level of anonymous tips has been received in the first quarter of 2021.

The organization recently partnered with Via Rail Canada and will be assisting with crime prevention specific to their operations.

The Crime Stoppers Board has had a continued opportunity for growth, and as such they are currently looking for additional members. In addition, they've begun a webinar series, open for all to participate on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m.

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this presentation for information.**

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4. SOUTH CAMPUS PROJECT UPDATE

Chief's report

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Prior to hearing from the delegations registered under this item, the Service provided a brief overview on the current status of the South Campus project. Following the April 8 Finance and Audit Committee meeting, it was decided to bring forth a recommendation to cancel the existing tender in order to explore ways of better integrating community services and City partners into the facility.

The Board then heard from the following public delegations:

PUBLIC DELEGATIONS

1. ~~KARIN FREEMAN~~ *registered but did not attend*
2. LAUREL DUNCAN
3. ~~CHERIE WONG~~ *registered but did not attend*
4. KATHLEEN GRIMES

Some of the feedback expressed during the delegations included requests to cancel the South Facility as well as a request to go forward with the tender.

Following the delegations, Board Members had an opportunity to raise their questions.

It was clarified that even in cancelling the current tender, there is no intention of starting over entirely; the pause will be an opportunity to rework the current plans. The Service intends to leverage the Strategic Plan while incorporating workforce changes brought on throughout the pandemic.

Although this pause could lead to increased building costs, the Service explained they would offset the increase by exploring the integration of community services into the facility. They are currently reaching out to prospective groups who might be interested in such a partnership.

Greenbank and Leitrim stations are still expected to close in 2026.

A question was raised regarding whether all regulations were followed in the cancelling of the tender. City of Ottawa Procurement has been working closely with the Service throughout this process, and they confirmed that all rules have been adhered to.

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the recommended project pause and reassessment strategy for the South Campus Facility outlined in this report including cancelling the tender and refreshing the Ottawa Police Service Facilities Strategic Plan with a focus on aligning to a service delivery that meets the changing needs of the community.**

CARRIED

5. ENTERPRISE MOBILITY REPORT

Chief's report

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**That the Ottawa Police Services Board delegate authority to the Chief for the procurement of licenses and professional services to deliver Enterprise Mobility through the Mobile Workforce Enablement project.**

CARRIED

6. APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL CONSTABLES: RCMP

Chief's report

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**That the Ottawa Police Services Board approve the appointment of the five (5) RCMP employees, listed in Document 1, as Special Constable pursuant to Section 53 of the Police Services Act, in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Approval of Appointment Form.**

CARRIED

7. OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE WELLNESS INITIATIVE UPDATE

Presentation

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Angela Slobodian, Director of Wellness and Safety, presented on the Ottawa Police Service Wellness Initiative.

Following the presentation, a comment was made regarding the importance of diversity within the peer support program. The Service explained that they do very much value lived experience within the program.

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this presentation for information.**

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8. WORKPLACE INJURIES, ILLNESSES & INCIDENTS: 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Chief's report

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

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9. COMPLAINTS REPORT – PART V, POLICE SERVICES ACT – 1ST QUARTER  
2021

Chief's report

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It was clarified that any incident involving a Service member driving issue automatically results in a Chief's Complaint. The complaint is then automatically investigated, concluding in a full report.

Statistics from speed enforcement cameras are currently being tabulated, as they were only introduced in July 2020. The Service is in the process of developing a system of accountability to mirror their red-light camera investigation process. There is a very narrow exception for Service Members to run red lights, however with speed cameras there is broader interpretation for what is acceptable. In driving over the speed limit, an officer is required to be within lawful execution of their duties.

At a bare minimum, all red light and speeding offenses are tracked on a member's performance log. When necessary, they face cumulative, progressive discipline up to and including a deduction of hours of pay.

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

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10. RESPONSE TO INQUIRY I-21-04: SPECIAL CONSTABLES AND INTERNAL DISCIPLINE

Chief's report

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

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11. RESPONSE TO INQUIRY I-21-05: BREAKDOWN OF SPECIAL CONSTABLE CALLS FOR SERVICE

Chief's report

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Over previous months, the Board has heard from delegations concerned that penalizing fare evasion is a primary function of OC Transpo Special Constables. A question was raised regarding whether this report has captured that aspect of their duties.

Fare evasion is not something captured within the data collected by the Service. As such, this question was reframed into an inquiry to be responded to at a later date (*noted previously under Inquiries*).

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

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12. RESPONSE TO INQUIRY I-21-06: AVAILABILITY OF BIKE LANES IN INSTANCES OF COMPLAINTS

Chief's report

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It was noted that 13 of 14 'cyclist on sidewalk complaints' were made in areas without bicycle lanes. The lack of infrastructure directly results in a need for police response. It was suggested that they work with Safer Roads Ottawa to ensure that this issue is dealt with from an engineering standpoint to minimize the need for police involvement.

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

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13. LEGAL SERVICES STATUS REPORT: 2021 FIRST QUARTER

Board Solicitor's report

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

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14. BOARD MONITORING REQUIREMENTS: 1ST QUARTER 2021

Executive Director's report

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

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15. OUTSTANDING BOARD INQUIRIES & MOTIONS: APRIL 2021

Executive Director's report

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

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16. LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Chief's report

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

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OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. EMAIL DATED 16 APRIL 2021, FROM SABRINA GANNON
2. EMAIL DATED 19 APRIL 2021, FROM MAMTA M.
3. EMAIL DATED 21 APRIL 2021, FROM MARY STUART

CONSIDERATION OF MOTION TO MOVE IN CAMERA

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**That the Ottawa Police Services Board adjourn the public portion of its meeting to move In Camera to discuss confidential items pertaining to legal, labour relations and personal matters in accordance with Section 35(4)(b) of the Police Services Act.**

CARRIED

IN CAMERA ITEMS

1. Labour Relations Unit Report - 1st Quarter 2021
2. Labour Relations Matter
3. Legal Services Report - Settlements, First Quarter 2021
4. Executive Succession Management Program Annual Report
5. Update on Collective Bargaining
6. Legal Matter
7. Delay Application

ADJOURNMENT

The public meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Regular Meeting - Monday, May 31, 2021