



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Chief Administrative Officer

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Margaret Misek-Evans, Chief Administrative Officer

Date to Council: February 13, 2024

Report Number: CAO-2024-01

Subject: OPP Detachment Board
Regulation Description

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Report CAO-2024-01 entitled “OPP Detachment Board – Regulation Description”, **be received**;

And that the Town’s feedback in response to the description of the regulation that will set out OPP Detachment Board matters, as identified in Report CAO-2024-01, **be endorsed and forwarded** to the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

Background

On March 26, 2019, Ontario passed the [Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019](#) (CSPA), as part of the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, 2019*. Once in force, the CSPA will replace the current *Police Services Act, 1990* (PSA).

The new CSPA carries over similar principles as are currently in effect in the PSA. Principles new to the CSPA include an additional requirement for police service boards to be representative of the communities they serve. There is also a new principle that ensures all parts of Ontario including First Nation (FN) Territories receive equitable levels of policing.

The Solicitor General has new duties under the CSPA, including the duty to develop, promote and provide education and training toward professional policing and a duty to assist members of police service boards, OPP detachment boards and FN OPP boards in performing their duties.

At the May 25, 2021 Regular Meeting of Council, [Report CAO-2021-09](#) was presented outlining the new CSPA requirements and endorsement of the two board model as the preferred detachment board composition.

The Town of Tecumseh, on behalf of all local boards, submitted a proposal to the Province with the OPP Detachment Board framework as follows:

- Essex County OPP Detachment Board (North) – Town of Tecumseh, Municipality of Lakeshore and Town of Essex
- Essex County OPP Detachment Board (South) – Town of Kingsville, Municipality of Leamington, Pelee Township, Caldwell First Nation

On October 25, 2023, the Ministry of the Solicitor General sent a letter to all local municipalities confirming that the Essex County OPP Detachment Board proposal had been approved by the Solicitor General. The next step in finalizing the board compositions was the posting of the composition on the Ontario Regulatory Registry (ORR).

The following board compositions have been approved and posted:

Board	Communities Serviced	Council Seats	Community Representative Seat(s)	Provincial Appointment Seat(s)	Total Seat(s)
1	Town of Essex, Municipality of Lakeshore, Town of Tecumseh	3	4	2	9
2	Town of Kingsville, Municipality of Leamington, Pelee Township, Caldwell First Nation	4	3	2	9

Comments

To prepare for the CSPA coming into force on April 1, 2024, the Ministry of the Solicitor General has been working with municipalities and First Nations since March 2021 to develop and finalize the detachment board compositions for the OPP, as noted above. On January 31, 2024, the Ministry provided a [description of the regulation](#) that will set out OPP Detachment Board compositions and other related matters. (Attachment 1) This description has been posted to the ORR for public review and feedback with a due date of February 13, 2024. Due to the deadline occurring prior to the next Tecumseh Police Service Board meeting and coinciding with the next Regular Meeting of Council, Administration has compiled comments for Council's consideration and near simultaneous submission to the Solicitor-General.

Administration has reviewed the description that will support the development of regulations to address matters related to OPP Detachment Boards under Part V of the CSPA. The following comments are provided for Council's consideration and submission to the Solicitor General's office:

1. Composition of OPP Detachment Boards
 - The description appears straightforward, and the composition of the Essex County Board is reflected correctly.
2. Term of Office of OPP Detachment Board Members
 - Description proposes the following terms of office:
 - Municipal appointments – term not to exceed term of the Council that made the appointment
 - Joint appointments – term not to exceed four years
 - Provincial appointments – term set out by Minister (no details given on length of term)
3. Remuneration
 - The description references the amount of remuneration will be determined by unanimous agreement by the municipalities within the detachment area, or the Province will determine the amount to be paid if an agreement cannot be reached.
4. Allocation of Estimated Costs
 - Board costs are to be allocated equally unless a different arrangement is unanimously agreed to.

Administration concurs with the description relating to Board Composition, Remuneration and Allocation of Estimated Costs.

In respect of terms of office, Administration recommends providing input to the Ministry on establishing a maximum length of service for the community representatives. In

keeping with the spirit of the legislation and to meet the new diversity obligations under the CSPA, a maximum 2-term limit (2 X 4-year term = 8 years total service) would support same.

This length of service is consistent with the “OPP Detachment Board Report”, prepared by Foresight Management Consulting, which was received by the Tecumseh PSB at its March 4, 2020 meeting (PSB – 07/20) and recommended “...community appointees could serve for multiple terms, to a maximum of two terms or 8 years.” The report was seen to represent a consensus reached at the joint PSB meeting with municipalities currently policed by the Essex County OPP Detachment, held in December 2019, on how to move forward with a recommendation for a detachment board model.

The Ministry is requesting feedback by February 13, 2024. It is recommended that the Town’s feedback in response to the description of the regulation that will set out OPP Detachment Board compositions and other related matters be endorsed and forwarded to the Ministry of the Solicitor General for consideration.

Subsequent reports will be presented to Council to stand up the new Detachment Board, beginning with the appointment of board members. We are advised by the Ministry of the Solicitor-General that the new board must be in place on or about April 1, 2024. Town Administration are working with the Town of Essex and Municipality of Lakeshore to develop the administrative components of the new board for consideration by our respective Councils.

Consultations

Police Services Board
Senior Administration from Municipalities within the Essex County OPP Detachment Board - North

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2023-2026 Strategic Priorities
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Growth: Achieve prosperity and a livable community through sustainable growth.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Health and Inclusion: Integrate community health and inclusion into our places and spaces and everything we do.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Service Experience: Enhance the experience of Team Tecumseh and our citizens through responsive and respectful service.

Communications

Not applicable

Website

Social Media

News Release

Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

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Deputy Clerk – Clerks Services & Policy Advisor

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
1	OPP Detachment Board Regulation Description and Appendices