

Essex County OPP Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh)

To: Chair and Members

From: Essex Municipal Liaison, Doug Sweet, CAO
Policy Committee Members

Date to Board: December 9, 2024

Report Number: ECODB-2024-07

Subject: ECODB-N (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Governance Policy

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That Report No. ECODB-2024-07 Essex County Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Governance Policy, **be received.**

And that the Governance Policy for the Essex County OPP Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) as presented at the December 9th, 2024, meeting **be adopted.**

Background

On March 26, 2024, Ontario Regulation 135/24, OPP Detachment Boards (O. Reg. 135/24), was implemented, establishing the framework for the governance of OPP Detachment Boards and detailing various administrative functions. This regulation includes a comprehensive list of OPP Detachments, and the corresponding Boards set up for their oversight.

In line with the *Community Safety and Policing Act (CSPA)*, the code of conduct for board members is outlined in Ontario Regulation 409/23 (O. Reg. 409/23). Following the guidance of the Ministry of the Solicitor General (SolGen) and the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards (OAPSB), the Board is tasked with developing its administrative policies. A priority for the Board is to establish a robust governance policy.

A governance policy consists of key principles, guidelines, and practices that manage how an organization is directed, controlled, and held accountable. Essential components of a strong governance policy encompass the responsibilities of board members, remuneration, meeting protocols, and training requirements for members.

Implementing a well-defined governance policy not only enables the Board to effectively manage risks but also enhances decision-making capabilities and fosters long-term sustainability. It serves as a foundational framework, setting expectations for ethical behavior, delineating member responsibilities, and facilitating efficient management processes.

The establishment of governance policies is vital for the effective operation and sustainability of the Board, cultivating a culture of trust, accountability, and management practices.

Comments

The draft governance policy for the Essex County Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) has undergone a thorough review process by the Board’s Policy Committee which includes Chair Sweet, Vice Chair Kigar, and Member Quennell as well as input from the municipal liaisons from Lakeshore, Essex, and Tecumseh. The review aimed to ensure that the governance policy aligns with best practices and meets the needs of the communities served. The committee assessed each section of the draft, considering feedback from the municipal liaisons to enhance clarity, effectiveness, and accountability.

Following the review, the Policy Committee and municipal liaisons compiled a list of recommendations for adjustments and improvements. These recommendations have been incorporated into the document for discussion and approval. The goal is to finalize a governance policy that fosters transparency, collaboration, and effective oversight of policing services in the region.

Consultations

Senior Administration – Town of Essex, Town of Tecumseh, and Municipality of Lakeshore

Essex County Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Policy Committee Members

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration from all three municipalities as indicated below.

Prepared by:
Essex Liaison – Doug Sweet
Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed by:
Tecumseh Liaison – Margaret Misk-Evans
Chief Administrative Officer

Lakeshore Liaison – Susan Hirota
General Counsel

Recommended by:
Essex County Detachment Board – North (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Policy
Committee

Attachment Number	Attachment Name
1	ECODB-N (Lakeshore, Essex, Tecumseh) Governance Policy