

MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Stephen Beckett
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

SUBJECT: **Police Services Board Members and Elections**

DATE OF ISSUE:	June 14, 2019
CLASSIFICATION:	General Information
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The Ministry of the Solicitor General (the Ministry) has received a number of queries regarding police services board members running in an election.

It is advisable that the board member disclose to his/her police services board the decision to be a candidate in the upcoming federal election as soon as possible. Members appointed by Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC) should also inform the Ministry as soon as possible.

It is the Ministry's position that a declaration of candidacy for the federal election is not necessarily cause for a board member's resignation. However, should a board member feel that, at any point in his/her political activity during the election period, he/she would be, or had the potential to be, in a real or perceived conflict of interest, it may warrant further consideration.

Should any individual police services board have its own rules and procedures related to this issue, including those developed in accordance with s.37 of the *Police Services Act*, the board member or the board may wish to discuss this particular situation with their legal counsel. The board member might also wish to consult with the municipality to determine if there are any municipal by-laws related to this issue.

All members of a police services board should review Ontario Regulation 421/97 *Members of Police Services Boards – Code of Conduct*.

Should a board member appointed by LGIC be elected, the board member is requested to please notify the Ministry and their police services board immediately.

For any questions, please contact your respective Police Services Advisor (see attached Zone Assignments), or Jeeti Sahota A/Manager, Operations Unit at (416) 702-4404 or via e-mail at Jeeti.Sahota@Ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Beckett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephen Beckett
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

Attachment