

<b>Request for Consideration</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Agenda Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Added Item</b> (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least one day prior to meeting)	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Request from the Floor</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Notice of Motion</b>
<b>Council or Committee:</b> Board of Police Commissioners		<b>Date of Meeting:</b>
<b>Subject: Community communication strategy</b>		
<p><b>Motion for Council to Consider:</b></p> <p>That the Board of Police Commissioners request that the Chief of Police prepare a community communication strategy that clearly and straightforwardly communicates what a citizen's rights are in situations where Police interact with residents and community by;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creating an easy to read "know your rights" information pamphlet or guide that outlines an Officers and citizens obligations when conducting a stop, interaction, or investigation. This information will also be available on HRM and HRP's website.</li> <li>2. Create community engagement strategies delivered by officers and community members that educates the public on their rights, and the roles and responsibilities of an officer.</li> <li>3. Engage with the minority communities in partnership with the Board of Police Commissioners to hold scheduled Town Halls in community, in order for the Board and Police service to understand community needs in order to enhance the effectiveness of the police service.</li> <li>4. Having all officers communicate - in accordance with the Minister of Justice direction regarding street checks – when coming in contact with the public adhere to all practices within the HRP Code of Ethics</li> </ol> <p>Reason: Halifax Board of Police Commissioners POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL section regarding Communications and Community Outreach Policy states:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Board's mandate includes the initiation of policies that reflect community need and enhance the effectiveness of the police service. The Board operates within a highly public environment and recognizes that the actions of the police services have a significant public impact.</li> </ol> <p>Accordingly, the Board shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Provide opportunities for the community to give input on areas of interest or concern to them, via such mechanisms as Board meetings in the community, invitations to community members and stakeholders to speak at Board meetings and meetings and workshops with stakeholders.</li> <li>d) Ensure an accountability, metrics framework is developed through community engagement, polling, and other means to report and measure crime and victimization, police activities and deployment, police resources and trust and confidence aligning with national performance measures.</li> </ol> <p>Board Roles and Responsibilities manual states:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The Board shall, as a part of its annual work plan, create an annual engagement plan that outlines</li> </ol>		

a schedule of public meetings and locations as well as a communications plan for the engagements.

Under the Police Act (s.55(3)(a)-(g) & 68(3)(a)-(g)) the Board is responsible to provide the following direction to both the HRP and RCMP, specifically to :

- a. determine, in consultation with the Chief of Police and the Chief Superintendent, or a designate, the priorities, objectives and goals respecting police services in the community;
- b. ensure the Chiefs establish programs and strategies to implement the priorities, objectives and goals respecting the police services;
- c. ensure that community needs and values are reflected in policing priorities, objectives, goals, programs and strategies;
- d. ensure that police services are delivered in a manner consistent with community values, needs and expectations;

Under both of these policies the Board of Police Commissioners can request that the Chief of Police establish a communication strategy that addresses community needs and the commissions priorities. Refencing the Wortley report, many community stories refenced not being provided information during engagements with officers or not feeling that the officers were not communicating what a citizens rights were in a situation. Creating and delivering a community communication strategy would help build relationships and educate the public on their rights.

**Outcome Sought:** To create a community communication strategy in timely manner

*Councillor Lindell Smith*

*District 8*