

Report on work of Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG)

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Submitted by Carole McDougall

Vice Chair, BoPC

The Canadian Association of Police Governance is a national organization dedicated to excellence in police governance. Founded in 1989, it is the national voice of civilian oversight of municipal police. CAPG serves its members with training and networking opportunities, collaborates police services leaders and associations as well as federal, provincial and municipal governments. The Board of Directors of CAPG is made up of two members from each province (three from Ontario) as well as three First Nations members, all focused on governance of police services in their community. Each province proposes members who are elected for two-year terms at the annual general meeting in August.

Nova Scotia's two representatives are chosen and recommended by the NSAPG. Generally, one member represents Halifax or Sydney (the two largest commissions) and the other is from another municipal commission. Currently, Wayne Talbot, Deputy Mayor, Truro and Chair of the Truro Police Commission and Carole McDougall represent Nova Scotia on the national board. Wayne Talbot is also Vice Chair of the national board. Carole McDougall is chairing the 2021 Annual Conference which is scheduled to be held in Ottawa if possible.

CAPG hosts an annual conference with speakers from Canada, US, UK and beyond with experience in policing governance, oversight and innovative approaches to public safety. The conference is usually held in August and is followed by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in the same city.

CAPG held a three-day virtual conference in late October, early November with 700 people registered. There were some technical issues for some participants but generally it went well for many who signed up. The first day focused entirely on First Nations Policing and governance by boards. Public Safety Minister, Bill Blair addressed participants in an interview with Dan Bellegarde, Chair of First Nations Police Governance Council. First Nations speakers addressed challenges including covid containment on reserve, support for victims of abuse and new programs supporting youth. The next two days included a second interview with Minister Blair focusing on broader governance questions, panels on defunding police, systemic racism, use of force, mental health support and wellness for officers, eliminating barriers for future recruitment and governance during a pandemic.

In December, the national board of CAPG held two days of orientation for new members and strategic planning for 2021. Both were virtual.

CAPG offers a webinar series each year and as the BoPC is a member, we are able to purchase the series at half price. This will allow any member of the BoPC or police service, access on the day of the webinar or to the archive if schedules conflict with the date of the live webinar. The list of topics follows and passwords will be circulated once the purchase is complete.

2021 Sessions

Tuesday, January 26, 2021, at 12 EST

Victims Rights and Police Governance: What should Police be Doing?

with *Heidi Illingworth, Federal Ombudsman for Victims of Crime*

Tuesday, February 2, 2021, at 12 EST

Effective Evaluation of Police Leadership

with *Ryan Teschner, Executive Director, Toronto Police Services Board*

March

A Conversation with Ontario's First Inspector General of Policing

with *Devon Clunis (TBC)*

April

Responding to a Call to Defund Police

with *Akwasi Owusu-Bempah, University of Toronto (TBC)*

May

Privacy Issues & Technology in Policing

with *Teresa Scassa, University of Ottawa, Canada Research Chair in Information Law and Policy (TBC)*

June

Manitoba Police Act Review & Recommendations

with *Andrew Minor, Executive Director Manitoba Police Commission*

Rick Linden, University of Manitoba

and

Cal Corley, CSKA

July

Municipal Council & Police Governance – Legal Boundaries, Guidelines & Ethics

with *Glenn Christie (TBC)*

August

Tiered Policing in Canada

with *Dr. Dennis Cooler, former Executive Director of the Law Commission of Canada (TBC)*

September

Leadership and Decision Making in Policing

with *Tullio Caputo and Tarah Hodgkinson (TBC)*

October

Shifting the RCMP to a Municipal Service – Lessons Learned on the Way

with *Melissa Granum, Executive Director, Surrey Police Board (TBC)*

November

Police Recruiting – Developing the most Effective Strategy for a Reflective Service

Speaker to be announced

December

Police Board Governance – A Primer to Brush up on your Basics

with *Andrew Graham, Queen's University*