

Item No. 7.1  
Board of Police Commissioners  
August 2, 2023

**HALIFAX**

# **Mass Casualty Commission Final Report**

Implications for the BoPC

# BoPC Motion

- The major factual findings of the MCC Report relevant to the Board's statutory mandate;
- The recommendations of the MCC Report that are within the Board's statutory jurisdiction, either on its own or in tandem with other levels of government (i.e., municipal, provincial, federal, Indigenous); and
- Any other information from the MCC Report that the Policy Advisor considers would be relevant to or helpful for the Board in fulfilling its statutory duties and functions.

# Mass Casualty Commission

- An independent public inquiry created to examine the April 18-19, 2020 mass casualty in Nova Scotia & to provide meaningful recommendations to help keep communities safer
- On October 21, 2020, the Government of Canada & Province of Nova Scotia each issued an Order in Council officially establishing the Commission & announcing the appointment of the three Commissioners & the beginning of this work
- Their final report and recommendations entitled Turning the Tide Together was released publicly on March 30, 2023

# Public Safety Reports

- Halifax, Nova: Street Checks Report (2019)
- Defunding the Police: Defining the Way Forward for HRM (2022)
- Public Safety Strategy 2023-2026
- Policing Model Transformation Study: Future Policing Model Recommendations (2023)
- Mass Casualty Commission Final Report (2023)

# Findings: Board's Statutory Mandate

## *Revitalize Police Boards*

- Mandatory provincial training for police board members
- A police board manual prepared by the DoJ
- Municipal funding for police boards to seek legal advice & conduct research, etc.
- Ensuring that boards are fully staffed & performing their governance function
- An independent website for police boards

# Findings: Board's Statutory Mandate

## *Revitalize Police Boards (cont.)*

- Holding police board meetings in public
- Police board members establishing relationships with community safety providers & with community members who have historically been underserved and overpoliced
- Ensuring police board members are fairly compensated
- Publish police policies online

# BoPC Initiated Activities

- Funding to seek independent legal advice & for a staff position to conduct research & provide policy support
- Ensuring that meetings take place in a public location & are live streamed. Advance notice of the time, location, agenda and expected speakers is posted online. An archived video of meetings is also available online.
- Ensuring that BoPC meetings are scheduled in accordance with the Police Act. The BoPC typically meets monthly

# Recommendations: Board's Statutory Mandate

- Nearly every recommendation connects to board's statutory mandate in some form
- Opportunity for HRP to explore recommendations directed at the RCMP (Police Transformation Study)
- Recommendations directed at “police services”:
  - Intimate partner violence
  - Victim services
  - Critical incident response
  - Public warnings
  - Information sharing
  - Community engaged policing
  - Countering systemic bias
  - Preventing violence and protecting safety
  - Adopt “Peelian Principles”
  - Participate in provincial multisectoral council

# Alignment: Public Safety Reports

Issue	MCC Recommendation	Alignment
Third party reporting	V.9: Creating Safe Spaces to Report Violence	Defund Report, Recommendation 25; Public Safety Strategy, Action 1.2
Mental Health Care	P.60: Providing Mental Health Care to Nova Scotians	Defund Report, Recommendation 15; Public Safety Strategy, Action 2.1; Police Transformation Study
Use of Force	P. 57: Use of Force	Defund Report; Recommendation 4
Police Policies	P. 62 Public Police Policies	Defund Report, Recommendations 6 & 7
Police Culture	P. 37 Taking Responsibility P. 56 Police Education & Research P. 59 RCMP Management Culture P. 60 Providing Mental Health Care P. 68 Information Sharing	Defund Report, Recommendation 1; Wortley Report, Recommendation 4.14; Police Transformation Study

# Recommendation

The Board of Police Commissioners requests that the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) direct the Policy Advisor for the Board of Police Commissioners to work with the Community Safety Office, the Halifax Regional Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police to:

- 1) Identify areas of overlap between recommendations and actions contained in the Wortley Report, Defund Report, Public Safety Strategy and Mass Casualty Commission Final Report; and
- 2) Prepare a staff report outlining these areas of overlap and associated recommendations for consideration as a part of the Board's 2023-2024 workplan.