

Authority to Create Board Policies

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1 - Title

Authority to Create Board Policies

2 - Purpose

This policy outlines the legal authority, scope and effect of policies adopted by the Board.

3 - Scope

The Halifax Board of Police Commissioners is established as an independent authority pursuant to the *Police Act*. The Board has dual roles: provide civilian governance to the Halifax Regional Police (HRP) on behalf of Halifax Regional Council (Council) (s. 55) and function as a Police Advisory Board regarding the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in its role as a contractual policing service with the Halifax Regional Municipality. (s. 68(1)).

4- Definitions

In the context of this document:

Police Act means the *Police Act*, S.N.S. 2004, c. 31 as amended

Board means the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners

Chair means Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners

Chief of Police means the Chief of Halifax Regional Police

Chief Superintendent means the Chief Superintendent of the RCMP, Halifax District

Chiefs means the Chief of Police of HRP and the Chief Superintendent of the RCMP

Council means Halifax Regional Council

HRM means the Halifax Regional Municipality

HRP means the Halifax Regional Police

Legislative Assistant means representative of the Municipal Clerk's Office

Member(s) means a member of the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners

RCMP means the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax District

5 - Distribution

Policies may be distributed to all Board of Police Commissioners, CAO, Municipal Clerk, HRM Councillors, the Chiefs and their respective departments, Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance and posted on HRM website with link to HRP website. This list may be expanded as required.

6 – Board of Police Commission Authority

1. The Board is created by the *Police Act*.
2. The Board has responsibility to provide Halifax Regional Police “the administrative direction, organization and policy required to maintain an adequate, effective and efficient police department” per s. 55(1)(b) of the *Police Act*.
3. The Board may from time to time adopt policy per s. 55(1)(b) of the *Police Act*, and the Chief of Police shall cause that policy to be posted to all sworn and unsworn members of HRP.
4. The Board shall adopt policy regarding extra-duty and off-duty employment as per s. 56 of the *Police Act* and the Chief of Police shall cause that policy to be posted as an HRP Departmental Order to all sworn and unsworn members.
5. The Board is, with respect to HRP, additionally responsible to provide direction as outlined in s. 55 of the *Police Act* and to determine, in consultation with the Chief of Police, priorities, objectives and goals respecting police services in the community and to recommend or provide policies, administrative and organizational direction for the effective management of the police department.
6. The Board is, with respect to RCMP, additionally responsible to provide advice to the RCMP, and, as outlined in s. 68 of the *Police Act*, to determine, in consultation with the Chief Superintendent priorities, objectives and goals respecting police services in the community and to recommend policies, administrative and organizational direction for the effective management of the police department.
7. The Board may from time to time recommend the Chiefs adopt policy per the *Police Act* s. 55(3)(f) and/or s. 68(3)(f) and if the recommendation is accepted the policy may be posted for HRP and RCMP officers to all sworn and unsworn members.
8. The Board may from time to time adopt policy regarding any other duty and responsibility outlined for the Board in the *Police Act*.

7 - Policy Review

This policy should be reviewed every four years and when the *Act* is amended.

8 - Contact

Office of the Municipal Clerk

9 - References

None