



P.O. Box 1749
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Item No. 7.3

Request for Board of Police Commissioners Consideration		
☒ Agenda Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least 5 working days prior to the meeting)	☐ Added Item (Submitted to Municipal Clerk's Office by Noon at least one working day prior to meeting)	☐ Request from the Floor
Date of Meeting: November 12, 2025, Deferred to December 1, 2025		
Subject: Halifax Board of Police Commissioners – Police Governance Excellence Award		
Motion: That the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners: 1. Waive section 15 of Administrative Policy One, requiring a staff report from the Chief of Police or Policy Advisor to the Board; 2. Approve the creation of the "Halifax Board of Police Commissioners – Police Governance Excellence Award," as outlined in the accompanying proposal; 3. Direct the Chair of the Board to establish a subcommittee to oversee the development, implementation, and administration of the annual nomination, evaluation, and presentation process for the award beginning in the next calendar year; and 4. Request that HRM Corporate Communications collaborate with the Board to develop a communications plan to promote the award and publicly recognize recipients.		
Reasons: 1. To Recognize and Encourage Excellence in Police Governance ○ The award formalizes the Board's appreciation for individuals who uphold the highest standards of accountability, transparency, and integrity in policing oversight. ○ It reinforces the Board's leadership role in promoting good governance practices within the Halifax Regional Police, RCMP Halifax District, and HRM. 2. To Strengthen Public Confidence and Institutional Trust ○ Public recognition of governance excellence promotes trust in the systems that ensure professional, ethical, and community-responsive policing. ○ The award highlights positive contributions that may otherwise go unacknowledged, strengthening public understanding of the Board's oversight role. 3. To Foster Collaboration and Shared Learning ○ By inviting nominations across HRP, RCMP, and HRM staff, the award supports cross-organizational collaboration and knowledge sharing. ○ Recognizing both sworn and civilian contributions reflects a whole-of-system approach to police governance. 4. To Institutionalize a Sustainable Recognition Program		

○ Establishing an annual award provides a consistent and visible mechanism to celebrate governance leadership. ○ The process—nominations, evaluation, and presentation—can be embedded within the Board’s annual work plan with minimal resource impact. 5. Alignment with the Board’s Mandate and Strategic Priorities ○ The initiative directly supports the Board’s statutory role under the Nova Scotia Police Act to ensure that policing in HRM is carried out in a manner that is effective, accountable, and community oriented. ○ It aligns with ongoing Board objectives and work plan to enhance transparency, stakeholder engagement, and recognition of professional excellence (to ‘Implement an annual BoPC Award for Excellence in Policing’).	
Outcome Sought: That the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners formally establish and launch the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners – Police Governance Excellence Award, to be presented annually in recognition of exceptional contributions to the principles and practices of effective police governance within the Halifax Regional Municipality. Expected outcomes include: • Strengthened culture of accountability and collaboration among police and municipal governance partners. • Increased public awareness of the Board’s oversight role and its commitment to good governance. • Recognition and encouragement of individuals whose efforts advance transparency, equity, and community trust in policing.	
<i>Commissioner</i> Becky Kent	



Halifax Board of Police Commissioners – Police Governance Excellence Award – Proposal

Purpose

The *Police Governance Excellence Award* recognizes a sworn member, civilian employee, or staff member who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to the principles and practices of effective police governance within the Halifax Regional Municipality.

This award celebrates individuals who strengthen public confidence, accountability, and trust through exemplary support of the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners' mandate — ensuring professional, transparent, and community-focused policing across the municipality.

Award Description

Presented annually by the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners, this award honours excellence in advancing the values of good governance in policing. It acknowledges individuals who, through leadership, innovation, and integrity, have contributed meaningfully to transparency, accountability, and collaboration between the Halifax Regional Police, RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment, the Board, HRM staff, and the community.

Eligibility

Nominations are open to:

- **Sworn members** and **civilian employees** of the **Halifax Regional Police** and the **RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment**
- **Staff members** of the **Halifax Regional Municipality** who contribute to policing or governance functions

Individuals or teams may be nominated. Nominations may be submitted by members of the Halifax Regional Police, Halifax District RCMP, HRM Councillors, HRM staff, the Board of Police Commissioners, or members of the public.



Selection Criteria

Nominees will be evaluated on their demonstration of one or more of the following:

1. **Commitment to Governance Values**
Demonstrated understanding and promotion of accountability, transparency, fairness, equity, and ethical conduct in policing and governance.
2. **Innovation and Initiative**
Development or implementation of practices, projects, or strategies that enhance governance, oversight, or organizational effectiveness.
3. **Collaboration and Relationship-Building**
Strengthened partnerships between the Halifax Regional Police, RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment, the Board of Police Commissioners, HRM staff, and the community to support trust and good governance.
4. **Leadership and Mentorship**
Promotion of governance awareness, professionalism, and capacity-building within or across police services and HRM.
5. **Impact and Outcomes**
Demonstrable positive influence on governance processes, community relations, or organizational decision-making resulting from the nominee's work.

Award Process

- The Board will set the timeline for award nominations, evaluation, and presentation as part of its annual work plan process.
- Nominations are reviewed by a selection subcommittee of the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners.
- The award is presented annually at a meeting of the Board or another suitable public recognition event.
- The recipient will also be acknowledged through official Halifax Regional Municipality communications.

Award Presentation

Recipients will receive:

- A commemorative plaque presented by the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners in recognition of excellence in police governance.
- Inclusion on the *Halifax Police Governance Honour Roll*, maintained by the Board.