



# **NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE**

## **Police Services Board Report**

### **PUBLIC AGENDA**

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**Subject:** Annual Report – Crisis Negotiation – January 1 to December 31, 2020

**Report To:** Chair and Members, Niagara Police Services Board

**Report Date:** 2021-03-25

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### **Recommendation(s)**

**That the Niagara Police Services Board receives this report for information.**

### **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to advise the Board that the Service is in compliance with By-law 245-2000 as it relates to Crisis Negotiation.
- The Chief is required to make a written annual report to the Board with respect to Crisis Negotiation.
- This report will set out a summary of the procedures required by this By-law and the status of Service compliance with the said procedures.
- The report will indicate confirmation of the development and maintenance of the manual on Crisis Negotiation.
- The report will have a summary of the circumstances in which a Crisis Negotiator was deployed.

### **Financial Considerations**

Not applicable.

### **Analysis**

In accordance with By-law 245-2000, the Chief shall make a written report to the Board each year with respect to Crisis Negotiation and that report must include the following:

- a) a summary of the procedures required by this By-law;
- b) the status of service compliance with the said procedures;
- c) confirmation of the development and maintenance of the manual on crisis negotiation; and
- d) a summary of the circumstances in which a crisis negotiator has been deployed.

This Board report will outline each of the above and confirm our compliance with the By-law.

*a) a summary of the procedures required by this By-law;*

The Niagara Regional Police Service is required to have trained Crisis Negotiators available within a reasonable response time to provide services seven days a week and 24 hours a day. The role of Crisis Negotiator is a part-time role performed by members assigned to other permanent positions within the Service. The Niagara Regional Police Service is in full compliance. The Service has a complement of 10 Crisis Negotiators. Due to recent transfers and succession planning, the Service has nine fully trained and operational Crisis Negotiators and one member awaiting a training opportunity prior to being deployed. All new members will be trained to meet the requirements of O.Reg.3/99. The Inspector of Emergency Services maintains the current list of qualified Crisis Negotiators. Copies of the list are located in the Duty Office and the Communications Unit and can be located electronically through the Computer Aided Dispatch System.

*b) the status of Service compliance with the said procedures;*

The procedures for Crisis Negotiator deployment, selection and training are clearly set out in General Order 133.08. The Service is in compliance with those procedures.

*c) confirmation of the development and maintenance of the manual on Crisis Negotiation;*

The Niagara Regional Police Service presently uses the Canadian Police College's "Guide for Incident Commanders and Crisis Negotiators" as its manual. Each Crisis Negotiator has an electronic copy as well as a hard copy. As new Crisis Negotiators attend the Canadian Police College or attend Ontario Police College accredited Crisis Negotiator training, the manual is updated.

*d) a summary of the circumstances in which a Crisis Negotiator has been deployed;*

In 2020, the attendance of a Crisis Negotiator occurred on 66 occasions. This is a marked increase from 26 incidents in 2019 and 18 incidents in 2018. This increase can be in part attributed to an improved process that ensures the safest approach to resolving critical incidents. This improvement includes proactively having Negotiators deployed in planned events, fully prepared to assist if crisis negotiations are required

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Classification of Calls	2020	2019	2018
Armed / Barricaded Persons	20	6	11
High-Risk Warrant / Arrests	39	11	1
Persons in Crisis	7	9	6
<b>Total Calls</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>18</b>

## Alternatives Reviewed

Not applicable.

## Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

This report is being brought forward to demonstrate the Service is meeting the requirements of By-law No. 245-2000, a By-law respecting Crisis Negotiation.

## Relevant Policy Considerations

Police Services Board By-law 245-2000, Crisis Negotiation  
General Order 133.08, Crisis Negotiators  
Policing Standards Manual (2000) ER-005 Hostage Rescue  
Policing Standards Manual (2000) ER-005 Crisis Negotiation

## Other Pertinent Reports

105.2020 – Annual Report – Crisis Negotiation – January 1 to December 31, 2019

*This report was prepared by Jamie Munro, Staff Sergeant, Emergency Services Unit and reviewed by Joe Garvey, Inspector, Emergency Services Unit and Brian Ash, Superintendent, Emergency & Investigative Services and recommended by Brett Flynn, Deputy Chief of Police, Operational Services.*



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**Submitted by:**  
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Chief of Police

## Appendices

Not applicable.