



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Services Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Special Fund Request – Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE) Awards Gala

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Services Board

Report Date: 2024-03-05

Recommendation(s)

That the Niagara Police Services Board approves a Special Fund donation in the amount of \$2280.00 in support the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement Awards Gala.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek a \$1000.00 donation from the Niagara Police Services Board's special fund account to help recognize the significant contribution of women in law enforcement across Ontario. The donation will obtain the status of Silver Sponsorship for the event.
- Additionally, it is also being requested that an additional amount of \$1280.00 be provided to purchase a table for this year's event which takes place on May 3, 2024.
- The Service in partnership with Ontario in Law Enforcement (OWLE) were host agencies for the International Association of Women Police (IAWP) 59th conference that the was held in Niagara Falls, September 12-16, 2022.
- This financial support from the Police Service Board serves as its commitment to the importance of Police training and its encouragement to women to consider a career in Policing.

Financial Considerations

The Board has a discretionary pool of funds, which it uses for grants and donations. Disbursements from the fund are in accordance with guidelines provided in the Police Services Act, and also with Board By-law 376-2018, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines. Section 132(2) of the Police Services Act establishes that the Niagara Police Services' Board has the sole authority for spending the proceeds from the sale of property which lawfully comes into the possession of the police service. The Act stipulates that "the Chief of Police may cause the property to be sold, and the Board may use the proceeds for any purpose that it considers in the public interest." These funds do not form part of the police operating budget and are separate from the Regional tax base.

Analysis

The OWLE Annual Awards Banquet recognizes outstanding achievements of women in law enforcement across the province of Ontario. Included are long service awards for 25, 30, 35, 40 and 45 years of service. This year, our Service has 4 members receiving Service Awards.

Additionally, several major awards are presented at this function. Included are awards for: Leadership, Mentoring, Excellence in Performance, Community Service, Civilian Award of Achievement, Teamwork Award, Bravery, and Police Officer of the Year. We are proud to report that we have received several nominations for female members of our Service to be nominated for such awards.

This event is very well attended event and typically has representation from every police service in Ontario. Attendance and participation at this event is in accordance with our Service 2022-2025 Strategic Plan. Specifically, promoting a culture that embraces equity, diversity, and inclusion. It is paramount that we recognize and acknowledge the outstanding accomplishments of our female members.

If approved, a cheque can be made payable to the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement.

Alternatives Reviewed

To deny the request for funding or approve a lower amount.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

The Board is supportive of Service initiatives that promote diversity including encouraging women to consider a career in Policing.

Relevant Policy Considerations

Board By-law 376-2018 Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines.

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable.

This report was prepared and recommended by Acting Inspector Brett Atamanyk #9127, Executive Officer to the Chief of Police.



Submitted by:

Bill Fordy, O.O.M. #9615
Chief of Police