



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Special Fund Request – Canada Beyond the Blue Annual Gala
Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board
Report Date: 2024-05-16

Recommendation

That the Niagara Police Service Board authorizes a Special Fund donation of \$1,500.00 for the purchase of a Police Table at the Beyond the Blue Champions of Change 2024 Awards Gala.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval for a \$1,500.00 Special Fund donation for the purchase of a Police Table at the Beyond the Blue Champions of Change 2024 Awards Gala on Thursday, September 5th, 2024, at the Palais Royale Ballroom, 1601 Lakeshore Boulevard West, Toronto.
- The Niagara Regional Police Service participated in the inaugural Champions of Change Gala held in 2022 and the second annual in 2023. This year's event will be the third annual gala.
- The theme of these Champions of Change Galas is to pay respects to those in our profession who have lost their lives to suicide, and to recognize those who are striving to reduce the stigma around mental health issues while championing mental health and wellness initiatives.

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 Community Safety and Policing Act, and with Board By-Law 403-2024, Administration, Limitations and Guidelines of the Special Fund. Section 258(2) of the Community Safety and Policing Act establishes that the Niagara Police Service 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 of a police service maintained by a police service board may cause the property to be sold, and the police service board may use the proceeds for any purpose that it considers in the public interest, including a charitable donation".

The request for \$1,500.00 will cover the cost of a Police table at the gala. This request falls within the guidelines of the Police Service Board By-Law 403-2024, Administration, Limitations and Guidelines of the Special Fund. If this request is approved by the Board, the cheque can be made payable to the Niagara Regional Police Service in care Inspector Nilan Davé.

Analysis

Canada Beyond the Blue (BTB) strives to bring awareness to the struggles that are faced by our members and their families. So many of our police service members suffer in silence, isolated from the world, feeling helpless, and their families suffer with them. As a national organization, Canada Beyond the Blue and its chapters, have the opportunity to make a difference for Canadian police families across our country and continue to honour the mission of strengthening and supporting police families.

In 2020, Niagara Beyond the Blue was created by Ms. Anna Talving, the spouse of one of our members. Ms. Talving has worked diligently to establish services and local resources to support police officers and their families within the Region of Niagara.

The BTB Champions of Change Awards Gala is held to acknowledge and celebrate police service members and community partners who are championing the advancement of mental health and well-being initiatives within their respective Police Service. The Gala recognizes those whose perseverance and advocacy embolden the advancement of initiatives that directly support ending the stigma around mental health issues in their workplace.

In addition to supporting the event financially, the purchase of a table at this event will allow the members and senior staff attending to represent the Niagara Regional Police Service, and strengthen the relationship with Canada Beyond the Blue, and Niagara Beyond the Blue.

Alternatives Reviewed

To not support this request

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

Sponsoring and participating in this event directly aligns with the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan - Goal 4: Member Wellness and Resiliency – Objective 1.0 Promote a culture of resiliency, characterized by anti-stigma and mental health literacy. This also promotes and encourages healthy lifestyles and the physical well-being of our members. It is also relates to the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan Goal 2: Community Engagement and Collaboration - Objective 1.0 To strengthen relationships and build trust with our community by giving members of the Niagara Regional Police Service the opportunity to

participate in events that enhance the image of the Service and its members in our community and with our partners.

Relevant Policy Considerations

By-Law 403-2024, Administration, Limitations and Guidelines of the Special Fund

Not applicable.

This report was prepared by Mike Delano, Sergeant Member Support reviewed by Nilan Davé, Inspector, Office of the Chief, and reviewed by Bill Fordy, Chief of Police.



Submitted by:
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Chief of Police

Appendices

Not applicable