



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Special Fund Request – The Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E) 32nd Annual Scholarship and Awards Gala November 16, 2024

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board

Report Date: 2024-09-04

Recommendation(s)

That the Niagara Police Service Board (Board) approves a Special Fund Request to purchase a table to allow ten members attend the Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E.) Scholarship and Awards Gala on November 16, 2024, for the cost of \$1500.00.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek approval for a Special Fund Request to purchase a table for the A.B.L.E. Scholarship and Awards Gala for a total of \$1,500.00.
- A.B.L.E. is committed to ensuring that the criminal justice system is reflective of the entire Canadian mosaic, by providing opportunities for Black and visible minority youth to “serve, protect and correct”.
- A.B.L.E was formed in 1992 to address the needs and concerns of Black and other racial minorities in law enforcement and the community.
- A.B.L.E. contributes funds towards the tuition fees of successful candidates pursuing post-secondary education in specific law enforcement related areas of study. By awarding scholarships, A.B.L.E assists Black and visible minority students in achieving their educational and career aspirations.
- The theme for the A.B.L.E gala this year is Passion, Purpose and Persistence: Celebrating Excellence.

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, 2019, and with Board By-Law 403-2024, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines. Section 258 (2) of the CSPA 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 may cause the property to be sold, and the Board may use the proceeds for any purpose that it considers in the public interest, including charitable donations." These funds do not form part of the police operating budget and are separate from the Regional tax base.

The request is for \$1500.00, to support this event. Attendance at this event provides an opportunity for members of the Service to not only support Black and visible minority youth, but also better recognize the specific needs of those communities.

If this request is approved by the Board, the cheque can be made payable to the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) in care of Inspector Nilan Davé.

Analysis

The NRPS has been consistent in its efforts to build positive relationships with all the diverse communities within the Niagara Region. Participation in this initiative, demonstrates the Service's unwavering commitment to this endeavor.

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 NRPS and strengthen the relationship with The Association of Black Law Enforcers (A.B.L.E).

Alternatives Reviewed

To not support this request.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

This financial support presents an opportunity for the Niagara Regional Police Service to contribute to an objective outlined in the 2022-2025 Niagara Regional Police 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 an opportunity to participate in events that enhance the image of the Service and its members in our community and with our partner organizations. It also relates to the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan Goal 3: Promote a culture that embraces equity, diversity, and inclusion by allowing members to attend multicultural events and gain knowledge of successful achievements accomplished by individuals from diverse backgrounds. Attendance at this event also demonstrates the Niagara Regional Police Service's continued commitment to achieving the goals as outlined in the 2024-2025 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan. Specifically, to collaborate and engage with community partners who represent equity deserving groups.

Relevant Policy Considerations

Board By-Law 403-2024, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines.

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable

This report was prepared by Sergeant Habib Rangji, reviewed by Staff Sergeant Jeff Bootsma, Community Engagement, reviewed by Shaun Parrent, Inspector, 2 District Commander, reviewed by David Gomez, Acting Superintendent, District Operations. Recommended by Todd Waselovich, Deputy Chief, Operational Services.



Submitted by:

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Chief of Police

Appendices

Not applicable.