



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Special Fund Request – Celebrating South Asians in Policing Gala Dinner November 15, 2024

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board

Report Date: 2024-10-02

Recommendation(s)

That the Niagara Police Service Board (Board) approve a Special Fund Request to purchase a table for the Celebrating South Asians in Policing Gala Dinner event on November 15, 2024, for the cost of \$560.00.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to seek approval for a Special Fund Request to purchase a table for the Celebrating South Asians in Policing Gala Dinner for a total of \$560.00. This gala is in support of the South Asian Women's Centre and the SAIL-ISON – South Asians in Law Enforcement Internal Support Network.
- Internal networking creates a sense of community, boosting morale and job satisfaction.
- South Asians in Law Enforcement Internal Support Network was formed in 2009 to address the needs and concerns of South Asians and other racial minorities in Law enforcement and the community.
- The event will include presentations by various distinguished speakers including Svina Dhaliwal who has overseen key strategic priorities with Toronto Police including commitment to financial transparency, member wellness, creating an inclusive and respectful workplace and increasing the diversity within the Toronto Police Service.

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 \$560.00 to support this event. Attendance at this event provides an opportunity for members of the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) to better understand the South Asian cultural knowledge which would translate into better relations with the community in Niagara Region.

If the request is approved by the Board, the cheque may be made payable to the NRPS, as the tickets for the event will be purchased on a Service issued credit card.

Analysis

The Service continues to build a positive relationship with our South Asian Community. Attendance at this event will be valuable with regards to better serving and to further build a positive relationship with our South Asian community members. Participation in this initiative demonstrates the Service's unwavering commitment in continuing to build relationships and support our various communities.

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 South Asian police officers.

Alternatives Reviewed

To not support this request.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

This financial support presents an opportunity for the Service to contribute to an objective outlined in the 2022 - 2025 Strategic Plan, specifically Goal 2: Community Engagement and Collaboration – Objective 1.0 to strengthen relationships and build trust with our community. Attendance at this event also demonstrates the Service's continued commitment to achieving the goals as outlined in the 2023 - 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, Administration, Limitations and Guidelines of the Special Fund.

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable.

This report was prepared by Habib Rangi, Sergeant, Equity Diversity and Inclusion, reviewed by Jeff Bootsma, Staff Sergeant, Community Engagement Unit, Eric Ellwood, Inspector, 2 District Commander, and Dave Gomez, Acting Superintendent, District Operations. Recommended by Luigi Greco, Deputy Chief, Support Services.



Submitted by:

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Chief of Police

Appendices

Not applicable.