



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Special Fund Request – NRPS Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Team
Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board
Report Date: 2024-10-15

Recommendation(s)

That the Niagara Police Service Board (Board) approve a \$2,000.00 donation to support the Niagara Regional Police Service’s Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Team participating in a roll-a-thon charity event.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to request funds in the amount of \$2,000.00 to assist with the cost of registration and travel to the Toronto Police Service (TPS), on November 2, 2024.
- The creation of this 57- member team began with a roll-a-thon, jiu-jitsu charity event supporting Sick Kids hospital hosted by the TPS in November of 2023.
- Participation in this event provides an opportunity to show our continued support of this important cause and to represent the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS), and the Niagara community.
- Additionally, this event promotes wellness, teamwork and relationship building with other first responder agencies.

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, A By-Law Respecting the Administration, Limitations and Guidelines of the Special Fund. Section 258 (2) of the CSPA establishes that the 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 for \$2,000.00 will cover the registration fee and act as our donation to the event. This request falls within the guidelines of Board's By-Law 403-2024, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines. If approved, the cheque can be made payable to Niagara Vanguard.

Analysis

On Saturday, February 25, 2023, for the first-time members of the newly founded NRPS Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu (BJJ) team attended the Toronto Police College for the third annual TPS Roll-A-Thon supporting Sick Kids Hospital.

In this 5-hour event, members participated in over 20 matches each lasting 5 minutes against a variety of opponents, testing themselves both physically and mentally against numerous athletes from jiu-jitsu clubs and police services.

While competition was the focus, philanthropy was the winner with the team representing the NRPS raising \$2,900.00 for Sick Kids programs and services. The grand total raised for the days event was \$18,818.07, with the NRPS and the Niagara Regional Police Association claiming third and fourth place in the major contributor's category. The NRPS had the second highest membership participation only being beaten by the host agency, the TPS. When the event ended, the NRPS BJJ team was exhausted, walking away with sore bodies but full hearts knowing they supported a worthy cause.

Alternatives Reviewed

Individual fundraising was considered, however, using the Service's name while seeking outside sponsorship, brings concerns for a potential perceived conflict of interest.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

Not applicable.

Relevant Policy Considerations

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

Other Pertinent Reports

Not applicable.

This report was prepared by Kris Hamilton, Constable, Training Unit, in consultation with Jesse Hicks, Sergeant, and Mike Dowd, Sergeant, Training Unit. Reviewed by Michael Casella, Staff Sergeant, Training Unit and Sandy Staniforth, Superintendent, Executive Services. Recommended by David Masotti, Acting Deputy Chief, Support Services.



Submitted by:

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Chief of Police

Appendices

Not applicable.