

Subject:	Special Fund Request – Niagara Regional Police Service Men's Elite Team - International Hockey Tournament
Report To:	Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board
Report Date:	2024-11-04

#### Recommendation(s)

That the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Service Board (Board) authorizes a \$1,500.00 donation from the Special Fund to help support and offset expenses for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) Men's Elite Hockey Team's attendance at the 2025 International Police Hockey Tournament in Durham Region, Ontario.

#### **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to request funds in the amount of \$1,500.00 to assist with the cost of registration and travel expenses for the 2025 International Police Hockey Tournament being held in Durham Region, Ontario, from February 27 to 28, 2025.
- Fifteen members of the NRPS will make up a team representing the Service.
- This event provides an opportunity for members of the Service to engage in a competitive team activity while proudly representing the NRPS and networking with other emergency service professionals.
- Proceeds from this tournament will benefit local charities including the Special Olympics and the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

## **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 (CSPA), and with Board By-law 403-2024, Special Fund Administration, Limitations and Guidelines. 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 \$1,500.00 will help to cover the registration fee and travel expenses for the team to participate in the tournament. If approved, the cheque can be made payable to the Niagara Regional Police Service.

# Analysis

For the past 20 years, members of the NRPS have participated in various hockey tournaments in North America and have represented the Service. This year marks the 62 Anniversary of this event. The 2025 tournament is scheduled for February 27 and 28, 2025, in Durham Region, Ontario.

Since 2006, the Board has generously assisted with the funding of the registration for the Service members to attend various hockey events. Members of the NRPS are requesting funding for this year's tournament.

The International Police Hockey Tournament was established in 1961. Between 2009 and 2020, the event has raised more than \$476,500.00 for many charities, including the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Special Olympics, local hospitals, children's charities, and other local charitable agencies. In 2024, the tournament raised \$48,500.00.

Information regarding the International Police Hockey Tournament can be accessed on the event's website: www.internationalpolicehockey.com.

## **Alternatives Reviewed**

To not support this request.

## **Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities**

This event is reflective of several objectives and performance metrics outlined throughout Goal 2 of the Service's 2022 - 2025 Strategic Plan; namely, to strengthen relationships and continue to build trust with our community and enhance relationships with partner agencies.

## **Relevant Policy Considerations**

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

## **Other Pertinent Reports**

9.6-2024.01.25 Special Fund Request – Niagara Regional Police Service Men's Elite Team - International Hockey Tournament.

This report was prepared by Adam Lukanchoff, Constable, 8 District, reviewed by Dave Gomez, Inspector, 3 District, and Mario Lagrotteria, Superintendent, District Operations. Recommended by Dave Masotti, Acting Deputy Chief, Operational Services.

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Submitted by: Bill Fordy, O.O.M. #9615 Chief of Police

#### Appendices

Not Applicable.