



# NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

## Police Services Board Report

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

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**Subject:** Special Fund Request for NRPS FilmFest 2025  
**Report To:** Chair and Members, Niagara Police Services Board  
**Report Date:** 2025-01-10

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### **Recommendation(s)**

That the Niagara Police Service Board approves a special fund request of \$5,000.00 for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) FilmFest 2025 to assist with program costs (NRPS related items to hand out to the participants, incidental costs, and venue rental for competition viewing).

### **Key Facts**

- The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval for a \$5,000.00 Special Fund donation for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) FilmFest 2025 to engage with youth while educating on the dangers of opioid misuse.
- Partnering with Niagara Region Public Health, the FilmFest will engage youth on Opioid Awareness and the major impacts it is having on our teens and the overall community.
- Students will create submissions, while engaging with NRPS officers and Niagara Region Public Health, to create public service videos that address the continuing challenges of opioids in our community.
- Submissions will then be viewed by a judging panel consisting of Chief and Deputies to determine a winner.

### **Financial Considerations**

- \$5,000.00 Special Fund request
- 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 (CSPA), and also 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. If this

request is approved by the Board, the cheque can be made payable to the Chief's Office in care of Inspector Nilan Davé.

## **Analysis**

The NRPS FilmFest 2025 is a collaborative event designed to engage youth in raising awareness about the dangers of opioid misuse. With the support of Niagara Region Public Health, the event provides an opportunity for students to create public service videos that educate the community, especially teens, on the serious and growing impact of opioids.

The initiative will not only engage students creatively but also offer them an opportunity to interact with professionals from both the police and public health sectors, providing them with valuable insights into the opioid crisis. Through this interaction, students will be encouraged to produce thoughtful, impactful content aimed at educating their peers and the broader community.

The event culminates in a competition where the submissions are judged by a panel consisting of the Chief of Police and other senior members of the NRPS. The goal is to recognize the most effective submission that addresses the opioid issue in a way that resonates with the audience.

Ultimately, this project seeks to empower youth to become active participants in tackling the opioid crisis, while also providing them with valuable opportunities for learning and creative expression.

## **Alternatives Reviewed**

To not support this request.

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

This is a community engagement event where members of the Niagara Regional Police Service will interact with the community and enhance the image of the Service while providing NRPS branded items for visitors in a positive setting.

This program also aligns with several objectives within the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan inclusive of Goal 1: Public Safety – Objective 4.0 Reduce Opioid Use as a drug education initiative. Additionally, it aligns with Goal 2: Community Engagement and Collaboration - Objective 4.0 Foster Youth Engagement - Opioid Education and Awareness with the creation of a educational video to be presented to students in the development of their final submissions.

## **Relevant Policy Considerations**

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

## **Other Pertinent Reports**

Not applicable

*This report was prepared by Corporate Communications Manager Stephanie Sabourin.*



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## **Submitted by:**

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Acting Chief of Police

## **Appendices**

Not applicable