



NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Police Service Board Report

PUBLIC AGENDA

Subject: Annual Report – Emergency Planning
January 1 to December 31, 2024

Report To: Chair and Members, Niagara Police Service Board

Report Date: 2025-06-03

Recommendation(s)

That the Niagara Police Service Board (Board) receive this report for information.

Key Facts

- The purpose of this report is to advise the Board that the Niagara Regional Police Service (Service) is in compliance with Board By-Law 476-2024 – Emergency Planning.
- The Chief is required to make an annual written report to the Board with respect to Emergency Planning.
- This report provides a summary of the procedures required by this By-Law and the status of Service compliance with the said procedures.

Financial Considerations

There are no financial implications relating to the recommendations contained within this report.

Analysis

In accordance with By-Law 476-2024, the Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30 of each year in respect of the Emergency Plan. The report shall include:

- a) a summary of the Emergency Plan; and
- b) the status of Service compliance with the said Plan.

This Board Report will outline each of the above and confirm our compliance with the By-Law.

a) *“...a summary of the Emergency Plan...”*

The Service has participated with the Regional Municipality of Niagara (RMON) Public Health Department (Public Safety Division), in the development of a Regional Emergency Management Plan. That Plan, in conjunction with supporting documents, serves to outline basic responsibilities of the Service and other agencies during an emergency.

Section 26(2) of Ontario Regulation 3/99 Adequacy and Effectiveness of Police Services, permits the Chief of Police to adopt a municipality's Emergency Plan as the Emergency Plan of the police service, provided that the Plan addresses the roles and duties of the police service during an emergency and the procedures to be followed by members of the police service during an emergency.

In 2014, the Service developed a police specific Emergency Plan that better reflected the requirements of Emergency Response Guideline #008 (Emergency Planning) described within Adequacy and Effective Policing. That Plan is cross-referenced to Plans held by the RMON, as well as Service policies that direct police responses during emergencies. Further, the Plan has been developed to reflect our adoption of the provincially based Incident Management System as introduced by the Office of the Fire Marshal and Emergency Management.

That Plan was approved by the Chief of Police on March 24, 2014. An electronic version of the Plan is available to all members on IRIS (Service members' intranet information portal). In January 2020, the Emergency Plan was reviewed and updated to reflect minor changes to relevant general orders that are cross-referenced in the Plan.

b) *“...the status of Service compliance with the said Plan...”*

With the development of a police specific Emergency Plan, complemented by Emergency Plans held by the RMON, general orders, participation in joint training exercises, and the provision of ongoing consultation, the Service complies with the requirements of Adequacy and Effective Policing, as well as the procedures outlined within Section 4 of Board By-Law 476-2024.

In addition, the Service, the RMON Public Health Department (Public Safety Division), municipal fire services from across the Region, and Niagara Health have long partnered to form the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Response Team (CBRNE Niagara). The Service is represented on this committee by the Emergency Management and Planning Inspector, Emergency Operations Inspector, and the Staff Sergeant of Emergency Services. Other members of Emergency Services and the Explosives Disposal Unit also serve on a consultative basis to this committee.

The Emergency Management and Planning Inspector also represents the Service on the Regional Emergency Management Program Committee. This group ensures that

open lines of communication and a collaborative approach to Emergency Planning is maintained across all departments.

In May and October of 2024, the Service conducted their spring and fall Critical Incident Command training/exercises involving members of the Emergency Task Unit (ETU), Tactical Support Group (TSG), Crisis Negotiators, Scribes, Critical Incident Commanders, and members of Niagara Emergency Medical Services (NEMS) – Tactical Medic Program.

In May of 2024, the Service participated in a full-scale 'active shooter' training exercise at Table Rock in Niagara Falls that involved members of the ETU, TSG, Crisis Negotiators, Scribes, Critical Incident Commanders, Niagara Parks Police, and members of NEMS – Tactical Medic Program.

In May of 2024, ETU participated with NEMS – Tactical Medic Program for 2 days of exercises to train newly appointed Tactical Emergency Medical Services members at the Winona Military Base.

In September of 2024, ETU members attended the Great Wolf Lodge in Niagara Falls to assist with observing and provided guidance/recommendations while they exercised their lockdown protocols. As a part of the training, ETU members participated in 'Immediate Rapid Deployment' scenarios at the hotel.

In December of 2024, the Service both hosted and participated in a full-scale exercise in conjunction with Via Rail and Amtrack TTX. The full-day exercise involved members from Via Rail, Amtrack TTX, Canadian Border Services Agency, Ontario Provincial Police, Niagara Falls Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, and various US law enforcement partners. The exercise tested various high-risk scenarios involving cross border threats relevant to the international rail system.

The Emergency Management and Planning Inspector, along with the Emergency Services Superintendent, also participate in regular meetings with the Regional Community Emergency Management Coordinators (CEMCs). This group is comprised of the CEMCs from each municipality (fire chiefs), as well as the Regional CEMC. Also participating with this group are representatives from Niagara Health and NEMS.

Alternatives Reviewed

Not applicable.

Relationship to Police Service/Board Strategic Priorities

To comply with the provisions of Board By-Laws and to maintain compliance with the Adequacy and Effective Policing requirements.

Relevant Policy Consideration

Board By-Law 476-2024 – Emergency Planning
Community Safety and Policing Act – Section 26, O. Reg. 3/99
Adequate and Effective Policing, ER-008 - Emergency Planning

Other Pertinent Reports

8.8 – 2024.07.25 – Annual Report – Emergency Planning – January 1 to December 31, 2023.

This report was prepared by Jesse Miller, Inspector, Emergency Management and Planning and reviewed by Darrin Forbes, Superintendent, Emergency Services. Recommended by Todd Waselovich, Deputy Chief, Operational Services.



Submitted by:

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Chief of Police

Appendices

Not applicable.