

INTERNAL CORRESPONDENCE

To: Chair and Members From: Deb Reid

Dept: Niagara Police Service Board **Dept:** Executive Director

Niagara Police Service Board

Date: July 8, 2025

Re: PSB Internal Compliance Audit – CSPA and Regulations

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board of a recent internal compliance audit completed by the Executive Director in response to information shared at the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards (OAPSB) Zone 4 meeting, held on February 19, 2025. The audit focused on the policy and reporting requirements set out under the Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019 (CSPA) and its regulations.

Background Information and Discussion:

At the February 19, 2025 OAPSB Zone 4 Meeting, Dave Tilley, Police Services Advisor with the Ministry of the Solicitor General's Inspectorate of Policing (IOP), delivered an update on the Inspectorate's ongoing work to support policing modernization and oversight under the CSPA. As part of his presentation, Mr. Tilley shared a reference guide he developed outlining the required policies, procedures, and reporting obligations of Police Service Boards and Chiefs of Police under the CSPA and its regulations. A copy of this reference guide was provided to the Executive Director following the meeting.

The Executive Director initiated a thorough internal review and audit of the CSPA and the regulations identified in the document. The goal of this audit was to ensure that the Board and the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) are fully compliant with all legislative and regulatory obligations that fall within their respective roles and responsibilities. The audit process involved:

- A review of the reference guide to extract all applicable requirements related to Board governance, policy development, and Chief of Police reporting obligations;
- Cross-referencing the 85 identified legislative and regulatory citations in the reference guide with the Board's existing policies, procedures, and governance practices;
- Liaising with the NRPS Executive Office and Legal Counsel to confirm implementation of operational policies under the Chief's responsibility;
- Consultation with the Board's Solicitor to verify compliance with legislation and existing Board-level policies and practices.

The reference guide confirmed a total of 85 separate citations under the CSPA and its regulations that are relevant to either the Board or the Chief of Police. These citations encompass a broad range of requirements, including governance policies and procedural obligations of the Police Service Board, prescribed content and timelines for reports from the Chief of Police to the Board, and oversight of prescribed functions and services mandated under the CSPA and its regulations.

All identified requirements have been reviewed, and where necessary, policies or procedures have been confirmed, updated, or developed to ensure compliance. The Board's Solicitor provided advice on compliance with legislative expectations of revised or newly developed Board policies; and NRPS Legal Counsel, confirmed that the operational requirements under the Chief's purview are being met in accordance with the legislative framework. Based on this collaborative review, it is confirmed that the Board and the Niagara Regional Police Service are fully compliant with the policy requirements set out under the CSPA and its regulations.

This audit was an important exercise in due diligence and legislative readiness for future inspections that will be conducted by the Inspectorate of Policing to ensure compliance with Ontario's policing legislation and regulations. It demonstrates the Board's and Service's commitment to strong governance, legislative compliance, transparency, and public accountability. The Executive Director will continue to monitor for any updates to the legislation, regulations, or guidance from the Inspectorate of Policing and ensure that the Board remains informed of any changes that may affect its responsibilities.

Recommendation:

That the information be received.

Deb Reid

Executive Director