

# OPP Detachment Boards

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# Outline

Aim: to share insights regarding OPP Detachment Boards

1. Legislative changes
2. Next steps

# Community Safety & Policing Act 2019

## O.P.P. detachment board

67 (1) There shall be an O.P.P. detachment board, or more than one O.P.P. detachment board in accordance with the regulations, for each detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police that provides policing in a municipality or in a First Nation reserve.

# OPP Detachment Boards

## *Police Services Act (1990)*

- Every municipality in Ontario that maintains its own police service, or is policed by the OPP *under contract*, is required to have a police services board (about 160+ communities)
- Municipalities that are policed by the OPP *without a contract* currently do not have a police services board, but may have a community policing advisory committee (about 220+ communities)

## *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*

- Creates a requirement for one OPP detachment board per OPP detachment with requirements for community representation and input, or more than one per detachment if provided in the regulations
- Flexibility is provided through regulation to address unique geographic circumstances

# OPP Detachment Boards

## *Police Services Act (1990)*

- 3 or 5 member boards
- Participate in selection of the detachment commander

## *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*

- Board composition, terms of office and remuneration to be provided in the regulations.
- consult with the Commissioner regarding the selection of a detachment commander and otherwise participate, in accordance with the regulations, in the selection of the detachment commander

# Local Policies and Action Plan

## *Police Services Act (1990)*

- Duties of section 10 boards include determining policing objectives and priorities, and establishing local policies, after consulting the detachment commander or designate

## *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*

- Boards are empowered to determine local objectives, priorities and policies subject to specifications outlined in the statute, including:
  - Must consult with Detachment Commander
  - It must not be inconsistent with, the strategic plan prepared by the Solicitor General for the OPP;
  - Must not relate to specific investigations, the conduct of specific operations or other prescribed matters;
  - Must not require a member of the OPP to provide any policing that is not required as a component of adequate and effective policing.

# Local Policies and Action Plan

## *Police Services Act (1990)*

## *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019*

- A detachment commander is required to prepare and adopt a local action plan for the provision of policing provided by the detachment.
- In preparing or revising the local action plan, the detachment commander is required to consult with his or her OPP detachment board among others.

# OPP Detachment Boards



- Extends police governance to 200+ more communities
- Boards establish objectives, priorities and policies for the entire detachment, not just for policing a single community within the detachment area
- Addresses alignment of board objectives & policies with GHQ objectives & policies, & Detachment Commander's action plans
- Consolidation of representative police board at the detachment level rather than community level



# OAPSB Submission to Justice Committee

“While the creation of OPP detachment boards is supported (largely because it extends police governance to every community, including approximately 200 communities that currently have no such voice), we suggest that the disbandment of any existing Section 10 OPP contract boards should be a municipal decision, rather than a provincial one.”

# Detachment Board Initiatives

- Wellington County Det Board – formed 1999; rotating seats
- Northumberland County – proactively pursuing since 2016
- Elgin County – planning for Det board started 2018
- Zone 1 (northwest) – asked Premier that local S10 PSBs be allowed to decide whether or not to amalgamate into Det boards

# Government Next Steps - Regulations



- Board composition
- Satellite boards
- Mandatory policy requirements
- Board training
- Governance performance standards(?)

# OAPSB Next Steps - Regulations

- Board composition – representation
- Satellite boards – representation
- Mandatory policy requirements – strengthening/improving governance
- Board training – strengthening/improving governance
- Governance performance standards(?) – strengthening/improving governance

# Next Steps – Standing Up DBs

- Appoint
- Train
- Monitor, coach, advice, support
- Facilitate adjustments where warranted

# OAPSB Enduring Priorities

- Work with Government and all stakeholders to improve the quality of police governance everywhere, and by extension improve community safety everywhere
- Assist all police boards to effectively govern, through relevant training, coaching and feedback mechanisms
- Help ensure meaningful community representation on police boards