



## **LONDON POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

### **MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING**

Thursday October 15, 2020  
Commencing at 1:01 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting, Webex

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#### **PRESENT:**

**J. Sukhera, Chair; S. Toth, Vice Chair; Board Members J. Helmer, J. Lang, E. Holder (1:11 – 1:32 pm), M. Cassidy and C. Wellenreiter; S. Williams, Chief of Police; T. McIntyre, Deputy Chief of Police, Operations; S. Betts, Deputy Chief of Police, Administration; P. Malone, Director of Legal Services; J. Atchison, LPS Researcher/Planner/Analyst; D. Tilley, Zone 6 Ministry Advisor; B. Harvey, Inspector; R. Robson, LPA Executive Director; S. Bough, LPS Media Officer; J. Foster, Board Administrator; F. Ojo, Board Administrative Assistant; and members of the community and media.**

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#### **1. Meeting called to order.**

Chair Sukhera reminded attendees to stay on mute unless they are asked to speak. He advised that this meeting will be posted to LPSB's YouTube channel by end of the day tomorrow.

Chair Sukhera shared the following updates:

- New Board meeting format starting today (merging of In Camera and Board Member only meetings). Meeting processes and start times might be tweaked as the Board adjusts to the new structure;
- The Board's first Governance Committee meetings were held this week, in camera and public, chaired by Vice Chair Toth;
- The Canadian Police and Peace Officers Memorial Service (43rd annual) was held virtually Sunday, September 27, 2020 due to COVID-19. This event, typically held in Ottawa, commemorates the police lives lost since the same time last year;
- The Board's work on anti-racism continues and updates will be presented later in this meeting;
- The COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact London and he reminded the community to stay cautious and look out for one another's physical and mental health; and
- There will be a continuation of virtual LPSB meetings for the foreseeable future.

2. **Disclosure of Interest – None**

3. **Introduction of Addendum Items and New Business**

**MOVED BY:** J. Lang  
**Seconded by:** S. Toth

**“That the Board includes a verbal update related to their work on anti-racism and the culture of policing, an LPS assessment growth funding proposal update and an S.I.U. investigation summary to agenda item # 11 – New Business.”**

CARRIED

4. **Minutes of the September 17, 2020 Public LPSB meeting**

**MOVED BY:** M. Cassidy  
**Seconded by:** S. Toth

**“That the minutes of the September 17, 2020 Public Board meeting be adopted as presented.”**

CARRIED

5. **Board Meeting and Conference Schedule for 2021**

Chair Sukhera relayed that we expect many of the Board’s 2021 events to be virtual due to Covid-19.

**MOVED BY:** J. Lang  
**Seconded by:** J. Helmer

**“That the Board approves the 2021 LPSB meeting and conference schedule and shares as appropriate.”**

CARRIED

6. **Mandatory Board Report: Collection, Preservation and Control of Evidence and Property**

Deputy Chief Betts summarized the report and said there was a reduction in number of items LPS could return to owners due to the pandemic.

Councillor Cassidy noted conflicting numbers in relation to firearms destroyed versus returned. Deputy Chief Betts said that some of the firearms are retained as evidence if they are involved in matters before the courts.

Vice Chair Toth asked if these are average numbers. Deputy Chief Betts said these numbers are fairly consistent, and that some are not “firearms” by the definition of the code. For example, some are BB guns and similar.

**MOVED BY:** J. Lang  
**Seconded by:** J. Helmer

**“That the Board receives for informational purposes the Collection, Preservation and Control of Evidence and Property Mandatory Board Report.”**

CARRIED

#### **7. Professional Standards Branch Third Quarter Complaints Against Police Statistics**

Deputy Chief McIntyre said nothing is concerning in this report and that sometimes a slight elevation in the number of complaints is related to community education.

Mayor Holder arrived to the meeting at 1:11 pm.

**MOVED BY:** J. Helmer  
**Seconded by:** M. Cassidy

**“That the Board receives for informational purposes the Professional Standards Branch Third Quarter Complaints Against Police Statistics report.”**

CARRIED

#### **8. Quarterly Report – Crime Stoppers and Pursuit Statistics**

**MOVED BY:** E. Holder  
**Seconded by:** J. Lang

**“That the Board receives for informational purposes the Quarterly Report titled Crime Stoppers and Pursuit Statistics.”**

CARRIED

## 9. Western University's Cancellation of Information Sharing Agreement (Verbal)

Chair Sukhera advised that Western University opted not to renew their information sharing agreement with LPSB, which was approved August, 2019 for a one year term.

Vice Chair Toth said she saw this mentioned in the news and she asked the Chief if Western had reached out to us. Chief Williams responded that Western did reach out, the program was a pilot and due to the Covid-19 pandemic, Western decided to pause the program. He said there might be future interest in the program.

**MOVED BY:** M. Cassidy  
**Seconded by:** S. Toth

**“That the Board receive for informational purposes the verbal report related to Western University’s Cancellation of the Information Sharing Agreement.”**

CARRIED

## 10. Public Correspondence

**MOVED BY:** C. Wellenreiter  
**Seconded by:** M. Cassidy

**“That the Board receives for informational purposes the October, 2020 package of public correspondence.”**

CARRIED

## 11. New Business

- **Board’s anti-racism work** – Chair Sukhera said the Board was happy to see a high level of response to the Board’s anti-racism and culture of policing survey. Over 1,100 responses were received from the community. He thanked everyone who took time to send feedback, all of which was reviewed and every word was heard. He noted general support from the community for the direction the Board is moving, plus some specific to Advisory Panel representation, and community engagement. It is clear that the public is looking for clarity respecting what the Board and Service do, and where any boundaries and distinctions lay. We are working in lockstep with our Chief and Administration on making sure those questions and concerns get answered.

Next steps will include taking the feedback from the community survey which closed approximately 2 weeks ago, to the Board's Governance Committee, to fine tune the Terms of Reference, then recruitment for the Panels, so be on the lookout for that.

**MOVED BY:** J. Helmer  
**Seconded by:** M. Cassidy

**“That the Board receives Chair Sukhera’s verbal update related to the Board’s work on anti-racism and the culture of policing.”**

CARRIED

- **Assessment Growth Positions** - Deputy Chief Betts provided background related to the eleven requested assessment growth positions, all of which but two are civilian positions and are administrative in nature (support roles). He said the City was tremendously helpful in LPS’s creation of the business cases for these positions. The positions include two front-line Sergeants, two 911 Communications Operators, one Systems Analyst to support the I.T. side of the organization, one Financial Analyst, four Court Services Administrative Assistant and one Geographic Information Systems Specialist.

These are incremental increases to meet demand and workload requirements, because as population increases and workload increases on the street, so does the need for staff resources.

Deputy Chief Betts advised that total operating expenses will be \$1.355 million plus a one-time capital cost of \$170,000, bringing the total to \$1.526 million.

Councillor Helmer thanked Deputy Chief Betts for the information, said it seems the positions are well justified and he is glad the conversations with the City have been productive. Councillor Helmer asked to move the approval motion.

**MOVED BY:** J. Helmer  
**Seconded by:** J. Lang

**“That the Board approves the eleven (11) additions to complement, noted as Assessment Growth positions, and authorizes the Administration to present them to the City Treasurer.”**

CARRIED

- **Update on S.I.U. investigation** - Deputy Chief McIntyre noted this report comes legislatively. She walked through the report. Deputy Chief McIntyre called this a tragic death occurrence. The individual's mom called LPS worried about her son’s mental health. LPS was unable to enter his apartment as he

had barricaded himself inside and was sitting on his balcony. The individual started to climb down, was successful for several floors, then fell. Three days later he died of his injuries. S.I.U. attended to complete the investigation. LPS cannot investigate at that time but must wait until the S.I.U. investigation is complete. When they are finished their investigation, LPS does their parallel investigation. S.I.U. determined there was no criminal wrongdoing in the work of LPS, no misconduct and LPS's parallel investigation found the same result. Although tragic, she provided this report for transparency.

**MOVED BY:** E. Holder  
**Seconded by:** C. Wellenreiter

**“That the Board receives the verbal report related to an S.I.U investigation.”**

CARRIED

#### **12. Date of Next Meeting: Thursday November 19, 2020**

Chair Sukhera thanked meeting attendees and said he is available for any media inquiries.

#### **13. Adjournment**

**MOVED BY:** J. Lang  
**Seconded by:** M. Cassidy

**“That the Board adjourn the Public meeting.”**

CARRIED

Time Noted: 1:32 pm

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Dr. Javeed Sukhera, Chair  
London Police Services Board  
Approved and signed November 19, 2020