

Solicitor General

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By email

March 17, 2021

Dear Heads of Council and First Nations Chiefs:

I am writing to provide you with an update on the new Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) detachment boards under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* (CSPA).

As you may remember, in February 2020, the Ministry of the Solicitor General conducted seven regional roundtable sessions across the province. Discussions at these sessions focused on new OPP-related regulatory requirements under the CSPA. Municipalities and First Nation communities receiving policing services from the OPP were invited to learn more about new OPP-related legislative and regulatory requirements and provide the ministry with feedback to inform the development of related regulatory proposals. In addition, we heard from many of you through various letters and engagement opportunities, including meetings with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario MOU Table and Rural Ontario Municipal Association about what you would like your new OPP detachment board to look like.

In response to your feedback, an OPP detachment board framework has been developed that we hope will provide municipalities and First Nation communities receiving direct and/or supplemental services from the OPP the flexibility to create a board that reflects your community and local needs.

Under this framework, municipalities and First Nation communities receiving direct and/or supplemental services from an OPP detachment are being asked to submit one proposal (per detachment) indicating the composition of their board and, if needed, a rationale for multiple boards and the composition of each additional board.

Municipalities and First Nations within a detachment are asked to work together to determine the composition of their board(s) as well as the manner in which they will submit their proposal to the ministry. For example, after determining the composition of the detachment board(s), municipalities and First Nations within a detachment area may select one municipality or First Nation to complete and submit the proposal.

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Proposals must meet base requirements set by the ministry, which include a minimum number of five members per board and a requirement that each board should be composed of 20% community representatives and 20% provincial appointees. To that end, municipalities and First Nations are not required at this time to identify the names of the individuals that will be participating on the detachment board. Rather, you are only asked to identify the number of seats each municipality and First Nation will be allocated on the detachment board as well as the number of community representatives and provincial appointments.

To streamline and support the proposal process, the ministry has developed a digital form that can be accessed using the link included [here](#).

The ministry will work with municipalities and First Nations to obtain outstanding information/proposals and support you in submitting a completed proposal. If, however, a proposal still does not meet the minimum requirements, or a proposal is not submitted and/or if no consensus is reached on the composition of the board then the ministry will determine the composition of the detachment board.

Completed proposals are to be submitted to the ministry by **Monday, June 7, 2021**.

We recognize the significant implications that the current COVID-19 emergency has had on municipalities and First Nations across the province. To this end, in addition to the written supporting material attached here, we are also pleased to work with you directly through virtual information sessions.

If you have questions related to OPP detachment boards under the CSPA, please contact Sarah Caldwell, Director of Community Safety and Intergovernmental Policy, at sarah.caldwell@ontario.ca. If you have questions about the proposal process or would be interested in a virtual information session, please contact Joanna Reading, Senior Policy Advisor, at joanna.reading@ontario.ca

Sincerely,



Sylvia Jones
Solicitor General

Enclosures

c: Chief Administrative Officers

Municipal Clerks