

Lakehead OPP Detachment Board

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

September 18, 2025 at 5:30 p.m.

Location: 3267 Highway 130, Rosslyn, ON

PRESENT: Councillor Don Smith, Municipality of Shuniah
Councillor Brian Wright, Municipality of Neebing
Councillor John Sobolta, Township of O'Connor
Reeve Wendy Wright, Township of Gillies
Lisa Laitinen-Egbuchulam, Community Representative
Ralph Falcioni, Community Representative
Rox-Anne Moore, Community Representative
Caleb Garrow-Ledoux, Provincial Representative
Christopher Bortolin, O.P.P. Thunder Bay Detachment
Erika Kromm, Board Secretary

REGRETS: Chief Wilfred King, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay)
Clarke Chapman, Lac Des Mille Lacs
Beth Boon, Kiashke Zaaging Anishinaabek (Gull Bay)
Councillor David Halvorsen, Township of Connemara

1. Preliminary Matters

1.1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and provided a land acknowledgement.

1.2. Approval and/or Amendment of the Agenda

Chair Smith asked whether any members wished to make any additions or adjustments to the agenda.

Resolution No. 2025-014

Moved by: Member Rox-Anne Moore

Seconded by: Member John Sobolta

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the agenda for tonight's meeting be approved, as presented.

CARRIED ✓

1.3. Request/Receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interests (if any)

No declarations of pecuniary interest were received.

2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

2.1. Minutes of the Meeting held September 18, 2025

Members present reviewed the minutes.

Resolution No. 2025-015

Moved by: Member Caleb Garrow-Ledoux

Seconded by: Member Ralph Falcioni

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes for the meetings held on September 18, 2025 be approved, as presented.

CARRIED ✓

2.2. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Members present reviewed the report.

3. Reports and Items for Discussion

3.1. Police Report

Members reviewed the police reports. Insp. Chris Bortolin responded to questions about the reports. There was some discussion about an increase in impaired driving and the patrol hours in Shuniah seemed a bit low. Chris Bortolin advised that he felt the numbers reported were not an accurate representation and would follow up to confirm.

Members were advised that the new Local Action Plan was in progress and it will be brought forward for review and for the Board to include comments in the plan.

3.2. OPP Reporting Statistics Resolution

Members present reviewed the report.

Resolution No. 2025-016

Moved by: Member Rox-Anne Moore

Seconded by: Member John Sobolta

WHEREAS the Thunder Bay OPP Detachment Board (operating as the Lakehead OPP Detachment Board) receives monthly reports relating to detachment crime statistics;

AND WHEREAS the reports are generated using a standardized format that is used across all OPP detachments in the province;

AND WHEREAS some categories such as assault offences and firearm offences, are grouped together and reported as a single statistic;

AND WHEREAS firearm-related offences are generally perceived by the public as more serious in nature;

AND WHEREAS transparency and clarity in public safety reporting are essential to maintaining public trust and supporting informed community dialogue;

AND WHEREAS accurate reporting of firearm-related offences is particularly important in the context of provincial and federal firearms policies, including the firearms registry and related

legislation, which rely on reliable data to inform decisions and public discourse;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of the Thunder Bay OPP Detachment Board (operating as the Lakehead OPP Detachment Board) respectfully requests that the Province revise the statistical reporting template to clearly separate assault offences from firearm-related offences;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to the Solicitor General, Inspectorate of Policing, MPP Kevin Holland, the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards, and to all Detachment Boards and Police Service Boards.

CARRIED ✓

4. Correspondence

- 4.1. September 16, 2025: Email from OAPSB – Insurance Portal is Live
- 4.2. September 25, 2025: Letter from Inspector General – IG Memo #7: Release of the Inspectorate of Policing's Risk Based Compliance and Enforcement Framework
- 4.3. September 30, 2025: Email from OAPSB – Quarterly Newsletter
- 4.4. October 10, 2025: Email from OAPSB – October Updates

Members reviewed the correspondence in 4.1 to 4.4. No resolutions were passed.

There was some discussion regarding Item 4.2 and the requirement to keep meetings open to the public. There was concern on whether the detachment office was too secure for the public to attend.

5. By-laws

There were no by-laws presented at this meeting.

6. New Business

There was some discussion regarding the frequency of the meetings for 2026. The Board Secretary was directed to bring forward a report proposing a quarterly meeting schedule for 2026.

7. Closed Session

There were no closed session items for this meeting.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on November 20, 2025 at 5:30 pm.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.