

## **Belleville Police Service Board – Meeting Highlights**

Date: September 18, 2025

### **In-Camera Session**

The Board met from 8:30 a.m. –10:00 a.m. in-camera.

### **Commendations & Recognitions**

#### **Cst. O’Hara, Cst. Harper, and Cst. Fernandez – Intimate Partner Violence Response**

On May 30<sup>th</sup> 2025, officers responded to an intimate partner violence call. Despite encountering a barricaded door, officers gained entry, acted decisively, and ensured the victim’s survival. Their courage, sound judgment, and professionalism were formally recognized, with Chief’s Commendations.

#### **B Platoon & Communications/Administrative Staff – Assault Investigation**

Members of B Platoon and Communications/Administrative staff received Chief’s Commendations for their teamwork during a serious assault investigation. On June 1<sup>st</sup> officers conducted a high-risk vehicle stop, during which the suspect rammed a police cruiser. A loaded firearm was located in the vehicle near the suspect. Despite the danger, members managed the incident while continuing to respond to other calls.

Recognized Members include Cst. McNroy, Cst. Boka, Cst. Burkitt, Cst. Fernandes, Cst. Peters, Cst. Rogers, Cst. Smith, Cst. Tijssen, Cst. Verbeek, Cst. Walden, Cst. Whittaker, Sgt. Yanch, Tracey McNaught, Jasmina Dennis, Lindsay Rhodes, Breanne Noden, and Krystal Johnson.

“This exemplifies teamwork. Civilian and sworn, it takes everyone to keep our community safe.”

– Heather Smith, Police Service Board Chair

### **190th Anniversary Planning**

Belleville Police Service will mark its 190th anniversary on June 18, 2026. Planning is underway to preserve historical artifacts, photographs, and memorabilia for public display. A partnership with Glanmore House and the Collection Archives of Hastings County will ensure the preservation and integrity of the history of the Belleville Police Service.

### **Capital Budget**

In the public meeting, the Board approved the 2026 Capital Budget that was first presented and approved in the in-camera session totaling \$1,194,887.

### **Discussion Highlights**

Mid-year crime statistics for 2025 have already surpassed 2024 totals in several categories, with notable increases in firearm-related incidents, particularly during traffic stops and domestic calls for service. Bail and probation breaches are also rising, consuming significant police resources. Officers are increasingly facing more dangerous situations. Staffing shortages remain a concern, as larger responses are needed to ensure officer safety.

The Board discussed that rising crime directly impacts officer workload and public safety, underscoring the need for additional resources.