

ALBERTA POLICE INTERIM ADVISORY BOARD

TERMS OF REFERENCE

BACKGROUND

The Minister heard that Albertans wanted more of a voice into the setting of provincial policing priorities. The Minister of Justice and Solicitor General (Minister) is establishing the Alberta Police Advisory Board (Board) in support of the provincial government and Minister's mandate and responsibilities respecting the provision of adequate and effective policing in Alberta and in support of the participation and input of Albertans.

The Board will be implemented in two phases:

1. Within the first year, an Interim Board will develop the structure and scope of the Advisory Board (Phase One).
2. On completion of the Interim Board's mandate, the work of the Advisory Board will then commence for a four-year term (Phase Two).

MANDATE / RESPONSIBILITIES

On behalf of all provincial police service (PPS) municipalities and Albertans, the Interim Board will collaborate with the Ministry of Justice and Solicitor General (JSG) and those PPS municipalities to:

- develop the scope and terms of reference for the operational Board;
- develop a recruitment and selection process for operational Board members;
- develop governance documents for the operational Board, including at minimum, a Competency Matrix for Board member appointments and review, a Code of Conduct, and a Mandate and Roles Document;
- provide input, advice and recommendations to the government and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) "K" Division on the buildup of the provincial police service related to funds raised by the Police Funding Model; and
- provide input into discussions respecting the provincial policing priorities for the 2021/22 fiscal year to facilitate engagement during transition to the operational Board.

SCOPE

While the Interim Board will provide input to the buildup of the PPS and to the development of provincial policing priorities during Phase One, the interim Board will be primarily development-focussed to ensure the efficient and effective, structure, participation and contribution of an Advisory Board.

In relation to the development of provincial policing priorities during Phase One of the Board, the Interim Board will conduct the necessary consultation, research, and analysis of current and anticipated policing issues as well as the priorities of significance and importance to Albertans and Alberta municipalities to support their role. Priorities and issues identified by the Board might include, but are not limited to:

- Community Safety and Well-being;
- Crime Reduction and Prevention; and
- Cross Jurisdictional Crime.

The Interim Board may also make recommendations and provide advice to the Minister with respect to the JSG/RCMP joint business plan, annual performance plans and multi-year financial plan as appropriate during the interim year, and ensuring the input is reflective of all PPS municipalities.

MEMBERSHIP

The Interim Board is comprised of:

- Four representatives from the Executive or Board of the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA);
- Four representative from the Executive or Board of the Alberta Urban Municipality Association members (AUMA); and
- One representative from the Executive of the Alberta Association of Police Governance (AAPG).

Non-voting members of the Interim Board include:

- Executive Director, Law Enforcement and Oversight Branch, JSG
- Director, Contract Policing and Policing Oversight, JSG
- Manager, Policing Oversight and Contract Policing, JSG
- One administrative representative from RMA
- One administrative representative from AUMA

Interim Board Representation

Interim Board voting members have been selected to ensure broad representation, perspectives and diversity from all PPS municipalities and, where possible, representation aligns with each of the four RCMP districts (i.e. Central Alberta District, Eastern Alberta District, Southern Alberta District, and Western Alberta District).

Voting members of the Interim Board represent the broadest possible municipal and public interests across the PPS municipalities. A preference has been given to those who are engaged in or knowledgeable in matters related to policing. Voting members are not currently employed in law enforcement and policing. The organizations have determined voting members of the Interim Board having regard to any personal, professional or business interests or relationships that could reasonably be considered to represent an actual or perceived conflict of interest in relation to Interim Board work.

Any concerns respecting the selection and representation of an Interim Board member or of an Interim Board member's failure to conduct member duties and responsibilities in a manner consistent with this Terms of Reference will be addressed in a timely manner as appropriate, up to and including, the replacement of the Interim Board member.

It is important that all Interim Board voting members attend the meetings to ensure continuity and to maximize the efficiency and productivity of the Interim Board.

Non-voting members of the Interim Board will be in attendance at Interim Board meetings in an advisory, observational, and support capacity to the work of the Interim Board and to share information.

Chair

An Interim Board Chair (Chair) will be elected by the Interim Board using voting procedures of this Terms of Reference. The Chair is responsible for the overall leadership of the Interim Board, management of Interim Board meetings, sharing of information, and communication of Interim Board matters with the JSG. The Chair will collaborate and consult with Interim Board members to establish Agendas, Work Plans, Records of Discussions and other materials, as required.

The Interim Board will also elect an Alternate Chair from the Interim Board to act as Chair if the Chair is unable to attend Interim Board meetings.

Secretary

An Interim Board Secretary will be elected by the Interim Board using voting procedures of this Terms of Reference. The Secretary will ensure that a record of meeting agendas, meeting attendees, and any recommendations made by the Interim Board are kept. Copies of these records will be provided to JSG, and the respective organization's Chairs, Presidents and Executive Directors.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Conduct

The members of the Interim Board must, at all times, observe the highest standards of integrity and objectivity in their duties. Interim Board members must declare any direct or indirect personal, professional or business interests or relationships which could reasonably be considered to represent an actual or perceived conflict of interest in relation to Interim Board work. If a conflict of interest declaration is made by a member, the Interim Board must decide, having regard to the nature of the relationship, if the member must withdraw from membership on the Board.

Duties

Members of the Interim Board are required to consult and liaise with the PPS municipalities (councils and local policing committees/advisory committees) in order to bring those perspectives to discussions by the Interim Board and to determine the most efficient and effective Advisory Board structure. Engagement and work conducted as an Interim Board will be conducted in a transparent manner with the organizations and JSG to enable accountability of the Interim Board.

The Interim Board will engage with the Minister, JSG, and the Commanding Officer of RCMP “K” Division as necessary and required to discuss matters related to the Interim Board’s mandate, ongoing policing issues and concerns, to receive updates on the progress of policing initiatives, and to provide updates on the Interim Board’s work.

Meetings

Meetings are expected to be held monthly, at minimum, either through face-to-face meetings or teleconference to ensure the Interim Board is prepared to transition to the Advisory Board by April 1, 2021.

Meeting agendas will be distributed at least one week in advance of each meeting by the Chair. Copies will be maintained as records.

Reporting

Municipalities

Within the context of the Terms of Reference Confidentiality provisions, the Interim Board:

- will report to their respective organizational members following any Interim Board decisions; and
- will keep their organizational members and municipalities (councils and local policing committees/advisory committees) apprised of government policing priorities and initiatives respecting policing priorities and Interim Board mandate matters.

Minister and JSG

The Interim Board is accountable to the Minister and is required to report in writing to the Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Security Division, as follows:

1. To provide a final, Interim Board approved, Terms of Reference for the Advisory Board by January 1, 2021;
2. To provide a report detailing the Interim Board’s recommendations and advice on the buildup of PPS resources from Police Funding Model revenue by the end of Interim Board term;
3. To provide a report detailing the Interim Board’s recommendations and advice on the JSG/RCMP “K” Division Multi-year Financial Plan by January 31, 2021; and
4. To provide a report detailing the Interim Board’s recommendations and advice on provincial policing priorities by January 31, 2021.
5. To provide any other report or document as determined necessary and appropriate by the Minister, JSG, or in consultation with the Minister and JSG.

A record of meeting agendas, meeting attendees, and of any recommendations made by the Interim Board will be provided to JSG, and the respective organization’s Chairs, Presidents and Executive Directors.

Quorum

Quorum is required to conduct a meeting and for any Interim Board business. Quorum must include the Chair or Alternate Chair. Quorum is set at a minimum of 60 per cent of Interim Board members.

Interim Board business does not include the operational work necessary for Interim Board members to consult with their respective organizations or municipalities.

Voting

Elections and votes taken respecting any Interim Board business requires a majority vote by those Interim Board members in attendance to pass.

EXPENSES

Expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the Interim Board will be reimbursed in accordance with the rates set out in the Travel, Meal and Hospitality Expenses Directive (Treasury Board Directive 1/2015) as amended from time to time, or any directive made in substitution, as if they were employees of the Government of Alberta.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The members of the Interim Board must maintain as confidential any information brought before them in the conduct of their work. Any information and knowledge learned, acquired or shared with by the Interim Board from the Minister, JSG, the RCMP "K" Division, or the RCMP generally, as a result of membership on the Interim Board or in relation to Interim Board work and its mandate will not be further communicated, disseminated or shared beyond the Interim Board without express permission from the originator of the information.

Any information and knowledge shared by the Interim Board to its respective organization's Chairs, Presidents and Executive Directors will be governed by the same confidentiality provisions as noted the interim Board and its members.

Members of the Interim Board must sign a confidentiality agreement as a condition of their appointment and participation on the Interim Board.

RMA, AUMA, and AAPG Chairs, Presidents and Executive Directors must also sign a confidentiality agreement in respect of any information and knowledge learned or acquired from the Interim Board and Interim Board members.