

The Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

Public Board Meeting
September 22, 2021

Report of the Chief of Police

Proposal for Use of Public Relations Reserve Funds

1. Recommendation

1. That the Board approve a disbursement from the Public Relations Reserve Fund for the 2021 Hike for D/C Meghan Crook in support of Big Brothers Big Sisters for \$2,500.

2. Summary

This report requests the Board's approval for a proposed disbursement from the Public Relations Reserve fund to Big Brothers Big Sisters York Region. This initiative was selected based on a review of the criteria outlined in the Board's Governance Public Relations Reserve Fund Policy.

3. Background

York Regional Police and the York Regional Police Services Board has supported Big Brothers Big Sisters for the past 30 years through our participation in a variety of fundraising initiatives. These events include the Chief's Bowling Challenge, golf tournaments and the Ride 4 Styles. A number of our members have volunteered as mentors and as board members for this organization.

The Board's Governance Public Relations Reserve Fund Policy outlines criteria for funding proposals including: to recognize the work of members of the Police Services Board and York Regional Police; and to support co-operative initiatives between York Regional Police and the citizens of York Region that foster community harmony and safety by encouraging people to value and treat each other with respect.

It is therefore recommended that the Board approve a \$2,500 disbursement from the Public Relations Reserve Fund to sponsor the Big Brothers Big Sisters Hike for Meghan in accordance with the criteria outlined in the Board's Governance Public Relations Reserve Fund Policy.

4. Analysis

This year, a fundraising hike has been organized called Meghan's Hike to celebrate the legacy of Detective Constable Meghan Crook. Meghan was a seven-year veteran of York Regional Police who tragically lost her life due to a snowmobiling accident in February, 2021.

Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) played an important role in Meghan's life and she credited a scholarship she received through BBBS for allowing her to pursue her dream of becoming a police officer.

Funds raised through Meghan's Hike will be directed towards providing a number of \$2,500 scholarships in Meghan's name to students involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters and who reside in York Region. The number of scholarships provided will be based on the total amount of funds raised through this fundraising event.

5. Financial

The Public Relations Reserve fund balance as of August 25, 2021 was \$182,179.

6. Conclusion

It is therefore recommended that the Board approve a \$2,500 disbursement from the Public Relations Reserve Fund to sponsor the Big Brothers Big Sisters Hike for Meghan in accordance with the criteria outlined in the Board's Governance Public Relations Reserve Fund Policy.

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Jim MacSween, B.A.A.
Chief of Police

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