



The Regional Municipality of York Police Service Board

Public Board Meeting
October 23, 2024
For Decision

Report of the Executive Director

Public Relations Reserve Fund – Request for Funding

1. Recommendations

1. That the Board approve the following disbursement from the Board's Public Relations Fund, as detailed in this report:
 - a. \$5,000 to the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards for the 2024 Labour Conference.

2. Purpose

The Public Relations Reserve Fund Policy (PR Fund) is the result of provisions in the *Community Safety and Policing Act*, that allow for found monies to be directed to uses that are in the public interest.

Sections 258 (2) and 259 (3) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act* give Police Service Boards the authority to use the proceeds from the sale of unclaimed personal property and money found and seized by the police service for any purpose that it considers in the public interest.

In accordance with this statutory authority, the Board established the PR Fund to be used in compliance with the [Public Relations Reserve Fund Policy No. 01/23](#) (Policy), which outlines how these funds are to be used.

Any unused monies in the fund will be carried forward into the next fiscal year of the Police Service Board Operating Budget.

3. Background

The Board receives requests from community groups and organizations in need of financial support. The Executive Director reviews each request to ensure they meet the eligibility criteria and funding guidelines as set out in the policy.

Monies from the funds are used to support and encourage policing and justice initiatives, promote positive community partnerships and enrich the quality of life in York Region.

The closing balance of the reserve fund on September 30, 2024 was \$241,475.

4. Analysis

FUNDING PROPOSALS

The following funding proposals have met the eligibility criteria under section 5.1 of the policy:

- b. Governance and Justice: Activities and initiatives that grow the knowledge, skills and capacity of police services boards, police services and members of the justice community to better serve their communities. This includes educational conferences and events, activities that support the sharing and collective development of best practices in governance and the engagement of community stakeholders to support improvements in community policing and governance.

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF POLICE SERVICES BOARDS (OAPSB)

The Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) is the leading voice of police governance in Ontario whose membership includes police service board members, police and law enforcement officials and other persons involved in policing and public safety.

The OAPSB Annual 2024 Labour Conference is taking place on November 26 and 27, 2024 in Mississauga, ON. The seminar features engaging speakers addressing topical subjects relating to labour relations, bargaining, Board resourcing and other employer related issues. They rely on participation and sponsorship to support the conference and ensure its success.

It is recommended that the Board provide a sponsorship of \$5,000 which provides recognition throughout the conference, on the website and during the conference, one 30-minute session hosted by us and three complimentary registrations to the conference.

The Board provided sponsorship to OAPSB for its annual spring conference in June of this year. The Board hosted a session on the Diversity Plan for YRP with the Executive Director and staff from YRP's Professionalism, Leadership and Inclusion Office presenting on the topic.

5. Financial Considerations

The financial implications of this report are associated with the funding requests.

6. Local Impact

Providing funding will allow the OAPSB to aid in building the knowledge and skill base of small and medium sized Boards across Ontario and provides the opportunity for the Board and its staff to share it's own practices and influence the shape of police governance in the Province.

7. Conclusion

The Board continues to make significant investments from its Public Relations Fund into the York Region community and the police governance sector. These funds are instrumental in supporting community safety initiatives and help enhance partnerships with policing and community stakeholders.

Granting the funding request would be aligned with the Public Relations Policy goal to grow the knowledge, skills and capacity of police service boards, police services and members of the justice community to better serve their communities.

For more information on this report, please contact psb@yrp.ca. Alternative formats or communication supports are available upon request.

Approved for Submission: Anitra Basant Sisavang
Executive Director

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Attachments: OAPSB Labour Conference