



The Regional Municipality of York Police Service Board

Public Board Meeting
April 24, 2024
For Decision

Report of the Executive Director

Public Relations Reserve Fund – Requests for Funding

1. Recommendation

1. That the Board approve the following disbursements from the Board's Public Relations Fund
 - a. of \$10,000 in support of the Canadian Association of Police Governance.
 - b. \$5,000 in support of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards.

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 March 31, 2024 was \$127,265.

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.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF POLICE GOVERNANCE (CAPG)

The Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) is the only national organization dedicated to excellence in police governance in Canada and represents 80% of municipal police service oversight bodies throughout Canada.

The CAPG is seeking sponsorship for its 35th Annual Conference which will be held in Halifax, NS from August 8th to 11th. This year's theme is "Where Governance meets Public Safety: Transforming Policing in Canada".

The Board is a long-standing supporter of the CAPG and its conferences and also hosted the conference in York Region in 2015. Sponsorship provides opportunities to enhance relationships with the police governance membership, build stronger connections and provides recognition and enhanced exposure of our Board through promoted publications through CAPG's website, social media and at the event itself.

In keeping the Board's previous support, it is recommended that the Board provide advocate sponsorship in the amount of \$10,000. This level of sponsorship provides one free virtual conference registration which allows access for up to five people and recognition on CAPG's social media and in the conference app.

The sponsorship package has been attached to this report for the Board's consideration.

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF POLICE SERVICES BOARD (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 2024 Annual Spring Conference and Annual General Meeting is taking place from June 3rd to 5th in Blue Mountain, ON. Member sponsorship assists with activities related to running the conference and to support the OAPSB. Sponsorship also minimizes costs to members attending the seminar, helps offset expenses related to the event, supports marketing and outreach and provides recognition for the sponsoring organization.

The Board provided sponsorship in the amount of \$3,000 for the 2023 conference. It is recommended that the Board provide platinum sponsorship this year in the amount of \$5,000. This level provides Board recognition on the OAPSB website, logo recognition on the digital presentation at the conference and logo recognition on one feature event.

5. Financial Considerations

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

6. Local Impact

Providing funding would be in keeping with the Board's desire to support initiatives that increase community safety and support the diverse needs of York Region's communities as well as improve education and training to members.

7. Conclusion

The Board has made significant investments from its Public Relations Fund in recent years in accordance with its Public Relations Reserve Fund policy. The funds help support community safety initiatives and help build partnerships with policing and community stakeholders. Granting the funding requests would be aligned with the Public Relations Policy goal to increase understanding of community-based policing and increase community safety and equitably support the needs of the diverse communities within York Region.

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

Approved for Submission: Anitra Basant Sisavang
Executive Director

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Attachments (2)