



October 9, 2019
Zone 1 Director Report

I will start off by thanking everyone for taking time from their busy schedules to be here today, even though I am not. I apologize for not being with you to deliver this report in person. Unfortunately, the scheduling of this conference coincided with the OAPSB labour conference being held in Toronto. As your new representative on this board I felt it was important for me to be in attendance to forge working relationships with the board members and represent our communities. The OAPSB conference has been scheduled for a year and I had booked my flight and accommodations many months ago, prior to learning of this conference. I wish all of you a successful conference.

Since our last meeting, held in Windsor at the OAPSB annual conference, I have continued to advocate on the concerns that you brought to me both at the conference and over the months following the conference.

I have met with the Solicitor General on 3 separate occasions and have discussed with her your concerns and offered possible solutions.

- Community safety plans: I spoke about plans needing to be developed that are specific to each community. Too many of our communities are forced to develop plans that are not reflective of their need. In a lot of cases the agencies that are required to be part of the plan are not represented in our communities.
- Board amalgamations: I continue to advocate that consideration needs to be given to the distances between our communities making the proposal difficult in the North. The future of the OAPSB will be challenged with the reduction of Police Boards across the province.
- Police Costing Formulae: After four years of the new police billing models many communities are struggling with high police costs. The model needs continued scrutiny and consideration of issues in the North. I believe that the high costs experienced by many communities are associated with increased calls related to mental health and addiction problems. I have requested that the Solicitor General call together various Ministries to take a more holistic approach to the problems that are driving up policing and ambulance costs. Much of the policing costs we are experiencing are actually health care costs. There needs to be a better, cost-effective way to deal with the issues that are resulting in increased police and emergency medical costs falling on Municipal property tax bills.



- Board Training Requirements: The OAPSB has approved the development of training for police boards. My understanding is that this was attempted in the past with varying opinions on the value for the cost. This training program may be difficult for the OAPSB to fund with the reduction in revenue expected as a result of board amalgamations. I have requested the Solicitor General work with the OAPSB in cost sharing and development of training requirements.
- Provincial Appointments: Many of our boards are experiencing slow provincial appointments to their boards. There has been some movement on appointments. I have heard from many boards that their appointments were made rather quickly after the submission of names. I can't explain the discrepancies that are occurring. I continue to raise this with the Solicitor General.

The concerns of the membership of Zone 1 are being brought to NOMA for advocacy as well. The advocacy work needs to continue and forging a good working relationship with the Solicitor General and her ministry is, in my opinion, key to making sure that our needs are addressed and solutions that work for our communities are found and implemented. Zone 1 needs to have continued conversations with the Solicitor General to ensure our challenges are being effectively communicated to her.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Zone and again best wishes for a successful conference.

Thank you,

Kevin Holland
Director
Zone 1 - OAPSB