



**MINUTES - OPEN SESSION MEETING
SAINT JOHN BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 9, 2024 – 5:05 P.M.
COMMUNITY ROOM ONE PEEL PLAZA / MS TEAMS**

PRESENT

Commissioners

Tamara Kelly, Chair
Katelin Dean, Vice Chair
Maiké White, Secretary
Donna Reardon
Greg Norton
Charles Bryant
Michael Costello

Staff

Robert Bruce, Chief of Police
Honey Dwyer, Deputy Chief of Police
Sean Rocca Staff Sergeant, Executive Officer, and Corporate Communications
Stephanie Hanlon, Human Resources Director
Frank Szalai, Senior Financial Manager
Daphne Waye, Recording Secretary

Media

Emma McPhee, Reporter | Brunswick News Inc.
Brad Perry, Regional News Director 97.3 The WAVE | 91.9 The Bend Country 94 | 98.1
Charlotte FM

1. Call to Order

1.1 Remarks from the Chair

Chair Kelly welcomed everyone to the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners' January 9, 2024, Open Session meeting and called the meeting to order. She reminded those in attendance that the meeting was being recorded in compliance with the Privacy Policy and that it was also being held by MS Teams.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.1 December 12, 2023, Minutes

Moved by Commissioner Reardon, seconded by Secretary White:

RESOLVED, that the Open Session minutes of December 12, 2023, be approved.
(O2401-01)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Adoption of Agenda

3.1 January 9, 2024, Agenda

Moved by Commissioner Reardon, seconded by Secretary White

RESOLVED, that the agenda distributed for January 9th, 2024, be adopted.
(O2401-02)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

5. Consent Agenda

6. Delegations / Presentations

6.1 Crime Prevention Community Engagement Campaign – Theft of Tools

Chief Robert Bruce mentioned that tools are often targeted in many cases of break, enter, and thefts from vehicles, homes and businesses, especially construction sites. In Saint John, there has been a 27% increase in occurrences involving the theft of tools during the last 6 months compared to the first half of 2023, and a 36% increase over 2022. There are steps that the public, contractors and businesses can take to prevent the theft of tools and aid in the recovery of stolen tools ***#stoptooltheftinNB***.

Remember to:

- **Mark your tools:** Engrave or mark tools with unique identifies to make it easier to identify and recover tools.
- **Record serial numbers:** Keep a detailed inventory of your tools, including photographs, serial numbers, and proof of purchase.

- **Secure your tools:** Tools should be stored in a secure and locked location when not in use. They should never be stored in plain sight or left unattended.
- **Report suspicious activity:** The public should report any suspicious activity in their neighbourhood, especially persons loitering around properties, sheds and construction sites.

Property owners can visit the Crime Prevention page for tips on how to protect their tools.

Moved by Commissioner Reardon, seconded by Vice Chair Dean:

RESOLVED, that the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners receive and file the presentation around the Crime Prevention Community Engagement Campaign – Theft of Tools. (O2401-03)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 Coffee with a Cop: Fraud Prevention for Seniors

Sean Rocca, Staff Sergeant, Executive Officer, and Corporate Communications stated that the Saint John Police are launching a series of fraud prevention sessions aimed at empowering senior members of the community.

This initiative is a direct response to the fraudulent activities targeting the elderly population, which is often the most vulnerable due to a lack of familiarity with digital platforms and the increasing sophistication of scams. In the last 3 years, those aged sixty-five (65) and over are making up a larger percentage of fraud victims in Saint John.

These educational sessions are designed to increase awareness about different types of prevalent fraud schemes such as phone, online, and mail scams. The sessions will provide practical strategies for recognizing, preventing, and reporting such fraudulent activities. The first two sessions will be held in person at the Saint John Police Headquarters at 1 Peel Plaza in Saint John on Monday, February 5, 2024, and Tuesday, February 27, 2024, from 3:00-4:30 p.m. No registration is required.

These sessions will be facilitated by a detective from the Major Crime Unit who specializes in fraud investigations. Community Centers are also welcome to request an educational session in their neighbourhood by visiting the following link: Request a Community Appearance | Saint John Police Force (<http://saintjohnpolice.ca/how-do-i/request-a-community-appearance>).

By investing in preventative measures, they can safeguard the community's most vulnerable members, reducing their victimization and the associated costs to the community and law enforcement. This program aligns with the Saint John Police

commitment to public safety and community engagement, serving as a proactive measure in crime prevention.

Moved by Secretary White, seconded by Vice Chair Dean:

RESOLVED, that the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners receive and file the presentation around Coffee with a Cop: Fraud Prevention for Seniors. (O2401-04)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Consideration of Issues Separated from Consent Agenda

8. General Correspondence

8.1 Internal Monthly Report – December 2023

Chief Bruce reported that during the month of December there were zero (0) complaints, three (3) complimentary correspondence and zero (0) grievances.

Moved by Commissioner Reardon, seconded by Commissioner Costello:

RESOLVED, that the Internal Monthly Report - December 2023 be received and filed. (O2401-05)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 Highlights of Monthly Activity Report / December 2023

Chief Bruce went through the following information contained in the report.

Activity	December 2023	YTD – 2023	YTD - 2022
Calls for Service – PSCC <i>(processed by the PSCC for the SJPF only)</i>	4,886	60,124	56,372
Incident Reports <i>(police files generated)</i>	696	8,458	8,136
Violent Crimes <i>(Assault, Robbery, Weapons Offences, Threats)</i>	94	1,294	1,231
Property Crimes <i>(Thefts, Break & Enter, Possession of Stolen Property, Mischief)</i>	244	2,689	2,316
Mental Health Act	23	280	275

Mental Health <i>RELATED</i> Calls for Service (<i>Incidents related to or caused by mental health issues</i>)	185	2,287	1,925
Arrests	63	1,154	1,431
Persons Charged / Charges Recommended	92	1,871	1,976
Impaired Driving	7	82	92
Motor Vehicle Accidents	253	1,957	1,953
Citations (POPA)	57	1,092	1,400
Training	data not available	data not available	YTD data not available
Auxiliary	251	1,484	1,535
Alternative Response Unit	351	3,283	5,278
Online Reporting	90	618	YTD data not available
In-Person (Walk-Ins) (<i>processed by the PSCC where a CAD call was generated</i>)	29	361	YTD data not available
In-Person (Walk-Ins) (Incident Reports Generated) (<i>police files generated as a result of Calls for Service</i>)	19	195	YTD data not available

Moved by Secretary White, seconded by Commissioner Reardon:

RESOLVED, that the Highlights of Monthly Activity Report / December 2023 be received and filed. (O2401-06)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. New Business

9.1 SJBPC 2024 Election of Officers

An election of officers was held at the January 9, 2024, Committee of the Whole meeting of the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners. The following members were elected to serve as the Executive for 2024, pursuant to Sections 11.1, 11.2 and 11.5 of the By-Law Respecting the Procedures of the Board.

Chair: Tamara Kelly
Vice Chair: Katelin Dean
Secretary: Maike White

10. Adjournment

Moved by Commissioner Reardon, seconded by Secretary White:

RESOLVED, that the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners January 9, 2024, Open Session meeting be adjourned. (O2401-07)

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

At this time, the media were invited to ask questions of the board and the Chief of Police.

Chair Tamara Kelly

Secretary Maike White