

DATE: MARCH 21, 2016

TO: THE HONOURABLE YASIR NAQVI, MINISTER  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

FROM: DOUG JELLY, CHAIR – TEMISKAMING SHORES POLICE SERVICES BOARD

RE: **ONTARIO POLICE SERVICES ACT REVIEW AND STRATEGY FOR A SAFER ONTARIO**

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After twenty five years the Police Services Act is going to be rewritten to better align Policing in this Province to create Safer Communities. There is no doubt that the modernization of the delivery of Community Safety is long overdue.

I do, however, have some concerns with the possible future of the present Section 10 Police Services Boards.

Minister Yasir Naqvi had the following quote in his speech at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit on the Economics of Policing and Community Safety.

"Our new Strategy for a Safer Ontario is about finding smarter, better ways to build even safer communities. We have worked hard with police services to make Ontario one of the safest places in North America. Now it is time to take the next step and build a policing model for the 21st century by rewriting the Police Services Act. This represents the biggest transformation of policing in Ontario in 25 years, helping communities develop local solutions to improve public safety and overall community well-being."

I have extensive experience in the delivery of police services and have now taken on a role in police governance. I always have and still believe that it is the community that holds the key to success and when properly engaged solutions will be found.

The concern I have now is, what is going to be considered a Community when the Police Services Act is rewritten. I have grave concerns that some Section 10 Police Services Boards will take on a new look which will not be totally conducive to "Community Safety." Depending on the report you read there are several concepts on the future make up of Section 10 Boards that range from the status quo to Provincial, District (County) or OPP Detachment area.

I will use my area to express my concerns. I live in the City of Temiskaming Shores in the District of Temiskaming located in Northern Ontario. Our City, the largest in the District, is located on TransCanada Highway 11 approximately halfway between North Bay and Timmins. Our population is approximately 10,500 and we are considered a Service Hub for the surrounding area as we house educational, commercial, business, industrial and recreational services which serve an area of approximately 24,500. We are surrounded by extensive farmland ( Little Claybelt), forest and mines.

The Temiskaming OPP Detachment serves several municipalities and townships, one First Nation Community and approximately 75 unorganized townships. The Detachment has two contract locations the Municipality of Temagami and the City of Temiskaming Shores.

The Temiskaming Detachment has 53 uniformed officers and covers an area conservatively estimated at 20,000 square kilometres ( see attached map). To put this in perspective when you google Toronto they estimate the area to be approximately 7,200 square kilometres.

Temiskaming Shores was formed in 2004 as the result of an amalgamation of the Town of Haileybury, the Township of Dymond and the Town of New Liskeard. The Town of New Liskeard Police Service, established in 1963, continued to provide Policing within the original boundaries of the Town of New Liskeard and the OPP provided policing to the Town of Hailebury and Township of Dymond. In September 2007 the Municipal Police were disbanded in favour of an OPP Section 10 Contract. Part of the negotiations at that time were to maintain a hands on approach to policing by having a Contract and a Police Services Board. Both the contract and Board are still in place.

I believe that there are two reasons why Section 10 Boards as we now know them are in existence:

1. As the result of an OPP takeover of a Municipal Service so the Municipality can maintain local governance keeping the police accountable to the needs of the Community; and
2. Communities that want more local accountability to address their needs.

Referring again to our OPP catchment area we have two Section 10 Boards, one being in Temiskaming Shores and the other in Temagami which is actually in the Nipissing District seventy kilometers south. Temagami's winter population of approximately 850 grows dramatically during the summer months as seasonal residents return to the lakes and cottages. North of us there is a Community Policing Advisory Committee serving Englehart and some surrounding townships.

Our Police Services Board meets every second month or at the call of the Chair. We have been involved in the selection of the last two Detachment Commanders and work very closely with him, through our Board, to address the needs and expectations of our Community for both emergent call response and/or non-emergent intervention.

As you can see by the information provided in my submission our part of the North has a very large geographic area comprised of many different and varying characteristics. In many locations our only similarities are the provincial highways that join them.

Above I described the only other Section 10 Board and it is not even in the same District and we do not share many similarities or priorities when it comes to the delivery of Police Services, the mere fact that it is 70 kilometers away creates issues. To the North the nearest location is Englehart which is approximately 50 kilometers away. Immediately surrounding us are some small villages and townships

and with the exception of Englehart area, there has been no concluded interest in forming a CPAC. It has been my experience that the smaller villages and organized townships around us are more concerned about why they have to pay rather than the delivery of the service itself.

To force any type of an amalgamation of Section 10 and Section 5.1 locations would not be conducive to the Strategy of Safer Communities and it would definitely not be consistent with Minister Naqvi's statement "helping communities develop local solutions to improve public safety and overall community well-being."

I also feel, as in our case, there are other municipalities that disbanded municipal Police Services in favour of an OPP Section 10 contract. I do believe that these municipalities should be given the opportunity to have a stand-alone Section 10 contract. These Boards, although we do not at this time, share the same responsibilities as Section 31 Boards, do have a lot to offer in the modernization of policing and forming of Safer Communities.

I do, however understand that the amalgamation of Boards in densely populated areas, where borders may be contiguous or at minimum where the area has consistent makeup and similar policing needs, make sense and allow for joint progressive movement towards Safer Communities.

I have not heard any suggestions or discussions on the make-up of Boards should amalgamations take place. This is a very important as everyone involved deserves a voice but Boards need to be focused on similar issues in order to make positive progress consistent with the intent of the Safer Community theory.

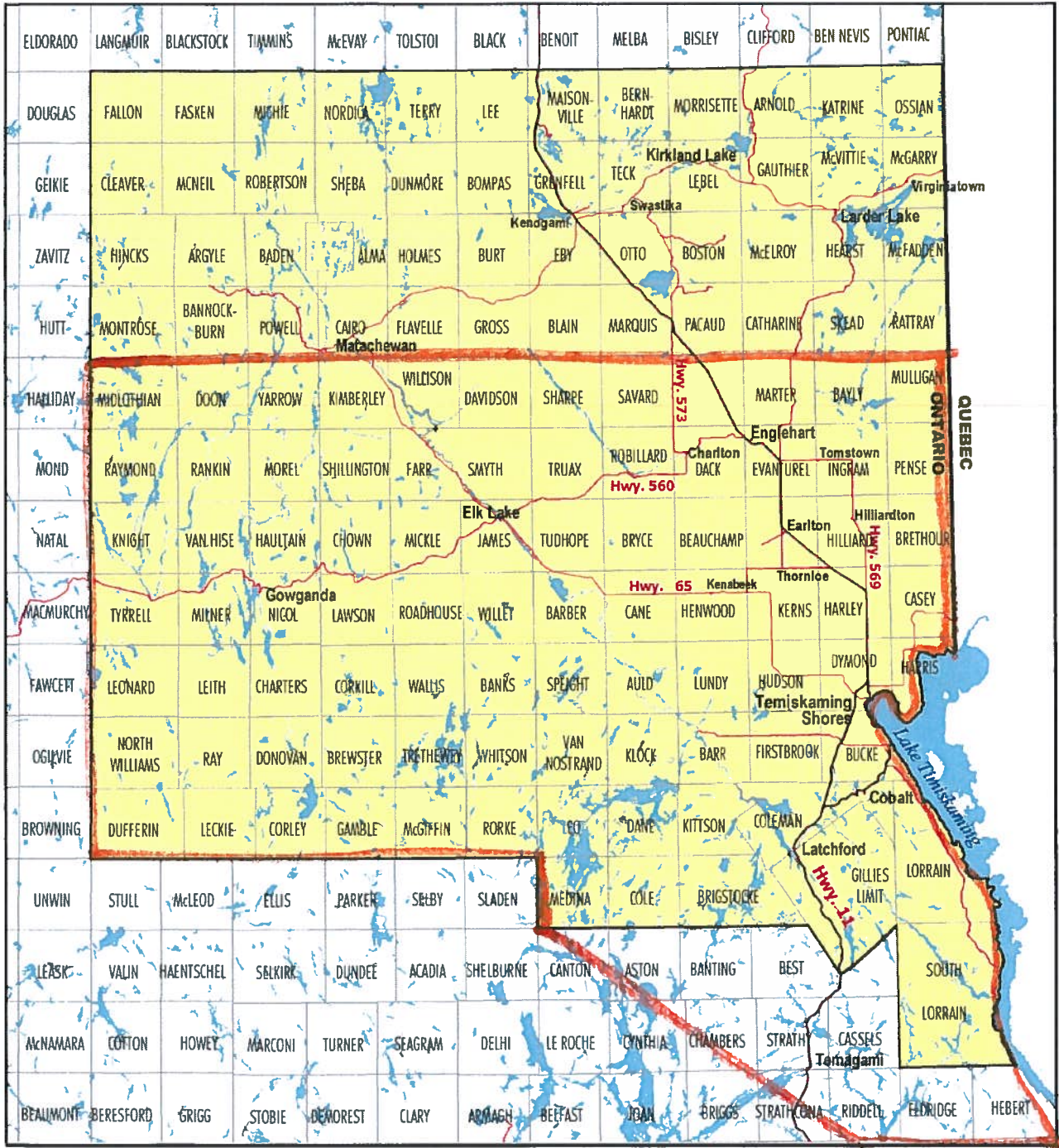
I mentioned earlier that there has also been suggestions of a Provincial Board to deal with OPP policing. I do not agree with this concept and it definitely does not promote local solutions. I do however see validity in having an advisory committee to meet with OPP to work on such things as provincial policy. In reality this could be a sub-committee of the OAPSB.

Before closing I would like to share two quotes that have been put forward during discussions on the modernization of policing:

Stephen Goudge - *Policing Canada in the 21st Century: New Policing for New Challenges/The Expert Panel on the Future of Canadian Policing Models 2014* states "No one specific (safety and security web, network or) model is universally applicable across the country"; and

Calgary Chief Rick Hanson at the "*Police Transformation and Sustainability 2015 Summit*" on the Economics of Policing and Community Safety, Ottawa, March 2, 2015 made two critical points one being that you cannot transport policing from one community to the next, it must meet local needs. He also emphasized the needs of all public safety and security actors "to all speak the same language".

In closing, I simply ask that before any type of change is indicated that careful consideration be given to the reason why there is presently a Section 10 Board, as well as the geographic feasibility of amalgamations and of the probability that such amalgamations would fairly represent a positive move toward Safer Communities.



— Detachment Coverage Area.  
 Temiskaming Detachment.



TEMISKAMING SHORES POLICE SERVICES BOARD  
MARCH 21, 2016 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

**Police Services Act Review**

Resolution No. 2016-10

Moved by: Danny Whalen  
Seconded by: Ruth Shepherdson

Be it resolved that the Temiskaming Shores Police Services Board approves the Presentation prepared by the Board Chair regarding the Police Services Act Review; and

Further that the Board approves the submission of the Chair's presentation to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards and OAPSB Zone 1A.

CARRIED

Certified true copy

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Christopher W. Oslund  
Board Secretary



THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF TEMISKAMING SHORES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 5, 2016  
RESOLUTION

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**Ontario Police Services Act Review and Strategy for a Safer Ontario**

Resolution No. 2016-176


Moved by: Councillor Jelly  
Seconded by: Councillor Hewitt

Be it resolved that the Council of the City of Temiskaming Shores acknowledges receipt of the presentation from the Temiskaming Shores Police Services Board Chair, Doug Jelly dated March 21, 2016; and

That Council for the City of Temiskaming Shores concurs with the Temiskaming Shores Police Services Board and approves the submission of the Chair's presentation to the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services, the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards and Ontario Association of Police Services Board Zone 1A.

**CARRIED**

Certified true copy

  
David B. Treen  
Municipal Clerk