ALMAGUIN HIGHLANDS OPP DETACHMENT BOARD
CONSEIL DU DÉTACHEMENT D'ALMAGUIN HIGHLANDS DE LA POLICE PROVINCIALE
ALMAGUIN HIGHLANDS OPP DETACHMENT
DÉTACHEMENT D'ALMAGUIN HIGHLANDS DE LA POLICE PROVINCIALE

MEMO

Date: November 13, 2026

From: Secretary, Almaguin Highlands O.P.P. Detachment Board

RE: General Information for Council

This memo is being provided to the municipalities within the jurisdiction of the Almaguin Highlands O.P.P Detachment Board by the Lead Municipality and the Secretary, as a general outline of the Board.

Any interested member of Council who wishes to be nominated to the Board as a Council Representative should speak with their Clerk about their interest.

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019

On April 1, 2024, the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* (CSPA) came into effect, making changes to Police Service Boards in place prior to 2019, and establishing OPP Detachment Boards in areas without previous Police Services Boards. OPP Detachment Boards help to align policing objectives, priorities, and policies with community expectations.

The establishment of the board is an opportunity for municipalities of all sizes to have a greater say and establish a relationship with the Detachment Commander and the officers who police communities. It also provides an opportunity to align municipal public safety expectations and clearly express those views in a coordinated manner with the Detachment Commander.

The Ministry of the Solicitor General, in consultation with the 12 municipalities within Almaguin Highlands, approved the following:

- Board Size – 7 Members (1 Provincial Appointee, 2 Community Members, 4 Council Representatives)
- Board Composition Community Members – General Public Advertisement
- Administration of Board – create a part-time contract position for this Board only; one municipality would hold contract if required (to be decided later).

O.Reg 135/24 Table 1 sets out the composition of the Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board as follows:

- 4 Municipal Representatives
  - 1 = Armour Township, Burk's Falls, Ryerson Township

- 1 = Joly Township, Machar Township, South River Village
- 1 = Town of Kearney, McMurrich/Monteith Township, Perry Township
- 1 = Municipality of Magnetawan, Strong Township, and Sundridge Village

- 2 Community Representatives
- 1 Provincial Appointee

O.Reg 409/23: Code of Conduct for OPP Detachment Board Members

O.Reg 409/23: Code of Conduct for OPP Detachment Board Members sets out the code of conduct with which every member of an OPP Detachment Board must comply.

O.Reg 135/24: OPP Detachment Boards

O.Reg 135/24: OPP Detachment Boards sets out the established OPP Detachment Boards within the Province. The regulation also sets out:

Section 3: OPP Detachment Board Estimates

- OPP Detachment Boards shall annually prepare estimates setting out the total amount that is required to pay the expenses of the board's operation, other than remuneration of members;
- Each municipality in the area for the OPP Detachment Board shall pay the OPP Detachment Board estimates by way of an equal share of the amount (*note, municipalities may *unanimously* agree to allocate the costs among themselves on a basis other than equal share)

Section 6. Term of Office

- The term of office for a member shall not exceed the term of office of the council (no longer than 4 years).

Section 7. Renumeration of members appointed by the Minister

- Remuneration paid to the Provincial Appointee shall be determined by unanimous agreement of each municipality in the area for the OPP Detachment Board, otherwise the Minister shall determine renumeration;
- Each participating municipality shall pay an equal share of the renumeration, unless they *unanimously* agree to allocate the costs among themselves on a basis other than equal share.
- Unless the Board decides otherwise, only the Provincial Appointee is regulated to receive remuneration.

Board Insurance

Board Insurance cost, under *O.Reg 135/24*, is to be spilt evenly amongst the 12 area municipalities. The quote received from the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards for annual insurance is approximately $3,800 (2026 rate).

The lead municipality would administer the insurance application, renewals and payment, invoicing each of other 11 municipalities equally for their share. However, the OPP Detachment Board itself would formally be the 'applicant' for the insurance. Once it is determined how the Board needs to be established (incorporated or non-profit), the lead municipality will proceed with obtaining the required insurance.

Training Requirements of Board Members

Prescribed under Section 35 of the *CPSA*, members shall successfully complete training approved by the Minister with respect to the role of a police service board, responsibilities, human rights and systemic racism, rights and cultures of First Nation, Inuit, and Metis Peoples, and diverse, and the multiracial and multicultural character of Ontario society. The training will commence once the Board is formally appointed by each of the 12 area municipalities.

Provincial Appointee

The Ministry oversees the appointment of the Provincial Appointee. There has been no appointment of the Provincial Appointee representative for the Almaguin Highlands OPP Detachment Board since its formation, nor has a timeline of when an individual will be appointed.

OPP Detachment Commander Role with Board

The OPP Detachment Commander shall prepare and/or adopt any local action plan or policies in consultation with the Board and assist in preparing annually in collaboration with the Board on or before June 30, a report to the 12 municipalities regarding policing provided by the detachment. Other reports prepared by the Detachment Commander will include matters of traffic incident rates, statue charges laid, drug crime rates, etc. (Sections 68(2)(3), 69(3)(4), 70(1), *CPSA*). The OPP Detachment Commander may not sit regularly at Board Meetings and is not a voting member.

Policies & Procedures of the Board

Under the *CPSA*, there are no set policies or procedures that are required to be adopted by the OPP Detachment Board. However, the Insurance Companies recommended by the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards require an Abuse Policy. Other policies and

procedures being adopted by OPP Detachment Boards across the Province include Terms of Reference, and Rules & Procedures.

General Role of the Board

Within Section 68(1) of the *CPSA*, states:

The OPP Detachment Board shall,

(a) consult with the Commissioner (Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner) regarding the selection of a detachment commander and otherwise participate, in accordance with regulation, in the selection of the detachment commander;
(b) determine objectives and priorities for the detachment, not inconsistent with the strategic plan, after consultation with the detachment commander;
(c) advise the detachment commander with respect to policing provided by the detachment;
(d) monitor the performance of the detachment commander;
(e) review the reports from the detachment commander regarding policing provided by the detachment; and
(f) on or before June 30 each year, provide an annual report to the area municipalities regarding policing provided by the detachment.

Location of the Board Meetings & Number of Meetings

As Perry Township is currently acting as the lead municipality, the Board Meeting location is Perry's Council Chambers, 1695 Emsdale Road, Emsdale, ON.

Until the Board meets for its first meeting this Term, no further details are available regarding the number of meetings, time, dates, etc.

The only regulation regarding meetings in the *CPSA*, Section 43, the Board shall hold at least four meetings each year.