



**BY-LAW NO. 473-2024**

**A BY-LAW RESPECTING  
COMMUNITY PATROL**

**1. PREAMBLE**

- 1.1 WHEREAS subsection 37 (1) of the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, ("CSPA")* provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by Section 10 of the CSPA;
- 1.2 AND WHEREAS subsection 38 (2) of the CSPA provides that a Police Service Board may establish policies respecting matters related to the Police Service or the provision of policing;
- 1.3 AND WHEREAS subsection 39 (1) of the CSPA requires the Board's Strategic Plan include quantitative and qualitative performance objectives and indicators of outcomes relating to, inter alia, community patrol;
- 1.4 AND WHEREAS O. Reg. 392/23: Adequacy and Effective Policing (General) prescribes standards for adequacy and effectiveness of police services;
- 1.5 AND WHEREAS the Board has deemed it appropriate and consistent with the principles set out in Section 1 of the CSPA, with its objectives and priorities determined pursuant to Section 37 and 38 of the CSPA to provide community patrol consisting of General Patrol and Directed Patrol;
- 1.6 AND WHEREAS the Board has deemed it appropriate and consistent with the principles set out in Section 1 of the CSPA, with its objectives and priorities determined pursuant to Section 37 and 38 of the CSPA to establish procedures and processes on community patrol which address when and where Directed Patrol is considered necessary or appropriate, based on such factors as crime, call and public disorder analysis, criminal intelligence and road safety;
- 1.7 AND WHEREAS the Board has deemed it appropriate that it establish a policy on community patrol;
- 1.8 AND WHEREAS the Ministry has published a Policing Standards Manual which provides direction to the Board in respect of certain administrative and personnel issues;
- 1.9 AND WHEREAS community policing including community patrol is of the highest priority to the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Service Board.

NOW THEREFORE THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA POLICE SERVICE BOARD ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

## **2. DEFINITIONS**

- 2.1 “Act” or “CSPA” means the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1*, and amendments thereto;
- 2.2 “Association” means the Niagara Region Police Association;
- 2.3 “Board” means the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Service Board;
- 2.4 “Chief” means the Chief of the Niagara Regional Police Service;
- 2.5 “Community Patrol” means General Patrol and Directed Patrol;
- 2.6 “Cost of Directed Patrol” means those costs associated with the deployment of members on Directed Patrol where members are brought in on overtime for deployment;
- 2.7 “Directed Patrol” means those members of the patrol unit deployed in the areas and at the times where it is considered necessary of appropriate based on crime, call and public disorder analysis, criminal intelligence and road safety, but does not include members working on a privately funded project as described in By-law 424-2024;
- 2.8 “General Patrol” means those members of the patrol unit responsible for responding to calls for service, follow-up for calls, preventative presence, and community policing;
- 2.9 “Manual” means the Policing Standards Manual published by the Ministry of the Solicitor General;
- 2.10 “Member” means a member of the Niagara Regional Police Service;
- 2.11 “Minimum Staffing Numbers” means the number of patrol officers as agreed between the Board and the Association, on the advice of the Chief, who will be on duty at specified times;
- 2.12 “Peak Period” means the hours between 6:00 pm and 3:00 am;
- 2.13 “Service” means the Niagara Regional Police Service.

## **3 BOARD POLICY**

- 3.1 Public safety, quality of life and the prevention of crime are of the utmost importance to the Board, and it is therefore the policy of this Board that community patrol procedures be established by the Chief as directed in this By-law.

## **4 DIRECTION TO THE CHIEF**

### **4.1 PROTOCOL ON COMMUNITY PATROL**

- 4.1.1 The Chief shall establish a protocol on Community Patrol which shall provide appropriate direction to patrol officers, and which shall include procedure on General Patrol and Directed Patrol as described in 3.2 and 3.3.

4.2 GENERAL PATROL

4.2.1 Peak Periods

The Chief shall ensure that there are sufficient Members on General Patrol to meet or exceed Minimum Staffing Numbers at Peak Periods as agreed between the Board and the Association from time to time.

4.2.2 Non-Peak Periods

The Chief shall ensure that there are sufficient Members on General Patrol to ensure that the duties outlined in the definition of General Patrol are met during Non-Peak Periods, subject to any agreement in writing with the Association.

4.3 DIRECTED PATROL

4.3.1 The Chief shall develop a procedure relating to the deployment of Members on Directed Patrol.

4.3.2 The procedure referred to in paragraph 4.3.1 above shall include the protocol to be followed by a Supervisor for approval for the deployment of Members on Directed Patrol.

4.3.3 The Chief shall ensure that the procedure for deployment referred to in paragraph 4.3.1 above for the deployment of Members on Directed Patrol is followed.

4.3.4 The Chief shall ensure written arrangements are in place with other police services to obtain assistance or support in enhancing Directed Patrol in extraordinary circumstances.

**5 REPORT TO THE BOARD**

5.1 The Chief shall make a written report to the Board on or before August 30<sup>th</sup> of each year in respect of community patrol. The report shall include:

- (a) confirmation of compliance with the Directed Patrol procedure;
- (b) the high and low numbers of Members assigned to the patrol unit, with particulars and reasons for any period that the patrol unit numbers were less than those required under Section 4.3.1;
- (c) costs of Directed Patrol; and
- (d) the status of the outcome of the Directed Patrol initiative including the effect of Directed Patrol on crime, calls for service, public disorder analysis and road safety.

**6. IMPLEMENTATION**

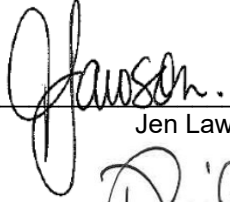
6.1 By-law No. 193-2000 and all other By-laws, sections of By-laws and procedural policies of the Board inconsistent with the provisions of this By-law are hereby repealed effective March 31, 2024.


6.2 This By-law shall come into force on April 1, 2024.

6.3 The Chief shall implement this By-law, where applicable, through General Order.

ENACTED AND PASSED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2024.

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA POLICE SERVICE BOARD

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jen Lawson, Chair

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deb Reid, Executive Director

**Attachment (1)**

## Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

Section 4(2) of the Adequacy Standards Regulation requires a police service, using its own police officers, to provide community patrol consisting of:

- general patrol; and
- directed patrol in the areas and at the times where it is considered necessary or appropriate.

Section 29 of the regulation requires a police services board to have a policy on community patrol. In addition, section 4(3) requires the Chief of Police to establish procedures and processes relating to community patrol which address when and where directed patrol is considered necessary or appropriate, based on such factors as crime, call and public disorder analysis, criminal intelligence and road safety.

Furthermore, section 4(4) allows a police service to obtain the assistance or support of another police service to enhance its capacity to undertake community patrol under extraordinary circumstances.

## Sample Board Policy

Board Policy # \_\_\_\_\_

It is the policy of the \_\_\_\_\_ Police Services Board with respect to community patrol that the Chief of Police will:

- a) establish procedures and processes on community patrol, including when directed patrol is considered necessary or appropriate based on such factors as crime, call and public disorder analysis, criminal intelligence and road safety; and
- b) ensure that written arrangements are in place with other police services to obtain their assistance or support in enhancing the community patrol function in extraordinary circumstances.

## Police Service Guidelines

- Procedures*
1. Every police service's procedures and processes on community patrol should address:
    - a) general patrol; and
    - b) directed patrol.

2. Every police service's procedures and processes on community patrol should require supervisors to:
  - a) use directed patrol in the areas and at the times where it is necessary or appropriate, based on crime, call, public disorder analysis, criminal intelligence and road safety; and
  - b) ensure that patrol officers are provided with relevant information to undertake the type of directed patrol that they have been assigned.
  
3. Every police service's procedures should set out the process for obtaining assistance or support from one or more police services to enhance the community patrol function in extraordinary circumstances in accordance with the written arrangements that are in place with those police services.