

Burnaby
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Members of the Community Policing Committee,

Re: The Canadian Association of Police Governance

I would like to take a moment on behalf of the Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG) to reach out to your organization and introduce the CAPG and the work we do.

Founded in 1989 with a vision of being a strong, national voice for civilian governance of policing, the CAPG has since grown to represent over 75% of municipal police services in Canada. Our mission is to work collaboratively and proactively to improve police governance in Canada and to bring about change that will enhance public safety for all Canadians.

We understand that in your role as the municipal representatives who hold your police to account to the citizens of your community, your oversight mechanisms are slightly different from regular police boards or commissions. We also know that in order to achieve the best effective police accountability, our members really benefit from an exchange of information, sharing of resources, policies and best practices.

CAPG's members include municipalities that contract the RCMP as their municipal service and they actively use their membership by attending the annual conference, posing questions to their fellow members through CAPG on some of the challenges they face that might produce a best practice that is then shared nationally.

With the multiple policing service delivery models currently operating in Canada, one of the key challenges facing Canadian policing services is the integration of police efforts and resources across jurisdictions. Aligning policy and operational realities has become a key focus for organizations looking to improving police effectiveness, refining the accuracy of police-reported data, and lowering the costs of policing to Canadian citizens.

With the recent recommendations from the Independent Review of the Moncton shootings, there is a push to deliver better training, additional equipment, and more robust mental health support to RCMP officers. The rising costs of policing create challenges in providing the needed services, training and equipment whilst promoting a sustainable service model. Now more than ever, governance structures and police administration in Canada needs to progress towards innovative and effective models that will promote sustainability, transparency, and public safety for all Canadians. The CAPG believes this can start by engaging in a National conversation of effective models of policing and police governance.

Last year was a fruitful one for our organization, with a number of successes and many new developments. In keeping with our mandate to share and collect information, we are engaged with Public Safety Canada's Shared Forward Agenda Steering Committee that is working on the Economics of Policing & Community Safety file. We remain committed to continue the work of the Coalition for Sustainable Public Policing; a group that includes the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Canadian Police Association (CPA) and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP).

Last August in Halifax, Nova Scotia we celebrated a milestone of 25 years of achieving high standards as the national voice of civilian governance for policing excellence in Canada. At the same time, we expanded our board of directors, all of whom are

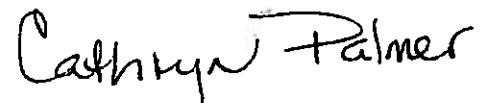
eager to engage with our members, partners and stakeholders in representing the public interest. Our delegates were also able to explore Halifax's unique model of cooperative policing between the Halifax District RCMP and Halifax Regional Police, which uses a joint management strategy and has developed shared priorities to optimize the use of police resources.

We hope to accomplish even more in 2015. Our Annual Conference, taking place in York Region next August 27 to 29th, will see a number of high-profile speakers that are sure to energize our attendees and provide them with the tools they need to create positive change. Our website is expanding to include a searchable database where our members can find policies and best practice guides for a wide range of issues. We have recently launched an educational monthly webinar series that will provide training on a variety of topics.

I would like to invite you to consider becoming a member of the CAPG this year. We believe that a collaborative approach between our organizations encourages positive results on the municipal, provincial and national levels.

I welcome you to explore our exciting new services and benefits we will be offering our members in 2015, including discounted webinar training, discounted Conference and Summit rates, access to our national network, our community calendar and much more. Visit our website for more information on [Member Benefits](#).

Again, on behalf of the CAPG Board of Directors, we firmly believe that together we can help improve police governance and public safety across Canada. Your membership to CAPG is one step towards achieving that goal.



Cathryn Palmer, President
Canadian Association of Police Governance