



Chair Lindell Smith, Councillor  
Halifax Board of Police Commissioners  
PO Box 1749  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

July 20, 2021

**RE: Serious concerns regarding information sharing during an active police conduct investigation**

Dear Chair Smith,

I am writing to you today regarding an email sent regarding an active police complaint that was sent to some Halifax Regional Councillors regarding by the Acting Chief Officer of the Halifax Division on Sunday July 18 (attached).

In summary my concerns are:

1. the complaint process will run per the Police Act and this update may have been inappropriate while that independent process plays out;
2. Under the Police Act (NS) RCMP is responsible to the BOPC, not Council, as far as this goes given complaints are not a direct BOPC responsibility;
3. sending this update to "RCMP" district councillors not all councillors is potentially divisive. RCMP is one of two police forces serving the region, overseen by BOPC, and all of Council votes on the RCMP contract and budget.

While unusual I believe the BOPC is would be within its mandate as the Police Advisory Committee for Halifax to review these actions and provide recommendations to the Chief Officer of the RCMP per section 66 and 68 of the Police Act (NS), specifically:

*66 On behalf of the advisory board, the board chair or the chair's delegate may, in accordance with an agreement made pursuant to clause 36(1)(b), give advice in writing to the chief officer, but not to other members of the police department and, for greater certainty, no other member of the board shall give advice or direction to a member of the police department.*

HALIFAX REGIONAL  
MUNICIPALITY

July 20, 2021

MUNICIPAL CLERK

**Municipal Clerks Office**

**Date Distributed:** September 17, 2021

BOPC, STAFF, Solicitor

**Other:**

*68(3)(c) ensure that community needs and values are reflected in policing priorities, objectives, goals, programs and strategies;*

*(d) ensure that police services are delivered in a manner consistent with community values, needs and expectations;*

*(e) act as a conduit between the community and the police department;*

I also note that the BOPC acting as the PAC has under s 68(2)(g) the right to “review with the chief officer or the chief officer’s designate information provided by the chief officer respecting complaints and internal discipline.”

Given the unprecedented sensitivity around the current complaint involving RCMP and a senior HRP officer and a candidate for political office, I believe the BOPC should require the Chief Officer be required to review this case with the Board upon completion of the external complaint investigation.

Finally, I urge the BOPC to consider adoption a communication policy for both forces so it is clear what type of info should be shared with which decision making body, and when.

Yours,

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CC: CAO  
Municipal Soliciter  
Municipal Clerk (for distribution to the Board)

**Subject:** (none)  
**Date:** Saturday, July 17, 2021 at 8:36:08 AM Atlantic Daylight Time  
**From:** Mason, Wayne  
**Attachments:** image001.png

**From:** Landry, Jeremie <[Jeremie.Landry@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Jeremie.Landry@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 16, 2021 7:40:03 PM  
**To:** Cuttell, Patty <[cuttelp@halifax.ca](mailto:cuttelp@halifax.ca)>; Lovelace, Pam <[lovelap@halifax.ca](mailto:lovelap@halifax.ca)>; Stoddard, Iona <[stoddai@halifax.ca](mailto:stoddai@halifax.ca)>; Russell, Paul <[russelp@halifax.ca](mailto:russelp@halifax.ca)>; Blackburn, Lisa <[blackbl@halifax.ca](mailto:blackbl@halifax.ca)>; DeagleGammon, Cathy <[deaglec@halifax.ca](mailto:deaglec@halifax.ca)>; Hendsbee, David <[hendsbd@halifax.ca](mailto:hendsbd@halifax.ca)>; Kent, Becky <[kentb@halifax.ca](mailto:kentb@halifax.ca)>; Purdy, Trish <[purdyt@halifax.ca](mailto:purdyt@halifax.ca)>  
**Subject:** [External Email] Media Article

*[This email has been received from an external person or system]*

Good evening Councillors,

As the acting Officer in Charge for Halifax District RCMP, in the absence of C/Supt. Gray who is currently on holidays, I wanted you to hear directly from me on this. Undoubtedly you have already heard about the incident involving [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], we have video footage from an HRM Transit Bus, that was facing the traffic stop at the time of the incident. [REDACTED] were operating a [REDACTED]. The vehicle driven by [REDACTED] matched the fleeing suspect vehicle description from the shooting perfectly. Unequivocally, at no time, were any firearms pointed at them. [REDACTED] announced who [REDACTED] was immediately upon exiting [REDACTED] vehicle and the involved officer immediately recognized [REDACTED] and the high risk stop was quickly concluded. [REDACTED].

**Here is the RCMP release that was issued to the media:**

*The high risk traffic stop was initiated in relation to an unfolding event, a shooting that had just occurred in a nearby community, where the suspect vehicle fleeing the scene was reported to be a white SUV, with an out of province license plate and tinted windows. The high risk traffic stop involved a vehicle that matched the suspect vehicle description, with an out of province licence plate, that was coming from the direction of the nearby community.*

*Halifax District Operations Officers have examined the traffic stop and the actions of our members. From the information we have gathered, the traffic stop and the tactics employed by our members were in line with RCMP policy and training. Additionally, our members ensured a safe outcome to a very stressful situation, through a professional and measured response. We can confirm a gun was drawn but not pointed at anyone during the traffic stop. We have received a complaint related to the traffic stop, which we take very seriously. The complaint has been provided to our Professional Responsibilities Unit and a public complaint file has been opened for thorough investigation. Should new information come to light through this investigation, we will take any and all appropriate actions.*

One of the media articles is below, with the RCMP position captured at the bottom.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/8033927/black-halifax-police-officer-racial-profiling/>

\*\* Please note: the redactions on this page were made in accordance with Sections 475(1)(a) and 475(1)(c) of the Municipal Government Act.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

Jeremie



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE - GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

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