

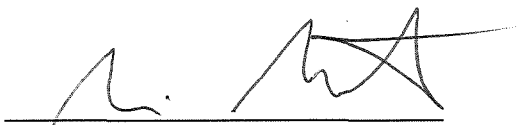
HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

- RECOMMENDATION -

DATE: September 3, 2020
REPORT TO: Chair and Members
Hamilton Police Services Board
FROM: Eric Girt
Chief of Police
SUBJECT: *Internet Child Exploitation Investigator Contribution Agreement*
PSB 20-066

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- a) That the Chief, on behalf of the Board, enter into an agreement with Her Majesty the Queen in the Right of Ontario as represented by the Solicitor General operating through the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), by which one (1) officer of the Hamilton Police Service will be partially funded for the purpose of building local capacity of the Internet Child Exploitation Unit for a 6 month term, commencing October 1, 2020.
- b) That the Chief be authorized and directed to enter into said Amending Agreement in a form satisfactory to the Hamilton Police Service Legal Counsel.


Eric Girt
Chief of Police

FINANCIAL / STAFFING / LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

FINANCIAL – The terms of the Transfer Payment Agreement provide that the Hamilton Police Service will receive two payments towards partially funding a new investigator assigned to the Internet Child Exploitation Unit. The identified officer's wages, including payment for overtime, benefits and certain allowances, continue to be provided by the Board throughout the term. Term one identified as October 1 to December 31, 2020 and term two, January 1 to March 31, 2021.

Scheduled payment per term	\$27,250.00
Maximum Funding Total	\$54,500.00

STAFFING – One (1) Detective Constable will be assigned as an additional investigator to the Internet Child Exploitation Unit of the Hamilton Police Service and will be seconded for the specified term and will work out of the HPS office.

LEGAL – The Agreement is for six (6) months, commencing October 1, 2020. This is a standard grant agreement that has been reviewed and approved by legal counsel to the Chief.

BACKGROUND:

The Hamilton Police Service has been provided an opportunity to build our Internet Child Exploitation unit capacity to combat child sexual exploitation online. This is federally funded, but administered through the OPP.

The purpose of the Provincial Strategy is to combat child sexual exploitation in Ontario through a coordinated multi-agency approach to investigate internet child exploitation leading to increased charges and prosecutions, and reduced victimization of children. Utilizing relationships built as part of the Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet, participating agencies have identified a need and willingness to take part in this initiative.

The Provincial Strategy will assist child victims of Internet sexual abuse and exploitation, and permit the justice system to build the capacity and sustainability to:

- Identify child victims through image analysis;
- Provide specialized child victim support;
- Identify and prosecute offenders which will assist in preventing children from being re-victimized;
- Educate via awareness campaigns to assist victims to self-identify and thereby prevent both victimization and re-victimization (self-identification);
- Engage in partnerships with key stakeholders, which will establish and maintain community and justice system linkages ensuring the reporting and prosecution of offences with a link to victim support.

The Provincial Strategy, as an integrated model, will assist police services in coordinating the increased identification of victims, provide support services to victims of child pornography and exploitation, and assist in preventing the cycle of recurring victimization.

EG/PH

cc: Frank Bergen, Deputy Chief – Operations
Paul Hamilton, Superintendent – Investigative Services Division
Marco Visentini, Legal Counsel
John Randazzo, Director – Finance
Leanne Sneddon, Director – Human Resources