

**Minutes**  
**Northumberland OPP Detachment Board**

Friday November 21, 2025

9:00am

The Township of Cramahe Municipal Office  
1 Toronto Street  
Colborne, On  
K0K 1S0

**The following individuals were present for this meeting:**

- Chairperson John Davison
- Vice Chairperson Lou Rinaldi
- Board Member Sandra Arthur
- Board Member Rob Pope
- Board Member John Logel
- Board Member Brian Ostrander
- Board Member Erik Kowal
- Board Member Bob McComb
- Northumberland OPP Detachment Commander Mike Cavanagh
- Northumberland OPP Staff Sergeant Paul McDonald
- Acting Detective Sergeant (name withheld) OPP Street Crimes Unit

Absent by notification: Board Member Jason Marsden and Board Member Peter Gillespie

**Call to Order**

Chairperson John Davison called the meeting to order at 9:04am

**Land Acknowledgement Statement**

“We respectfully acknowledge that Northumberland County is located on the Mississauga Anishinaabeg territory and is the traditional territory of the Mississauga Anishinaabeg. The Northumberland OPP Detachment Board respectfully acknowledges that the Mississauga Nation are the collective stewards of these lands and waters in perpetuity, and that they continue this responsibility to ensure the health and integrity for generations to come”

**Additions to the Agenda**

Board Member Sandra Arthur would like to add 401 Traffic Team to Old Business.

### **Confirmation of the Agenda**

**Moved by:** Rob Pope

**Seconded by:** John Logel

That the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board hereby accepts the agenda for the November 21, 2025 meeting as amended.

**CARRIED**

### **Approval of the Minutes for the month of October 2025**

**Moved by:** Erik Kowal

**Seconded by:** Sandra Arthur

To approve the minutes of the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board meeting of Friday, October 17, 2025.

**CARRIED**

### **Ontario Provincial Police Report for the Month of October 2025**

Acting Detective Sergeant from the OPP Street Crimes Unit discussed with Board Members the roles of the unit and briefed Board Members on local cases they have been involved in. This unit collaborates with other specialized units within the OPP and with other agencies and Police Services for major investigations.

Roles of the OPP Street Crimes Unit include:

- Investigating street level and large complex operations of drug trafficking.
- Property crimes: Investigating break and enter, robberies, auto theft and the recovery of stolen property.
- Identifying and Apprehending Offenders: Using investigation techniques, surveillance, crime analysis to identify repeat, high-risk offenders, track suspects and execute search warrants.
- Managing High Risk Offenders: The Street Crimes Unit works in partnership with other law enforcement agencies to enforce bail and manage high-risk offenders.
- Community Safety: The Street Crimes Unit aims to enhance public safety and community well-being by targeting crimes that have a significant negative impact on the local community.

OPP Detachment Commander Michael Cavanagh reviewed the matters of interest for the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board Members for the month of October 2025. He also provided a summary for each individual Municipality.

**Moved by:** Erik Kowal

**Seconded by:** Sandra Arthur

To approve the Northumberland OPP Provincial Police Report for the month of October as circulated and reviewed.

**CARRIED**

**Correspondence**

1. Email correspondence from the OAPSB Training and Communications Team dated October 27, 2025. Re: New Resource Board Communications Policy Template – Strengthening Transparency and Trust  
Emailed to each NOPP Board Member for information October 27, 2025.  
Receive and file.
  
2. Email correspondence from Northumberland OPP Detachment Commander Michael Cavanagh dated November 10, 2025. Re: Central Region 1 – Northumberland – Action Plan – 2026-2029  
Emailed to each NOPP Board Member for information November 10, 2025. Receive and file.

Board Member Erik Kowal commented that he felt there was a lack of measurable objectives. In this 4-year action plan, the use of terms such as enhance, strengthen, promote, increase, lacks the measurable quantitative values that should be used to assess the plan's objectives. He felt this was concerning, especially as the document mentions the importance of both quantitative and qualitative objectives early on.

Board Member Erik Kowal commented that there was an absence of the NOPP Board partnership in the Action Plan. The lack of mention of the NOPP Board in this Plan reflects a lack of partnership between the OPP and the Board. Furthermore, for a four-year plan, there should be qualitative goals and defined time frames set within this plan, whether they are annual or term objective.

Board Member Erik Kowal commented that he strongly believes we are setting ourselves up for failure without addressing the critical issue of the lack of frontline officers. What is needed is a dedicated action plan focused on getting frontline

members out of the office and performing duties in the field. Currently approximately 40% of their duties involve writing reports which could be handled by support staff at half the cost.

### **New Business**

#### **1. Staffing Query**

Detachment Commander Michael Cavanagh responded to a letter regarding staffing for Northumberland OPP Detachment. Minutes from the NOPP Board meeting dated July 18, 2025 stated that OPP staffing was down 70%. Board Executive Administrator Debbie McBride advised that the wording should have been that OPP staffing was down to 70%. Detachment Commander Michael Cavanagh advised that currently frontline availability is at 73% and will be at 80% by April 2026. Despite the challenges with staffing, every shift is fully staffed across all municipalities, ensuring every municipality receives the personal coverage and service it requires.

#### **2. Board Policies**

1. 0030 Board Member Training
2. 0035 Final Government Framework Memo
3. 0073 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Policy
4. 0075 Final Complaints Policy
5. 0076 Records Management
6. 0080 Crime Analysis
7. 0085 Policy IPV and GBV (Intimate Partner Violence and Gender Based Violence)

Executive Assistant Debbie McBride advised Board Members that Board Policies 0075 Final Complaints Policy, 0030 Board Member Training, and 0076 Records Management were adopted at the May 23, 2025, NOPP Board Meeting. 0085 Policy IPV and GBV was to be reviewed at a later meeting.

**Moved by:** Sandra Arthur

**Seconded by:** John Logel

That the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board adopts Board Policies, 0073 Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Policy, 0076 Records Management, 0080 Crime Analysis, and 0085 Policy IPV and GBV as written.

**CARRIED**

### **Old Business**

1. Website

Executive Administrator Debbie McBride advised Board Members that Northumberland County will be creating and maintaining the Board's webpage on the Northumberland County website. Board Members were advised that the webpage once created could be up and running within 2 weeks. Maintenance fees per month would be approximately 60.00.

2. Traffic Team

Board Member Sandra Arthur recommends that the Board should continue to lobby the Provincial Government for funding to have a dedicated Traffic Team for the 401 in Northumberland County.

Chairperson John Davison advised Board Members that MPP David Piccini discussed the concerns that were presented to him at the October 17, 2025, meeting with the Minister of Transportation, Prabmeet Sakaria.

Board Member Brian Ostrander advised Board Members that the Municipality of Brighton's CAO Elana Arthurs, wants to partner with other CAOs on delegations for these concerns.

**Closed Session**

None

**Next Meeting**

Board Member Mayor Brian Ostrander made a motion to cancel the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board Meeting for December and accept the proposed meeting dates for 2026.

Friday January 16, 2026, 9:00am, hosted by the Municipality of Brighton  
Friday March 20, 2026, 9:00am hosted by the Township of Alnwick/Haldimand  
Friday May 15, 2026, 9:00am hosted by the Township of Hamilton  
Friday June 19, 2026, 9:00am hosted by Alderville First Nations  
Friday September 18, 2026, 9:00am hosted by the Township of Cramahe  
Friday November 20, 2026, 9:00am hosted by the Municipality of Trent Hills

**Moved by:** Brian Ostrander

**Seconded by:** Sandra Arthur

To cancel the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board meeting for Friday December 19, 2025, and accept the proposed meeting schedule for 2026.

**CARRIED**

**Adjournment**

**Moved by:** Erik Kowal

**Seconded by:** Sandra Arthur

That there being no further business before the Northumberland OPP Detachment Board the meeting is hereby adjourned at 10:50am.

**CARRIED**