

July 30th, 2014

Honourable Yasir Naqvi
Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
George Drew Building, 18th Floor
25 Grosvenor Street
Toronto, ON
M7A 1Y6

Dear Minister Naqvi:

Re: Extending Provincial Appointments Until Replaced

Ontario's police services boards play a vital role in ensuring that police services reflect the needs, objectives and values of the communities they serve. Many boards, however, are short serving board members – often because provincial appointments expire before replacements are named or commence their duties. Accordingly, the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards (OAPSB) passed the following resolution at its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in May of this year:

2014 – 06 **Therefore be it resolved** that the OAPSB request that the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services amend the appointment terms to continue "until the date a named replacement's appointment begins", for all Provincial appointees to police services boards.

I am writing to seek your and the Liberal government's action in implementing such a process.

Please find attached a copy of the full resolution with preamble and supplemental information presented to the voting delegates at our AGM. Do not hesitate to contact me or our Executive Director, Fred Kaustinen, should you require any additional information or wish to discuss this resolution further.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. I look forward to hearing from you on this matter.

Sincerely,



Ken East
President



Office of the Minister

Bureau du ministre

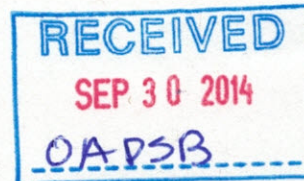
25 Grosvenor Street
18th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tel: 416-325-0408
Fax: 416-325-6067

25, rue Grosvenor
18^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 1Y6
Tél. : 416-325-0408
Téléc. : 416-325-6067

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Mr. Ken East, President
Ontario Association of Police Services Boards
10 Peel Centre Drive, Suite A, 1st Floor
Brampton ON L6T 4B9



Emailed to
Ken
Fred.

Dear Mr. East: *Ken*

Thank you for your letter of July 30, 2014, regarding extending provincial appointments to police services boards until a replacement is named. I am pleased to respond.

Most appointments made by Lieutenant Governor in Council do specify an end date on the Order-in-Council (OIC), for a number of reasons. Most importantly, it is to ensure that appointment opportunities are continuously available to the Ontario public, and that we are able to appoint the best person for the role. As you know, in 2011, acting on a request from the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the government increased the maximum appointment term for provincial appointees to police services boards from six years to eight.

While appointing provincial members to police services boards can be a lengthy process, we recognize that there have been delays in filling vacancies and that there are several long-standing vacancies across the province. In addition to interviewing candidates, conducting comprehensive background checks on potential appointees, and the OIC process, one of the biggest challenges the ministry faces is a lack of qualified candidates in some regions of the province.

The ministry is taking immediate steps to address these issues. For instance, it is developing a plan to better engage with our partners at the local level to advertise vacancies and garner interest in police services board appointments. The ministry also has a process to ensure that those boards at risk of not meeting quorum, for instance, are addressed as a priority. Where possible, we also approve temporary appointments while OICs are being processed to reduce any gap in a provincial appointment position.

As you are aware, one of the goals of the Future of Policing Project is effective governance and oversight. Length of terms of police services board appointments may be part of this discussion. As a member of the Future of Policing Advisory Committee, your organization may wish to raise this issue as part of that process.

Should you have any other questions or concerns about appointments, please feel free to contact Ms. Aiesha Zafar, Manager of the Operations Unit, at (416) 326-9347.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Yasir Naqvi
Minister

