Office of the Police Commissioner



May 12, 2025

Honourable Bloyce Thompson Minister of Justice and Public Safety 95 Rochford Street, PO Box 2000 Charlottetown, PE C1A 7N8

Minister:

Please find enclosed the Annual Report with respect to the operations of the Office of the Police Commissioner during the year 2024. This report is submitted in accordance with s.19 of the *Police Act*.

There is excellent compliance by police agencies with Ministerial Directives.

In June of 2024, our office requested that an Adjudicator be appointed to conduct an adjudication. Consequently, Executive Council appointed Mr. Justice Wayne D. Cheverie (ret'd) to act as Adjudicator commencing on July 2, 2024. A Notice was sent to him dated July 8, 2024 requesting an Adjudication. That matter remains ongoing.

A preliminary issue arose as to the officers to whom the Adjudication would apply. Three of those officers had resigned active duty with a police service under the jurisdiction of the *Police Act*, and accepted employment with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Adjudicator released a decision on this preliminary issue on March 31, 2025 finding that the Adjudication continued to apply to the officers who had resigned.

The Annual Report will be posted on the Police Commissioner's website and circulated to the various police services no later than June 6, 2025. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Yours very truly,

Cyndria L. Wedge, K.C.

Police Commissioner

Cc Brody Connolly
Alexis Triantafillou



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER FOR 2024

The Police Commissioner is a corporation sole established under Part VI of the *Police Act*, R.S.P.E.I. 1988, cap.P-11.1 (the *Act*).

The Office of the Police Commissioner (OPC) deals with Complaints and Requests for Review under Parts VII and VIII of the *Act*, and any other matters assigned to the Police Commissioner under s.18(1) of the *Act*.

Section 19 of the *Act* requires the Police Commissioner to file an annual report for the preceding calendar year with the Attorney General within six months after the end of each calendar year.

This is the Police Commissioner's Report for the year 2024.

- 1) The OPC provided oversight to a total of 9 complaints from the public in 2024. Four were received via the web platform of the OPC. Five were received via either direct contact or email.
- 2) The 9 complaints received were resolved in the following manner:
 - a. Five were deemed to be unfounded;
 - b. Two were outside of the reporting period;
 - c. One was determined to be founded. However, the officer had resigned since the incident and was no longer under the jurisdiction of the Chief Officer;
 - d. One was determined to be a scam.
- 3) Of the 9 complaints, 5 matters were referred to a Chief Officer for investigation.
- 4) There were no requests for a review of a decision of a Chief Officer regarding a complaint received in 2024. However, a review of a decision from 2023 was active at the time of the last Annual Report (for 2023). That review was completed in 2024 resulting in a referral to an Adjudicator for an adjudication. That matter remains ongoing.
- 5) The OPC provided assistance to telephone callers on 58 occasions. Fifty-two calls were individuals who required guidance on a variety of matters, ie how to obtain a criminal record check, the avenue to follow for making complaints against various

entities outside the purview of the OPC, fingerprinting, or requesting a police file. Three calls were from individuals wishing to express displeasure regarding a specific police action, but not wishing to make a formal complaint. Two calls were seeking advice, and one call was a matter that was informally resolved.

- 6) One of the complaints received in 2024 involved an allegation of criminal conduct. However, the matter was referred by the investigating agency to the Crown Attorneys' Office which determined that criminal charges were not warranted.
- 7) The OPC conducts audits to determine ministerial directive compliance of municipal police services in Charlottetown, Summerside, Kensington, the Provincial Conservation Officers and the Atlantic Police Academy. The audit reports are available on the OPC website at https://www.policecommissioner.pe.ca/reports.
- 8) There is excellent compliance with Ministerial Directives.
- 9) In summary form, the following information meets the statutory requirements for this Annual Report pursuant to s.19 of the *Act*:
 - Number and nature of requests under s.28 to review the decision of a Chief Officer to dismiss a complaint: None [see para.4 above];
 - b. Number and nature of complaints under s.35 made concerning the conduct of a Chief Officer: None;
 - c. Number and nature of investigations under ss.29 and 40: None:
 - d. Number of decisions under s.32(8) and 43(8): None*;
 - e. Number and nature of informal resolutions after request for review under s.29(2) or 40(2): None;
 - f. Number and nature of decisions made under s.29(3), 40(3), 39(1) or 39(2): One decision was made pursuant to s.29(3) to refer a complaint to an Adjudicator for a hearing.
- 10) The OPC continues to be a member of the Canadian Association for Civilian Oversight in Law Enforcement (CACOLE). The Manager attended the annual CACOLE Conference in Calgary, Alberta on May 27, 28 and 29, 2024.

^{*}Section 32(8) references "a decision in respect of the matter". Contextually, it appears this is a reference to a final decision on an Adjudication. None were received in 2024. However, on March 31, 2025 the Adjudicator released a decision on a preliminary matter regarding a complaint that was made in 2023 and referred to an Adjudication in 2024.

11) The following is a summary of the expenditures of the OPC during the calendar year 2024:

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this /2 day of May, 2025.

Cyndria L. Wedge, K.C. Police Commissioner