



## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE POLICE COMMISSIONER FOR 2025

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(l) 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 2025. There are five sections to this report:

- I Complaints,
- II Audits,
- III Staffing & Training,
- IV Formal Adjudication, and
- V Financial.

### **I COMPLAINTS**

The OPC provided oversight to a total of 14 complaints from the public in 2025. Seven were received via the web platform of the OPC. Five were received via either direct contact or email. Two were referred to the OPC by the police service that received the initial complaint.

The 14 received complaints were resolved in the following manner:

- a. 13 were determined to be unfounded;
- b. 1 was founded.

Of the total of 14 complaints, 12 matters were referred to a Chief Officer for investigation. One matter was referred to the RCMP as it was a complaint against a Chief Officer. The final matter was determined to be an RCMP issue rather than a municipal police issue.

The founded complaint was with respect to two officers and found that those officers failed to promptly and diligently perform their duties as police officers. The chief officer issued verbal reprimands to correct and educate the officers.

There were three requests for a review of a decision of a Chief Officer regarding a complaint. All of these matters were reviewed by the OPC Manager resulting in the review being dismissed. The Chief Officer's decision in each case was found to be appropriate.

The OPC provided assistance to telephone callers on 60 occasions. Fifty of these calls were individuals who required guidance on a variety of matters, such as how to obtain a criminal record check or how to advance a complaint of criminal activity. Eight calls related to the jurisdiction of the OPC. One call was from an individual who appeared to be mentally ill and could not engage in reasonable conversation. Another call dealt with a FOIPP request to the OPC. The OPC held no information as requested.

None of the complaints received in 2025 involved an allegation of criminal conduct.

In summary form, the following information meets the statutory requirements for this Annual Report pursuant to s.19 of the *Act*:

- a. Number and nature of requests under s.28 to review the decision of a Chief Officer to dismiss a complaint: Three requests received;
- b. Number and nature of complaints under s.35 concerning the conduct of a Chief Officer: One
- c. Number and nature of investigations under ss.29 and 40: Three;
- 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): None.

## **II AUDITS**

The Province of Prince Edward Island adopted new Policing Standards effective December 9, 2025. The new standards make it the responsibility of the Department of Justice and Public Safety to evaluate police performance through compliance audits and directed reviews.

Prior to the implementation of the new Policing Standards, the Minister had issued directives to police agencies regarding their operations. It had been the responsibility of the OPC to audit police agencies to ensure compliance with those directives. This responsibility ceased with the implementation of the new Policing Standards on December 9, 2025.

Based on the above, the OPC conducted audits to determine ministerial directive compliance of municipal police services in Charlottetown, Summerside, Kensington, the Provincial Conservation Officers, and the Atlantic Police Academy for the time period January 1, 2025 to December 9, 2025. The audit reports are available on the OPC website at <https://www.policecommissioner.pe.ca/reports>.

There has been excellent compliance with Ministerial Directives.

### **III STAFFING & TRAINING**

The OPC continues to be a member of the Canadian Association for Civilian Oversight in Law Enforcement (CACOLE). The Police Commissioner and the Manager attended the annual CACOLE Conference in Fredericton, N.B. on June 02, 03 and 04, 2025. The Manager attended the annual Heads of Oversight Agencies meeting in Ottawa on October 22 and 23, 2025.

The Police Commissioner is Cyndria L. Wedge, K.C. who has been appointed for the term August 24, 2021 to August 24, 2026. The current Police Commissioner will not be continuing for a further term.

The Deputy Police Commissioner is Pamela Stewart who has been appointed for the term of May 17, 2022 to May 17, 2027. The Office Manager/Investigator is Alexis Triantafillou. He has held that position since 2022.

### **IV FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

The first formal adjudication to be held under the *Police Act* took place in Charlottetown between February 09 and February 13, 2026. This Annual Report is for the calendar year 2025. However, as the current Police Commissioner will not occupy the position when the annual report for 2026 is prepared, comments are contained herein on the Adjudication that took place in February of 2026.

Some aspects of the hearing worked very well. The adjudication was held in the Sir Louis Henry Davies Law Courts in Charlottetown. It was open to the public and easily accessible by anyone who wished to attend. This contributed substantially to a transparency to the proceedings.

All parties were represented by experienced counsel who ensured that all issues were fully canvassed. The adjudicator was a former Supreme Court Judge thereby guaranteeing impartiality.

One of the purposes behind the *Police Act* is to create a mechanism that provides civilian oversight to complaints against police officers. In essence, the *Act* worked as intended in that a fair and impartial process was brought to bear to examine a complaint by a member of the public against police officers. Undoubtedly there are some individuals who are pleased with the outcome, and some individuals who are not so pleased. However, the process itself was, in the opinion of the Police Commissioner, a fair one.

There are two other aspects of the adjudication that should be addressed. They are cost and timeliness.

The conduct giving rise to the complaint occurred in January of 2023. The hearing was held three years later. The complexity of the proceeding as well as the number of police officers involved contributed to the delay in having the adjudication heard on its merits. The management of future adjudications should be conducted in such a way as to have them heard on their merits as quickly as is fairly possible to all parties.

Adjudications are costly. Insufficient funding was available in the OPC budget to cover the costs. Therefore, arrangements were made with the Department of Justice and Public Safety to have that Department cover the costs. Billings were funneled through the OPC with ultimate payment being made by the Department. As such, the costs are not listed within the OPC budget that is outlined in the next section.

Costs of the adjudication that have been funneled through the OPC in the manner previously outlined, to and including June 8, 2026, are as follows:

Legal Fees	\$73,229.29
Transcription	\$ 1,924.07
Printing	\$ 1,291.58
Stationary	\$ 178.16
Postage/Couriers	\$ <u>84.52</u>
TOTAL	\$76,707.62

## **V FINANCIAL**

The following is a summary of the expenditures of the OPC during the calendar year 2025:

### **Office of the Police Commissioner Expense Report 2025**

Wages & Salaries	\$ 78,910.00
EI Expense	\$ 1,811.69
CPP Expense	\$ 4,253.84
Accounting & Legal	\$ 9,600.00
Cleaning	\$ 277.64

Computer Equipment & Supplies	\$ 451.49
Conference Registration Fees	\$ 2,683.08
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 240.49
Office Supplies	\$ 3,240.94
Memberships	\$ 750.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 92.00
Postage	\$ 409.49
Tribunal Expenses	\$ 24.50
Publications	\$ 1,046.88
Rent	\$ 29,190.00
Telephone & Fax	\$ 3,317.56
Training & Development	\$ 35.00
Travel – In Province	\$ 2,564.91
Travel – Out of Province	\$ 5,211.57
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$144,111.08</b>

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED this 8th day of June, 2026.

  
Cyndria L. Wedge, K.C.  
Police Commissioner