



June 13, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chair and Members of the Commission

FROM: Joe Rodgers, Executive Director  
Edmonton Police Commission

SUBJECT: EPC Major Event Policing Policy

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**Recommendation**

That the Commission approve the attached Edmonton Police Commission Major Event Policing policy.

**Introduction**

The G20 Summit held in Toronto in June 2010 presented unique policing and security challenges for both the Toronto Police Service and the Toronto Police Services Board (TPSB). Given the scale of the Summit, public safety was provided through a multi-jurisdictional policing team composed of numerous police services from throughout Canada and the Canadian Forces. Various events took place leading up to and during the summit that challenged policing and became the focus of considerable public reaction and debate in Ontario.

Following the Summit, the TPSB commissioned an Independent Civilian Review (ICR) of matters relating to the G20 Summit to specifically examine the role played by the Board and the Police Service in the development and implementation of plans for policing the Summit.

The Honourable John W. Morden was appointed by the TPSB to conduct the review. The final report and the conclusions and recommendations contained in it were presented to the TPSB on June 29, 2012.

**The Morden Report**

The ICR sought to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Board and the Police Service, determine the reasons behind some of the decisions made in planning and policing the Summit, and identify what could be learned from the outcomes.

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In addressing a large number of the issues raised in the review, Judge Morden concluded there should be policy to put clarity and consistency concerning the types of matters about which more detailed information should be provided to the Board by the Police Service and that the Board and Police Service should apply the protocol to engage in a consultation regarding major events or organizationally significant issues at the earliest possible opportunity.

Judge Morden found the Board should be provided with relevant and sufficient information in order to understand the details of a major event and the Board should then work with the Chief of Police to identify the mission, objectives and priorities for the event/issue, the achievement of which will result in the provision of adequate and effective policing to the city. He concluded "the Chief of Police, however, must remain entirely free to accept or reject the Board's recommendations".

### **Edmonton Police Commission Response**

Given the wide-ranging scope of the findings and the 38 recommendations pertaining to governance, oversight and communications presented, the Edmonton Police Commission's Governance Committee discussed the Morden Report with the Deputy Chief Simpson on March 7, 2013. At the April 4, 2013 Governance Committee meeting a Working Group comprised of Commission and EPS representatives was assembled to examine Judge Morden's findings and recommendations to better understand and assess the implications to the Commission. The Working Group met on three occasions to consider the Report, including a discussion of the Group's proposed responses/actions with the Governance Committee on June 6, 2013.

As a result of those discussions and in response to the issues raised by Judge Morden, the Governance Committee determined that the establishment of Commission policy would ensure an open exchange of information between the Commission and the EPS when dealing with Major Event Policing and that this information exchange would provide the Commission with the information and details required to perform its statutory mandate in ensuring efficient and effective policing in Edmonton.

The Governance Committee is recommending to the Commission that it approve the proposed Major Event Policing Policy being presented.



Joe Rodgers  
Executive Director  
Edmonton Police Commission

Attachment



## **COMMISSION POLICY MAJOR EVENT POLICING**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure an open exchange of information between the Commission and the Edmonton Police Service when dealing with “Major Policing Events”. This information exchange will provide the Commission with the information and details required to perform its statutory mandate, specifically that the Service:

- has the necessary policies in place to ensure efficient and effective policing,
- can properly fulfill its regular policing responsibilities during the event, and
- has the necessary resources.

### **MAJOR POLICING EVENT**

For the purposes of this policy, a Major Policing Event is defined as a planned or unplanned event that:

- significantly taxes the Service’s ability to provide basic policing services to the citizens of Edmonton (e.g. ability to respond to emergency calls),
- requires a significant number of police members to assess and manage in excess of those ordinarily on duty (but does not include a Level 2 Incident as defined by EPS policy), or
- an organizationally significant or notable community event that has the potential of disrupting public peace, order or security in a significant way.

Examples of a Major Policing Event may include, but are not limited to:

- civil disturbances
- union conflicts and labour unrest
- public demonstrations involving large or disorderly crowds
- political meetings or protests in a public venue
- an event requiring the participation of other police agencies outside of standing joint operations / work groups or routine enforcement activities
- an event involving emerging local, provincial, national or international issues
- natural and human disasters
- an event that will likely require deployment of the Public Order Unit

This policy also pertains to an event that meets the above criteria where Edmonton Police Service members are providing policing outside the boundaries of the City of Edmonton.

## **NOTIFICATION & REPORTING**

When the potential of a major event/issue is identified, the Chief of Police will notify the Commission at the earliest practical opportunity. Once notified, the Commission, in consultation with the Chief of Police, will establish ongoing reporting requirements pre and post event with respect to the following matters relevant to the type of event:

- the nature of the event (date, time, location, attendance, agencies involved),
- the Service's proposed priorities and objectives,
- legislation, provincial policing standards and risk management considerations,
- funding of the policing requirements (budget, resourcing, MOUs and Agreements),
- command and control structure,
- significant special facility (i.e. detainee management) and equipment requirements,
- whether the Edmonton Police Service is taking planning or operational direction from another entity,
- contingency planning to ensure regular policing requirements are maintained in Edmonton, and
- policy and training issues (development, implementation and compliance).

Where an exigent circumstance arises, in the planning of the event or as the event unfolds, the Chief of Police will notify the Chair or, in his/her absence, the Vice-Chair.

Through this consultation and review process, the Commission may provide recommendations to the Service, however the Chief of Police is free to accept or reject the Commission's recommendations. The Chief of Police maintains the autonomy to develop and execute the appropriate operational plans.