



## THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA SPECIAL COUNCIL ORDER OF BUSINESS

CL 14-2020

Thursday, August 13, 2020

3:00 p.m.

Meeting will be held by electronic participation only

All electronic meetings can be viewed on Niagara Region's Website at:

<https://www.niagararegion.ca/government/council/>

Due to the efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 the Council Chamber will not be open to the public to attend Council meetings until further notice. To view live stream meeting proceedings, please visit: [niagararegion.ca/government/council](https://www.niagararegion.ca/government/council/)

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Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

2.1 Changes in Order of Items

3. DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

4. DELEGATIONS

4.1 Niagara Regional Police Services - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (Agenda Item 6.1)

- |       |   |       |
|-------|---|-------|
| 4.1.1 | Herman Omilgoituk, Resident, City of Welland<br>The delegation submission is attached to this agenda item as CL-C 82-2020.      | 3 - 4 |
| 4.1.2 | Saleh Waziruddin, Niagara Anti-Racism Association<br>The delegation submission is attached to this agenda item as CL-C 83-2020. | 5 - 6 |

5. **CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT(S)**

- 5.1 **CAO 17-2020** 7 - 9  
Niagara's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Update

6. **MOTIONS**

- 6.1 **Niagara Regional Police Services - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion** Sendzik 10 - 14

In accordance with the direction of Regional Council, the motion respecting Niagara Regional Police Services - Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, has been brought forward for consideration at the Special Regional Council meeting being held on August 13, 2020.

*This motion has been revised.*

7. **BY-LAWS**

- 7.1 **Bill 2020-53** 15  
A by-law to adopt, ratify and confirm the actions of Regional Council at its special meeting held on August 13, 2020.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

If you require any accommodations for a disability in order to attend or participate in meetings or events, please contact the Accessibility Advisor at 905-980-6000 ext. 3252 (office), 289-929-8376 (cellphone) or [accessibility@niagararegion.ca](mailto:accessibility@niagararegion.ca) (email).

**From:** [PF-Mailbox-01](#)  
**To:** [Norio, Ann-Marie](#); [Trennum, Matthew](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee  
**Date:** Friday, August 07, 2020 6:55:03 AM

**From:** Niagara Region Website  
**Sent:** Friday, 07 August 2020 06:54:37 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Clerks  
**Subject:** Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee

## Request to Speak at a Standing Committee

To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address)

Name

Herman Omilgoituk

Address

[REDACTED]

City

Welland

Postal

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

standing committee

Regional Council

Presentation Topic

Police

Presentation includes slides

No

Previously presented topic

No

Presentation Details

I was supposed to speak on the 23rd but my phone had problems so I was unable to speak, I want to speak about my personal experiences

Video Consent

Yes



**From:** [PF-Mailbox-01](#)  
**To:** [Norio, Ann-Marie](#); [Trennum, Matthew](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee  
**Date:** Friday, August 07, 2020 6:57:39 AM

**From:** Niagara Region Website  
**Sent:** Friday, 07 August 2020 06:57:33 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Clerks  
**Subject:** Online Form - Request to Speak at a Standing Committee

## Request to Speak at a Standing Committee

To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address)

Name

Saleh Waziruddin

Address

[REDACTED]

City

St. Catharines

Postal

[REDACTED]

Phone

[REDACTED]

Email

[REDACTED]

Organization

Niagara Region Anti-Racism Association

standing committee

Regional Council

Presentation Topic

## Police

Presentation includes slides

No

Previously presented topic

Yes

Presentation only new info

Yes

Presentation Details

I would like to add new information to the discussion about the police

Video Consent

Yes



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## MEMORANDUM

**CAO 17-2020**

**Subject:** Niagara's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Update

**Date:** July 23, 2020

**To:** Regional Council

**From:** Ron Tripp, Acting Chief Administrative Officer

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This memo is intended to provide Council with an update on the development of Niagara's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan and current activities associated with the project during the declaration of COVID-19 as a global pandemic.

At the time of the provincial declaration of a State of Emergency, on March 17, 2020, the development of Niagara's Community Safety and Well-Being was in the first phase of the project: "Identify Priorities". Activities involved in this phase included designing and conducting a community engagement plan, analyzing data from focus groups, surveys and other sources, and establishing priorities to improve safety and well-being in the community. Between February 1, 2020 and March 31, 2020:

- In-person and virtual focus groups elicited feedback from over 150 staff from across 70 different organizations, and over 85 clients/advisors from across 8 lived experience or client advisory groups
- An online Community Safety and Well-Being public survey received input from 1,279 residents across Niagara

As a consequence of the pandemic, a total of 10 focus groups were postponed – including Indigenous-specific focus groups planned in collaboration with an Indigenous-led service provider. As a result, an *Interim Report on CSWB Community Consultation* based on summary findings obtained prior to COVID-19 is in development, recognizing that critical input from local Indigenous communities is still needed to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive approach to consultation.

Following the emergency orders and lockdown measures, the Ontario provincial government passed the *Coronavirus Support and Protection Act, 2020* on April 14, which included an amendment to the deadline under the *Police Services Act* for municipalities to develop and adopt community safety and well-being plans. Within the amendment, the January 1, 2021 deadline to adopt community safety and well-being plans was rescinded, and it was indicated that a new deadline will be established, by regulation, at a future date.

While the goal of community safety and well-being planning is to identify opportunities to *enhance* the safety and well-being of residents, during the COVID-19 pandemic, organizations have rapidly shifted to implement measures to *protect* the health and safety of residents and staff. To accomplish this, organizations have made significant changes to the allocation of resources (e.g. staff layoffs, staff reassignments and redeployment within and even across organizations) and experienced financial pressures to effectively support the prevention, identification and management of COVID-19 outbreaks.

**In consideration of the rescinded legislative deadline, restrictions to in-person consultations, and current demands placed on the local human services system, the Community Safety and Well-Being Advisory Committee has elected to focus on the collective coordination of resuming or reopening services in Niagara through a Community Recovery Planning Table, to convene from July to December 2020.**

It is recognized that Niagara's CSWB Plan will be further enhanced through the work of short-term recovery planning, leveraging data and information-sharing made possible through this Table, and will contribute to a more in-depth understanding of how emergency events, such as the pandemic, affect vulnerable groups who were already at risk of harm or victimization. Early opportunities identified by membership include key activities such as:

- Leverage an *Interim Report on CSWB Community Consultation* based on summary findings obtained prior to COVID-19
- Collaborate and provide cross-sector strategic feedback on plans
- Support risk-based planning while prioritizing a holistic understanding of health and well-being
- Establish common planning principles
- Share matrices, tools, frameworks
- Provide data and information sharing relevant to planning efforts

The Advisory Committee will build on the work of the short-term Community Recovery Planning Table to inform the development of Niagara's Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, or what might be understood as a more long-term, strategic plan, and return to formal CSWB plan development in January 2021.

Please feel free to reach out to my office should you have an additional questions.

Respectfully submitted and signed by,

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Ron Tripp, P.Eng.  
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

## **Motion – Councillor Sendzik**

Whereas systemic racism against Black people, Indigenous people and other people of colour (BIPOC) exists in Niagara;

Whereas the tragic deaths of Black people and Indigenous people in Canada and United States by police has created an urgency to challenge and change systems of policing in communities across Canada;

Whereas the Regional Municipality of Niagara is the funding body for the Niagara Regional Police Services;

Whereas the Niagara Regional Police Services Board is an oversight body of the Niagara Regional Police Services, and includes members of Niagara Regional Council;

Whereas the Niagara Regional Police Services Board approved its NRPS 2020-2022 Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Strategic Plan that includes aspects of working with the BIPOC communities;

Whereas more work must be undertaken by the Niagara Police Services Board and Chief of Police to engage with our BIPOC community with an objective to better understand, address and eliminate any prejudice, racism and bias in our Police Service; and

Whereas the Niagara Regional Police Services Board has established a partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association Niagara Branch to provide mental health emergency support through the Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

1. That Niagara Region Council **REQUESTS** the Niagara Regional Police Services Board direct the Chief of Police to undertake the following:

- a. Prepare a report outlining all training, (pre-badge and during badge) on de-escalation techniques, diversity, cultural sensitivity and anti-racism training (both internal and external facing from the membership) and that the Chief include any recommendations for furthering this training to the Niagara Regional Police Services Board for further consideration, and that the Niagara Regional Police Services Board members commit to training on these issues on an annual basis;
- b. That a report outlining the public complaint process be brought forward for information with any recommendations as to provide ease of access to any methods of submitting complaints including but not limited to a communications campaign that makes this process better understood;

- c. That seeing that Statistics Canada just announced it will start collecting race-based crime data, that the Chief also work to bring back a report with metrics and/or data over the last five (5) years (or appropriate time horizon) on various crime statistics including but not limited to anything that further provides information on/or a picture of police interactions with racialized communities;
  - d. That information on data entry, including how calls for service are entered into the record management system be examined with any recommendations for further expansion of data entry to identify interactions with anyone from the Black, Indigenous, ethno-cultural or people of colour community to further transparency;
  - e. That an independent, third party survey be undertaken to gain a better understanding and receive feedback on interactions between the Niagara Regional Police Service and Niagara residents;
  - f. That the Chief of Police examine opportunities to work with TOES Niagara, Niagara Multicultural Centre, YWCA, Welland Heritage Council and Multicultural Centre and any other group working with newcomers and recently arrived immigrants;
  - g. That the Police Services Board direct the Chief of Police, alongside the Senior Leadership Team to provide an analysis on the implications of directing dollars towards further social service and community outreach initiatives as part of the 2021 budget, versus increases to operational and capital budgets unless deemed essential;
  - h. That the Police Services Board develop a diversity target for board appointees that reflect the diversity of the Niagara community; and
  - i. That a report on the number and specific types of calls related to mental health and addictions, be brought forward and that the report include an actionable plan, developed in partnership with Niagara EMS and local mental health, addictions, and crisis agencies, to respond to these calls in line with guidance and recommendations from the Canadian Mental Health Association; and
2. That the correspondence from the City of St. Catharines Council, dated August 11, 2020, endorsing the recommendations of the City of St. Catharines Anti-Racism Committee **BE FORWARDED** to the Niagara Regional Police Services Board for consideration.

August 11, 2020

Deb Reid  
Executive Director  
Niagara Regional Police Service Board  
5700 Valley Way  
Niagara Falls, ON L2E 1X8

Sent via email: [Deb.Reid@niagarapolice.ca](mailto:Deb.Reid@niagarapolice.ca)

**Re: Motion regarding Body Cameras for Police Officers - Comments from City of St. Catharines Anti-Racism Advisory Committee  
Our File 35.65.75**

Dear Ms. Reid,

At its meeting held on August 10, 2020, St. Catharines City Council approved the following motion:

WHEREAS St. Catharines City Council asked for advice from the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee on body cameras for police and other reforms;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council endorse the following recommendations from the Anti-Racism Advisory Committee:

**Training**

- Increase Crisis Intervention Training to being offered at least 4 times a year or until as close to 100% of front line officers as possible at any given time would have completed the training;
- Add cross-cultural mental health training to its Crisis Intervention Training;
- Add implicit bias and anti-racism trainings in its refresher trainings and that these trainings be led by experts from equity seeking groups, along the lines of the African Canadian Legal Clinic's recommendations to the Ipperwash Inquiry: "That police forces develop an anti-racism curriculum and training program to be incorporated into any existing training programs on use of force and which will be mandatory for recruits, new officers, and serving officers. The training should be designed and delivered by independent experts in anti-racism to ensure a full understanding of racially biased policing, racial discrimination and the racialized communities police serve, particularly with respect to use of force. This training should be provided as a refresher on a regular basis. The training program should be independently and regularly evaluated to assess its efficacy with respect to effecting anti-racist behavioral and attitudinal change."

PO Box 3012, 50 Church St., St. Catharines, ON L2R 7C2

Tel: 905.688.5600 | TTY: 905.688.4889 | [www.stcatharines.ca](http://www.stcatharines.ca)

**Re-assessing police service standards to shift its budget**

- The NRPS Chief and Board re-assess “adequate policing” requirements based on removing welfare checks, mental health, and suicide threat calls, as well as foot patrols that are only demanded because of perception;
- That the Niagara Regional municipality shift these funds from the reduction of the NRPS budget to a dispatched civilian service such as the EMS;

**Civilian Review**

- The establishment of a local purely civilian (no former police officers) body including members from equity seeking groups with oversight, disciplinary powers, and the power to refer charges for prosecution over police officers;
- Establish the office of a purely civilian (no former police officers) Ombudsperson with full access to police records and data;

**Releasing Statistics**

- Publish online details of police-reported hate crimes for each incident including location, date and time, the protected group which was attacked, and the nature of the crime;
- Publish online the use of force by race data required to be submitted to the Ministry of the Solicitor General under the Anti-Racism Act;
- Extend the collection of race data to traffic stops and publish online these statistics as well as the outcome (any charges) for traffic stops;

**Hiring**

- Increase diversity hiring to at least 15% of the recruiting class over three years, and further as per the African Canadian Legal Clinics recommendation to the Ipperwash Inquiry:  
“That police recruits be screened for prejudicial and racially discriminatory attitudes, similar to screening already being done for personality attributes, criminal record, and family background. That police forces be encouraged to retain independent employment equity experts to develop concrete, measurable and attainable goals to increase the number of racialized people, particularly African Canadians and Aboriginals, especially in positions of responsibility, in order to achieve a “critical mass” of representation and diversity to promote cultural and organizational change”;
- That these independent employment equity experts undertake a comprehensive review of the hiring, recruitment, selection, and management practices of the NRPS;

### 8 Can't Wait Campaign

- Require all officers to have a duty to intervene against excessive use of force or abuse;
- Prohibit shooting at moving vehicles;

### Performance Reviews

- As per the African Canadian Legal Clinic's recommendation to the Ipperwash Inquiry:  
"That police forces ensure that complaints and concerns against police officers relating to use of force, particularly when the complainant is racialized, are reflected and factored into the assessment of each officer's performance review and or promotions."; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that St. Catharines City Council call on the Niagara Region, through the Police Services Board, to immediately begin the process of implementing the above recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this motion be forwarded to all local municipalities; the offices of all Niagara-area MPPs and MPs; the offices of the Attorney General of Ontario Doug Downey, the Attorney General of Canada David Lametti and Federal Public Safety Minister Bill Blair; and request comment from the Solicitor General of Ontario Sylvia Jones. FORTHWITH"

If you have any questions, please contact the Office of the City Clerk at extension 1524.



Bonnie Nistico-Dunk, City Clerk  
Legal and Clerks Services, Office of the City Clerk  
:em

Cc. Hon. Bill Blair, Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, [Bill.Blair@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Bill.Blair@parl.gc.ca)  
Hon. David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, [David.Lametti@parl.gc.ca](mailto:David.Lametti@parl.gc.ca)  
Hon. Doug Downey, Attorney General, [doug.downey@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.downey@pc.ola.org)  
Chris Bittle, MP - St. Catharines, [Chris.Bittle@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Chris.Bittle@parl.gc.ca)  
Dean Allison, MP - Niagara West, [Dean.Allison@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Dean.Allison@parl.gc.ca)  
Vance Badawey, MP - Niagara Centre, [Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Vance.Badawey@parl.gc.ca)  
Tony Baldinelli, MP - Niagara Falls, [Tony.Baldinelli@parl.gc.ca](mailto:Tony.Baldinelli@parl.gc.ca)  
Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines, [JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca)  
Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre, [JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca](mailto:JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca)  
Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls, [wgates-co@ndp.on.ca](mailto:wgates-co@ndp.on.ca)  
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook, [sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org](mailto:sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org)  
Kenneth Gansel, Chair, Niagara Regional Police Service Board  
Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk, [Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca](mailto:Ann-Marie.Norio@niagararegion.ca)  
Niagara Area Municipalities

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

BY-LAW NO. < >

A BY-LAW TO ADOPT, RATIFY AND CONFIRM THE ACTIONS OF  
REGIONAL COUNCIL AT ITS SPECIAL MEETING  
HELD AUGUST 13, 2020

WHEREAS subsection 5 (3) of the Municipal Act, S.O. 2001, Ch. 25, as amended, provides that, except if otherwise authorized, the powers of Regional Council shall be exercised by by-law; and,

WHEREAS it is deemed desirable and expedient that the actions of Regional Council as herein set forth be adopted, ratified and confirmed by by-law.

NOW THEREFORE the Council of The Regional Municipality of Niagara enacts as follows:

1. That the actions of the Regional Council at its special meeting held August 13, 2020, including all resolutions or motions approved, are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed as if they were expressly embodied in this by-law.
2. That the above-mentioned actions shall not include:
  - a) Any actions required by law to be taken by resolution; or
  - b) Any actions for which prior Local Planning Appeal Tribunal approval is required, until such approval is obtained.
3. That the Chair and proper officials of The Regional Municipality of Niagara are hereby authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to the above-mentioned actions and to obtain approvals where required.
4. That unless otherwise provided, the Chair and Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute and the Clerk to affix the seal of The Regional Municipality of Niagara to all documents necessary to give effect to the above-mentioned actions.
5. That this by-law shall come into force and effect on the day upon which it is passed.

THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF NIAGARA

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James Bradley, Regional Chair

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Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk

Passed: < >