



Memorandum

Date: May 7, 2020
To: Members of the Board
From: William (Bill) Bradica, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: **AMO – OPP Detachments Boards Discussion Paper**

Attached is a discussion paper that was developed by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) regarding Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Detachment Boards and released on May 1, 2020. The paper was developed by AMO to help guide municipal input to the Ministry regarding re-constituting Boards.

Of interest to District Social Services Administration Boards is the discussion, at Page 7 in the Discussion Paper, of the idea of DSSABs becoming OPP detachment boards:

Existing board structures between multiple municipalities currently exist in Northern Ontario through District Social Services Administration Boards. These existing structures and board representation frameworks could be used to function as an OPP detachment board. Thus, a DSSAB could fulfill a dual role – existing social service responsibilities and a new mandate of policing.

The rationale provided for DSSABs becoming OPP detachment boards is that there would be a greater alignment of community safety and well-being objectives.

There are currently eight OPP detachment boards in the District of Thunder Bay that serve 13 of the 15 municipalities and unincorporated territories. The one municipal police service, Thunder Bay Police Service, provides service in the City of Thunder Bay and in the Municipality of Oliver-Paipoonge.

Of course, there would need to be some specific carve outs for a DSSAB functioning as an OPP detachment board. First, northern cities with their own police services would need to be excluded from OPP detachment board composition. Second, representation from unincorporated areas on boards would need to be restricted given that municipal property taxes are not paid in these areas. Third, the expense of an OPP detachment board would need to be divided only among those using the OPP.



**THE DISTRICT OF THUNDER BAY
SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION BOARD**

To date, there has been no request from AMO for input from TBDSSAB.

Although AMO's plan is to gather input from municipalities and DSSABs on this idea, the Board may wish to consider providing a proactive response as soon as possible.

Of note, 7 of 14 current TBDSSAB Board members are appointed from municipalities that do not pay for OPP services, and OPP Branch Commanders are currently members of Police Detachment Boards. It may therefore be difficult for the TBDSSAB to act as the Board for OPP services because those services are not delivered in all of the communities in its service area and because non-elected police personnel would potentially have a seat at the TBDSSAB Board table.

It is recommended that the Board consider directing the Chair to send a letter to AMO and the Ministry of the Solicitor General to object to TBDSSAB becoming a Police Detachment Board. The following Resolution is recommended:

“THAT with respect to the Memorandum from William Bradica regarding OPP Detachment Boards, dated May 7, 2020, we The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board direct the Board Chair to send a letter to the President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Solicitor General for Ontario to indicate that the Board is not in agreement with TBDSSAB becoming a Police Detachment Board;

AND THAT the Heads of the fifteen municipal councils, the Territories Without Municipal Organization representative on the Board, the President of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, the President of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association, the Chair of the Northern Ontario Service Deliverers Association, the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing are copied on the letter.”

Sincerely,

William (Bill) Bradica
Chief Administrative Officer

WDB/gf

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Attachment #1 [AMO Dissuasion Paper - New Ontario Police Detachment Boards: Building a Framework for Better Policing Governance](#)