



THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
LA MUNICIPALITÉ DU COMTÉ DE
RICHMOND

**RCMP Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 10, 2025**

Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: St. Peter's RCMP Detachment

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Items Added/Approval of Agenda
3. Review of Minutes, Re: September 17, 2025
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. Policing Report, Re: Richmond County Stats
6. Correspondence, Re:
 - a) Email from Virginia Brooke, President, Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance, Re: Membership request
 - b) Email from Michelle Boudreau, Resident of Richmond County, Re: Posted speed limits on Isle Madame
7. Department of Justice Board Orientation Training
8. Items Added to the Agenda
9. Questions or Concerns
10. Next Meeting Date (March 11, 2026)
11. Adjournment



RCMP Advisory Board Meeting

September 17, 2025

- Location:** St. Peter's RCMP Detachment
- Present:** Doug Landry, Appointed Member, Jim Wilson, Provincial Appointee, Councillor Shawn Samson, Corporal Ashleigh Beattie
- Also Present:** Troy MacCulloch, Chief Administrative Officer, Shelley David, Municipal Clerk
- Regrets:** Deputy Warden Brent Sampson, Stacey Morrison, Appointed Member

1. **Call to Order**

Councillor Shawn Samson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **Items Added to the Agenda**

Appointed member Doug Landry requested and received unanimous consent to add the following to the agenda:

- 8 (a) ATVs

Moved by appointed member Doug Landry, seconded by provincial appointee Jim Wilson, that the agenda be approved.

Motion carried.



3. Review of Minutes – June 18, 2025

Moved by appointed member Doug Landry, seconded by provincial appointee Jim Wilson, that the minutes of the June 18, 2025, meeting be accepted.

Motion carried.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

n/a

5. Policing Report

Corporal Ashleigh Beattie reviewed the Policing Report from August to September 2025.

Moved by provincial appointee Jim Wilson, seconded by appointed member Doug Landry, that the Board accept the Policing Report.

Motion carried.

6. Correspondence, Re: Your Nova Scotia RCMP 2024 – Web-based Annual Review

For information only.

7. Correspondence, Re: Melissa Samson – Traffic safety concern at the Petit de Grat ball field

A discussion ensued.

8. Items Added to the Agenda

a) ATVs

A discussion ensued.



9. Questions or Concerns

n/a

10. Next Meeting Date:

It was the consensus of the Board that the next RCMP Advisory Board Meeting be scheduled for December 10, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the St. Peter's RCMP Detachment.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Chairperson

Municipal Clerk

To: Brent Sampson <Brent.Sampson@richmondcounty.ca>

Subject: NS Assn of Police Governance Membership?

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Good day, Brent,

I'm following up on our recent conversation regarding Richmond's potential membership in the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG).

As you're aware, the Department of Justice's Comprehensive Policing Review released this summer will introduce a new suite of policing issues and responsibilities for all Nova Scotia communities over the next few years. The NSAPG is focused on supporting municipalities through these changes by fostering strong collaboration among our key stakeholders, including the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Association, the Department of Justice, NSFPM, and the province's police associations.

Attached are several letters we've sent to the DOJ and MLAs in recent months, which illustrate our approach to these foundational reforms and how we engage constructively with the Department on behalf of municipal boards and advisory committees.

If Richmond Council is interested in joining NSAPG, we would need the name of one representative from your Police Advisory Board, along with the annual membership fee of \$400, which covers participation through spring 2026. Once confirmed, I would ask our Treasurer to issue an invoice to Richmond.

I would be pleased to hear your thoughts.

Kind regards,
Virginia Brooke
President, Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance

July 7, 2025

The Honourable Becky Druhan
Minister of Justice
1690 Hollis Street, 9th Floor
Halifax, NS B3J 2L6

Dear Minister Druhan,

I am writing on behalf of the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG), which serves as the collective representative of all police boards across the province. We wish to bring to your attention several matters of ongoing concern related to the recently released Policing Review documents, which we believe have significant implications for public safety, law enforcement operations, and the civilian oversight of police services in Nova Scotia. As President, and based on the conclusions of NSAPG's Board meeting held on July 3, 2025, I respectfully submit this correspondence for your consideration and welcome the opportunity to engage further on these important and shared provincial–municipal concerns.

At the outset, we wish to commend the Department of Justice and Deloitte Canada on the scope, depth, and clarity of the “Comprehensive Nova Scotia Policing Review.” The Foundational Changes outlined in this report are forward-thinking and present a meaningful opportunity to modernize law enforcement in our province. In particular, the Board solidly supports a unified Records Management System (RMS), which we believe will greatly enhance efficiency and information-sharing across jurisdictions. We also endorse the move to ensure equitable staffing levels across the province. Your current work on strengthening policing standards is a much-needed step toward ensuring that all Nova Scotians receive consistent and adequate public safety services.

Nonetheless, the Board has identified several key concerns that we believe require further review and discussion. Chief among them is the assumption embedded in the report that the RCMP should automatically serve as the provincial police force. While Deloitte's report states that the term “Provincial Police Service” may refer to the RCMP, a newly established provincial service, or both, we are concerned by the Department of Justice's apparent decision to interpret this as an exclusive endorsement of the RCMP. In our view, such a default position is unwarranted and appears inconsistent with the RCMP's documented performance challenges within the province. *Unless and until compelling evidence is presented to justify the RCMP's continued designation as Nova Scotia's provincial police service, we must respectfully but firmly object to this presumption.*

Additional concerns raised by the Board include:

- What are the proposed funding mechanisms for implementing the foundational changes?
- How will the Department address persistent staffing shortages, particularly within RCMP-policed municipalities?
- When will the Department resolve delays in appointing ministerial representatives to municipal police boards, as required under the Nova Scotia Police Act?
- Many municipal police services have established and successful regional partnerships for specialized services. What is the rationale for replacing these proven arrangements with new, untested shared service models?

While we will reserve further comments for future correspondence, we must emphasize that the NSAPG—and by extension, the police boards of Nova Scotia which we represent—expects to be meaningfully engaged in the ongoing development and implementation of the recommendations stemming from the policing review. Civilian oversight is a foundational element of accountable policing, and the role of police boards must be maximized in this critical period of reform.

We appreciate your attention to these matters and your continued efforts to advance public safety across Nova Scotia. I would be pleased to discuss any of the points raised above in more detail at your convenience. We remain committed to working collaboratively with the Department to help shape a modern, effective, and community-responsive policing model for our province.

Sincerely,

Virginia Brooke

President, Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG)

mvtbrooke@gmail.com

August 18, 2025

The Honourable Becky Druhan
Attorney General and Minister of Justice
Province of Nova Scotia

Dear Minister Druhan,

Re: Response to July 25 Letter – Policing Review Implementation

Thank you for your detailed correspondence of July 25, 2025, outlining the six foundational changes arising from the Comprehensive Nova Scotia Policing Review. On behalf of the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG), I wish to express our appreciation for your recognition of our role in advancing civilian oversight and for your commitment to ongoing engagement with our Association.

We value the additional clarity you have provided on the scope and intent of each foundational change. We underscore the importance of ensuring equitable service delivery across both urban and rural communities, maintaining strong and consistently applied provincial policing standards, and sustaining meaningful dialogue between the Department of Justice, Police Boards, Chiefs of Police and other key stakeholders. We also welcome the recent appointment of several ministerial representatives and look forward to the prompt completion of the remaining appointments.

In the spirit of constructive collaboration, we offer the following observations and requests for continued dialogue:

Unified Records Management System: We support this initiative in principle and request early consultation on governance, data sharing, and access protocols. It is essential that implementation be cost-neutral for municipalities, with all associated expenses assumed at the provincial level. This will help ensure an equitable and sustainable approach across communities of varying sizes and capacities. We would also appreciate information on anticipated timelines to allow boards and municipalities to prepare adequately.

Community Safety Personnel: We encourage the Department to establish clear role definitions, training standards, and reporting structures for these personnel to avoid duplication of effort and ensure seamless integration with existing service providers.

Equitable Staffing Levels: We welcome your commitment to addressing staffing disparities and would appreciate the opportunity to review assessment criteria and timelines when available, particularly in light of persistent vacancies in some regions.

Community Safety Boards: We note the potential for overlap with existing police boards and emphasize the need for clearly defined mandates to prevent governance fragmentation or redundancy.

Policing Standards and Audits: We support consistent administration of standards and request that boards receive timely audit updates and reports to meet their oversight obligations. We note that there are reports that the audit submission deadline appears to have shifted from September 1 to August 1. Given the absence of recent communication from the Audit Unit to some member boards, we would appreciate each Board receiving confirmation regarding whether its municipality has met the adjusted or extended deadlines, along with clarification of any deficiencies that may require attention.

RCMP Billing Mechanism: We look forward to receiving further details in a timely manner on the revised model and its implications for municipal budgets.

With respect to the provincial policing framework, we remain deeply concerned about the apparent preference for designating the RCMP as the provincial police service and sole provider of special services. At the same time, we take note of and appreciate your assurance that all options remain under active consideration. We respectfully recommend that any decision be guided by transparent performance metrics and comparative evaluations, applied consistently at both the municipal and provincial levels. It is equally important to preserve flexibility to accommodate regional and special service needs.

And finally, given the considerable time that has passed since the last stakeholder consultations, we respectfully encourage the Department to re-engage at this stage with the full range of key partners to confirm that the present direction is both acceptable and broadly supported.

We share your objective of ensuring consistent, high-quality public safety services for all Nova Scotians. NSAPG remains committed to working with the Department and our municipal partners to ensure that these proposals strengthen both law enforcement and the principles of civilian governance.

We would welcome the opportunity to participate in a joint working session with Department officials and other stakeholders to discuss implementation timelines, municipal impacts, and governance integration.

Thank you again for your engagement and for your recognition of the essential role of civilian oversight in municipal and provincial policing. We look forward to continued collaboration as these foundational changes move forward.

Sincerely,

Virginia Brooke
President
Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance

cc: Hayley Crichton, Executive Director, Public Safety and Security Division
Charcy Marchand, Director, Public Safety and Policing

Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance

September 15, 2025

To: Members of the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia

Dear MLA,

On behalf of the Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG), representing municipal police boards and commissions across the province, I am writing to express concerns regarding the Department of Justice's proposed foundational changes to policing in Nova Scotia. These reforms represent one of the most significant advancements in public safety in a generation and will have direct, lasting impacts on municipalities.

KEY CONCERNS

Provincial Policing Framework: There appears to be a presumption that the RCMP will automatically continue as Nova Scotia's provincial police service. The review noted several possible models, defaulting to the RCMP. However, without transparent evaluation against established benchmarks and past performance, this does not address the concerns raised by many communities. Municipalities look for assurance and visible actions that all options remain genuinely under consideration.

Unified Records Management System (RMS): While broadly supported, a unified RMS should be fully funded by the province, as municipal budgets cannot reasonably absorb these costs. Early consultation on governance, access protocols, and timelines is also important.

Equitable Staffing: Staffing disparities remain acute, particularly in RCMP-policed regions. We encourage the DOJ to publish clear criteria and timelines for achieving parity and to consult with police boards on staffing allocations.

Community Safety Personnel and Boards: Clear mandates are critical to avoid duplication or fragmentation of governance and operational structures. Civilian oversight through police boards should remain central.

Policing Standards and Audits: Boards rely on timely audit reports to fulfill their legislated oversight responsibilities. Recent delays and limited communication from the Audit Unit have left some boards uncertain about compliance.

Provision of Special Services: Municipalities seek clarity on the availability and funding of specialized policing services. These services should be equitably accessible across the province, with flexibility to obtain them from any qualified providers.

RCMP Billing Mechanism: Changes to the billing model should be communicated well in advance. Municipalities cannot easily absorb unexpected costs within already constrained budgets, and stability is essential to ensure adequate staffing levels.

NEXT STEPS

Given the time that has passed since the last round of stakeholder consultations, we respectfully urge renewed engagement with municipalities, police boards, chiefs of police, police associations, NSFM, and community leaders before implementation proceeds further. Civilian oversight and municipal perspectives are essential to ensuring reforms that are sustainable, effective, and responsive to community needs.

The NSAPG remains committed to working collaboratively with government and law enforcement partners to achieve modern, accountable policing in Nova Scotia. We encourage you, as Members of the Legislative Assembly, to actively support these municipal concerns as the Department of Justice advances its reform agenda.

Respectfully,
Virginia Brooke
President
Nova Scotia Association of Police Governance (NSAPG)

From: Michelle Boudreau <[REDACTED]>
Sent: November 9, 2025 10:01 AM
To: Lois Landry <Lois.Landry@richmondcounty.ca>
Subject: Posted speed limits on Isle Madame

You don't often get email from [REDACTED] [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Lois,

I am sharing with you a note I wrote to the county - please see below from their web form input. You have no doubt like me noticed an increase in walkers, joggers, and cyclists that enjoy our beautiful little island. With this increase and the increase in vehicles on our roads, I am asking that you and other council members consider the following initiatives that would improve safety and wellness for all residents over the years to come on our beautiful "petite île". Please note that I am willing to support this activity as a volunteer or in other ways that would be helpful. Wishing you well Lois!
Michelle

Please consider:

1. A "safe use of our roads for all" outreach supported by local RCMP and/or volunteers that would stop speeding drivers over a focussed period (twice annual "blitz")
2. Hand out Safe Passing Tips Sheet (see below for the 3Ps for safe passing of cyclists)
3. Working with the province to review and consider decreasing the posted speed limits in some areas on the Island.
 4. Sharing 3Ps for safe passing of cyclists: Practice the "3 P's" to pass a cyclist safely
 - Be Patient
 - Be Prudent, and
 - Pass when safely for everyone by allowing 4 feet or 1.5 metres between your car and the bike

French:

- Pratiquez les 3P afin de passer les gens en vélos :
 - Patienter
 - Soyez Prudent
 - Passer de façon sécuritaire pour tous en laissant 4 pieds ou 1,5 metres entre votre voiture et le vélo
5. Adding paved shoulders when repaving, especially in specific areas
 6. Adding signage that sets out the safe distance for passing cyclists

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Shelley David <Clerk@richmondcounty.ca>
Date: August 18, 2025 at 1:21:00 PM ADT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Contact From

Good afternoon Michelle,

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns. The Nova Scotia Department of Public Works is responsible for provincial roadways and speed limits.

You may contact them directly at:

- **General Inquiries:** 1-844-696-7737
- **Port Hawkesbury NS Department of Public Works Office:** 902-625-4050
- **Email:** dpw-occ@novascotia.ca

The elected official for Rocky Bay is **District 2 Councillor/Warden Lois Landry**. While these roads are managed by the Province of Nova Scotia, you are welcome to reach out to her to share your concerns on this matter.

- **Email:** lois.landry@richmondcounty.ca
- **Phone:** 902-226-3986 **Cell:** 902-631-0332

Kind regards,
Shelley

From: richmond-mailer@municipal-website-venture.com <richmond-mailer@municipal-website-venture.com>

Sent: August 12, 2025 1:24 PM

To: Shelley David <Clerk@richmondcounty.ca>

Subject: Contact From

Michelle Boudreau has submitted a comment.

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Comments / Questions / Concerns:

Hello, we live at [REDACTED] Rocky Bay [REDACTED] during spring, summer and fall months. I'm a native of the Island. I grew up here and lived here for a while following university graduation. I'm now a fine weather resident and have been since 1999. I'd like to request that the county request a review of speed limits on Isle Madame. They date back likely to the 1960s-70s. With increased population/housing, more frequent use of roads by cyclists and walkers, I believe that some of the posted limits are too high, likely by 10-20 km per hour in some areas. Isle Madame is a beautiful archipelago of islands that many have come up cherish and safe use of the roads by all users is essential. Also, when repaving, please consider a paved shoulder that would improve safety for all, particularly on what is called The Pondville Stretch, the High Rd of Arichat and West Arichat near the dump station. Thanks for your consideration. I look forward to your reply.

MEMORANDUM

To: RCMP Advisory Board
From: Shelley David, Municipal Clerk
Date: December 2, 2025
Subject: Department of Justice Police Advisory Board Orientation Training

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to confirm whether the Board would like to schedule an orientation session during one of our upcoming meetings. The Department of Justice has recently updated its training program. This session provides an overview of policing governance and the legislative framework guiding the Board's responsibilities.

Session Information

If the Board wishes to proceed, the orientation will include the following topics and learning objectives:

- Overview of the Public Safety and Security Division – Department of Justice
- Foundations of Effective Police Governance
- Sections of Note: Nova Scotia Police Act and Regulations
- Establishing Priorities for Your Police Service
- Overview: RCMP Accountability

Learning Objectives

- Understand the foundations of effective police governance.
- Distinguish the roles and responsibilities of the Police Advisory Board, the Minister, the Department of Justice, and the RCMP under the Police Act.
- Understand the priority-setting process as a key component of effective police governance.

Next Steps

Please advise if the Board would like to include this orientation session on an upcoming meeting agenda so arrangements can be made. The session is approximately 1 ½ hours.