

## Notice of Motion

**Agenda Number:** 22.3

**Date:** November 12, 2020

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**Moved by** Mayor Crombie

**Seconded by** Mayor Brown

Whereas Regional Council recognizes that in 2019 alone, Peel Regional Police responded to nearly 6,500 mental health calls, or approximately 18 calls per day; this equates to a total of 15,700 uniform police service hours to support mental health calls and 22,250 hours to support suicide calls each year;

And whereas, Regional Council acknowledges that Peel Regional Police Chief Nishan Duriappah has agreed with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) statement that people experiencing mental health crises need health care and that Police should not be the first responders when people are in crisis in the community;

And whereas, Regional Council agrees that Police cannot and should not be the sole front-line responders to emergency mental health crises in our community;

And whereas, additional resources are needed to increase the capacity of initiatives like Peel Regional Police's Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT), - a partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) – Peel Dufferin, which currently only has two cars operating 12 hours a day to support a Regional population of 1.4 million;

And whereas, the lack of crisis response resources puts those in crisis and the wider community at increased risk;

And whereas, Regional Council must continuously review Regional policing methods to ensure that the rights and freedoms of all residents of Peel are respected and that Peel Regional Police is meeting the needs and expectations of the residents it serves;

And whereas, Regional Council recognizes that the Peel Regional Police are taking positive steps to change the culture within the police service and transition to a community-based policing model through a variety of measures including the introduction of body worn cameras, the implementation of a Community Safety and Well-Being plan, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Ontario Human Rights Commission (OHRC), as well as hosting ongoing public consultations on police reform;

And whereas, a plan and framework for police reform must also include all recommendations outlined in Justice Michael Tulloch's 2017 reports titled, *Independent Police Oversight Review* and his *Independent Street Checks Review*;

And whereas, the *Community Safety and Policing Act* and the *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act*, were passed by the Ontario Legislature in May 2019 with all party support, but have yet to be put into full force and effect;

And whereas, several interactions between Peel Police Services and the community over the past year have resulted in public trust being shaken and resulted in calls for SIU reform at the provincial level;

And whereas, the members of Peel Regional Council have a vested interest in maintaining the health and safety of the Region's 1.4 million residents;

Therefore be it resolved, that Peel Regional Council take a formal position on the need to immediately enact existing and introduce new legislation to address police, Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and mental health reform by writing a letter to the Premier of Ontario and the Solicitor General to request the following:

1. Immediate enactment of the *Special Investigations Unit Act, 2019* along with several additional reforms to ensure greater transparency and accountability, including:
  - a. timely sharing of information and investigations with the public;
  - b. enabling local police officers to comment on details and timelines of an investigation within their jurisdiction,
  - c. ensuring that former police officers make up no more than 50 per cent of any SIU team, and
  - d. enforcing police officers under investigation to testify and hand over their notes if being investigated.
2. Immediate enactment of the *Community Safety and Policing Act* and *Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act*, the latter of which received all-party support, and was passed by the Ontario Legislature over a year ago but has yet to be put into force.
3. Implementation of all recommendations from Justice Michael Tulloch's two reviews — his *2017 Independent Police Oversight Review* and his *2017 Independent Street Checks Review*.
4. Make changes to the *Mental Health Act* to permit first responders other than police officers to respond to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

And therefore be it further resolved, that the Regional Chair be directed to request in-person meetings with the Solicitor General and the Premier of Ontario, on behalf of Regional Council, along with interested Council members to outline the need to implement changes stemming from the Tulloch Reports, including those of the SIU.

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Regional Chair