



Region of Queens Municipality Police Advisory Board

Thursday, May 21, 2026

3:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Present

Don Kimbal, Acting Chair

Scott Christian, Mayor

Maddie Charlton, Deputy Mayor

Roberta Roy, Councillor

Patrick Frenette, Staff Sergeant

Alex Wilson, Policy Analyst and Strategic Initiatives Coordinator

Elaina Gaetan, Public Member

Kate Wong, Recording Secretary

Regrets

Councillor Vicki Amirault

Andrew Francis, Public Member

1.0 Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

The Acting Chair, Don Kimball, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

The Mayor provided the Land Acknowledgement, recognizing the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people and acknowledging that all are treaty people with shared rights and responsibilities.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

The Recording Secretary noted that the agenda incorrectly referenced February instead of May.

The Policy Analyst and Strategic Initiatives Coordinator requested that Bylaw No. 12 respecting prohibited activities be added under New Business. The Chair also requested discussion regarding opportunities for public members to suggest agenda items prior to meetings.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Elaina Gaetan;

THAT the Police Advisory Board approve the agenda for the May 21, 2026 meeting as amended.

MOTION CARRIED.

3.0 Declaration of Conflict of Interests

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

4.1 February 19, 2026

Moved by Councillor Roy, seconded by Public Member Elaina Gaetan;

THAT the Police Advisory Board approve the minutes of the February 19, 2026 meeting as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Safety Concerns – Henry Hensey Drive During Privateers Farmers Market

The Police Advisory Board was advised that correspondence had been received regarding traffic and pedestrian safety concerns during the weekly Privateers Farmers Market. The Mayor informed the group that concerns had also been raised during the market Annual General Meeting.

Discussion focused on:

- speeding and drag strip behaviour in the area,
- pedestrian visibility concerns near parked vehicles,
- increased activity during waterfront events,
- and traffic calming initiatives already identified within the municipal budget.

Members discussed possible options including:

- reduced speed limits,
- temporary event-related speed reductions,
- speed bumps,
- signage,
- and increased police visibility during market hours.

The Mayor suggested that the area be specifically flagged through the Municipality's broader traffic calming initiative and questioned whether temporary speed reductions during events could be considered.

S/Sgt. Frenette advised that RCMP had an operational plan for traffic service resources and could provide occasional visibility and enforcement during market hours, however, long term effectiveness would likely require infrastructure or regulatory solutions.

Members also discussed the role of the Traffic Authority and acknowledged that Council may recommend measures for consideration, though final authority rests with the Traffic Authority.

Moved by Mayor Christian, seconded by Deputy Mayor Charlton;

THAT the Police Advisory Board recommend that Council request the Traffic Authority provide recommendations respecting traffic calming measures for Henry Hensey Drive.

MOTION CARRIED.

5.2 Bylaw No. 12 – Prohibited Activities / E-Scooters and E-Bikes

The Policy Analyst and Strategic Initiatives Coordinator requested feedback from the Committee regarding proposed updates to Bylaw No. 12 related to skateboarding, e-scooters, e-bikes, and prohibited activities.

Discussion focused on:

- safety concerns related to multiple children riding on e-scooters,
- helmet requirements,
- excessive scooter speeds on sidewalks,
- whether e-bikes should be treated differently than e-scooters,
- and enforcement challenges under provincial legislation.

S/Sgt Frenette advised:

- helmets are required regardless of what device is being operated,
- bicycles, scooters, and similar devices are generally required to operate on roadways under provincial legislation,
- and municipal signage alone cannot be enforced without supporting bylaws.

Members discussed:

- the lack of room for bike lanes on Bristol Avenue,
- possible restrictions focused on high foot traffic areas,
- HRM's approach to e-scooters and rental devices,
- speed limitations of approximately 32 km/h,
- sidewalk etiquette and education,
- and possible restriction areas such as skate parks and municipal properties.
- repealing the current bylaw,
- reviewing examples from other municipalities,
- focusing on specific restriction areas rather than all sidewalks,

- and possible future public engagement on the matter.

The Policy Analyst & Strategic Initiatives Coordinator advised that a jurisdictional scan would be prepared and brought back to a future meeting with examples and options from other municipalities.

Moved by Deputy Mayor Charlton, seconded by Councillor Roy;

THAT the Police Advisory Board recommend that Council repeal Bylaw No. 12 respecting prohibited activities,

AND THAT the Policy Analyst and Strategic Initiatives Coordinator return to a future Police Advisory Board meeting with a jurisdictional scan and potential options respecting e-scooters and e-bikes.

MOTION CARRIED.

5.3 Agenda Development Process

The Chair raised concerns regarding opportunities for Committee members to suggest agenda items in advance of meetings. Discussion followed regarding communication processes between staff, the Chair, and Committee members for agenda development.

Members discussed:

- sending reminder emails prior to meetings requesting agenda items,
- maintaining the Chair's responsibility for approving agendas,
- and allowing agenda amendments during meetings where necessary.

It was agreed that Committee members could forward agenda requests to Councillor Amirault for review and approval prior to agenda finalization.

No motion was made.

6.0 Correspondence

6.1 Correspondence Respecting Henry Hensey Drive

The Committee acknowledged correspondence previously discussed under Item 5.1 regarding safety concerns at Henry Hensey Drive during the Privateers Farmers Market.

7.0 Updates from RCMP

7.1 Quarterly Report – S/Sgt Frenette

Quorum was questioned following Councillor Roy's departure from the meeting at approximately 4:07 p.m.

S/Sgt. Frenette advised that a PowerPoint presentation had been prepared for the Quarterly RCMP Report. Due to a member needing to leave the meeting early, the Committee agreed to discuss Item 8.1 – Carters Beach Parking Issues prior to the RCMP presentation.

S/Sgt. Frenette presented the Quarterly RCMP Report and provided updates respecting:

- the Annual Performance Plan beginning April 1, 2026,
- development of action plans,
- and recruitment efforts related to GIS staffing, with a goal of having a position filled by September 2026.

8.0 Unfinished Business

8.1 Carters Beach Parking Issues

S/Sgt. Frenette raised ongoing concerns regarding parking congestion and emergency vehicle access at Carters Beach during the summer season. The Committee discussed challenges experienced during previous summers, including blocked access routes for emergency vehicles and unsafe roadside parking conditions.

The board had previously explored possible infrastructure options, including barriers, but noted that infrastructure limitations made some options difficult. S/Sgt. Frenette further advised that the current parking fine amount of \$15 was not acting as an effective deterrent and suggested increasing the fine significantly.

Members discussed:

- increasing fines,
- towing vehicles,
- roadway access limitations,
- emergency vehicle accessibility,
- and recently introduced provincial legislation related to impeding roadways adjacent to provincial parks.

The Mayor advised that changes to municipal fines would require provincial approval and discussed recently introduced legislation related to parking adjacent to provincial parks. The Mayor further advised that he would discuss the matter with Minister Masland.

9.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.