

Kenora OPP Detachment Board



Motion No. 2

Moved by L. Koch

Seconded by J. McGrath

May 20, 2025

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**WHEREAS** Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are known to contribute to increased risk of chronic health conditions, mental health challenges, substance use, housing insecurity, and justice system involvement; and

**WHEREAS** statistical analysis and community data indicate that youth in the Kenora OPP Detachment Region represent the most underserved demographic, with a disproportionately high number of police interactions relative to population size; and

**WHEREAS** these trends reflect a systemic crisis affecting children, youth, and families in the City of Kenora and surrounding First Nation and rural communities; and

**WHEREAS** the data shows that in Kenora, every year since 2022, the total number of youth (aged 0-24), having interactions with police has risen. Since 2022 there has been a 60% increase in the number of interactions with youth in Kenora (2F00). 2024 had the highest youth interactions with police at 4152 involvements. Several youth have had multiple involvements with police throughout the year. Of the totals indicated there were 1396 unique youth involved with police in 2024. 1130 unique youth in 2023 , and 822 unique youth involved with police in 2022; and

**WHEREAS** in 2021 the Province of Ontario mandated Community Safety and Well-Being Planning, but has not created a framework to coordinate and/or hold communities and organizations accountable to the plans; and

**WHEREAS** the Community Safety and Policing Act prioritizes integrating Community Safety and Well-Being Plans into Local Action Plans showing that Community Safety is a Provincial Policing priority.

## **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Kenora OPP Detachment Board **recognizes the youth crisis** in our region as a public health and social emergency directly linked to Adverse Childhood Experiences.
2. The Kenora OPP Detachment Board commits to **collaborating with** the Community Safety and Well-Being Committee focused on **prevention, early intervention, and culturally informed care** for youth and families.

3. The Kenora OPP Detachment Board will advocate for **provincial and federal investments** into trauma-informed and land-based youth supports, including but not limited to:
  - Youth mentorship and leadership programs
  - Land-based healing and cultural revitalization
  - Mental health and addictions services rooted in community
4. The Kenora OPP Detachment calls on the Province of Ontario to create a framework to assess effectiveness of Community Safety and Well-Being Plan implementation, with a commitment to create inter-ministerial and intra-organizational coordination and collaboration to prioritize proactive intervention in order to prevent, as much as possible, the youth of today becoming part of the unhoused population of the future.
5. A copy of this resolution will be passed to the OAPSB Zone 1, The Kenora Community Safety and Well-Being Committee, The Hon. Doug Ford; Leader, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, Premier, The Hon. Greg Rickford; Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation and Minister Responsible for Ring of Fire Economic and Community Partnerships, The Hon. Michael Parsa; Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, The Hon. Sylvia Jones; Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, The Right Honourable Mark Carney; Prime Minister of Canada, The Hon. Sean Fraser; Minister of Justice, Attorney General of Canada, Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency.

Defeated \_\_\_\_ Carried \_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ K. Van Belleghem \_\_\_\_\_ **Chair**  
or V/Chair

| Recorded Vote          | AYE | NAY | Dec. of Interest | Absent |
|------------------------|-----|-----|------------------|--------|
| Chair K. Van Belleghem |     |     |                  |        |
| Vice-Chair L. Koch     |     |     |                  |        |
| Member B. Manson       |     |     |                  |        |
| Member J. McGrath      |     |     |                  |        |
| Member S. Norlen       |     |     |                  |        |
| VACANT                 |     |     |                  |        |
| VACANT                 |     |     |                  |        |