

Codiac Regional Policing Authority

Policy #: G-107
Category: Values and Ethics
Subject: Awards and Rewards
Date: Insert
Review Cycle: Year 1/5
Review Date: 2021

Framework

Police Act

Under s. 1.1(1) of the *Police Act*, the Minister of Justice and Public Safety shall (a) promote the preservation of peace, the prevention of crime, the efficiency of police services and the development of effective policing, and (b) coordinate the work and efforts of police forces and the RCMP within the Province.

Section 1.1(2) of the *Act* provides that the Minister may provide to boards, councils, police forces, a regional policing authority and the RCMP:

(i) information and advice respecting the management and operation of police forces and the RCMP in handling special problems, and

(ii) such other information as the Minister considers to be of assistance.

Finally, Section 1.1 (3) provides that subject to the *Act* and regulations, the Minister may issue guidelines and directives to any police force within the Province for the attainment of the purposes in s. 1.1(1) above.

Governance Guidelines

In 2011, the Department of Public Safety issued the Police Governance and Oversight in New Brunswick Policy Guidelines (“Governance Guidelines”). These Guidelines apply to a regional policing authority, as well as to other models of police governance in use in New Brunswick. The Guidelines suggest the following policy regarding awards and rewards:

“From time to time, it may be desirable for the Board to present awards recognizing citizens, police officers, civilian staff or community agencies that have made a significant contribution to the safety and security of the municipality/region. An appropriate amount will be determined by the Board and will be part of the Board’s budget.

The Board, in consultation with the Chief, will determine the recipients of such

awards.

The Board may also authorize the Police Force to offer rewards in cases where the Chief of Police is of the opinion that a reward will assist or has assisted in the investigation of a crime and lead to a successful conviction.

Rewards are to be approved through the chain of command, considered by the Chief of Police, and then presented to the Board for final approval.

In consultation with the Chief of Police, the Board will also consider the benefit of providing a financial reward in a particular case and will also determine the appropriate method to make the public aware of such a reward and the period for which the reward will remain active.

The Board, in consultation with the Chief of Police, will decide upon the conditions for the payment of a reward.

Rewards will not be paid to a member of the Board, or a family member of a Board member, not to nay member of the Police Force, or a family member of a Police Force member, nor to any person whose knowledge of the subject incident arose through their own criminal activity.

Financial rewards approved by the Board will be in addition to any financial reward systems being operated by community organizations such as "Crime Stoppers".

Policy

(a) Awards

From time to time, it may be desirable for the Codiac Regional Policing Authority (CPR Authority) to present awards recognizing citizens, police officers, civilian staff or community agencies that have made a significant contribution to the safety and security of the region. An appropriate amount will be determined by the CRP Authority and will be a line item in the CRP Authority budget.

The CRP Authority, in consultation with the Officer in Charge (OIC), will determine the recipients of such awards for unusual and significant acts.

(b) Rewards

The CRP Authority wishes to support the Codiac Regional Police Service (CRPS) in preventing and solving crime, including the pursuit and apprehension of offenders, through the offer and payment of rewards when deemed appropriate by the OIC.

This policy provides direction to the OIC with regard to the public offering and payment of rewards to persons who provide information that assists in solving a specific, significant crime or crimes, including the location or return of missing persons

or property. It does not apply to any policies already in place within the Police Service with regard to Paid Informants.

1. The OIC shall ensure that there is an internal procedure in place that sets out rules to be followed with regard to the offering of rewards when it is believed it would lead to the conviction of any person guilty of an offence or lead to the location or return of a missing person or property. The procedure will include the identification of methods for making the public aware of such a reward and the period for which the reward will remain active.
2. Rewards are approved through the chain of command. Upon receipt of a recommendation, the OIC shall determine if offering a reward is appropriate in the circumstances.
3. The OIC shall have delegated authority to approve rewards up to a limit of \$25,000 provided that funds are available within the existing budget. Rewards over \$25,000 shall require the approval of the CRP Authority. In this instance, the Board, in consultation with the OIC, will consider the benefit of providing a financial reward in a particular case and decide upon the conditions for the payment of a reward.
4. Offers of contributions to rewards from third parties shall not be accepted.
5. The OIC shall determine if any person or persons is/are entitled to all or any portion of any offered reward.
6. Members and employees, or immediate family of a member or support personnel of the CRPS, the CRP Authority or any other law enforcement agency shall not be entitled to claim any reward monies. The OIC retains ultimate authority to decide, in his/her discretion, a person's eligibility for the payment of any reward monies.
7. The identity of any person claiming a reward shall not be disclosed publicly unless the OIC approves the disclosure of this information or is obliged to release the information due to disclosure laws.
8. The OIC or designate shall ensure that the appropriate accounting and audit systems are in place to ensure accountability and transparency of reward funds deposited and/or disbursed.
9. Financial rewards under this policy will be in addition to financial reward systems being operated by community organizations such as "Crime Stoppers."

Reporting Requirements

The OIC shall report to the CRP Authority annually on compliance with the provisions of this Policy and on any rewards offered during the reporting period.