Codiac Regional Policing Authority

Policy #: G-903

Category: Accountability

Subject: Access to Information

Date: Insert

Review Cycle: Year 4/5 **Review Date:** 2024

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.

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.

Section 17.05(2) provides that a regional policing authority "shall provide

- a) To the parties to the agreement under section 17.01, at intervals set by the agreement or on the request of one of the parties to the agreement after reasonable notice, or
- b) To the Minister of Environment and Local Government on request after reasonable notice,

a report showing the current financial position of the police service as compared with its budget.

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 include the following provisions regarding right to information:

"The Board supports the principle of open yet appropriate access to all Board information. The Board also recognizes and respects the need for privacy when appropriate.

The Board is subject to the provisions of the relevant federal and provincial legislation.

Requests for information will be dealt with expeditiously.

In the case of a Regional Policing Authority, information directly related to the RCMP Regional Police Force is subject to various legislation and should be directed to the OIC with a documented record made of the redirection, including report back time, as appropriate.

The Board should establish and adhere to a document retention schedule."

Policy

The Codiac Regional Policing Authority (CRP Authority) supports the principle of open yet appropriate access to all CRP Authority information. The CRP Authority also recognizes and respects the need for privacy when appropriate.

The CRP Authority is subject to the provisions of the relevant federal and provincial Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy legislation.

The Authority-appointed Secretary and the Executive Coordinator will collaborate to respond to all requests for information related to the role and business of the CRP Authority. Any questions will be raised with the CRP Authority Chairperson.

Requests for information will be dealt with expeditiously and will be subject to the provisions of the relevant legislation and regulation in New Brunswick.

The CRP Authority will establish and adhere to a document retention schedule.

Information directly related to the Codiac Regional Police Service (CRPS) is subject to federal legislation and should be directed to the OIC with a documented record made of the redirection, including report back time, as appropriate. All such correspondence should be diarized dated by the Executive Coordinator to ensure expeditious response by the CRP Authority or the party to whom correspondence has been directed for a response.