

## **INDEPENDENT POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW**

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

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The following information is provided to assist you with learning about the Independent Police Oversight Review (IPOR) and its process. Should you have any further questions, please contact the IPOR office at: 1-844-523-6122.

#### **WHY WAS THE INDEPENDENT POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW CREATED?**

On April 29, 2016, the Ontario government appointed the Honourable Justice Michael H. Tulloch to lead an independent review of the police oversight bodies in the province, in particular, the Special Investigations Unit (SIU), the Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD) and the Ontario Civilian Police Commission (OCPC).

Justice Tulloch has been asked to provide the government with recommendations on ways to enhance the transparency and accountability of these three police oversight bodies, while at the same time ensuring that these bodies are carrying out their work as effectively and efficiently as possible.

The purpose of the IPOR is to review and make recommendations on how to:

1. Enhance the transparency and accountability of the police oversight bodies, while preserving fundamental rights;
2. Ensure the police oversight bodies are effective and have clear mandates; and
3. Reduce overlap and inefficiencies between these bodies.

#### **WHO IS LEADING THE INDEPENDENT POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW?**

The reviewer is Justice Michael H. Tulloch, who has been a judge with the Ontario Court of Appeal since June 2012. Prior to his appointment with the Ontario Court of Appeal, he was appointed as a judge to the Ontario Superior Court of Justice in 2003 and presided in the Central Western Region of Ontario. Throughout his judicial career, he has presided over all types of cases and conducted numerous civil and criminal jury trials, summary conviction appeals, and divisional court appeals.

#### **WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR THE INDEPENDENT POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW?**

As part of his review, Justice Tulloch will engage in public and stakeholder consultations. These consultations will be held across the province and will include consultations that are open to the public. Public consultation sessions are currently scheduled to begin in September and will continue through to December.

## **WHERE WILL THE IPOR BE?**

The IPOR public consultation sessions will be held in the following cities: Toronto and the Greater Toronto area, Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, Kingston, Hamilton, London and Windsor. For a detailed schedule of meetings, please visit the IPOR website at: [www.policeoversightreview.ca](http://www.policeoversightreview.ca)

In addition to the public consultations, Justice Tulloch is meeting with various stakeholder groups and organizations to gather their specific views based on their work and experiences.

Members of the public, including other groups and organizations, who are interested in providing their comments about police oversight are also encouraged to do so.

Online comments can be made on the IPOR website at: [www.policeoversightreview.ca](http://www.policeoversightreview.ca)

Also written comments can be sent to: Independent Police Oversight Review  
MacDonald Block, Box 160  
Toronto, ON M7A 1N3

Comments can also be emailed to: [info@policeoversightreview.ca](mailto:info@policeoversightreview.ca)

## **WHAT WILL THE INDEPENDENT POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW BE DOING AFTER THE CONSULTATIONS?**

After the consultation phase, Justice Tulloch will submit his final report containing all of his recommendations to the Ontario Attorney General no later than March 31, 2017. This report will be made available to the public.

## **WHAT WILL THE INDEPENDENT POLICE OVERSIGHT REVIEW NOT BE DOING?**

The IPOR will not be examining or making specific findings on individual cases or claims. It will not make any findings of guilt or liability, nor will it comment on ongoing, open cases. Rather, the final report will offer recommendations to Attorney General on how to create a more transparent, accountable and efficient approach to police oversight in Ontario.

## WHAT ARE POLICE OVERSIGHT BODIES?

The police oversight bodies in Ontario are:

### **I. THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT (SIU):**

The SIU was established in 1990 with a mandate to cause investigations to be conducted into the circumstances of serious injuries and deaths that may have resulted from criminal offences, including sexual assaults committed by police officers.

The SIU does not have jurisdiction over First Nations Police Services.

### **II. THE ONTARIO CIVILIAN POLICE COMMISSION (OCPC):**

The OCPC was established in 2007 with a mandate to, among other things, conduct hearings and adjudicate disputes related to police disciplinary decisions; budget disputes between municipal councils and police service boards; and disputes related to the provision of police services.

The OCPC does have not jurisdiction over First Nations Police Services.

### **III. THE OFFICE OF THE INDEPENDENT POLICE REVIEW DIRECTOR (OIPRD):**

The OIPRD was established in 2007 with a mandate to receive, manage and oversee all public complaints about police in Ontario; complaints can be in relation to the conduct of a police officer, or the policies and services of a police force.

The OIRPD does not have jurisdiction over complaints about First Nations police officers or their police services.

## HOW CAN I HAVE MY VIEWS HEARD?

Members of the public, including individuals, groups and organizations, who are interested in providing their comments about police oversight, are encouraged to do so.

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