

Safety, Licensing Appeals and
Standards Tribunals Ontario
Ontario Civilian Police Commission

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Tribunaux de la sécurité, des appels en
matière de permis et des normes Ontario
**Commission civile de l'Ontario
sur la police**

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May 30, 2017

Grand Chief Alvin Fiddler
Nishnawbe Aski Nation
afiddler@nan.on.ca

Ogichidaa Francis Kavanaugh
Grand Council Treat #3
grand.chief@treaty3.ca

Chief Jim Leonard
Rainy River First Nation
j.leonard@bellnet.ca

Via Email

Dear Grand Chief Fiddler, Ogichidaa Kavanaugh and Chief Leonard:

**RE: Application for Inquiry and Appointment of Administrator Respecting
Thunder Bay Police Services Board**

I write in response to your letter of 29 May 2017.

I would first like to say that the recent deaths of Tammy Keeash, and Josiah Begg were tragedies for their families and their communities. I offer my sympathy and my condolences.

Thank you for taking the time to bring your concerns about the function of the police board to my attention. In your letter you make two requests: that the Ontario Civilian Police Commission ('Commission') investigate the Thunder Bay Police Services Board ('Board') pursuant to s.25(1)(b) of the *Police Services Act* (PSA) and that the Commission immediately appoint an administrator pursuant to section 23(1)(4) of the *PSA*.

I can advise you that the Commission has commenced an investigation pursuant to section 25(1) (b) and (c) of the *PSA* in order to inquire into the manner in which the Board has been providing oversight to the Thunder Bay Police Service.

At this time, the Commission requires evidence from its investigation before considering the appointment of an administrator pursuant to section 24. Should our investigation provide such evidence, the Commission will not hesitate to act accordingly.

I shall provide the name of the investigator shortly. Given the issues you raised, I will ensure that the investigator will demonstrate cultural competency in respect of Indigenous issues. I would ask that you co-operate fully with the investigator and provide all relevant information to the Commission.

In the interim, should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Benson Cowan, Head of Legal Services to the Safety, Licensing Appeals and Standards Tribunals Ontario and counsel to the Commission. He can be reached at Benson.Cowan@ontario.ca or 416-326-2455.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Linda P. Lamoureux". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Linda" being the most prominent part.

Linda P. Lamoureux
Executive Chair
Safety, Licensing Appeals and Standards Tribunals Ontario

cc.

Thunder Bay Police Services Board
c/o Robert Edwards, Counsel

Hon. Marie-France Lalonde
Minister, Community Safety and Correctional Services

Matthew Torigian
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services

Gerry McNeilly
Independent Police Review Director
Office of the Independent Police Review Director