



*Commissioner    Le Commissaire*

December 15, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO:

ALL MEMBERS

Re: Statement of Interim Commissioner Blair

I acknowledge the announcement today that the appointment of Superintendent Taverner as Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police will be deferred pending a review of the hiring process. I have already had discussions with Deputy Commissioner Couture who assumes command effective Monday, December 17, 2018. I will be fully supportive in assisting his transition.

On November 5, 2018, I assumed command of the OPP as Interim Commissioner and was grateful to have the confidence of my colleagues and employees of the Service. I have been humbled by the honour of leading the women and men of the OPP and I do not regret a single step I have had to take.

I remain devoted to ensuring that the well-earned reputation of the Ontario Provincial Police remains untarnished. It is this credibility along with the perceived independence of our Service that puts us in the best possible position to uphold the rule of law and keep the people of Ontario safe.

Consistent with the letter from my legal counsel to the Minister of Community Safety and the Attorney General for Ontario, I understand the preference for an alternative Interim Commissioner and will cooperate in every respect.

I am pleased to resume my duties as Deputy Commissioner, Traffic Safety and Operational Support Command and will continue to support the Office of the Commissioner.

B.W. (Brad) Blair, O.O.M.  
Interim Commissioner