Smiths Falls Police Services Board

Being a by-law to establish the
Smiths Falls Police Service Board's Community Support and Recognition Fund (CSRF)
and to set forth its governance rules.

WHEREAS Sections 258 and 259 of the *Community Safety and Policing Act* empower the Smiths Falls Police Service Board (the "Board") to utilize proceeds from the sale of unclaimed property and money found or seized by the police service for purposes deemed in the public interest by the Board;

AND WHEREAS the Board aims to bolster community engagement and partnerships through the establishment of the Community Support and Recognition Fund (CSRF), thereby enriching the community within the town of Smiths Falls and advancing the Board's objectives towards community safety and well-being;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board enacts as follows:

Purpose

This by-law formalizes the establishment of the CSRF, a pivotal resource designed to enhance community-police partnerships, support policing initiatives that enrich the community life of the residents of the Town of Smiths Falls and advance the Board's strategic plan and community safety and well-being through careful fund management and allocation.

Fund Establishment, Governance, and Application

1. **Name and Establishment**: The fund is hereby established as the "Smiths Falls Police Service Board's Community Support and Recognition Fund" (CSRF).
2. **Statutory Authority**: In accordance with the *Community Safety and Policing Act*, the Board holds exclusive rights to allocate proceeds from unclaimed property and seized money towards public interest initiatives, including charitable contributions.
3. **Fund Priorities**: The CSRF will prioritize funding for:
    - Community Safety and Well-being: Initiatives targeting community safety enhancement, strengthening police/community relations, and addressing systemic issues such as Intimate Partner Violence and hate crimes.
    - Police/Community Partnerships: Programs aimed at fostering positive interactions between Smiths Falls Police and community members.
    - Youth Initiatives: Projects dedicated to engaging and supporting youth, especially those from marginalized or vulnerable groups.
    - Public Education/Awareness: Efforts to raise awareness and educate the public on community safety and policing services.

4. **Fund Guidelines**:

   - Individual Consideration: Each CSRF allocation is considered on its own merits, without a commitment to ongoing funding for any specific program or initiative.
   - Community Group Funding: Financial backing for police members, cadets, community groups, and organizations attending police-oriented or public safety-related events.
   - Application Transparency: Required financial documentation from funding recipients to ensure fund transparency and proper utilization.
   - Requirement for Local Non-Profits: Priority given to not-for-profit organizations based within the Town of Smiths Falls. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

5. **Fund Limitations**:

   - Non-Recurring Support: The CSRF does not commit to ongoing funding or recurring donations to specific programs or initiatives.
   - No Retroactive or Political Funding: Funds will not support events that have already occurred or those of a political or partisan nature.

6. **Fund Approvals and Administration**:

   - **Application and Approval Process**: A detailed application process is required, including project description, objectives, budget, and timeline for assessment and approval by the Board office.
   - **Delegated Authority**: The Chief of Police is authorized to approve disbursements with Board approval on the amount seized from property of crime every two years
   - **Annual Chief's Disbursement**: An annual allocation of $2,000 is designated for the Chief of Police to support Board and Police Service representation at events, subject to audit.

7. **Fund Reporting and Transparency**:

   - **Annual Audit**: An external audit of the CSRF will be conducted annually, with findings presented to the Board and made public to ensure financial transparency and accountability.

This BY-LAW was read a first, second, and third time

and finally passed this day of 15 2025 July

Board Chair