

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Ministère du Solliciteur général



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Public Safety Training Division

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MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Stephen Beckett
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

SUBJECT: Legislative Protective Service – Information Sharing

DATE OF ISSUE:	May 28, 2019
CLASSIFICATION:	General Information
RETENTION:	Indefinite
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Please review the attached letter from the Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety regarding information sharing with the Legislative Protective Service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Beckett", written in a cursive style.

Stephen Beckett
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

Attachment

May 28, 2019

I am writing to help ensure that police services are aware of the role of the Legislative Protective Service (LPS) and to encourage police services to share appropriate information with the LPS to assist it in discharging this role.

Subsection 103(2), under the *Legislative Assembly Act*, provides that the LPS is “responsible for all matters with respect to the physical protection and security of the legislative precinct, including controlling access to and from the precinct, preserving and maintaining the public peace, protecting life and property and protecting the legislative process.” Other recent changes to the *Legislative Assembly Act* have further set out the role and authority of peace officers appointed to the LPS by the Speaker of the Ontario Legislature.

Designated members of the LPS are peace officers, and have the powers of a police officer, for the purpose of providing physical protection and security within the Legislative Precinct. The Legislative Precinct contains the Ontario Legislature and its grounds, including the Lieutenant Governor’s Suite and parts of the Whitney Block, which houses legislative offices as well as the Premier’s Offices.

Timely and effective information sharing is critical to all agencies across the province and the LPS should be included in this consideration. In order for the LPS to effectively meet its mandate, it is important that it has access to intelligence and/or information about threats or incidents that may impact upon the Legislative Precinct.

Section 5 of O. Reg. 265/98, made under the *Police Services Act*, permits a chief of police or designate to disclose information to any person or agency engaged in the protection of the public about an individual if the individual is under investigation of, charged with or convicted of a criminal or other offence and the disclosure is required for the protection of the public, administration of justice, or enforcement of, or compliance with, the law. In addition, both the *Municipal Freedom of Information Act* and the *Freedom of Information Act* permit the disclosure of personal information where disclosure is for a purpose that is consistent with the purpose for which the information was gathered.

Finally, I would offer that the Legislative Protective Service may also serve as a valuable resource to law enforcement agencies seeking information relating to activities occurring within the Legislative Precinct. Security concerns involving MPPs can occur

within the legislature or in their ridings. The sharing of information allows for coordination of efforts, enabling faster and better decision-making and the appropriate safety measures when and if required. To this end, it is important that all law enforcement agencies within the province collaborate and share appropriate information with the Legislative Protective Service.

Please share this communication with the respective special constable employers you have sponsored appointments for.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mario Di Tommaso". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety