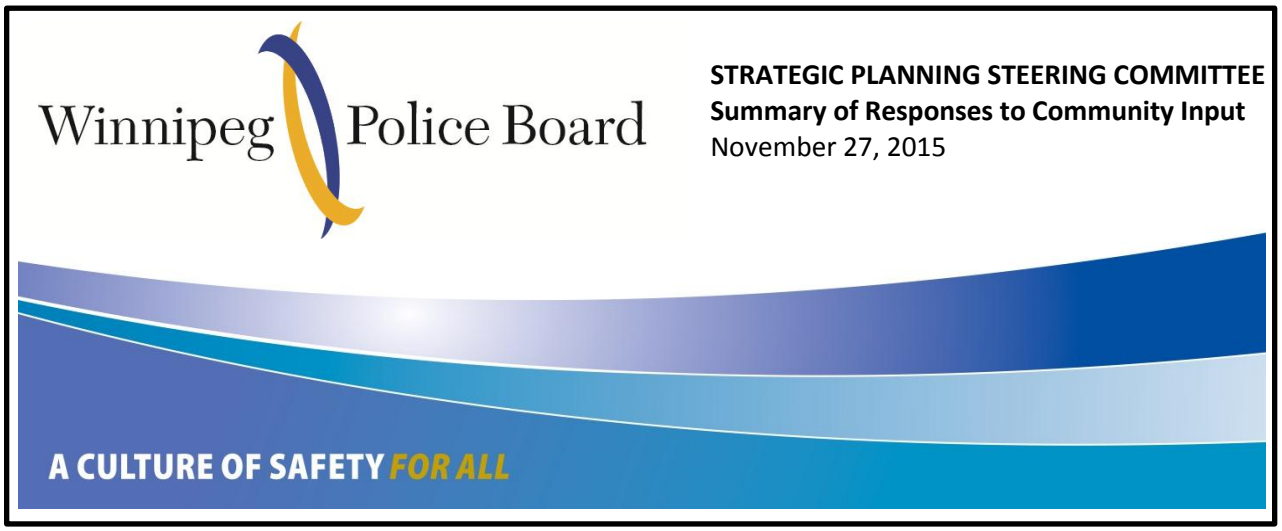


STRATEGIC PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE
Summary of Responses to Community Input
November 27, 2015

The Winnipeg Police Board promotes transparency. We also appreciate the valuable community input we received during the 2015 consultation process. We are therefore publishing an overview of how we have responded to that input. This will allow citizens who do not see their comments reflected in changes to the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan for the Winnipeg Police Service to understand how the plan incorporates their feedback, or how their feedback will be addressed elsewhere.

1. FEEDBACK ADDRESSED IN THE EXISTING STRATEGIC PLAN

Many citizens who engaged with the Board offered comments that were supportive of the existing strategic plan. Aspects of the plan that met with public support included:

- The vision, "A Culture of Safety for All"
- Emphasis on helping vulnerable people, including women, children and youth, Indigenous people, people with mental illness, people with addictions
- Crime Prevention Through Social Development (CPTSD)
- Inclusion of targets
- Cadet program
- Downtown safety strategy
- Commitment to engaging and involving communities
- Police attending community events
- Police presence in schools
- Restorative justice
- Intelligence-led policing (Smart Policing Initative)
- Enhancing communication and transparency
- Enhancing community relationships
- Use of partnerships to accomplish community safety goals
- Less crime & victimization
- Improving traffic safety
- Cultural awareness/sensitivity training

- Enhancing the professionalism of the Service
- Innovative technologies, innovative uses of technology
- Caring about the mental health and wellness of members of the Winnipeg Police Service

2. FEEDBACK TO BE CONSIDERED IN DEVELOPMENT OF THE SERVICE'S ANNUAL BUSINESS PLANS

Citizens also commented on several occasions that they supported the principles of the Strategic Plan but were interested in seeing how its goals and strategic directions were implemented. These comments highlighted community expectations for specific policing activities that could be improved and how this could be accomplished.

The Strategic Plan is a high-level document. It provides overarching directions to the Winnipeg Police Service. The Service will operationalize these directions through its annual business plans, which will be reviewed by the Board and published on the Service and the Board's respective websites. The Board has shared all consultation feedback with the Service, including feedback that can be considered during the development of the Service's annual business plans. Comments which support the Strategic Plan but which involve a level of detail that is more appropriately addressed in the business plans include feedback on:

- The deployment of patrol officers
- The number and nature of community events attended by officers and cadets
- The number and nature of community boards in which officers are involved
- The community organizations with whom the Service should develop or strengthen its partnerships
- What officers should do and say when interacting with members of the public
- The nature and medium the Service uses to communicate with the public
- How the Service liaises and collaborates with mental health professionals to serve individuals with mental illness

3. FEEDBACK TO BE SHARED WITH GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Board also heard comments and suggestions from citizens regarding ways to improve community safety that fell outside of the Board and the Service's respective mandates. These include areas, such as the provision of recreational activities, to which the Service can make a contribution but for which it is not ultimately responsible. The input the Board received indicated support for the approach of crime prevention through social development and the Service working in partnership with other agencies and community organizations. The Board has made this feedback available to other levels of government, government agencies and community organizations in recognition of its value and to express gratitude to the citizens who took the time to share their comments. The comments and suggestions that fell outside of the Board and the Service's mandates included:

- Improving funding to social services that can support citizens who might otherwise come into contact with police

- Improving the supply of affordable housing
- Infrastructure that promotes safety, such as lighting in public spaces
- Cleaning up public spaces that are littered with empty alcohol bottles and sometimes hypodermic needles
- Support services available to newcomers
- More recreation programs for children and youth