2026 Winnipeg Police Board Business Plan
September 2026 Semi-Annual Update

Winnipeg Police Board

At the March 6, 2026, public meeting, the Board adopted the 2026 Business Plan that outlines the actions to be undertaken in the execute the Board's role and duties under four key areas of operation:

- Governance, procedure, and policy
- Budget and risk management
- Strategic plan implementation and evaluation
- Liaising between the community and the WPS

Below is a status and update on each of the actions identified in the Board's business plan.

Status Indicators:							
Completed:	✓	In Progress:		At Risk:		Future Action:	
# to date	5		18		0		4

Governance, Procedure, and Policy – *Effectively Govern*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Develop and implement priorities, objectives, and a 2026 performance evaluation plan for the Chief of Police.	Q1		The Board directed a set of priorities, objectives, and directions to the Police Chief in April 2026. The Report of the Board Chair from June 6, 2026, contained the priorities set for the Police Chief. The Board has implemented a framework to fulfill its legislated duty to monitor the Police Chief's performance. The framework includes consideration of a variety of inputs and evaluation considerations, including progress made toward implementation of the Strategic Plan for the WPS established by the board, results of community and workplace engagement initiatives, statistical metrics and trends in data, and other sources relevant to the roles and responsibilities assigned by *The Police Services Act*.
Review, amend, and align the Winnipeg Police Board Rules of Practice and Procedure with best practices for efficient operations.	Q1-Q2		Proposed amendments to the Winnipeg Police Board Rules of Practice and Procedure have been prepared and tabled at the May 22 and August 27, 2026, Committee of the Whole Board meeting for consideration of the Board.
Review existing Board policies established for the effective management of the WPS and identify areas for further policy development.	Q2-4		The Board reviewed its Succession Management Policy at a private meeting on [date], along with current factors impacting the succession environment within the Winnipeg Police Service executive office. A report from the Winnipeg Police Service in response to the Bias Free Policing policy was reviewed at the June 6, 2026, public meeting. The Board will further consider its Bias Free Policing policy in the coming months as more information becomes available on the collection of race-based data. The Board's Law Enforcement Accreditation policy remains prudent in the continued absence of provincial policing standards. Further review and consideration will be given to areas to develop Board policy.
Recommend amendments to binding policy documents to reflect current practices, modern roles and responsibilities, and promote effective communication among partners.	Q3-Q4		Future review and attention to be contemplated regarding proposed amendments to government(s) respecting binding policy documents, by-laws, regulations, and legislation. The Manitoba Police Commission has committed to hosting a meeting of Manitoba's police chairs to promote collaboration and information sharing in 2026.

Governance, Procedure, and Policy – *Enhance Capacity*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Identify and participate in learning and training opportunities to support effective execution of the Board's role.	Ongoing		Board members and staff participated in an orientation/refresher session with the Manitoba Police Commission on January 16, 2026. Board members and staff attended a full-day behavioural health seminar provided for WPS members in February 2026. Board members and staff have participated in 2 webinars delivered on a variety of topics by the Canadian Association of Police Governance (CAPG). A board member and board staff participated in the CAPG 'Get on Board' Virtual Summit in March 2026. The Board Chair and Executive Director attended the 37th annual CAPG National Conference: "Navigating Complexity: Police Governance in an Era of Competing Pressures" in August 2026.
Develop and implement self-evaluation processes for Board committees and members.	Q2-Q3		The Board considered a self-evaluation questionnaire at a private meeting on August 27, 2026. Future review and attention to be contemplated after committee structure is determined.
Review and amend Board meeting agendas, schedules, and organization to optimize good governance.	Q1-Q2		Quarterly private meetings with the Police Chief have been rescheduled to distribute them evenly throughout the calendar year. Committee of the Whole Board agendas have been re-structured and streamlined to promote efficient use of meeting time and improve meeting effectiveness. Ongoing attention will be paid to meeting times and structure to enhance effective communication, oversight, governance, and decision-making.

Budget and Risk Management – *Effectively Oversee*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Support the WPS in identifying fiscal priorities and advancing funding requests to appropriate senior levels of government.	Ongoing		At the February 20, 2026, Committee of the Whole Board meeting, certain budget areas were identified as fiscal priorities in the coming year. The Board has reviewed and approved a preliminary budget proposal for 2027. The Winnipeg Police Service's budget proposal will be considered as part of the City of Winnipeg's 2027 operating and capital budget submissions to Council. On July 2, 2026, the Board met with Mayor Gillingham and discussed budget priorities for 2027 and future years.
Allocate WPS budget funds, as set by council, ensuring alignment with policing priorities and community needs.	Q1		At the March 6, 2026, public Board meeting, the Board allocated funds within the WPS annual budget. The Board continues to monitor WPS budget update reports to ensure prudent financial management and alignment with priorities set by the Board.
Adhere to the prescribed annual budget development timelines and recommend estimates for the WPS budget for the next fiscal year.	Q2-Q4		The City of Winnipeg's Chief Financial Officer has prescribed timelines for the development of 2027 departmental budget proposals. The Winnipeg Police Service and Board have adhered to those timelines and submitted preliminary budget proposals for 2027.
Monitor and identify emergent risks and management strategies.	Ongoing		The WPS has provided quarterly risk management reports to the Board. The Board has identified key risk(s) and continues to monitor management strategies.
Support Board staff in the development of internal business plans and budget proposals to enhance the Board's capacity.	Q3-Q4		The Board has reviewed and approved a preliminary budget proposal for 2027, including recommendations that the Board's budget be increased to allow for more fulsome and effective professional services for the Board, greater community engagement and learning opportunities, and enhance the Board's capacity to fulfil its legislated responsibilities. The Board's 2027 budget proposal will be considered as part of the City of Winnipeg's 2027 operating budget submission to Council.

Budget and Risk Management – *Inform Partners and Community*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Receive and review regular financial reporting from the WPS.	Ongoing		The Winnipeg Police Service has provided regular budget updates and projections to the Board for review and oversight. The Board continually monitors Winnipeg Police Service revenues and expenses to ensure sound fiscal management and to align policing services with the community's needs, values, and expectations.
Submit regular reports to City Council through its Standing Policy Committee(s)	Ongoing		The 2026-2030 Strategic Plan for the WPS was presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Community Services in January 2026. Quarterly financial updates for the Board and WPS were provided to the Standing Policy Committee on Finance and Economic Development in April and July 2026. Further reports will be provided to these committees throughout the year.

Strategic Plan Implementation and Evaluation – *Monitor and Evaluate*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Identify and engage directly with partnering organizations, impacted individuals, rights holders, and representatives to gauge perceptions of policing.	Q3-Q4		On March 11, 2026, the Board met with Pattison Food Group to hear concerns and information relating to retail crime, employee and customer safety. On March 11, 2026, the Board met with the Winnipeg Police Association to hear feedback from the union representing police officers and professional staff. Future planning and activities will be held to gather feedback from the community and partners.
In collaboration with the WPS, conduct a citizen satisfaction survey to measure broad community perceptions of policing.	Q2-Q3		The 2026 Public Opinion Survey was conducted in August 2026 by Prairie Research Associates Inc. Summary results of the survey will be presented at the September 11, 2026, public meeting.
Review and understand data, trends, and factors related to crime, safety, and police service delivery.	Ongoing		The 2025 WPS Annual Statistical Report was presented to the Board on May 8, 2026, and has been shared publicly. The first quarterly update from the WPS on its business plan has been presented at the June 5, 2026, public meeting. Data and information compiled from a variety of sources has influenced the content of the 2026 Environment for Policing in Winnipeg Report, which was presented at the June 5, 2026, public meeting.

Strategic Plan Implementation and Evaluation – *Promote Accountability*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Develop and publish 2026 Environment for Policing in Winnipeg Report.	Q2	✓	The 2026 Environment for Policing in Winnipeg Report was presented at the June 5, 2026, public meeting. The report is intended to help the board and the public understand the broader conditions shaping how policing is delivered in our city and promote effective governance, public discussion, and accountability. The key message from this year's report is that policing in Winnipeg is shaped by a mix of encouraging trends and serious ongoing pressures. The report points to several positive developments: • The capacity of the Winnipeg Police Service to respond to calls for service has improved. • More non-urgent calls for service are being responded to; Crime clearance rates improved for a third consecutive year. • Overall rates and severity in crime are down. • Policing continues to take place in a highly complex social environment.
Develop 2027 Strategic Plan Update.	Q3-Q4	↻	The first annual update to the Board's 2026-2030 Strategic Plan for the Winnipeg Police Service will be informed by feedback gathered from the community in 2026, reports from the WPS, environmental factors identified in the 2026 Environment for Policing in Winnipeg Report, and further Board direction.
Identify and attend events and forums to share information on the Board's work and solicit feedback from the community.	Ongoing	◔	On March 19, 2026, the Board Chair and Executive Director attended the launce of the Manitoba Women in Law Enforcement Association. The Board has met with business and political representatives, received communications from community members, and received summary results of the 2026 public opinion survey. Further planning and action are required to identify to solicit feedback from the community.

Community Liaison – *Engage and Consult*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Identify, attend, and/or provide accessible opportunities to listen to and understand the community's needs, values, and expectations of policing.	Ongoing		The Board has held the required public meeting(s) to date and provided opportunity for delegations to speak to matters within the jurisdiction of the Board. The Board has received summary results of the 2026 public opinion survey, including feedback on community priorities and needs. The Board has met with business leaders and discussed their needs, priorities, and experiences. Further planning and action are required to identify to solicit feedback from the community. The Board is/has recruited a staff person dedicated to public engagement and communications in support of advancing this priority.
Consult with elected officials to strengthen relationships and advance priorities.	Ongoing		A municipal election will be held in October 2026. The Board will meet with the newly elected Council after that date to share information on roles, responsibilities, and priorities. The Board met with Mayor Gillingham on July 2, 2026, and discussed policing and public safety priorities, board appointment and composition priorities, and budget priorities.
Review and improve communication with the public through the Board's website and use of social media platforms.	Q1 & Ongoing		The homepage of the Board's website (www.winnipegpoliceboard.ca) was updated in July 2026 to include more clear and plain-language information on the role and purpose of the Board. Official Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn pages for the Board were launched in July 2026. Board staff continue to review the Board's website for further changes to increase its useability and value to the community. The Board is/has recruited a staff person dedicated to public engagement and communications in support of advancing this priority.
Present reports and publications, using plain language and graphics, to support understanding and message delivery.	Ongoing		Board reports published to date have incorporated plain language and graphics in the spirit of accessibility. The Board is/has recruited a staff person dedicated to public engagement and communications in support of advancing this priority.

Community Liaison – *Reflect Community Needs in Policing*

Actions	Timeframe	Status	Update
Use input from the community to inform governance decisions and strategic planning.	Ongoing		The Board used input received from the community through public engagement while developing its 2026-2030 Strategic Plan for the Winnipeg Police Service and to inform the priorities, objectives, and directions given to the Police Chief. The Board has had some opportunity to hear from the community, though further planning and action is required to solicit further input to inform future decision making. The Executive Director is currently recruiting a staff person dedicated to public engagement and communications in support of advancing this priority.
Review and understand social, economic, and environmental factors that influence crime, public safety, and perceptions of policing.	Ongoing		Data and information on various upstream factors have been considered by the Board in the 2026 Environment for Policing in Winnipeg Report, which was presented at the June 5, 2026, public meeting. The 2026 public opinion survey includes feedback from the community on perceptions of police activities and effectiveness.
Work with experts, advocates, rights holders, and community partners to find innovative and informed ways to contribute to public safety.	Ongoing		Further planning and action are required to identify desired topics and sources to achieve this action item. The Executive Director is currently recruiting a staff person dedicated to public engagement and communications in support of advancing this priority.