



HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AUGUST 11, 2022

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Hamilton Police Services Board Statement Regarding May 26 Arrest Video

The Hamilton Police Services Board is concerned by the officer's actions in a recent video showing a Hamilton Police Constable using excessive force during an arrest on May 26, 2022. We know this act has far reaching impacts on the Indigenous community and our greater community as a whole.

As a Board, we hold the Service accountable through Board governance. As soon as Hamilton Police observed the video of the arrest, they immediately notified the Board Chair of the incident, suspended the Constable and notified the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). When the SIU did not invoke their mandate to investigate this incident, Hamilton Police commenced a criminal investigation.

The Board has been briefed on the incident and we are aware Constable Wren has been charged with assault and suspended from duty. Hamilton Police also reached out to the Hamilton Regional Indian Centre to inform them of the incident and charges related to the Constable.

In keeping with the Board's oversight and responsibilities, the Board has requested a review of all policies and procedures related to prisoner handling and use of force to ensure they are current and reflective of best practices.

As a Board, we acknowledge there are systemic changes needed to address the historical relationship between law enforcement and Indigenous peoples in Canada.

We thank the community for their advocacy in calling for change through their recommendations. As the governing body for the police service, we are committed to engaging and supporting the community in creating transformative change that addresses and fosters true reconciliation.

For more information please contact:

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www.hamiltonpolice.on.ca/about/police-services-board