

# Board Member Badges PSB-AI-006

**Effective Date: 2023/12/15** 

## **Policy Statement**

The Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board recognizes the importance of setting clear guidelines for the provision, use, and return of ceremonial badges provided to Board members. This policy outlines the ceremonial nature of these badges and establishes the principles and procedures governing their distribution, use, and return, ensuring transparency, accountability, and adherence to ethical standards.

# 1. Policy Requirements

#### a. Ceremonial Nature of Badges:

Badges provided to Board members hold deep ceremonial and symbolic significance, serving as tokens of gratitude for their dedicated service on the Police Services Board. It is imperative to emphasize that the receipt of these badges is entirely optional, granting Board members the choice to accept badges, reflective of their position.

Board members shall be provided with these badges purely in a ceremonial capacity, underscoring their oversight role within the Board. It is crucial to note that these badges are not intended for official identification or to represent their roles within the Board formally. Instead, they symbolize the collective respect of their valuable contributions.

#### b. Prohibited Usage:

Badges cannot be used in any manner that may suggest or resemble the use of police badges by law enforcement officers.

Board members are prohibited from using the badges for personal or business gains, political purposes, promotional activities, or any endeavors that may compromise the integrity of the Board or its members, consistent with the Board's Code of Conduct.

#### c. Return of Badges:

Upon completion of a Board member's term or resignation, the ceremonial badge must be promptly returned to the Police Services Board office.

#### d. Code of Conduct and Oath:

Board members receiving ceremonial badges are required to sign a formal oath, affirming their commitment to using the badge responsibly and ethically. The Oath is attached in Appendix A of this policy. The oath shall outline specific guidelines regarding the appropriate use of the badge and the consequences of violating the policy.

Board members will also continue to adhere to the Board's code of conduct (O.Reg. 421/97 – Member of Police Services Boards – Code of Conduct)

## 2. Reporting

The Chair and/or Executive Director shall report to the Board on any breaches of this policy that result in circumstances detrimental to the Board or potential issues of liability.

## 3. Authority/Legislative Reference

O.Reg. 421/97 – Member of Police Services Boards - Code of Conduct

#### 4. Approval

This policy is approved by the Police Services Board on December 15, 2023.

#### **APPENDIX A**

# Oath of Ceremonial Badge Acceptance

I, [Board Member's Full Name], solemnly affirm and declare my commitment to upholding the honor and integrity associated with the ceremonial badge bestowed upon me by the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board. In accepting this badge, I acknowledge and pledge to adhere to the principles outlined in the Board's policy regarding the provision, use, and return of ceremonial badges.

I understand that the badge provided to me is purely ceremonial and symbolic in nature, representing a token of appreciation for my association with the Police Services Board. I acknowledge that this badge is not intended for official identification purposes and shall not be used to represent my role within the Board formally. I further affirm that I shall never use this ceremonial badge in any manner that may suggest or resemble the use of police badges by law enforcement officers.

I pledge not to use the badge for personal or financial gain, political purposes, promotional activities, or any endeavors that may harm the reputation of the Board or its members. I understand that any such actions would be in direct violation of the Board's policy and may result in appropriate action taken by the Board.

I acknowledge my responsibility to return the ceremonial badge promptly to the Police Services Board office upon the completion of my term or in the event of my resignation. I understand that failure to return the badge in a timely manner may lead to corrective measures, as deemed necessary by the Board.

By affixing my signature below, I solemnly affirm my dedication to using this ceremonial badge responsibly, ethically, and in strict accordance with the policies and guidelines set forth by the Regional Municipality of Peel Police Services Board.

[Board Member's Signature]
[Date]