Winnipeg Police Board

2019 COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

This report is a summary of how the Board received and collected community input in 2019. Comments and questions from community members inform the Boards' understanding of what the community needs, values and expects from police services in Winnipeg. The Board considers this input when it sets strategic priorities for the Winnipeg Police Service.

The Board co-hosted events with community organizations during 2019. Events were held on April 2nd with the Manitoba Multi-Faith Council and on June 19 with the Manitoba Islamic Association in their communities. Both events were well received and the Board was able to capture the concerns and priorities in those respective communities. A focus group was held on March 21st with students of the criminal justice department at the University of Winnipeg to gain their perspective on issues of safety that they are currently being faced with. The Board presented to City Council on June 12th which afforded the Board members the opportunity to meet the Councillors and hear from them about the important issues concerning the residents in their wards. The Board Chair presented to various local groups, was interviewed on the radio and quoted in various newspapers throughout 2019 on items pertaining to the board mandate. The board posted a survey on its website to encourage citizens to provide feedback and the majority of responses were received after major incidents occurred within the City. The Board was more active on its twitter feed in 2019 to engage with citizens through social media. Board members were encouraged to reach out to their individual networks to increase the Board's visibility. In addition, delegations were invited to attend the Board's public meetings. A few citizens did appear and offered their perspectives on Board reports that were published within its public meeting agendas.

In 2019, the Winnipeg Police Board received input from:

- Community groups that the Board reached out to directly
- Municipal and Provincial government representatives
- Public forums hosted by the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) and attended by members of the Winnipeg Police Board
- Community members who reached out to the Board directly
- Community members referred to the Board by City Councillors
- Citizens who provided written submissions to the Board

Comments received at public forums were provided during each events question-and-answer period. Questions were primarily directed at members of the Winnipeg Police Service, but provided the Board with insight into community needs, values and expectations for policing. The events were focused on gang violence and drug use in each of the city's four police districts, so many of the questions and comments related to those issues.

Board members attended public forums in 2019 at:

- Daniel McIntyre High School on March 7
- Sisler High School on May 27
- Kildonan Place Shopping Center on October 28
- Polo Park Shopping Center on December 4