

REPORT TO THE POLICE SERVICE BOARD



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Management of the Unclaimed Money and Property Account – Annual Review 2024

Type of Report: Public

Background

Section 258 of the *Community Safety and Policing Act* provides for the disposal of money and property in the possession of the Police Service in the following circumstances:

1. The property was stolen from its owner or was found abandoned in a public place and the chief of police is unable to determine who owns it.
2. The property was seized by a member of the police service in the lawful execution of his or her duties, all legal proceedings in respect of the property have been completed, there is no court order for its disposition and there is no legal requirement, apart from this section, that it be retained or disposed of.

The Act allows for the Chief to sell the property and the Board to use the proceeds for any purpose it considers in the public interest, including a charitable donation. The Board has adopted a policy to address how these funds will be dispersed (attached). Since 2015, the Board has directed that a plan be developed with respect to the management of the account in the proceeding year, and this is presented to the Board each Fall.

Analysis

Below is a summary of the recent experience of the account:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Deposits of Unclaimed Money and Proceeds of Sold Property	\$167,895	\$81,744	\$74,744	\$22,655	\$22,678	\$96,527
Donations to Organizations	\$126,526	\$122,714	\$117,980	\$149,070	\$ 62,619	\$67,755

For the last two years, the Board has capped donations at \$1000. This was the result of cumulative deficits in recent years, due primarily to a reduction in revenue, and the continued depletion of the account. In 2022, the deficit was over \$125K, and

approximately \$40K in 2023. This year the account will experience a surplus, though this positive result is increasingly infrequent. The current balance is approximately \$146K.

The complete list of organizations supported in 2024 is appended to this report. The Board should note that 2024 is the final year of a five-year agreement between the Board and ProAction Cops and Kids. The Board has contributed \$10,000 a year to this organization for the last 10 years. Each year a report and presentation is submitted by ProAction on the organization's activities and the impact of the Board's funding. The organization is well-respected as a key partner in building trust in police through positive interactions with youth. An additional five-year agreement is feasible, recognizing that, at \$10K a year, this would represent approximately one-third of the current value of the account, and about 15% of the Board's annual commitments based on total contributions over the last two years. A lower annual donation amount may support the overall sustainability of the account.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board continue to provide maximum donations of \$1,000 in 2025.

It is further recommended that the Board provide direction on the renewal of the agreement with ProAction Cops and Kids and determine the value of its annual contribution.



Bill Clancy
Executive Director

Attachments: Board Policy – Management of the Unclaimed Money and Property
 Account
 Board Donations – 2024