

**MEMORANDUM TO:** All Chiefs of Police and  
Commissioner Thomas Carrique  
Chairs, Police Service Boards

**FROM:** Ken Weatherill  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Public Safety Division

**SUBJECT:** **Nishnawbe Aski Police Service Board Opt-in to the  
*Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019***

<b>DATE OF ISSUE:</b>	<b>December 13, 2024</b>
<b>CLASSIFICATION:</b>	<b>General Information</b>
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I am writing to advise that, as of December 10, 2024, the Solicitor General has constituted the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service Board (NAPSB) through a Minister's regulation under the *Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019* (CSPA). This regulation ([O. Reg. 515/24](#)), and a supporting transitional regulation ([O. Reg. 516/24](#)), was filed on December 10, 2024, and came into force immediately upon filing.

Section 32 of the CSPA provides that a band council or councils of a First Nation may request that the Minister constitute a First Nation board to ensure that adequate and effective policing is provided in a First Nation reserve or any other specified area. The Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN) has been working closely with Nishnawbe Aski Nation (NAN), on behalf of the 34 First Nations served by Nishnawbe Aski Police Service (NAPS), to make this possible.

The option to opt-into the CSPA is a key change from the former provincial policing legislation and NAPS will be the first ever First Nations police service to opt in and fall under provincial policing legislation in Ontario. This is a strong example of the provincial government working in partnership with First Nations to implement and provide critical and equitable policing services to First Nations and an important step for the safety and security of the people in the communities served by NAPS.

The NAPSB is now a police service board for the purposes of the CSPA and its officers are now police officers for the purpose of the CSPA. As such, the board and its officers

now fall within the mandates of policing oversight entities as established under the CSPA and the *Special Investigations Unit Act, 2019*.

If you have any further questions about these regulations, please contact Jonathan Zissakos, Manager of the Indigenous Policing Unit, External Relations Branch, Public Safety Division, SOLGEN at [jonathan.zissakos@ontario.ca](mailto:jonathan.zissakos@ontario.ca).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken Weatherill', written in a cursive style.

Ken Weatherill  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Public Safety Division

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.  
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety