



Sarnia Police Services Board Policy

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Subject: Underwater Search and Rescue	Effective Date:
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Approved By: Board Chair	Signature: <i>Paul Wiersma</i>

A Legislative/Regulatory Requirements

Community Safety and Policing Act, 2019, S.O. 2019, c. 1, Sched. 1, provides that a Board shall provide adequate and effective policing in the area for which it has policing responsibility as required by **Section 10** of the **CSPA**.

Subsection 38 (2) of the **CSPA** provides that a Police Service Board may establish policies respecting matters related to the Police Service or the provision of policing.

O. Reg. 392/23: Adequacy and Effective Policing (General) prescribes standards for adequacy and effectiveness of police services.

Subsection 2 (5) 1 of O. Reg. 398/23: Alternative Provision of Policing Functions and Section 14 of the **CSPA** permit a Police Service to deliver the services of a Tactical Unit by contracting with another Police Service.

The **Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA)**, sets out the responsibilities of employers and workers relating to workplace safety.

The **OHSA Diving Operations Regulation 629/94** provides further specific definitions, and responsibilities that relate to all occupational diving operations.

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) provides a *Competency Standard for Diving Operations CAN/CSA-Z275.4-02* and an *Occupational Safety Code for Diving Operations CAN/CSA-Z275.2-92*.

B Policy Statement

1. The Sarnia Police Service Board recognizes that access to underwater search and recovery capabilities are an important part of policing in Sarnia and it is therefore the policy of this Board to require the Chief to develop procedures in regards to contracting with the OPP West Region to provide the services of an Underwater Search and Recovery Unit.

C Board Policy

1. It is the policy of the Sarnia Police Service Board with respect to the services of an Underwater Search and Recovery Unit that:
 - (a) This Board will contract with the OPP West Region to provide the services of an Underwater Search and Recovery Unit, available twenty-four (24) hours a day, within a reasonable response time; and
 - (b) The Chief of Police, in consultation with the OPP, will:
 - (i) Establish procedures that set out the circumstances in which the Underwater Search and Recovery Unit will be deployed, including the process for obtaining the services and the reporting relationships;
 - (ii) Establish procedures for the deployment of other emergency response services, including receiving assistance from other agencies; and
 - (iii) Ensure that the Police Service's Major Incident Commander(s) receive training from the OPP in their responsibilities and the capabilities of the Underwater Search and Recovery Unit.
2. The Chief of Police will provide information in the annual report with respect to under water search and rescue.