



## WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE BOARD POLICY

Policy Number: 001

### UNDERWATER SEARCH AND RECOVERY

Date Approved:

December 7, 1999

Date Last Amended:

April 6, 2016

Date to be Reviewed:

April 1, 2021

### Policy of the Board

1. It is the policy of the Waterloo Regional Police Services Board with respect to conducting underwater search and recovery operations that in accordance with Section 7 of the Police Services Act, the Board will contract with the Niagara Regional Police Services Board to provide underwater search and recovery services. **The services will be available 24 hours a day.** In the event that the agreement is to be extended, negotiations for an extension of the written agreement between the Board and the Niagara Regional Police Services Board will commence before April 1, 2000, and on or before April 1 of succeeding years.
2. In accordance with the agreement, Niagara Regional Police will provide to the Waterloo Regional Police:
  - a. underwater search and recovery services consisting of a diving supervisor and minimum crew to support an operations SCUBA or Surface-Supplied Air Search and Recovery Dive, to be provided by Niagara within three hours of the request being received from the Waterloo Regional Police, subject to the availability of the crew;
  - b. supervision of the diving operation by a trained supervisor supplied by the Niagara Regional Police who shall at all times maintain command of the diving operation.
3. The Chief of Police shall develop and maintain procedures that address:
  - a. the circumstances in which the underwater search and recovery unit will be deployed, including the process for obtaining the services and the reporting relationships;
  - b. the deployment of other emergency response services, including receiving assistance from other agencies;

- c. provision of direction to first responders who attend water related accidents and operations;
- d. activating the Niagara Regional Police dive team to perform underwater search and recovery operations;
- e. compliance with procedures as stated in the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* and Regulations.
- f. provision for shore based rescue and entry into water under certain conditions.