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March 28, 2019

All Chiefs

RE: Wortley Report

I am writing to follow up on the release of the Wortley Report, which was commissioned by the Nova Scotia Human Rights Commission and released yesterday, March 27, 2019.

In the report, Dr. Wortley makes 54 recommendations that fall under four broad categories. The report makes it clear that we all have work to do and I am committed to ensuring that there is action and change.

Under my authority as Minister of Justice responsible for the administration of justice in the Province of Nova Scotia, and for ensuring an adequate and effective level of policing is maintained throughout the Province, I hereby issue the following directive to all municipal police forces and police boards of commissioners as well as the RCMP, in their capacity as the Provincial Police:

Senior leadership shall immediately ensure the following:

- Any use of street checks as part of a quota system, formally or informally, shall cease;
- Any use of street checks as a performance measurement tool, formally or informally, shall cease:
- Officers at all levels and particularly, front-line officers, shall adhere to their applicable Codes of Ethics and relevant policies, and review the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and human rights legislation;
- Each officer reviews the Wortley report which can be found at the following link https://humanrights.novascotia.ca/streetchecks

I can confirm the Department of Justice will immediately make available funding for police training on the findings of the Wortley report. We will be in touch with you on next steps and expectations on police training.

We will also be in touch immediately regarding your expressed commitment to work collaboratively on an action plan to implement the Wortley report.

Yours truly,

Mark Furey

cc:

Police Boards of Commissioner Chairs