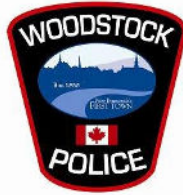


Woodstock Police Force

Standing Order

Date: June 9 th , 2023	Standing Order: 2023-006
Subject: Protests and Demonstrations Policy	
Link to Supporting Documentation:	
Good day. The following Protests and Demonstrations Policy has been updated. This Procedure, insofar as it is applicable, also applies to labour disputes. The role of the police at demonstrations and protests is one of complete neutrality. Police officers should only become involved with protests, demonstrations and strikes when there is a major impending breach of the peace or a flagrant violation of the law and, only then, after careful consideration of all circumstances. A PDF version of the policy has been saved to WPF “TrueNAS U” drive /wpfshare /WPF POLICIES. With thanks,	
Approval – G. Forward, Chief of Police	Date: 9 June 2023
Signature: <i>G. Forward</i>	

Woodstock Police Force
822 Main Street
Woodstock, NB
E7M 2E8



Phone: (506) 325-4601
E-mail: wpfadmin@nbpolice.ca

Subject: Protests and Demonstrations	
Policy Number: 2023-004	
Effective Date: June 9th, 2023	Next Review Date: June 9th, 2026
Area(s) This Policy Applies to:	Office Responsible for Review of this Policy:
Members	Chief of Police or Designated Agent
Related Instruments:	Policy Sponsors:
	Chief of Police
	Document Pages (including Title Page):
	This document consists of 6 pages

Revision History:

Woodstock Police Force

Date of Passage of Current Framework:

June 9th, 2023

**I certify that this Policy was adopted by Woodstock Police
Force as indicated above.**

Date Created:

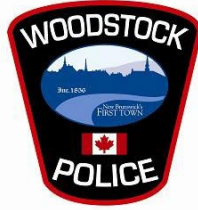
June 6th, 2023

Woodstock Police Force
Approval Date:

June 9th, 2023

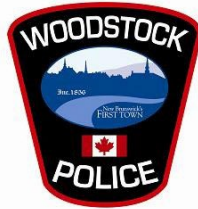
Contact:

Gary Forward, Chief of Police



Contents

1. GENERAL:	1
2. DEFINITIONS:	1
3. PROCEDURE:	1
a. POLICE OFFICER	1
b. SHIFT NCO	1
c. ASSISTING NCOs	3
d. OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE COMMAND POST	3
4. RELATED DOCUMENTS:	4
5. POLICY CHANGES:	4



1. GENERAL:

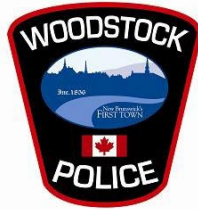
This Procedure, insofar as it is applicable, also applies to labour disputes. The role of the police at demonstrations and protests is one of complete neutrality. Police officers should only become involved with protests, demonstrations and strikes when there is a major impending breach of the peace or a flagrant violation of the law and, only then, after careful consideration of all circumstances.

Every effort must be made to avoid a confrontation between the crowd and the police where participants and bystanders may get the erroneous perception that the police are choosing sides. In the case of strikes, the police should not be caught in the position of having to give legal advice. The parties involved should be advised to take direction from their lawyers with respect to judicial rulings or injunctions as a means of solving their problems. If an organization is planning for a large demonstration or rally, security people or other designated persons must be advised to coordinate their plans through the O I/C Patrol Response Services Division.

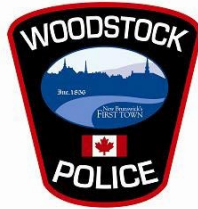
2. DEFINITIONS:

3. PROCEDURE:

- a. **POLICE OFFICER**, upon determining that a spontaneous protest, demonstration or strike is underway or about to get underway,
 1. Inform the Shift NCO as soon as possible.
 2. Assess the conduct of those involved (ruly or unruly) and try to establish a liaison with someone in charge of the protest, if practical.
 3. Ensure that all persons and vehicles have access to the premises concerned and are not intimidated or interfered with.
 4. It is important that there be no undue show of force.
 5. Remain impartial to the situation and, in the case of strike action, do not cross the picket line unless an emergency arises.
- b. **SHIFT NCO**, upon being informed of a protest, demonstration or labour dispute,
 1. Attend at the scene and assess the situation.
 2. Establish a liaison with the group leader if possible and explain the role of the police and the law with respect to the event taking place.



3. Encourage the group leader to designate his/her/their own marshalls.
4. If the event becomes unruly, post available personnel at the most strategic points.
5. Assign a member to accompany you at all times to record all events, times, personnel, assignments and instructions issued.
6. Ensure that a command post is established.
7. Make security arrangements for parked police vehicles.
8. Designate a parking area for arriving police vehicles.
9. Formulate a primary plan to deal with the situation.
10. Keep sidewalks and roads clear.
11. Block off the area to prevent vehicular and pedestrian traffic. However, individuals are not to be prevented from leaving the scene.
12. Request any additional support which may be needed. (e.g. Auxiliary Police, Ident, Police Service Dogs, loud hailer, etc.).
13. Ensure that any persons arrested are immediately removed from the scene.
14. If the crowd becomes particularly unruly and is reaching the proportion of a near riot, request additional support from the Emergency Response Team or any other unit which may be appropriate.
15. Ensure there are enough NCOs to supervise attending officers. A ratio of between 1:5 and 1:10 is appropriate.
16. Ensure ALL NCOs have functional portable radios.
17. Direct operations using the loud hailer if necessary.
18. If additional personnel are arriving, ensure they assemble out of sight of the crowd.
19. Brief any new arrivals on the law respecting the use of force. Riot Sticks are only to be used as a last resort. All operations respecting the use of tear gas will be under the control of the Emergency Response Team commander.
20. Instruct all members to remove or control any articles which could be used as a weapon by a member of the crowd.
21. Identify and assign a member (uniformed or plain clothes) to video and/or take still photographs of proceedings.
22. Ensure a photographer is placed beside any police vehicles being used to transport prisoners so that arresting officers can be photographed with their prisoners.
23. Direct personnel to disperse the crowd into smaller groups, arresting and removing the leaders if possible.



24. Maintain constant physical and vocal pressure on the crowd until order is restored.

- c. **ASSISTING NCOs**, upon being assigned to supervise a group of police officers at an unruly crowd,
1. Ensure that you have reported to the Command Post.
 2. Upon receiving instructions, record the names of all personnel assigned to your command.
 3. Issue general instructions to your personnel on the use of force.
 4. Record all events and instructions given, in chronological order.
 5. Ensure that your portable radio is functional so that instructions from the Sergeant-in-Charge or the Command Post are received and understood.
 6. Without tying up the radio unnecessarily, maintain frequent communication with the Command Post.
 7. Keep assigned personnel informed of the situation.
 8. Except for emergency purposes, the use of portable radios by assigned personnel is to be discouraged.
 9. Ensure the welfare of all personnel under your command, particularly in extended incidents.

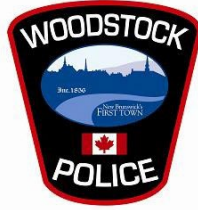
- d. **OFFICER IN CHARGE OF THE COMMAND POST**, upon taking charge of the Command Post,

NOTE: The Officer-in-Charge of the Command Post would normally be a Staff Sergeant or an Inspector.

1. In serious or escalating situations, ensure the Chief of Police or the Deputy Chief of Police is notified.
2. Assume overall command of all personnel.
3. Obtain a complete report on the situation from the Shift NCO.
4. Ensure that additional personnel and equipment requested by the Shift NCO is supplied.
5. As time and conditions permit, handle all inquiries from the News Media.

NOTE: In the event that it is necessary to read the Riot Act: Notify one of the following:

- a Justice
 - the Mayor
 - Sheriff
 - Deputy Mayor or Sheriff
6. At the conclusion of the event, submit a detailed Follow-up Report on the incident. The Original Occurrence Report will be submitted by the Shift NCO.



4. RELATED DOCUMENTS:

5. POLICY CHANGES:

Issue No.	Description of Changes	Issue Date:	ISO Code
1.1	Updated template	June, 2023	