

**From:** [info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com) <[info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 5, 2022 7:57 AM  
**To:** Hudson, Janice <[Janice.Hudson@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:Janice.Hudson@Saskatoon.ca)>; Tryon, Caren (Police) <[Caren.Tryon@Police.Saskatoon.Sk.CA](mailto:Caren.Tryon@Police.Saskatoon.Sk.CA)>  
**Cc:** 'Jo Custead' <[jcustead@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:jcustead@saskatoonpolicecommission.com)>  
**Subject:** FW: Uniform Standards

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**From:** Graham MacDonald <[REDACTED]>  
**Sent:** January 3, 2022 8:55 AM  
**To:** [info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:info@saskatoonpolicecommission.com)  
**Subject:** Uniform Standards

Hello, I am writing today to ask the board of police commissioners to prohibit the wearing of "thin blue line" imagery by officers while they are on duty. There are several reasons why it is inappropriate for officers to display this image.

First, this imagery perpetuates a stark division between law enforcement and non-law enforcement community members. The thin blue line symbol was designed to reflect the ideology that police are the "thin blue line" keeping order from chaos. The Saskatoon Police Service has done great work to build bridges in the community, and the sentiments which the Thin Blue Line represents is a step back in this regard. Police officers are part of our community, and while they have a job that comes with unique responsibilities, it is unhelpful to suggest that they alone are what keep our society from falling into chaos. We all have a role to play in keeping our community safe.

Secondly, this imagery, while originally intended to display solidarity with and among law enforcement, has become a partisan symbol of opposition to the Black Lives Matter movement. By wearing it while on duty, officers are making a political statement, compromising their ability to enforce the law without bias.

Lastly, it is an inappropriate use of the Canadian flag. Federal guidelines dictate that the national flag of Canada should never be marked in any way. While there is no legislation prohibiting the marking of a Canadian flag, by using the national flag in a way contrary to federal guidelines, it calls into question the allegiances of officers wearing Thin Blue Line merchandise. If the badge they wear symbolizes the justice of the crown, why are they also wearing symbols that could bring dishonour to that same crown?

RCMP officers, as well as several provincial law enforcement agencies across Canada are

already prohibited from displaying Thin Blue Line imagery on their uniforms. I respectfully request the Saskatoon Police Service adopt similar rules prohibiting the display of unofficial uniform additions by on duty officers.

Sincerely,

Graham MacDonald