

Top cop endorses return of sealskin to RNC uniform

But functionality and practicality will be considered by committee assessing idea

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Royal Newfoundland Constabulary chief Robert Johnston says he personally would be open to the idea of making sealskin part of the police uniform.

An online petition is urging the RNC to adopt the hats as part of their official winter clothing.

Johnston says seal fur was worn by the Constabulary until 1960, and could be again.

But, he notes, it's not all up to him.

“I personally would be proud to wear a sealskin hat, because it’s part of who we are as a people,” Johnston told reporters Tuesday.

The chief says things like “functionality” will also have to be considered, and whether it is practical to return to the sealskin headwear.

The Department of Justice says it's an interesting idea that will be considered.

The RNC says the idea of returning to sealskin hats as part of the official uniform will be sent to a uniform committee for consideration.