



May 31, 2021

Premier Jason Kenney  
Office of the Premier  
307 Legislature Building  
10800 – 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2B6

Dear Premier Kenney,

**RE: Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Provincial Policing**

This letter is presented as a token of support on behalf of the Town of Thorsby towards the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and also as a motion of opposition to the Provincial Government's recent proposal for an Alberta Provincial Police force.

After reviewing the Fair Deal Panel's Report to Government (as well as the many letters currently circulating from Municipal elected officials) the Council of Town of Thorsby is voicing its firm opposition to the APPS (Alberta Provincial Police Service).

There are several particularly concerning items identified in the Fair Deal Panel's report, namely:

- The Fair Deal Panel's recommendation to proceed with developing a proposal for a Provincial Police force, despite only 35% of Albertans believing the police force would contribute to the desired outcome of helping Alberta better assert itself with the Canadian federation.
- Provincial and municipal governments possibly absorbing \$112.4 million policing costs currently covered by the federal government (which would be in addition to the increasing policing costs incurred by municipalities under the Police Funding Model).

Furthermore, and perhaps most importantly, we have an excellent relationship with our local RCMP detachment and feel no need to replace them with a Provincial force. The RCMP in Town of Thorsby have always been responsive to community needs and feedback, and have consistently delivered professional, quality public safety services in our communities. In addition, ongoing collaboration between both Detachment and Thorsby's Council has resulted in a positive and adaptive presence in the region.

We have not been provided with adequate proof that the formation of the APPS would result in better outcomes for Albertans, especially when considering the Provincial Government's reduction into MSI funding over the next few years and considering the infrastructure maintenance investments that all Canadian municipalities face over the coming years. Town of Thorsby Council is urging the Government of Alberta to listen to Municipal Leaders as well as the results of the Fair Deal Panel's report and shift efforts to Improving RCMP relationships and resource in the Province. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any comments or concerns.

Respectfully,

Rod Raymond  
Mayor



cc.

- The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier [premier@gov.ab.ca](mailto:premier@gov.ab.ca)
- Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs [minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca](mailto:minister.municipalaffairs@gov.ab.ca)
- Kacee Madu, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
- Barry Morishita, president of Alberta Urban Municipalities Association
- Paul McLaughlin, President of Rural Municipalities Association
- RCMP Town of Thorsby Detachment: [Dwayne.A.MOORE@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Dwayne.A.MOORE@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)
- Mark Smith, MLA & Constituency, Drayton Valley-Devon: [mark.smith@assembly.ab.ca](mailto:mark.smith@assembly.ab.ca)
- Alberta Municipalities