



May 25, 2021

Honourable Kaycee Madu
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5K 2R6

RE: Village of Milo Support for the RCMP

Dear Minister Madu,

This letter is presented as a token of support on behalf of the Village of Milo 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.

Upon review of information made available by AUMA it has become abundantly clear to our entire council that blindly forging forward would come at an enormous cost to our province, and specifically its residents. The newly established Police Funding Model has already delivered a hit to small rural urban municipal budgets with a relatively small impact felt in terms of day-to-day deliverables in our communities. Continuing with a Provincial Police Force would come at an exorbitant cost with no assurance with a benefit in service.

Just today, S&P Global Ratings has downgraded Alberta's credit rating from 'A+' to 'A' while cautioning that additional downgrades in the near future are very possible if new fiscal measures are not adopted in a post-COVID 19 Alberta. The exploration of an Alberta based Police Force was merely financial as there is no evidence suggesting a dissatisfaction with the quality of service offered by the RCMP to the magnitude that would warrant such an expense. To ask any and all residents of this province to fund such an ill-advised endeavor can only be viewed as an un-sound decision based on an act of ignoring facts, and more importantly, the voice of Albertans.

With 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, local government budgets are already being stretched beyond their limits. Where exactly does the Provincial government envision the funding of a Provincial Police Service coming from? Undoubtedly, they will ask municipalities to pay, ultimately forcing local councils to play 'bad cop' by increasing municipal taxes in order to fund Provincial downloading. It is our opinion that the Provincial government needs to seriously re-evaluate its priorities.

The Village of Milo council stands with:



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- The 65% of respondents to the Fair Deal Panel survey that voiced opposition to a Provincial Police Force.
 - Town of Falher
 - The County of Paintearth No. 18
 - The County of St. Paul
 - Municipality of Crowsnest Pass
 - Town of Didsbury
 - Town of Magrath
 - Town of Edson
 - Village of Hill Spring
 - Town of Morinville
 - Town of Redcliff
 - Village of Rycroft
 - Any and all other citizens, municipalities, and organizations who have not voiced their opinions, yet.

The Provincial Government continually encourages (and legislatively mandates) that municipal governments work together in a cohesive manner, perhaps they should take a page from their own book rerouting the funds allocated for research of an Alberta Police Service towards building stronger relationships with the RCMP and with Federal Partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Schroeder", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Scott Schroeder
Mayor

cc: The Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier
The Honourable Ric Mciver, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Rachel Notley, Leader of the Official Opposition
Todd Loewen, MLA Central Peace-Notley
AUMA Members
RMA Members