



ALBERTA
JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

*Office of the Minister
Deputy Government House Leader
MLA, Edmonton - South West*

AR46196

Sent via email: cao@rycroft.ca

His Worship James Verquin
Mayor
Village of Rycroft
Box 360
Rycroft AB T0H 3A0

Dear Mayor Verquin:

Thank you for your letter of May 20, 2021, regarding the Government of Alberta's commitment to conduct a detailed study into the costs, benefits, and structure of a potential Alberta provincial police service. As Minister of Justice and Solicitor General, I appreciate the opportunity to respond.

The Fair Deal Panel consulted with tens of thousands of Albertans and heard about many rural Albertans' frustrations with the RCMP and additionally, consulted with policy experts and undertook research to inform its recommendations. As indicated in the Fair Deal Panel's report, that although many Albertans express their appreciation and respect for the work of hardworking rank and file members in the RCMP who serve our communities, many Albertans are also frustrated with the challenges of a police force that is ultimately managed in Ottawa.

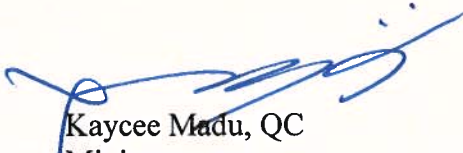
The Government of Alberta has an obligation to listen to the concerns of its citizens, undertake a thorough study of the topic, and make an informed decision on whether an Alberta provincial police service can improve the safety and security of Albertans and their property. Justice and Solicitor General, along with its project contractor PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), has concluded a feasibility study on the costs, benefits and structure of a potential Alberta provincial police service. Through this study, we also have a responsibility to see if there are new approaches to provincial policing that can provide greater value for taxpayers, while strengthening the connection between police and communities they serve.

Police have an essential role in protecting our communities – which is why we will ensure police funding is used to keep Albertans safe. As part of the study, PwC has been asked to develop a model of provincial policing that increases citizen input, enhances connections to the community, improves services, leverages efficiencies, reduces bureaucracy, and does not impose additional costs on municipalities.

PricewaterhouseCoopers delivered their report to the provincial government on April 30, 2021. The Government of Alberta is currently reviewing the report. If the Alberta government decides to proceed with further analysis, Justice and Solicitor General will conduct further study and engagement, which will include local policing perspectives from municipal partners.

Thank you again, for taking the time to write. I look forward to working with you further as we ensure all Albertans feel safe, secure, and protected in their communities.

Yours very truly,



Kaycee Madu, QC
Minister

cc: Honrouable Jason Kenney, Premier of Alberta
Honourable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs