



TOWN OF MUNDARE

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May 9, 2022

The Honourable Tyler Shandro
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
204, 10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, AB
T5K 2B6

Dear Minister:

Re: Alberta Provincial Police Force

Town council discussed the Alberta Provincial Police Service Transition Study after attending a municipal engagement session. Based on the information provided, Town Council cannot support the transition to a provincial police force.

The information provided at the engagement session did not provide enough information that a provincial police force would provide a better service than what we currently receive. In fact, it raised a question if our service level will be reduced. Under the proposed Hub model, we do not know if our detachment would lose members to work in the service hub.

What was evident from the session is that the Provincial cost to operate a provincial police force would increase. As per the information provided, the Province currently pays \$399 million for police services and the cost of the provincial police force would be between \$538-562 million, however there was no information provided as to how this extra cost would be funded.

As you are aware, as of April 1, 2020, municipalities that receive policing under the Provincial Police Services Agreement (PPSA) are required to pay a portion of the policing costs. In 2023/2024, that portion will be 30%. It stands to reason that the costs to these municipalities would increase with the implementation of a provincial police force.

The requirement to pay for policing puts enormous pressure on our budget. In 2023, it is estimated that the town will pay \$47,740 which is equal to about a 0.5 mill based on the 2022 assessment. Further increases in policing costs may result in reduced services to our residents.

We believe that before the Province makes any decision on the transition to a provincial police force, it is imperative that further information be provided to municipalities on how our current service will be affected and how the transition and increased operating expenses will be funded.

Council would also like to raise the issue of fine and penalty revenue. The intent of Section 162 of the Traffic Safety Act is that fines and penalties should be distributed on the basis of who pays for policing, however, this section does not apply to PPSA communities. We hereby ask that section 162 be amended to allow for the distribution of fines and penalties to PPSA communities at the same percentage that they pay for police services.

We thank you for considering our requests.

Sincerely yours,



Cheryl Calinoiu
Mayor

cc: Honourable Jason Kenney, Premier
MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, Vegreville-Fort Saskatchewan
Alberta Municipalities
AB Munis
RMA