

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL

5015 – 49 Avenue, St. Paul, Alberta, T0A 3A4
www.county.stpaul.ab.ca

Our Mission - To create desirable rural experiences



May 6, 2021

Honorable Kaycee Madu
Minister of Justice and Solicitor General
424 Legislature Building
10800-97 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

RE: County of St. Paul Support for the RCMP

Dear Minister Madu,

The County of St. Paul Council wishes to join the Municipality of Crowsnest Pass, the Town of Morinville, the County of Paintearth No. 18 and the City of Magrath, in expressing our disappointment with the Government of Alberta's unwillingness to accept the results of its own review process and that it seems to be continuing on the path of replacing the RCMP with an Alberta Provincial Police Service (APPS).

Our local RCMP detachment's current level of service and degree of responsiveness, in addition to their community involvement meets our County resident's needs quite suitably. Furthermore, the collaborative nature that our local RCMP encompasses with our County Council by regularly meeting to review performance plans and projects, gives them a positive recognizable presence within our County.

The bureaucratic provisional expenditure that would be required to complete such a change to a Provincial Police is concerning, as the transition costs are inadequately explained, the County worries that operating costs will inevitably rise, resulting in increased costs borne by Municipalities. These additional costs will require additional taxation onto our County residents for us to be able to repay the Province for the Police funding model.

There has been no conclusive proof that an APPS would result in better outcomes, particularly with the expected increase in costs. With our current challenging economic

times, our Council would like to see your government take time to listen to municipal stakeholders as well as the respondents of the Fair Deal Panel's consultations, cancel the transition study, and increase the efforts to work with the RCMP in achieving better outcomes through the Police Act review.

Sincerely,



Steve Upham
Reeve

CC: The Honorable Jason Kenny, Premier
The Honorable Ric McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Rachel Notley, Leader of the Opposition
David Hanson, MLA, Bonnyville – Cold Lake – St. Paul
Glenn van Dijken, MLA, Athabasca – Barrhead – Westlock
AUMA Members
RMA Members