



BIG LAKES COUNTY

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July 28, 2021

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

Dear Hon. Madu,

Re: Big Lakes County's Support for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

At the July 28, 2021 regular meeting of Council, the many letters of support received from across the province in support of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) were discussed and a motion of opposition to the Provincial Government's recent proposal for a Alberta Provincial Police force was passed.

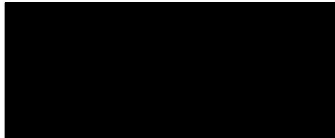
Rather than starting a new police service and the burden of costs and management that would come with that, we believe it would be better for the Alberta Government to investigate ways that the RCMP could receive more support. In previous history, Alberta had its own provincial police force, which led to economic hardships and the police force being unsustainable and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police policing services taking over. We believe that with today's financial realities we would end up with the same result.

Council of Big Lakes County and the local detachment have a very good relationship and we appreciate the care and commitment these members show in the community. Our local RCMP detachment is well respected in our community. They are visible in the community and take part in community events and initiatives. With many municipalities, including our own, indicating good relationships with the current RCMP detachments in their area, we do not feel that new police service would serve the best interests of our residents.

We ask for the Provincial Government to listen to the voice of the people and redirect the time, energy and funds being used to investigate an Alberta Police Service be used for other needs, such as RCMP support.

We look forward to having an open dialogue with the Province as to the outcome of the continuance of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. Thank you for taking our concerns into consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact our office should you have any questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,



Ken Matthews
Reeve

cc: Hon. Jason Kenney, Premier
Pat Rehn, MLA, Lesser Slave Lake
Dan Williams, MLA, Peace River
RMA Members
AUMA Members