

AR 27683

February 27, 2018

His Worship Wm. (Bill) B. Robertson
Mayor
Town of Okotoks
PO Box 20, Station Main
5 Elizabeth Street
Okotoks AB T1S 1K1

Dear Mayor Robertson:

Thank you for including the Honourable Kathleen Ganley, Minister of Justice and Solicitor General in your correspondence to Wayne Anderson, MLA for Highwood. As the Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Law Enforcement of the Public Security Division, I have been asked to respond on behalf of Minister Ganley. I appreciate the opportunity to provide you with the following information regarding police funding.

One of the strategies of the Law Enforcement Framework is the principle of cost equity for policing. My ministry has held multiple consultations with the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association and the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties in advancing this initiative, and we continue to welcome feedback on this important issue.

Implementing the costing model would necessitate *Police Act* amendments, which are not being considered at this time. However, my ministry is continually collecting information on potential amendments, the needs of stakeholders, and other preparations should a review of the *Police Act* be undertaken.

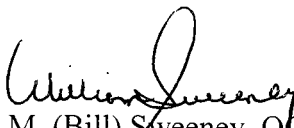
My ministry continues to provide municipalities responsible for their own policing costs with Municipal Policing Assistance Grants and the Police Officer Grants along with the return of provincial fine revenues to assist them with the cost of policing.

As the Municipal Policing Assistance Grants and the Police Officer Grants expire on March 31, 2018, my ministry will be working through our budget for fiscal year 2018-2019, including policing grants, in the near future. Once the budget is finalized, the ministry will be in a position to address both grant programs. If any changes were to be proposed, discussion with the appropriate stakeholders would occur.

In addition, my ministry provides the services of the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Provincial Police Service specialized services (e.g., emergency response and emergency response teams, major crime units, police service dogs, and air services, etc.) at no cost to municipalities in order to assist in ensuring Alberta's communities remain safe and vibrant.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns regarding police funding models to my attention.

Sincerely,



W.M. (Bill) Sweeney, OPM
Assistant Deputy Minister
Director of Law Enforcement

cc: Honourable Shaye Anderson, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Wayne Anderson, MLA Highwood
Barry Morishita, President, Alberta Urban Municipalities Association