

Hawkins, Brittany PREM:EX

From: Rochon, Jake PREM:EX
Sent: February 18, 2020 8:17 AM
To: Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX; Smith, George PREM:EX
Cc: Nash, Amber PREM:EX; Hagglund, Jarrett PREM:EX; Farmer, Susan PREM:EX
Subject: FW: Surrey Police Transition
Attachments: Horgan T.pdf

Hi all! Letter here from a Surrey councillor in support of the police transition. We are planning to refer to PSSG unless instructed otherwise. Thank you!

From: Elford, Doug
Sent: February 15, 2020 1:21 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX
Subject: Surrey Police Transition

Greetings Premier Horgan, please accept my letter regarding the Surrey Police Transition

Thank you.

Doug Elford

City Councillor



CITY OF SURREY

Employee Department or Division or Section
13450 104th Ave, Surrey, BC, Canada V3T 1V8
T 604.555.5555 | F 604.555.5555 | C 604.555.5555 www.surrey.ca



Connect, Share and Engage with your City

February 15, 2020

Hon. John Horgan
122 – 2809 Jacklin Road
Victoria, B.C, V9B 9E1

Dear: Mr. Premier Horgan

Re: Surrey Police Transition Plan



Doug Elford
Councillor

T 604.502.6033
doug.elford@surrey.ca
surrey.ca

Greetings, Premier Horgan, I am writing you to ask for your support for the City of Surrey's Police Transition plan.

As we enter the final stages of the approval process, it is important to be reminded that the majority of council supports the transition to a municipal force.

As you are also aware, all members of council supported the transition plan when the motion came before us in November 2018.

Once the plan was "greenlighted" by Minister Farnworth, significant resources have been spent on the plan up to this point.

A referendum proposed by the "Keep the RCMP" group was proposed by opposing slates in the election and they were defeated.

I believe we have the support of the silent majority as indicated by the poll recently taken on our approval rating.

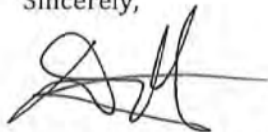
I understand that this is a very significant decision that will be met with resistance.

However, I am very concerned about the public reaction if the plan is not supported or delayed further.

I have longed for Surrey to be a safer more liveable community and I believe the transition is another step in the right direction.

Lets move ahead and work towards building the best City in the country.

Sincerely,



Doug Elford, Councillor

Hawkins, Brittany PREM:EX

From: Wolansky, Allegra PREM:EX
Sent: February 27, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX; Smith, George PREM:EX
Cc: Nash, Amber PREM:EX; Hagglund, Jarrett PREM:EX; Farmer, Susan PREM:EX
Subject: FW: Surrey's Police Transition
Attachments: Letter re Police Transition Feb 26 - 20 on Letterhead .pdf; Police Transition Chronological Timeline.pdf

Hi All,

Just flagging this open letter from two Surrey City Councillors with concerns about the police transition. I note in the letter they reference a number of statements Premier Horgan has made regarding this matter. As the letter is sent to numerous recipients and not addressed to the Premier specifically, we will defer to PSSG for handling (after confirming they've received it) unless you advise otherwise.

Thanks!

Allegra Wolansky

Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier
(778) 698-5465 | Allegra.Wolansky@gov.bc.ca

From: Locke, Brenda
Sent: February 26, 2020 5:39 PM
To: Hundial, Jack ; Locke, Brenda ;s.22 Jack Hundial
Subject: Surrey's Police Transition

Please find attached a letter and a chronological timeline regarding the Surrey Police Transition. Over the past 16 months Cllr. Hundial and I have received thousands of emails and tens of thousands of social media engagements regarding the Surrey Police Transition. It is important for all MLAs to understand the concern of the majority and growing number of residents of Surrey should the provincial government continue to move forward on the Surrey Police Transition from the RCMP to a municipal police force.

While it may seem like this issue will not impact your community, please know that should this go forward the City of Surrey will be hiring almost 900 police officers in the next 2 – 3 years. Not only will this recruiting process impact every other municipal police force in Metro Vancouver, it potentially will see Surrey recruiting in other jurisdictions in BC. Further, the Justice Institute, which is the only training institution for municipal police officers in BC, is at currently at capacity. In order to meet the staffing levels needed by a Surrey Police Force, will require the JIBC to expand their current capacity therefore requiring additional financial input from provincial budget.

In closing, this is a critical issue for Surrey voters, as our next municipal election is only 962 days away (October 15, 2022). In the meantime, the provincial government will be holding an election. Given the level of engagement on this issue, it is important that the communication is genuine, transparent and that peoples' voices are heard because, in the end, in Canada, we police by consent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind Regards,

Cllr. Jack Hundial
Cllr. Brenda Locke

BRENDA LOCKE | COUNCILLOR



CITY OF SURREY

13450 104th Ave, Surrey, BC, Canada V3T 1V8

www.surrey.ca



Connect, Share and Engage with your City

February 25, 2020



Brenda Locke
Councillor

T. 604.502.6032
brenda.locke@surrey.ca
surrey.ca



Jack Singh Hundial
Councillor

T 604.502.6035
jack.hundial@surrey.ca
surrey.ca

Open Letter to:

Surrey Residents

Members of BC Legislative Assembly

Members of Parliament

Surrey Residents Want Input into Their Policing

Surrey residents have lost confidence and trust in the process to transition from the RCMP to a Municipal Police Department due to the lack of communication and transparency. It was acknowledged by the Solicitor General that the report done by the City of Surrey and Vancouver Police Department was inadequate, requiring the province to review it for gaps in the proposal. Mr. Oppal was asked to review the proposal and address the gaps in the report. We understand his report has now been deposited with the Director of Police Services, Brenda Butterworth-Carr. In keeping with the closed process surrounding this report from the onset, Surrey Council has not seen the recent Oppal report.

On February 14, 2020, Premier Horgan received a petition with over 40,000 signatures. Over the course of the year, several polls have determined that the majority of Surrey residents want to maintain the RCMP as Surrey's Police Department. (Maple Leaf Poll - 64%, City of Surrey's own Consultation Report - 73% and now the National Police Federations' Poll - 77%). These polling results were achieved even though the public did not have a clear indication of the cost impact to the taxpayer. Certainly, these results point to a discrepancy between Mayor McCallum's interpretation of the 2018 local government election results and do not support his comments that the Surrey residents are in favour of a move from the RCMP.

On May 23, 2019, Premier Horgan stated *"The public needs to have a clear understanding: Why there would be a requirement to change, what the cost of that change would be, and would it be a diminishment or an improvement in the delivery of services to people?"* He went further to say, *"I can't answer those basic questions because I don't know, and if I can't, I assume the public can't either."*

Then on May 24, 2019, it was reported that Premier Horgan stated *“I would argue, and I’ve made the case to Mayor McCallum, that the public needs to have a clear understanding why there would be a requirement to change, and what that cost would be, and would there be a diminishment in service to people,”*

Premier Horgan went further to say that the province *“has a significant role to play in the delivery of public safety services in Surrey”* and will need to look closely at the details of Surrey’s proposal before it decides whether to allow the change.

It has been unclear throughout this process what the level of service would be nor has there been a comprehensive comparison of the current service of the RCMP with a new, untested Surrey Police Department. Certainly, cost implications have never been clearly outlined and communicated to council or the public.

More recently, on January 23, 2020, it was positive to hear Premier Horgan speak in support of the concerns of Surrey resident and especially taxpayers when he stated: *“Traditionally municipal forces cost more than the RCMP and again those are issues that the public need to know before they make a final decision. I think the Mayor appreciates that, he would prefer to move faster, I know that, but I think it is our responsibility to make sure that when Surrey makes these choices, they do it with full information. That is what the Oppal process has been all about. And there will be costs, so I think it is important that people know that before they take a leap of faith”*

Costs to residents

We appreciate that the provincial government is concerned about Surrey taxpayers. Policing across the country is plagued with escalating cost, therefore, managing those cost is critical to residents and ultimately public safety in general.

The original Police Transition Report did not provide a solid pathway regarding the cost impact to residents. Further, we have learned that all cost projections were done on a “best case” scenario. We already know that the reported cost projections for I.T. in the report will not be achieved and that those costs will be significantly higher than originally budgeted.

The RCMP are a good value for Surrey

Comparisons between cities will provide a general guideline to better understand the cost implications to Surrey taxpayers should we change our model from the RCMP to a local police force. The chart below is extrapolated from a report by the Ministry of Public Safety. These are cost per capita in three “like” jurisdictions that have local police forces. This is based on 2018 statistics.

	Surrey RCMP	Vancouver VPD	Delta DPD	Victoria VicPD
Cost/Capita	\$284.	\$458	\$351	\$491
Surrey % Increase		38%↑	19%↑	40%↑

There can be no question that the police transition will increase taxes for Surrey residents. The question is by how much. These numbers do not include the capital costs of the transition nor does it include any costs from a risk management (insurance) perspective. Cities fund the risk management where there is a local police service whereas the costs for the RCMP are borne nationally. Suffice to say risk management can be a significant and unknown cost to the city when there is a requirement to compensate for personal or property damage done in the line of duty. Similarly, with employee costs like the health employer tax, the RCMP funds those nationally however, they are funded by cities with local police departments.

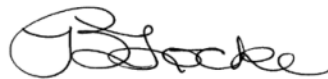
Hiring police officers is a challenge throughout North America. It should be predicted that Surrey will be faced with that same challenge to recruit the number of officers required for a police service even to meet the minimal requirement as stated in the Police Transition Report of 805 officers. While it has been stated that some members will come from the current Surrey RCMP detachment, that has not been confirmed. There is a further concern that some of the officers will come from other police departments like West Vancouver, Vancouver and New Westminster because the cost of living in Surrey is more in line with a police officer’s wage.

Training for all municipal police departments in British Columbia is done through the Justice Institute of British Columbia (JIBC). The funding and ability for the JIBC to train officers is limited and just keeping up with the existing need for officers in B.C. In the BC Budget 2020, there was no additional funding to the JIBC to meet the need of a new police department the size of Surrey. The RCMP training facility in Regina has more flexibility and can increase or decrease intake as the national need dictates.


In the end, if this issue is that Surrey is concerned about local input into policing in our city, that can be achieved through a Local Police Board for the RCMP. While this is a new option, it is working successfully in several jurisdictions in the country. Stephen Thatcher, Assistant Commissioner of the Lower Mainland District Commander, 'E' Division, RCMP said *"a type of police board, in the form of an advisory or local police committee to support the mayor and council in working with the RCMP is a potential option for the City of Surrey."* The province is in a position to listen and provide Surrey citizens with an opportunity to have their voices heard. Likewise, it is important that First Nations peoples are consulted in a meaningful way – government to government – in accordance with all that is right and just.

Now that the police transition file is out of the hands of the local government and the purview of the provincial government, we trust that the province will consider the wishes of the residents of Surrey.

Sincerely,



Brenda Locke
Councillor



Jack Hundial
Councillor

Police Transition – Chronological Timeline

2018

- Nov. 2 Mayor Elect Doug McCallum, Bob Cheema and Chief of Staff Donna identified on Minister Farnworth's calendar meeting to discuss traffic fine sharing and redacted item(s).
- Nov. 5 Motion to start the process to move to a Surrey Police Department. Cllr. Hundial's caveat – it must provide better police service and be fiscally affordable.
- Dec. Budget 2019 guts services and all new infrastructure in order to meet the cost implications of the Police transition. Infrastructure projects like the Cloverdale Arena were cancelled even though they were shovels in the ground and the Road Levy tax stopped.

2019

- May Surrey sends the Police Transition Report to Victoria. Council had little or no input into the report. All work was singularly the purview of the Mayors office. Council was provided 45 minutes to review the document prior to it being deposited with the Solicitor General.
- May 15 Public Consultation process and locations announced.
- May 23 First Public Consultation event occurs – large turn out. "Keep the RCMP in Surrey" campaign begins.
- May 31 Cllr. Pettigrew leaves Mayors' Safe Surrey Coalition.
- June 18 Press Release exposes the lack of resources in the Police Transition Report dedicated to abused children and youth at Sophie's Place.
- June 23 Mayor announces that Surrey's Public Consultation determined that 93% of residents want a Surrey Police Department.
- Request was made for the raw data from the public consultation process.
- June 27 Cllr. Locke leaves Mayors' Safe Surrey Coalition.
- July 15 Mayor folds the City of Surrey's Public Safety Committee in favour of a Police Transition Committee (PTC). Only members of his own coalition assigned to the PTC. The PTC has never met.
- July 18 Cllr. Hundial leaves Mayors' Safe Surrey Coalition.
- Aug. 12 Press Release expresses concern that the Police Transition Report does not respond to vulnerable people at risk by cutting the current Police Mental Health Outreach Team by 50% at a time when calls to police for mental health and addictions issues exceed 40% of all calls to the police.

Aug. 19 Cllr. Locke requests to have the Police Transition Report translated into other languages. Response was negative.

Aug. 22 Solicitor General gives Surrey “green light” to proceed with the police transition and appoints Wally Oppal to fill the gaps in the report.

Sept. Maple Leaf Strategies conducts a poll regarding public interest in police transition. Outcome was clear 72% of the population in Surrey support the RCMP.

Sept. 24 Cllr. Locke received an abridged version of Surrey’s Public Consultation raw data stamped “Confidential – Not for Distribution”. (3 months post the request)

Oct. 1 Cllr. Locke met with Surrey Lawyer re misinformation communicated to the public regarding the public consultation. Was told that because the data was stamped “Confidential – Not for Distribution” and it would be a breach to refute the Mayors’ statement.

Oct. 30 Applied to the Provincial FOIPPA office to have the data released. After several email and phone calls it was determined that the process should go back to the City of Surrey’s FOI office.

Dec. 16 Budget 2020 is completely focussed on the Police transition with no opportunity to build infrastructure. The road levy is cancelled once again, and few new projects permitted.

Motion to stop the process of the Police transition until a proper feasibility study has been done that specifically included cost to the taxpayer. Defeated 5/4 split.

Dec.23 Data was released at 4:30 that indicated that the Mayors’ comments regarding public support for a Surrey Police Department were inaccurate.

2020

Jan. 21 Surrey Resident Richard Landale does an in-depth analysis of the police transition titled “Qualitative Review of the Policing Transition Citizen Engagement Survey”. The author points to a flawed process that did not put a clear question to the public and Thematic Analysis principles inaccurate rationalization of the data information.

Feb. 4 Cllr. Brenda Locke Signed the petition to “Keep the RCMP in Surrey”.

Feb. 10 Motion put forward to halt the Police Transition process until proper, government to government consultation had been achieved with both lands based and urban First Nations. Ruled out of order as the Mayor claimed relationship with First Nations is not an issue for local government.

Feb. 12 Cllr. Jack Hundial signed the petition to “Keep the RCMP in Surrey”.

Feb. 14 “Keep the RCMP in Surrey” delivers 40,000 signatures on a petition to Premier Horgan at his Vancouver Cabinet Offices.

Feb. 18 National Police Federation survey states that 77% of Surrey Residents want to keep the RCMP.

Hawkins, Brittany PREM:EX

From: Roberts, Michelle J GCPE:EX
Sent: February 26, 2020 1:34 PM
To: GCPE Editors
Cc: McAndrews, Caroline GCPE:EX; Sitter, Donna GCPE:EX
Subject: FOR V5: PSSG 98078
Attachments: IB - Police - Decision on Surrey Police Transition - FINAL.docx; FS - Police - Surrey Police Transition - FINAL.docx

Hi Team,

Attached for V5 are an Info Bulletin and Factsheet on the surrey municipal policing transition to go out Provincewide and to community media tomorrow morning (approximately 10am). These will be a trigger-release, as they can't go out until our provincial background briefing begins. I will get in touch in the morning to confirm release, let me know who best to call.

Shruti is currently arranging translation of the IB as well, but we won't get the final version of that until later this evening. So, I won't be able to pass that on to you for inclusion as a link in our IB until then.

We'll also be sending out an MA at 7:45am tomorrow, and 'll send that for V5 as soon as we get a final.

Apologies for the short time frame for all of this, final strategy was just confirmed yesterday. Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Michelle

Michelle Roberts, M.A.
Senior Public Affairs Officer
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General | Government of British Columbia
☎ 778.677.8570

FACTSHEET

Feb. 27, 2020

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Surrey Police Transition Process

Timeline:

- November 2018 – City of Surrey voted unanimously to terminate their agreement with the RCMP and move to a municipal police force.
- May 2019 – City of Surrey submitted its Surrey Policing Transition Report to Minister Farnworth for review and approval in his capacity as Solicitor General.
- August 2019 – Minister Farnworth and Surrey Mayor Doug McCallum released a joint statement stating the City of Surrey was given the green-light required to establish Surrey's municipal police department.
- August 2019 – Provincial Municipal Policing Transition Study Committee, chaired by the Hon. Wally Oppal, was established to ensure all key issues and complex details were thoroughly addressed in the City's transition plan.
- January 2020 – The Committee submitted its report to BC's Director of Police Services.
- February 2020 – The Director recommended to the Minister to establish a police board for the transition to a municipal police department in the City of Surrey.
- February 2020 – The Minister granted approval for the creation of a municipal police board for the City of Surrey, the next stage in the City's plan to transition to a municipal police department.

Establishment of a Police Board:

- Under the Police Act, a municipal police board, which requires the approval of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General to be established, is required to establish and govern a municipal police department.
- The establishment of a new police board will take place over the coming months.
- Parties involved in the establishment of a new police board include the Ministry of Public Safety, the Director of Police Services, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Crown Agency and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO), Legal Services Branch (LSB), Cabinet, the office of the Lieutenant Governor in Council (LGIC), and the Order in Council (OIC) Office.
- The Ministry will initiate the process to establish a police board by posting a Notice of Position (NOP) on the Crown Agency and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) website.
- The NOP will be posted for 2-4 weeks to recruit prospective candidates. Once closed, CABRO will route all online applicants to the Ministry for screening and to identify suitable candidates to interview.
- Ministry staff will interview candidates and provide a list of recommendations to the Director, who will then conduct secondary suitability interviews.

- Police Record Checks will be conducted on successful applicants. The Director of Police Services, in accordance with their statutory authority, will make recommendations to the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General about appointments to the board, based on the overriding principle of merit.
- Police board members must be appointed by an Order in Council (OIC) by the Lieutenant Governor.
- Once established, the Surrey Police Board and the Surrey Police Department will be subject to oversight by the Director of Police Services, who has the statutory responsibility to superintend policing throughout B.C.

Role of a Police Board:

- Police boards have four main governance functions:
 - Employer of the police and civilian employees;
 - Provide financial oversight for the police department;
 - Establish policies and direction for the department; and
 - Manage service and policy complaints against the department.
- A municipal police board consists of:
 - The mayor who acts as board Chair;
 - One person appointed by the municipal council; and
 - Up to seven people appointed by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
- A police board can have a maximum of 9 appointees. Initially, the Surrey Police Board will have seven members which includes five members appointed by the Province, one member selected by the municipality and the mayor of the City of Surrey who will serve as chair of the board. The option to add two additional board members will be considered at a later date.
- Initial board appointments will range from one to three-year terms.
- The Director will communicate all expectations of the police board for the establishment of a new police department to the board once it is established.

Hiring of Police Chief and Law Enforcement Officers:

- Pursuant to the Police Act, a municipal police board is required to establish and govern a municipal police department.
- Once a police board is appointed, the board will be required to hire a chief constable.
- Once the chief constable is selected, efforts can be undertaken to hire additional exempt positions.
- Hiring of unionized positions can only be undertaken once a collective agreement has been negotiated.
- The proposed model for the Surrey Police Department recommends a progressive scale up of the new Department while maintaining a fully funded police service at least equivalent to the current state and increasing in future years.
- The Province does not have a role in the staffing of a municipal police department.

Other:

- All decisions and responsibilities regarding direct costs for the Surrey Police Department rest with the City of Surrey and the Surrey Police Board, once established.
- The operational structure of the Surrey Police Department will be determined by the police board and chief constable.
- The process for the transfer of investigative files from one police agency to another will be determined and coordinated by the RCMP, the police board and the chief constable to ensure a seamless transition that maintains the integrity of investigations and victims and other involved persons are not negatively impacted.
- The proposed model for the Surrey Police Department recommends maintaining participation in the Integrated Teams consistent with the levels that currently exist through the Surrey RCMP.
- There are provisions in the existing policing agreements that address the process for the transfer of assets such as computers, tactical gear, uniforms and vehicles. These processes will be initiated and outcomes determined by the RCMP and the police board.

Learn More:

To read B.C.'s Police Act for information on legislation & regulation related to policing in B.C. visit:

http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/00_96367_01

For more information on the Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) visit:
gov.bc.ca/cabro

For B.C.'s written guidelines for appointments to public sector organizations visit:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/governments/services-for-government/public-sector-management/appointments>

Contact: Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor
General
Media Relations
250 213-3602

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor
General

[release number]
Feb. 27, 2020

Minister approves establishment of a Surrey Police Board

VICTORIA – The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, has granted approval for the creation of a municipal police board for the City of Surrey—the next stage in the City of Surrey’s plan to transition from the RCMP to a municipal police department.

Having considered the Provincial Municipal Policing Transition Study Committee’s report, as well as the recommendation of the Director of Police Services, pursuant to s. 23 of the Police Act, the minister is confident that the key aspects of the transition plan that required more detail have been thoroughly considered.

Chaired by the Hon. Wally Oppal, the Provincial Municipal Policing Transition Study Committee included representatives from the City of Surrey, the Ministry, and independent consultants with specialized expertise. The committee was established in August 2019 to ensure the City of Surrey’s transition plan addressed all key issues, and its work has now concluded.

The Surrey Police Board, once established, will be responsible for the creation and governance of the Surrey Police Department and responsibilities will include being the employer of the police and civilian employees, providing financial oversight for the police department, establishing policies and direction for the police department and managing service and policy complaints against the department.

To support the transition process, the Policing Model Transition Secretariat, established in Spring 2019, and the Director of Police Services will continue to provide oversight, leadership and support for the Province and the City of Surrey—ensuring that Provincial accountabilities, public safety, and police oversight are maintained throughout.

All parties involved acknowledge the complex scale of a transition this size and are committed to cooperation and collaboration with Public Safety Canada and the RCMP.

A timeline for the transition will be determined by key partners as this work progresses.

In 2018, the City of Surrey initiated termination of their agreement with the RCMP and transition to a municipal police force, in accordance with their powers under the Police Act.

Contact:
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Media Relations
250 213-3602

OOP FOI PREM:EX

From: Aaron, Sage PREM:EX
Sent: February 28, 2020 8:40 AM
To: LP PREM Directors; Holmwood, Jen PREM:EX; Smith, George PREM:EX; McKinnon, Michael PREM:EX
Subject: Fwd: KMQA on Surrey Police Transition
Attachments: 2020.02.27 KMQA - Surrey Police RCMP Transition.docx; ATT00001.htm

Sage
778-678-0832
Sent from my mobile device

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Maartman, William PSSG:EX" <William.Maartman@gov.bc.ca>
Date: February 27, 2020 at 9:20:00 PM PST
To: "Aaron, Sage PREM:EX" <Sage.Aaron@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: KMQA on Surrey Police Transition

see attached

IB and factsheet are online here: <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PSSG0010-000339>

IB also in Punjabi.

Let me know if you need anything else

Surrey Police-RCMP Transition

Background:

- Minister Farnworth has announced that he has granted the City of Surrey approval for the creation of a municipal police board.
- This is the next stage of Surrey's plan to transition from the RCMP to an independent municipal police department. The selection and appointment process will take place over the coming months.
- Under the Police Act, municipalities over 5,000 people are responsible for police services in their communities and have the right to determine how those services are delivered.
- In 2018, the Surrey City Council voted to terminate their agreement with the RCMP and transition to a municipal police department, in accordance with their authority under the Police Act.

Key Messages:

s.13

Page 18 of 20 to/à Page 20 of 20

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13