



December 17, 2020

Commissioner Brenda Lucki
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
RCMP National Headquarters
Headquarters Building
73 Leikin Drive
Ottawa ON K1A 0R2

Dear Commissioner Lucki:

On February 27, 2020, I announced my approval to the City of Surrey to provide its policing and law enforcement by means of a municipal police department governed by a municipal police board. Since that time, a significant number of milestones have been reached. The Surrey Police Board (the Board) has been established, the Surrey Police Service's Chief Constable has been appointed by the Board, and the Surrey Policing Transition Trilateral Committee (SPTTC) has also been established. The SPTTC, with representation from Public Safety Canada, the Province, the City of Surrey, the RCMP, and the Surrey Police Service, is working collaboratively to develop, support, negotiate and implement a phased transition and approve the related formal legal agreements that may be required.

While I appreciate the ongoing contributions from the RCMP and all parties to the work completed to date through the SPTTC tables, I cannot understate the importance of the continued leadership from all parties working together through this forum. We must remain aligned in our collective goal to ensure the most effective transition possible.

The City of Surrey's transition from an RCMP Municipal Police Unit to its own municipal police department is well underway. I am writing to you to affirm my commitment in moving this transition forward. To be clear, this work has progressed to a point that we will not consider walking back from it and the Province is committed to continuing to provide leadership throughout this process.

Now more than ever, it is important to have the RCMP's continued support, commitment and collaboration in order to accomplish the significant work ahead in a policing model transition of this size and scope. Given the unprecedented nature of this transition, leadership is required from all parties at the table and I am seeking your commitment that the RCMP will bring a leadership role moving forward. We must also expect that this work will require all partner agencies to lean-in and work in different ways to achieve a transition that is efficient, effective and as timely as possible, and at the same time, ensuring public safety in the City of Surrey.

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Commissioner Brenda Lucki
Page 2

Again, I would like to thank the RCMP, both nationally and at E-Division, for participating in this process to date and look forward to our continued collaboration on this significant and historical process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

pc: Deputy Commissioner Jennifer Strachan, Commanding Officer, E-Division RCMP