

From: Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX (Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca)
To: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca); Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Olson, Michael GCPE:EX (Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: RE: Letter for final review
Sent: 06/01/2023 14:11:27
Message Body:

s.13

That's better!

From: Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX <Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 7:31 PM
To: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Farnworth, Mike PSSG:EX <Mike.Farnworth@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Letter for final review

Thanks. Will reframe. Appreciate your reviews and other than that comfortable with the approach and letter as a whole.

Michael Snoddon (he/him)
Chief of Staff I Honourable Mike Farnworth
Deputy Premier I Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
E: Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca **C:** 250-818-1035

From: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 7:20:33 PM
To: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX <Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>; Farnworth, Mike PSSG:EX <Mike.Farnworth@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Letter for final review

Just reviewed. Same thought on that line and paragraph.

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From: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 7:18:08 PM
To: Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX <Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>; Farnworth, Mike PSSG:EX <Mike.Farnworth@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Re: Letter for final review

Hi Michael,

Looks good.

Small suggestion - last line Para 10 I found awkward and difficult to understand? suggest revision for clarity.

Thanks,

Doug

Douglas Scott
Deputy Solicitor General

From: Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX <Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, May 31, 2023 5:35:29 PM

To: Farnworth, Mike PSSG:EX <Mike.Farnworth@gov.bc.ca>; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX <Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca>; Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX <Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca>; Olson, Michael GCPE:EX <Michael.Olson@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: Letter for final review

Hi Minister, Doug, Glen & Michael,

Here is the final copy of the letter for each of you to review. I accepted many of LSBs considerations while also keeping the letter pointed. Please advise if you accept this letter to be sent.

Michael

May 31, 2023

Ref: 654103

Her Worship Brenda Locke and City Council
City of Surrey
13450-104 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 1V8

Dear Mayor Brenda Locke and City Councillors:

I write as a follow-up to my letter dated May 12, 2023, and in response to a letter from Mayor Locke to Premier Eby dated May 16, 2023, regarding the Director of Police Services? Report on the City of Surrey?s Police Model Transition and Decision to Retain the RCMP (April 2023) (the ?Director?s Report?).

s.13 inaccuracies were made in a public statement made by the Premier with respect to City staff having received a confidential copy of the Director?s Report as well as with a statement in my letter on May 12, 2023, which invited you to sign a confidentiality agreement to receive a copy of a confidential copy of the Director?s Report.

At the time of this statement and in my May 12, 2023, letter to Mayor and Council, it was expected that a confidentiality agreement had been s.13 agreed to and that it would be signed by City representatives without undue delay. We did not anticipate that City staff would have additional amendments to finalize the confidentiality agreement with the City.

It is important to highlight that significant work occurred between Ministry officials and City staff to establish a process to provide the City representatives with a confidential copy of the Director?s Report. In negotiating the confidentiality agreement, numerous changes were made to the language to accommodate the City?s interests. Once the confidentiality agreement was finalized, distribution by Ministry officials to the City representatives was delayed at City staff request.

The Mayor claims in her letter to the Premier that it is highly unusual for a local government to sign a confidentiality agreement. In fact, confidentiality agreements are a commonly used tool by the provincial government to support the sharing of confidential and sensitive information with a variety of parties, including local governments - especially when other entities own that information.

A portion of the information in the Director?s Report relates to the RCMP, the Surrey Police Service and the federal government. It contains confidential information that outlines police operations, information regarding intergovernmental relations, and information on the federal, provincial, and municipal business lines within the RCMP. The safeguarding of this sensitive information is paramount to public safety. I would also like to clarify that at no point did Ministry officials negotiate with City staff on what information would remain redacted or would be released in the confidential copy.

I am advised by Ministry officials that just over half of the City Council has signed and provided the confidentiality agreement to the Province.^{s.13} In my ^{s.13} letter to you, I indicated that the City's police model transition has implications for public safety that will likely last for many decades. I also stated that this matter is of significant importance for the City as well as the provincial government.

I am gravely concerned that Council may proceed without considering all relevant information available. Given the City's responsibilities under the Police Act, it is critical that all of Council understands the full factual context of this decision, as well as its implications, to ensure adequate and effective policing in Surrey. To that end, the Province is of the view that each member of Council should review and consider the information in the confidential Director's Report. Ministry officials have offered the confidentiality agreement for signing to each member of Council. Should all members of Council sign a confidentiality agreement, I have asked Ministry officials to be available to answer questions that you may have.

By way of this letter, I am also formally confirming that the provincial government is prepared to provide up to \$150 million to the City to assist in completing the transition to the Surrey Police Service. Ministry officials are available and ready to discuss and work out the details of this funding commitment and other potential non-monetary assistance to the City with City staff. The Province has concluded that public safety is best supported with the transition to the Surrey Police Service as municipal police service and, accordingly, this funding is only available to the City if it continues with this transition. If the City of Surrey chooses to retain the RCMP as its service provider, the City will be fully responsible for the fiscal, operational, and all other consequences of that decision, without monetary support from the Province.

Furthermore, I am concerned that Council has not set a date by when a decision can be expected on this matter. As I announced on April 28, 2023, I rejected the City's plan to retain the RCMP and strongly recommended that the City continue its police model transition to the Surrey Police Service to ensure that adequate and effective policing is maintained both in Surrey and throughout the province. At this time, it is the view of the Province, Council should move forward with a vote that fully acknowledges the implications - financial and otherwise - of the decision to retain the RCMP or to move forward with the transition to the Surrey Police Service. ^{s.13}

^{s.13}

In light of the concerns identified above, I ask that the City please advise me of the following:

- ? the date by which all members of Council will sign and return the confidentiality agreement to the Province,
- ? a commitment from the City that the mandatory conditions, requirements, and financial implications for the applicable police model will be met,
- ? a commitment from the City that the mandatory conditions, requirements, and financial implications for the applicable police model pathway including, full costing, and other relevant implications for each police model pathway will be included in the report prepared for Council's consideration and will be set out in the text of any motion and,
- ? the date by which Council intends to decide on this important matter.

I look forward to working with you and City staff to reach resolve this matter promptly. I know we share the same goal of ending the long period of uncertainty for the people of Surrey and ensuring the safety and security of Surrey, and the well-being of those police officers that serve your community.

Sincerely,

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: Mayor Brenda Locke
Councillor Linda Annis
Councillor Harry Bains
Councillor Mike Bose
Councillor Doug Elford
Councillor Gordon Hepner
Councillor Pardeep Kooner

Councillor Mandeep Nagra
Councillor Rob Stutt
City Manager Vincent Lalonde
Premier David Eby

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Correspondence from Surrey Police Board
Sent: 06/13/2023 18:40:11
Attachments: image001.png, LTR to Minister Farnworth response to June 9 2023 LTR 2023 06 13.pdf
Message Body:

Min sig

From: Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, June 13, 2023 9:17 AM
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Correspondence from Surrey Police Board

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

From: Melissa Granum <MelissaGranum@surreypoliceboard.ca>
Sent: June 13, 2023 9:02 AM
To: Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: Marion Chow <MarionChow@surreypoliceboard.ca>
Subject: Correspondence from Surrey Police Board

Hello Minister Farnworth,
Attached please find correspondence related to your letter of June 9, 2023.
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.
Thank you,
Mel

Melissa Granum, MBA | Executive Director

Surrey Police Board

13450 104 Ave, Surrey, BC, Canada V3T 1V8
T 604.598.5800 | C 778.846.0536
Surreypoliceboard.ca

The Surrey Police Board acknowledges that our work takes place on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples.

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Page 06 of 81

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13 ; s.16

From: IRR Correspondence Unit IRR:EX (IRRCorrespondenceUnit@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: 59164 - CITYNEWS VANCOUVER: Locke's public safety group aims to bring Surrey RCMP to 'full authorized strength'
Sent: 07/25/2023 22:24:26
Attachments: image0.jpeg, ~WRD0000.jpg
Message Body:

Good afternoon,

IRR staff have advised this be redirected. If a response is actioned, can you please ensure Minister Rankin is CC'd on the reply?

Thank you,

Mackenzie Hepner (she/her)

Correspondence Clerk

Correspondence Unit – Deputy Ministers Office

Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation

From: s.13

Sent: Friday, July 7, 2023 10:59 AM

To: Farnworth.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Marco.Mendicino@parl.gc.ca; Prime Minister/Premier Ministre <pm@pm.gc.ca>; OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>; Minister, AG AG:EX <AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; mcu@justice.gc.ca; Vaughn Palmer <vpalmer@postmedia.com>; CNNTips <tips@cnn.com>; tips@forbes.com; Lisa Helps <mayor@victoria.ca>; Minister, IRR IRR:EX <IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Jean-Yves.Duclos@parl.gc.ca; info@covid19immunitytaskforce.ca; Jagmeet Singh <Jagmeet.Singh@ndp.ca>; Furstenau.MLA, Sonia LASS:EX <Sonia.Furstenau.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Alistair.MacGregor@parl.gc.ca

Cc: ken.sim@vancouver.ca

Subject: 59164 - CITYNEWS VANCOUVER: Locke's public safety group aims to bring Surrey RCMP to 'full authorized strength'

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

? ?Cover up by RCMP

Co owner of microsoft my dear friend^{s.22}

s.22

they were all

running to the bank for LNG

now the biggest 5 x diesel in NO emissions

that caused the Mutations for a pandemic

truth to power

s.22

due to the rcmp theft a luting crime

6 million people are dead ? ?

this is the truth

why Brenda Locke must be stoped

RCMP are corrupt as proven by their

luting of jey genetic patent to save 6 million

people also proven by Ukrainian Scientists

kovalchuks last 2 years in Forbes

at Lethbridge University!

Sent from my iPad

Locke's public safety group aims to bring Surrey RCMP to 'full authorized strength'

Brenda Locke has launched a mayor's working group aimed at bringing the Surrey RCMP to "full authorized strength."

Read in CityNews Vancouver: <https://apple.news/AHrul0IKwRmCwQi29dyH-Nw>

Shared from [Apple News](#)

Sent from my iPad



Independent Investigations Office



Chief Civilian Director | Independent Investigation...

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From: Watson, Amanda PREM:EX (Amanda.Watson@gov.bc.ca)
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX (PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Bill Tieleman - recent Pollara poll on Surrey policing issues
Sent: 07/04/2023 18:11:13
Attachments: NPF Metro Vancouver & Surrey KEY FINDINGS v9 client.pdf
Message Body:

Hello,

I am sharing the email below to PSSG for consideration or any further action. We will file. The attachment to this email was originally shared to PO and PSSG by the National Police Federation directly.

Thanks,

Amanda Watson, MLIS

Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier

(778) 698-8211 | pronouns: she/her

From: West Star Communications <weststar@telus.net>
Sent: Monday, June 26, 2023 5:48 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Bill Tieleman - recent Pollara poll on Surrey policing issues

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello Premier Eby - my client the National Police Federation recently conducted polling in Surrey and also Metro Vancouver on the Surrey policing issue and I wanted to share those results with you - they are attached in PDF format. I am happy to discuss at any time. [This message has also been sent to Minister Farnworth, all Surrey NDP MLAs and Chief of Staff Matt Smith.]

Best wishes,

Bill Tieleman

West Star Communications

Cell s.22 Office 604-844-7827

Website: <http://billtieleman.blogspot.com/>

Follow on [Twitter?](#) - @BillTieleman



Overview of Key Findings: Surrey Policing Preferences Survey

May 2023

Page 14 of 81 to/à Page 25 of 81

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From: Richardson, Carole (CRichardson@surrey.ca)
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX (Premier@gov.bc.ca)
Cc: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX (PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca); Salter, Shannon PREM:EX (Shannon.Salter@gov.bc.ca); Smith, Matt PREM:EX (Matt.Smith@gov.bc.ca); Lalonde, Vincent (VALalonde@surrey.ca)
Subject: Mayor Locke - Correspondence - Invitation to Participate in Surrey Public Safety Working Group
Sent: 06/23/2023 23:57:34
Attachments: image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png, image006.png, image007.png, 2023.06.23 LTR Premier Eby - Invitation to Participate in Surrey Public Safety Working Group.pdf
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,

Please find attached correspondence for your review.

Best regards,

Carole

CAROLE RICHARDSON – Administrative Coordinator

OFFICE of the MAYOR - CITY OF SURREY

13450 104th Ave, Surrey, BC, Canada V3T 1V8
T 604.591.4664 | F 604.591.4481 | www.surrey.ca

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CITY OF SURREY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Premier
Honourable David Eby
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4

Email: premier@gov.bc.ca

Dear Honourable David Eby,

Re: Invitation to Participate in Surrey Public Safety Working Group.



BRENDA LOCKE
MAYOR

MAYOR@SURREY.CA

604.591.4126

I am writing today to invite the Province to join us in charting a collaborative path forward through the many challenges, and abundant opportunities, that lay ahead in Surrey, starting by moving forward together on policing.

Over the past few years, there has been much debate on the merits of one policing model over another in Surrey. What seems to have been lost in the debate is the rationale behind Surrey Council's majority position and a larger conversation on what our municipal government is doing to enhance public safety in Surrey. While the policing issue is complex and is certainly front and centre, there are other issues that impact our citizens from the perspective of affordability, housing, and our need to make progress on other community-building initiatives/infrastructure.

For background, the Surrey Police Service began with a consulting contract with the Vancouver Police Department ("VPD") to create a new police force based on the VPD's legacy model. Surrey, as with all cities, has unique needs, demographics, infrastructure, and resources. As a growing, dynamic, and diverse community, it is important that we adopt a contemporary policing model that suits and is relevant to our city. Simply adopting another city's model does not address the unique challenges that we face in Surrey. This issue gets lost in the debates and is at the heart of my conviction on this issue.

One only needs to look at the de-camping initiative on the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver and compare it to how Surrey faced a similar challenge in 2018 on 135A Street to know and understand how differently cities address the challenges of homelessness. Where Vancouver used an enforcement approach to "clean the streets", Surrey took a year, built relationships, deployed resources, and moved over 200 street entrenched homeless individuals into supportive housing. The RCMP were partners with the City, and our community partners in a solution focused approach that has continued to mature to this day. And while we still struggle to provide all of the services for our vulnerable residents, the 135A "strip" as it was called never returned. My comparison here is not to criticize Vancouver, but rather to make the point that different communities take different approaches to their challenges. We are, in fact, very interested to see the roll out of the recent initiative to deploy mental health nurses with VPD officers.



Similarly, the Surrey RCMP's "Car 67" that has been operating for over a decade seems to be very much in line with what Vancouver will do in their new initiative. Working together we can learn from each other and adapt our approaches accordingly.

Today, our citizens are facing unprecedented affordability pressures. We, as leaders, need to deliver quality municipal services without creating unnecessary financial pressures for our citizens. There is much to pay for beyond policing as we move forward to solve all our challenges. Relieving financial pressures in funding policing leaves more money on the table for the other parts of the system. It is well known that the municipal policing model costs more than the RCMP contract model. While that may change down the road, any significant closing of that gap is years away, at best.

We are a young and diverse community. Surrey offers a tremendous opportunity to create attainable housing for British Columbians looking to grow their families and for newcomers looking to put down roots. Our inventory of approved housing projects is the largest in the region and we intend to support the expected increase in demand. We further intend to encourage the development of purpose-built rental housing with a focus on families.

Surrey is also home to the second largest number of urban indigenous people in British Columbia as well as three land based First Nations (Kwantlen, Katzie and Semiahmoo). Working, government to government, we are addressing needs and issues from housing to affordability to food security and economic development.

In recent years, Surrey has seen tremendous growth, and I am proud of the capacity our team has as we build the city of the future. We are fortunate to have a dedicated team of public servants who are committed to working with your government in building this community – a city for people.

In Surrey, public safety is a top priority. In addition to the RCMP, we are growing our fire and rescue service and a significant bylaw enforcement operation. Surrey is committed to a collaborative, solution-focused approach to community safety. The RCMP are key partners in the City's approach.

In 2015, Surrey established a Public Safety Strategy with a broad mandate to work with the RCMP, the Fire Service, our bylaws department, and external agencies with an eye to optimize all public safety resources, along with their many community partners in Surrey. It is that approach that has evolved considerably, and continues to this day, that has allowed us to be successful on so many of our persistent social challenges.

The City has built several programs using this approach, dealing with homelessness, mental health, addictions, gang prevention, and other crime prevention matters, and will be launching new programs with Fraser Health and other partners to provide stronger outreach programs and interventions. Your government funds many of those initiatives and we are grateful for that.

Since our council's election last fall, the City has relaunched the Public Safety Committee which is working through the design and implementation of an integrated Community Safety and Well-Being Strategy. At the same, we have launched a Livability and Social Equity Committee to ensure services are built to ensure equity for our diverse community. Together, these committees include members of the public, and work closely with Indigenous partners and our land based First Nations.

We are excited to move forward. However, first the talk of a public safety crisis must end. We are building, what will soon be, BC's largest city and our City and your Government must move swiftly to deal with these challenges.



We feel strongly that the Surrey RCMP are valuable partners and have shown they can provide best-practices urban policing. At the end of the day, we as Council must wrestle with all the information; with both our hard data, and our shared experiences of how to best build a safe, inclusive city for our residents. We did that and we chose the RCMP. In Surrey, we are ready to move forward on all fronts and look forward to opportunities to do that with your government.

I strongly believe that now is an opportune time to work together collaboratively. I am also concerned that Provincial staff are engaged in an exercise of weighing one police model against another without any of this broader context. This is never what we intended and brings with it great risk to our community. In Surrey, we want to work together with your government. To do this we are keen to collaborate on reaffirming and restaffing the RCMP while making sure the launch of our Community Safety and Well-Being Strategy brings forward all of our partners.

To move forward, I suggest we form a working group led by subject matter experts. The working group would have two key objectives, specifically:

- Ensuring that the Surrey Detachment returns to full strength; and
- Helping facilitate the design and implementation of Surrey's integrated Community Safety and Well-Being Strategy.

Achievement of these objectives can be done in a way which meets the Minister's requirements outlined in the April 28, 2023 report from the Director of Police Services.

We believe that it is important to ensure that all stakeholders are confident that all aspects of community safety are in place, alongside adequate and effective policing. I believe that as your government moves forward on the tough issues of crime and public safety, collaboration in Surrey could quickly create lessons that can be used by communities, big and small, as they wrestle with how to solve their problems in ways that work for their communities.

There has been much divisive talk about public safety in Surrey. In Surrey we are strongly committed to moving beyond the rhetoric. There is much work to do, and we look forward to your support and participation.

Sincerely,



Brenda Locke
Mayor

cc. Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier
Shannon Salter, Deputy Minister to Premier Eby
Matt Smith, Chief of Staff, Premier Eby

Vincent Lalonde, City Manager, City of Surrey



From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Letter from the Surrey Police Union
Sent: 06/13/2023 18:40:23
Attachments: image001.jpg, SPU Letter to Minister Farnworth 230612.pdf
Message Body:

Min sig

From: Rick Stewart <rick.stewart@surreypoliceunion.ca>
Sent: Monday, June 12, 2023 2:57 PM
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: Starchuk.MLA, Mike LASS:EX <Mike.Starchuk.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Singh.MLA, Rachna LASS:EX <Rachna.Singh.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Begg.MLA, Garry LASS:EX <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Ralston.MLA, Bruce LASS:EX <Bruce.Ralston.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX <Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca>; Norm Lipinski <Norm.Lipinski@surreypolice.ca>; Melissa Granum <MelissaGranum@surreypoliceboard.ca>
Subject: Letter from the Surrey Police Union

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Dear Minister Farnworth,

Please see attached letter sent on behalf of the Surrey Police Union.

Yours truly,

Rick Stewart, President

T: 236-474-3221
E: rick.stewart@surreypoliceunion.ca
www.bcclem.ca

Protecting those who protect others.

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SURREY POLICE UNION

100-15157 56th Avenue,
PO Box 39005, Panorama PO
Surrey, BC, V3S 9A7

June 12, 2023

By email: PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca

Hon. Mike Farnworth
2748 Lougheed Hwy. #107A
Port Coquitlam, BC V3C 3L8

Dear Minister Farnworth,

I hope this letter finds you well. Thank you again for taking the time out of your busy schedule last month to meet with us in Victoria as part of the BC Police Association delegation. The support from government on those “Lobby-Day” matters is extremely valued. Moreover, your ongoing support as we continue through the policing transition in Surrey is greatly appreciated.

s.16

In the likely scenario that Surrey City Council votes in favour of the RCMP, I presume that your staff have planned and prepared for the next steps that the province will take in this most consequential matter of policing in Surrey.

From the Surrey Police Union’s perspective, it will be critical to the future viability of SPS for you to immediately intervene in the case of an unfavourable council decision. s.16

s.16

s.16

Since the first deployment of SPS police officers in November 2021, s.16

s.16



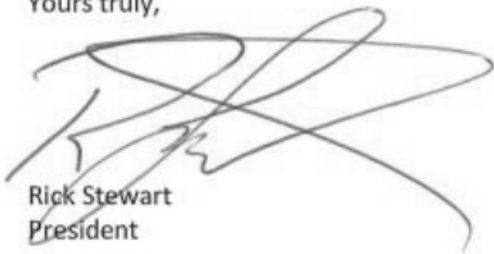
SURREY POLICE UNION

Since the province's announcement and strong recommendation at the end of April, the Surrey Police Union Executive has received consistent feedback from our members s.16
s.16

As a result of the extremely difficult work environment at the Surrey RCMP Detachment, and the years of uncertainty, s.16
s.16

Undoubtedly, an unfavourable vote by Surrey City Council will cause more SPS members to action current applications they have with other agencies or reconsider their career in policing. The only way to ensure adequate policing levels in Surrey is a timely intervention by the province immediately following an unfavourable city council decision. Any delay, especially into the fall, will likely cause irreparable harm to the viability of Surrey Police Service, which will impact public safety and police resource levels throughout the province.

Yours truly,



Rick Stewart
President

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: s.16
Sent: 06/02/2023 18:25:38
Attachments: s.16
Message Body:

filing

From: Adam Munnings <adam@munnings.ca>
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2022 6:48 AM
To: marco.mendicino@parl.gc.ca
Cc: s.16 brenda.lucki@rcmp-grc.gc.ca; Brian.Brennan@rcmp-grc.gc.ca; Brenda.Locke@surrey.ca; mayor@surrey.ca; Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: s.16

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Hello,

Please find attached correspondence on behalf of s.16

Sincerely,

Adam Munnings
Munnings Law
Suite 200, 100 Park Royal South
West Vancouver, BC V7T 1A2
T: 604.922.0253
C: 604.761.8461

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Page 35 of 81 to/à Page 36 of 81

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Correspondence from Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald | Correspondence from Surrey Police Union's Legal Representative
Sent: 05/02/2023 19:03:14
Attachments: 20230427_LTR_CO to FARNWORTH_BAINS_2023-0161 (signed DM).pdf
Message Body:

SG draft

From: E_Commanding_Officer <E_Commanding_Officer@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2023 11:26 AM
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>; Bains.MLA, Harry LASS:EX <Harry.Bains.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: McDonald, Dwayne <Dwayne.McDONALD@rcmp-grc.gc.ca>
Subject: Correspondence from Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald | Correspondence from Surrey Police Union's Legal Representative

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good morning,

Please find attached correspondence from Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald.

Thank you,

Office of the Commanding Officer
BC RCMP

[CO:T2023-0161]
/tjl

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Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada
Commanding Officer Commandant divisionnaire

April 27, 2023

The Honourable Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety & Solicitor General
Victoria, BC

The Honourable Harry Bains
Minister of Labour
Victoria, BC

Via Email: [PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca]

Via Email : [harry.bains.mla@leg.bc.ca]

Dear Honourable Ministers,

Subject: March 1, 2023 Correspondence from Surrey Police Union's Legal Representative

On March 1, 2023 Counsel for the Surrey Police Union (SPU) distributed correspondence (the Letter) to several parties, including yourselves. In the Letter, the SPU made serious allegations and detailed multiple complaints regarding the conduct of RCMP members in relation to SPU officers working within the Surrey Detachment of the RCMP.

The issues raised are highly critical of the RCMP and specifically Assistant Commissioner Brian Edwards, the Officer in Charge of the Surrey RCMP. These statements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) "Assistant Commissioner Brian Edwards, Officer in Charge of the Surrey RCMP Detachment, is well aware that Surrey Police Service ("SPS") Police Officer [sic] are being subjected to bullying and harassment by RCMP Members in the poisoned and toxic Surrey RCMP Detachments [sic]. However, he has utterly failed and expressly refused to do anything about it..." (at para 2.1 of the Letter)
- (2) "A/Commr. Edwards' decision to do nothing to stop bullying and harassment at Surrey RCMP Detachment worksites as required under the *Canada Labour Code Regulations*, The *RCMP Code of Conduct*, RCMP's own "Harassment Prevention Policy," and the "Transition Agreement" is unfathomable. A senior law enforcement officer refusing to enforce the law!" (at para 3.3 of the Letter).

These statements are false and misleading.

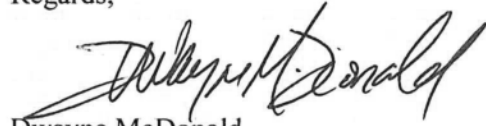
The RCMP is fully committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace and takes the allegations of harassment raised in this letter very seriously.

On multiple occasions over the last several months, the RCMP has requested all information from Surrey Police Service to investigate any complaints of SPS officers. At the time of this letter to you, the SPS still has not provided any information to the RCMP to resolve these matters.

The RCMP intends to continue fulfilling its obligations to ensure a healthy and safe working environment and is fully prepared to work with SPS to achieve that goal.

The RCMP continues to encourage SPS to cooperate with us on this matter.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dwayne McDonald', written in a cursive style.

Dwayne McDonald
Deputy Commissioner
Commanding Officer, BC RCMP

14200 Green Timbers Way
Mailstop #308
Surrey, BC V3T 6P3

From: Thompson, Angella N AG:EX (Angella.Thompson@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Mayor Locke - Letter to Premier Eby
Sent: 04/21/2023 22:17:23
Attachments: image001.jpg, Letter to Premier Eby City of Surrey Critical Services.pdf
Message Body:

From: Watson, Amanda PREM:EX <Amanda.Watson@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FW: Mayor Locke - Letter to Premier Eby

Hello,

Is PSSG able to response to the email below/ attached from Mayor Locke or is an acknowledgment from the PO sufficient? Please let me know.

Thanks,

Amanda Watson, MLIS
Correspondence Officer | Office of the Premier
(778) 698-8211 | pronouns: she/her

From: Dhillon, Harp (Mayor's Office) <HarpreetDhillon@surrey.ca>
Sent: Monday, April 17, 2023 3:49 PM
To: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX <Premier@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Mayor Locke - Letter to Premier Eby

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

Good afternoon,

Please see attached correspondence for your attention from Mayor Brenda Locke.

Regards,
Harp

Harpreet Dhillon

Office of the Mayor
13450 ? 104 Avenue, Surrey, BC, Canada V3T 1V8
T 604 591-4436 | F 604 591-4481 | www.surrey.ca

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CITY OF SURREY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

VIA EMAIL

April 17, 2023

Hon. David Eby
Premier
Province of British Columbia

Surrey is the second largest municipality in the province and, as you can appreciate, there are many critical infrastructure challenges facing our city. Simply put, our infrastructure is not keeping pace with anticipated growth of 10,000 newcomers each year, many from outside of Canada. Such growth brings both vitality and challenges in terms of housing, schools, public transportation, and health care. To make progress on these priorities, Surrey and the Province will need to focus attention and resources.

First, however, we require a timely decision confirming our right to maintain the RCMP as the Police of Jurisdiction ("POJ") in Surrey. The City is currently incurring \$8 million/month for an unnecessary duplication of policing services. Surrey and its residents cannot bear the cost of further delays on the future of policing in Surrey; nor can Surrey and its residents accept the cost that would be incurred over the next five years to adopt the Surrey Police Service ("SPS") as POJ. The cost of adopting SPS as POJ would seriously hamper our ability to do much more than offer the most basic services – something that is simply not compatible with a growing, dynamic young city such as ours.

Further, Surrey operates with a significant deficit in social infrastructure. While Surrey has more than 60,000 housing units in the development pipeline, much of the development industry's focus has been on building one bedroom and studio condo units. This type of housing stock will not be appropriate for the many families who will choose Surrey as their new home. The City has significant plans to increase housing supply and have prioritized the development of affordable family sized rental units as well as accessible family sized market units.

With respect to mobility, TransLink services south of the Fraser are currently running at 112% of capacity, while much of the rest of the TransLink network runs at approximately 75%. We will require an investment in rapid transit to Newton and South Surrey to keep us aligned with our growth.

Surrey already has the largest school district in the province, and it will see unprecedented growth in the coming years, compounding the problems with school capacity. Many of our schools now operate at 130% of capacity and plans to develop additional seats fall short of our rapid pace of development.



BRENDA LOCKE
MAYOR

MAYOR@SURREY.CA

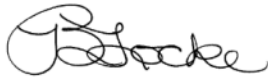
604.591.4126



Every workday an entire classroom of babies is born at Surrey Memorial Hospital's maternity ward. Our hospital is desperately short of capacity and Surrey citizens are forced to cross a bridge to receive care for several common conditions. In addition, the three most common causes of death cannot be treated at Surrey Memorial Hospital (stroke, heart, and trauma). Plans to develop a second hospital in Cloverdale, while positive and necessary, will not bring these crucial services closer to where our citizens need them.

We look forward to working with your government to deliver critical services to our citizens of today and tomorrow. I would greatly appreciate you taking action to bring the policing matter to a close by supporting Surrey Council's decision to retain the RCMP as POJ so we can move forward together on all the many important challenges confronting the City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Locke'.

Brenda Locke

Mayor



From: Farnworth.MLA, Mike (Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca)
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX (PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: New submission from Contact Us
Sent: 03/10/2023 18:45:06
Message Body:

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

-----Original Message-----

From:s.22
Sent: March 10, 2023 9:43 AM
To: Farnworth.MLA, Mike <Mike.Farnworth.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: New submission from Contact Us

Name
s.22
Address
s.22

Canada
Map It
s.22

Subject
Surrey RCMP
Email
s.22

Message

As an NDP supporter I am concerned with the time you are spending on the decision by the Surrey Municipal Government to stay with the RCMP. I was told previously that the provincial government must go forward with a decision on local policing by the municipal government. It is time now to respect Surrey who overwhelmingly elected this municipal government on the basis of staying with the RCMP. Please act accordingly to this local decision.

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: FW: Surrey Police Service and the potential for Regionalizing of Services in the Lower Mainland
Sent: 06/02/2023 22:34:18
Message Body:

filing

From:^{s.22}
Sent: Monday, January 2, 2023 5:38 PM
To: Minister, PSSG PSSG:EX <PSSG.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Surrey Police Service and the potential for Regionalizing of Services in the Lower Mainland

[EXTERNAL] This email came from an external source. Only open attachments or links that you are expecting from a known sender.

s.22

I provide the above to you only to give some validity to my concern for the decision you will be required to make regarding Surrey's Municipal councils desire to keep the RCMP as Surrey's police agency. Regionalization, at least south of the Fraser River, will never happen if the RCMP are kept in Surrey. I have had the privilege over the years of interacting with many fine members of the RCMP. I bear them no ill will. By any standard you wish to apply, municipal police departments are more accountable, more efficient, economical (in the long run), and effective.

My former ^{s.22}

s.22

Respectfully
s.22

From: Snoddon, Michael PSSG:EX (Michael.Snoddon@gov.bc.ca)

To: Mayor@surrey.ca; linda.annis@surrey.ca; harry.bains@surrey.ca; mike.bose@surrey.ca; Elford, Doug (Doug.Elford@surrey.ca); ghepner@surrey.ca; pardeep.kooner@surrey.ca; mandeep.nagra@surrey.ca; rob.stutt@surrey.ca

Cc: OfficeofthePremier, Office PREM:EX (Premier@gov.bc.ca); Lalonde, Vincent (VALalonde@surrey.ca); Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca)

Subject: Minister Farnworth - Letter to Mayor & Council (ref: 654103)

Sent: 06/01/2023 15:46:24

Attachments: 654103_SG to City of Surrey_ June 1.pdf, image001.png

Message Body:

Good Morning,

Please find attached a letter from the Honourable Minister Farnworth regarding the Director's Report on the City of Surrey's Police Model Transition.

Sincerely,

Michael Snoddon (he/him)

Chief of Staff

Deputy Premier

Minister of Public Safety & Solicitor General

Mobile: (250) 818-1035



BRITISH COLUMBIA

VIA E-MAIL

Ref: 654103

June 1, 2023

Her Worship Brenda Locke and City Council
City of Surrey
13450-104 Avenue
Surrey, BC V3T 1V8

Dear Mayor Brenda Locke and City Councillors:

I write as a follow-up to my letter dated May 12, 2023, and in response to a letter from Mayor Locke to Premier Eby dated May 16, 2023, regarding the *Director of Police Services' Report on the City of Surrey's Police Model Transition and Decision to Retain the RCMP* (April 2023) (the "Director's Report").

Mayor Locke's letter to the Premier claims that inaccuracies were made in a public statement made by the Premier with respect to City staff having received a confidential copy of the Director's Report as well as with a statement in my letter on May 12, 2023, which invited you to sign a confidentiality agreement to receive a copy of a confidential copy of the Director's Report.

At the time of this statement and in my May 12, 2023, letter to Mayor and Council, it was expected that a confidentiality agreement had been agreed to and that it would be signed by City representatives without undue delay. We did not anticipate that City staff would have additional amendments to finalize the confidentiality agreement with the city.

It is important to highlight that significant work occurred between Ministry officials and City staff to establish a process to provide the City representatives with a confidential copy of the Director's Report. In negotiating the confidentiality agreement, numerous changes were made to the language to accommodate the City's interests. Once the confidentiality agreement was finalized, distribution by Ministry officials to the city representatives was delayed at City staff request.

The Mayor claims in her letter to the Premier that it is highly unusual for a local government to sign a confidentiality agreement. In fact, confidentiality agreements are a commonly used tool by the provincial government to support the sharing of confidential and sensitive information with a variety of parties, including local governments - especially when other entities own that information.

A portion of the information in the Director's Report relates to the RCMP, the Surrey Police Service and the federal government. It contains confidential information that outlines police operations, information regarding intergovernmental relations, and information on the federal, provincial, and municipal business lines within the RCMP. The safeguarding of this sensitive information is paramount to public safety. I would also like to clarify that at no point did Ministry officials negotiate with City staff on what information would remain redacted or would be released in the confidential copy.

I am advised by Ministry officials that just over half of the City Council has signed and provided the confidentiality agreement to the Province. In my letter to you, I indicated that the City's police model transition has implications for public safety that will likely last for many decades. I also stated that this matter is of significant importance for the city as well as the provincial government.

I am gravely concerned that Council may proceed without considering all relevant information available. Given the City's responsibilities under the *Police Act*, it is critical that all of Council understands the full factual context of this decision, as well as its implications, to ensure adequate and effective policing in Surrey. To that end, the Province is of the view that each member of Council should review and consider the information in the confidential Director's Report. Ministry officials have offered the confidentiality agreement for signing to each member of Council. Should all members of Council sign a confidentiality agreement, I have asked Ministry officials to be available to answer questions that you may have.

By way of this letter, I am also formally confirming that the provincial government is prepared to provide up to \$150 million to the City to assist in completing the transition to the Surrey Police Service. Ministry officials are available and ready to discuss and work out the details of this funding commitment and other potential non-monetary assistance to the City with City staff. The Province has concluded that public safety is best supported with the transition to the Surrey Police Service as the municipal police service and, accordingly, this funding is only available to the City if it continues with this transition. If the City of Surrey chooses to retain the RCMP as its service provider, the City will be fully responsible for the fiscal, operational, and all other consequences of that decision, without monetary support from the Province.

Furthermore, I am concerned that Council has not set a date by when a decision can be expected on this matter. As I announced on April 28, 2023, I rejected the City's plan to retain the RCMP and strongly recommended that the City continue its police model transition to the Surrey Police Service to ensure that adequate and effective policing is maintained both in Surrey and throughout the province. At this time, it is the view of the Province that Council should move forward with a vote that fully acknowledges the implications - financial and otherwise - of the decision to retain the RCMP or to move forward with the transition to the Surrey Police Service. The conditions placed on the City, RCMP and the Surrey Police Service through my authority in the *Police Act* to maintain adequate and effective policing are mandatory and non-negotiable.

In light of the concerns identified above, I ask that the City please advise me of the following:

- the date by which all members of Council will sign and return the confidentiality agreement to the Province,
- a commitment from the City that the mandatory conditions, requirements, and financial implications for the applicable police model will be met,
- a commitment from the City that the mandatory conditions, requirements, and financial implications for the applicable police model pathway including, full costing, and other relevant implications for each police model pathway will be included in the report prepared for Council's consideration and will be set out in the text of any motion and,
- the date by which Council intends to decide on this important matter.

.../2

I look forward to working with you and City staff to resolve this matter promptly. I know we share the same goal of ending the long period of uncertainty for the people of Surrey and ensuring the safety and security of Surrey, and the well-being of those police officers that serve your community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: Mayor Brenda Locke
Councillor Linda Annis
Councillor Harry Bains
Councillor Mike Bose
Councillor Doug Elford
Councillor Gordon Hepner
Councillor Pardeep Kooner
Councillor Mandeep Nagra
Councillor Rob Stutt
City Manager Vincent Lalonde
Premier David Eby
Deputy Solicitor General Doug Scott

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)

To: dwayne.mcdonald@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Cc: Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca); Harris, Megan PSSG:EX (Megan.Harris@gov.bc.ca); St Denis, Katherine PSSG:EX (Katherine.StDenis@gov.bc.ca); Spier, Colleen AG:EX (Colleen.Spier@gov.bc.ca); Pilling, David PSSG:EX (David.Pilling@gov.bc.ca)

Subject: File No. 654878

Sent: 06/29/2023 19:23:16

Attachments: 654878 letter.pdf

Message Body:

Dear Dwayne McDonald:

Please see the attached correspondence from the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

VIA EMAIL

Ref. 654878

June 29, 2023

Dwayne McDonald
Commanding Officer
RCMP "E" Division
Mailstop #308
14200 Green Timbers Way
Surrey BC V3T 6P3
Email: dwayne.mcdonald@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Dear Dwayne McDonald:

In accordance with Section 2.1 of the *Police Act* and the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA), I am writing to provide you with my policing priorities for the Provincial Police Service. To support the mandate by the Premier of BC, the Province is launching measures to help keep British Columbians safe. My priorities are as follows:

- Staff existing vacancies within the Provincial Police Service;
- Address systemic racism through various initiatives;
- Implement the B.C. First Nations Justice Strategy;
- The City of Surrey's police model transition.
- Address repeat and violent offending;
- Increase use of Restorative Justice;
- Collaborate with community partners on safety issues including mental health and addictions;
- Target proceeds of crime for high level organized criminals, in line with the Cullen Commission recommendations;
- Combat gangs and criminal organizations that fuel the toxic drug supply;
- Support service delivery recommendations identified in the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act; and

.../2

As announced under the Safer Communities Action Plan, in November 2022, staffing existing vacancies within the Provincial Police Service (PPS) is critical to ensuring the PPS is operating at its full authorized strength, with the requisite resources to ensure the provision of adequate and effective policing throughout BC. This multi-year investment of approximately \$230 million is specifically to address existing vacancies in rural, remote and Indigenous communities and in a wide variety of specialized teams that investigate and prevent complex, violent and organized crimes. The BC RCMP must work with Policing and Security Branch staff to ensure this funding is fully utilized and on the continued development of meaningful reporting that supports effective vacancy management practices.

The BC RCMP, as the PPS, must actively engage with Indigenous communities and organizations in a respectful and culturally appropriate manner to identify and address the overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples within the legal system and to decrease the overrepresentation of Indigenous Peoples in the justice system. As such, it is my expectation that the BC RCMP will prioritize the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program, including staffing of authorized positions to further support reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. As outlined in the BC First Nations Justice Strategy, I expect all policing and enforcement agencies across BC to support victims of violence, especially women and girls, by ensuring services are designed to be culturally relevant, flexible and user focused, and to participate in the comprehensive implementation of the Gladue principles. I expect that all cases of missing and murdered women and girls are duly investigated and that police officers take all reports of missing Indigenous women and girls seriously, treating persons identified throughout the report with respect, compassion and empathy.

Compliance with Provincial Policing Standards, on the *Promotion of Unbiased Policing*, which begin to take effect July 30, 2023 (see 3.2.5, 3.2.6 and 6.1) will be a priority for all police agencies within the province. Implementation may require the development of new policies and procedures, audit or reporting processes, ensuring officers have completed the required training on or before the effective dates and keeping records of training. As Commanding Officer of BC's Provincial Police Service, and head of 'E' Division, you play an important role in harmonizing RCMP policy with BC Provincial Policing Standards. I encourage you to be engaged throughout the development process of new Standards and to support implementation at the provincial and local level.

In November 2022, the Premier of British Columbia, Honourable David Eby, announced the Safer Communities Action Plan aimed at increasing enforcement provisions to manage repeat violent offenders and improving services to address mental health and addictions issues in communities. These measures include mental health crisis response teams, new response teams

.../3

to manage repeat violent offending and dedicated funding to support police enforcement and investigations into repeat violent offending. Addressing repeat violent offenders was further emphasized by the Province in March 2023, through the introduction of the Repeat Violent Offending Intervention Initiative. This program pairs police, dedicated prosecutors and probation officers to focus on improving public safety by coordinating responses to and better outcomes for violent offenders.

The Province is working to help police reposition substance use as a health care issue, stressing the importance of evidence-based interventions, and the need for a trauma-informed and culturally safe approaches to interactions with people who use substances in our communities. Police agencies should work with community partners to support the expansion of peer assisted care teams (PACT) in jurisdictions that currently have, or are planning to pilot, these programs. All police agencies should prioritize coordination and integration with health, mental health, and social service organizations to appropriately respond to mental health crisis calls.

British Columbia is leading the nation through its innovative approach to decriminalization of select substances. This is a first-of-its kind change to Canadian drug policy, and we must continue to work together to ensure that the framework is implemented in a safe and effective way. Decriminalization will allow police agencies to focus their efforts on organized crime, drug trafficking and illegal production and importation that is contributing to an increasingly toxic drug supply. The first phase of Decriminalization police training has launched, which most officers ^{s.15} in the Province have completed. It will be important for agencies to prioritize the delivery of phase two training in 2023. A Letter of Requirements from the Government of Canada to the Province details monitoring and evaluation requirements, to be carried out in consultation with sector partners, including Health Canada. The plan has been approved in principle by the federal government and I trust that the BC RCMP will continue to support the Province in advancing these important policy and practice changes, as well as requirement monitoring and evaluation.

I encourage every effort to collaborate across sectors to protect the most vulnerable members of our society from violence and exploitation, including human trafficking and online child exploitation, by using education, intervention, and enforcement strategies and orders that facilitate targeting luxury goods of organized criminals. I will continue to support police efforts to combat gangs and criminal organizations, including increasing support for initiatives that are proven to prevent and reduce serious crime and efforts to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in B.C. (Cullen Commission). In line with these recommendations, I encourage the BC RCMP, to prioritize efforts to pursue money laundering and proceeds of crime charges, to ensure money laundering and proceeds of crime issues are considered at the outset of the investigation and whenever possible identify criminal assets, including the targeting of luxury goods and unexplained wealth, for seizure and/or forfeiture.

.../4

Dwayne McDonald
Page 4

As you are aware, the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act released its report with recommendations in April 2022. The recommendations are based on analysis and extensive input and reflect today's challenges, including addressing systemic racism, mental health, and harm reduction. I expect the BC RCMP to initiate meaningful response to the report, in terms of service delivery in communities across BC, including but not limited to working with the Province and communities to establish local police committees under Section 31 of the *Police Act*, and report on the supporting activities and initiatives being undertaken within thirty days of receipt of this letter.

As the Provincial Police Service, the BC RCMP is expected to ensure timely and thorough work by the Criminal Records Review Unit in contribution of law enforcement database checks to Provincial programs. This includes engagement on review and amendments to the Police Information Check Guidelines.

With the recent release of the Mass Casualty Commission report, it is my expectation that BC RCMP will proactively analyze the findings and identify gaps and opportunities to advance recommendations and strategies within BC.

It is a priority of this government that through our combined efforts we ensure the provision of adequate and effective policing for all British Columbians and that BC RCMP develop methodologies and systems for the accounting and tracking of data-led police services. It is therefore essential that the BC RCMP manage provincial police resources to meet the priorities identified within the letter.

Lastly, as you know, the City of Surrey recently made decisions pertaining to its police model transition. As Minister, it is my responsibility to ensure that an adequate and effective level of policing is maintained in Surrey and across that province. The RCMP's participation and collaboration in effecting the City's policing model transition, remains a priority for government.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members and staff of the BC RCMP for their continued commitment to public safety of British Columbians. I understand the complexity of policing and law enforcement in both the current, and evolving, contexts and the multiple challenges you all face. I appreciate your continued efforts to address these challenges with innovative approaches and strategies to keep our communities safe.

Sincerely,

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

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

pc: Glen Lewis, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services
Megan Harris, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Safety Transformation Taskforce
Katherine St. Denis, Director BC RCMP Service Delivery, Policing and Security Branch
Colleen Spier, Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Justice Secretariat
David Pilling, Director, Police Governance Unit, Policing and Security Branch

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)

To: Brenda.Locke@surrey.ca

Cc: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca); norm.lipinski@surreypolice.ca; MelissaGranum@surreypoliceboard.ca; emodel@shaw.ca; jamespcarwana@gmail.com; mbrisard@cupe.ca; cheney_c@hotmail.com; gillmanav@gmail.com; jessie.sunner@surreypoliceboard.ca; hchappell@semiahmoofirstnation.org; Geary, Vanessa FIN:EX (Vanessa.Geary@gov.bc.ca); avtar.johl@surreypoliceboard.ca

Subject: File no. 655137

Sent: 07/19/2023 19:36:53

Attachments: 655137 Locke.pdf

Message Body:

Dear Chair Locke:

Please find the attached letter from the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier.



VIA EMAIL

Ref. 655137

July 19, 2023

Mayor Brenda Locke
Chair, Surrey Police Board
13450 104 Avenue
Surrey BC V3T 1V8
Email: Brenda.Locke@surrey.ca

Dear Chair Locke:

I am writing to you today to advise of a decision I have made under s.2 of the *Police Act*. As the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am responsible for ensuring adequate and effective policing throughout the Province of British Columbia.

I have decided that in order to ensure adequate and effective policing in the City of Surrey, and the province as a whole, the City must continue its transition to the Surrey Police Service (SPS) and comply with the requirements and directives I have set out for them. I do not make this decision lightly. I have advised the City accordingly.

The adequate and effective level of policing required by the *Police Act* mandates that a sufficient number of trained officers are available to meet the jurisdiction's policing needs and ensure public safety. The recent decision by Surrey City Council to return to the RCMP without a plan to ensure the stability of the SPS has destabilized policing in that jurisdiction and has subsequent implications for policing in the rest of BC. It is my duty to ensure that the citizens of Surrey are safe and have confidence in an adequate and effective level of policing, and that decisions in one jurisdiction do not have negative impacts on policing in the province as a whole.

Please be advised that I have also notified the RCMP, BC police leadership forums, governance bodies, local governments who contract with the RCMP and municipalities with independent police agencies, the Semiahmoo First Nation and other partners of my decision. In communicating my decision on this matter to you, it is my direction that the Board and the SPS will comply with the requirements and directives set out in this letter.

.../2

I also wish to inform you that I have appointed Jessica McDonald as the Strategic Implementation Advisor (the Advisor) for the transition. Based on the experience to date and the critical need to ensure public confidence in the transition, the appointment of an independent Advisor will aid parties in meeting timelines, facilitate dispute resolution, and ensure effective communication and completion of the transition to the SPS. Ms. McDonald will apply her extensive experience in organizational transformation and her federal and provincial public sector leadership in this role. I expect transition partners, including the Board and SPS, to fully cooperate and work with the Advisor throughout the course of the transition.

First, SPS' growth must be moderated to mitigate negative impacts to the police officer resource levels of other BC policing agencies. To this end, Provincial oversight of SPS' hiring is necessary to maintain the stability of policing in the region and across the province. I direct the SPS to engage with ministry staff in the development of each annual hiring plan and that the Board submit each annual plan to the Director of Police Services for approval. I further direct that the Board adhere to any direction or guidance provided by the Director and/or the Advisor with respect to each plan. Lastly, the SPS must provide, quarterly written reports to the Director detailing SPS' actual hiring, including identifying the agency from which any police officer is hired from.

Second, as we are all aware, the transition of Surrey's policing model is complex and requires the participation of many parties including the Surrey Police Board, the SPS City, the ministry, the federal government, and Semiahmoo First Nation. This situation has caused relationships to be strained and it is imperative that all parties involved rebuild a strong, professional, and positive working relationships to complete the transition to the SPS. To that end, I direct the Board to make meaningful efforts to rebuild positive relationships with its transition partners, and in particular, with the City of Surrey.

Effective collaboration between these parties is essential to ensure the transfer occurs as expeditiously as possible and in a manner that ensures adequate and effective policing is maintained. This requires increased information sharing and mutual respect for the roles of the City, who has the duty to provide and bear the expenses of policing and law enforcement, including capital costs, and the Board, who provides independent civilian governance over the police service and determines its priorities, goals, and objectives. It is particularly important that the Board and the City share information and communicate effectively throughout the police budget development and approval process, respecting each other's legislated responsibilities detailed in Sections 15 and 27 of the *Police Act*.

In addition to the increased sharing of information, meaningful engagement and a strong positive working relationship with the City, I strongly expect that the Board do the same with the Semiahmoo First Nation. I have communicated similar expectations to the City of Surrey in respect of its relationship with the Board and the SPS.

.../3

Third, the Board must provide greater transparency to the Director of Police Services regarding its operations and decisions. You will be required to provide information on any matter regarding the transition and to take further steps as may be advised at the request of the Director of Police Services or the Advisor. Furthermore, you must take an action that is directed by the Director or the Advisor.

Finally, it is imperative that each Board member discharge their duties at all times in a professional and respectful manner. This expectation is established for all citizens who accept appointments by the Province to serve on boards and is reflected in the materials provided to each of you by the Crown Agencies and Board Resourcing Office (CABRO) when you commenced your duties. I recognize that the transition process has been difficult, but the conduct of board members must at all times reflect professionalism and the commitment to serve at the highest standard. I direct all members of the board to work with CABRO so that the board has the tools available to ensure that the conduct of the board is respectful and professional at all times.

In closing, I would also like to share that I am considering proposing legislation this fall. As I am sure you will agree, this kind of situation that creates uncertainty over policing and public safety should never happen again.

I trust that all parties will move forward positively and work together on continuing the transition to the SPS of the citizens of Surrey and our common goal of ensuring public and officer safety.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: Meena Brisard, Surrey Police Board Member
James Carwana, Surrey Police Board Member
Chief Harley Chappell, Surrey Police Board Member
Cheney Cloke, Surrey Police Board Member
Manav Gill, Surrey Police Board Member
Avtar Johl, Surrey Police Board Member
Elizabeth Model, Surrey Police Board Member
Jaspreet Sunner, Surrey Police Board Member
Melissa Granum, Executive Director, Surrey Police Board

Chief Constable Norm Lipinski, Surrey Police Service
Douglas Scott, Deputy Solicitor General
Glen Lewis. A/Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services
Vanessa Geary, Senior Executive Lead, Crown Agencies Secretariat

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)

To:s.16

Cc: semiahmoojennine@gmail.com; semiahmoojoanne@gmail.com; Minister, IRR IRR:EX (IRR.Minister@gov.bc.ca); Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca)

Subject:s.16

Sent: 07/19/2023 19:34:51

Attachments: 655138 Chappell.pdf

Message Body:

Dear^{s.16}

Sending the attached letter on behalf of the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier.

Page 63 of 81

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

Page 64 of 81

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.12 ; s.16

Page 65 of 81

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.16

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: MacDonald, Ronald J IIO:EX (Ronald.J.MacDonald@iiobc.ca)
Cc: Minister, AG AG:EX (AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca); Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: 655144 MacDonald
Sent: 07/19/2023 19:12:43
Attachments: 655144 MacDonald.pdf
Message Body:

Dear Chief Civilian Director MacDonald:

Sending the attached letter on behalf of the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier.



VIA EMAIL

Ref: 655144

July 19, 2023

Ronald J. MacDonald
Chief Civilian Director
Independent Investigations Office of BC
13450 102 Avenue 12th Floor
Surrey BC V3T 5X3
Email: Ronald.J.MacDonald@iioabc.ca

Dear Chief Civilian Director MacDonald:

I am writing to you today to advise of a decision I have made under s.2 of the *Police Act*. As the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am responsible for ensuring adequate and effective policing throughout the Province of British Columbia.

I have decided that in order to ensure adequate and effective policing in the City of Surrey, and the province as a whole, the City must continue its transition to the Surrey Police Service and comply with the requirements and directives I have set out for them. I do not make this decision lightly. I have advised the City accordingly.

The adequate and effective level of policing required by the *Police Act* mandates that a sufficient number of trained officers are available to meet the jurisdiction's policing needs and ensure public safety. The recent decision by Surrey City Council to return to the RCMP without a plan to ensure the stability of the SPS has destabilized policing in that jurisdiction and has subsequent implications for policing in the rest of BC. It is my duty to ensure that the citizens of Surrey are safe and have confidence in an adequate and effective level of policing, and that decisions in one jurisdiction do not have negative impacts on policing in the province as a whole.

Please be advised that I have also sent notifications regarding my decision to the affected parties, local governments who contract with the RCMP and municipalities with independent police agencies, BC police leadership forums, governance bodies, and other policing and community partners.

.../2

Ronald J. MacDonald
Page 2

I also wish to inform you that I have appointed Jessica McDonald as the Strategic Implementation Advisor (the Advisor) for the transition. Based on the experience to date and the critical need to ensure public confidence in the transition, the appointment of an independent Advisor will aid parties in meeting timelines, facilitate dispute resolution, and ensure effective communication and completion of the transition to the SPS. Ms. McDonald will apply her extensive experience in organizational transformation and her federal and provincial public sector leadership in this role. I expect transition partners to fully cooperate and work with the Advisor throughout the course of the transition.

I am aware that continuing Surrey's police model transition to the Surrey Police Service may have impacts for the Independent Investigations Office (IIO). Please be assured that the ministry will continue to engage with the IIO as we move through the transition process in order to mitigate and address any concerns which may arise. Should your office have any concerns or information that may be of assistance to this process, I ask that you please contact Glen Lewis, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services by telephone at: 236-478-2230 or by email at: Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca.

In closing, I would also like to share that I am considering proposing legislation this fall. As I am sure you will agree, this kind of situation that creates uncertainty over policing and public safety should never happen again.

Sincerely,

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

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: The Honourable Niki Sharma, KC, Attorney General
Douglas Scott, Deputy Solicitor General
Glen Lewis. A/Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)

To: mayor@cityofarmstrong.bc.ca; mayor@burnaby.ca; mayor.dahl@campbellriver.ca; mayor@castlegar.ca; mayor@chilliwack.com; rhoyte@coldstream.ca; dkobayashi@colwood.ca; nminions@comox.ca; rstewart@coquitlam.ca; bwells@courtenay.ca; Wayne.Price@cranbrook.ca; Arnold.DeBoon@creston.ca; mayorDober@dawsoncreek.ca; mayor@duncan.ca; Nic.Milligan@fernie.ca; Hansen@fortstjohn.ca; vsmith@hope.ca; mayor@kamloops.ca; mayorandcouncil@kelowna.ca; spranger@kentbc.ca; Mayor@kimberley.ca; XT:KitimatStikine, RegionalDistrict ENV:IN (info@rdks.bc.ca); pgermuth@kitimat.ca; astone@ladysmith.ca; ireland@lakecountry.bc.ca; mayor@langford.ca; npachal@langleycity.ca; ewoodward@tol.ca; druimy@mapleridge.ca; michael.goetz@merritt.ca; mtlittle@metchosin.ca; palexis@mission.ca; leonard.krog@nanaimo.ca; mayor@northcowichan.ca; pjones@northsaanich.ca; lbuchanan@cnv.org; mlittle@dnv.org; XT:Oliver, Town ENV:IN (admin@oliver.ca); smckortoff@osoyoos.ca; mayor@parksville.ca; mayorVanminsel@peachland.ca; julius.Bloomfield@penticton.ca; NMacDonald@pittmeadows.ca; sharie_minions@portalberni.ca; westb@portcoquitlam.ca; rwoznow@powellriver.ca; mayor@princegeorge.ca; mayor@princerupert.ca; twestbroek@qualicumbeach.com; cityhall@quesnel.ca; gsulz@revelstoke.ca; mayorandcouncillors@richmond.ca; aharrison@salmonarm.ca; council@sechelt.ca; mayor@sidney.ca; XT:Bachrach, Taylor FOR:IN (mayor@smithers.ca); mtait@sooke.ca; mayor@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca; ahurford@squamish.ca; mayor@summerland.ca; mayor@surrey.ca; mayorandcouncil@terrace.ca; cjones@trail.ca; mayor@vernon.ca; mayortobias@viewroyal.ca; Gord.Milsom@westkelownacity.ca; jcrompton@whistler.ca; mknight@whiterockcity.ca; mayor@williamslake.ca

Cc: Minister, MUNI MUNI:EX (MUNI.Minister@gov.bc.ca); jford@whistler.ca; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca); gmacisaac@ubcm.ca

Subject: File no. 655147

Sent: 07/19/2023 19:02:29

Attachments: 655147.pdf

Message Body:

To all RCMP Contract Municipality Mayors

Please find the attached letter from the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

VIA EMAIL

Ref :655147

July 19, 2023

To all RCMP Contract Municipality Mayors

Dear Mayors:

I am writing to you today to advise of a decision I have made under s.2 of the *Police Act*. As the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am responsible for ensuring adequate and effective policing throughout the Province of British Columbia.

I have decided that in order to ensure adequate and effective policing in the Surrey, and the province as a whole, the City of Surrey must continue its transition to the Surrey Police Service (SPS) and comply with the requirements and directives I have set out for them. I do not make this decision lightly. I have advised the City of Surrey accordingly.

The adequate and effective level of policing required by the *Police Act* mandates that a sufficient number of trained officers are available to meet the jurisdiction's policing needs and ensure public safety. The recent decision by Surrey City Council to return to the RCMP without a plan to ensure the stability of the SPS has destabilized policing in that jurisdiction and has subsequent implications for policing in the rest of BC. It is my duty to ensure that the citizens of Surrey are safe and have confidence in an adequate and effective level of policing, and that decisions in one jurisdiction do not have negative impacts on policing in the province as a whole.

This transition, and the decision by the City of Surrey to reverse it, is unprecedented. In particular, I was concerned that if the City wished to follow through on its decision to retain the RCMP, the RCMP would not have the ability to hire enough officers to adequately and effectively police Surrey. Should the City be allowed to reverse the transition back to the RCMP, there would be an immediate need to fill vacancies currently filled by SPS officers. The Province has detailed information from the RCMP that in the event of a collapse of policing in the City that the RCMP would divert resources from other business lines and communities across to province to fill that urgent need. Coupled with a historical and current difficulty in fulfilling officer vacancies and an inability to staff BC RCMP policing positions quickly and seamlessly, it is my decision that Surrey must continue down the path to municipal policing through the SPS.

.../2

Please be advised that I have also notified the RCMP, BC police leadership forums, governance bodies, local governments who contract with the RCMP and municipalities with independent police agencies, and other partners of my decision.

I am aware that continuing Surrey's police model transition may raise concerns to some municipal RCMP contract partners. Please be assured that mitigation of potential impacts will continue to be a fundamental component of transition planning moving forward. Continuing a police model transition of this size and scale will be measured and gradual process.

Since the beginning of the transition the ministry has had ongoing engagement stakeholders through forums such as the Local Government Contract Management Committee (LGCMC), the UBCM, the BC Association of Police Chiefs (BCACP), and other police leadership forums to share information and ensure the necessary planning is in place further mitigate potential impacts, such as the potential impacts to costs that are shared amongst all contract partners, s.16

s.16 I have written to the RCMP Commissioner and RCMP Deputy Commissioner for E-Division asking them to work collaboratively to ensure that any impacts are mitigated to the fullest extent possible. s.16

s.16 Ministry staff are also actively engaged with the UBCM to provide additional information to all local governments. The Province remains committed to engagement with community and policing partners through all of these forums to hear concerns and communicate information.

Ensuring the RCMP address BC's long-standing vacancy and resourcing pressures is a critical priority for the provincial government. Let me assure you that we are advancing this matter to the maximum extent possible with the Government of Canada, our contract partner, and the RCMP, our service delivery provider. This includes ensuring that the voices of BC's RCMP municipal contract partners are heard with a united front on RCMP vacancies and resourcing pressures.

I also wish to inform you that I have appointed Jessica McDonald as the Strategic Implementation Advisor (the Advisor) for the transition. Based on the experience to date and the critical need to ensure public confidence in the transition, the appointment of an independent Advisor will aid parties in meeting timelines, facilitate dispute resolution, and ensure effective communication and completion of the transition to the SPS. Ms. McDonald will apply her extensive experience in organizational transformation and her federal and provincial public sector leadership in this role. I expect transition partners, including the RCMP, to fully cooperate and work with the Advisor throughout the course of the transition.

.../3

To all RCMP Contract Municipality Mayors
Page 3

In closing, I would also like to share that I am considering proposing legislation this fall. As I am sure you will agree, this kind of situation that creates uncertainty over policing and public safety should never happen again. My staff will work with UBCM to consult on this potential legislation.

Thank you for your ongoing contributions and commitment to public safety in the province.

Sincerely,

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

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: The Honourable Anne Kang, Minister of Municipal Affairs
Jen Ford, President, Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)
Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director, Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM)
Douglas Scott, Deputy Solicitor General
Glen Lewis, A/Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)
To: Marco.Mendicino@parl.gc.ca
Cc: Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca); shawn.tupper@ps-sp.gc.ca; Talal.Dakalbab@ps-sp.gc.ca; Smith, Jessica C PREM:EX (Jessica.C.Smith@gov.bc.ca)
Subject: File no. 655149
Sent: 07/19/2023 19:19:34
Attachments: 655149 Mendicino.pdf
Message Body:

Dear Minister Mendicino:

Please find the attached letter from the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier, Province of British Columbia.



VIA EMAIL

Ref: 655149

July 19, 2023

The Honourable Marco Mendicino, PC, MP
Minister of Public Safety
Public Safety Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6
Email: Marco.Mendicino@parl.gc.ca

Dear Minister Mendicino:

I am writing to you today to advise of a decision I have made under s.2 of British Columbia's *Police Act*. As the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am responsible for ensuring adequate and effective policing throughout the Province of British Columbia.

I have decided that in order to ensure adequate and effective policing in the City of Surrey, and the province as a whole, the City must continue its transition to the Surrey Police Service (SPS) and comply with the requirements and directives I have set for them. I do not make this decision lightly. I have advised the City accordingly.

The adequate and effective level of policing required by the *Police Act* mandates that a sufficient number of trained officers are available to meet the jurisdiction's policing needs and ensure public safety. The recent decision by Surrey City Council to return to the RCMP without a plan to meet my previous conditions and ensure the stability of the SPS has destabilized policing in that jurisdiction and has subsequent implications for policing in the rest of BC. It is my duty to ensure that the citizens of Surrey are safe and have confidence in an adequate and effective level of policing, and that decisions in one jurisdiction do not have negative impacts on policing in the province as a whole.

The transition of Surrey's policing model is complex and requires the participation of many parties including the City, the Surrey Police Board, the SPS, provincial and federal governments, as well as the Semiahmoo First Nation. Effective collaboration between these parties is essential to ensure the transfer occurs as expeditiously as possible and in a manner that maintains adequate and effective policing and ensures public and officer safety.

.../2

I am grateful for the contributions of Public Safety Canada to date and all parties for the work on the transition that was thus far completed through the Surrey Policing Transition Trilateral Committee (SPTTC). To continue Surrey's transition to the SPS will require concerted leadership and participation from the federal government, through your office. First, I request your commitment to reset relationships and your direction to the RCMP to ensure that the RCMP respect and participate in the timely implementation of my decision through the processes and forum(s) that will be established moving forward. Secondly, as the development of legal mechanisms are likely to be a key requirement to supporting subsequent phase(s) of the transition to SPS staff to promptly re-engage discussions with your staff on this matter. To this end, I request that you similarly prioritize staff to focus on these efforts.

I have also notified the RCMP Commissioner as well as BC RCMP's Commanding Officer of my decision, including outlining my expectations for their continued support and timely collaboration and participation in all required transition processes.

I also wish to inform you that I have appointed Jessica McDonald as the Strategic Implementation Advisor (the Advisor) for the transition. Based on the experience to date and the critical need to ensure public confidence in the transition, the appointment of an independent Advisor will aid parties in meeting timelines, facilitate dispute resolution, and ensure effective communication and completion of the transition to the SPS. Ms. McDonald will apply her extensive experience in organizational transformation and her federal and provincial public sector leadership in this role. I expect transition partners, including the RCMP, to fully cooperate and work with the Advisor throughout the course of the transition.

Ensuring the RCMP address BC's long-standing vacancy and resourcing pressures is a critical priority for the provincial government. RCMP vacancies are a concern to multiple provinces, as
s.16 We are committed to continuing to advance this matter with you on behalf of the Government of Canada, our contract partner, and the RCMP, our service delivery provider. This includes ensuring that the voices of BC's RCMP municipal contract partners are heard with a united front on RCMP vacancies and resourcing pressures.

I look forward to working together to address the Surrey transition, the critical issue of RCMP vacancies in communities, and other public safety priorities of our respective governments.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: Shawn Tupper, Deputy Minister, Public Safety Canada
Talal Dakalbab, Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Safety Canada
Douglas Scott, Deputy Solicitor General, Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Glen Lewis, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services
Jessica Smith, Advisor of Intergovernmental Relations, Office of the Premier

From: PSSG Correspondence PSSG:EX (PSSG.Correspondence@gov.bc.ca)

To: dwayne.mcdonald@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Cc: Michael.Duheme@rcmp-grc.gc.ca; Scott, Douglas S PSSG:EX (Douglas.S.Scott@gov.bc.ca); Lewis, Glen PSSG:EX (Glen.Lewis@gov.bc.ca)

Subject: 655221 McDonald

Sent: 07/19/2023 19:17:21

Attachments: 655221 McDonald.pdf

Message Body:

Dear Deputy Commissioner McDonald:

Sending the attached letter on behalf of the Honourable Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier.



BRITISH COLUMBIA

VIA EMAIL

Ref: 655221

July 19, 2023

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald
14200 Green Timbers Way
Mailstop #308
Surrey BC V3T 6P3
E-mail: dwayne.mcdonald@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Dear Deputy Commissioner McDonald:

I am writing to you today to advise of a decision I have made under s.2 of British Columbia's *Police Act*. As the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, I am responsible for ensuring adequate and effective policing throughout the Province of British Columbia.

I have decided that in order to ensure adequate and effective policing in the City of Surrey, and the province as a whole, the City must continue its transition to the Surrey Police Service (SPS) and comply with the requirements and directives I have set for them. I do not make this decision lightly. I have advised the City accordingly.

As you know, in November 2022, the City of Surrey Council made a decision to reverse its ongoing transition to the SPS and to retain the RCMP as its municipal police service provider. A formal process was established to solicit written submissions from impacted parties, including the RCMP. Supplemental submissions were requested to ensure parties provided additional information and/or clarification of their positions and data. Based on a report prepared by the Director of Police Services which assessed all submissions and the ministry's own data, I recommended that the SPS transition continue. I also established binding requirements for proceeding, no matter which option the City of Surrey ultimately adopted. The City of Surrey reaffirmed its decision in an announcement on June 16, 2023, to retain the RCMP. Based on a review of the City's report and accompanying information from the RCMP, I am directing that the SPS transition continue.

.../2

The adequate and effective level of policing required by the *Police Act* mandates that a sufficient number of trained officers are available to meet the jurisdiction's policing needs and ensure public safety. The recent decision by Surrey City Council to return to the RCMP without a plan to ensure the stability of the SPS has destabilized policing in that jurisdiction and has subsequent implications for policing in the rest of BC. It is my statutory duty to ensure that the citizens of Surrey are safe, have an adequate and effective level of policing, and that decisions in one jurisdiction do not have negative impacts on policing in the province as a whole.

In particular, I was concerned that if the City wished to follow through on its decision to retain the RCMP, the RCMP would not have the ability to hire enough officers to adequately and effectively police Surrey. Should the City be allowed to reverse the transition back to the RCMP, there would be an immediate need to fill vacancies currently filled by SPS officers and to fill the remainder of the Surrey RCMP positions. The Province has detailed information from the RCMP that in the event of a collapse of policing in the City that the RCMP would divert resources from other business lines and communities across to province to fill the urgent need. Coupled with a historical and current difficulty in fulfilling officer vacancies and an inability to staff BC RCMP policing positions quickly and seamlessly, it is my decision that Surrey must continue down the path to municipal policing through the SPS.

The transition of Surrey's policing model is complex and requires the participation of many parties including the City, the Surrey Police Board, the SPS, the RCMP, the provincial and federal governments. Effective collaboration between these parties is essential to ensure the transfer occurs as expeditiously as possible and in a manner that maintains adequate and effective policing and ensures public and officer safety.

This situation has caused relationships to be strained and it is imperative that all parties involved rebuild strong, cordial, and positive working relationships to complete the transition to the Surrey Police Service. As Solicitor General, it is my expectation that the RCMP will respect, support, and participate in the implementation of my decision in a timely fashion through the

s.16

s.16 Ensuring the RCMP address BC's long-standing vacancy and resourcing pressures is a critical priority for the provincial government. British Columbia is committed to continuing to advance this matter with the Government of Canada, our contract partner, and the RCMP, our service delivery provider. This includes ensuring that the voices of BC's RCMP municipal contract partners are heard with a united front on RCMP vacancies and resourcing pressures.

.../3

In addition, as you may be aware, in order to ensure that adequate and effective policing is maintained during the transition period, I have set out a number of implementation requirements, including the establishment of Senior Transition Leader. I am advised that the City of Surrey has reported that this position has been filled. It is imperative that the Director of Police Services, Mr. Glen Lewis, be consulted on this appointment given its importance to the SPS transition. It is my expectation that this be completed by August 4, 2023.

I also wish to inform you that I have appointed Jessica McDonald as the Strategic Implementation Advisor (the Advisor) for the transition. Based on the experience to date and the critical need to ensure public confidence in the transition, the appointment of an independent Advisor will aid parties in meeting timelines, facilitate dispute resolution, and ensure effective communication and completion of the transition to the SPS. Ms. McDonald will apply her extensive experience in organizational transformation and her federal and provincial public sector leadership in this role. I expect transition partners, including the RCMP, to fully cooperate and work with the Advisor throughout the course of the transition.

Lastly, I have become aware that there has been renewed public discourse with respect to impacts Surrey's transition to the SPS may have to BC's municipal contract partners, such as to s.16

I request that you assist in ensuring that this and/or any other potential impacts to BC's RCMP-policed communities are minimized to the fullest extent possible. While there may be impacts to these shared costs, in addition to other cost drivers beyond Surrey's transition, communications from the RCMP to local governments must remain neutral and respectful on the matter. s.16
s.16

Please be advised that I have also written to the Honourable Marco Mendicino, Minister of Public Safety, to inform him of my decision on this matter and my expectations for your full support and timely implementation of my decision.

As Commissioner of the Provincial Police Service, please confirm your commitment, in writing, on behalf of the BC RCMP, to implement my decision in accordance with these terms.

In closing, I would also like to share that I am considering proposing legislation this fall. As I am sure you will agree, this kind of situation that creates uncertainty over policing and public safety should never happen again.

.../4

Deputy Commissioner Dwayne McDonald
Page 4

This transition, and the decision by the City of Surrey to reverse it, is unprecedented. I thank the RCMP for its work to date and participation in the review process leading to my decision. I trust that all parties will now move forward positively and work together on continuing the transition, for the benefit of the citizens of Surrey and our common goal of ensuring public and officer safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "F" and "W".

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
and Deputy Premier

pc: Commissioner Michael Duheme
Douglas Scott, Deputy Solicitor General
Glen Lewis, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services