



POLICE PROTECTION ENHANCEMENT

DESCRIPTION:

Increase of 4 RCMP positions as per the results from the Police Services Resource Review, increasing the current contracted strength from 143 to 147.

Police officers in Prince George currently carry a disproportionately high case load compared to other municipalities in the province. This case load is more than double the provincial average. In order to deal with the high crime rate, the detachment has been forced over the years to increasingly focus resources on immediate call response and investigation of serious incidents. This has left little capacity remaining for crime prevention/suppression efforts or investigation and attention to less serious incidents.

In response to this information regarding the workload faced by the detachment being presented during the 2022 budget cycle, City Council had directed Administration to have a Police Resource Review performed. Dr. Curt Griffiths was contracted to perform the review. The review has resulted in a recommended increase of 19 additional sworn RCMP positions in order to bring detachment staffing to an appropriate level to deal with the current workload, providing sufficient resources for the detachment to deliver an effective policing service to the city of Prince George. We have paced the request for the 19 recommended positions over 5 years with 4 members being asked for in each of years 2023-2026 and 3 members in 2027.

Please refer to the Resource Review report for the rationale on these suggested increases.

FINANCIAL COST OF THE ENHANCEMENT:

The annual cost for 4 RCMP positions is estimated to be **\$842,432**.

MEASUREMENT OF SERVICE LEVEL INCREASE:

The service level increase is meant to create capacity for the RCMP to reduce crime in the City.