



THE TOWN OF STRATFORD RESOLUTION

CW010-2023 Prioritizing Municipal Input in Future RCMP Contract Policing Decisions

Motion Carried X
Motion Lost
Motion Withdrawn

Council Chambers
Town Hall
May 10, 2023

Committee
Moved by Councillor
Seconded by Councillor

Committee of the Whole
Jody Jackson
Gordie Cox

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has made the decision in the 2023 Budget to make municipalities responsible for all retroactive costs stemming from the latest RCMP collective bargaining agreement; and

WHEREAS these extraordinary one-time costs, which in some jurisdictions amount to millions of dollars, will cause significant hardship for communities and residents across the country, and were negotiated without meaningful consultation or a seat at the table for the municipalities responsible for paying the bill; and

WHEREAS municipal governments are already paying a growing share of policing costs, but unlike other orders of government cannot run deficits to spread out the impact of these extraordinary one time sums, and have limited revenue tools; and

WHEREAS local governments will now be forced to make difficult decisions that will impact residents such as cutting essential services, reducing policing levels, raising property taxes significantly, and/or cancelling work on local infrastructure at a time when Canadians' concerns about community safety and the cost of living are already rising; and

WHEREAS going forward, it is critical that municipalities be proactively engaged in any forthcoming processes related to contract policing to prevent this occurring again.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford, Prince Edward Island, joins the Federation of Canadian Municipalities in calling on the federal government to commit to ensuring that local governments are meaningfully consulted, fully informed, and at the table on issues related to policing costs given the municipal role in keeping our community safe; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Stratford, Prince Edward Island conveys this support in writing to local Members of Parliament.

This resolution bears the recommendation of the Committee of the Whole at a meeting held on April 26, 2023.