Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Community Safety Committee Meeting of Tuesday, December 9, 2014.



TO: MAY(& EACH
COUNCILLOR
FROM: CITY CLERK'S OFFICE PW
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XP. 09-5350-01

November 4, 2014

Our File: 01-0125-30/000/2014-1

Doc #: 1817198.v2

Superintendent Tyler Bates
Director of the National Crime Prevention/
Aboriginal Policing Services
RCMP National Headquarters
73 Leikin Drive
Ottawa, ON K1A OR2

Dear Superintendent Bates:

RE: Auxiliary Constables

Please be advised that at the November 3, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council for the City of Coquitlam, the following resolution was approved:

"Whereas the Director of the National Crime Prevention/Aboriginal Policing Services (Ottawa) has, as of the 24th of October 2014, changed the policy with respect to the deployment and engagement of Auxiliary Constables within Detachments across Canada; and

Whereas the policy change identifies a move from 'General Supervision' to 'Direct Supervision' with regard to the deployment of Auxiliary Constables, with 'General Supervision' meaning the Auxiliary Constable(s) may perform specific duties without being under the direct supervision of a Regular Member, and 'Direct Supervision' meaning the Auxiliary Constable must be accompanied and supervised by a Regular Member; and

Whereas the Coquitlam Detachment's Auxiliary Constable Program is responsible for: Crime Reduction Patrols; School Presentations at elementary schools; visits to programs with City Parks and Recreation Departments; presentations to Community Youth groups (Girl Guides and Boy Scouts); and providing police presence at Community Events; and

Whereas the announced changes of October 24th appear to have a detrimental effect on the ability of Coquitlam Detachment's Auxiliary Constables to perform the above-stated duties;

Therefore be it resolved that Coquitlam Council send a letter to the Director of the National Crime Prevention/Aboriginal Policing Services (Ottawa), outlining the impact the policy

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change has on the safety and well-being of the City of Coquitlam and asking that the policy change be reconsidered."

The City of Coquitlam currently has 49 auxiliary constables who collectively provide over 7500 hours of service in our community on an annual basis. As noted in the above resolution, the announced policy change will impact a broad range of programs currently performed by our auxiliary members – the benefits of which are greatly valued by our residents and our local detachment. Further, such a change will also have a significant financial impact if sworn officers are required to provide direct supervision of all activities performed by our auxiliary constables, as our existing complement of regular members will no longer be freed up to attend to other scheduled duties.

In addition, Council for the City of Coquitlam would like to express its disappointment that, once again, senior management at the RCMP has acted unilaterally and without consulting with affected municipalities. There has been significant dialogue over the recent past concerning the need for the RCMP to consult on matters such as this type of policy decision and a public undertaking by the RCMP to improve how it communicates with, and ultimately serves, contracted municipalities. Unfortunately, the policy change announced on October 24, 2014 adds to the frustration expressed by member municipalities, namely that the RCMP seems unable, or worse unwilling (given the commitments made as part of the last round of contract negotiations), to meet its obligations in this regard.

With all of the above in mind, Council for the City of Coquitlam respectfully requests that the RCMP reconsider its directive of October 24, 2014 and allow auxiliary constables to continue to provide important, cost-effective police services in all jurisdictions where they may be deployed.

If you require any further information regarding the City's position on this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 604-927-3013 or by email at jgilbert@coquitlam.ca.

Yours truly,

Jay Gilbert City Clerk

Cc: The Honourable Suzanne Anton, Minister of Justice and Attorney General

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities

The Lower Mainland Local Government Association

All Metro Vancouver Municipalities with RCMP Detachments RCMP National Contract Management Committee RCMP ("E" Division - British Columbia) Members of Coquitlam Council Peter Steblin, City Manager John DuMont, Deputy City Manager Supt. Claude Wilcott, Coquitlam RCMP