



— **OBCM** —  
Ontario's Big City Mayors

## **Motion on Police Funding for Municipal Police Services**

**Moved by Mayor Kevin Davis - Brantford**

WHEREAS there are many important and pressing challenges relating to public safety, such as firefighting, corrections, domestic violence, animal welfare, auto theft, justice and bail reform to name a few; and

WHEREAS the provinces' Community Safety and Policing Act is placing further financial pressures on local police services, adding new training and equipment requirements for officers; and

WHEREAS in November 2024 the provincial government announced it would be offering \$77 million to 330 municipalities serviced by the OPP to offset the OPP's budget increase; and

WHEREAS that subsidy is not being extended to municipalities that operate local police services; and

WHEREAS communities with municipal police services have seen steady increases to their police operating budget(s), putting additional pressures on the taxpayers of our communities, with future years likely to see similar increases; and

WHEREAS the provincial government has been supportive of law enforcement including police services, with the Ministry of the Solicitor General being very approachable and open to the challenges faced by all communities as they relate to crime and increased financial strains.

WHEREAS the federal government has created a Fentanyl Czar to combat the drugs crossing our borders

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Government of Ontario consider the following suggestions;

- a) That the province increase the funding to municipal and regional police services in a manner proportional to the funding relief provided to the OPP policed communities
- b) Consideration of providing local and provincial grant funds which are vital to the operation of all police services across the province
  - i) AND that this funding includes meaningful support for municipal police services who are on the front lines of confronting the organized crime who are behind synthetic fentanyl labs.
- c) That a fair and equitable funding model is established for all taxpayers across the province, regardless of the community they live in or how they are policed (OPP or municipal police services)



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- d) Investigate the ability to fund and utilize emergency technology such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) for law enforcement to ensure that police services are able to investigate or deter AI based crimes in the future; and

THAT adequate funding and meaningful support be provided to police service members to address employee health and wellness, including members who are on long-term (WSIB) absences.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Ontario's Big City Mayors endorse the recent OACP and OAPSB letter to the province dated December 7, 2024 "Re: Recent \$77 Million Funding Announcement for Municipalities Policed by the Ontario Provincial Police"; and

THAT a copy of this motion be sent to:

- The Hon. Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
- The Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General
- The Hon. Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance
- The Hon. Graham McGregor, Associate Minister of Auto Theft and Bail Reform
- Deputy Chief Roger Wilkie, President - Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police
- Patrick Weaver, Chair - Ontario Association of Police Services Boards
- Robin Jones, President - Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO)
- Karen Redman, Chair, Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario (MARCO)