

Town of Riverview

COUNCIL REPORT FORM



Presented to: Mayor and Town Council

Presented by: Colin Smith, CAO

Date: December 11, 2023

Subject: Regional Police Services – review and recommendations

BACKGROUND

Last year, Riverview Town Council supported completing a Regional Policy Study for Greater Moncton with Moncton and Dieppe. **Perivale Taylor Consulting** were awarded the RFP to complete this work early in 2023. This report was presented to the three Councils at the **October 4, 2023, Tri-Council meeting in Dieppe**. That session was followed by a public presentation of the report on October 5, 2023 at the Moncton Council Chambers.

The scope of the study was to:

- compare and contrast the delivery of policing services – RCMP/ Municipal/and Hybrid model;
- research current trend in policing;
- assess the current RCMP workload/volume of calls/nature of calls;
- provide background information/education on the changing dynamics in policing for today;
- Provide a cost analysis of each policy model reviewed;
- Review the future facilities requirement for a regional police force; and
- And to provide 15-year projections on the policing models.

The key conclusions of the study were that the three municipalities:

- Remain with a regional RCMP force as it is the most cost-effective and best service delivery solution for the region. Factors that influence that conclusion:
 - RCMP costs are projected to be less expensive over 15 years;
 - Transition costs to a municipal force are very high (Surrey BC provides a direct reference point);
 - Access to specialized RCMP services existing in the current contract;
 - RCMP can provide a bilingual workforce;
 - There are challenges in staffing a municipal force because there will be few existing RCMP members who will agree to transfer to a municipal force due to the impact on their pensions (only 20% uptake in RCMP members transitioning to Surrey Municipal Force)

- It is anticipated that over the next 15 years, staff projection models anticipate the force will need an increase of between 20 to 30 RCMP and municipal staff.
- The facility analysis concluded that additional station space will be required for the force by 2044;
- And the study included the three municipalities should look to governance improvements with the CRPA board to improve oversight; transparency; and good governance. Those measures include:
 - CRPA should be completing an annual workforce analysis for the three municipalities per Article 6.1 of the agreement;
 - CRPA needs to establish a public feedback mechanism for residents to provide feedback on public safety.
 - The municipalities should ensure the appropriate board/governance skills sets are appointed to the board; remuneration for board members should be addressed; and
 - A part time Executive Director position for the CRPA be created.

The Consultant's recommendations out of their report were as follows:

<i>1. The Tri-Community should retain the current RCMP Codiac Regional Police model</i>
<i>2. The Tri-Community should request the CRP Authority to make RCMP annual police workload analyses a priority under Article 6.1 of the Codiac Regional Police Service Agreement</i>
<i>3. Staffing decisions should be based on business cases from workload analyses a) Improvements to data collection and processing will be required</i>
<i>4. The Tri-Community should request the Authority a. establish a community feedback process on public safety and policing matters b. provide greater transparency and consultation with the Tri-Community Councils</i>
<i>5. The Tri-Community should encourage and support any initiatives by the Authority in integration and partnerships with other service providers in addressing social disorder challenges complementing the mental health related Recommendations of the Mass Casualty Report 46</i>
<i>6. The Tri-Community should support the Authority in: a. ensuring persons appointed to the Authority are suitably prepared to exercise their responsibilities on behalf of their municipality and the Tri-Community b. establishing appropriate remuneration for the chair and specific members c. establishing an Executive Director position, reporting to the Chair, to manage administrative functions.</i>

To support the implementation of these recommended actions, the three municipalities should work in partnership together and update their shared Tri-Community Regional Police Agreement that established the CRPA to strengthen and enhance the accountability relationship between the CRPA and the three municipalities who fund those services on behalf of the taxpayers in the region.

If the recommendations in this report are approved by the Tri-community Councils, the three CAOs will work collaboratively together to develop a detailed action plan to implement the recommendations contained in the report. In fact, in anticipation, the three CAOs have already begun this work.

CONSIDERATIONS

Legal:

Financial:

Policy: n/a

Stakeholders: n/a

Strategic Plan:

- Health and Safe Community
- Building a Sustainable Community

Interdepartmental Consultation: N/A

Communication Plan: N/A

Recommendation of Staff –

That Riverview Town Council approve:

- *The six recommendations contained in the **Perivale Taylor Consulting’s** Regional Police Study and give direction to Town management to work in collaboration with the two other municipalities on an action plan to implement those recommendations starting in 2024.*
- *Furthermore, Town Council give direction to Town Management to work in partnership with the two other municipalities to update the current Tri-Community Regional Police Service Agreement that established the Codiac Regional Policy Authority (CRPA) to strengthen and enhance the accountability relationship between the CRPA and the municipalities that fund that organization.*