

Town of Riverview

COUNCIL REPORT FORM



Presented to: Mayor and Town Council

Presented by: Colin Smith, CAO

Date: February 24, 2025

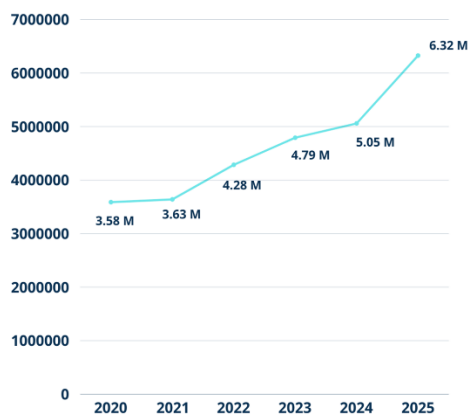
Subject: RCMP – Budget Direction for 2026 and beyond

BACKGROUND

Riverview Town Council approved the 2025 RCMP budget, which included a \$1.3 million budget increase over the previous year. Council approved this increase with some hesitation due to the size of the budget increase and the lack of clearly defined key performance metrics to measure the impact of the 17 new officers that the RCMP planned to add. Also, a concern is the fact that it will take so long to hire these new positions that their actual impact on services delivery cannot be measured until 2026 at the earliest.

The graph below shows that the growth in the size of the RCMP budget has been significant over the past few years and the lack of clear and reported performance metrics has been a debated issue for Riverview Council for several years.

RCMP BUDGET TREND



Codiac RCMP has also indicated to Riverview and the two other Councils that it has an operational plan, in which they plan on adding a significant number of new officers in 2026 and 2027 that will also have a notable financial impact on the municipalities. While the Town recognizes the current challenges for the

policing services in our community and the public's concerns about public safety, the Town still wants to be provided evidence that its continued increased investment in the RCMP will have a positive impact on addressing policing matters and the public's perception of public safety.

Our concerns are shared by both Dieppe and Moncton. Those Councils have expressed similar concerns to ours during their own 2025 budget deliberations. Both Councils have debated the ongoing issue of growing policing costs with no clear measurable impact of the additional spending on police services or the public's perception on public safety.

Therefore, the three administrations are proposing that each Council pass a similar motion requesting that the CRPA and the RCMP provide the three municipalities with KPI data that provides a clear analysis of what impact the approved positions in the 2025 budget had on the policing services delivered. The municipalities need to be clear to the CRPA and the RCMP leadership, well in advance of the 2026 budget process, that we want to have an agreement on what the KPIs are for these new positions, and we want to see that data to assess the impact of those new positions. This information must be provided before we consider approving even more positions in future budgets. The municipalities want to be accountable to the taxpayers to show that these investments are having the desired results we want to see in our communities.

Therefore, in straightforward terms, this means that the 2026 calendar year will have to be the year where the RCMP must measure the impact of the all the new positions (17) hired in 2025 for the policing services delivered in the tri-community. This means, in particular terms, that no additional positions beyond the 17 will be approved by the three municipalities until the 2027 budget cycle.

CONSIDERATIONS

Legal:

Financial: the current growth of RCMP budget will have a significant impact on the fiscal capacity of the Town of Riverview

Policy: n/a

Stakeholders: Moncton, Dieppe and The CRPA Board, RCMP Leadership

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 following motion:

That, prior to any future substantial Codiac Regional Policing Authority budget requests, including further staffing increases, being proposed, the CRPA will provide Riverview Town Council with a comprehensive data analysis of how the 2025 approved staffing increases have impacted key performance indicators, mutually agreed to by the CRPA and the tri-communities, so that any request for additional staffing increases can be evaluated based on such data.

And furthermore, the municipalities request that the CRPA adhere to the budget submission timelines included in the CRPA Budget Policy (#G-407), specifically “that initial budget submissions shall be brought forward to the Executive Insight Committee no later than 6 months prior to the budget year.”