

# GRANDE PRAIRIE POLICING COMMITTEE

## Regular Meeting

January 16, 2025

1:30 PM

Centre 2000, Al Robertson Room

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- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**
- 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- 5. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**
  - 5.1 Chair
  - 5.2 Vice Chair
- 6. BUSINESS ARISING**
- 7. STANDING ITEMS**
  - 7.1 Chair Report
  - 7.2 OIC Report
    - a) Q2 Community Report
    - b) November 2024 RCMP Town Hall Report
  - 7.3 Public Complaint Director
    - a) RCMP November Public Complaint Report
    - b) RCMP 2023/2024 Public Complaint Comparisons
- 8. NEW BUSINESS**
  - 8.1 Correspondence
    - a) AAPG – Minister Ellis
- 9. CLOSED SESSION**
  - 9.1 Personnel – FOIP – Sec. 17(4)
  - 9.2 Law Enforcement Matters – FOIP – Sec. 20(1)
  - 9.3 Public Complaint Director – FOIP – Sec. 24(1)

9.4 Professional Standards – FOIP – Sec. 17(4)

**10. NEXT MEETING**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**GRANDE PRAIRIE POLICING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**November 21, 2024**

**Centre 2000, Al Robertson Room**

Attendees: Dan Wong  
Natalia Reiman  
Lois Duke  
Donna Koch  
Warren Travasso  
Timothy Burnham  
Councillor Dylan Bressey  
Councillor Kevin O’Toole

Others: Lorrie Sitler, Executive Director  
Superintendent Peter King, RCMP  
Inspector Mark MacDougald, RCMP  
Jacqueline Daigneault, Administrative Assistant

Regrets: Everett McDonald

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Motion to appoint Warren Travasso as interim chair until Chair Wong arrives.

**Moved by:** Dylan Bressey

**Seconded by:** Timothy Burnham

**Carried unanimously**

Interim Chair Travasso called the meeting to order at 1:34 PM

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda as presented.

**Moved by:** Councillor O’Toole

**Carried unanimously**

Chair

ED



**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of October 17, 2024, meeting as presented.

**Moved by:** Donna Koch

**Carried unanimously**

**5. BUSINESS ARISING**

**6. STANDING ITEMS**

6.1 Chair Report

6.2 OIC Report

a) January – September 2023 vs 2024 Crime Gauge

Vice-Chair Natalia Reiman arrived at 1:35 PM

Chair Wong arrived at 1:37 PM

Motion to resume the meeting with Chair Wong

**Moved by:** Warren Travasso

**Carried Unanimously**

Motion to accept the January – September 2023 vs 2024 Crime Gauge as presented.

**Moved by:** Tim Burnham

**Carried Unanimously**

6.3 Public Complaint Director

a) RCMP September and October Public Complaint Reports

b) RCMP 2023/2024 Public Complaint Comparisons

Motion to accept the September and October Public Complaint Reports and the 2023/2024 Public Complaint Comparisons as presented.

**Moved by:** Natalia Reiman

**Carried Unanimously**

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

7.1 AAPG Correspondence – Police Governance (Ministerial) Regulation

Chair

ED

**8. CLOSED SESSION**

- 8.1 Personnel – FOIP – Sec. 17(4)
- 8.2 Law Enforcement Matters – FOIP – Sec. 20(1)
- 8.3 Public Complaint Director – FOIP – Sec. 24(1)
- 8.4 Professional Standards – FOIP – Sec. 17(4)

Motion to move into closed session in accordance with Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act and specified sections of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

**Moved by:** Councillor O’Toole  
**Carried Unanimously**

Motion to move out of closed session.

**Moved by:** Warren Travasso  
**Carried Unanimously**

**9. NEXT MEETING** – January 16, 2025, at 1:30 pm, Al Robertson Room at Centre 2000

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Wong adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM

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Date

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Chair

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Date

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Executive Director

Chair      ED





December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Mr. Dan Wong  
Chair, Police Committee  
Grande Prairie City, AB

Dear Mr. Wong

Please find attached the quarterly Community Policing Report attached that covers the July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 reporting period. The attached report serves to provide a quarterly snapshot of human resources, financial data, and crime statistics for the Grande Prairie City Detachment.

This quarter I want to let you know about the RCMP Public Consultation Tool that is anticipated to be launched in early 2025. This initiative is being launched in order to solicit feedback from RCMP stakeholders with the goal of increasing transparency in policing and contribute to our vision of becoming an inherently open RCMP. This public consultation tool will be secure and confidential for all participants who will remain anonymous. I encourage your engagement in this process and if you would like more information, you can contact the Open Government Office at [EnterpriseTransparency-Transparenceauseindelorganisation@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:EnterpriseTransparency-Transparenceauseindelorganisation@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)

I always remain available to discuss your community-identified policing priorities and/or any ideas you may have that will enhance our service delivery to address the priorities that are important to you. As the Chief of Police for your community, I invite you to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.

Superintendent Peter King  
Officer in Charge  
Grande Prairie City Detachment





## Alberta RCMP - Municipal Policing Report

### Detachment Information

**Detachment Name**

Grande Prairie Municipal Detachment

**Detachment Commander**

Superintendent Peter King

Report Date	Fiscal Year	Quarter
Q2	2024-25	Q2 (July - September)

### Community Priorities

**Priority #1: Transition to Municipal Police Service - Collaborate with Partners in Transition to GP Police Service**

**Updates and Comments:**

The Grande Prairie RCMP detachment has made significant strides in enhancing service delivery through key initiatives. Collaborating with Grande Prairie Protective Services (GPPS), the RCMP integrates GPPS members into its operations to strengthen community engagement and public safety. This partnership has already led to joint participation in several community events, with further plans to onboard additional GPPS members.

Simultaneously, the detachment is advancing efforts to establish a stand-alone rural detachment. The land required for a new rural facility has been purchased and the organization is diligently working to attain Treasury Board approval for the project. Until then, in early 2025 the rural unit will temporarily relocate to the Western Alberta District (WAD) building, with renovations expected to finish in February 2025.

We continue to hold Monthly Detachment Meetings for all employees which serve as a crucial platform for keeping all employees updated on the latest developments and any important matters that may impact detachment personnel. Through these regular meetings, the detachment fosters open communication, addresses concerns promptly, and ensures that every employee is well-informed and prepared for change.

These measures reflect the Grande Prairie RCMPs commitment to optimizing resources, improving service delivery, and addressing the needs of both urban and rural communities effectively.





## Priority #2: Community Engagement and Diversity - Enhance Community Relations - Build Trust/Confidence in RCMP

### Updates and Comments:

The Community Engagement and Diversity Unit continues to be very active attending community events, schools and classrooms, support groups and organizations, etc. As expected throughout the summer months, school visits and interaction with youth is down solely due to the time of year. The Equity Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) advisory committee will be meeting in the fall of 2024 as a three-month hiatus was taken for the summer months. The goal of the EDI committee is to establish priorities with a measurable target and to complete four meetings by the end of the fiscal year.

The watch presentations are going well, we have succeeded in obtaining our goal with more educational sessions planned for the fall and winter months. The percentage integrity is a snap shot of the last three months and is not a measure that can be tallied cumulatively. This reporting period the total falls within the expected percentage.

## Priority #3: Community Safety - Enhance Community Safety through Intelligence Lead Policing

### Updates and Comments:

The Criminal Analyst research continued throughout this quarter and will until the end of this reporting period. Detachment Members check in regularly with the analysts in regards to this measure. Analysts have been tasked with more criminal analysis in relation to random virtue testing and priority areas to drive proactive enforcement. The Analysts continue to prepare and disseminate reports on prolific offenders and areas of the city to focus proactive patrols.

Executed warrants at the end of this quarter have exceeded targets. The detachment target and goal for quarter two was to execute 415 outstanding warrants. For quarter two the team executed 784 warrants.

Conditions checks are exceeding target for this quarter and have surpassed overall annual target. The target for quarter two was to complete 150 conditions checks while the team completed 880.

Proactive and visibility patrols at the Community Care Campus, Wapiti and Downtown all far exceed the targets for this quarter. Benchmark targets were established at 80, 400 and 100 while the team achieved 442, 1749 and 1709. Overall these measures are surpassing this initiative!!





## Community Consultations

### Consultation #1

Date	Meeting Type
September 19, 2024	Community Connection
<b>Topics Discussed</b>	
Crime Reduction Initiatives; Education Session	
<b>Notes/Comments:</b>	
Member was requested to attend the Crime Prevention seminar in Sexsmith, AB. He was available for the question/answer period. Seminar was approximately 2 hours long.	

### Consultation #2

Date	Meeting Type
September 23, 2024	Community Connection
<b>Topics Discussed</b>	
Education Session; Crime Reduction Initiatives	
<b>Notes/Comments:</b>	
Member attended the Lakeview Seniors Home and completed a presentation on fraud prevention.	



## Crime Statistics

The following table provides policing statistics on actual offences within the periods listed. Please see the Appendix for additional information and a five-year comparison.

Category	July - September			January - December		
	2023	2024	% Change YoY	2022	2023	% Change YoY
<b>Total Criminal Code</b>	3132	2770	- 12%	11320	11571	+ 2%
Persons Crime	658	531	- 19%	2258	2455	+ 9%
Property Crime	1521	1525	0%	6360	5898	- 7%
Other Criminal Code	953	714	- 25%	2702	3218	+ 19%
<b>Drugs Offences</b>	72	59	-18%	323	246	- 24%
<b>Total Federal Acts</b>	92	71	- 23%	372	313	+ 645%
<b>Total Provincial Acts <sup>4</sup></b>	916	886	- 3%	2736	3528	+ 29%
<b>Municipal By-Laws</b>	60	70	+ 17%	233	241	+ 3%
<b>Motor Vehicle Collisions</b>	253	262	+ 4%	1970	1731	- 12%
<b>Total Traffic Offences</b>	1528	1216	- 20%	7961	7292	- 8%
Provincial Code Traffic	1399	1116	- 20%	7471	6672	- 10%
Criminal Code Traffic	120	95	- 21%	469	545	+ 16%
Other Traffic	9	5	- 44%	75	75	0%

**Notes:**

1. Data is extracted from a live database (PROS) and is subject to change over time.
2. Statistics for the July - September period reflect RCMP records as of October 8, 2024.
3. Full-year statistics reflect RCMP records as of January 5, 2024.
4. "Total Provincial Acts" include records of non-offence activities that are undertaken by Detachment members, in addition to actual offences under various provincial acts. Non-offence activities may include activities under the *Mental Health Act*, *Coroners Act*, and other provincial legislation in Alberta.

**Trends / Points of Interest**





## Municipal Operations: Human Resources Overview

Staffing Category	Established Positions	Working	Special Leave	Hard Vacancies	Revised Plan at Q2	2024-25 FTE Utilization Plan
Regular Members	110	84	13	12	92.76	92.76
Detachment Support	58	55	1	2		

**Notes:**

1. Data extracted on December 9, 2024 and is subject to change.
2. Once Regular Members are placed on "Special Leave" (e.g., Maternity/Paternity leave, medical leave more than 30 days, leave without pay, graduated return to work), they are not included in the FTE count and their pay is not charged directly to each location. However, any salary expenditures associated with these employees while on leave is included as an "indirect cost" and billed within the Divisional Administration rate, charged to all contracts.
3. Hard Vacancies reflect positions that do not have an employee attached and need to be filled.

**Comments:**

Police Officers: Of the 110 established positions and 101 funded positions, 84 officers are currently working. Thirteen officers are on special leave (Medical, Parental and two Other). One position is backfilled to ensure coverage. There are 12 hard vacancies at this time.

This information includes one municipally-funded ALERT position. The annual plan for Grande Prairie Municipal Detachment is based on 92.76 working members.



## Definitions

### Municipal Operations: Human Resources Overview

Term	Definition
FTE Utilization	A full-time equivalent (FTE) employee is defined by the number of months in a fiscal year that a position is filled. The FTE utilization level refers to the total months filled for all positions within the Detachment/unit.
2024-25 FTE Utilization Plan	Reflects the number of working FTEs planned to be in-place for the current fiscal year.
Revised Plan at Q2	This reflects any adjustments to the planned number of working FTEs, which may vary as hard and soft vacancies fluctuate throughout the year.

### Municipal Operations: Financial Overview

Term	Definition
Fiscal Year-to-Date (YTD)	Reflects the actual expenditures that have been processed or working FTE levels to-date. This does not include any financial or human resource transactions that have not yet been processed.
Revised Plan at Q2	Reflects any adjustments to the forecasted spending plan for the relevant category, to better align with realized expenditures throughout the year.
2024-25 Financial Plan	Reflects the initial financial plan set for each category of expenditure for the current fiscal year.
Detachment Working FTE Levels	Reflects the number of working Regular Members (i.e., police officers) anticipated to be in-place for the current fiscal year.
Direct Costs	Reflects both Division and Detachment-controlled costs associated to front-line policing operations and investigations. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member Pay, including pay for Regular Members, planned and retroactive pay increases, and overtime pay;</li> <li>Operational equipment, including member equipment, informatics, vehicles, and vehicle fit-up; and/or</li> <li>Unit operations, including fuel costs, training, secret expenses, and other operations and maintenance costs.</li> </ul>
Indirect Costs	Reflects all costs associated to employee benefits as well as division administration and core support services. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employee Benefits (i.e., Superannuation, Canada Pension Plan, and Employment Insurance);</li> <li>Recruiting operations, Cadet training (at Depot Division), and the Police Dog Service Training Centre;</li> </ul>

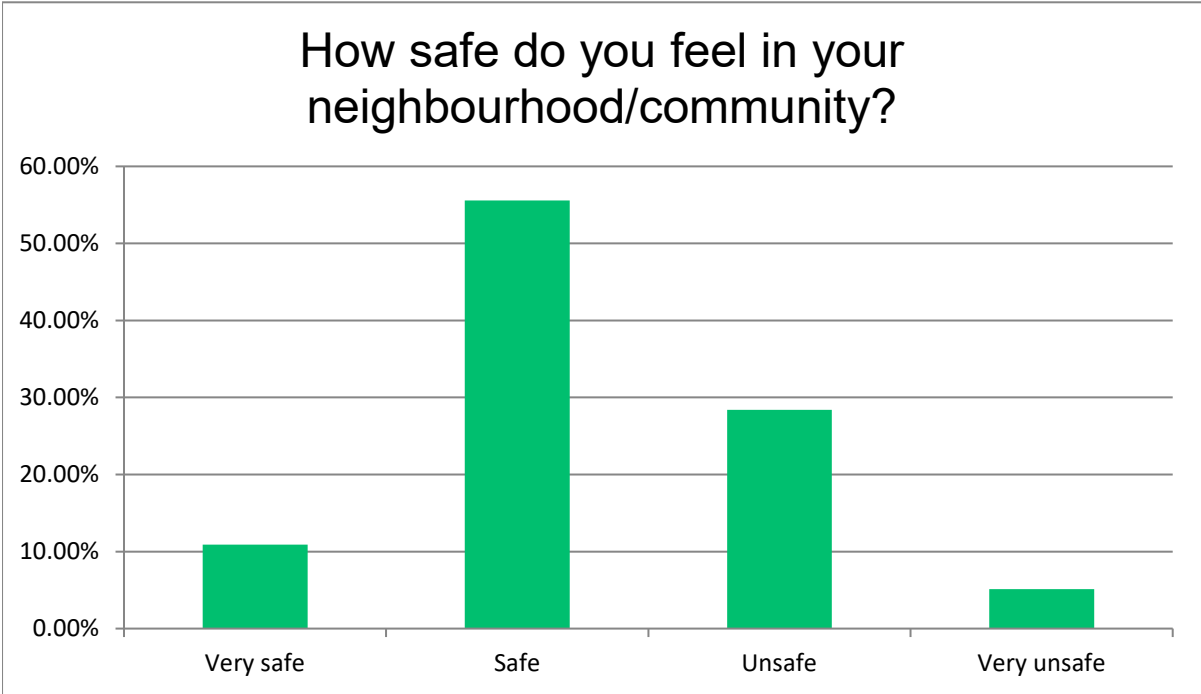


Term	Definition
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Common IT services, including management of the Police Records and Occurrence System;</li><li>• Complaints and accountability mechanisms through the Civilian Review and Complaints Commission for the RCMP, the RCMP External Review Committee, and enhanced reliability and accountability programs; and/or</li><li>• Other divisional and regional administration services.</li></ul>
Total Costs after Final Adjustments	Reflects total costs of all expenditure categories and any cost adjustments at the applicable Contract Partner share.

# 2024 RCMP Town Halls Survey

## How safe do you feel in your neighbourhood/community?

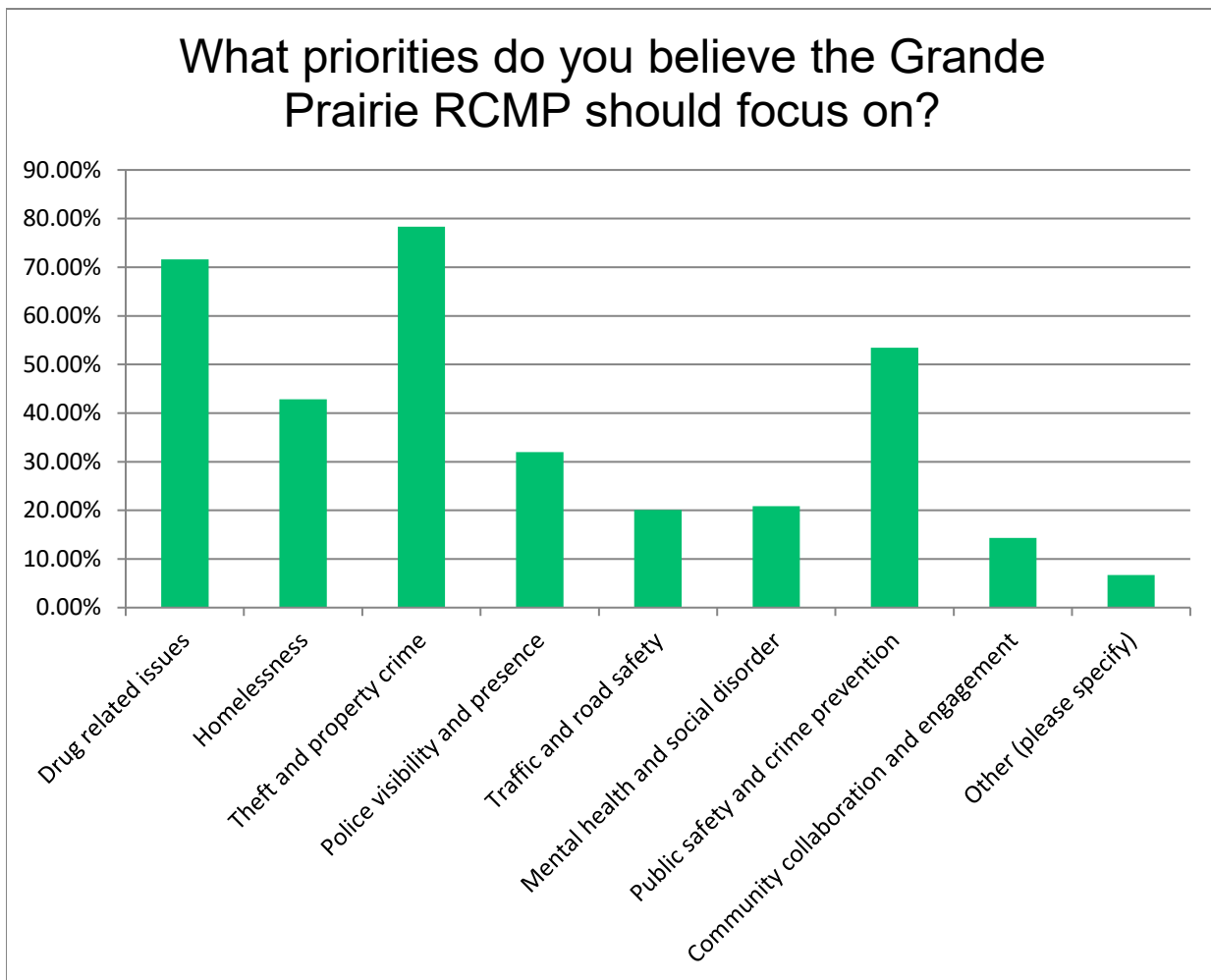
Answer Choices	Responses	
Very safe	10.90%	81
Safe	55.59%	413
Unsafe	28.40%	211
Very unsafe	5.11%	38
<b>Answered</b>		<b>743</b>



# 2024 RCMP Town Halls Survey

## What priorities do you believe the GP RCMP should focus on?

Answer Choices	Responses	
Drug related issues	71.62%	535
Homelessness	42.84%	320
Theft and property crime	78.31%	585
Police visibility and presence	31.99%	239
Traffic and road safety	20.08%	150
Mental health and social disorder	20.88%	156
Public safety and crime prevention	53.41%	399
Community collaboration and engagement	14.32%	107
Other (please specify)	6.69%	50
<b>Answered</b>		<b>747</b>



## 2024 RCMP Community Survey: Key Themes

### Question #3: How can the Grande Prairie RCMP further reduce crime and improve safety?

Key themes:

#### 1. Increased Visibility and Presence:

- More patrols in neighborhoods and high-crime areas.
- Foot patrols and community engagement.
- Visible presence during nighttime hours.

#### 2. Focus on Major Crime Reduction:

- Crack down on drug-related crimes, gangs, and theft.
- Address homelessness and its links to crime.
- Target repeat offenders and enforce stronger consequences.

#### 3. Improved Accountability and Justice System:

- Advocate for stricter penalties for crimes and an end to the "catch and release" system.
- Work collaboratively with courts to ensure offenders face consequences.
- Focus on repeat offenders and organized crime.

#### 4. Enhanced Community Engagement and Education:

- Build trust and relationships with the community through transparency and outreach.
- Educate the public on crime prevention and reporting processes.
- Partner with schools and community organizations to engage youth.

#### 5. Collaboration with Other Agencies:

- Work with municipal and provincial authorities to address homelessness, addiction, and mental health issues.
- Collaborate with new police services, if applicable, to share resources and strategies.



## **6. Resource Allocation and Staffing:**

- Increase the number of officers and staff for better coverage.
- Provide more resources for community safety initiatives and technology like CCTV.
- Ensure a balanced approach to traffic enforcement and crime prevention.

## **7. Transparency and Communication:**

- Keep the public informed about police actions, outcomes, and crime trends.
- Use platforms like newsletters and social media for updates and engagement.

## **8. Address Root Causes of Crime:**

- Focus on addiction, homelessness, and mental health as underlying issues.
- Advocate for systemic changes, like access to rehabilitation and support services.

### **Question #4: In what ways do you believe the Grande Prairie RCMP can strengthen collaboration with the community?**

Key themes:

#### **1. Increased Visibility and Presence**

- Frequent foot, bike, and vehicle patrols in neighborhoods, parks, schools, and high-crime areas.
- Attend and participate in community events, parades, and public activities.
- Engage in informal interactions with residents to build trust.

#### **2. Focus on Major Crimes**

- Prioritize addressing drug-related crimes, theft, homelessness, and violent offenses over minor traffic violations (e.g., window tint or speed traps).
- Collaborate with government agencies to address root causes like addiction and mental health issues.

#### **3. Community Engagement and Outreach**

- Build relationships with youth through school programs, mentorship, and educational workshops.
- Host regular town halls, open houses, and virtual meetings to listen to community concerns and provide updates.

- Partner with community organizations, businesses, and neighborhood groups to co-create crime prevention strategies.
- Encourage citizen participation through programs like Neighborhood Watch or Citizens on Patrol.

#### **4. Transparency and Communication**

- Regularly share crime statistics, policing activities, and case outcomes with the public through social media, newsletters, and community forums.
- Educate citizens on crime prevention, self-defence, and home security.
- Provide updates on high-profile cases and explain actions taken to address community issues.

#### **5. Strengthening Trust**

- Demonstrate empathy and respect in interactions with the public, particularly in response to calls for help.
- Maintain consistency in staffing to allow officers to build long-term relationships with the community.
- Engage in community service projects and initiatives to humanize the police force and reinforce their role as protectors and collaborators.

#### **6. Partnerships and Collaboration**

- Work with schools, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and other community groups to address systemic issues like poverty and addiction.
- Collaborate with local and provincial government programs to address homelessness and public safety.
- Coordinate with emerging police forces to ensure a smooth transition and maintain high-quality service.

#### **7. Internal Training and Accountability**

- Train officers in cultural sensitivity, trauma-informed approaches, and mental health awareness.
- Emphasize de-escalation and community-focused practices.
- Ensure officers act professionally and respectfully to improve public perceptions and trust.

## **8. Programs and Initiatives**

- Expand youth-focused initiatives like school liaison programs and drug prevention education.
- Launch public workshops or events like "Coffee with a Cop" to facilitate informal discussions.
- Reinforce programs like the "Friendly Officer Program" to engage with vulnerable populations and promote community well-being.

## **9. Advocacy for Systemic Change**

- Push for changes in the judicial system to ensure repeat offenders face consequences and victims receive justice.
- Advocate for resources to address staffing shortages and improve response times.

Grande Prairie RCMP  
Public Complaints Report

November 1 – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
(City and Rural Public Complaints)

New Complaints- November 2024	Total Complaints for 2024	Active 2024 Complaints	Active 2023 Complaints	Active 2022 Complaints	Concluded	Total Active Complaints
2	25	5	0	0	20	5

November 1 – 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
(City and Rural Public Complaints)

New Complaints- November 2023	Total Complaints for 2023	Active 2023 Complaints	Active 2022 Complaints	Concluded	Total Active Complaints
2	25	26	1	0	27

**Grande Prairie Detachment Public Complaints Stats for 2023/2024 \*\*Updated January 6, 2025\*\***

2023 Reported and Concluded Complaints		2023 Outstanding Complaints	2023 Allegations and Types		2024 Reported and Concluded Complaints		2024 Outstanding Complaints	2024 Allegations and Types	
January	6		Neglect of Duty	22	January	3		Neglect of Duty	25
February	3		Improper Attitude	23	February	3		Improper Attitude	14
March	6		Improper Use of Force	7	March	3		Driving Irregularity	1
April	1		Improper Persons/Vehicle Search	3	April	2		Improper use of force	3
May	4		Irregularity in Procedure	1	May	5		Bias (Race)	3
June	4		Improper Arrest	3	June	0		Improper search of Premises	3
July	2		Bias	1	July	5		Oppressive Conduct	1
August	5		Mishandling Property	1	August	3		Improper Arrest	6
September	7		Improper search of Premises	4	September	2		Irregularity - Evidence	1
October	6		<b>Total</b>	<b>65</b>	October	2		Improper Search of Person	1
November	1				November	1		Mishandling of Property	1
December	2				December		2	Policy	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>				<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>Total (As of January 6, 2025)</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Grand Total Complaints for 2023</b>	<b>47</b>				<b>Grand Total Complaints for 2024 (As of January 6, 2025)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>**2 are with NPCD at Informal Stage**</b>		
<b>Total Founded Allegations to Date</b>	<b>2</b>				<b>Total Founded Allegations to Date</b>	<b>(Terminated for a COC)</b>			



ALBERTA  
PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

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*Office of the Minister  
Deputy Premier of Alberta  
MLA, Calgary-West*

AR 29969

November 20, 2024

Mr. Ian Sanderson  
Chair  
Alberta Association of Police Governance  
PO Box 36098 - Lakeview  
Calgary AB T3E 7C6

Dear Mr. Sanderson:

As a respected partner in the field of police governance in Alberta, I am writing to highlight how recently proclaimed legislative changes may affect your community.

The Government of Alberta is enhancing civilian governance of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) by proclaiming sections of the *Police Amendment Act, 2022*, and creating the Police Governance Regulation and Police Governance (Ministerial) Regulation. These amendments will ensure communities policed by the RCMP have a voice in setting local and province-wide policing priorities and performance goals by creating municipal and regional policing committees, as well as a Provincial Police Advisory Board.

These changes will take effect on March 1, 2025, after a transition period to allow municipalities to pass and implement relevant bylaws. Every community in Alberta served by the RCMP will be required to be represented by one of the following types of governance bodies, depending on their population size and type of police service agreement.

**Communities with a population of 15,000 or greater, policed under a Municipal Police Service Agreement**

- These communities are required to establish a Municipal Policing Committee (MPC), through bylaws, by March 1, 2025.
- MPCs will consist of between three and seven members appointed by the municipality's council.
- The Minister may also appoint committee members based on the size of the committee.

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### **Communities with a population of less than 15,000, policed under a Municipal Police Service Agreement**

- These communities are required to establish a Regional Policing Committee, through bylaws, by March 1, 2025.
- Each RCMP district is a region (e.g., South, Central, East, and West), and each region contains five to 10 municipalities required to work with other communities in the same RCMP district to form a Regional Policing Committee (RPC).
- RPCs will consist of at least one member appointed by each municipality represented.
- Communities may opt out of a RPC in favour of establishing their own municipal committee, or a joint committee with another municipality, with ministerial approval.

### **Communities policed under the Provincial Police Service Agreement**

- Small and rural communities policed under the Provincial Police Service Agreement, including municipalities with a population under 5,000, municipal districts and counties, and Metis Settlements, will be represented by the Provincial Police Advisory Board.
- The province will appoint up to 15 members to the Provincial Police Advisory Board, including representation from First Nations, Métis communities, Rural Municipalities of Alberta, Alberta Municipalities, and all four provincial RCMP districts.
- Costs for the Provincial Police Advisory Board will be borne by the province.
- The Provincial Police Advisory Board will be operational by March 1, 2025.

Attached for further reference is a Frequently Asked Questions document with more information about the new requirements for RCMP local governance bodies. You can also find the Police Governance (Order in Council) Regulation, the Police Governance (Ministerial) Regulation, and the proclamation of the *Police Act* sections establishing these governance bodies on the Alberta.ca website at [www.alberta.ca/alberta-kings-printer](http://www.alberta.ca/alberta-kings-printer).

Please note that in the next few weeks your administration will receive communication from department representatives with details about planned information sessions regarding these governance bodies. If you have any questions or require support in the set-up of these governance bodies, please contact the department at: [AlbertaPoliceGovernance@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AlbertaPoliceGovernance@gov.ab.ca).

Thank you for everything you do to help ensure Albertans can live, work, and raise families in safe and secure communities.

Sincerely,



Honourable Mike Ellis  
Deputy Premier of Alberta  
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services

Attachment

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### RCMP civilian governance

Alberta's government is enhancing civilian governance of RCMP policed communities to ensure they have a voice in setting local and province-wide policing priorities and performance goals by creating municipal and regional policing committees, as well as a Provincial Police Advisory Board.

This document provides answers to questions about the establishment and operation of RCMP civilian governance bodies.

Why is the government mandating civilian governance bodies for RCMP-policed communities?

Creation of these new civilian governance bodies responds to a long-standing desire of communities to have more say in how they are policed by the RCMP.

By establishing municipal and regional governance committees and the Provincial Police Advisory Board, we are giving communities the opportunity to provide input on both local and provincial policing priorities and RCMP service delivery while increasing police accountability.

Civilian governance bodies support a paradigm shift that sees local police as an extension and a reflection of the communities they serve.

What will the function of the municipal police committees be?

Municipal policing committees will enhance civilian governance of local policing by:

- Overseeing the administration of the municipality's police service agreement;
- Representing public interests and concerns to local RCMP leadership and collaborating with local detachments to plan yearly priorities and strategies for municipal policing and community safety; and
- Regularly reporting on the implementation of programs and services that support police service priorities.

What will the function of the regional police committees be?

Regional policing committees will help ensure Alberta's small rural communities have a voice in how they are policed.

- Regional committee's roles and responsibilities will be similar to their municipal counterparts, advocating for the priorities and concerns of smaller communities while also supporting integrated community safety planning for RCMP policed municipalities in the region.
- The boundaries of the four new regional policing committee zones correspond to Alberta's four RCMP districts, to ensure local policing priorities are accurately reflected in service delivery.

How many different civilian governance bodies will be established?

Four regional policing committees will be established to align with the four RCMP districts in Alberta.

The number of municipal policing committees will depend on whether individual communities decide to either participate in one of the four regional boards, form joint municipal policing committees with neighbouring communities, or form their own municipal policing committee. It is recognized that some communities already have a committee similar in nature to what is envisioned.



How will the civilian governance body for a community be determined?

Communities with a population over 15,000 that are policed by the RCMP will be required to establish municipal policing committees.

RCMP policed communities with a population between 5,000 and 15,000 will be represented by regional policing committees but can apply to opt out and form their own municipal policing committee.

Communities with a population under 5,000 that are served by the RCMP under the Provincial Police Service Agreement will be represented by the Provincial Police Advisory Board. The board will make recommendations on province-wide policing priorities and other aspects of RCMP service delivery.

What is the timeline for these governance bodies to be established?

The amendments and new regulations will come into force on March 1, 2025.

A transitional period, between November 2024 and February 2025, will allow municipalities to pass relevant bylaws and make other preparations for implementation.

This transition period also allows municipalities that already have civilian governance bodies time to adapt those bodies to the new statutory requirements.

What is the process for communities that want to opt out of a regional committee and establish their own municipal or joint policing committee?

Communities seeking to opt out of a regional committee in favour of establishing their own municipal committee (or a joint committee with another municipality) must have a formal process in place to do so, consistent with how other municipal committees are established and aligned with the *Police Act* and Police Governance Regulation.

- Municipalities will also need ministerial approval in order to opt out of a regional committee and/or form a joint municipal committee.
- Any municipality can be part of a joint municipal policing committee, as long as it meets the definition of municipality in the *Police Act*.

To initiate the process of obtaining ministerial approval, a municipality can contact the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services at [AlbertaPoliceGovernance@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AlbertaPoliceGovernance@gov.ab.ca).

What are the requirements for the composition of the municipal and regional policing committees?

Municipal policing committees will consist of between three and seven members, appointed by the municipality's council, for terms of two to three years. The municipality's chief elected officer is not eligible to be elected as chair or vice-chair of a municipal policing committee.

Regional policing committees will consist of at least one member appointed by each municipality represented for terms of two to three years.

- Regional policing committees can include additional members appointed by the municipalities with the agreement of all the municipalities in the region. Both municipal and regional policing committees may also include provincial members appointed by the minister.

Will committee positions be voluntary or paid?

Municipalities can choose whether to establish remuneration for their policing committee (municipal or regional) members through their respective bylaws.

Will the municipalities have to pay for the setup and administration of the governance bodies

Municipalities are responsible for the costs of establishing, administering, and sustaining membership of municipal and regional policing committees.

If a municipality cannot afford these costs, they have the option of utilizing a portion of their annual Police Support Grant, which allows funds to be used for governance and local police oversight.

Communities with populations between 5,000 and 15,000 may also take the opportunity to share costs related to RCMP governance by becoming part of a regional policing committee.

What is the role of the Provincial Police Advisory Board?

The Provincial Police Advisory Board will serve as an advisory body for about 275 small rural municipalities, such as municipal districts and counties, as well as eight Metis Settlements policed by the RCMP under the Provincial Police Service Agreement. The board will support the alignment of local and provincial priorities across the province.

The PPAB will be responsible for developing and maintaining communication between the Alberta RCMP, the provincial government, and the small and rural communities it represents.

The PPAB will help advance the interests of RCMP-policed communities by

- Advising and supporting collaboration between the RCMP, communities, and community agencies on integrated community safety planning;
- Representing the interests of communities served by the RCMP under a provincial police service agreement;
- Reporting annually on progress related to provincial police service priorities, provincial police service resourcing, and related initiatives; and
- Working with the RCMP and the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services to communicate with municipalities about provincial priorities, resourcing, and community specific challenges.

How will the government ensure alignment between provincial and municipal policing priorities?

Both municipal and regional policing committees are required to consider provincial policing priorities when setting local ones.

The Provincial Police Advisory Board will provide advice on behalf of small and rural communities policed by the RCMP, to support overall alignment of local and provincial policing priorities.

Who will pay administration costs associated with the Provincial Police Advisory Board?

Costs for the Provincial Police Advisory Board will be the responsibility of the province.

Can the government appoint provincial members to these policing committees or to the board?

Yes. The government is responsible for ensuring adequate and effective policing across the province, and provincial appointees help the government fulfill that obligation.

The Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Services appoints all members of the Provincial Police Advisory Board and can appoint a small number of members to municipal, joint municipal, or regional policing committees based on size.

Who can municipalities contact with questions about the new civilian governance bodies?

Municipalities can contact the Ministry of Public Safety and Emergency Services at [AlbertaPoliceGovernance@gov.ab.ca](mailto:AlbertaPoliceGovernance@gov.ab.ca) with questions and/or support in setting up these new governance bodies.

More information on RCMP civilian governance bodies can be found in the *Police Act* and in the Police Governance Regulations, found at Alberta King's Printer.