

	<p><b>OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE</b>  <b>SERVICE DE POLICE D'OTTAWA</b></p> <p><i>The Trusted Leader in Policing</i>  <i>Le chef de file de confiance dans la police</i></p>	<p><b>REPORT</b>  <b>RAPPORT</b></p>
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DATE: 23 February 2015

TO/DEST: Executive Director, Ottawa Police Services Board

FROM/EXP: Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service

SUBJECT/OBJET: **FEDERAL GRANT FOR UNIQUE POLICING COSTS**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Ottawa Police Services Board direct the Board Chair to send a letter and business case to the federal government requesting reimbursement of \$2 million per year for unique costs related to policing activities in the Nation's Capital, and that the Mayor be invited to co-sign the letter.**

### **BACKGROUND**

At its meeting of January 26, 2015, the Board considered and approved the following motion moved by Vice Chair Jim Durrell:

**WHEREAS it has been recognized in previous agreements between the City of Ottawa and the Federal Government that costs incurred by the Ottawa Police Service for policing responsibilities unique to the Nation's Capital should be reimbursed by the Federal Government; and**

**WHEREAS staff has identified that, in 2014, City of Ottawa taxpayers paid \$2 million for policing costs associated with federal events and activities in the City of Ottawa;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ottawa Police Services Board direct the Board Chair to prepare a business case and a letter for consideration at the February Board meeting, requesting that the Federal Government continue to provide annual funding to reimburse municipal policing costs associated with federal government activities and events.**

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Chair invite the Mayor of Ottawa to co-sign the letter.**

Staff have undertaken an analysis of the costs for providing additional public safety and security services over and above regular municipal policing services due to Ottawa's role as the Nation's Capital. That cost is estimated to be in the range of \$2 million annually.

This report responds to this motion by providing summary information from the business case for that claim and a draft of the letter that will be sent to the Federal Government, attached as Annex A.

## **DISCUSSION**

In 2009, the Federal Government recognized the need to provide financial compensation to the City of Ottawa to reimburse Ottawa taxpayers for unique policing costs associated with the National Capital Region. The reimbursement was paid to the City of Ottawa in the form of a \$10 million grant over a period of five years. The annual \$2 million grant was a key revenue in the OPS budget starting in 2009.

The Ottawa Police Service and the City of Ottawa are pursuing renewal of this grant beginning in 2015.

As the Nation's capital, Ottawa is a regular host to visiting Heads of State, foreign dignitaries, demonstrations and protests, large-scale special events such as Canada Day, and other embassy and politically-related events. Some key factors that have a large impact on policing resources are: international and national conferences, major events, labour disputes, the presence of national associations and businesses, federal infrastructure, state visits, the presence of VIPs, national landmarks (war museum, etc.), and the significant number of embassies (118) and the diplomatic community in the city.

A new threat environment, world events and other current trends require continued and increased planning, threat assessments, as well as additional operational responsibilities in Ottawa. These tasks and their costs are borne by the OPS and municipal taxpayers.

When considering remuneration amounts for this proposal, the OPS took into account the reciprocal agreement between the RCMP and OPS tactical units and a more recent agreement to reimburse the OPS for all Heads of State visits.

These costs are not included in this grant claim.

### **Additional Resources Required to Police the Nation's Capital**

For the years 2012 to 2014, an annual average of 700 events took place in Ottawa, half of which had permits registered. As well, each year 400 parades, marches, demonstrations and strikes occurred as a direct result of being in the Nation's Capital. Members from various units are required to be specifically trained and dedicated to provide policing services for national events. These units include:

- The Special Events Unit
- Full time Demonstration Team
- Traffic Escort Unit

- Emergency Services Unit (ESU) (Public Order Unit)
- Marine, Dive and Trails Unit
- OPS Tactical Unit
- Canine Unit.

Costs and responsibilities associated with federal responsibilities can vary by section. For example, in the case of the Emergency Services Unit public order function, approximately 90 percent of the time for demonstration and march call outs are attributable to the federal government. The cost of maintaining this Unit on an annual basis is approximately \$879,000.

About one-third of the Demonstration Unit's time is dedicated to federal related policing matters, which equates to \$477,000.

In addition, OPS patrol officers are called upon on a regular basis to assist RCMP officers at embassies, national museums, and other federal landmarks.

The figures shown only represent the cost of maintaining units, and not replacing these officers on shift when they are called away to deal with a demonstration or protest which may occur for days or even weeks at a time.

In total, the City of Ottawa's federal policing cost is about \$2 million. These costs are unique to Ottawa due to its physical location as the seat of the Government of Canada and its landmarks. No other City or municipal police service in Canada has these added duties and extraordinary costs. The City of Ottawa is not alone among capital cities in having secured and/or sought financial assistance to offset the extraordinary costs of policing a capital city in today's economic and social environment.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The financial analysis conducted by staff attributes \$2 million in costs to municipal taxpayers associated with unique policing costs in the National Capital Region.

A federal grant in the amount of \$2 million has been continued in the 2015 Draft Operating Budget. Since 2009, when the previous funding began, the federal grant for policing costs has become an important recovery item in the OPS budget.

The breakdown of direct and indirect costs is as follows:

Unit	Total Cost per Unit \$	Time Attributed to Federal Policing	Estimated 2014 Total Resource Costs \$
Demonstration / Beat Unit	1,591,000	30%	477,000
Marine, Dive & Trail Unit	1,143,000	20%	229,000
Emergency Services Unit			

(ESU)	879,000	90%	791,000
Special Events Planning Team	694,000	20%	139,000
National Capital Security Response Coordinator	499,000	20%	100,000
Total Direct Costs	4,806,000		1,736,000
Administrative Recovery (20%)			347,000
Grand Total			\$2,083,000

## CONCLUSION

Ottawa's unique role as the Nation's Capital includes unique policing costs related to federal properties and events.

In 2009, the Government of Canada affirmed the need to provide financial compensation to the City of Ottawa for these extraordinary policing costs. At that time, an agreement to provide \$10 million over a five-year period was finalized and expired at the end of the 2013 fiscal year.

This letter and business case requests that the Government of Canada renew its commitment, in the amount of \$2 million per annum. This is consistent with a recent analysis of the costs for providing these additional services.

*(Original signed by)*

Charles Bordeleau  
Chief of Police

Attach. (1) – Draft letter to Federal Government

Responsible for report: Director General Debra Frazer