

Ottawa Police Services Board
Agenda 46- Monday November 22, 2021
COMMUNICATION: *Email dated November 10, 2021 from Andrew Roy*

To whom it may concern,

I've followed the 2022 city of Ottawa budget news closely of late.

As a home owner and a concerned parent, I support and respect our police 100%. Despite the mostly negative press Ottawa Police gets, I can see that they're doing good work in the city. While they're well compensated, they have one of the most stressful and thankless jobs in the city. I can honestly say that they've been there when I needed them.

I'm a firm believer in the neighbourhood/community policing model. I've benefitted from it directly. In October of last year, I was the victim of a theft while on an evening walk. I reported the crime about an hour after it occurred. When I called dispatch, I was told that suspects were already apprehended. Shortly after, two officers came to my house to take a statement. They were very helpful. While the crime wasn't a violent one, it was obvious that I was in shock. They were compassionate. In the days following the incident, I met with detectives downtown. They kept me up to date on the investigation's progress. They answered every one of my nervous questions. They even retrieved the stolen items, things I already assumed as never coming back to me. I didn't care about the items at that point in time. I was in one piece. That was good enough.

My neighbourhood has a noticeable police presence. I'm told we have a neighbourhood resource team in our area. When I see them on patrol, I'm quick to make small talk with them. They've approached me, looking for help as well. I like that they're around. Other families I speak with agree.

I believe the criminal activity has gone down in the neighbourhood, due to the continued police presence. They're able to be proactive this way. It's gotten to the point, where I'm not worried about gun play. I know it will always be a threat, whether it's here or throughout the city. It no longer keeps me up at night.

I know my interactions with police will provide a good example for my kids. I want my kids to feel safe talking with police, whether it's to report an incident, or as a witness to an incident. I know that the current policing model will help accomplish this.

I support the police budget increase. I believe Chief Sloly and OPS are on the right track. In an era where my taxes go to man made disasters such as the LRT, I'm more confident that my taxes are being spent wisely at OPS.

Regards,

Andrew Roy

Ottawa