

From: Sabrina Gannon
Sent: November 22, 2021 12:29 PM
Subject: OPSB Budget - Written Public Delegation

To the Ottawa Police Services Board:

I'm writing in to express my desire as a community member that you vote no to this budget increase.

A year ago tens of members of your community spoke out against the budget for 2021, and in response the possibility of a freeze to following year's budget was introduced.

Now we're here a year later.

I know you were there last year, I know I don't need to tell you about that hours long meeting and the emotions that ran high.

I can't imagine how hard the work of being a board member is, however I do know that leadership means resetting expectations sometimes.

Other times it means keeping your word. Today's vote is an opportunity to rebuild trust and show that you're truly listening.

It will also provide a show of integrity on the board's part, since last year the idea of a budget freeze was put on the table to placate the delegates.

Voting no to an increase of 14 million dollars will also provide OPS with an opportunity to re-evaluate their role in the community without hampering their ability to do their job.

Less money means handing off responsibilities that we have all agreed they are not the most appropriate force to respond to (ie mental health emergencies) will be that much easier.

The frozen budget will incentivize the changes the community has been asking for this past year.

OPS has weathered a budget freeze in the past.

Additionally, as they were able to scale down their request for taser money to what they truly need to continue doing their job, I have no doubt that they will be able to reprioritize based on a budget without an increase.

Please vote no to the OPS budget increase.

Sabrina Gannon