

August 29, 2018

Commissioner Brenda Lucki
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
RCMP National Headquarters
73 Leikin Drive
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0R2

Re: Auxiliary Constable Uniforms

Dear Commissioner Lucki,

On behalf of the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM) and B.C. RCMP Local Government Contract Management Committee (LGCMC), we write to you today to express our reservations regarding the RCMP's proposed Auxiliary Constable uniform. It is our hope that you will introduce a new uniform that visually conveys the professionalism and authority held by Auxiliary Constables.

Local government concerns are consistent with those expressed by the Province of British Columbia (see attachment). These concerns relate to the use of the word "volunteer," which we believe fails to reflect the importance of the position of Auxiliary Constable. A uniform that projects a sense of professionalism to the public is highly beneficial, especially as it relates to some of the security duties (e.g. managing large-scale public events) that Auxiliary Constables often perform.

LGCMC members have also reported a large number of Auxiliary Constables leaving the RCMP, beginning in 2016 when a series of changes limiting the scope of the Auxiliary Program were introduced. Adopting a uniform that conveys a professional image may help to reverse the trend, and bring Auxiliaries back to the RCMP.


With many local governments having lost Auxiliary Constables, UBCM and the LGCMC seek an immediate solution. We would be pleased to meet with you at a time of your convenience to discuss this issue in greater detail. Bhar Sihota, UBCM Policy Analyst, may be reached at bsihota@ubcm.ca or (604) 270-8226 Ext. 114 to arrange a meeting.

We look forward to your response.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Hayne", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Councillor Bruce Hayne
Co-Chair, LGCMC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wendy Booth", enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Director Wendy Booth
President, UBCM

cc: *Clayton J.D. Pecknold, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services,
Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General*

Brenda Butterworth-Carr, Commanding Officer, RCMP 'E' Division

Kevin Brosseau, Deputy Commissioner, Contract and Aboriginal Policing, RCMP



June 13, 2018
Ref: 544615

Deputy Commissioner Brenda Butterworth-Carr
Commanding Officer, RCMP "E" Division
Mailstop 308
14200 Green Timbers Way
Surrey BC V3T 6P3

Dear Deputy Commissioner Butterworth-Carr:

I am writing with regard to the future of the Auxiliary Constable Program in British Columbia.

I appreciate the work that has gone into developing the new Program and that its roll-out in British Columbia is much anticipated. I can also appreciate that the safety of Auxiliary Constables is paramount. However, there are still aspects of the new Program that are not acceptable to the Ministry, including the uniform proposals. British Columbia will have a uniformed Auxiliary Constable Program. Auxiliaries in British Columbia will continue to be appointed as Auxiliary Constables under the *Police Act* and the uniform they wear should portray the status they hold. While we have expressed our dissatisfaction with the use of "Volunteer" being so predominantly displayed on the uniform, the modifications to add "Auxiliary" identifiers fell short. As well, the requirement to wear a high visibility vest or yellow patrol jacket with large "Volunteer" wording does not, in our view, portray a professional image. As such, we do not support the uniform specifications proposed by NHQ.

I want to also reiterate that the Ministry does not support a Tier 1 uniform for Auxiliary Constables in British Columbia, nor would we pay for the Tier 1 uniform. It is expected that any Tier 1 duties would be done in uniform under the appropriate supervision.

Until the uniform is addressed, we are not in a position to respond to other outstanding issues, such as who will pay for the revised uniform. We are currently reviewing the new National Insurance Standards and will respond to that in the near future.

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Deputy Commissioner Butterworth-Carr
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We look forward to resolving these outstanding issues and re-building the Auxiliary Program in British Columbia.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clayton J.D. Pecknold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Clayton J.D. Pecknold
Assistant Deputy Minister
and Director of Police Services
Policing and Security Branch