

BRITISH
COLUMBIA

August 9, 2019

Arjun Singh, President, UBCM
Craig Hodge, Co-Chair, LGCMC
60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond BC V6X 2W9

Dear Arjun Singh and Craig Hodge:

Thank you for your July 17, 2019 letter regarding the Auxiliary Constable Program.

As you know, my ministry has held the same position as UBCM that the prominent use of “volunteer” on the proposed uniform does not convey the professionalism and authority held by Auxiliary Constables. As the RCMP has now confirmed that the proposed uniform will not be changed, the ministry is considering our options moving forward, including UBCM’s resolution that the Province further research and analyze the possibility of implementing a provincial Auxiliary Program for RCMP-policed jurisdictions, as requested in Arjun Singh’s April 8, 2019 letter.

It is important to note, that if we were to develop a new provincial program an amendment to the *Police Act* would be required. We anticipate that such a project could take upwards of two years to complete. I expect that Ministry staff will have more information in the coming months and that further discussion with UBCM and LGCMC will take place at that time.

I appreciate your continued support of the valuable volunteer commitment of our Auxiliary Constables.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Farnworth".

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General

pc: Commissioner Brenda Lucki
Deputy Commissioner Jennifer Strachan