Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P8

JAN 17 2018

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Wendy Booth UBCM President Suite 60-10551 Shelibridge Way Richmond, British Columbia V6X 2W9

Dear Wendy Booth:

Thank you for your correspondence of October 31, 2017, concerning former Bill C-7 and the RCMP's right to collective bargaining and the potential impacts this may have on municipalities.

The legislation took into account the views of RCMP members, as expressed through consultations during the summer of 2015, as well as those of provinces and territories which have contractual arrangements with the RCMP for the provision of policing services. The legislation is also consistent with the labour legislation that applies to all other federal employees, while reflecting the vital, varied and unique functions of the RCMP as Canada's national police force.

Through a federal/provincial/territorial Contract Management Committee, officials from Public Safety Canada will continue to engage with provinces, territories and municipalities, which use the RCMP's contract police services, on issues of mutual concern, including costs.

Unfortunately, my schedule does not permit me to accept your kind invitation for a meeting on this matter.

Thank you again for writing. I am proud of all the brave women and men of the RCMP who tirelessly serve for the protection and betterment of their communities. I will do everything I possibly can to support them.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.P.

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