



August 24, 2020
Ref: 574455

Maja Tait
UBCM President
c/o Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director
Union of BC Municipalities
60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond BC V6X 2W9

Dear Maja Tait:

I am writing to provide an update on the newly established Surrey Police Board and the City of Surrey's ongoing policing model transition. As this process continues, I wanted to connect to provide an update, as well as an opportunity to identify any thoughts or concerns you may have.

As you are aware, municipal police boards are created independently from municipal councils and from the provincial government. The role of a municipal police board is to establish a municipal police department for the provision of policing and law enforcement, as well as to set the goals, priorities, and objectives for the department in accordance with relevant legislation and in response to community needs. As set out in the *BC Police Act*, the Board will be the employer for all Surrey Police Service staff and will be responsible to provide financial oversight, establish department policies and direction, and manage service and policy complaints.

It is my statutory responsibility as the Director of Police Services to superintend policing in British Columbia. As such, I will continue to oversee the transition process, as well as once the new police department becomes operational. In support of this transition, the Province has also established the Policing Model Transition Secretariat (the Secretariat) to provide leadership and work collaboratively with the City of Surrey and the RCMP. The Secretariat will work with the Board to review its plans, policies and procedures to ensure all provincial requirements are met and that they comply with all respective legislation, standards and policies.

Public safety remains the number one priority and will continue to be the core driving principal that will guide future decisions and timelines. As a stakeholder related to public safety, your thoughts, insights and contributions are valued.

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As the Secretariat will continue to provide support throughout this policing model transition, you may wish to connect with Gayle Armstrong, Executive Director, Policing Model Transition Secretariat at Gayle.Armstrong@gov.bc.ca. You are also encouraged to engage directly with the Surrey Police Board at info@surreypoliceboard.ca.

Take Care,



Brenda Butterworth-Carr; Tr'injà shär njit dintlät
Assistant Deputy Minister
And Director of Police Services
Policing and Security Branch