



## REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Mayor & Members of Council

Title: Chief Financial Officer – 2025-2026 RCMP Funding (2026 Budget)

Date: June 23, 2025

---

### Motion for Consideration:

THAT: the City of Salmon Arm approve, in principle, the April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, budget of \$6,348,294 under the Municipal Policing Contract of which the City is responsible for 90% thereof;

AND THAT: the City of Salmon Arm approve, in principle, the April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027, budget of \$207,300 for guards and matrons.

### Background:

The City has received the RCMP Multi Year Financial Plan (MYFP) for 2026/2027 to 2030/2031 and must provide a letter of 'approval in principle' regarding the **2026/2027** budget as required by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General.

This 'letter of approval in principle' does not mean that Council endorses the budget set for the City of Salmon Arm (City), but rather, it is a budget allocation/planning tool used by the Federal Treasury Board. The Federal Treasury Board must have this letter in order to set aside sufficient financial resources to fund their share of the Municipal RCMP Contract costs.

The forecast presented for approval in principle is based on a contract strength of 21 members. Historical actual average FTE is approximately 17.3 members.

### Legislative authority / plans / reports:

	Official Community Plan		Master Plan (list actual plan)
	Community Charter/LGA	X	Municipal Police Service Agreement
	Bylaw/Policy		Corporate Strategic Plan
	Zoning Bylaw	X	2025-2029 Financial Plan
		X	Long Term Financial Plan

## **Financial Considerations:**

The five (5) year forecast represents an increase in costs in each year as compared to the last five (5) year forecast received by the City. The 2026/2027 budget contains an increase of ~\$349,500 or 5.6% which is primarily attributed to increases associated with (amounts are approximate and at 100%):

- Wages – \$111,200 (incl. pay increases of 3.5%);
- Pensions - \$19,800;
- Divisional Administration (Core Administration, Payments in Lieu of Leave, Health Services & Special Leaves) - \$51,200;
- Other Indirect Costs (incl. body worn cameras) - \$53,700; and
- Machinery & Equipment (incl. tasers, extended range impact weapon & pistol modernization) - \$114,900.

In addition, the RCMP vehicles replacement estimate has increased \$84,000 to total \$234,000. The City allocates funding to a Police Vehicle Replacement Reserve Fund annually and budgets for these replacements separately under capital expenditures.

The MYFP also outlines the annual Earned Retirement Benefit payment of \$23,073 as approved by Council in 2020 and the Green Timbers Accommodation payment of \$12,840 as per Provincial settlement agreements.

It also includes a budget estimate of \$207,300 for 2026/2027 for Guards/Matrons (Prisoner Costs or Corps of Commissionaires). Guards/Matrons are responsible for the monitoring and well-being of prisoners while in the care of the Police. The City is billed according to the MYFP for prisoner costs (based on actual prior year costs of Provincial, Federal and municipal prisoners). However, the City is only responsible for municipal prisoners and receives reimbursement from the Province for those that are Federal and Provincial and therefore the actual costs to the City are less.

None of the above noted payments are included in the 2026/2027 budget of \$6,348,294 (a \$386,717 or 6.5% increase) as they are payments for which the City is 100% responsible. They are, however, included as separate items and included in the 2025 budget.

The forecasted impact on the City's 2026 budget equates to a ~1.4% increase in taxes based on the tax base of 2025. Future years, 2027 through 2031, reflect approximate tax increases of 0.8%, 0.8%, 1.0% and 1.00% respectively. Note these increases do not reflect any budget reductions made by the City for vacancies or transfers from the RCMP Operating Reserve.

## **Alternatives & Implications:**

If the 'letter of approval in principle' is not received, services could be reduced to our community due to a shortfall in funding from the Federal level to the Provincial level. It is therefore recommended that Council approve in principle the 2026/2027 policing budget of \$6,348,294 and guards/matrons budget of \$207,300.

**Communication:**

Should Council support the 2026/2027 budget in principle, the City will provide a response letter to Insp. Erica Moir, Government Liaison Officer BC RCMP Operations Strategy Branch, Mr. Glen Lewis, Assistant Deputy Minister and Director of Police Services and Law Enforcement Services Policing and Security Branch Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, and Staff Sgt. Simon Scott, Detachment Commander.

Prepared by: Chief Financial Officer  
Approved by: Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachments:**

- RCMP Financial Budget Comparative for 2025/26 to 2026/27