



Corporation of the Town of Deep River

DeepRiver.ca

613-584-2000



Future of Policing in Deep River

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

In 2012, the previous Deep River Council directed staff to formally request a costing from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) for the provision of policing services for the Town of Deep River.

A costing was not provided at that time due to a moratorium and review of the billing process for municipal policing services undertaken by the OPP.

This Council's Strategic Plan, adopted in 2015, reflects the mandate given by residents to take a fiscally sound approach in planning for a sustainable future for Deep River.

As such, in the Spring of 2015, Council once again formally requested a costing from the Ontario Provincial Police which we received in January 2017.

We are now engaging in a process of further analyzing data and seeking input from residents.

We are following a similar consultation process as was undertaken with residents about the Fire Service last year at this time.

Our mandate will always be to ensure quality service is maintained for the present and future.

Option 1: Maintain the Deep River Police Service

The Deep River Police Service (DRPS) has been serving Deep River since the Town's inception in 1957.

In 2017, the staff complement for the Deep River Police Service includes nine uniform members, one civilian member, a casual civilian member and five special constables.

Dispatch service for DRPS, which also handles 911 calls is contracted through the Belleville Police Service.

The Deep River Police Service provides services within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Town of Deep River, which includes the town proper and Canadian Nuclear Laboratories.

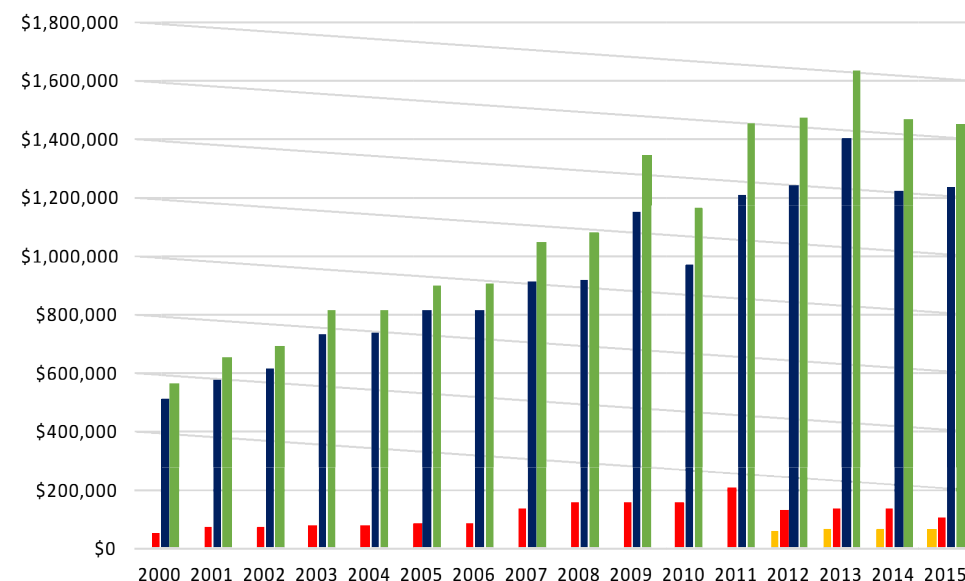
Along with handling criminal occurrences, Deep River Police also provide a number of ancillary services including foot patrol, vacant house checks, criminal background checks, fingerprinting, and commercial property checks.

Policing costs in the Town of Deep River have increased by \$833,052; from \$566,527 in 2000 to \$1,449,579 in 2015 - almost tripling in 15 years.

This is directly attributable to the ongoing increase in labour costs, equipment, dispatch and changing regulation.

With a residential tax base that remains largely unchanged over the past 15 years, the rising costs of our police service necessitates a financial review as part of our responsibility to address resident safety and sound financial management.

Town of Deep River Police Service Costs 2000-2015



Option 2: Negotiate municipal policing contract with the OPP

The OPP has a provincial mandate to police provincial highways and waterways, provide criminal investigative services and tactical response among many other specialty services.

However, the local OPP still reports to, and is accountable to the local Police Service Board the same as our Deep River Police.

Future for DRPS Staff

The OPP have indicated that all of our staff, both uniform and civilian, would transfer to the OPP.

DRPS personnel would receive the benefits, including the improvements to their coverage provided by the OPP.

Current employee pension funds held by the Ontario Municipal Employee Retirement System (OMERS) would be transferred to the Ontario Pension Plan.

Costing Highlights of the OPP Proposal

To establish a baseline for the Town of Deep River, the OPP has provided a costing proposal with specific hard costs for the first three years.

This is a set cost of \$1,605,837 for each of the first 3 years, plus one-time startup costs of \$218,015 as part of the transition expense. This will include such items as equipment, and vehicles.

In the fourth year, the annual costs invoiced to the Town of Deep River would transition to the Provincial Billing Model.

It is anticipated that after the three years for assessment of need, and transitioning existing staff, annual savings would begin to be realized during or immediately following the fourth year.

Coverage Hours

For the first three years, the OPP will be providing 34 person-hours of police patrol, per day, within the Town of Deep River.

This will be provided on a daily basis as all of our staff and officers are amalgamated into the OPP.

Following the three-year phase in period, hours of patrol would be reviewed and reported based upon:

- Calls for Service
- Consultation with the Town on preferred service levels; and the provision of Adequate and Effective policing in accordance with the Police Services Act.

Quality of Service

In 2015, OPP Dispatch/Communications Centres received calls for service of which 97.7% were answered within 12 seconds.

The OPP's 2016 Provincial Satisfaction Survey results are available on the OPP Website at: www.opp.ca.