The Future of Policing in Deep River

Residents of Deep River,

In the last election you mandated Council to tackle the difficult issues and make decisions that will ensure Deep River continues to thrive.

You told us during the last election that you wanted financially sound planning so we could all look forward to a healthy and vibrant future for our unique and diverse community.

As part of the process to make those difficult decisions, we have also committed to providing you, our residents, with critical information so that you could be part of the decision making process.

This is our community and it is through our efforts, together, that we will make the right decision on policing in Deep River, which will include an assessment of our needs and financial challenges for today and for the future.

At the core of our work on this decision is the value we place on the safety and security for everyone, especially our vulnerable sectors, which includes seniors, those dealing with physical and mental illness and our youth.

It is also important that you have all of the information we have gathered to better understand the facts and the issues that are of concern to your Council.

We need to move forward with a police service model that reflects what the community both needs and can afford today, tomorrow and well into the future.

To help our community move forward in a positive and collaborative way, we are asking you to review the information provided.

The information package provides details on the information gathered to date as it relates to statistics, the OPP proposal and cost projections. You are also being asked to provide your feedback through a short survey.

Similar to the 2014 municipal election and the fire service survey last spring, we will be working with "Simply Voting" to conduct this survey.

We look forward to receiving your valued feedback and to working together as a community to identify a solution that will address both resident safety and sound financial management.

Sincerely,

Mayor Joan Lougheed

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IMPORTANT

It is essential to stress that regardless of the direction our community and ultimately Council chooses to go, the quality of service and excellence in policing will always be our mandate and prime consideration for our residents and businesses.

When a person phones 9-1-1, that call will be met with a timely and appropriate response.

Service will reflect the expectations of our community and Council, and there will be continued oversight of the local Police Services Board.

Overview

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.

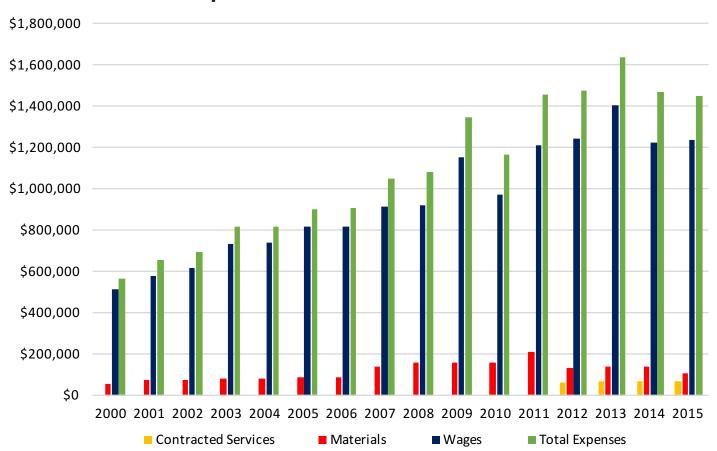
This is directly attributable to the ongoing increase in labour costs, equipment, dispatch and changing regulation.

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.

Deep River Police Service Specific Criminal Occurrence Category Comparison

Offence	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Sex	0	0	0	6	7	0	1	2	1
Break and Enter	5	6	10	8	5	3	3	3	4
Assault	15	13	12	18	7	12	16	8	6
Thefts	77	53	69	51	32	42	21	22	23
Mischiefs	40	41	35	44	31	46	10	13	11
Crim. Traffic	1	3	1	5	5	3	2	2	0
Impaired	4	2	4	7	8	6	4	3	2
Drugs	16	11	11	9	17	42	10	17	2

Town of Deep River Police Service Costs 2000-2015



Please see the Deep River Police Service 2015 Annual Report available online at: http://www.deepriver.ca/departments/police-department/



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.

The 2016 Provincial Satisfaction Survey shows that:

- ✓ 98.6% of respondents felt 'very safe' or 'safe' in their community.
- ✓ 95.9% of respondents were 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with the OPP's response time to violent crimes.
- ✓ 91.3% of respondents were 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with the OPP's sensitivity towards victims of violent crime.

Conclusion

By the fourth year of the OPP proposal it is acknowledged that some of the estimated cost savings are achieved through economy of scale.

Analysis of Data Comparing Deep River Police Service and OPP Service

Projected Cost of Policing in Deep River 2015-2035

Year	DRPS	OPP	OPP	
		Lower Cost	Higher Cost	
2018	\$1,583,994	\$1,823,852	\$1,823,852	
2019	\$1,631,514	\$1,605,837	\$1,605,837	
2020	\$1,680,459	\$1,605,837	\$1,605,837	
2021	\$1,730,873	\$667,840	\$792,330	
Break Even	\$6,626,841	\$5,703,366	\$5,827,856	
2022	\$1,782,799	\$687,875	\$816,099	
2023	\$1,836,283	\$708,511	\$840,582	
2024	\$1,891,372	\$729,767	\$865,800	
2025	\$1,948,113	\$751,660	\$891,774	
2026	\$2,006,556	\$774,210	\$918,527	
2027	\$2,066,753	\$797,436	\$946,083	
Sub Total	\$18,158,717	\$10,152,825	\$11,106,721	
10 Year Savings	\$0.00	\$8,005,893	\$7,051,996	
2028	\$2,128,756	\$821,359	\$974,465	
2029	\$2,192,618	\$846,000	\$1,003,699	
2030	\$2,258,397	\$871,380	\$1,033,810	
2031	\$2,326,149	\$897,521	\$1,064,825	
2032	\$2,395,933	\$924,447	\$1,096,769	
2033	\$2,467,811	\$952,180	\$1,129,672	
2034	\$2,541,846	\$980,746	\$1,163,563	
2035	\$2,618,101	\$1,010,168	\$1,198,470	
Total Costs 2035	\$37,088,328	\$17,456,625	\$19,771,995	
18 Year Savings	\$0.00	\$19,631,703	\$17,316,333	

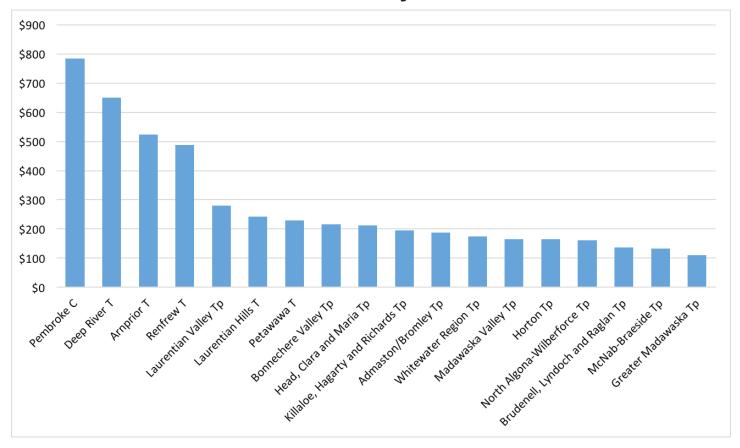
- 2015 Deep River Police Service actual net cost used to calculate projections based upon 3% annual cost increases.
- First three years of OPP costs are fixed and set out in the contract.
- Future OPP costs are not fixed and therefore cannot be guaranteed. Based upon the current billing model used by the OPP, the Town's annual cost would likely fall somewhere between the calculated lower and higher OPP cost.
- Discussions on opening a Community Policing Office within the Town of Deep River would commence.
- Net costs savings to the Town would be seen by 2021 (year 4 of the OPP contract) based upon the current OPP billing model.

Note: The projected Policing Costs in the preceding Table were calculated using actual values from financial statements for the DRPS. OPP costs were calculated using policing costs for the Town of Perth and the average OPP costs for all municipalities in Ontario.

The town of Perth was selected as a comparator due to its similarities in population, households, location on a major highway and a similar business sector. A detailed example of the calculation may be found at: http://www.deepriver.ca/userfiles/file/2017-CAO-003%20-%20Ontario%20Provincial%20 Police%20Costing%20Analysis.%281%29.pdf on page 10 and 11.

These calculations show the process used to establish an estimated range for the projected OPP Costs. All projected years include a 3% annual adjustment.

Average Police Department Costs per Household in Renfrew County 2005-2015



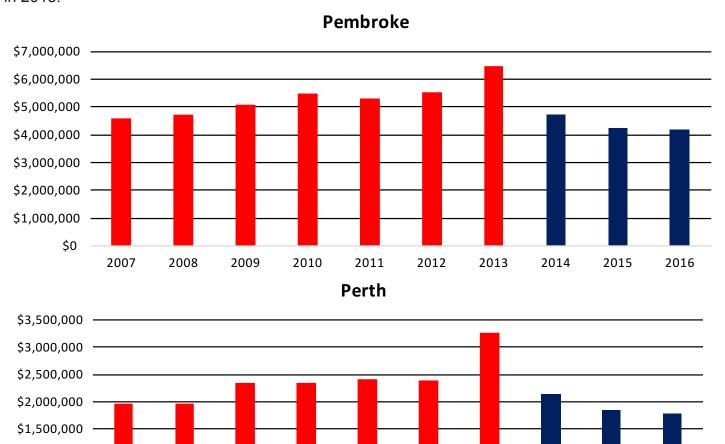
Renfrew County OPP Policing Costs per Property 2015-2017

Municipality	2015	2016	2017
Pembroke, City	\$ 615	\$ 601	\$ 596
Renfrew, Town	\$ 457	\$ 456	\$ 450
Arnprior, Town	\$ 411	\$ 396	\$ 399
Petawawa, Town	\$ 342	\$ 332	\$ 332
Laurentian Valley, Township	\$ 326	\$ 320	\$ 322
Horton, Township	\$ 310	\$ 301	\$ 306
Laurentian Hills, Town	\$ 289	\$ 286	\$ 285
McNab/Braeside, Township	\$ 285	\$ 282	\$ 282
Greater Madawaska, Township	\$ 266	\$ 254	\$ 254
Head, Clara and Maria, Township	\$ 264	\$ 254	\$ 252
**Deep River (DRPS)	\$743	\$757	\$773

^{**}Costs for Deep River are for DRPS, not OPP

Note: The Data was taken directly from MIDAs (Municipal Information Data System) to calculate the Renfrew County Police Department Costs shown above. The Renfrew County OPP Policing Costs were provided by the OPP

The charts below provide the data analysis of two municipalities that have contracted OPP starting in 2013.

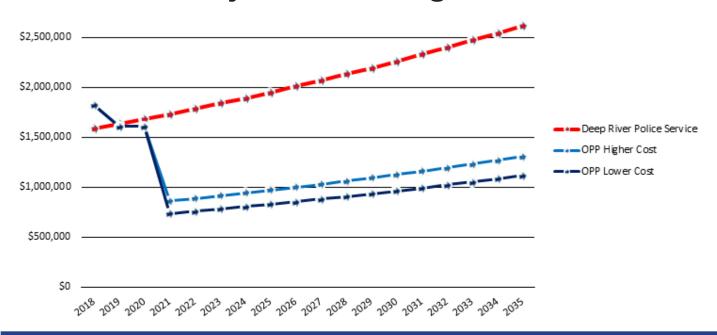


Projected Policing Costs

\$1,000,000 ·

\$500,000

\$0



Summary

Policing and public safety are an important issue for this community.

Regardless of the model of policing that is selected, it must meet our community's needs and there will continue to be policing in accordance with requirements under the Police Services Act.

We are committed to including residents as we identify the way to address both community safety and sound fiscal management.

Council is seeking your input and feedback on the future of policing in Deep River.

Similar to the last municipal election and the Fire Survey conducted last year, we will be working with Simply Voting to conduct the survey and present us with the results. Should you require any assistance completing your survey, the Town of Deep River is there to help you at (613) 584-2000.

Following the closing of the consultation period at 8 p.m. on June 28th, 2017 the survey results will be received publicly in Council Chambers.

For additional information and background reports, please visit the Town of Deep River website at **www.deepriver.ca**.

Council respectfully asks that you take the time to review all of the materials, contact Town Hall with any questions and complete the survey, selecting your preferred option.

Council appreciates and values your time and input on this very important issue.

Process and Next Steps

As your elected Council, we are committed to providing an open and transparent process for determining our police service provider.

It is vital that we provide the data and facts you need to make an informed decision.

In addition to receiving a newsletter and survey package, residents and business owners will see frequent public communication in the North Renfrew Times as well as on our Deep River Facebook page.

A webpage has been created on the Deep River Municipal website where information is also available.

By going to <u>www.deepriver.ca</u> visitors will find a Question and Answer section, where common questions received from the public will be addressed, as well as the OPP presentation from January 19, 2017 and subsequent staff report and

Power Point presentation from March 1st, 2017.

An electronic survey will be conducted by Simply Voting from June 21st to 28th, 2017. Instructions for participating are included in your survey package.

We will be holding a Special Council meeting following the close of the survey on Wednesday, June 28th, 2017 to receive and announce the results of the survey.

It is expected that a report will be brought to Council in July, containing all of the comments received from the public by email or submitted in writing as well as the survey results. The date and time are still to be confirmed.

Should the OPP service model be recommended and supported by Council, the Ontario Civilian Police Commission (OCPC) would then conduct a hearing to consider the police service amalgamation.

Questions & Comments

For more information regarding Policing in the Town of Deep River, reports, background information and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit us online at:

www.deepriver.ca

If you have questions or comments regarding Policing in the Town of Deep River, or the survey please email:

townmail@deepriver.ca

or contact Mayor Joan Lougheed at (613) 584-2000 Extension 130 email: <u>jlougheed@deepriver.ca</u> or contact a member of Council.

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