

OPP Responses to Questions from the Town of Deep River (February 6, 2017)

1. If 1 or more of the 9 Deep River FTE's were to retire or transfer within the first three years, will that FTE come off the bill for Deep River?

A) No. The service level (number of contracted uniform and civilian FTE's) would remain the same and the municipality would continue to receive the hours of service that are contracted i.e.) 1417 hours per uniform FTE, per year. The contractual hours are separate and apart from any individual member. The hours are met through the integrated service delivery of all members of the Upper Ottawa Valley Detachment.

2. Will there be a heightened presence of policing within Deep River with OPP Policing?

A) The OPP will provide the Town of Deep River with 1,417 hours of service per contracted uniform FTE per year. This would equate to approximately 13,093.08 hours of service over the year. This level of service will be provided regardless of members being away due to sick leave, vacation, parental leave etcetera. The OPP does not know what level of service the Deep River Police Service (DRPS) currently provides to the Town of Deep River; therefore, it remains the responsibility/opinion of the Town of Deep River and its citizens to determine whether or not the OPP are providing a heightened level of police service over the DRPS.

3. What will the cost be for Deep River after three years?

A) The question of future policing costs is understandably an important one. Similar to other emergency service providers such as municipal police, professional firefighters and ambulance services, we cannot provide you with a definite cost given that there are variables beyond our control that impact on those costs. Some of these variables include new legislation, negotiated or arbitrated contract awards, operationally necessary overtime or the annual number of calls for service to name a few. We can confirm however, that based on historical cost trends, the cost of OPP service has been very stable. We are continually assessing operations, analyzing crime trends and leveraging technology to become more efficient and cost effective while maintaining the safety of our members and the communities we serve (323 of 444 municipalities in Ontario). In fact, since implementing the OPP billing model on Jan. 1, 2015, the Base Services per property costs have decreased from \$200.51 to \$191.84. The overall average cost per property for OPP policed municipalities has decreased from \$357 in 2015 to \$355 in 2017. Projections as to future costs can be estimated using OPP historical costs as well as comparisons to like-sized OPP policed jurisdictions.

For further details, please review our public website (Related Topics and Questions) at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

4. What will the level of service be for policing in the Town of Deep River under the OPP?

A) Please see response to question 2 above.

5. Will the Town of Deep River receive routine foot patrol, marine, ATV and snowmobile patrol and if so, how often?

A) The Town of Deep River Police Services Board will meet regularly with the Detachment Commander to discuss the delivery of services to the municipality including foot patrol if required. The Upper Ottawa Valley (UOV) Detachment already provides marine, ATV and snowmobile patrol to the surrounding area and as such these types of patrols would continue and include the Town of Deep River. The UOV Detachment provides foot patrol to its municipalities such as the Town of Petawawa and the City of Pembroke all year long as well as Focused and Directed Foot Patrols to areas identified as requiring Foot patrol to address issues with Youth, Mischief and Community Relations. These strategies would also be provided to the Town of Deep River.

6. If the Town had a need for additional services such as special events, foot, marine, ATV, snowmobile, etc. could we purchase that service at an additional cost?

A) Yes. Should the Town of Deep River wish additional services, those services could be added through officers working overtime or via paid duty. There is also the potential opportunity for the Town of Deep River to receive additional OPP operational support (depending on availability) for marine, ATV and snowmobile patrols free of charge from our Provincial Highway Safety Division Units which include the S.A.V.E. Team and Regional Traffic Units. The UOV Detachment will also utilize East Region Resource's such as the Provincial Liaison Team (PLT) etc. to support special events as needed. The UOV Detachment Commander currently works closely with his Municipalities and CAO's to ensure that special events are supported and led by the Municipality.

7. If additional services were required for a drowning incident, helicopter services or any other requirement, will there be an additional cost?

A) If additional specialized support services were required to respond/investigate a serious incident that took place within the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River, there would be no additional cost for those services. The municipality would be responsible to pay any overtime incurred by a member that was operationally involved in the incident.

8. Will there be any additional costs for anything?

A) The costs in the proposal are estimates and there will be reconciliations for applicable benefit/salary rate changes, overtime, shift premium rates and statutory holiday pay rates. The formula will also be updated on an annual basis.

9. If a resident is on vacation and alerts the OPP to their absence, will the OPP place that property on a property check list?

A) The Detachment Commander will provide services that are operationally feasible as advised by the Deep River Police Services Board. If this practice was followed by the DRPS then it could be discussed as a local priority and objective between the Deep River Police Services board and the Detachment Commander. The UOV Detachment does in fact already provide this service. Residents do notify OPP when they are away or need a property checked; an occurrence is generated and patrols are made as required as long as there is not a major emergency ongoing that requires resources.

10. What assurances does the Town have that OPP costs will not escalate in the future?

A) Please see answer 3 above.

11. Rumours suggest that if the OPP is responding to a call in Laurentian Hills, when they travel through the Town of Deep River, they would count that as patrolling the Town of Deep River. Is that correct?

A) No. A call for service would have an area and location associated to it. All activity related to that call including travel time would be associated to that area and location specifically.

12. The Town generates a substantial revenue from Police Record Checks. Will this revenue continue to be credited to the Town's Policing Costs?

A) Revenue collected for criminal records checks are credited to the Town of Deep River. If you are referring to "third party" criminal checks, they will not be processed by the OPP.

13. The Deep River Police Service has an agreement with Canadian Nuclear Laboratories to provide services to the Laboratory site. Would this agreement be assumed by the OPP?

A) We have not yet received a copy of the agreement for review.

14. Based upon your professional experience and assuming the number of calls for service remains static, what do you estimate the cost for policing the Town of Deep River to be after 3 years?

A) Please see answer 3 above.

15. How many properties does the OPP recognize in Deep River to multiply by the base cost and the number of calls for service to estimate the total cost for policing services after 3 years?

A) Should the Town of Deep River decide to enter into a contract with the OPP for policing services this year, they would be required to enter into a transition contract based on FTE's. Following 3 years of the transition contract, the Town of Deep River would then transition to the OPP billing model which is based on property counts and calls for service (circa Jan. 1, 2021). The OPP receives the property

count data from the Municipal Property Assessment Corporation (MPAC). We suggest you contact your municipality or MPAC for your current property count used by the OPP as this data will fluctuate. More information on how the OPP Billing model is calculated can be obtained from our public website at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

16. The first question I have is when does our Current Police force get to make a presentation to the public about the benefits and costs of having a municipal force?

A) This is a matter to be discussed with the DRPS and the Town of Deep River.

17. MUNICIPAL RESPONSE FOR QUESTION 16 - The Deep River Police Service will not be making a presentation relating to benefits and costs. The cost information for the current police service is well documented in the financial statements of the Town of Deep River.

18. The OPP cited that they currently cover 343 municipalities, I would like to know how many of them are recently converted from their own force, (say the last 6 years) as it takes a 3 year transition period, as well as what have the budget savings been from those municipalities.

A) The OPP polices 323 of 444 municipalities in Ontario and has not amalgamated any municipality under this new process; as per your question, the following is a list of our last seven amalgamation processes. We encourage municipalities to contact other municipalities that have gone through this process to ensure that they have the required information with which to make an informed decision about policing in their community. For further information about OPP costs, please see our public website at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

- (i) Pembroke P.S. amalgamated 2013
- (ii) Perth P.S. amalgamated 2013
- (iii) Michipicoten Township P.S. (Wawa) amalgamated 2011
- (iv) Leamington P.S. amalgamated 2010
- (v) Kenora P.S. amalgamated 2009
- (vi) Essex P.S. amalgamated 2009
- (vii) New Liskeard P.S. 2007

19. And are they happy with the decision?

A) This is a question that would require the Mayor, Council and citizens of those municipalities to answer however, the OPP does conduct regular Community Satisfaction Surveys throughout the areas which the OPP polices and continually receives a high level of satisfaction from respondents.

20. Are any of them small town departments? If so how has it affected response times?

A) The OPP has amalgamated police services that were similar in size to the DRPS, some smaller and some larger. The OPP does not track response times because of the variability of those response times. Should the DRPS amalgamate with the OPP, there should not be any negative impact on response times; in fact, because of the Integrated Detachment Model being used and as such larger pool of members to respond to occurrences, response times may improve. As well, OPP officers are out in their cruisers equipped with Mobile Workstations. The Provincial Communications Centre monitors where every cruiser is through fleet tracker and can dispatch the closest available cruiser to the call.

21. What were the initial estimates given to those places to convert vs. actual costs as at the meeting the OPP did not give a solid number but an estimate to refurbish and refinish?

A) We suggest that you contact the municipality directly to confirm those estimates/costs. Another suggestion would be to verify costs by reviewing the Financial Information Return (FIR) for each municipality online. The Financial Information Return (FIR) is a standard set of year-end reports which capture financial and statistical information for each Municipality in the Province. Every Municipality in the Province will complete and submit a Financial Information Return to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing each year.

22. Why do we need to pay for improvements to our Office in the first place?

A) The DRPS offices will not be required or used should the municipality contract the OPP to police the Town of Deep River. The UOV Detachment office will however require some modifications to accommodate the members of the DRPS that will be hired as a result of the amalgamation should it take place.

23. For round numbers the OPP transition Period will cost 1.8 million annually. Our current force is in the 1.6 million range. So it will actually cost us at least \$200,000 more annually to switch for a minimum of 3 years. To have based on the OPP numbers 35 hours week coverage in our town. With the officers based out of Petawawa. So the savings must happen in year 4 right. I would like to know what the OPP costing for Deep River is going to be in the 4th, 5th and 6th year if they get the contract. No at the meeting they did state that they could not guess at those costs as they have no idea what salaries would be at that point. So I ask what would that cost is using today's salaries and figures? Will we save the \$600,000 we spent to switch because I can think of a lot of municipal projects that could benefit from that amount of money?

A) After 3 years the Town of Deep River will transition to the current OPP billing model which is based on property counts and calls for service costs. As such, the FTE billing used in the transition contract will no longer be used. We suggest that you review answer 3 above for more details on how to estimate future costs.

24. During the 3+ year Transition period is there a termination clause allowing us to revert back to our municipal force should it be determined that this was not the right way to proceed?

A) Yes. The contract could be terminated with 1 year notice in writing to the OPP.

25. So my question is what do we pay the OPP now for anything we cannot do.

A) Question requires clarification please.

26. It's also my understanding that OPP coverage after that point is based on a formula per building/house within the town plus Service calls. Since CNL is part of Deep River's tax base has that been factored in?

A) Yes. The estimate that the OPP provided included workload reported by the municipality within the jurisdiction of the Town of Deep River and was based on the current level of service provided by the DRPS. As well, since CNL is part of Deep River's tax base, it would be included in the property count.

27. What are the costs to local residents and businesses for these service calls that are already done at no extra charges by our current force, things such as alarm calls as one example?

A) The transition contract is based on FTE's and not calls for service. In year 4 the Town of Deep River transitions to our current billing model. The calls for service in Deep River will be charged based on the provincial proportion of those calls. For further details please review the Related Topics and Questions area on our public website at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

28. It was mentioned that the Deep River Police have contracts for performing background check for some major companies this would be revenue I can only imagine that is used to offset the cost of policing are there any other Grants and revenue streams that off set our 1.6 million budget?

A) The Town of Deep River would be aware of any grants provided to the municipality for policing. The OPP would administer the Court Security/Prisoner transport grant. Any other grants are administered by the municipality. An example of same would be the annual R.I.D.E. grants. *The OPP does not conduct any third party criminal record checks. Third party criminal record checks are criminal record checks done on someone else's behalf i.e.) a company for an employee for example. The OPP does not at this time engage in this activity. The OPP does conduct criminal record checks for individuals directly and proceeds are credited to the municipality.

29. If so what will happen to those revenue streams if we switch specifically after the transition period.

A) The OPP would provide any revenue collected to the municipality. The OPP would not be involved in third party criminal record checks.

30. What are the real benefits to our town to transition away from a local municipal Police Force with officers invested in our community?

A) We have provided the municipality with information about our costs and services. We continue to answer questions provided to us by the community. The benefits of the OPP would best be analyzed by your Mayor, Council, CAO and citizens. As discussed at the OPP proposal presentation Feb. 19, 2017, we are not here to compare the OPP with the DRPS.

31. If truly if it is financial, How can we make a decision that right on the surface will already cost the town more money to switch over for at a minimum of 3 years plus, when we have no idea at all of the costs after that 3 year transition. Or what additional costs it will cost us for services provided.

A) This will need to be answered by Mayor, Council and CAO. Please also review response 3 above and for further details please review our public website (Related Topics and Questions) at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

32. What is the benefit to having a Policing office in Deep River where our residents can go in and interact with a member of the force in person, knowing their concerns are heard?

A) We suggest that this question would best be discussed with your Mayor, Council and CAO.

33. We also only pay one price no matter how many residents we have and how many calls we make to the police, should we really work to attract new homes and business to the town how will that affect what we pay on an OPP model.

A) Policing costs fluctuate from year to year and are affected by variables such as salary and benefits changes, equipment requirements or replacements, overtime etcetera. OPP policing costs compare quite favourably with municipal police services. Our average cost per property in 2017 is approximately \$355. The OPP billing model, which would only come into effect after the Town of Deep River completes the initial transition contract, is based on per property and calls for service costs. For further detailed information about the OPP billing model please visit our public website at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198> and review details about the OPP billing model.

OPP Questions from the Town of Deep River (February 11, 2017)

1) How are the proposed cost 1.6-1.8 million a year? How is it that places like Mattawa, Renfrew, Laurention hill/valley would be able to cover the same cost and pay less in taxes and potentially have less people?

A) This question requires clarification however, we do invite the author of this question to review details of the OPP's billing model on our public website at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

2) What is the total current cost for OPP for zone 3? Based on the proposed numbers it is expected to be 4-6 million dollars if our cost is 1.8 per year.

A) Please feel free to review OPP policing costs on our public website at:
<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

*We would be happy to clarify or answer further questions as well as provide resources to members of the Town of Deep River to assist them in making an informed decision about policing.

We suggest you also visit our public website for further information at:

<http://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&lng=en&entryid=56b7d20e8f94ac9f5828d198>

Thank-you,

Sergeant Carlo Berardi

Municipal Policing Bureau

Ontario Provincial Police