

10 Main Issues Regarding the Future of Policing in Deep River

1. Records Checks	6. 24/7 Coverage
2. Response Times	7. Hospital Accreditation
3. Foot Patrol	8. Attracting Residents
4. Community Policing	9. Current Police Equipment
5. Year Four Cost	10. Specialty Services

1. Records Checks

- a. The OPP have committed to having a mobile unit come into Deep River when a group of people are requiring criminal records checks (i.e. beginning of hockey season, before school trips, etc.)
- b. Otherwise record checks could be submitted in Petawawa. The OPP could mail a completed check back to Deep River if you are unable to make a second trip to Petawawa.
- c. More information can be found on the OPP website:
<https://www.opp.ca/index.php?id=115&entryid=56a1276d8f94acdb5824a3d7>

2. Response Times

- a. Although OPP detachments are located in Petawawa and Pembroke, OPP Officers spend a minimal amount of time working in the detachment buildings.
- b. OPP Officers spend the majority of their on-duty time in a mobile workstation built into each OPP cruiser.
- c. Every OPP cruiser is equipped with GPS technology so that the detachment commander can direct their officers to be in the best position at all times. This allows the service to cover more ground, more efficiently.
- d. Given that OPP officers would be working in their cars, in Deep River, response times would likely be similar to the current level of service provided by the Deep River Police Service.
- e. The OPP is unable to give an average response time to calls, however they are committed to ensuring high priority calls are dealt with immediately. The OPP operates in over 300 municipalities in Ontario and has proven to be able to respond to the needs of municipalities both small and large.

3. Foot Patrol

- a. OPP officers would be seen not only driving around Deep River, but also providing foot patrol; liaising with Residents as well as walking through local businesses.
- b. OPP officers would also perform house checks for Resident’s who request the service.

4. Community Policing

- a. The OPP has vast experience all over Ontario with involved community policing and preventative measures. OPP officers would work with various community stakeholders in Deep River, to better understand the needs of Residents. This would include the hospital, long-term care, and local businesses.
- b. The OPP would continue to work closely with, and be accountable to the Police Services Board, as the Deep River Police Service currently does.
- c. Members of the OPP are also involved with specialty training to assist with community policy (i.e. dementia training).

5. Year Four Cost

- a. After the three year transition period, Deep River would change to the municipal billing model. This is where the savings to Deep River taxpayers would be seen.
- b. Currently Deep River pays for 9 police officers and 1 chief, with no direct relation to the amount of occurrences responded to. The same model would be in place for the first three years of OPP coverage.
- c. In year four, Deep River would only be financially responsible for the number of occurrences billed by the OPP, rather than the number of employees.
 - i. This efficiency is where the vast majority of savings would be realized.
- d. These savings are achieved in the following ways:
 - i. Analytics and predictive policing: The OPP collect data and determine where and when occurrences are most likely to happen that require response, and plan their officers accordingly.
 - ii. Economies of scale: Deep River would share the administration, dispatching, detachment commander, and other costs with neighbouring municipalities.
 - iii. Only paying for occurrences which are the financial responsibility of the Town and leaving the rest for the Province to cover the cost.

6. 24/7 Coverage

- a. If policed by the OPP, Deep River would continue to have policing presence 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year.
- b. During some hours of the day, OPP officers are doubled up, as a precaution for officer safety.
 - i. Doubling up officers does not double the cost to the Town. The second officer acts as a second set of eyes and backup as needed.

7. Hospital Accreditation

- a. The Deep River Hospital has stated the following; there are no accreditation requirements that speak specifically to local policing versus OPP policing versus RCMP policing.
- b. Calls coming from the Hospital would be treated as high priority with an immediate response, the same service currently in place with the Deep River Police Service.

8. Attracting Residents

- a. A municipal policing force is not the sole contributing factor in choosing where to live.
- b. Deep River is the only municipality in Renfrew County to employ a municipal police force.
- c. Deep River is fortunate to have many attracting features including: an arena, marina, and library.
- d. There are currently more OPP officers living in Deep River than Deep River Police officers.

9. Current Police Equipment

- a. Infrastructure with useful life remaining would either be sold or repurposed (i.e. vehicles still in working condition could be sold or transferred to public works)
- b. The office space could be repurposed for many uses (i.e. space for volunteer firefighters, public meeting space, public works space, etc.)

10. Specialty Services

- a. With over 6,000 uniformed officers, the OPP has access to a wide variety of resources and services.
- b. Available to municipalities, at no additional cost over and above the regular calls for service, are marine, ATV, snowmobile and other response units. These units are available through the sharing of resources and costs by many municipalities.
- c. The OPP offers many different specialty units to deal with a variety of crimes.