

The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

49 Bonnechere Street East
P.O. Box 100
Eganville, Ontario K0J 1T0



Phone (613) 628-3101
Fax (613) 628-1336
e-mail annetteg@eganville.com

October 6, 2026

9.3 Resolution regarding OPP costs

26.133 MOVED BY Merv Buckwald

SECONDED BY Meredith Caplan-Jamieson

WHEREAS the Township of Bonnechere Valley recognizes and values the important role of the Ontario Provincial Police in maintaining safe communities throughout Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the cost of OPP policing represents approximately 24% of the Township of Bonnechere Valley's municipal tax levy, significantly impacting the Township's ability to invest in critical infrastructure and other essential municipal services;

AND WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has provided temporary financial relief to municipalities through funding assistance and an 11% cap on OPP billing increases, which has provided important short-term stability, but does not address the underlying structural and year-over-year increases in OPP policing costs;

AND WHEREAS municipalities receiving OPP policing services have limited control over the factors driving policing costs, creating a disconnect between municipal financial responsibility and the authority to influence the operational decisions that determine those costs;

AND WHEREAS the current OPP billing model allocates certain costs to municipalities that arise from responsibilities associated with provincial statutes and services, including calls for service related to provincial legislation, court security, prisoner transportation, prisoner guards and other related costs;

AND WHEREAS based on a four-year average, approximately 10% of Bonnechere Valley's calls for service relate to matters that are provincial responsibilities, resulting in approximately \$27,168 in costs being charged to the Township; and further, had other costs such as court security, prisoner transportation, prisoner guards, overtime, and accommodation and cleaning costs not been allocated to the municipality, the Township's policing costs would have been reduced by an additional \$137,709;

AND WHEREAS the Township believes that the current OPP municipal billing model requires a comprehensive structural review to provide greater transparency, predictability, accountability and long-term financial sustainability for municipalities receiving OPP policing services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley respectfully requests that the Province of Ontario undertake a comprehensive review of the OPP municipal billing model, with meaningful municipal consultation, to establish a more equitable, transparent, predictable and sustainable approach to funding policing services in Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT as part of this review, the Province:

1. Review the allocation of policing responsibilities and costs between the Province and municipalities, including calls for service arising from provincial statutes and responsibilities;
2. Review the municipal allocation of court security, prisoner transportation, prisoner guards, overtime, accommodation/cleaning and other costs that are currently charged directly to municipalities;
3. Provide greater transparency regarding the components and drivers of OPP municipal policing costs, including sufficient information to allow municipalities to understand and appropriately plan for changes in annual billings;
4. Develop mechanisms to provide municipalities with greater multi-year predictability in policing costs to support responsible municipal budgeting and long-term financial planning;
5. Better align financial responsibility with governance and accountability, recognizing that municipalities should have an appropriate level of oversight or influence over costs for which they are financially responsible; and
6. Maintain appropriate short-term measures to protect municipalities from significant annual cost increases while a comprehensive review and longterm funding solution is developed, recognizing that annual caps provide temporary stability but do not address the underlying structural issues with the current model.

AND FURTHER THAT the Province recognize the broader financial pressures facing rural and small municipalities and consider reform of the OPP billing model as part of the need for a modernized municipal financial framework that supports the long-term sustainability of Ontario municipalities;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario; the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General; the Honourable Rob Flack, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; the local Member of Provincial Parliament; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO); the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA); and all municipalities within Renfrew County who are served by the OPP.

Carried

Original Signed by Mayor Jennifer Murphy

I trust you will find this satisfactory, but if you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Annette Gilchrist

Yours truly,
Annette Gilchrist, CMO., AOMC
CAO/Clerk/Deputy-Treasurer
Township of Bonnechere Valley