



The Honourable Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General
George Drew Building
18th Floor
25 Grosvenor St.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Y6

October 22, 2021

Dear Honourable Sylvia Jones,

As the primary voice for police governance and the employer of police service personnel throughout the province, we endorse the recent request of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) to the Government of Ontario in relation to the provincial grants outlined below. We also wish to bring to your attention the request from our membership to provide resources to support police service boards throughout the province to become compliant with the new Act. This was a high priority of the Big 12 Police Service Boards identified during their recent meeting.

Provincial Grant Funding

The primary role of police service boards is to ensure the provision of adequate and effective policing within our respective municipalities. As you are aware, salaries and benefits account for over 90% of policing budgets, which has always proven difficult to manage throughout the planning and budgeting process. The grant funding provided by the provincial government assists and alleviates some of the constraints placed on board budgets.

Currently, there are two grants that are critical to supporting community safety and well-being and enhancing the ability of police services to serve communities effectively. These are the Community Safety and Policing Grant (CSPG) and the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Program Grant (CSPTG), including both local and provincial streams of funding. As you know, the Court Security & Prisoner Transportation is to end in December 2021, and the Community Safety and Policing Grant is set to end in March 2022. This grant funding has become critical to community safety and ensuring our police budgets have been set and funding set aside to ensure safe communities and proper Policing within our communities and the OAPSB urges the government to ensure the funding continues past the dates indicated.

Over the past several months, many of our police services and police personnel whose responsibilities include working with these two programs have and continue to express concern regarding the short-term and long-term fiscal viability of the programs. We are looking for your government's commitment to maintaining and even enhancing these programs to support the dedicated work of our police personnel in their communities. OAPSB is committed to working with your ministry to ensure the province's grants programs continue to support our police personnel and our communities across Ontario.

Community Safety & Policing Act (CSPA)

We are aware that the *Community Safety & Policing Act (CSPA)* will most likely come to force by Spring 2022. OAPSB members are requesting that the Ministry provide timelines of the proclamation and enforced date of the Act.

There is no doubt that there will be financial impact to both boards and police services to implement the myriad changes envisioned in the new Act. As such, The OAPSB as the provincial voice of all Police Service Boards throughout the province requests that the Ministry provide resources to support Boards to become compliant with the new Act. The Big 12 back the recommendation and request that the Ministry work with the OAPSB to ensure such resources are made available to the Boards.



Ontario Association Police Services Boards:

MISSION: To equip Police Service Boards to govern effectively by providing advocacy, expertise, and training.

VISION: That all police boards are fully trained and high performing in accordance with the legislation.

Your truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Weaver'.

Patrick Weaver
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Chapman'.

Bruce Chapman
Interim Executive Director

cc: ADM Richard Stubbings , SOLGEN, ADM Debbie Conrad, SOLGEN, David Garland, SOLGEN, Mr. Mario Di Tommaso, Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety, OAPSB Board of Directors, Gary Conn, OACP, Creed Atkinson, SOLGEN