



November 14, 2024

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1
Email: premier@ontario.ca

Dear Honourable Doug Ford,

RE: OPP Detachment Billing Increases

Please be advised that the Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington, at its meeting held Tuesday, November 12, 2024 enacted the following resolution:

WHEREAS current police services within the Municipality of Leamington (hereinafter referred to as the 'Municipality') are provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (hereinafter referred to as the 'OPP');

AND WHEREAS the Municipality and the local OPP detachment have worked in a positive, collaborative and effective manner for decades;

AND WHEREAS historical increases in OPP Annual Billing Statements have trended around 5.67%;

AND WHEREAS the OPP submitted their 2025 Annual Billing Statement to the Municipality on October 4, 2024, that identifies an approximate \$833,000 (14.45%) increase from 2024 to 2025 that will translate to an approximate 2.48% tax rate increase, in addition to what the Municipality was contemplating for the residents of Leamington;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality was not consulted nor provided any advanced notice from the Commissioner regarding the significant cost increase received for OPP services;

AND WHEREAS the Municipality cannot afford to absorb this unexpected and entirely preventable increase without causing undo financial strain to our taxpayers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Municipality of Leamington wishes to dispute the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement;

AND FURTHER THAT the Town requests that the 2025 OPP Annual Billing Statement be reduced to an approximate 5% increase that is more manageable for the Municipality and in line with historical trends;

AND FURTHER THAT any increase above 5% be absorbed by the province as the additional costs are directly the result of collective bargaining that was within the control of the OPP and should have been known to be financially unsustainable for the municipalities that now need to pay the bill;

AND FURTHER THAT the Municipality request that the County of Essex undertake a feasibility study for a County Police Force;

AND FURTHER THAT a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario, the Honourable Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General, MPP Trevor Jones, the County of Essex, and all 329 municipalities serviced by OPP.

Yours Truly,

Abbie Marchildon

Abbie Marchildon, Council and Committee Coordinator

cc: The Hon. Michael Kerzner, Solicitor General
Trevor Jones, MPP
County of Essex
All 329 municipalities serviced by the OPP