



ALBERTA
JUSTICE AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Edmonton - South West*

AR 43835

Dear Mayor/Reeve and Council:

I am pleased to announce the release of the *Alberta Provincial Police Service Transition Study* completed by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Canada, and to invite your municipality to participate in further engagement on the findings of this report.

The Department of Justice and Solicitor General will be hosting virtual and in-person municipal engagement sessions between January 2022 and March 2022. Municipal engagement sessions will be open to municipal elected representatives, municipal employees, and organizations representing municipalities. Please see the attachment for instructions on how to register for a session near your community.

The engagement sessions will explore the concepts and information outlined in PwC's work, gather feedback on these ideas as well as local policing perspectives that will be used to refine PwC's proposed model and inform provincial government decision making. Discussions during the engagement sessions will draw on material from all three PwC reports:

- PwC's Final report: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/apps-transition-study-final-report>
- PwC's Current state report: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/apps-current-state-report>
- PwC's Future state report: <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/apps-future-state-report>

It is important to emphasize that no decisions have been made with regard to Alberta establishing its own provincial police. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is an important Canadian institution consisting of exceptional women and men who perform great work, risking their lives every day to keep our communities safe. While Alberta's government has the utmost respect and appreciation for the work of the RCMP's front-line members, we also have a responsibility to examine our model of provincial policing to see if there are other innovative alternatives that would increase policing services for Albertans, involve Albertans in key decision-making processes, is cost-effective, and places community policing at the forefront.

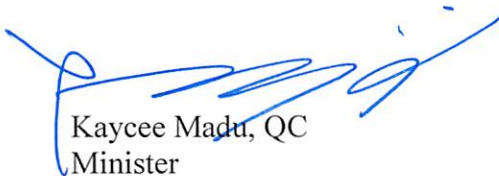
In 2020, the Fair Deal Panel consulted with tens of thousands of Albertans and heard many people's frustrations with the challenges of relying on a contracted provincial police force that is ultimately managed by Ottawa. The panel recommended that the province create an Alberta Provincial Police Service to replace the RCMP. The Alberta government supported this recommendation in principle, but committed to additional analysis. In October 2020, Justice and Solicitor General contracted with PwC to develop this analysis, and on April 30, 2021 PwC delivered their report. PwC's *Alberta Provincial Police Service Transition Study* details the operational requirements, process steps, and costs of a potential transition to an Alberta provincial police service.

The *Alberta Provincial Police Service Transition Study* presents an innovative provincial policing model that would:

- Increase the number of front-line police officers and civilian specialists serving our communities;
- Have dedicated mental health nurses and social workers to assist front-line police response;
- Prioritize community policing that would see Albertans recruited and serving in their local communities;
- See less transfer of officers in and out of communities (and the province) which would increase police knowledge of local public safety issues and improve detachment staffing levels;
- Reduce federal/provincial jurisdictional barriers that limit the integration of police services across Alberta;
- Have a governance model to increase the provincial police's accountability to local priorities and policing needs;
- Introduce new approaches to detachment deployment models to reduce police response times; and
- Leverage efficient back-office functions by utilizing existing provincial government resources to make the provincial police more cost effective.

I encourage you to attend a virtual or in-person engagement session to discuss the proposed model for an Alberta provincial police service, and to discuss what this model could mean for your community. If you have questions about the engagement sessions, please contact my department by emailing jsg.appstranstionstudy@gov.ab.ca.

Yours very truly,



Kaycee Madu, QC
Minister

Attachment

cc: Honourable Rick McIver, Minister of Municipal Affairs