



RESOLUTION 2017-01

Streamlining Administration for the Policing Effectiveness and Modernization Grant and the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Upload

Preamble:

The Commission on the Reform of Ontario Public Services recommended efficiencies in the administration of transfer payment and grant programs. That provincial grants and uploads represent less than five percent of the cost of municipal police services.

WHEREAS on December 28, 2016, the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services (“the Ministry”) announced the arbitrary repurposing of legacy grants for consolidation into a new Policing Effectiveness and Modernization grant (“the PEM grant”) effective April 1, 2017, and

WHEREAS on February 7, 2017, the Ministry announced the option to renew legacy grants until April 1, 2018 based on timeline concerns raised by the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, local police services boards, the Large Urban Mayor’s Caucus of Ontario and the Mayors and Regional Chairs of Ontario, and

WHEREAS on June 29, 2016, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police adopted the Streamlining Grant Administration resolution (#2016-08) that called on the Government of Ontario to separate short and long term grants and specifically for long term funding to eliminate existing grant requirements, minimize non-recoverable activities and replace funding formulas with simplified and transparent allocations, for example per capita or per household, and

WHEREAS provincial grant funding has achieved successful outcomes, specifically for targeted area initiatives, and

WHEREAS non-recoverable costs are incurred by municipal police services to meet the legal and administrative requirements of grants including preparation of applications, data maintenance to demonstrate outcomes, compilation and submission of reports, financial costings and audits, regardless of the dollar amount of the grant, and

WHEREAS the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation upload funding formula based on a percentage of total cost provides a disincentive to reduce court operations costs, and

WHEREAS municipal police services annual budgets are typically calendar year based, requiring deliberations in advance of the budget, and

WHEREAS the proposed PEM grant agreements have contract terms of only one year, and

WHEREAS municipal police services require a long-term perspective, to provide multi-year budget outlooks up to four years to match the term of local Council.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police again call on the Government of Ontario to streamline grant administration for the Policing Effectiveness and Modernization grant and the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation upload to contract terms of four years, eliminate the existing Policing Effectiveness and Modernization grant requirements, minimize non-recoverable activities and replace funding formulas with simplified and transparent allocations, for example per capita or per household.

Submitted by: Jeff Channell, York Regional Police, OACP Budget, Finance & Asset Management Committee