

Solicitor General

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By email

April 19, 2023

His Worship Chris Peabody
Mayor
Municipality of Brockton
100 Scott Street
PO Box 68
Walkerton ON N0G 2V0
cpeabody@brockton.ca

Dear Mayor Peabody:

I am writing to thank you for taking the time to speak with me, and members of my staff, during the 2023 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) annual conference on January 24, 2023.

The ROMA annual conference continues to serve as a valuable forum for municipalities in Ontario to discuss the unique needs of Ontario's rural and northern communities.

It was a pleasure meeting with you and your delegation from the Municipality of Brockton to discuss a number of topics, including the Walkerton Courthouse, the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation Program, as well as policing grants to address the high prevalence of crime in your community.

I know that the Walkerton Courthouse is important to the Municipality of Brockton and thank you for your commitment to serving your community. As discussed in our meeting, when the Walkerton Jail closed and moved to the Central North Correctional Centre (CNCC), some court matters were moved to other municipal courthouses in closer proximity to CNCC. I understand this may have impacted funding to your municipality. As the Court Security and Prisoner Transportation program follows an expenditure-based model, annual allocations fluctuate from year to year depending on each municipality's relative share of eligible costs in previous years.

Further, I appreciated you bringing to my attention the issue regarding an increase in crime in your municipality. As discussed, the ministry offers [several grant programs](#) that are primarily available to police services, in collaboration with community partners, to undertake initiatives focused on community safety and well-being.

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As such, the ministry recommends that the Municipality of Brockton monitor and apply for the grants where available. I was pleased to learn that ministry staff met with your team on March 9, 2023 to review previous grant submissions and to provide an overview of ministry grants that may be of interest to meet the needs of your community.

Please be assured that public safety is a top priority for our government. The Ministry of the Solicitor General looks forward to continuing to work with our municipal, policing and community partners to provide them with the resources and tools they need to keep Ontario's communities safe and resilient.

Our meeting was productive, and I appreciate the valuable insights you and your delegation provided during our discussion.

Our government understands the importance of working with our municipal partners and we remain committed to serving and meeting the needs of communities across Ontario.

Thank you again for meeting with us at the 2023 ROMA conference and I look forward to continued collaboration between the Municipality of Brockton and the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

Sincerely,



Michael Kerzner
Solicitor General

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety

Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister, Public Safety Division

Sarah Caldwell
Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Policy and Innovation Division

Daryl Pitfield
Assistant Deputy Minister, Institutional Services

Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Thomas Carrique