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NEWS RELEASE

Ontario Offsetting OPP Cost Increases for Small and Rural Municipalities

Provincial investment would support police and community safety

November 29, 2024

[Ministry of the Solicitor General](#)

TORONTO — The Ontario government is proposing to provide over \$77 million in financial relief to municipalities to help offset the increased cost of municipal police services provided by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP). This investment will help these predominantly small and rural communities address the budget impacts resulting from the collective bargaining agreement that was reached between the province and the Ontario Provincial Police Association (OPPA) in July 2024.

“Our government is working closely with our municipal partners and our women and men in uniform to keep communities across Ontario safe,” said Solicitor General Michael Kerzner. “The financial relief we are proposing will help municipal leaders balance their budgets and invest in their communities while ensuring no change to the policing provided by the OPP that keeps families and businesses safe.”

The Ontario government’s proposal would support small and rural municipalities by offsetting the 2025 impacts of OPP salary increases. This includes:

- A 3.75 per cent bill reduction on 2023 total reconciled costs,
- A 44 per cent bill reduction on 2023 reconciled overtime costs, and
- A 10 per cent bill reduction on amounts invoiced for 2025 policing costs.

In addition to these changes, the Government of Ontario is continuing its annual \$125 million Court Security & Prisoner Transportation Transfer Payment Program for the 2025 calendar year.

The province will also be examining options for reviewing the OPP billing model to ensure that it meets the needs of communities across the province.

Quick Facts

- The OPP provides municipal policing services to 330 municipalities across Ontario.
- The OPPA and the provincial government ratified a new uniform and civilian collective agreement in July 2024 that included general salary increases for 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026.

Quotes

"AMO is pleased that the government has listened to concerns about the increase in Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) billing recovery costs with this proposal. Without the provincial action, the rise in OPP costs would have significantly impacted small, rural, and northern communities serviced by the OPP. Municipal fiscal sustainability is under pressure across Ontario, and municipalities struggle to balance their budgets. This proposition is an important recognition of this challenge and will help support quality of life for residents across the province."

- Robin Jones

President of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario

"ROMA welcomes provincial action to reduce the impact of increasing Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) costs on rural municipalities. In the context of inflation, infrastructure pressures, and a growing homelessness crisis, rural municipalities simply cannot afford a 20% increase in OPP costs. This provincial investment acknowledges the escalating fiscal challenges municipalities face. We look forward to ongoing partnership to put rural municipalities on a sustainable path."

- Christa Lowry

Chair of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association and Mayor of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills

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