

Ontario
Provincial
Police

Police
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Municipal Policing Bureau
Bureau des services policiers des municipalités

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File number/Référence: 7400

February 12, 2021

Brian Read
Chair, Brockton Police Services Board
100 Scott Street
PO Box 68
Walkerton ON N0G 2V0

Dear Brian Read,

Inspector Krista Miller shared your email of February 04, 2021, with our Municipal Policing Bureau, regarding billing from the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) for the Municipality of Brockton. I want to take this opportunity to respond to these concerns through the detailed information provided below, hoping this will further assist in answering your questions.

Municipality of Brockton Policing Costs 2015-2021

Year	Property Count	Total Cost		Year over Year Cost Variance		Cost Per Property		OPP Average Cost per Property
		Before Cap	Capped			Before Cap	Capped	
2015 ²	4575	\$2,112,081	\$2,155,740	↓ -9.25%		\$462	\$471	\$354
2016 ²	4669	\$2,103,891	\$2,103,891	↓ -0.39%		\$451	\$451	\$350
2017 ²	4686	\$2,115,449	\$2,115,449	↑ 0.55%		\$451	\$451	\$350
2018 ²	4703	\$2,228,576	\$2,228,576	↑ 5.35%		\$474	\$474	\$358
2019 ²	4701	\$2,379,001	\$2,379,001	↑ 6.75%		\$506	\$506	\$362
2020	4714	\$2,260,909		↑ -4.96%		\$480		\$357
2021	4731	\$2,425,189		↑ 7.27%		\$513		\$356

Court Security

The Walkerton courthouse has seen a significant increase in caseload and extended hours since 2017, resulting in an increased workload for detachment members. A portion of a municipality's court security costs is recovered through the Court Security/Prisoner Transportation Grant (CSPT) offered by the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

The 17.20 FTE court officers identified in the provincial summary page of the 2021 Annual Billing Statement (page 3 of your billing package) are for court administration duties, not for court security duties. Note #1 on page 3 states that FTEs for court security have been excluded. Court officers have responsibilities for administration and security,

however, the CSPT grant applies only to security duties. As such the OPP separates the two roles.

Court administration costs are recovered from all OPP municipalities. Court Security costs are recovered from the municipality where the courthouse is located, as they have responsibility to provide this service.

Prisoner Transport

The OPP recovers prisoner transportation costs from OPP policed municipalities only. All OPP municipalities policed on a cost recovery basis pay the standard/per property cost for prisoner transportation. We have no knowledge of how much GTA municipalities policed by municipal police services pay for prisoner transportation. The estimated cost in 2021 for OPP Prisoner Transport is \$2.11 per property.

Location-Specific costing

Page 3 of the 2021 Annual Billing Statement details how costs are recovered from all OPP policed municipalities for the given year, including how the base 'per property' cost is arrived at and how the amount recovered through calls for service is determined. At the bottom of page 3 for the 2021 billing period, it is estimated that OPP will recover approximately \$374 million through municipal base services and calls for service costs.

Crime Stoppers Coordinator

The Crime Stoppers program has 38 boards/zones across the province. The OPP has one civilian position dedicated to supporting the program and the costs are shared by all OPP policed municipalities. If we were to divide the \$49,667 by the 326 municipalities policed by the OPP, this represents approximately \$152 per municipality. Uniform positions supporting the program are not dedicated to the Crime Stoppers program alone as such, costs are not recovered for the uniform officers supporting the program.

Billing Workgroups

Calls that contribute to Operational and Operational 2 billing workgroups detailed on page 7 and 8 of your 2021 annual billing statement. Examples of Operational 2 calls are 911 calls (dropped, hang-ups, and pocket dial), false alarms and keep the peace. Operational calls are non-motor vehicle accidents, animal/noise complaints, found property, etc. Each workgroup has a different time standard, determined by the average time required for calls within each workgroup. Operational 2 has a time standard of 1.3 hours and Operational has a time standard of 3.6.

Master Code

In some instances, certain violations can be broken down to a greater level of detail in our Records Management System. Sometimes, this level of detail is not available. For example, under the offence of Theft, we may have the ability to further identify the type of theft (a motorcycle). However not every type of theft can be captured at that level. Theft of a skateboard would be captured at the master code level as our systems cannot accommodate for every type of item that may be stolen.

Your overall policing costs since the inception of the OPP Billing Model in 2015, have remained relatively stable with an expected slight increase since 2015. However I notice your “cost per property” is higher than the average across Ontario compared to other municipalities. This increase would be centered around your “calls for service”.

In conjunction with Inspector Miller and her staff, OPP Municipal Policing Bureau would be happy to answer any further questions or if you require any additional information from the OPP please contact your assigned Municipal Policing Specialist or our Bureau at OPP.MunicipalPolicing@opp.ca or (705) 329-6200.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Whitton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Phil Whitton
Superintendent
Commander,
Municipal Policing Bureau