October 9, 2026

BY EMAIL

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A5
Email: premier@ontario.ca

Re: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

At its Regular Council Meeting held on October 5, 2026, Council supported the enclosed correspondence.

Council accordingly passed the following resolution:

R26-10-471
Moved By Councillor Verbeek
Seconded By Councillor McGuire-Blais

That the correspondence from the Municipality of South Huron regarding OPP 2027 Policing Costs, be received and supported; and

That a letter from the Town of Essex be sent to the Honourable Doug Ford, Minister of the Solicitor General, Minster of Municipal Affairs and Housing, AMO, ROMA, Essex MPP, Anthony Leardi, Windsor-Tecumseh MPP, Andrew Dowie, Windsor West MPP, Lisa Gretzky, Chatham-Kent/Leamington MPP, Trevor Jones and all Ontario municipalities noting concerns with the proposed increase of 11% as it may be challenging and have a significant budget impact for small municipalities.

Carried

33 Talbot Street South
Essex, Ontario N8M 1A8
www.essex.ca
t 519 776 7336
f 519 776 8811

I trust you will find this satisfactory. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact the undersigned.

Yours truly,

Joseph Malandruccolo
Director, Legal and Legislative Services/Clerk
jmalandruccolo@essex.ca

cc. Minister of the Solicitor General minister.solgen@ontario.ca
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing minister.mah@ontario.ca
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) resolutons@amo.on.ca
Rural Ontario Municipal Association roma@roma.on.ca
Essex MPP, Anthony Leardi anthony.leardi@pc.ola.org
Windsor-Tecumseh MPP, Andrew Dowie andrew.dowie@pc.ola.org
Windsor West MPP, Lisa Gretzky lgretzky-qp@ndp.on.ca
Chatham-Kent/Leamington MPP, Trevor Jones trevor.jones@pc.ola.org
Municipality of South Huron sjohnson@southhuron.ca
All Ontario Municipalities

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON
322 Main Street South P.O. Box 759
Exeter Ontario
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Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
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September 25, 2026

Via email; doug.fordco@pc.ola.org

Premier Doug Ford
Room 281
Main Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1A5

RE: OPP 2027 Policing Costs

Please be advised that South Huron Council passed the following resolution at their September 21, 2026, Regular Council Meeting:

Motion: 367-2026
Moved: W. McLeod-Haggitt
Seconded: T. Oke

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted $2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to $235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as $2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately $447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. **Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;**

2. **Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;**

3. **Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that :**

- **includes a reasonable and predictable maximum annual increase in municipal OPP policing costs, taking into consideration municipal revenue growth, inflation, assessment growth, population growth, fiscal capacity and the affordability impacts on local property taxpayers, including cost of living; and,**
- **that municipalities receive a clear and itemized annual explanation of changes to their OPP policing costs, including, where applicable, changes attributable to staffing levels, salaries, benefits, calls for service, time standards, fleet, accommodation, support services, detachment administration and other provincial cost allocations; and**
- **that the permanent framework recognize the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities and ensure that municipal policing cost increases do not disproportionately affect property taxpayers or compromise the municipality's ability to deliver other essential services and infrastructure; and**
- **that the Province recognize that municipalities have limited ability to control policing costs arising from provincial legislation, regulatory, staffing, compensation, collective bargaining, operational or policy decisions and that the Province provide appropriate provincial funding or cost-sharing where significant policing cost pressures arise primarily from such provincial decisions; and**

4. **that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.**

Disposition: Carried

CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON
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Phone: 519-235-0310 Fax: 519-235-3304
Toll Free: 1-877-204-0747
www.southhuron.ca

Please find attached the originating correspondence for your reference.

Respectfully,

Sue Johnson, Administrative Assistant
Municipality of South Huron
sjohnson@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310 x. 225

Encl.

cc: Minister.solgen@ontario.ca ; minister.mah@ontario.ca ; lisa.thompson@pc.ola.org resolutions@amo.on.ca ; roma@roma.on.ca ; jdietrich@southhuron.ca ; manderson@centralhuron.ca ; avanhittersum@northhuron.ca ; frayne@hay.net ; glamport@municipalityofbluewater.ca ; jaredpetteplace@me.com; jasmine.clark@torontomu.ca; jwalker@bmross.net jennettewalker@hay.net ; john.steffler@huroneast.com ; tbazinet@goderich.ca and all Ontario municipalities policed by OPP.

Staff Memo

To: South Huron Council

From: Rebekah Msuya-Collison, CAO

Date: September 21, 2026

Re: 2027 OPP Policing Costs – Request for Resolution expressing Concerns

Purpose:
For information and consideration.

Background and Analysis:

Council received correspondence from the Ministry of Solicitor General at the September 8, 2026 Council meeting regarding the 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs. Council passed the following resolution:

> "**That a staff memo be brought back to the September 21, 2026 Council meeting with a proposed resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.**"

Please see attached draft resolution regarding concerns to the proposed increase in OPP municipal policing costs.

Link to Correspondence - Ministry of Solicitor General - 2027 OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Resolution: Sustainable and Predictable OPP Municipal Policing Costs

Whereas the Municipality of South Huron is policed by the Ontario Provincial Police and has budgeted $2,140,181 for its 2026 annual OPP policing contract; and

Whereas this represents approximately 15% of South Huron's 2026 tax levy supported operating costs; and

Whereas the Municipality has received correspondence dated August 14, 2026 from the Honourable Michael S. Kerzner, Solicitor General, advising that for the 2027 calendar year **no OPP-policed municipality will experience an increase of more than 11% in its total amount payable for OPP policing compared with 2026**, excluding services separately acquired through an agreement with the OPP; and

Whereas a projected increase of 11% in 2027 would result in an additional municipal cost of up to $235,420 increasing South Huron's annual OPP cost to as much as $2,375,601; and

Whereas this projected increase in 2027 would result in annual OPP policing costs changing significantly over the past two years, with total costs rising from 2025 to 2027 by approximately $447,510, or 23%, placing sustained pressure on the Municipality's property tax supported operating budget; and

Whereas municipalities must balance legislated infrastructure, service-delivery, affordability and fiscal-responsibility obligations, while having limited revenue tools and a primary reliance on property taxation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Municipality of South Huron:

1. Acknowledges the Province of Ontario's action to limit the 2027 OPP municipal policing cost increase to no more than 11%;
2. Expresses concern that an increase of up to 11% in a single year remains significant for small and rural municipalities and is not, by itself, a sustainable long-term solution;
3. Requests that the Province of Ontario establish a permanent, transparent and sustainable multi-year framework for OPP municipal policing costs that:
    - limits year-over-year municipal cost increases to a level aligned with municipal revenue growth and affordability;
    - clearly identifies the cost drivers behind annual changes, including salaries, benefits, fleet, accommodation, detachment administration, calls for service and other provincial cost allocations;

- recognizes the limited fiscal capacity of small, rural and OPP-policed municipalities; and
- considers enhanced provincial funding or cost-sharing for provincially directed policing cost pressures;

4. Directs that this resolution be circulated to the Premier of Ontario; the Solicitor General; the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; MPP Lisa Thompson; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario; Rural Ontario Municipal Association; all Ontario municipalities policed by the OPP; and the Huron OPP Detachment Board.