



February 26, 2019

His Worship Colin Basran  
Mayor of the City of Kelowna

His Worship Gord Milsom  
Mayor of the City of West Kelowna

His Worship James Baker  
Mayor of the District of Lake Country

Her Worship Cindy Fortin  
Mayor of the District of Peachland

Ms. Gail Given, Chair  
Regional District of Central Okanagan  
c/o Email: [jjohnston@kelowna.ca](mailto:jjohnston@kelowna.ca)

Dear Mayor Basran, Mayor Milsom, Mayor Baker, Mayor Fortin and Ms. Given:

I am responding to your December 20, 2018 letter, addressed to Premier John Horgan, regarding the Auxiliary Constable Program.

The ministry highly values the considerable commitment of the Auxiliary Constables who volunteer in British Columbia communities and we remain committed to a robust and effective Auxiliary Constable Program. As you are aware, the Auxiliary Constable Program has been in place in British Columbia for over 50 years and Auxiliary Constables have performed an exemplary job fulfilling their primary purpose to participate in community policing activities relating to public safety and crime prevention.

In 2015, the RCMP in Ottawa commenced a comprehensive review of the Auxiliary Constable Program following a shooting incident in Alberta. During the review, the RCMP at both the national and provincial levels made decisions that have limited the ability of Auxiliary Constables to perform their duties. While we agree that the safety of Auxiliary Constables is paramount, both my ministry and the Union of BC Municipalities have continued to actively express our concerns with the new program. I assure you, however, that we continue to work with the RCMP to finalize the program in British Columbia so that we can once again have Auxiliary Constables supporting their communities.

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His Worship Colin Basran and Co-signers  
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Thank you for your support of the Auxiliary Constable Program and for the opportunity to address your concerns.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth  
Minister of Public Safety  
and Solicitor General

pc: The Honourable John Horgan