

# Municipality of Lakeshore Report to Police Services Board

## Strategic & Legal Affairs



**To:** Chair & Members of the Police Services Board  
**From:** Kristen Newman, Corporate Leader-Strategic & Legal Affairs  
**Date:** May 26, 2023  
**Subject:** Lakeshore Policing Contract

---

### Recommendation

This report is for information.

### Background

The *Police Services Act* (PSA) governs the delivery of policing throughout Ontario. The OPP is the default policing services provider in Ontario where a municipality has not chosen to create a municipal police force or a municipality has not entered into a contract for policing otherwise. Municipalities that enter into policing contracts with the OPP are referred to in the industry as acting under a section 10 agreement. Municipalities that do not have a municipal police force and that have the OPP as its police force by default are referred to as acting under section 5.1.

The PSA sets out the required standard for policing in Ontario: adequate and effective policing. Police services are required to perform community-based crime prevention work and conduct law enforcement on a 24 hour, 7 days per week basis. The standard is a requirement reflected in the section 10 contract, as well.

Lakeshore has contracted services for policing with the OPP. The current contract states the required standard which is governed by the PSA. Lakeshore has engaged the OPP for a 4 year period. The contract addresses the following:

- Assumption of liability by the OPP,
- Requirements of the Detachment Commander to act as the local police chief,
- Enforcement of by-laws by the OPP where mutually agreed upon,
- Service enhancement discussion framework,
- The billing process,
- Reviews of the billing process,
- Payment terms,
- Dispute resolution mechanisms, and
- Municipal role in detachment commander selection.

The contract does not address the actual cost of the police service because costs are billed on call for service basis.

### ***How is Lakeshore billed for police services?***

The policing contract does not set out pricing for policing. The OPP uses a province-wide billing model that includes base fees and calls for service annually. Estimates for police services are delivered to municipalities on an annual basis in advance of the year that is to be billed. Municipalities are billed for services throughout the year based on the estimate. After the completion of the year, the estimate is reconciled with the actual calls for service and the adjustment made in the next annual billing estimate. The annual billing estimate for 2023 is attached as attachment A.

Lakeshore Administration is arranging a joint training session in the coming months involving the Board and Council. That session will be conducted by the OPP to inform Board and Council Members about how the billing model works.

### **Comments**

When considering the new contract, Council had 2 options available to it in order to ensure that it satisfies its obligation to the community to ensure a police service is in place in Lakeshore.

Lakeshore had 2 options available to it:

- 1) Elect to enter into a new contract with the OPP (continue the section 10 relationship); or
- 2) Default to OPP Policing (section 5.1 relationship).

The OPP provided a chart describing the differences in the 2 options (attachment B). The most significant benefits to Lakeshore are gained through engaging in a contract. This permits certainty around having a police force in Lakeshore and engaging in a standard at which policing shall be delivered. Also, there is an added financial benefit of having greater access to grants available for RIDE programs to help fund RIDE programs in the community. Lakeshore would also be able to access service enhancements, if it wished to do so. Lakeshore does not currently have any service enhancements. It is understood that the contract model will be changing with the coming into force of changes to the PSA but it is not known when this is to occur.

Lakeshore has engaged in a 4 year contract at minimum to ensure stability in policing. A 4 year term will enable Council time to contemplate whether it wishes for any service enhancements in future years and allow for Administration to work with OPP to explore such enhancements and budget accordingly for them. Also, in the event that Lakeshore

wished to explore alternative police servicing models, Administration would require specific Council direction and time to conduct such a review.

***Financial Implications for 2023***

The 2023 billing estimate is \$4,836,837.

**Others Consulted**

Ontario Provincial Police

**Attachments**

A - Contract

B - Options Chart

C - 2023 Billing Estimate