

# THE TOWN OF FORT FRANCES

December 5, 2013

REPORT TO: Mayor and Council  
FROM: Mark McCaig, CAO  
SUBJECT: Request from the Township of Seguin – Support for Proposed Billing Model for Police Services.

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At the Administration and Finance Executive Committee meeting of December 3, 2013, the request for support of a resolution from Seguin Township regarding the proposed billing model for Police Services was considered.

The Seguin resolution is objecting to the new billing model that proposes a flat \$260.00 per household fee for the base costs related to the provision of police services, plus a variable charge for each call for service in a municipality. During this process, the OPP has advised that 73% of their costs are fixed (i.e. base costs) and 27% are variable. Throughout this entire re-examination of policing costs, the Town of Fort Frances has learned that per household costs range anywhere from \$15.00 to over \$700.00. Fort Frances is at the high end of the spectrum as in 2013, the cost of providing policing for the community is \$670.92 per household.

We have been advised through seminars and reports, that municipalities such as Fort Frances, with per household costs at the high end of the range will realize savings related to the new billing model. In consideration of this, the executive committee is not recommending support of the Seguin resolution.

The committee further recommends that Mayor and Council pass a resolution that supports the new, or any model, that reduces our excessive per household costs for policing and distributes a more equitable sharing of costs for all municipalities and organized territories in Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark McCaig  
CAO

MM/kl

**Council approval of this report** will support the recommendation from the Administration and Finance Executive Committee not to support the request from the Township of Seguin regarding the proposed billing model for Police Services; and further authorize that Mayor and Council pass a resolution that supports the new, or any model, that reduces our excessive per household costs for policing and distributes a more equitable sharing of costs for all municipalities and unorganized territories in Ontario.





WHEREAS, the Ontario Provincial Police are proposing a new billing model for charging municipalities for policing services, starting in 2015;

AND WHEREAS, the current billing model is a deployment model, in which cost recovery is based on a percentage of detachment workload, actual detachment staffing levels, wages, benefits, and a cost recovery component for other expenditures;

AND WHEREAS, the new methodology would charge each municipality a flat \$260 per household fee for the base costs related to providing police services, plus a variable charge for each call for service in that municipality. The rationale for this is that there is a base fixed cost for providing police services that must be borne by all participating municipalities, regardless of the number of calls for service that the OPP responds to in each municipality. The OPP have advised that 73% of their costs are fixed (i.e. base costs) and 27% are variable;

AND WHEREAS, there is a wide divergence in per household costs for policing across Ontario;

AND WHEREAS, some municipalities in Ontario are paying excessive per household costs for policing such as the Town of Fort Frances at \$670.92;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of Ontario and Premier Wynne support the proposed billing model change or a model for policing that ensures an equitable distribution of cost sharing for all municipalities and unorganized territories in Ontario;

AND FURTHER THAT this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Community Safety & Correctional Services, The Honourable John Gerretsen, Attorney General of Ontario and all other municipalities in Ontario.





Resolution No. 2013- 391

**The Corporation of  
the Township of Seguin**

Moved by

*R. Le...*

Seconded by

*B. J. Baker*

Date November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2013

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**WHEREAS**, the Ontario Provincial Police are proposing a new billing model for charging municipalities for policing services, starting in 2015;

**AND WHEREAS**, the current billing model is a deployment model, in which cost recovery is based on percentage of detachment workload, actual detachment staffing levels, wages and benefits, and a cost recovery component for other expenditures, which model has been in place for over 15 years;

**AND WHEREAS**, the new methodology would charge each municipality a flat \$260 per household fee for the base costs related to providing police services, plus a variable charge for each call for service in that municipality. The rationale for this is that there is a base fixed cost for providing police services that must be borne by all participating municipalities, regardless of the number of calls for service that the OPP responds to in each municipality. The OPP have advised that 73% of their costs are fixed (i.e. base costs) and 27% are variable;

**AND WHEREAS**, the actual specifics of the cost for the calls for service have not been released or calculated, the OPP has estimated that the average cost per household in Ontario for policing services, including both the base cost and the calls for service, would be approximately \$369;

**AND WHEREAS**, this model would see the OPP costs for West Parry Sound municipalities increase from \$3,412,189 (per 2012 FIR) to \$6,537,204, an increase of \$3,125,015 or 92%;

**AND WHEREAS**, this model would see OPP costs increase for Seguin Township from \$592,659 (per 2012 FIR) to \$1,759,392, an increase of \$1,166,733 or 197%;

**AND WHEREAS**, this model is fundamentally flawed, unfair and inequitable.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Province of Ontario and Premier Wynne cannot allow this type of unfair treatment towards rural Ontario, and this funding

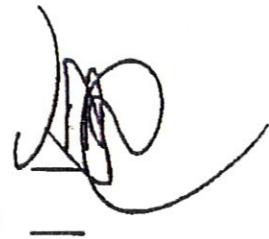
model be scrapped immediately.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this resolution be forwarded to The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario, The Honourable Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Community Safety & Correctional Services, The Honourable John Gerretsen, Attorney General of Ontario, Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM), Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), and all rural Ontario municipalities with a permanent population of 10,000 or less.

<u>DIVISION LIST</u>	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Chidley	—	—	—
Gibbon	—	—	—
Hepworth	—	—	—
Jacklin	—	—	—
Osborne	—	—	—
Sainsbury	—	—	—
Conn	—	—	—

CARRIED

DEFEATED

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to a council member or official, is written over the 'CARRIED' and 'DEFEATED' text.