



**Attorney General
Justice
Office of the Minister**

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July 29, 2026

Ms. Kim Ramsay
Municipality of the District of East Hants
15 Commerce Court
Elmsdale, NS, B2S 3K5

Dear Ms. Kim Ramsay,

Re: Municipal Billing Model

The Province has determined your municipality's estimated annual contribution for policing services provided under the Provincial Police Services Agreement for the period April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027. This allocation has been determined in accordance with the Province's New Billing Model, which comes into effect on October 1, 2026, with application retroactive to April 1, 2026, for the purpose of determining municipal policing cost allocations for the 2026/27 fiscal year.

For the 2026/27 fiscal year, the estimated contribution is \$4,898,814 subject to final calculations. This allocation reflects the approved policing service level as of April 1, 2026 and includes all approved service level changes implemented on or before that date for your municipality. Any further service level changes approved after April 1, 2026, will be reflected through future billing adjustments, where applicable.

This estimated annual contribution represents a 25.0% decrease in policing cost for your municipality compared to the amount \$6,531,751 that would have been calculated under the previous Billing Model. As discussed throughout the consultation process, municipalities will reinvest these savings into complementary public safety initiatives, such as layered policing, community safety programs, alternative response models, and other measures aligned with the recommendations of the Comprehensive Nova Scotia Policing Review. The Province will also continue working closely with the RCMP to help ensure adequate and effective police resourcing in communities across Nova Scotia.

Please note that the amount identified in this letter represents an estimated annual contribution based on the approved budget for the Provincial Police Services Agreement for the 2026/27 fiscal year. Following the completion of the 2026/27 fiscal year, the Province will receive the

RCMP's annual report of actual eligible policing costs incurred under the Provincial Police Services Agreement. A year-end reconciliation will then be completed to compare the estimated amounts billed during the fiscal year with the actual eligible costs. Any resulting difference identified through the reconciliation process will be reflected as an adjustment to the municipality's final billing, including additional amounts payable or credits, where applicable.

The new billing model is data-driven and is designed to better reflect the unique circumstances of municipalities across the province. Municipal costs are determined using a range of factors, including population, property values, the number of officers assigned, and the Crime Severity Index. To ensure the model continues to reflect local public safety demands and municipal capacity, costs will be reviewed and recalculated annually. Agreements formalizing this process will also be sent to each individual municipality for signature in the coming months.

The Department of Justice's Public Safety and Security Division will be sending invitations to meet with each municipality policed by the RCMP under the Provincial Police Service Agreement to discuss these changes. While the Department would always prefer an in-person meeting to discuss such a significant change, we want to get this. Appreciating summer schedules, virtual meetings will be scheduled during August 2026.

Thank you for your continued engagement and partnership throughout this process. The new billing model represents an important step toward a more sustainable and equitable approach to policing that better reflects the needs of municipalities while supporting local public safety priorities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Armstrong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Scott" and last name "Armstrong" clearly distinguishable.

The Honourable Scott Armstrong, M.L.A.
Attorney General and Minister of Justice

C. Juanita Spencer, Chief Executive Officer, Nova Scotia Federation of Municipalities