



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTABLE

850 CALEDONIA AVENUE VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA CANADA V8T 5J8 T: 250.995.7217

January 5, 2021

Mayor Lisa Helps
Lead Co-Chair
Victoria & Esquimalt Police Board

Via Email

Dear Mayor Helps:

RE: VicPD Special Duty Funding to Assist City of Victoria Bylaw Services

I am respectfully requesting that Victoria City Council approve an additional \$75,960 so I may continue to deploy two VicPD officers for four hours per day/seven days a week from January 1 to March 31, 2021 to support City of Victoria Bylaw Services in carrying out their duties at the various encampments within the City of Victoria.

As you know, in September 2020, Victoria City Council passed a motion to allocate up to \$94,528 from the Financial Stability Reserve to provide additional policing resources in the City of Victoria until December 31, 2020. This allowed VicPD to provide two officers to accompany Bylaw officers seven days a week from 7am-11am to the various encampments in the City. The arrangement ensured Bylaw officers were kept safe while carrying out their duties and it also allowed VicPD to be proactive in preventing crime, educating campers, and taking action when crime was observed. From all accounts, this partnership has worked very well and received good community support.

Our current Patrol Division and Community Services Division resources continue to be short-staffed and on-duty resources cannot be relied upon to assist Bylaw officers at any given time. Given the current number of encampments as well as the associated challenges that VicPD and Bylaw continue to experience on a daily basis, I am seeking a three-month extension for this partnership to continue until March 31, 2021.

Ensuring the safety, security and well-being of campers and nearby residents remains an on-going priority for the Victoria Police Department. Thank you for considering my request.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Del Manak".

Del Manak
Chief Constable

- c. Mayor Barbara Desjardins, Deputy Co-Chair – Victoria & Esquimalt Police Board