

# NEW REQUESTS

## Capital & Operating

**Requestor: Silvio Adamo**  
**Cost Center for Service Review: Protective Services**  
**Title of Initiative: Additional RCMP Officer**



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### Summary:

On March 14, 2022 during a regular meeting of Council, a request for Direction was presented with an analysis and business case to fill the two vacant RCMP officer positions in the Banff Detachment. Council approved the filling of one of two vacant positions and directed Administration to return to 2023 Service Review with a request to fill the last remaining vacant position through the below motion.

COU 22-67

Moved by Councillor Canning that with respect to Item 8.1, Request for Direction: RCMP Staffing Levels, the following be adopted, after amendment:

That Council Direct Administration to return to the 2023 Service Review with a New Service Level Request to the one remaining vacant Royal Canadian Mounted Police position within the Banff Detachment.

For: (7): Mayor DiManno, Councillor Canning, Councillor Christensen, Councillor Olver, Councillor Pelham, Councillor Pettigrew, and Councillor Ram

### Description:

Since Council's direction to fill one of two vacant positions, the Banff detachment requested and on bordered a new recruit that has now completed their required partnering with a more senior officer prior to working alone. The current Full Time Equivalent (FTE) strength has increased from 12.01 at the end of the 21/22 fiscal year to 13.34 at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and it should also be noted that our provincially funded positions (2 FTE) are now also up to full strength.

At the time this report was being prepared, policing activity in Banff has seen close to 2019 levels with some areas of criminal activity seeing a sharp increase year over year.

Crime statistics to the end of July 2022 show a 57% increase in crimes against the person, which represents a return to pre-pandemic levels in this category. Property crime however, increased by only 5% and remained 20% below pre-pandemic rates. Traffic events increased by 200% from 2021 and were higher than any point in the preceding five years. The downtown night scene was not particularly active until July. Rain throughout June may have contributed to the nuisance crime categories remaining close to 2021 rates.

The detachment focused on prevention of nuisance activity by having officers maintain a visible presence at night since the installation of the Banff Avenue pedestrian zone, which likely contributed to the success in this category.

There are two areas where escalation in crime rate presents a concern: Sexual Assault and Spousal Abuse. There are typically 5-6 sexual assault events in the first seven months of the year, whereas 2022 has seen 21 events. In nearly all events, the offender was known to the victim and the incident occurred in an indoor private environment. A disturbing pattern is offenders failing to cease sexual activity once the victim has withdrawn consent. In addition to our enforcement, the Banff RCMP are in communication with the YWCA with respect to a strategy to prevent this offence type. Spousal abuse rates remained consistent throughout the pandemic in comparison with prior years but have increased by 24% in 2022 (from an average of 55 events to 68). The rate of Sexual Assault has increased slightly throughout southern Alberta in 2022, and the rate of spousal abuse cases has remained stable with prior years.

The additional member will assist in an increased uniformed presence within the town and help meet the Town's policing priorities established annually in consultation with the Detachment Commander.

Based on the current upward trend in policing demand and the inevitable eb and flow of personnel consistent in all RCMP detachments, Administration is recommending the filling of the last vacant position bringing the detachment up to **18** dedicated Town of Banff members and **2** rural members.

Efforts are continuing to engage the Province to revisit the Incorporation Agreement commitments by the Province.

**Operating Costs/Revenue(s):**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2025</b>
<b>1 Additional RCMP officer</b>	84,598 starting June 2023	172,193	173,805
	Based on 169,195 for full year		

**Resources Required to Implement & Maintain:**

No additional resources required

**Estimated Delivery Date:**

June, 2023

**Supporting Strategic or Tactical Plan?**

**Supporting Materials:**

- March 14, 2022 report to Council "RCMP Staffing Levels"
- New full strength Org chart