

Request for Decision

MODY's Mission

MODY serves its residents by providing the highest quality services through effective, efficient, and ethical stewardship of the resources and assets entrusted to us by our citizens.

File	Police Resourcing
Submitted to	Council
Submitted by	Victoria Brooks, CAO
Date	March 5, 2025
Recommendation	The Municipality of the District of Yarmouth (MODY), in conjunction with the Municipality of Argyle, make formal request to the Nova Scotia Minister of Justice for the following additional policing resources: 2 Officers in fiscal year 2025-26; 1 additional Officer in the 2026-27 fiscal year; and in 2027-28 request a review of resource analysis in the 2024 GDPRR.
Background	<p>In 2023-24, the RCMP initiated a General Duty Policy Resource Review (GDPRR) for the Yarmouth County Rural Detachment. The methodology for the study consists of measurements on performance related metrics which are directly linked to the RCMP's ability to perform obligations under its contract with the Province of Nova Scotia.</p> <p>The results of the review are embargoed under the rules for in-camera in Section 22 of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i> (Public Security). The GDPRR did result in a call for additional resources. The Nova Scotia Department of Justice and RCMP Senior Leadership reviewed the findings and support the call for additional resources. MODY and Argyle Councils received a joint presentation on the review and findings.</p> <p>Public Safety is a core municipal responsibility.</p> <p>The MODY and Argyle receive policing services from the RCMP through the Provincial Policing Agreement (PPSA) between the Province of NS and the RCMP (municipalities are akin to a sub-contract). The cost per officer is split 70/30 between the Province (70%) and the Federal Government (30%) under the contract. Under the PPSA Municipalities pay 66% of the 70% funded by the Province. For the 2024-25 fiscal year the Municipal share per officer is ~\$214,000. MODY and Argyle share the cost of the municipal portion equally (\$107,000 each).</p>

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	<p>The cost per officer for the 2025-25 fiscal year is not yet known. However, it is governed by the terms in the collective bargaining agreement and will likely be relative to the Cost of Living. Therefore, the increased cost in the 2025-26 fiscal year will be \$214,000 + annual increase and in the 2026-27 fiscal year \$107,000 + two annual increases.</p> <p>While MODY’s assessment base is growing, there are escalating cost pressures relative to other services like solid waste collection, education contributions, regional project contributions and service/supplies cost escalations. Because public security is a core municipal service, investments in appropriate level of policing align with Council’s values and strategic priorities.</p> <p>The Councils for the MODY and Argyle have discussed and collaborated on the development of the request to the Minister of Justice for additional policing resources.</p>
Key Assumptions	
Legislative Authority	Section 65 of the <i>Municipal Government Act</i>
Relevant Municipal Policies/By-laws (i.e. MPS)	Nil
Accessibility Plan linkages	Nil
Strategic Plan linkages	Health and Wellness of MODY Residents
Appendix	Nil