



Office of Mayor George V. Harvie
City of Delta



MAYOR'S OFFICE

Delta

March 21, 2023

Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
PO Box 9010, Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister,

Re: Police Board Composition

Municipal policing has become increasingly complex and important to the well-being and public safety of our community. As Mayor of Delta and Chair of the Delta Police Board, it has become evident we require additional representation on the Delta Police Board to ensure effective and community-minded oversight. Therefore, we are seeking your support to revise the composition of the Delta Police Board to include one councillor and one school trustee as vacancies become available.

The cost of keeping the community safe through effective policing services has risen by nearly 30% over the last five years to almost \$54 million in 2023. Policing services is the largest item in the City of Delta's budget, accounting for approximately one quarter of the City's property tax draw. Since councillors are ineligible to serve on the Police Boards, policing is also the only part of the City's budget that is essentially outside the control of Council. Adding a councillor and a school trustee to the Delta Police Board would enhance good governance for the community and provide greater oversight of the community's tax dollars, while continuing to ensure the Police Board operates at an arms length from local government politics. Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Yours truly,

George V. Harvie
Mayor

cc: Delta Council
Neil Dubord, Chief Constable, Delta Police Department
Sean McGill, City Manager