

CITY OF MERRITT

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT
COUNCIL, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2000, AT 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, 2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

	<u>AGENDA</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
1.	<u>PRESENT:</u>	
2.	<u>CALL TO ORDER:</u>	
3.	<u>ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:</u>	
	A. Agenda, Committee of the Whole Meeting, December 13, 2000.	1
4.	<u>REPORTS:</u>	
	A. Budget Discussions	
	◆ Thompson-Nicola Regional District Directors	
	Area M – Mr. J. Post	
	Area N – Mr. M. Rose (unable to attend)	
	Present to participate in discussion regarding the Aquatic Centre	
	Operational and Capital Budget.	
	◆ Protective Services – S/Sgt. J. Senft	
	Refer to December 5, 2000 letter from RCMP detailing	
	Year 2001 Budget Proposal.	2-8
	◆ Review Grants-In-Aid Portion of Budget to determine funding levels for 2001.	
5.	<u>ADJOURNMENT:</u>	



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Security Classification/Designation
Classification/désignation sécuritaire

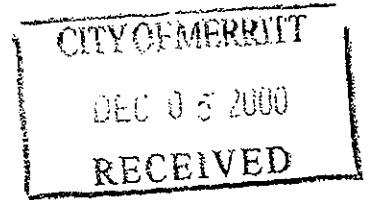
Unclassified

S/Sgt. James R. SENFT
Commander - Merritt Detachment
2999 Voght Street
Merritt, B.C. V1K 1G9

Your File Votre référence

Our File Notre référence
Admin 785

Ms. Jennifer BRIDAROLLI
City of Merritt
P.O. Box 189
Merritt, B.C. V1K 1B8



00-12-05

**Re: Year 2001 Budget Proposal - Protection Services
Merritt Municipal Detachment - Rationale Supplement**

This correspondence has been forwarded to compliment the related budget submission to your office dated 00.11.23. A copy of this prior document (Appendix "A") is enclosed for your reference.

The following information has been correlated and forwarded to provide His Worship, Councillors and your office with the rationale supporting the figures forwarded in my previous (November 23rd.) report. May I ask, on the concurrence of his Worship Mayor BAIRD that his Council members be provided with copies of these documents.

GENERAL:

The figures presented hereunder are based on data gathered from the Police and Crime Summary Statistics 1990-1999 Manual, published annually by the Attorney General of British Columbia. Received last week (November 27, 2000) they do not reflect current year statistics and are based on a resource level of 11 members. Unfortunately Year 2000 figures (final) will not be available until late Fall of Year 2001.

The RCMP provide police services to 59 municipalities in the Province of British Columbia. Of these 59 communities 31, like Merritt have populations ranging between 5,000 - 15,000 people. This is our "police universe" and figures provided within this report reflect our comparison to these 31 municipalities.

CRIME RATE:

This figure represents the number of criminal code offences occurring within the municipality per 1000 population. In 1999 the crime rate within the City of Merritt was **171/1000**. This was the fourth highest among the 31 municipalities within our "universe". The average crime rate of all 31 municipalities was 115/1000 population. The crime rate in the rural (provincial) area policed by this detachment, including our five First Nations Communities was 59 Criminal Code cases per 1000 population (59/1000).

Unclassified

CRIMINAL CODE CASELOAD:

This figure represents the number of criminal code (more involved/serious) cases managed by each member on the municipal detachment. This figure is generally considered a reliable indicator of workload/resource needs as we are basically comparing apples to apples, oranges to oranges from one community to the next.

In 1999 the Criminal Code caseload at Merritt Municipal Detachment was **125 per member**. This represented the second highest per member caseload of all 31 municipalities within our police universe.

The average caseload of members serving in these 31 detachments is 90 cases per year. To reach this "average" level Merritt would have to have employed 15 members in 1999. Having received an additional municipal resource in Year 2000, if the workload remains at 1999 levels this caseload per member would have been reduced to 115 cases per member. It should be noted our to date Year 2000 figures suggest a decrease in almost all crime area's.

From within this list of communities I have extracted five so you may have a more precise view of our current status when compared to similar communities within our police universe. The entire list is attached as Appendix "B" should you require a broader perspective.

City	1999 population	Police	CCC Offences	Crime Rate	Case Burden
Castlegar Mun	7,393	10	1008	136	101
Dawson Creek	11,812	21	2355	199	112
Kitimat Mun	11,672	15	801	69	53
Quesnel Mun	10,589	18	1871	177	104
Sechelt Mun	8,387	9	1262	150	140
Merritt Municipal	8,054	11	1379	171	125
Merritt Provincial	3,898	04 (+3)	229	59	33

The following regional community comparisons, some municipal and others provincial will give Council a further view of our crime rate/case burden when compared with our immediate geographic neighbours.

City/Town	Population	Crime Rate	Police	Case Burden
Hope Mun Detachment	6,828	171	12	97
Kelowna Mun Detachment	97,385	133	118	110
Kamloops Mun Detachment	81,958	129	101	105
Penticton Mun Detachment	32,627	145	36	132
Lillooet Prov Detachment	5,162	100	07	74
Merritt Municipal	8,387	171	11	125
Merritt Provincial	3,898	59	04 (+ 3 FNCP)	33

While Council has taken positive steps to address this issue over the past three years (two additional members), resource levels remain well below provincial averages. We are facing higher than average crime rates/caseloads with less (approximately 25%) then average resource levels. On the long term, regardless of our best efforts the quality of service (re-active as opposed to pro-active) provided by this detachment has been adversely effected.

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RESOURCE LEVELS -1990 - 2000

1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
09	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	11	12

RESOURCE REQUESTS - 6 Year Forecast - 2001/2006

These needs have been projected with a view of raising the municipal compliment to the minimum (provincial average) over the next six years. This will bring us to where we should have been in 1999 (based on caseloads) and does not include the addition of a much needed community policing/crime prevention position.

2001	2001	2003	2004	2005	2006
13	13	14	14	15	15

Community Police/Crime Prevention (Additional Resource)

You will note I have asked Council to consider a second, additional resource in Year 2001. This would be a community policing resource dedicated to the coordination and presentation of a wide range of educational/preventative programs within this community. This resource, in my view very much justified must be considered in addition to, not in place of one of the general duty (uniform/patrol) positions indicated above. Including this resource in the above projections would alter the table as follows:

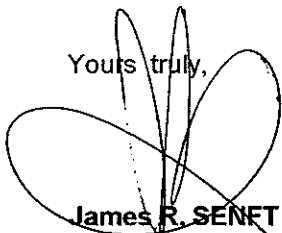
2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
14	14	15	15	16	16

This latter proposal reflects the figures projected in my prior correspondence (Appendix "A"). Proceeding in this manner will accelerate the process of addressing the current resource deficit, provide the opportunity for enhanced levels of community policing and help us avoid acquiring a further resource deficit as the community grows over the next six years.

Be assured I recognize and fully appreciate the fiscal impact the approval of each additional resource has on this community. Having said this I believe it is my responsibility to ensure Council is fully informed of the resource levels their communities needs dictate. This is not an inflated "wish list". Your review of the figures provided will indicate resourcing levels are currently well below regional/provincial norms. If my requests were fully granted at the best we would only achieve an "average" resource level.

I trust this information will provide Council with the information they require to make an informed decision in this regard. I remain fully committed to providing this community with the highest possible level of police service and remain available should Council wish to further discuss any aspect of this submission, or other matters relating to your police service.

Yours truly,



**James R. SEXT S/Sgt.
Commander - Merritt Detachment**

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Royal
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Canada

S/Sgt. James R. SENFT
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Ms. Jennifer BRIDAROLLI
Administrator - City of Merritt
P.O. Box 189
Merritt, B.C. V1K 1B8

00-11-23

Re: Preliminary Municipal/RCMP Budget Proposal - Year 2001

This correspondence has been forwarded in response to a request received from Treasurer Harry OSACHOFF on Wednesday, November 22nd, 2000.

A.1. YEAR 2001

1. Municipal Employees (Civilian)

a) Relief/Part Time Hour Requirement

Three municipal employees (civilian) are currently employed at Merritt Detachment. One is a ClerkTypist, one is a Complaint Taker/Dispatcher and the third is employed as our Court Liaison/Exhibit Custodian. All three positions are essential to our daily operations and their relief during absences (holidays, illness etc.) is critical.

i) Holidays: 2 x 7.0 hrs/day at 15 days per year.....210 hrs per year
1 x 7.0 hrs/day at 20 days per year.....140 hrs per year
Total.....350 hrs per year

ii) Sick Relief: I would ask that City Administration calculate and base this figure (estimation) on historical data I understand is available at your office.

b) Overtime

The only planned/forecast overtime will be in support of extended municipal policing operations related to the Merritt Mountain Music Festival. I understand, due to their unpredictable nature that justified Operational needs (ie: Clerical Support - Major Crime/Disasters) are not required.

i) Planned Overtime.....35 hours

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2. b) Municipal Obligations - Office Furniture

I understand Councillor GAGE has advised Council of the RCMP's intention to complete extensive renovations at this office (\$400,000) during the Federal Fiscal Year 2001/2002 (April 01, 2001 to April 01, 2002). This will include a 1500 sq foot addition and the need for additional furnishings.

This project is in its initial planning stages and we have not received the preliminary drawings from the architect to date. I expect there will be a need for some additional furniture (ie: desks/workstations) in support of the municipal compliment at this office. Estimations are impossible at this time however, understanding some of these costs may be incurred by the City I have assured Mr. OSACHOFF I will keep him fully appraised, in as timely a matter as is possible as this project develops.

3. a) Community Policing

Following discussions with Treasurer OSACHOFF I recommend Year 2001 approval at levels consistent with last years budget (reflected hereunder).

Community Policing General	\$9,000
Victim Services	\$12,800
Citizens Patrol	\$3,000
Auxiliary Policing	\$1,500

4. a) RCMP Resources (Regular Member) - Recommended Increases

- i) **PRIORITY POSITION**
General Duty Constable - uniformed
(General policing - patrol constable)
Effective: 01-04-01
Cost Estimate: .75 of \$72,000.....\$54,000
- ii) General Duty Constable - uniformed
(Crime Prevention/Community Policing)
Effective: 01-07-01
Cost Estimate: .50 of \$72,000.....\$36,000

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B.1. FIVE YEAR BUDGET FORECAST(Increases) - YEAR 2001/2006

- Year 2001 - One regular RCMP Member (General Duty/Patrol) - April 01.....\$54,000
- One regular RCMP Member (Crime Prev/Com Policing) - July 01.....\$36,000
- Year 2002 - None
- Year 2003 - One regular RCMP Member (General Duty/Patrol) - January 01, 2003
- Year 2004 - None
- Year 2005 - One regular RCMP Member (General Duty/Patrol) - April 01
- One municipal support clerk/secretary
- Year 2006 - None

I trust the detail provided is sufficient to meet your preliminary planning needs. Please advise if further rationale or data is required. I understand and look forward to having the opportunity of providing a further, detailed report (written/oral) to his Worship Mayor BAIRD and Council as budget deliberations move forward over the next several months. Thank you for your assistance and support in this regard.



**J.R. SENFT S/Sgt.
Commander
Merritt Detachment**

cc: Treasurer H. OSACHOFF

RCMP MUNICIPAL POLICING JURISDICTIONS OVER 15,000 POPULATION

APPENDIX "B"

POLICING JURISDICTION	1999 Population	Police Strength	CCC Offences	Crime Rate	Case Burden
Burnaby Mun	190,272	241	23,942	126	99
Campbell River Mun	31,295	39	5,562	178	1
Chilliwack Mun ^a	66,837	83	7,517	112	1
Coquitlam Mun ^a	111,549	111	11,387	102	103
Courtenay Mun	19,511	25	3,681	189	147
Cranbrook Mun	19,797	24	2,662	134	111
Fort St. John Mun	16,448	25	3,212	195	128
Kamloops Mun	81,958	101	10,575	129	105
Kelowna Mun	97,385	118	12,982	133	110
Langford Mun	19,567	23	2,432	124	106
Langley City Mun	24,178	41	4,730	196	115
Langley Township Mun ^a	89,060	107	7,927	89	74
Maple Ridge Mun ^a	62,165	66	7,064	114	107
Mission Mun	32,660	45	4,673	143	104
Nanaimo Mun ^a	76,364	107	10,618	139	99
North Cowichan Mun	27,665	26	2,488	90	96
North Vancouver City Mun ^a	44,975	62	5,503	122	89
North Vancouver District Mun ^a	85,995	92	5,845	68	64
Penticton Mun	32,627	36	4,736	145	132
Port Alberni Mun	19,334	33	3,345	173	101
Port Coquitlam Mun ^a	51,136	49	5,197	102	106
Prince George Mun	80,845	121	13,058	162	108
Prince Rupert Mun	16,985	36	2,956	174	82
Richmond Mun	164,009	179	13,551	83	76
Salmon Arm Mun ^a	16,488	14	1,409	85	101
Surrey Mun	336,034	378	41,748	124	110
Vernon Mun	34,227	39	5,323	156	136
White Rock Mun	17,573	23	1,777	101	81
Subtotal	1,866,939	2,244	225,900	121	101

RCMP MUNICIPAL POLICING JURISDICTIONS BETWEEN 5,000 AND 15,000 POPULATION

POLICING JURISDICTION	1999 Population	Police Strength	CCC Offences	Crime Rate	Case Bur.
Castlegar Mun	7,393	10	1,008	136	101
Coldstream Mun	9,551	6	531	56	89
Colwood Mun	14,676	15	1,222	83	81
Comox Mun	12,153	9	670	55	74
Dawson Creek Mun	11,812	21	2,355	199	112
Hope Mun	6,826	12	1,167	171	97
Kimberley Mun	6,916	8	653	94	82
Kitimat Mun	11,672	15	801	69	53
Ladysmith Mun	6,878	7	574	83	82
Lake Country Mun	9,532	8	600	63	75
Mackenzie Mun	6,250	8	690	110	86
Merritt Mun	8,054	11	1,379	171	125
North Saanich Mun	10,918	8	439	40	55
Oceanside Mun	10,358	13	1,503	145	116
Pitt Meadows Mun	14,756	19	1,357	92	71
Port Hardy Mun ^a	5,603	8	660	118	83
Powell River Mun	13,900	18	1,559	112	87
Qualicum Beach Mun	7,390	6	524	71	87
Quesnel Mun	10,589	18	1,871	177	104
Revelstoke Mun	8,226	11	682	83	62
Sechelt Mun	8,387	9	1,262	150	140
Sidney Mun	11,202	13	858	77	66
Smithers Mun	6,069	9	1,049	173	117
Spallumcheen Mun	5,688	3	237	42	79
Squamish Mun ^a	15,613	25	2,091	134	84
Summerland Mun	10,856	7	621	57	89
Terrace Mun	13,836	25	2,114	153	85
Trail Mun	7,626	12	952	125	79
View Royal Mun	7,325	8	630	113	104
Whistler Mun	9,430	19	2,117	224	111
Williams Lake Mun	11,917	23	2,260	190	8
Subtotal	301,402	384	34,636	115	90

Footnotes and Data Qualifiers for this report appear on page 98