



Tuesday February 25, 2020

Media Release

## **Town of Fort Macleod Withdraws from Community Peace Officer Program effective immediately.**

As of today, the Town of Fort Macleod has withdrawn from its agreement with the Solicitor General's office of Alberta for the provision of CPO officers for the Town of Fort Macleod.

This was not a decision that was made lightly and is always difficult when the livelihood of staff is in the balance.

Given the changes implemented regarding the CPO program and the fact that small communities will now be forced to pay for policing cost puts an unnecessary burden on smaller municipalities to ensure basic service levels are being provided in all areas for the benefit of our taxpayers.

That being said the additional downloading by the Province to municipalities has resulted in tough measures needing to be addressed as dictated by financial constraints which all small municipalities are currently experiencing.

Therefore, as of today Monday February 24, 2020 the Town of Fort Macleod has permanently laid off its two CPOs and will be endeavoring to have a Bylaw Officer in place for the Town of Fort Macleod by April 1, 2020.

If you require any clarifications or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me immediately.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sue Keenan".

Sue Keenan, CAO

### **About the Town of Fort Macleod**

Founded in 1874, the Town of Fort Macleod played a pivotal role in western Canadian history. This vibrant community of over 3,000 people lies within sight of the breath-taking Rocky Mountains, 150 km south of Calgary, 100 km east of the British Columbia border, and 80 km north of the US border, acting as a commercial centre for transportation and industry in southwest Alberta. For visitors, the town is a hub of western Canadian culture and heritage, and the destination of choice for experiencing rural, western and First Nations' culture in a world renowned, unique natural landscape. For more information on the town, visit [fortmacleod.com](http://fortmacleod.com).