

NEWS RELEASE

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Federal government should absorb cost of pay increase it negotiated with RCMP

EDMONTON – Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) was dismayed to learn late last week that those of its members who contract local police services through Alberta's RCMP owe \$60 million to the federal government for the RCMP's recent pay increase, which is retroactive to April 1, 2017.

Our association and other similar ones across the country were never consulted by the Government of Canada while it negotiated with the RCMP's union for a pay raise. The federal government clearly failed to consider the severe financial repercussions this retroactive pay increase will have on the hundreds of communities that currently count on Alberta's RCMP to meet their local policing needs. It is unfair and unreasonable to expect municipalities to find the additional funds needed to pay for this in their annual budgets.

Alberta Municipalities adds its voice to a growing nationwide call for the Government of Canada to reconsider its approach and absorb these one-time costs.

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From the smallest village to the largest city, across every region of the province, Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis) represents the communities where over 85% of Albertans live. ABmunis was founded in 1905 to provide urban and ruralregion communities a united voice. Alberta Municipalities now serves and represents more than 270 of Alberta's 334 municipalities.

We work with elected and administrative leaders of Alberta's summer villages, villages, town, cities, and specialized municipalities to advocate for solutions to their common issues, which we categorize as economic, environment, governance, infrastructure, or social.

And we help them build resilient and thriving communities by providing valuable services. We use our members' combined purchasing power to negotiate the best possible value and competitive pricing on employee benefits, insurance, energy, and other services needed to run an effective and efficient municipality.