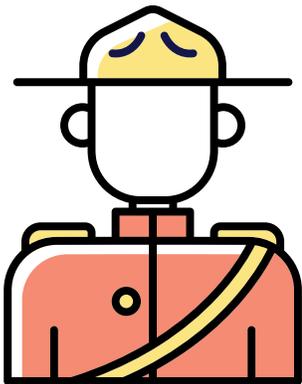


**PRIORITIES | FALL 2023**

# Policing and Public Safety

SARM represents its membership of rural municipal government in Saskatchewan and is the principal advocate in representing them before all levels of senior government.

- Rural crime continues to be a growing issue across Canada. SARM would encourage the government to ensure a concerted effort across all levels of government to support the recruitment and retention of RCMP officers, community safety officers, and much more.
- Proper enforcement, increased capacity, and federal investment in resources are required to achieve meaningful change when dealing with the volume and severity of crimes committed in Canada.
- Creating networks and integrating law enforcement agencies with community support is needed to ensure that municipalities can be safer for all residents.
- In future, the federal government needs to ensure that they will consult municipalities before making decisions that could be fiscally detrimental or impact levels of police services in local communities.
- Equipment costs, like body cameras, should be the federal government's responsibility and not downloaded to municipalities.



- SARM also encourages the federal government to keep RCMP Depot as the main training facility in Saskatchewan. Recruits gain valuable experience, and insight. For some this is their first experience in western Canada.
- When it comes to RCMP contract negotiations, rural municipalities are not a part of the conversation, despite being a paying contract partner. Municipalities are not consulted or proactively communicated with during collective bargaining negotiations. Any decision made has significant financial impacts on RMs, yet they have no voice; no information; until after the negotiation has concluded. Therefore, the federal government needs to fully absorb all retroactive pay increases, which were negotiated in good faith.
- We would like to applaud the RCMP for providing Saskatchewan with an RCMP officer who has the capacity to provide investigative support for livestock and agricultural related crimes. Our organization has advocated for this type of position within the RCMP for several years.