

From: Minister, ENV ENV:EX [<mailto:ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: November-15-19 3:15 PM
To: Robert Vagramov <RVagramov@portmoody.ca>
Subject: Port Moody Conservation Officer Service funding

Reference: 349359

November 15, 2019

His Worship Mayor Rob Vagramov
and Councillors
City of Port Moody
Email: rvagramov@portmoody.ca

Dear Mayor Vagramov and Council:

Thank you for your letter of September 12, 2019, regarding the Conservation Officer Service (COS).

The City of Port Moody is served by Conservation Officers from the Fraser North Zone within the South Coast Region, which spans from Port Moody in the west to the Mission area in the east. In 2018, the provincial government allocated \$3 million dollars to cover operating pressures in the COS. This has resulted in an overall increase in Conservation Officers for the Fraser North Zone. The zone is currently served by one sergeant and four field officers. A seasonal Wildlife Safety Response Officer was also deployed in the zone in 2019. Although the Conservation Officers are not stationed in Port Moody, the zone model means that officers in nearby locations are responsible for addressing emerging public safety and law enforcement issues in Port Moody. The Fraser North Zone is also, at times, supported by Conservation Officers located in the Fraser South Zone and the Sea to Sky Zone.

I appreciate the efforts the City of Port Moody has taken to address wildlife attractants in the municipality. While the Fraser North Zone is comparatively small in area, the number of calls for service related to human-wildlife conflicts is very high. To reduce wildlife conflict caused by humans, the COS works with WildSafeBC and its municipal partners to address attractant issues that draw wildlife into communities.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to respond to your request.

Sincerely,

George Heyman
Minister