
POLICING COMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

The Blackfalds Policing Committee is a municipally authorized group set up in communities policed by the RCMP. The Blackfalds Policing Committee is governed by [Bylaw 1125/11](#) and is tasked with the overall objective to act as a liaison between Town Council, Municipal Administration, the RCMP, By-law Enforcement and the citizens of Blackfalds. The Committee is to foster responsible community action towards the creation of a safe, secure community through an encouraging environment, which allows for public concerns to be addressed by all affected parties.

FUNCTION AND DUTIES:

In Alberta, municipalities with populations of more than 5,000 must provide for their own municipal policing. Policing committees have a voice and a responsibility to represent their communities and have established excellent working relationships with local RCMP Detachments and their staff.

The Blackfalds Policing Committee works directly with the local RCMP detachment to set priorities for policing in the community, communicates the public and Council's interests as well as develops the annual plans for policing. The role of the Policing Committee is to help maintain a balance between the independence and authority of the RCMP and accountability to the public and civilian authority. The Committee is to help maintain that balance by, improving community input and guidance, assisting in dealing with local complaints and concerns, increasing transparency regarding the operations of the RCMP in the community and removing the pressures associated with the appearance (perception or reality) of political interference.

TERM OF OFFICE:

One (1), two (2) or three (3) year terms, as deemed appropriate by Council.

MEMBERSHIP:

Seven (7) members appointed by Council;

Two (2) members of Council appointed annually at the Organizational Meeting;

One (1) of whom may be a youth between the age of sixteen or eighteen who attend school.

MEETING TIMES:

Meets quarterly, the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm, no meetings regularly scheduled in July & August;

Agenda packages are distributed a week prior to each meeting enabling members the time required to arrive at meetings prepared.

TRAINING:

The Ministry of Justice & Solicitor General (JSG) provides orientation training which covers the key duties of committee members.

Opportunity is provided to attend the annual Alberta Association of Police Governance Annual General Meeting and Conference held each spring.

Committee members are provided with a copy of the Alberta RCMP Policing Committee Handbook.