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From: Shirley Wright <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, 23 May 2024 9:48 am
To: Kenneth Craig; Doug Kennedy; Andrea Clarke; Amanda Steinhoff-Gray; Rory Cavanagh; Mike Hinchberger; Jennifer Prenger; Bill Stewart; Beth Blackwell; Emily Lutz
Cc: Shirley Wright
Subject: School Resources Officer

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I listened with interest to the presentation and discussion on a revote of the School Resources Officers continued funding.

I sincerely hope that you do revote and that the Resource Officer is returned to the school next year and in future years until services are put in place to give our kids a safe place to get help and advice in a convenient, accessible, unstructured and undocumented environment.

MONEY seems to be one of the problems: The MOK spends hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to bring and keep safe strangers in the tourism program with little financial return to the MOK. The MOK spends thousands each year on consultants and surveys without batting an eye. The School Resource Officer may be cheaper than suggested alternatives. Why wouldn't we support our own children first?

SHARING THE RESOURCE: seems to be an issue. Many of our resources are shared with no compensation, beaches, parks, courts, washrooms, pipeband, festivals, landfill, splashpad Why not share with our close friends and neighbours or ask for compensation?

DOCUMENTATION, STATISTICS, PROOF that the program helps, seems to be a problem. I think that the fact that it is convenient, accessible, unstructured and undocumented, makes it succeed. But we won't know, and shouldn't know of those success just to justify the cost. If one student gets help/advise and tells their friends, how many kids have been helped? Can't be known.

OTHER RESOURCES AVAILABLE: seems to be a proposed solution. But not in place. Unless located in the Schools, accessible, convenient, unstructured, undocumented, will the services be as used/effective? It would either be more expensive to the MOK or privately run for profit, by appointment or government bureaucracy. Our kids just need to talk to a non parent authority figure sometimes. I don't mind my taxes going to that.

My personal opinion is that we have a valuable, active, popular (I know that's a word not considered by the MOK, but I'm using it anyway) Resource and until there is an adequate, similar resource in place, this program needs to stay or our youth will be at risk and our community may suffer.

Please vote for this active resource until you have something better in place for our children.