



*Thomas Carrique*

*Commissioner      Le Commissaire*

File #: OPP-7900

September 30, 2020

Mr. Bernie Corbett  
Chair  
Haldimand County Police Services Board  
Central Administration Building  
45 Munsee Street North, PO Box 400  
Cayuga ON N0A 1E0

Dear Mr. Corbett:

I am writing further to the Haldimand County Police Services Board meeting of September 23, 2020, and the concerns raised as they relate to the Ontario Provincial Police's (OPP) response to the ongoing land dispute in Caledonia.

The role of the OPP remains that of keeping the peace and maintaining public safety. While we have no role to play in the underlying issues of the land dispute, and are not in a position to resolve them, we recognize that such issues are complex and sensitive in nature. We are committed to supporting the ongoing mediation efforts occurring, and our Provincial Liaison Team will continue to engage in dialogue with all involved parties to work toward a peaceful resolution.

The OPP is aware of the Court-issued injunctions with respect to land disputes in the Caledonia area. We understand our enforcement-related obligations, and have made numerous arrests and laid several charges. We continue to be actively engaged in efforts to ensure compliance with the injunctions.

The OPP will continue to follow the Court-endorsed Framework for Police Preparedness for Indigenous Critical Incidents, which provides guidance for a measured and sensitive response to these events. The framework supports police discretion in an effort to preserve and maintain public safety, and should not be mistaken for a lack of enforcement. The OPP framework is consistent with the 2019 Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police National Framework for Police Preparedness for Demonstrations and Assemblies – *Suggested Best Practices Document*.

Mr. Bernie Corbett

Page two

Chief Superintendent John Cain, Commander, West Region, and Deputy Commissioner Chris Harkins, Provincial Commander, Field Operations, are available to speak with you and your colleagues should you wish to discuss further. Chief Superintendent Cain can be reached at 519-652-4110, [John.Cain@opp.ca](mailto:John.Cain@opp.ca), and Deputy Commissioner Harkins at 705-329-6301, [Chris.Harkins@opp.ca](mailto:Chris.Harkins@opp.ca).

Please rest assured that the OPP is committed to ongoing collaborative efforts to maintain public safety while serving the needs of the community.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a final flourish.

Thomas Carrique, O.O.M.

c: Provincial Commander, Field Operations  
Commander, West Region