

Solicitor General

Office of the Solicitor General

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132-2021-3167
By email

August 18, 2021

His Worship Andy Letham
Mayor
The Office of Mayor and Council
Kawartha Lakes
26 Francis Street West. P.O. Box 9000
Lindsay ON K9V 5R8
aletham@kawarthalakes.ca

Dear Mayor Letham:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 1, 2021, requesting that the Ministry of the Solicitor General extend the July 1, 2021 deadline for municipalities to submit their community safety and well-being (CSWB) plans.

Public safety is a top priority for this government. The ministry is committed to protecting the people of Ontario and keeping our communities safe and resilient. We recognize the important role police services, municipalities, and community partners have in working collaboratively to ensure the safety and well-being of Ontarians.

Our government appreciates that municipalities are currently facing unprecedented circumstances in their communities due to the on-going impact of COVID-19. We also understand that some municipalities may experience delays in their planning and engagement processes as a result of the pandemic.

As you know, the ministry recently extended the deadline for the completion and adoption of CSWB plans to July 1, 2021, to provide municipalities with an additional six months from the original deadline of January 1, 2021. This change will help to ensure municipalities, police services and local service providers can continue to dedicate the necessary capacity and resources to respond to COVID-19. In addition, it will also provide adequate time to effectively undertake consultations, work collaboratively with multi-sectoral partners, and meet the legislative requirements to develop meaningful and effective CSWB plans.

The ministry also offers a number of resources to support municipalities and their partners as they undertake the planning process. For example, the ministry has developed the [Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework: A Shared Commitment in Ontario](#) booklet, which includes the CSWB Planning Framework and a toolkit of practical guidance documents to assist communities as they develop and implement local CSWB plans. For your reference, the booklet and other ministry resources are available on the ministry's [website](#).

We will continue to look for ways to support our municipal partners to ensure they are able to meet their legislative requirements for CSWB planning. Where possible, municipalities are encouraged to explore alternative and innovative approaches to continue on-going planning efforts, such as through virtual engagement (e.g., webinars, teleconferences, online surveys, etc.).

I greatly appreciate your continued efforts as we move forward on this modernized approach to community safety and well-being planning. Through collaboration, we can work to build safer and stronger communities in Ontario.

I look forward to receiving the Kawartha Lakes' community safety and well-being plan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sylvia Jones', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sylvia Jones
Solicitor General