

## Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health

Legislative Building Regina, Canada S4S 0B3 AUG 0 5 2021

BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS

JUL 2 7 2021

Our File: 21-754

Jo Custead Chair Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners 222 - 3rd Avenue North SASKATOON SK S7K 0J5

Dear Jo:

Thank you for your April 22, 2021 letter about funding to support the Saskatoon Police and Crisis Teams (PACT). I appreciate you taking the time to share your concerns and apologize for the delay in response as we have been handling a very high volume of inquiries.

Mental health and suicide prevention remain high priorities for our government. We continue to invest new funding in the area of mental health and addictions and continue to support many new initiatives. In 2021-22, our government is investing a record total of \$458 million for mental health and addictions services and supports across Saskatchewan, including a new investment of \$1 million, bringing the total investment in suicide prevention to \$2.25 million.

As you know, our government is committed to the PACT model. The 2021-22 Provincial Budget includes \$500,000 to extend the PACT-like mental health pilot with RCMP in rural areas and an additional \$240,000 to expand PACT services to Estevan.

Our government appreciates the continued efforts of the Saskatoon PACT team but, unfortunately, cannot provide funding at this time. We will keep your proposal and consider your needs for future funding as opportunities arise.

Again, thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

**Everett Hindley** 

Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, Seniors and Rural and Remote Health

cc: Honourable Paul Merriman, Minister of Health