



September 28, 2018

To: City of Saskatoon  
Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services

Attention: Councilor Darren Hill, Chairperson

Dear Councilor Hill:

**Re: Letter of Support of the Community Support Program**

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Since the summer of 2012 when the City of Saskatoon established the Community Support Program (CSP) to address street activity in the Broadway, Downtown and Riversdale Business Improvement Districts (BIDS), a very important partnership developed between the Saskatoon Police Service and the CSP. Community Support Officers (CSO) began patrolling in the three BIDS in highly visible uniforms which were a reassurance of safety to the general public, the ability to connect community members in need, to supports and service providers, and by foot patrols throughout the three BIDS liaising with local businesses to identify and collaborate to generate solutions.

The partnership between the SPS and the CSP has continued to grow over time. The CSO's have been issued police radios equipped with GPS to not only increase their safety but to assist the SPS in becoming more efficient with the use of our resources. The CSO's are now being dispatched to quality of life calls by SPS Communications Dispatchers that fall within the CSP mandate and they in turn triage these calls and handle a great deal of them without police assistance. This reduces a great deal of duplication of services and allows the officers to be freed up to attend serious calls where criminal code offences have occurred or are in progress.

Please consider this as a letter of support to continue with the Community Support Program as they are a valued partner of the police service, valuable resource brokers for the community, and great ambassadors for the City of Saskatoon.

Yours truly,

Troy Cooper, M.O.M. MBA

**Chief of Police**

Enclosures

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