



Royal Canadian  
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie Royale  
du Canada

Vernon North Okanagan RCMP Detachment  
3402 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
Vernon, BC, V1T 5E5

Date: September 17th, 2024

Dear City of Vernon:

The Vernon North Okanagan RCMP, in partnership with School District 22, is in the planning stages for the 25th edition of the Jean Minguy Memorial Youth Academy program which will be held in spring of 2025 at the Vernon Army Camp.

The Academy offers students aged 16-18, who are interested in police sciences or law enforcement as a potential career, the opportunity to participate in a simulated police academy environment. Over 6 days and 5 nights, candidates will navigate simulated police scenarios, complete daily physical training, learn foot drill, and will receive basic instruction in police tactics, use of force, law, community policing principles, and related academics. Each year, the academy draws students from a number of school districts in southeaster British Columbia, the majority of which are drawn from SD22 (Vernon) and SD23 (Kelowna). In 2024, of the 38 candidates, 18 represented schools from the City of Vernon.

In the past, the City of Vernon has provided generous financials to the amount of \$6500. Additionally, the City of Kelowna, District of Coldstream, and the City of Penticton have also made financial contributions. Students pay a fee of \$350 to attend the academy. This fee, along with funding from municipalities, has allowed us to run the program at "net zero" and to cover only expenses. The Vernon North Okanagan RCMP, along with our partner detachments, cover expenses, in the form of instructors and other logistical support.

Given the recent financial climate, the program has faced an increase to base operating costs such as food and lodging. As a result of this, we were unable to break even for the 2024 Academy and are respectfully requesting City of Vernon Council approval an increase in annual funding of the program to \$8000 for 2025 and beyond. This increase in funding will allow us to keep this worthwhile program affordable for students and families. We are also in the process of making similar requests from our other supporting municipalities.

With your generous support, the RCMP's Jean Minguy Memorial Youth Academy will continue to offer the opportunity to grow and develop the future leaders in our community.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Cst Neil Horne