Ms. Margaret (Peggy) Dupuis, CMO
CAO/Clerk/Deputy Treasurer
Oliver Paipoonge Municipality
4569 Oliver Road
Murillo ON P0T 2G0

Dear Ms. Dupuis:

Thank you for your letter and for sharing Council’s resolution, addressed to the former Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, requesting the return of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) helicopter to the north. I apologize for the delay in the response.

My most important priority as Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services is the safety and security of all Ontarians, including Northerners. Without a doubt, safety must always be our first concern when making important decisions.

I understand that OPP Commissioner J.V.N. (Vince) Hawkes has had discussions with various communities throughout the Northern Region. The OPP continues to communicate with the affected communities, so that all Northerners can be assured that public safety and aviation support in the north are maintained, and that the safety of people in the Thunder Bay District will not be compromised by the relocation.

I also understand that the OPP continues to work closely with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry to ensure the sharing of provincial assets and ongoing use of ministry aircraft based in Dryden, Thunder Bay, Timmins, Muskoka, Sudbury and Sault Ste. Marie to ensure the safety of all Ontarians, including northern residents.

I can assure you that we will continue to review this closely.

Thank you again for your letter and for sharing Council’s resolution.

Sincerely,

David Orazietti
Minister

c: Mr. Matthew Torigian, Deputy Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services
OPP Commissioner J.V.N. (Vince) Hawkes