

JOINT STATEMENT

Our collective associations are extremely disappointed that Budget 2023 does not include a commitment by the federal government to absorb retroactive salary costs resulting from the first RCMP collective bargaining agreement. Municipalities were not meaningfully consulted during these negotiations despite being paying contract partners. The federal government's unwillingness to absorb these costs will directly result in significant property tax increases, delayed infrastructure projects, and other cost-cutting measures to the detriment of local communities at a time when municipalities are dealing with inflationary pressures and affordability concerns from ratepayers. We call on the federal government to immediately reconsider its approach to this issue and commit to absorbing all retroactive salary costs given the lack of consultation and inadequate communication on this file.

