

ALBERTA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (AEMA):

1. Question (Page PA-131 – PA-132)

Mr. Schmidt: Thank you, Mr. Chair. Page 39 of the annual report discusses emergency management in Alberta. Can the deputy minister tell the committee how many states of local emergency were declared in 2022-23?

Mr. Schmidt: Thank you. Can you give us a breakdown of the types of local emergencies that were declared as well? Fire, flood, tornado. When you report back to the committee, can you give us a breakdown of the types of local emergencies?

Answer:

Response to: Can the deputy minister tell the committee how many states of local emergency were declared in 2022-23? Can you give us a breakdown of the types of local emergencies that were declared as well?

There were 10 states of local emergency (SOLE's) in April 1, 2022- March 31, 2023:

- Flooding there were 5 SOLE's
- Wildfire there were 3 SOLE's
- Tornado there was 1 SOLE
- Air Quality there was 1 SOLE

2. Question (Page PA-132)

Mr. Schmidt: How many wildfires did local authority firefighters respond to in '22-23?

Answer:

Response to: How many wildfires did local authority firefighters respond to in '22-23?

Forestry and Parks (FP) provides mutual aid support to local authorities located outside the Forest Protection Area (FPA) that are dealing with wildfires. Neither FP or AEMA tracks the total number of wildfires that are outside the FPA as not all wildfires require provincial support. Each local authority fire service will have their own data for this question.

3. Question (Page PA-132)

Mr. Schmidt: Thank you very much.

I'm also interested in knowing what reviews of the responses to wildfires by local authorities were conducted in 2022-23 and any themes that popped out from the results of those reviews.

Answer:

Response to: I'm also interested in knowing what reviews of the responses to wildfires by local authorities were conducted in 2022-23 and any themes that popped out from the results of those reviews.

There is currently no obligation for local authorities to inform us of post-incident assessments that they may have conducted.

The third-party independent review being conducted by MNP on behalf of AEMA for the 2023 hazard season started on March 1, 2023, and will include engagement with local authorities to identify lessons learned and areas for improvement.

4. Question (Page PA-132)

Mr. Schmidt: Okay. When you get back to me, I'm wondering if there were any incidents of mismanagement on the part of local authorities that popped up in '22-23.

Answer:

Response to: When you get back to me, I'm wondering if there were any incidents of mismanagement on the part of local authorities that popped up in '22-23.

Local authorities are responsible for managing their own emergency response operations including fiscal responsibility to their elected officials and residents.

AEMA has engaged MNP to conduct an independent third party review of the response to the 2023 wildfires. The review will include engagement with local authorities to identify lessons learned, including if responses might have been more effective.

5. Question (Page PA-133)

Mr. Schmidt: Was there anything in the reviews that the department conducted that suggested that wildfire management would have been better had the province assumed control of the local authorities' firefighting forces?

Answer:

Response to: Was there anything in the reviews that the department conducted that suggested that wildfire management would have been better had the province assumed control of the local authorities' firefighting forces?

For the 2023 hazard season, which officially started March 1, 2023, AEMA has engaged MNP to conduct a third party review of the response to the wildfires which will include engagement with local authorities to identify lessons learned.

6. Question (Page PA-137)

Mr. Dyck: Excellent. Well, thank you very much. On the 911 program, in my last 30 seconds. The 911 program was given \$43.36 million to public safety answering points, which represents just over a \$13 million increase over the last fiscal. How did this increased funding help strengthen and support the delivery of local 911 services? End time. Back to you.

Answer:

Response to: The 911 program was given \$43.36 million to public safety answering points, which represents just over a \$13 million increase over the last fiscal. How did this increased funding help strengthen and support the delivery of local 911 services?

This funding is being used to support the implementation of next generation 911 capabilities including the ability to share images and video with 911, software acquisition and upgrades, technology hardware upgrades, staffing costs and operational costs like utilities and staff uniforms.

7. Question (Page PA-141)

Ms de Jonge: Thank you, Chair. We're hearing about incidents of gun and gang-related violence more often in the news. Page 21 of the annual report discusses the gun and gang violence action fund, so what actions did PSES take in 2022-23 to reduce violent crimes associated with guns and gangs?

As well, key objective 4.2 on page 40 of the annual report is to "lead the implementation of a provincial hazard identification and risk assessment framework to help inform disaster risk reduction decision making." Page 40 discusses the implementation of the HIRA in alignment with the findings of the 2020 office of the Auditor General report. What progress was made in 2022-23 towards developing and implementing the HIRA, and what benefits will this bring to Albertans?

As well, the Alberta Emergency Management Agency coordinates large-scale emergency and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery programs and initiatives. Page 43 of the annual report details field operations for the AEMA, and I see that there are 11 regional field officers spread across the province into seven regions. Can the department please share the benefits that Albertans experienced in 2022-23 from this regional approach?

As well, performance measure 4(a) discussed on page 45 of the annual report measures the performance of local authorities visited by an Alberta Emergency Management Agency field officer and had their community emergency management plan reviewed annually.

[This performance measure was introduced in the 2016-17 fiscal year. It reflects the Alberta Emergency Management Agency's efforts to plan and conduct emergency management plan reviews.]

[Community visits are typically within operational control unless an emergency or disaster event occurs.]

I see that in 2022-23 field officer visits and community emergency management plan reviews were completed in 90 per cent of local authorities. That's 301 out of 335, meeting the target set for this year. So the questions are: how did these visits and reviews contribute to the ministry's efforts to support communities with emergency management activities, and how is this performance target set?

Thank you.

Answer:

Response to: As well, key objective 4.2 on page 40 of the annual report is to “lead the implementation of a provincial hazard identification and risk assessment framework to help inform disaster risk reduction decision-making.” Page 40 discusses the implementation of the HIRA in alignment with the findings of the 2020 office of the Auditor General report. What progress was made in 2022-23 towards developing and implementing the HIRA, and what benefits will this bring to Albertans?

The Alberta Emergency Management Agency made significant progress in laying HIRA’s foundational principles and method in 2022-2023. This work included the creation of training materials, validation of statistical methodology, engagement with stakeholders, and conducting walk through sessions in Banff and Lethbridge.

Once completed, the HIRA framework and toolkit will assist the GoA and local authorities with identifying, managing and prioritizing risks using consistent language, terminology and evaluation framework.

Response to: As well, the Alberta Emergency Management Agency coordinates large-scale emergency and disaster prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery programs and initiatives. Page 43 of the annual report details field operations for the AEMA, and I see that there are 11 regional field officers spread across the province into seven regions. Can the department please share the benefits that Albertans experienced in 2022-23 from this regional approach?

These staff provide direct and ongoing Emergency Management program development support to Alberta Municipalities and Metis Settlements through the provision of training, advice, and support during emergency operations by liaising between local authorities, the GoA and other Emergency Management partners.

The program supports local authorities in meeting their regulatory obligations under the Emergency Management Act and the Local Authorities Emergency Management Regulation.

Response to: I see that in 2022-23 field officer visits and community emergency management plan reviews were completed in 90 per cent of local authorities. That’s 301 out of 335, meeting the target set for this year. So the questions are: how did these visits and reviews contribute to the ministry’s efforts to support communities with emergency management activities, and how is this performance target set?

This target is set based on reasonability of Field Officers’ ability to conduct the majority of visits within the typical timeframe (normally throughout Q3-4), operational commitments depending and on historical precedence of achieving the target number of reviews in an average year.

Public Security Division (PSD):

8. Question (Page PA-127)

Mr. Haji: Thank you, Mr. Chair, and thank you to the deputy minister as well as the Auditor General for his remarks. As per the 2022-23 annual report page 21 indicates that, as you also alluded to in

your opening remarks, Alberta received \$10 million through the federal government to enhance efforts to prevent, disrupt, and increase awareness of gun and gang violence. My first question is: does the department track gang and gun violence over the years?

Answer:

Response to: My first question is: does the department track gang and gun violence over the years?

The Public Security Division (PSD) tracks gun and gang violence by utilizing a number of Statistics Canada Surveys, specifically the Uniform Crime Reporting Survey and the Homicide Survey.

9. Question (Page PA-127)

Mr. Haji: Is that reported in the annual report in terms of year to year, the number of gun and gang violence, whether it is casualties or whatever?

Answer:

Response to: Is that reported in the annual report in terms of year to year, the number of gun and gang violence, whether it is casualties or whatever?

On an annual basis, PSD tracks a number of different information sources related to gun and gang violence. The Homicide Survey is utilized to find information related to homicides linked to organized crime and gang violence.

10. Question (Page PA-128 – PA-129)

Mr. Haji: How many total do we have, hate crime officers? Even if those are seconded ones, then how many do we have?

Answer:

Response to: How many total do we have, hate crime officers? Even if those are the seconded ones, then how many do we have?

Throughout Alberta's Law Enforcement Community, there are approximately twenty-five (25) policing personnel who have formalized roles or responsibilities relating to hate motivated crimes and incidents.

In addition to this core cadre, there are numerous personnel from a broad range of public agencies that provide direct and indirect supports in relation to reduction of, response to, and recovery from hate-themed occurrences throughout Alberta.

11. Question (Page PA-129)

Mr. Haji: Yeah. There was a whole action list of recommendations that came from the antiracism council, and the OPV did a pretty good job in terms of the research that the department funded to provide recommendations and six key recommendations, all of them on the issues of hate. The question is: when you already have this number of recommendations and you have had liaisons, again, why would you wait on other recommendations and then determine whether you will keep that? That is the question. If you could provide some explanations on that, that would be great because I'm looking into the time and we may not have time to go through that.

Answer:

Response to: The question is when you already have this number of recommendations and you have had liaisons, again, why would you wait on other recommendations and then determine whether you will keep that?

There are three sets of complementary recommendation that are guiding the government's efforts in relation to hate related behaviours of concern:

- Alberta Anti-Racism Advisory Council Recommendations (Theme 2: Justice System Reforms) and Action Plan (Theme 4: Responding to hate incidents and crimes).
- Provincial Hate Crime Study Recommendations
- Hate Crime Community Liaison Recommendations

While there is recognized overlap between these recommendation sets, each provides a slightly different perspective on addressing hate.

The overarching objective of the provincial hate-motivated crime study program was to identify common patterns and develop evidence-based recommendations on how to better reduce, respond to, and assist survivors in recovering from hate motivated crimes and incidents in Alberta. This study was intended facilitate recommendations in relation to law enforcement, the justice system, victim services, community supports, public policy and legislation validation/modernization at municipal, provincial, and federal levels.

The Hate Crimes Community Liaisons (HCCLs) were appointed in May 2022 to act as a special advisor to the Minister. The Hate Crimes Community Liaison (HCCLs) were engaged to provide a comprehensive report of recommendations to the Ministry within two years of their appointment. Their recommendations were to be focused on: clarifying definitions of hate and bias incidents; considering community impact; proposing a path forward to address shortcomings of the current legal framework; recommending best practices for repairing the harm caused; and addressing how to better coordinate efforts.

12. Question (Page PA-129)

Mr. Haji: The trend of hate crimes and challenges requires solutions. According to the government-funded – again, on page 26 you indicate the research that you provided funding for, and it provided six recommendations, I see. Are there any steps taken so far on those recommendations?

Answer:

Response to: The trend of hate crimes and challenges requires solutions. According to the government-funded – again, on page 26 you indicate the research that you provided funding for, and it provided six recommendations, I see. Are there any steps taken so far on those recommendations?

There has already been incremental progress related to the provincial hate crime study recommendations; including, but not limited to:

- Outreach to law enforcement and communities to increase awareness and consistency in interpretation of hate crimes and incidents.

- Updated education resources for victim service providers dealing with hate crimes.
- Provision of foundational and in-service training for law enforcement personnel, peace officers, and probation/parole officers.
- Enhanced collaboration with community organizations and engagement with diverse communities.
- Refinements to ASIP grants in response to geopolitical events and community feedback on eligibility gaps.
- Dedicated outreach to Indigenous communities that is responsive to on-Reserve circumstances and unique needs.
- Incubation of school-based programming in partnership with youth organizations and other partners.
- Evaluation of data collection, analysis, and reporting mechanisms to enhance inter-agency consistency and data accuracy.
- Enhancement of inter-agency information sharing and collaboration to increase investigational expertise and effective resolution incidents.

13. Question (Page PA-133)

Ms Renaud: Sure. Thanks.

Real quick, page 29 talks about the Police Amendment Act, 2022. In particular, I had a quick question on page 30. In the three bullets that talk about the key changes in the act, the second bullet, new requirements for police to develop community safety plans and diversity and inclusion plans: could you talk to me about the framework that you're going to use to measure these plans beyond just did you get them or not?

Ms Lajeunesse: Sure. Thank you very much. We do have that work under way. We initiated some regulatory development around furthering the amendments that were made in 2022 to support a variety of those things. I think some of those things were undertaken in the fall, and we have some internal capacity as well to monitor the development and how robust those plans are.

Ms Renaud: Will those community safety plans be turned in to the ministry? How will the ministry know they're in place, they're sufficient?

Answer:

Response to: Will those community safety plans be turned in to the ministry? How will the ministry know they're in place, they're sufficient?

Yes, the community safety plans must be provided to the Minister annually.

14. Question (Page PA-134)

Ms Renaud: Okay. In the first few months of this pilot or short-term project the Alberta sheriffs and EPS "laid 274 charges against 66 people." That's on page 38. How many of those 66 people identified as being Indigenous or were Indigenous?

Ms Lajeunesse: I think we would have to commit to bringing that information back. I don't have that at hand.

9:10

Ms Renaud: If you would table that for the committee, that would be great.

Of the 274 people who were charged, how many were from racialized communities?

Ms Lajeunesse: Again, we will seek to bring that information back. We don't have it at hand.

Ms Renaud: Okay. Is that data that the ministry collects?

Ms Lajeunesse: We would have to check. Because these were largely police-led initiatives, we will have to check with the police services in terms of the additional data that was collected.

Ms Renaud: Does the ministry collect any race-based data?

Answer:

Response to: How many of those 66 people identified as being Indigenous or were Indigenous?

And to: Of the 274 people who were charged, how many were from racialized communities?

And to: Does the ministry collect any race-based data?

Alberta Sheriffs do not collect any race-based data. The branch does not store/keep race-based data on people they encounter, charge nor transport.

15. Question (Page PA-134 – PA-135)

Ms Renaud: If you would do that, that would be great.

In March the pilot teams transported 74 people to shelters or social agencies, 23 in Calgary. How many of those folks that were transported were Indigenous or identified as Indigenous?

Ms Lajeunesse: Thank you. Through the chair, similarly, we will have to bring a breakdown back.

Ms Renaud: That would be great.

How many of those were from racialized communities for both Edmonton and Calgary?

Ms Lajeunesse: Thank you. Again, we will endeavour to provide that information.

Ms Renaud: Thank you. I look forward to getting that. Could you give us a list of which specific social agencies people were taken to or sent to?

Ms Lajeunesse: Yes. Again, we will see what information we have.

Ms Renaud: Provide that list to the committee: that'd be great.

How many of those organizations were 12-step organizations?

Answer:

Response to: How many of those folks that were transported were Indigenous or identified as Indigenous?

And to: How many of those were from racialized communities for both Edmonton and Calgary?

Alberta Sheriffs do not collect any race-based data. The branch does not store / keep race- based data on people they encounter, charge nor transport.

Response to: Could you give us a list of which specific social agencies people were taken to or sent to?

And to: How many of those organizations were 12-step organizations?

In Calgary, the social agencies were the Drop-in Centre and Alpha House.

In Edmonton, the social agencies were Hope Mission, the Mustard Seed, Boyle Street Community Services.

16. Question (Page PA-135)

Ms Renaud: Just at the time of the report. Okay.

Prior to the announcement of the grant how many Indigenous communities and municipalities inquired about establishing their own police service?

Answer:

Response to: Prior to the announcement of the grant how many Indigenous communities and municipalities inquired about establishing their own police service?

Prior to the announcement of the grant program in June 2022, department officials were aware of Sikiska Nation's formal interest in establishing its own self-administered First Nations police service to assume policing responsibility from the RCMP. The department does not track informal enquiries that Indigenous communities and municipalities may have with the Minister or other provincial elected officials regarding the establishment of their own police service.

17. Question (Page PA-135)

Ms Renaud: Prior to committing \$9.7 million to the city of Grande Prairie to establish a municipal police force, how many conversations about creating a municipal police force were initiated by the municipality and not the ministry?

Answer:

Response to: Prior to committing \$9.7 million to the city of Grande Prairie to establish a municipal police force, how many conversations about creating a municipal police force were initiated by the municipality and not the ministry?

The department is aware of eight meetings that occurred between the Ministry and officials from the City of Grande Prairie. All these meeting requests were initiated by the City of Grande Prairie.

18. Question (Page PA-135)

Ms Renaud: Okay.

Despite a lack of consultation with Grande Prairie residents and unknown cost implications, can the ministry explain the financial benefits to the taxpayers of Alberta and Grande Prairie, what the tax advantage would be to creating a municipal police force?

Answer:

Response to: Despite a lack of consultation with Grande Prairie residents and unknown cost implications, can the ministry explain the financial benefits to the taxpayers of Alberta and Grande Prairie, what the tax advantage would be to creating a municipal police force?

Alberta's *Police Act* gives urban municipalities over 5,000 population the responsibility to provide for their own policing, which also includes various policing model options that they may choose to provide for this responsibility. Questions related to the advantages or trade-offs of choosing a standalone municipal police service over RCMP contract policing should be directed to the City of Grande Prairie.

19. Question (Page PA-135)

Ms Renaud: The city of Grande Prairie policing transition final report stated that \$19 million will cover the transition costs, of which the GOA will cover \$9.7 million. Now, that report was not a feasibility study and does not investigate the additional costs like IT, equipment, resources, recruitment, and training, so what information was used by the ministry to verify the budget request amount? Was it sufficient? How does the ministry know it was sufficient? How much federal funding will be lost with the loss of RCMP service in Grande Prairie?

Answer:

Response to: How much federal funding will be lost with the loss of RCMP service in Grande Prairie?

Financial questions related to the City of Grande Prairie's decision to establish a municipal police service should be directed to the City of Grande Prairie, as the department does not maintain this information.

Response to: Only 1 percent of the population of Grande Prairie was able to provide feedback on a police transition. Now, does that seem sufficient, or does the ministry have concerns about that?

Alberta's *Police Act* gives urban municipalities over 5,000 population the responsibility to provide for their own policing, which also includes various policing model options that they may choose to provide for this responsibility. For these municipalities, the responsibility to communicate with residents on which policing model is best for community safety rests with municipal governments as choosing policing models is a function of municipal elected officials.

20. Question (Page PA-140)

Ms Renaud: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm certain we've all heard anecdotal reports about law enforcement misunderstanding movements or behaviors of people with disabilities, whether they're autistic or perhaps having a seizure, and inadvertently, you know, maybe are reacting in a way that they shouldn't. These things happen, and I think it just sort of underlines the importance of training. On page 29 and 30 in the discussion on the key changes to the Police Amendment Act, 2022, the second bullet describes a new requirement for police to develop community safety plans for diversity and inclusion plans. Going back to my comment about the importance of training, I'm wondering if the ministry could offer some comments in the reply about how this will be addressed. I'm using a very specific example from the community I represent, which is St. Albert, and that was an issue that they had last year.

I would also like a list, if possible – if the ministry could share a list with all of the initiatives that were funded in this fiscal that we're reviewing through the victim of crime fund changes.

How does the ministry ensure – so what accommodations are offered to victims of crime who identify with disabilities or who have disabilities? How are they supported and monitored? What metrics are used, if any? Just, you know, keeping in mind that this is a pretty significant portion of the population. I think the UCP's own ministry has said that about 21 per cent of the Alberta population is disabled, so I think these plans are quite important.

That is it for me.

Answer:

Response to: On page 29 and 30 in the discussion on the key changes to the Police Amendment Act, 2022, the second bullet describes a new requirement for police to develop community safety plans for diversity and inclusion plans. Going back to my comment about the importance of training, I'm wondering if the ministry could offer some comments in the reply about how this will be addressed.

- The requirement for police services to develop Equity, Diversity and Inclusion plans is separate and distinct from the requirement to construct Community Safety plans;
- Several of the police services currently have EDI plans and strategies, however, this regulation will ensure that EDI plans are a priority for all police services in Alberta;
- Although the content of these plans are not regulated by the Ministry, it is anticipated that the plans will contain objectives such as enhanced training and increased awareness.

21. Question (Page PA-140 – PA-141)

Mr. Haji: Yeah. The department introduced amendments to the Police Act to improve police accountability and enhance public confidence by reforming police governance and oversight and strengthening ties to the communities. Can the department elaborate improvements that the government has made in strengthening community relations, relationships, and public confidence, particularly Indigenous communities, Black communities, and gender-diverse communities?

According to a study that was commissioned by the department during the reporting period, a number of interviews from Black and Indigenous communities indicated a lack of trust in the police or believed that reporting hate crime incidents will not result in meaningful investigation or justice. What steps is the department taking to bring confidence and trust with the system among these respective communities? That's it for me.

Answer:

Response to: Can the department elaborate improvements that the government has made in strengthening community relations, relationships, and public confidence, particularly Indigenous communities, Black communities, and gender-diverse communities?

And to: What steps is the department taking to bring confidence and trust with the system among these respective communities?

PSES leads a number of initiatives that may help build confidence and trust in the system among these respective communities including:

Family Information Liaison Unit (FILU)

- FILU is a single point of contact where families of missing and murdered Indigenous people can access culturally safe support and holistic, personalized services. The FILU connects families with the information needed to navigate the justice system, as well as counselling and other supports to help manage the grief and loss of a missing or murdered loved one.

Alberta Security Infrastructure Program

- The Alberta Security Infrastructure Program (ASIP) supports faith-based and community groups at risk of hate or bias-motivated violence, including Indigenous communities, Black communities and gender-diverse communities. The annual budget of \$5 million, supports education and training to improve an organization's ability to prevent or respond to hate motivated crimes or incidents, as well as funding for security assessments and security infrastructure improvements to facilities, and to cover costs associated with security personnel to patrol facilities or high-profile events.

Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee

- The Public Security Indigenous Advisory Committee is advising government on public safety initiatives, including victim services, restorative justice, and crime prevention, to help ensure government policies, programs and processes align with the needs of Indigenous communities.

22. Question (Page PA-141)

Ms de Jonge: Thank you, Chair. We're hearing about incidents of gun and gang-related violence more often in the news. Page 21 of the annual report discusses the gun and gang violence action fund, so what actions did PSES take in 2022-23 to reduce violent crimes associated with guns and gangs?

As well, key objective 4.2 on page 40 of the annual report is to "lead the implementation of a provincial hazard identification and risk assessment framework to help inform disaster risk reduction decision-making." Page 40 discusses the implementation of the HIRA in alignment with the findings of the 2020 office of the Auditor General report. What progress was made in 2022-23 towards developing and implementing the HIRA, and what benefits will this bring to Albertans?

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Thank you.

Answer:

Response to: We're hearing about incidents of gun and gang-related violence more often in the news. Page 21 of the annual report discusses the gun and gang violence action fund, so what actions did PSES take in 2022-23 to reduce violent crimes associated with guns and gangs?

Alberta received \$10.3M in 2022 – 2023 through the federal Gun and Gang violence Action Fund to enhance efforts to prevent, disrupt, and increase awareness of gun and gang violence.

Gang Exit and Community Outreach Services program provided gang wraparound services and community grant program(s) to prevent gang membership, and support to Indigenous residents leaving substance abuse treatment centres or corrections facilities. Education and awareness activities were completed including counter-narrative campaign, gang prevention network and public resource website to address gang concerns in communities.

Strategy, Support and Integrated Initiatives (SSII):

23. Question (Page PA-129)

Mr. Haji: My follow-up question would be that according to the research that the government funded during the reporting period, nearly 50 per cent of racial and ethnic and gender-diverse minorities in the general population report experiencing hate. My question is: what is the representation of these groups within the committees? [within Victims Crime and Public Safety Programs Committees]?

Answer:

Response to: My question is: what is the representation of these groups within the committees?

The Victims of Crime and Public Safety Programs Committee is an independent body that evaluates grant applications for programs. Members are selected based on several criteria including experience working with victims of crime, previous board experience/leadership qualities, public awareness of issues impacting victims of crime, and knowledge of the criminal justice system. Members are not selected based on, nor are they required to disclose, their race, ethnicity, or gender.

24. Question (Page PA-140 – PA-141)

Ms Renaud: Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm certain we've all heard anecdotal reports about law enforcement misunderstanding movements or behaviours of people with disabilities, whether they're autistic or perhaps having a seizure, and inadvertently, you know, maybe are reacting in a way that they shouldn't. These things happen, and I think it just sort of underlines the importance of training. On page 29 and 30 in the discussion on the key changes to the Police Amendment Act, 2022, the second bullet describes a new requirement for police to develop community safety plans for diversity and inclusion plans. Going back to my comment about the importance of training, I'm wondering if the ministry could offer some comments in the reply about how this will be addressed. I'm using a very specific example from the community I represent, which is St. Albert, and that was an issue that they had last year.

I would also like a list, if possible – if the ministry could share a list with all of the initiatives that were funded in this fiscal that we're reviewing through the victim of crime fund changes.

How does the ministry ensure – so what accommodations are offered to victims of crime who identify with disabilities or who have disabilities? How are they supported and monitored? What metrics are used, if any? Just, you know, keeping in mind that this is a pretty significant portion of the population. I think the UCP's own ministry has said that about 21 per cent of the Alberta population is disabled, so I think these plans are quite important.

That is it for me.

Answer:

Response to: I would also like a list, if possible – if the ministry could share a list with all of the initiatives that were funded in this fiscal that we're reviewing through the victim of crime fund changes.

Because of the sensitive nature of the subject matter and the related projects the Ministry does not share this information. The fund provides support for domestic violence, as well as child advocacy, law enforcement and other victims services programming.

Response to: How does the ministry ensure – so what accommodations are offered to victims of crime who identify with disabilities or who have disabilities? How are they supported and monitored? What metrics are used, if any?

Victims of crime have rights and opportunities to participate in the criminal justice system as outlined in the *Victims of Crime and Public Safety Act* and regulation, and the *Canadian Victims Bill*

of Rights. All Albertans who are victims of crime can access available supports through criminal justice navigation programming funded by the Victims of Crime and Public Safety Fund.

Victims Services does not collect specific metrics on supports to victims of crime who identify with disabilities or who have disabilities.