

LEGISLATION TO INCLUDE CULTURAL COMPONENTS

- First Nations jurisdiction should be recognized, ex. when we ask for our bylaws to be enforced by the provincial jurisdiction, they say we can't enforce those.
- Trying to find balance by ingraining our knowledge and culture into legislation.
- Understand and incorporate cultural components such as the laws of self-governance, truth and reconciliation, etc.
- Have cultural components interwoven into the 6 key core functions of policing.
- Incorporate a strong cultural component, by someone who has knowledge about these belief systems.

DETACHMENTS ARE UNDERFUNDED AND UNDERSTAFFED

- When there was a call for service for an intoxicated driver, two officers came down to deal with it, but they said they couldn't arrest him and that they had to return to the detachment. The issue is they had no backup, there was no one available. Had this person become violent, there could have been a lot of problems in our community.
- We also have to look at what will keep people in Indigenous policing, NAP policing has a **high turnover rate**. How do we make Indigenous policing attractive and possibly **incentivize employees**, so that they stay with their branch for 20-25 years/retirement.
- Detachments are underfunded, understaffed, and have to cover such a wide area.
- Officers have people to go home to, they can't be patrolling by themselves. They should be partners. They can get burnt out. We have to look at what we can do to assist the police officers in our community.
- Communities are lacking police presence due to the shortage of available officers. Due to long response calls at times, there are instances that escalate and jeopardize the wellbeing of the community members.
- It is vital that this legislation addresses the fact that officers need to be in their communities more often than not.

DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS, SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, AND POLICE PRESENCE

- Communities need officers in their community who have awareness of the history, and situational awareness of the calls in which they are responding.
- Strong belief that officers need to be more visible in the communities, to develop positive relationships with the community members. Situational awareness needs to be addressed and the only way to address that issue is by more boots on the territory.
- I strongly feel that this legislation needs to address the fact that we need police in our community. It is important that the kids know our officers and feel safe with them. Situational awareness is huge for these situations.
- What we don't have right now, are the simple tactics of showing our community that we are doing something, by having a police presence. By showing the members of our community that we do care and are protecting them.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING ON HISTORY

- It is important to understand the historical relationship between the First Nations and the province. Ex. Treaty history, stereotypical beliefs of Indigenous People, legal and political information about the First Nations.
- The education component needs to happen all across Canada. Understanding the hardships faced by Indigenous Peoples needs to be delivered and training officers to understand that, when they are interacting with Indigenous Peoples.
- Lack of police presence is the issue. I don't buy that there are very few calls to the police, so they are not needed. I think communities need to have officers. I think This has to deal with funding and the lack of funding.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS & DECISION MAKERS AT THE TABLE

- Feedback from the community members should be prioritized in the new legislation, prioritizing dialogue and negotiations at the table.
- The approach of the Federal Government in terms of sending policy makers, negotiators, council members, chief members, is not working, they need to bring ministers and deputy members to the table to talk.

LACK OF CAPACITY TO TRAIN OFFICERS

- The province does not have the capacity to train the officers for the positions opened up by this funding.
- NAP services received funding in 2015 for 80 more positions, and NAP is still working on training personnel and filling those positions. This reiterates the harsh reality of training.
- Can we explore other methods of training? What about universities/colleges that remain open/nearly empty throughout the spring and summer?

URGENCY, 5 YEARS IS TOO LONG TO WAIT

- The shortfalls of police funding is that everything is urgent when it comes to our people.
- 5 years is too long to wait for the government to declare First Nations Policing as an essential service.
- Regarding upcoming elections, a concern is that if a new government comes in, this tabled legislation will be halted at the table.
- The legislation process should have more intermediate measures that can support the First Nations Police while the bill is being put in place.

DRUG EPIDEMIC

- There is a drug epidemic in our community, and we don't have a plan to deal with them, whereas the drug dealers themselves already have plans to take over. Would security officers help relieve some of the pressure placed on the police officers?
- One of the issues is legislation changes everyday. When we look at policing we have to look at legislation. When someone in our community is charged with drug dealing, how do we make it stop? They get out and they go right back to the trade. What about the courts? These people are doing whatever they want, because there's no repercussions. They have more rights than police officers.

GBA+ REFERENCE POINTS

- Last weekend, there was a young lady that got beat up with no security. No one came to intervene. We have got to have First Nations people, protecting First Nations people.