

New Democrat Official Opposition
Room 201
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4
Phone: 250-387-3655



April 5, 2016

Honourable Mike Morris
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Room 028
Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister,

The sixty shootings in 2015 and the further 31 so far in 2016 in Surrey have prompted headlines in Surrey newspapers, including "A Community on Edge Again." The shooting spree endangering public safety and causing anxiety and fear among our constituents in the City of Surrey clearly continues to go unchecked.

We, as members of the provincial legislature, represent the areas of Surrey that are being significantly impacted by these shootings.

Our constituents are worried particularly when they cannot see a strategy to end gun violence in their city, and therefore are rapidly losing their faith in our collective ability to deal with it.

We have unanswered questions that require a full and detailed response:

- What steps have you taken to ensure that the management and direction of the police service in Surrey is meeting the highest operational standards?
- What alternate investigative techniques, if any, have you or your officials considered can assist in solving these crimes?
- What additional resources – whether staff or additional analytic or forensic services, have you or your officials deployed in Surrey? Is it your view that additional specialized resources are required but not in the current budget?
- Are you personally satisfied, through either the mechanism of a management review or an internal audit, that the Surrey detachment has the capacity and the right leadership to solve these crimes and return the community to a state of civil order?

We have, as you know, a public duty to seek these answers on behalf of our constituents.

We look forward to your direct and detailed written responses.

Sincerely,

Bruce Ralston, MLA
Surrey - Whalley

Harry Bains, MLA
Surrey - Newton

Sue Hammell, MLA
Surrey - Green Timbers

Copy to: Commissioner Bob Paulson, RCMP National Headquarters
W.C. (Bill) Fordy, Assistant Commissioner, Officer in Charge, Surrey Detachment
Mayor Linda Hepner and Council - City of Surrey
Mike Farnworth, Official Opposition Public Safety Critic