

It is time to change the direction of how we invest in the security of all local residents.

-The City of Regina police has for generations been primarily made up of the highest privileged people in our city as the majority of their workers. They are trying to build a broader set of experience, but still have a small margin of Indigenous, disabled, LGBTQ2S, Folks of colour, single parents, working seniors, working youth and newcomers working on their team.

-The colonial system of policing, is also a focus on shaming and punishing after crime is committed.

-As a sexual assault victim in our city, I have had my eyes torn open to the amount of money we focus on punishing actions after crimes have been committed, without investing instead in preventative measures.

-If you look at the annual salary of police officers & RPS administrative staff, the annual income that their employees receive is FAR more expensive than the income earned by community support staff and programming.

Stop increasing our crime punishment spending, and turn our direction to invest instead in organizations that support groups of people who the police have failed to assist or protect.

I recommend City of Regina start a plan of reducing annual police investment, and directly placing that funding in orgs such as

- Overdose prevention sites
- Libraries and community spaces, especially focusing on our lower income parts of town,
- Sport, Rec, and arts programming organizations
- All orgs that provide assistance with access to food, shelter, trauma recovery
- All orgs that support crime prevention, domestic violence and sexual assault prevention
- Adapting existing regina cultural and park spaces to be more accessible and safe for universal inclusion

Think about the cost of something ridiculous as a plane, and know that you could split that same slice of budget between local community support orgs to double their annual budgets. It is time to redirect our spending from punishing after our cultural system fails folks, to providing the access to positive life experiences that guide people in better directions.

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