In Canada, First Nation populations are higher in urban Prairie spaces and disproportionately affected by police violence.

What percentage of municipal budgets are being devoted to this violence, and why aren’t those resources being used to save lives instead?
What Percentage of Prairie City Operating Budgets are Allocated to Police Services?

In most cities, policing makes up the largest single budget line.

In 2013, Statistics Canada reported that the cost of policing in Canada had more than doubled since 1997, outpacing the increase in spending by all levels of government.
Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Regina all spend less than .6% of their operating budgets addressing housing and homelessness. Saskatoon is the one outlier, allocating 3.03% to housing and homelessness.

In comparison, these cities have allocated from 9.34% to 26.55% of their budgets to police services.
Edmonton is the only city with a clear mental health budget line: $5,914,000, or, less than 1% of its entire operating budget.

Funding for mental health initiatives tends to be provided by provincial governments as part of healthcare initiatives.
In the Calgary 2020 operating budget, 9.34% of its $4.3 billion dollar budget is allocated to police services.

9.34% equals $401,436,000

According to the 2016 Census, the Calgary population is approximately 1,239,220 people. $401,436,000 is the equivalent of spending $324 per person/year on police services in the city.
In the Edmonton 2020 operating budget, 12.13% of its $3 billion+ dollar budget is allocated to police services.

12.13% equals $372,506,000

According to the 2016 Census, the Edmonton population is approximately 932,546 people. $372,506,000 is the equivalent of spending $399 per person/year on police services in the city.
AT A GLANCE

Funding for Winnipeg Police Services

In the Winnipeg 2020 operating budget, **26.55% of its $1.15 billion dollar budget** is allocated to police services. This is the highest % compared to other major prairie cities, Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon and Regina.

26.55% equals **$304,000,000**

According to the 2016 Census, the Winnipeg population is approximately 705,244. **$304,000,000 is the equivalent of spending $431 per person/year on police services in the city.**
In the Saskatoon 2020 city budget, **20.68% of its $530 million dollar budget** is allocated to police services. This is a **4% increase from 2019**.

According to the 2016 Census, the Saskatoon population is approximately 246,376 people. **$109,602,900** is the equivalent of spending **$445 per person/year** on police services in the city.
In the Regina 2020 city budget, 20.34% of its $472+ million dollar budget is allocated to police services. This is the city’s biggest single expense.

20.34% equals $96,029,000

According to the 2016 Census, the Regina population is approximately 215,106 people. $96,029,000 is the equivalent of spending $446 per person/year on police services in the city.
In 2020, over $882 million dollars will be spent on police services in Calgary, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Regina.

We must also understand police abolition as a movement towards our own liberation and land restitution. Whether the police make up 9.34% or 26.55% of a municipal budget, they should be abolished on the prairies and everywhere.