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RCMP



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE



2011-2012 YEAR IN REVIEW



'H' DIVISION NOVA SCOTIA RCMP

Your Provincial Police



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada



S.D. PARIS

*The Best
Adventure
Ever*
by
Anna Hartman

**Harvey Bunny's
Choice**
by Anna Hartman





Message from the Commanding Officer

Assistant Commissioner Alphonse MacNeil

As Commanding Officer for the RCMP in Nova Scotia, I am pleased to provide you with our 2011-12 Year in Review. This report details our achievements and highlights our plans for the future. We demonstrate how the RCMP in Nova Scotia continues to innovate and adapt to a constantly changing policing landscape. Rapid changes in technology and communication, advances in forensic science, and a multitude of social changes have impacted the way we do business.

As your provincial police, it is important for the RCMP to find efficient and effective ways of utilizing technology to fight crime, as well as improving our business practices. In 2011-12, the RCMP in Nova Scotia introduced electronic fingerprinting and ticketing. These new tools enhance the RCMP's service delivery and allow officers more time to focus on crime prevention activities.

We have experienced tremendous success with our Crime Reduction Strategy. The RCMP has achieved significant declines in various offence categories, resulting in downward crime trends throughout the province. The RCMP employs specially trained criminal analysts who gather intelligence to support local policing strategies. Information is then provided to front line officers, who use it to identify and prevent crime at the street level, which reduces overall crime and victimization in our communities.

Delivering timely and effective communications is a priority for the RCMP in Nova Scotia. In 2011-2012, we embraced social media. Twitter and Facebook facilitates two-way communication, and ultimately brings us closer to the citizens we serve. Leveraging both traditional and social media the RCMP is extending our reach and increasing our transparency and accountability to the public.

The RCMP continues to strengthen relationships with our municipal policing partners throughout Nova Scotia. Increased collaboration and information sharing is resulting in a number of operational successes, some of which are highlighted in this report. We remain committed to working alongside our public safety partners to share knowledge and expertise. Working collectively we are better positioned to enhance public safety and improve the quality of life for all Nova Scotians.

As the Commanding Officer, it is my responsibility to ensure the RCMP in Nova Scotia remains innovative and flexible without losing sight of our core duties. In 2011, I placed an emphasis on getting back to the basics of policing to make sure we do the "little things" right. This does not mean a return to outdated policing ideas, but what it does mean is a return to the fundamentals of policing that are at the core of what our officers do. Simply put, it means building on our current strengths of talking and working with communities to make even stronger connections with them.

The RCMP is committed to making a difference in the communities where we live and work. We demonstrate this not only through police work, but also coaching sports teams, organizing fundraisers, leading clubs or programs, and volunteering. Regardless of where you go in this province, it is very likely an RCMP officer or employee is engaged in bettering the community.

I am proud to say that our focus on the communities and doing the "little things" right has paid off. I, along with many officers, receive letters from citizens thanking the RCMP for their commitment and dedication. Getting back to the basics to ensure we do the little things right has enhanced the police-public partnership. Strengthening this partnership is critical to maintain the public's trust and confidence with the RCMP as their provincial police service.

In the coming year, we will build on this momentum so that community members are involved and feel a sense of ownership in community safety.

I am extremely proud of the work being done across Nova Scotia. Within this report, we share our successes as just some of the examples of the work conducted by your provincial police.

Thank you for your continued support.

Assistant Commissioner Alphonse MacNeil
Commanding Officer





Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations

Chief Superintendent Brian Brennan

Throughout this report we highlight significant achievements over the past year within our Provincial Policing Priorities, National Priorities as well as local achievements in each of the three Districts. The RCMP continues to experience great success throughout the province in the area of crime reduction. Detachments are achieving results by taking a strategic approach to reducing incidents of criminal activity. This approach involves: focusing on the small number of individuals that are known to commit a higher propensity of crime and targeting geographic locations that statistically show to experience more criminal activity. It is also important that we continue to work with other law enforcement, government, and community level agencies to determine the root-causes of crime. This enables us to take a proactive approach and deal with these underlying causes before they lead to criminal behaviour. We anticipate as a larger, province-wide strategy is further developed and implemented we will achieve additional reductions in crime. The year 2011-12 proved to be successful in solving historical homicides, reducing the impact of financial crimes and decreasing property-related criminal activity.

In 2011, there were unfortunately eight homicides within the areas served by the RCMP. These senseless acts of violence create a substantial impact, not only on those directly affected, but on well-being and overall quality of life within our province. Our dedicated Major Crime Units are working hard to conduct thorough and timely investigations that will ultimately bring solid evidence before the courts to bring those responsible to justice. Of the eight homicides, the RCMP, in working with various police agencies and through the support of the community, solved six of these cases. It is these partnerships and support in assisting police

that further our investigations to ultimately help bring closure to families and loved ones.

As both a Federal and Provincial police force, we have the ability to leverage 30,000 employees from across the country for large-scale emergencies or complex investigations. Our ability to access employees with specialized skill sets in the areas of behavioural sciences, criminal investigation analysis, and tactical deployment units provides Nova Scotians with a trusted, valued, and highly capable police service.

It is important to the RCMP - as your Provincial Police - that all Nova Scotians feel safe in their community. We want Nova Scotians to trust their police to conduct investigations that are timely, thorough and utilize the resources available to bring those responsible for criminal activity before the courts. Over the next year we will continue to strive to reduce crime, increase the sense of safety in our community and provide valuable educational programs and services on how everyone can contribute to a safer Nova Scotia.

I encourage you to visit the RCMP Nova Scotia web site or join one of our social networks to learn more about the programs and services offered within your community.

*Chief Superintendent Brian Brennan
Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations*







National Priorities

The RCMP is committed to ensuring a Safe and Secure Canada. To accomplish this, we identified the following areas as national strategic priorities for 2011-12: Serious and Organized Crime, National Security, Youth, Aboriginal Communities and Economic Integrity.

Serious and Organized Crime

Various forms of illegal activity are undertaken by organized crime groups with one goal in mind: to make money at any cost. Nova Scotians may not recognize the daily impact of organized crime, but it can be shown through your taxes (tax revenue losses from contraband tobacco and alcohol); car insurance premiums (higher auto insurance due to car thefts by organized crime rings); banking fees (banks recovering fraud costs); even health and safety (drug-related violence, faulty counterfeit goods, and neighborhood marijuana grow operations).

Using an intelligence-led, integrated approach, the RCMP is focusing its activities on reducing the threat and impact of organized crime. In fulfilling its mandate, the RCMP works closely with domestic and international partners in an effort to dismantle criminal groups.

Youth

Our objective in working with Nova Scotia's youth is to reduce their involvement in crime; support sustainable long-term responses to youth crime and victimization; support approaches that are consistent with youth justice; focus on risk factors; prevention and early intervention; and promote youth engagement. The RCMP believes that the long-term prevention of youth crime and victimization can only be accomplished in partnership with the community. In Nova Scotia, School Safety Resource and Community Policing/Crime Prevention Officers work closely with schools, community groups, and all levels of government to develop and implement programs that are proven successful in reducing youth involvement in criminal activity.

National Security

The greatest threat to our national security is the risk of terrorist criminal activity in Canada and abroad. The RCMP's role is to prevent, detect and respond to this

criminal activity. We need to ensure we have outreach/awareness at all levels of policing with communities and partners, prevention, strategic analysis, information/intelligence sharing, and enforcement. Our investigative successes are largely determined by our flexibility, leadership and collaboration with foreign and domestic law enforcement partners.

Aboriginal Communities

The RCMP has a long and productive history of service to First Nations across the country and here in Nova Scotia. Throughout our province the RCMP is responsible for day-to-day policing in 11 First Nation communities including Indian Brook, Millbrook, Acadia, Annapolis, Paq'tnkek, Chapel Island, Eskasoni, Pictou Landing, Wagmatcook, Waycobah, and Glooscap.

The RCMP is contributing to safer Aboriginal communities through crime prevention, ongoing social development, maintaining and strengthening partnerships with Aboriginal communities, policing and government partners, stakeholders and Aboriginal organizations. Our officers continue to demonstrate value through the development, management and evaluation of the detachment performance plan created in collaboration with the local Aboriginal communities.

Economic Integrity

The types of crimes that are driven by the motivation for profit are extensive and certainly not victimless. Illegal economic activity diverts funds away from hard-working Nova Scotians. The RCMP is focusing on preventing, detecting and deterring crimes that affect Nova Scotians and the overall Canadian economy. Enhancing public awareness of the methods to reduce and prevent economic crime will also enhance citizens' confidence in the monetary, financial and market systems.

Last year proved to be very successful for the RCMP Financial Crime units in Nova Scotia. Many long-term investigations led to criminal charges and seizure of assets associated with criminal activity. The more we share information with our partners and cooperate with enforcement units at the municipal, national and international level, the more we reduce opportunity for criminal activity throughout Canada.



Provincial Priorities

Each year, the Nova Scotia Department of Justice identifies areas of public safety require a strategic, targeted focus. In 2011-12, the four Provincial Policing priority areas include: reduction of the number of outstanding warrants; reduction in overall levels of crime; reduction of domestic violence; and increase in safety on our roads and highways. The goal of the RCMP in Nova Scotia is to meet and exceed public expectation of these areas through focused enforcement efforts, innovative public safety programs, and effective education on preventing crime.

Crime Reduction

Reducing crime is the core of what the RCMP does best. Ultimately, every program, service or initiative undertaken supports the goal of reducing crime throughout Nova Scotia. By taking a strategic approach to crime reduction, we can focus on areas that are generating higher crime rates and develop a targeted plan to decrease crime in specific areas.

A successful crime reduction strategy focuses on the areas of criminal activity that are causing the most harm in our communities. Overall reduction and prevention of crime is part of our daily business in all Districts, Detachments and Units in the Province. For example, in Digby the crime reduction strategy led to a 50 per cent decrease in residential break and enters in 2010 and 2011 when compared to 2009. What made this strategy so effective was a focused approach that targeted the small number of individuals that were committing a majority of the break and enters. This was achieved by conducting regular community service-order checks and using a monitoring system for these repeat offenders.



During the spring and summer months of 2011, the community of Port Hawkesbury and surrounding area experienced several business break and enters and numerous high-priced items were stolen. Several months of diligent work by investigators resulted in the identification of a suspect from out of province who had been staying in the area. The suspect used stolen local vehicles to transport the stolen goods to another location for re-sale. Investigators from Inverness County gathered intelligence that led them to Ontario where they located and

subsequently charged a suspect. A total of three people were charged with 40 criminal offences leading to the resolution of 23 separate incidents.

In Halifax District, the 2011-12 crime reduction strategy focused on property crime. By identifying and focusing on a small number of offenders, it resulted in a much larger impact on crime rates than by typical random patrols. The 2011 year end statistics proved this strategy is working. The area policed by the RCMP within Halifax Regional Municipality saw reported property crime fall 18.22 per cent in 2011 compared with 2010. As well, the public is playing an important role by reporting crime and suspicious activity. This allows police to identify and analyze emerging crime trends and deploy resources accordingly.



Warrant Reduction

Reducing the number of outstanding warrants of arrest throughout Nova Scotia remained a priority for the RCMP this past year. Detachments implemented strategies to locate and apprehend individuals and work with justice officials. This increased focus proved successful in a number of areas across the Province. In one example, Shelburne Detachment implemented a strategy to address outstanding arrest warrants. This included RCMP officers working diligently to eliminate historical warrants and enabling officers to actively pursue current warrants.

In Antigonish District, one warrant pertained to an individual charged with a series of violent offences. The individual fled from the province and was later arrested in Alberta. Based on the nature of the crimes committed in Nova Scotia, the radius of



Provincial Priorities

the warrant was extended so that the individual could be returned. In cooperation with Halifax Regional Police, two officers traveled to Alberta and returned the suspect to Nova Scotia where he pled guilty to all outstanding charges in both Antigonish and Halifax.

Halifax District has also made significant effort in reducing outstanding warrants. The RCMP and Halifax Regional Police Integrated High-Risk Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) is responsible for executing warrants within Halifax Regional Municipality and other areas, and facilitates requests from Parole and Probation Services. Every few months, the team creates a new 'Wanted List' consisting of people with outstanding arrest warrants whom police have been unable to locate. Whether suspects' turn themselves in or tips are received from the public, the goal is to locate and arrest each person on the list.

Domestic Violence

"It is important for the RCMP that our employees are trained to effectively deal with domestic violence situations in a manner that is culturally sensitive, respectful and most importantly safe for everyone involved. Throughout Nova Scotia, we are proud to have Victim Services volunteers assist us in providing support and comfort to victims of crime by informing them of the many services and programs available."

Inspector Greg Burse, Community, Aboriginal and Diversity Policing Services

Community, Aboriginal and Diversity Policing Services continue to implement a domestic violence training standard for RCMP officers who police First Nations communities and elsewhere in Nova Scotia. The training standard was developed in partnership by the RCMP and the Nova Scotia Department of Justice. A component of the program is an e-learning tool in which all police officers will receive a credited course on domestic violence. As well, domestic violence Case Coordinators are in place to ensure the information sharing of high risk situations are designated by the police and partner service providers. These tools, policies and practices help increase the safety of victims and decrease the risk of serious harm.

In 2011, through the Federal Family Violence Initiative fund, the RCMP provided grants to the following groups: Paqtneq First Nation Women's Action Group to End Family Violence; Associations of Black Social Workers of Nova Scotia Breaking the Silence; Youth and Elders Connect to Challenge Family Violence in Black Communities and Eastern Communities Youth Association of Canso; and the Living Life Free of Violence Initiative.



Paqtneq Women's Action Group in Antigonish, with the goal of ending family violence, has been working closely with RCMP to identify the root causes of violence within First Nations homes. They have discovered that this type of violence may be caused by cultural loss and addictions, and emphasized by the lack of a culturally sensitive response from front line workers, police and social workers. The grant, with additional funds from private businesses, will assist in providing funding for this training. The training will be offered to frontline responders with the goal of teaching proactive, respectful and culturally appropriate behaviors that will help them to interact with First Nations families who are dealing with family violence. A second issue was identified and solutions will include helping men in the community to find alternatives to violence.

In the Kings District area, officers noted that there continued to be a large number of domestic violence/sexual assault complaints. In order to determine a solution to reduce these incidents, the RCMP in the Kings area implemented a one-year pilot project assigning an officer as a domestic violence/sexual assault investigation coordinator. This coordinator developed key partner relationships with agencies such as the Department of Family and Children's Services, Victim Services, Chrysalis House, Public Prosecution Services Nova Scotia, and the Provincial Court. Because of this relationship, partners have expressed their support for the standardized, efficient service and consider the coordinator position to be a 'best practice'.



Road Safety

“Through our contact with Nova Scotians, we have learned that a common concern is the safety of our streets and highways. We are committed to ensuring drivers feel safe when traveling throughout the province. This is achieved through increased enforcement and increased education on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving.”

Inspector Ray Oliver, Traffic Services

Throughout Nova Scotia, there are nine RCMP Traffic Service Units located in 18 sites. Although all RCMP officers are committed to the safety of our streets and highways, the dedicated Traffic Services Units are visible and active on Nova Scotia's 100-series highways, and support Detachments with enforcement and awareness. Traffic Services officers receive training on conducting collision analysis and provide reconstruction expertise for fatal and/or serious injury collisions.

The RCMP understands that road safety cannot be achieved alone; we often partner with other units and enforcement agencies for large-scale checkpoints at strategic locations across the Province. Along with enforcement of the Motor Vehicle Act, drugs, illegal cigarettes and weapons are often seized. In 2011, a joint checkpoint was conducted at the New Brunswick/Nova Scotia border by Northeastern Nova Scotia Traffic Services that resulted in the seizure of 14 cases (700 cartons) of contraband cigarettes enroute from Quebec to Nova Scotia. Another checkpoint on Highway 105 near the Newfoundland Ferry Terminal resulted in seizure of 25 pounds of cannabis marihuana and 200 grams of cannabis resin from a taxi.



Impaired and distracted driving continues to be the cause of many collisions in Nova Scotia, some with very serious or fatal results. This is why RCMP Traffic Services coordinated the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) and Standard Field Sobriety Testing Programs (SFST) on behalf of the province of Nova Scotia in January of 2012. With the ever increasing incidents of drug impairment, the enhancement and strengthening of our training will play a significant role in improving the safety on our roads and highways.

It is never too early to start educating citizens on road safety. Partnerships were developed between Traffic Services, Co-operators Insurance, and Department of Health to deliver a program on the proper installation of child restraint systems. In Yarmouth, officers from the municipal Detachment are partnering with local radio stations and newspapers to write and record public service announcements on various forms of impaired and distracted driving.

Officers in the Waycobah Detachment heard concerns from residents regarding the excessive speed and volume of traffic traveling through the Waycobah and Whycomagh communities. These areas are part of the Trans Canada Highway and are a major route from Newfoundland and Labrador and experience a considerable amount of pedestrian traffic. The Detachment partnered with the Whycomagh Development Commission and acquired funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice to purchase a Speed Sentry Radar Sign, which displays speed to oncoming traffic. The data can also be collected and analyzed for future enforcement planning efforts. The community saw immediate results and the Detachment is now working with the Waycobah First Nation and the Lions Club to purchase another sign for the area.





Federal Policing

"The federal units in Nova Scotia take on large-scale, strategic investigations that result in decreased organized crime activity throughout our province. Our focus areas are determined by developing a provincial threat assessment, which identifies organized crime groups and trends in criminal activity. Taking a focused approach to the highest level of criminal activity results in a significant, long-term effect in increasing public safety. Last year, we experienced significant success in the area of Financial Crime. It is important to Nova Scotians that we find those responsible for frauds, schemes and thefts to maintain the integrity of Canada's financial system."

Superintendent John Ferguson, Federal Policing



Paying the price for criminal activity

"Nova Scotians expect that offenders will not be allowed to keep the profits of their crime. These proceeds undermine the social and economic well-being of our communities and at the same time increase the power and influence of criminals. The RCMP works to identify, assess, seize, restrain and forfeit any illicit wealth."

Inspector Glenn Lambe, Integrated Proceeds of Crime

Over half a million dollars in cash was taken out of the hands of a criminal as a result of a large-scale investigation in 2011. The Integrated Proceeds of Crime (IPOC) unit led the year-long investigation. This initially began with the RCMP Street Crime Enforcement Unit seizing several kilograms of marijuana and several firearms from the accused. As a result of the IPOC investigation that followed, seventeen criminal charges of Possession of Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering were laid against a well-known individual in the Enfield area. In addition to these charges, over half a million dollars in assets were seized including: a 1969 vintage Corvette, 1997 Chevrolet GMT-400 truck, all terrain vehicle, ride-on lawn mower, \$36,000 in cash and electronics, appliances and household items valued at over \$50,000. Two properties in Horne Settlement, Hants County, valued at approximately \$300,000 combined were also restrained.

Chasing paper leads to fraud charges

"Organized insurance fraud is a big business and when fraudsters cheat the system, honest policyholders end up paying in the form of higher premiums. The charges are a great example of what can be done when police, insurers and other stakeholders work together to fight crime."

Bill Adams, Atlantic Vice-President, Insurance Bureau of Canada

A long-term investigation by the RCMP Federal Enforcement Section and Halifax RCMP/Halifax Regional Police Integrated Criminal Investigations Division led to charges against four people involved in an interprovincial stolen vehicle/insurance fraud scheme. This investigation, which spanned six years, determined that the individuals were using fraudulent documents to register vehicles they didn't actually own or possess. They would then declare the vehicle stolen and collect insurance money. In other cases, they would use fraudulent documents to register and sell stolen vehicles with cloned Vehicle Identification Numbers (VINs). Throughout the investigation, three vehicles were seized and four men were charged with a variety of Fraud and Stolen Property related offences.



Insurance fraud is not a victimless crime. In one example, a family was out the cost of a vehicle after they unknowingly bought a stolen vehicle with a cloned VIN. The RCMP has made efforts to educate the public on third-party services that can assist in verifying if a vehicle is stolen before making a purchase.

Federal Policing

Look up...way up: RCMP take to the skies to eliminate marihuana grow operations

"It's crucial for the RCMP to have community support as Nova Scotia's landscape varies tremendously, making it impossible to cover every piece of land. Community safety is everyone's responsibility, as outdoor marihuana grow operations (MGOs) pose a danger to public health and safety."

Sgt. Dan MacGillivray, Marihuana Grow Operations Enforcement Team

In August 2011, citizens may have noticed the RCMP flying overhead as they geared up for the annual marihuana eradication program. A team of police officers from the Nova Scotia RCMP and municipal police agencies under coordination of the RCMP Marihuana Grow



Operations Enforcement Team, conducted aerial marihuana eradication during the summer months. Outdoor marihuana grow operations are often associated with organized crime, which leads to an increased risk of violence. The RCMP also focused on an education campaign, providing the public with information on how to spot a grow operation and the risks associated with these types of operations in your community. This initiative led to the eradication of 7058 marihuana plants throughout Nova Scotia; a 675 plant increase from 2010.

Various investigations over the past year led to numerous charges and plants being seized and destroyed before making their way onto the streets of Nova Scotia to be distributed and sold. Learning new skills and techniques to identify indoor and outdoor grow operations is important to the RCMP as criminals are always trying new ways to conceal drugs from police. The Marihuana Grow Operations Enforcement Team held a three-day thermographer course that included over 40 participants from RCMP and other municipal police forces across the province. A thermographer (forward looking infra-red camera) is a critical investigative tool that will assist police agencies in identifying indoor grow operations.



Support Services

"Investigating major and serious crimes, responding to high-risk emergency situations and providing a range of specialized services and expertise are just a few of the services provided by Criminal Operations Support. These units are integral to providing expertise and support for front-line policing. Employees in these units play a vital role in solving, reducing and preventing crime across Nova Scotia."

Superintendent Frank Foran, Criminal Operations Support Services



OCC - Our safety link

The Operational Communications Centre (OCC) located in Truro, is a critical communications centre for most RCMP functions within the province. In 2011, the OCC Operators handled over 269,000 calls for service including over 89,000 calls for 911. This is an average of 22,000 calls per month received and dispatched for service. New for 2011 was the implementation of five Risk Manager positions. These Managers are senior RCMP officers who work on a 24/7 basis and provide critical guidance and oversight for front-line policing situations.

Within Halifax Regional Municipality, Integrated Emergency Services provides dispatch services to Halifax District RCMP, Halifax Regional Police and Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency.

Mi'kmaw Venture Program:

The RCMP in Nova Scotia is a strong supporter of crime-prevention programs that focus on the root causes of crime. By engaging youth early in life and providing positive interactions with law enforcement, we are reducing the likelihood of these youth becoming involved in criminal activity in the future. The Mi'kmaw Venture Program uses traditional Aboriginal values to help youth develop a positive self-concept and a sense of place and purpose combined with effective social interaction skills. This program, which is funded by the National Crime Prevention Centre, is statistically proven to be successful in



engaging youth and helping them to develop attitudes, beliefs and skills that are resilient to substance abuse.

The program is now being offered in four of Nova Scotia's First Nation Communities including Indian Brook, Pictou Landing, Eskasoni and Membertou. In 2011, youth enjoyed a visit to the Tim Horton's Camp in Tatamagouche and a special dinner hosted by Commanding Officer Alphonse MacNeil before heading off to the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo.



Police Dog Services

If you choose to head down the criminal path, beware of the nose that knows. This nose will track you down. Bo, Canto, Moose, Rocky, Stinger and Tom are one-half of the RCMP Police Dog Services team. Each dog is partnered with a Police Officer to form teams that are responsible for retrieval, tracking, criminal apprehension, searching, crowd control, and community relations. The teams are often called upon to track missing people and/or criminals.



Support Services

Expecting the unexpected

Nova Scotians expect their Provincial Police force to be prepared, trained and have the appropriate resources to respond to an emergency at any time. Expecting the unexpected is what Emergency Management Section does best. This section is responsible for the coordination and management of RCMP emergency preparedness and response throughout Nova Scotia. Extensive research and training goes into developing Emergency Operational Plans for major events, natural disasters, civil disorder and overall public safety. In 2011-12, Emergency Management collaborated with Federal, Provincial and Municipal counterparts to coordinate the following:



- Emergency response plan for Hurricane Irene;
- Operational/ security plan for the 2011 Canada Winter Games;
- Stanfield Halifax International Airport exercise for emergency aircraft disaster response;
- Chemical, biological, radioactive and nuclear response exercises;
- RCMP/ Canada Coast Guard emergency response exercise.



Major Investigations

During 2011-2012 a number of major long-term investigations came to successful conclusions: drugs off our streets, child pornography seized to eliminate further distribution, and arresting those responsible for cold-case murders associated with organized crime. The hard work and dedication of our highly trained and specialized officers in Provincial and Federal units continues to yield exceptional results. Our employees help ensure Nova Scotia remains a safe province where residents can enjoy a quality of life that we, as Maritimers, have come to be proud of.

Committed to detecting and enforcing Investment Fraud

"A fraud of this scale has a significant impact on investors across the country, many of whom lost a substantial amount of money as a result of their investments with Jabez."

Inspector Jim MacDougall, Financial Crime

In 2006, the RCMP Nova Scotia Commercial Crime Section began an investigation into an alleged ponzi scheme by Jabez Financial Services operating out of Windsor, Nova Scotia. The RCMP received information from the Nova Scotia Securities Commission that led to a very complex international investigation. The investigation determined that 179 investors from across Canada were defrauded of over four-million dollars; 141 of those were Nova Scotians. A ponzi scheme is typically an investment fraud that promises high financial returns unavailable through traditional investments. Unknown to the investors, returns are paid from investors own monies or by subsequent investors rather than profit. In actuality, there is no legitimate investment and the scheme falls apart when the operator flees with all of the proceeds, new investors cannot be found, or the scheme is discovered.

Through the diligent work of the investigative team, a 47-year-old man was charged with three counts of Fraud over \$5000 and one count of Theft over \$5000.

Emptying criminal's pockets

"When you're taking hundreds of thousands of dollars out of the hands of alleged drug dealers, they are going to feel it. It's cash out of their pockets and drugs off our streets."

Chief Superintendent Brian Brennan, Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations

Following a six-month investigation into drug trafficking throughout Nova Scotia, the RCMP Federal Drug Section arrested nine men and charged them with Trafficking and Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking in a variety of drugs.

By gathering information and using various investigative methods, police seized over 165 pounds of marihuana, seven kilograms of cocaine, hash and hash oil, \$185,000 in cash and nine vehicles. The investigation identified a distribution network designed to move drugs into Nova Scotia. These arrests and seizures of drugs and assets sent a clear message that the RCMP is vigilant in going after those who are trafficking drugs into our communities.



Major Investigations

Snuffing out contraband

“Contraband tobacco is not a victimless crime; the sale of contraband tobacco products has been linked to organized crime. When people purchase or sell contraband tobacco, they could be helping these types of criminal groups and often the profits are used to finance drug trafficking, purchase illegal weapons, and fund other illicit activities.”

Staff Sergeant Charlie Gillespie, Border Integrity Coordinator

In May 2011, the RCMP Customs and Excise Unit, in partnership with Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations, concluded a seven-month investigation into a criminal group that was transporting illegal cigarettes from Quebec to Nova Scotia. The cigarettes were destined to be re-sold within the Halifax Regional Municipality. Police executed four search warrants and seized approximately 700,000 contraband cigarettes, two pounds of marihuana, six vehicles and a quantity of cash. As a result, six men were arrested and charged with a variety of offences.

Eliminating the Opportunity: Reducing prescription drug trafficking in First Nations communities

“I recognize that each investigation in our community requires the police to develop trusting, respectful relationships to build the intelligence and information necessary to conduct a search. With each drug investigation in our community, we move forward in strengthening our ability to prevent addictions. It is for that reason, I will continue to motivate and empower my community members to become involved in actively addressing the drug problem in our communities. We need to be community driven and develop partnerships across any boundaries.”

Chief Leroy Denny, Eskasoni First Nation, March 2012

In March 2012, the RCMP Federal Drug Section in Sydney, with officers from the Eskasoni Detachment, arrested and charged eleven individuals throughout Cape Breton with numerous drug-related offenses.

The investigation determined that prescription drugs were destined to be distributed and sold in communities throughout Cape Breton, specifically First Nations communities. By focusing our investigation on the suppliers of these drugs, that opportunity was eliminated.

Abuse of prescription and illegal drugs can have a devastating impact on families and communities. The RCMP knew this was a serious issue and began a two-month long investigation to eliminate that harm. Through the involvement of the Eskasoni First Nation and their persistence in striving for a drug-free community, the RCMP was able to garner information and intelligence. When combined with evidence gathered throughout the investigation, it supported laying charges and the community is starting to experience the results of their efforts. As the Provincial and Federal police force, the safety and security of our First Nations remains a priority for the RCMP.

Protecting our most vulnerable

“Those engaging in the distribution and creation of child pornography sometimes believe the anonymity of the Internet means they are safe from apprehension. Fortunately, this is not the case and police are actively looking for people who are committing these criminal acts against the most vulnerable in our society; our children.”

Constable Paul Smith, Internet Child Exploitation Unit.

The RCMP has many national and international partnerships that can assist in complex and multi-jurisdictional investigations. The National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) in the United States and the National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre (NCECC) in Ottawa provided information to the RCMP which led to the seizure of computers and related equipment in January 2011. Through a comprehensive and thorough review of these materials the Nova Scotia Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit searched and seized a number of computers and related equipment where several thousand images of child abuse and pornographic text were retrieved. A twenty-month investigation by the ICE Unit led to 253 related charges against a 62-year-old man from Victoria County.



Major Investigations

Historical Homicides Solved

“The success of this investigation is the result of a tremendous enduring effort by dedicated and skillful officers who used a variety of overt and covert techniques. Our Major Crime Unit used all available resources including specialized RCMP units to identify suspects and build a solid case to bring before the courts. Our goal was to bring those responsible for these crimes forward and provide the community with a sense of safety.”

Inspector Dan Smith, Major Crime

The RCMP Major Crime Units have a mandate of investigating homicides, attempted homicides, non-familial abductions, missing persons, found human remains and anything sensitive or high profile in nature. Major Crime investigators are highly trained in the specialized fields of death investigation, interviewing and interrogation and management of major cases.

There are two RCMP Major Crime Units (Northeast and Southwest) and one Integrated Unit serving Halifax Regional Municipality comprised of officers from both RCMP and Halifax Regional Police. In early 2000, a feud began between rival outlaw motorcycle gangs and three men and one woman were murdered. The

ongoing feud between these groups was contributing to Nova Scotians fear of crime and affecting their overall sense of safety. The RCMP Major Crime Unit in Northeast Nova Scotia, along with many units in Criminal Operations Support Services were involved in an extensive investigation to bring those responsible before the courts. Some of these units were: warrant writers, specialized investigators operating in overt and covert functions, forensic identification, emergency response teams, police dog services, air services, forensic laboratory, and truth verification.

Seven people were arrested and five were charged in relation to the four historical homicides. These included 11 Homicide and/or Accessory after the Fact charges under the Criminal Code of Canada. These matters are currently before the courts.





By the numbers

Criminal Activity (RCMP jurisdiction only)

NS (H Div) Reported

	2010	2011	% Change
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS			
HOMICIDES	9	8	-11.11
ROBBERY	130	95	-26.92
ASSAULTS (EXCLUDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS)	5,303	4,976	-6.17
OTHER PERSONS	5688	5536	-2.67
TOTAL	11,130	10615	-4.63
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY			
THEFT UNDER \$5000	7,933	7,394	-6.79
THEFT OVER \$5000	206	259	25.73
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	849	732	-13.78
BREAKING AND ENTERING	3,403	3,285	-3.47
OTHER PROPERTY	10,281	9,396	-8.61
TOTAL	22,672	21,066	-7.08
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE			
OFFENSIVE WEAPONS	502	327	-34.86
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE	7,490	6,025	-19.56
TOTAL	7,992	6,352	-20.52
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE	41,794	38,033	-9.00
FEDERAL			
DRUGS	2413	2383	-1.24
GENERAL	2,224	1,586	-28.69
TOTAL FEDERAL	4,637	3,969	-14.41
PROVINCIAL STATUTES			
PROVINCIAL (EXCLUDING TRAFFIC)	24,239	22,979	-5.20
LIQUOR ACT	2,304	2,101	-8.81
TOTAL PROVINCIAL	26,543	25,080	-5.51
TRAFFIC COLLISIONS			
FATAL COLLISIONS - TRAFFIC ¹	51	48	-5.88
INJURY COLLISIONS- TRAFFIC	1,031	962	-6.69
NON-INJURY COLLISIONS- TRAFFIC	7,392	6,840	-7.47
TOTAL TRAFFIC COLLISIONS	8,474	7,850	-7.36

Sources:

PROS Occurrence Statistics 2012-05-08

Hfx District Versadex Detachment Statistics 2012-05-10

¹ Provided by "H" Division Traffic Services

Police Resource Stats

Regular Members (Peace Officers)	
Provincial	772
Municipal	63
First Nations	41
Federal	153
Administration	6
Total	1035
Civilian Members	
Provincial	56
Municipal	0
First Nations	0
Federal	27
Administration	2
Total	85
Public Service Employees	
Provincial	125
Municipal	0
First Nations	5
Federal	21
Administration	12
Total	163
Grand Total	1283

Source: RCMP E-05 Activity Report dated 2012-04-01



By the numbers

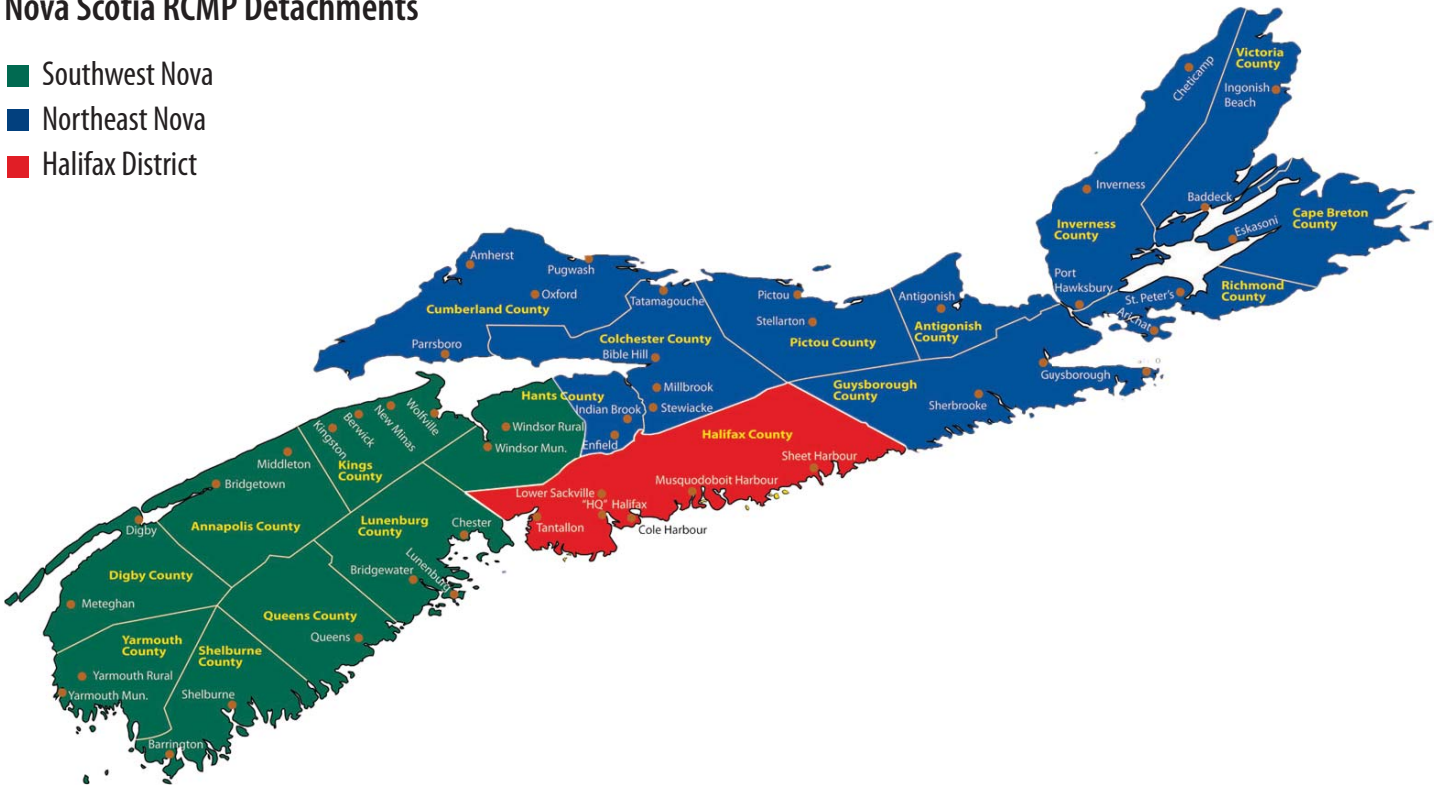
Stats of Division

Land Area of Nova Scotia	53,913 km ²
Area policed by RCMP	50,075 km ²
Provincial population (2006 Census)	913,462

Population policed by RCMP	541,654
Coastline Border of Nova Scotia	7,459 km
Border with New Brunswick	28 km

Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments

- Southwest Nova
- Northeast Nova
- Halifax District











Halifax District

“As the District Policing Officer for Halifax District, I am proud to be in this unique position: Halifax District is the most (if not the only) integrated district in the RCMP. As the largest ‘detachment’ east of the Rockies, we are fully integrated with our partner in policing, Halifax Regional Police, in the areas of criminal investigations, court liaison, Summary Offence Tickets and traffic services and our management teams are co-located at Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) Police Headquarters in Halifax. The goal of this partnership is to integrate where required and maintaining regular police boundaries as necessary. This ‘tag-team’ approach allows both services to leverage their assets, best practices and expertise to allow for more effective policing.”

Chief Superintendent Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax District

HIGHLIGHTS:

Creation of new unit targeted at violent crimes and gun activity

Throughout 2011, we saw a record number of 75 shootings reported to police within HRM as well as 17 homicides. With this increased level of violence and gun activity a new unit was created within the Integrated



Criminal Investigation Division of HRM. The Guns and Gangs Unit is comprised of both Halifax Regional Police and RCMP officers. This unit gathers intelligence on people known to be involved in gun violence and develops enforcement strategies. The unit is also working closely with the National Weapons Enforcement Support Team to examine records and identify people who may have firearms in their possession unlawfully. The goal is to reduce the number of firearms in HRM that can potentially be used in criminal activity and to reduce the level overall of violence. The unit has had great success with intelligence gathering and enforcement activity. Between January 1 and April 30, 2012, 270 firearms were seized throughout the Municipality.

The introduction of COMSTAT:

The Halifax District Crime Reduction strategy continues to move forward at great pace by using interactive Crime Mapping



to lead the Comstat process. Comstat is an accountability process in which senior management works with crime analysts by looking at data, consulting with officers, identifying where crime is happening and which offenders are known to be active in criminal activity in those areas. With Comstat, the goal is to identify significant and current crime problems and collectively develop a strategy to eliminate this activity. In 2011, by taking this approach the Halifax District area of HRM experienced a 18 per cent drop in overall property crime and a 23 per cent drop in break and enters.

Integrated Major Crime

Officers in the Integrated Major Crime Unit laid charges against two individuals in connection with the homicide of Stacey Adams who was shot and killed outside a Lake Echo residence in April 2011. This type of violence



has a huge impact on the overall well-being and quality of life within a community. These charges demonstrate that our efforts to identify those responsible for violent crimes are working. It is important to the RCMP that the residents of Nova Scotia feel safe in their community, so we will continue to focus on conducting thorough investigations that put offenders before the courts. Investigations of this magnitude require significant investments of both time and resources to reach a successful conclusion. These charges represent the persistence, cooperation and determination of investigators from the RCMP/HRP Integrated Major Crime Unit.

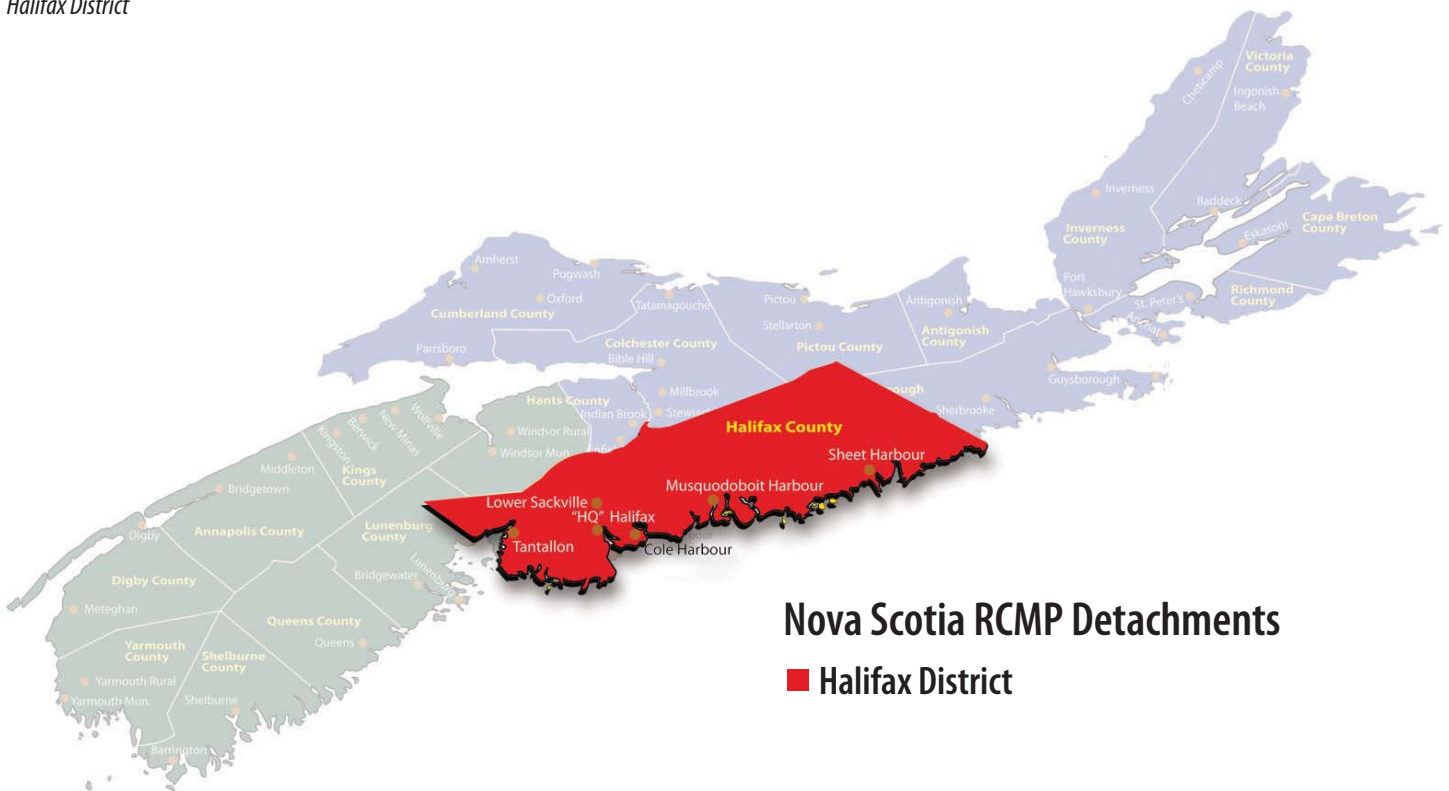


Halifax District



Chief Superintendent Jean-Michel Blais,
Halifax District

“Over the next year, my commitments are two-fold: to ensure that we continue with our strategic approach in reducing criminal activity throughout Halifax Regional Municipality; secondly, to make the RCMP a welcoming environment for our employees to come to work everyday. We know that the level of violent crime occurring throughout the HRM has shaken citizens’ sense of safety. We are committed, with our partners in policing, the Halifax Regional Police, to reducing violent crime and renewing a sense of safety in the community. This, we will do through innovation, leadership and accountability. Our overarching goal will be to develop the required credibility so as to bring about heightened police leadership in local service delivery for all residents of HRM.”



Northeast Nova

“As the new District Policing Officer for Northeast Nova, I have come to realize that I have inherited a busy and dynamic policing environment. It is wonderful to get back to the people and communities I grew up around. I continue to be impressed with the passion and commitment of our employees and how they strive to advance community policing priorities in many areas. Our strength lies in our ability to leverage the depth and talent of our resources for major events. This was evident over the past year with major crime investigations, long-term drug investigations and large-scale cultural events that took place in Northeast Nova Scotia.”

Superintendent Darrell Beaton, Northeast Nova

HIGHLIGHTS:

RCMP partners with MADD Canada to create safer roads and highways for all Nova Scotians

Through several Town Hall meetings, residents of Colchester County identified Road Safety as a priority for police focus in Northeast Nova Scotia. The RCMP recognized that in order to achieve results, partnerships should be developed to share the responsibility of Road Safety. They developed a three-pronged approach including focusing on impaired drivers, prohibited and suspended drivers, and high-visibility and reassurance policing. Partnerships were made with Traffic Services, Truro Police, CN Police and MADD Canada. Northeast Nova Scotia continues to see results. No other MADD Chapter in Canada is conducting as many checkpoints with police as in Colchester County. As of November 2011, over 50 partner-police checkpoints provided enforcement and education to drivers.



Eliminating local Crime Groups in Cumberland County

RCMP in Cumberland County, Amherst Police and Springhill Police received several complaints of break and enters into businesses and homes where copper jewelry,

cigarettes and other items were stolen. Through an investigation, police identified a local crime group as suspects in these thefts and determined similar incidents occurring in New Brunswick. In October 2011, RCMP executed a search warrant at a property where 24 pounds of marihuana and 39 cartons of illegal cigarettes were seized. This led to a partnership with RCMP in New Brunswick where additional marihuana and ecstasy were seized. The suspects were charged with several property and drug offences. Since these arrests there has been a significant decrease in similar crimes within Cumberland County.

Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out and Seek help (WITS)

These are the words to live by for youth in Chapel Island. The ‘WITS’ program was launched in January for students in grades Primary through Six with the goal of preventing peer victimization and bullying. RCMP officers assist the school and parents in working together to reduce bullying in their community. Part of the program includes a RCMP officer ‘swearing the students in’ as Special Constables. However; as the students in Chapel Island learned, being a Special Constable is not an easy task. They were required to participate in drill practice, stand at attention, salute, and learn a top-secret handshake. Chapel Island is one of only six selected locations in Canada to receive the program.

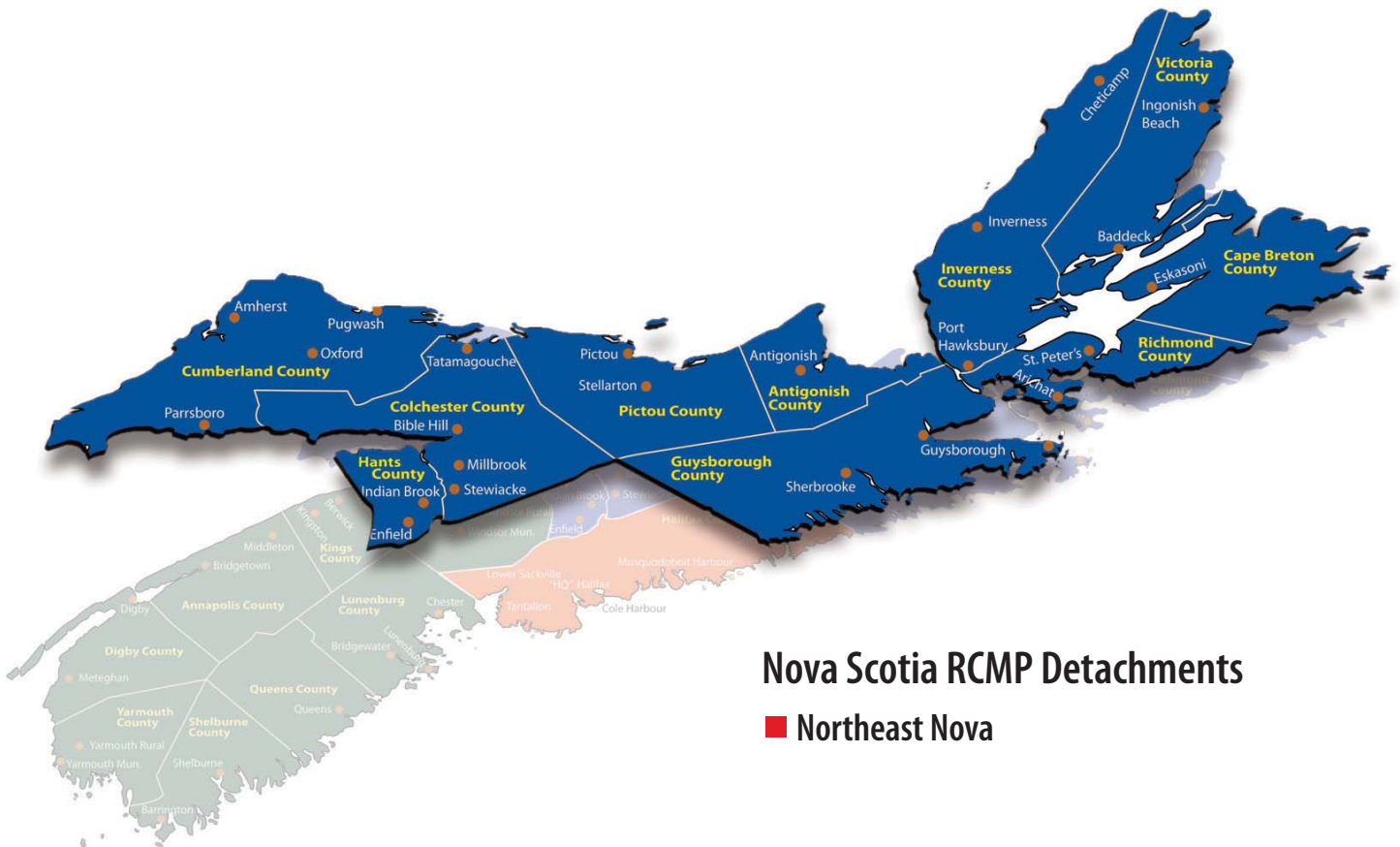


Northeast Nova



Superintendent Darrell Beaton, Northeast Nova

"I am committed to ensuring the RCMP continues to deliver on our policing priorities. I understand the value our communities place on having a police service that is aware and responsive to the particular needs of Northern Nova Scotia. Our officers will continue to focus on crime reduction, road safety, domestic violence and aggressively pursuing those with outstanding warrants. We will continue to build key community partnerships to provide education on public safety and work with residents and businesses alike to make Northeast Nova Scotia a safer place to live and work."



Southwest Nova

"I continue to enjoy the position of District Policing Officer. In particular, I look forward to meeting and talking with RCMP employees, elected officials and citizens of Southwest Nova. As a proud Nova Scotian, born and raised in the Annapolis Valley I have a very good understanding of the communities, and their local issues. Over the past two and a half years, I have visited and attended several community meetings and events, which allowed me to meet new people, hear their concerns, share and exchange ideas and establish new policing partners with a goal of reducing crime."
Superintendent Craig Gibson, Southwest Nova

HIGHLIGHTS:

Yarmouth County reduces residential break and enters

The RCMP Detachment in rural Yarmouth developed a strategy focusing on reducing residential break and enters. This strategy identified criminal groups that were operating in Yarmouth County. Officers from the Yarmouth Town Detachment, Criminal Intelligence Service Nova Scotia, Street Crime Enforcement Unit and Yarmouth Rural Detachment came together to tackle the issue. Numerous proactive enforcement actions and surveillance was undertaken, and police executed several search warrants. The hard work of all the units combined with a focused crime reduction strategy resulted in the arrest of several individuals responsible for the break and enters.

Youth

In an effort to engage and build relationships with youth in their respective communities, the RCMP participates in the Lunenburg County Youth Advisory Committee (YAC). This committee includes 21 students representing the local Middle and High School. As well, RCMP Meteghan Detachment developed a Youth Action Group with the Ecole Secondaire de Clare. These groups meet with RCMP to present and discuss issues that are affecting youth today including bullying,

internet safety and substance abuse. Shelburne Detachment is also involved in coaching hockey, participating in the Board of Our House, the Youth Outreach Center and forming a Youth Advisory Committee at the local high school. In Barrington Detachment, employees focused on youth through involvement in various sports including hockey, karate and self-defense.

Enhanced Visibility

Queens District is focusing on enhancing their visibility in the community. By working with the Mayor and Council, Queens in getting crime prevention information to the community through local, weekly reports called "From the Cruiser." This report provides the community with a synopsis of what the RCMP has been involved in over the past week; it is printed in the local newspaper. The community continues to enjoy the report and has been very complimentary regarding the number of proactive initiatives undertaken on a weekly basis.

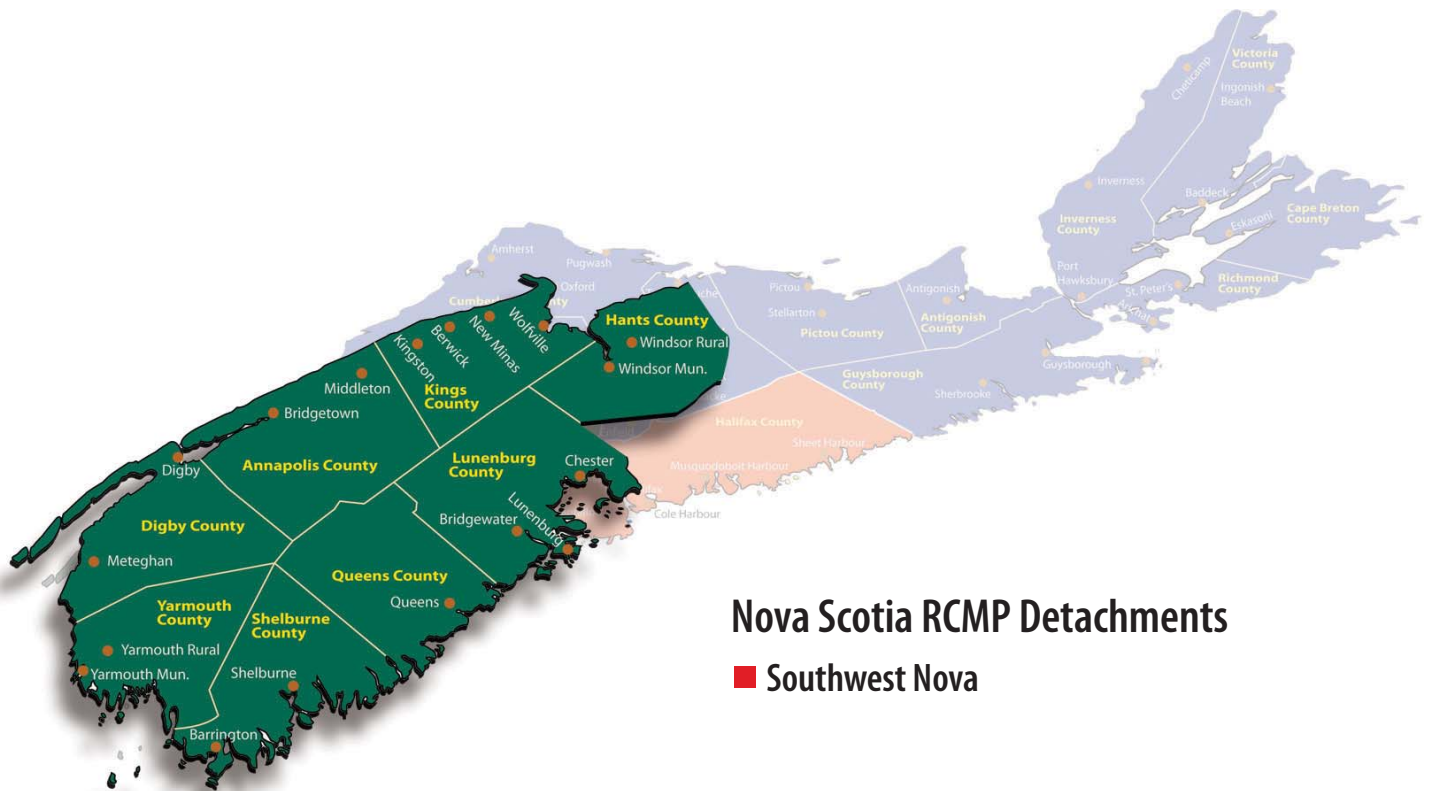


Southwest Nova



Superintendent Craig Gibson, Southwest Nova

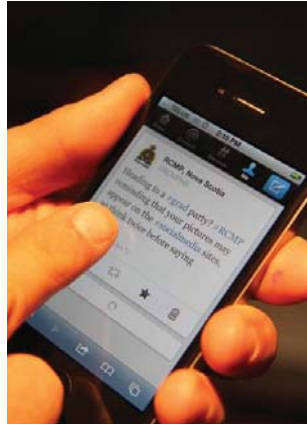
"It is a personal goal of mine in concert with District Commanders to continue to focus on crime reduction over the next year and reduce the fear of crime throughout Southwest Nova Scotia. The RCMP will continue to keep citizens informed about what we are doing to keep you safe and secure in our communities. We commit to increasing our visibility throughout Southwest Nova Scotia by increased patrols, visits to schools and local businesses. It is through this consultation and community involvement that we can achieve crime reduction together."



Communications

A dedicated team of professionals share the responsibility of communicating information about the work of Nova Scotia's Provincial Police. Through the distribution of accurate, timely information we are increasing our level of accountability and transparency to the communities we serve.

In spring 2011, the @RCMPNS Twitter account was launched to provide followers quick tips on everything from crime prevention and road closures to missing persons and recent arrests. The RCMP also receives and responds to queries from citizens that are received via social media. By doing so, the Communications Unit directly supports crime reduction and prevention initiatives. In a recent example, a 'tweet' indicated that a particular area of Sackville was a problem for speeding. The RCMP monitored the area, confirmed it was an issue, and undertook proactive enforcement within the area. The RCMP often asks followers on Twitter and Facebook to assist in identifying missing people and suspects in surveillance videos.



There are currently 4,200 following @RCMPNS on Twitter and the RCMP is reaching an average of 3,100 citizens directly through Facebook. The RCMP Nova Scotia Facebook account, launched in October 2011, shares news articles, and highlights activities from our community policing officers. The account allows the RCMP to connect, communicate, and get measurable results.

Through social media, we encourage an open dialogue that provides answers, clears up any misconceptions, and thank those who provide the RCMP with suggestions.



Although social media is providing the RCMP with new opportunities for two-way communication, it is equally as important that we focus our efforts on traditional media forms. The RCMP has two full time Media Relations Officers and many other officers with media relations training. For many Nova Scotians who may not have personal interactions with the RCMP, the Media Relations officer may be their only source of official police information. This is a role we take very seriously. This officer is the primary point of information for media and is responsible for delivering RCMP information to the public. In 2011, more than 840 media releases were issued, averaging approximately 70 per month. These include updates on investigations, public safety messages and information bulletins on how to keep yourself and your community safe.

New Technologies

The RCMP knows the importance of finding efficient and effective ways of utilizing technology to fight crime, and improve our business practices. In 2011-12, the RCMP in Nova Scotia introduced electronic fingerprinting and ticketing. These new tools enhance the RCMP's service delivery and allow officers more time to focus on crime prevention activities.

Electronic Fingerprints

Nova Scotians can now expect faster processing times for Vulnerable Sector checks. In April 2012, the RCMP along with representatives from the Provincial and Federal Government, announced the installation of 22 LiveScan electronic fingerprinting devices at detachments across Nova Scotia. The devices allow for the electronic submission of fingerprints to the RCMP's Canadian Criminal Real-time Identification Service for verification. The result is processing times for most Vulnerable Sector checks is reduced from weeks to days.



We listened to Nova Scotians when they expressed their concerns on the length of time it took to receive fingerprint results. Together through funding from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice and the Federal Government, we worked on a solution for an expedited process that maintains a high-level of security. The changes introduced demonstrate our continued support of those seeking employment and require quick access to this information. As well, the countless volunteers who provide an invaluable contribution to our communities.

Electronic Ticketing

Beginning in March 2012, drivers pulled over for traffic infractions within Halifax Regional Municipality saw a difference in the look of the ticket they were issued by Halifax District RCMP and Halifax Regional Police (HRP) officers. The



first phase of this project had a goal of streamlining the ticketing process for traffic infractions, and neighbourhood issues such as noise complaints and public intoxication. Ten police vehicles are equipped with the new system and this allows officers to create and print electronic tickets in their vehicles. It is anticipated that the electronic process will drastically reduce the time taken to issue a ticket and less time spent at the roadside will increase both officer and public safety.

The electronic ticket project is part of a larger provincial initiative to support the transition from handwritten to electronic tickets in Nova Scotia.



Way Forward

We look forward to the coming year, which will provide both challenges and opportunities, to deliver on our commitments as an efficient police service. We understand that our communities expect - and deserve - a quality police service that is accountable, reliable, trustworthy, and competent. We strive to exceed these expectations by focusing on the RCMP core values of integrity, honesty, professionalism, compassion, respect, and accountability.

We will continue to focus on effective strategies to reduce crime. Those will include expanding crime analysis, focusing on the identification of prolific offenders, and growing our partnerships to respond to the contributors of crime and anti-social behavior. Through crime reduction strategies, we will not only address criminal activity, but take a proactive approach to determine the underlying factors that can lead to a criminal lifestyle. We are committed to working with the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments to ensure emerging needs and concerns of Nova Scotians are met. In 2012-13 we will accomplish this by remaining focused on our Provincial Priorities including:

Road Safety:

- increase charges in relation to distracted driving
- deliver innovative public awareness campaigns

Domestic Violence:

- provide additional training for 250 police officers
- continue programs with youth and families to encourage healthy relationships

Crime Reduction:

- increase checks for court imposed conditions on individuals who are deemed high risk to the community
- enable crime reduction analysts to utilize crime mapping tools

Warrant Reduction:

- all existing warrants effectively managed at the Unit/Detachment level through local tracking and execution

In addition to our Provincial Priorities, we remain committed to the engagement and well-being of our employees. We will improve on existing accountability measures such as the Annual Performance Plan which measures our progress in meeting our local and Provincial Priorities; the Balanced Scorecard, which tracks the National Priorities of the RCMP; Police Advisory Boards; and hosting Town Hall meetings throughout Nova Scotia. In doing so, we will continue to provide an efficient and economically viable police service to the diverse communities that make up our province.





CRAFTS

P
1H

Garmouth
250

Gifts
Aplenty
COLLECTIBLES
& MEMORABILIA

...N...ON
CRAFTS
QUALITY
LOCAL
PRODUCTS

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