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COMMITTED TO POLICING EXCELLENCE



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2011 Second Quarter



SECOND QUARTER OVERVIEW

Vision:

*A safe, vibrant city
achieved in partnership
through innovative,
responsive and
progressive policing.*

Despite recording an unusual number of homicides this year to date, Edmonton has seen a reduction in crime overall. Between January and June 2011, property crime and violent crime was down by 19 per cent compared to the same period last year.

Reported property crimes such as 'break and enter' and 'theft from vehicle' continued to decrease significantly in the second quarter. Violent crimes such as assault and robbery also experienced a decrease compared to the same period in 2010. The noted anomalies to these downward trends were sexual assaults and homicides.

Chief Rod Knecht and the EPS Command Team, EPS Pipes and Drums, EPS Chorus, EPS Guard of Honour and Colour Party, EPS Historical Unit and members of Recruit Training Class 121 at the June 7, 2011 swearing in ceremony for the Chief of Police.

During the first and second quarter of 2011, the EPS investigated 24 homicides and responded to two officer-involved shootings. Two more suspicious deaths from previous years were deemed homicides by the medical examiner in 2011, bringing the total number of recorded homicides in Edmonton to 28 so far this year. There were 13 homicides in the same period last year.

EDMONTONIANS GIVE NEW CHIEF OF POLICE A WARM WELCOME

Hundreds of Edmontonians greeted Rod Knecht as he arrived at City Hall on June 7, 2011 to be officially sworn in as Edmonton's 22nd Chief of Police. Dignitaries who welcomed the new Chief included the Honourable Ed Stelmach, Premier of Alberta; the Honourable Frank Oberle, Alberta Solicitor General and Minister of Public Safety; Mayor Stephen Mandel, City of Edmonton; and Arlene Yakeley, Chair, Edmonton Police Commission.

The change of command ceremony included the signing of the oath of allegiance and parchment, and the ceremonial passing of the EPS Colours.

"It is both an honour and privilege to be here today, my first day as a sworn member of the EPS," said Chief Rod Knecht. "This is truly an exceptional and unique day for me as I transition to the next stage of a 34-year policing career."

Chief Knecht is committed to working in partnership with the people of Edmonton in addressing the varied and changing issues that impact community safety, social order and quality of life.

"As your Chief of Police, I will commit to delivering a professional service that meets our citizens' expectations through a focus on adaptive leadership, continuous communication, heightened accountability, and enhanced relationships – internal and external to the Service," said Chief Knecht.



REDUCING CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

NEIGHBOURHOOD FOOT PATROL OFFICERS WARN HOMEOWNERS OF SUMMER PROPERTY CRIMES

Every spring and summer there is an increase in thefts from homes and garages. In many cases, homeowners have simply left their doors open while working in their yards. This allows criminals to enter their home and steal property such as lawn mowers, tools, bikes, sporting goods, or other valuables such as electronic devices or personal bags, in a matter of moments.

In an effort to reduce property theft, Sergeant Jason Altmiks, Northeast Division Neighbourhood Foot Patrol, met with media in May 2011 to help get the word out to homeowners to lock their home and garage doors while working in their yards. Residents took heed of the advice, and related property crimes saw a reduction.

HOMICIDE LEVELS STRAIN RESOURCES

An unusually high number of homicides in the first six months of the year put a strain on the resources of the Homicide Unit, and on other units within EPS. The number of homicides was "an anomaly", said Deputy Chief Darryl da Costa. To cope, an additional 16 sworn members were assigned to the homicide and forensic identification services units in mid-June.

At the end of the second quarter, Edmonton had recorded 28 homicides, with 11 cases still unsolved. There were 13 homicides in the same period last year.



Each of the homicides has undergone close scrutiny by investigators, and no patterns or common themes have emerged. Most appear to have little relationship with drugs or organized crime, making them even more challenging to solve.

Adding to the puzzling nature of these crimes is the fact the overall number of property crimes and violent crimes in Edmonton are both down significantly.

"Edmonton continues to be a safe city," iterated Chief Knecht.

*Sergeant Jason Altmiks,
EPS Northeast Division
Neighbourhood Foot Patrol,
meets with a homeowner about
property crimes in the Beverly
community.*

CITIZEN-CENTRED POLICE SERVICE



Janelle Rust accepting a Citizen Award from the Edmonton Police Commission.

LOCAL HEROES AWARDED ALONGSIDE POLICE AT ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

When 14-year-old Janelle Rust began chatting with a new friend on Facebook, she didn't know that she would be responsible for saving the girl's life.

"I was 14 at the time and talking to a friend I had met over online home schooling. She had expressed that she was attempting to kill herself. At first, I was unsure what to say – actually I was pretty shocked," said Janelle Rust.

Rust acted quickly and contacted the EPS. Police officers responded to Rust's residence where she continued to engage the suicidal girl in dialogue and determined, through clever questioning, her home town, the names of her parents and the school she attended. Police were then able to locate the suicidal teen and took her to the hospital. "Luckily she lived nearby and she's fine now," added Rust.

Janelle Rust was recognized in an award ceremony May 18, along with 23 other citizens. These individuals were nominated by police officers for

coming to the aid of an EPS officer or fellow citizen, intervening in a crime in progress, or assisting the police with apprehending and detaining a suspect until police arrived.

The annual awards ceremony also recognized members of the EPS by presenting them with National 20, 30 and 40-year Service Medals and the Sacrifice Medal. These awards demonstrate outstanding commitment to policing and exemplary service to the community.



Constable Shane Brennan receiving the Sacrifice Medal from His Honour, Col. (Ret'd) Donald S. Ethell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta.



POLICE CONNECT WITH OVER 3,000 MEMBERS OF EDMONTON'S AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Edmonton's first-ever Africa Connect event provided an opportunity for the EPS to connect with over 3,000 members of the city's diverse African community.

The City of Edmonton held Africa Connect at the Edmonton Expo Centre on June 18 for citizens to share, experience, and learn about African culture through learning sessions, the arts, an information fair and marketplace.

Acting Deputy Chief Brad Ward and front-line police officers spoke to attendees about accessing police services, crime prevention, careers in policing and new EPS initiatives underway in the areas of equity, diversity and human rights.

The new African Community Liaison Committee (ACLC), one of the many EPS partnerships with Edmonton's multicultural and diverse communities, was highlighted for its success in breaking down barriers and improving communication between the local African community and police. During the closing ceremonies, ACLC members received a round of applause from the audience as a thanks for their ongoing efforts.

POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT, THE OTHER SIDE OF SPEED ENFORCEMENT

We all complain about the bad drivers. There isn't a day goes by that we don't encounter them. But what about good drivers?

The EPS, together with the Edmonton Police Foundation and Hughes Petroleum, decided to give good drivers the recognition they deserve. At a recent speed enforcement operation drivers were pulled over, but instead of getting a ticket, they were handed a five dollar gas voucher.

West Division Acting Inspector Dave Berry says based on the reaction they got from the public they are definitely considering doing this again.

EPS INVITES PUBLIC INPUT THROUGH VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETING

As part of our ongoing efforts to be more efficient and garner feedback from diverse communities, the EPS conducted its first online town hall meeting this April. Facilitated by *Connect 2 Edmonton*, members of the public were able to email questions about policing Monday through Thursday and answers were posted by 9:00 a.m. the following morning.

A total of 86 questions were posted during the one-week online town hall meeting. Topics ranged from traffic concerns, general EPS operating procedures, legal questions, and issues regarding specific community problems.

Following this trial, the impact of the pilot project was evaluated and it was decided another virtual town hall will be held in the spring of 2012.

Acting Deputy Chief Brad Ward and Constable Achille Karuletwa provide information about a career with the EPS to a potential applicant.

"Even though the interaction they had with police was brief, it was very positive. Everyone appreciates hearing when they have done something right."



MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION MARKS A DECADE OF CARING

The Crime Free Multi Housing (CFMH) program celebrated its 10th anniversary in May 2011 by recognizing property managers with CFMH awards.

This proactive program introduces crime prevention techniques to rental properties to reduce the likelihood of criminal activity on premises. The program adheres to the principles detailed in Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. The CFMH program creates improved safety for residents, landlords and managers, in turn creating a stable, more satisfied resident base. Property managers pay for the course and any renovations recommended by the program's two constables.

DNA ANALYSIS LINKS FIVE SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES

In May 2011, the EPS – in partnership with the Leduc detachment of the RCMP - charged a suspect in relation to five alleged sexual assault cases, four of which dated back to 2004. After DNA exhibits were collected and analyzed by the RCMP Forensic Crime Lab, it was determined that one suspect was linked to all five cases.

The key to solving the historical sexual assault cases was preserved DNA evidence. Wherever possible in any crime scene—from a stolen bicycle to a homicide—EPS officers collect and preserve evidence. If it is too small a sample to be analyzed at that time, it gets preserved and reanalyzed when science has evolved.

Evidence is also resubmitted to compare DNA in the electronic DNA profile database to profiles in the Convicted Offenders Index to link convicted offenders to crime scene samples. More historical crimes are being solved today than ever before because of advances in DNA technology.



The new CFMH vehicle after being unveiled at the anniversary celebration.

The EPS benefits from the initiative through fewer calls for service to certified properties, which allows officers to focus on proactive work and other duties. In 2007, the service saw between 20 and 80 per cent reduction in calls from CFMH properties.

The CFMH coordinators will have 225 properties certified by the end of 2011.

LIVESCAN SIGNIFICANTLY DECREASES PROCESSING TIMES

The LiveScan machine – which is used to conduct police information checks on individuals seeking employment or a volunteer position in the vulnerable sector – has decreased EPS processing times to seven days, compared to the usual four weeks or more.

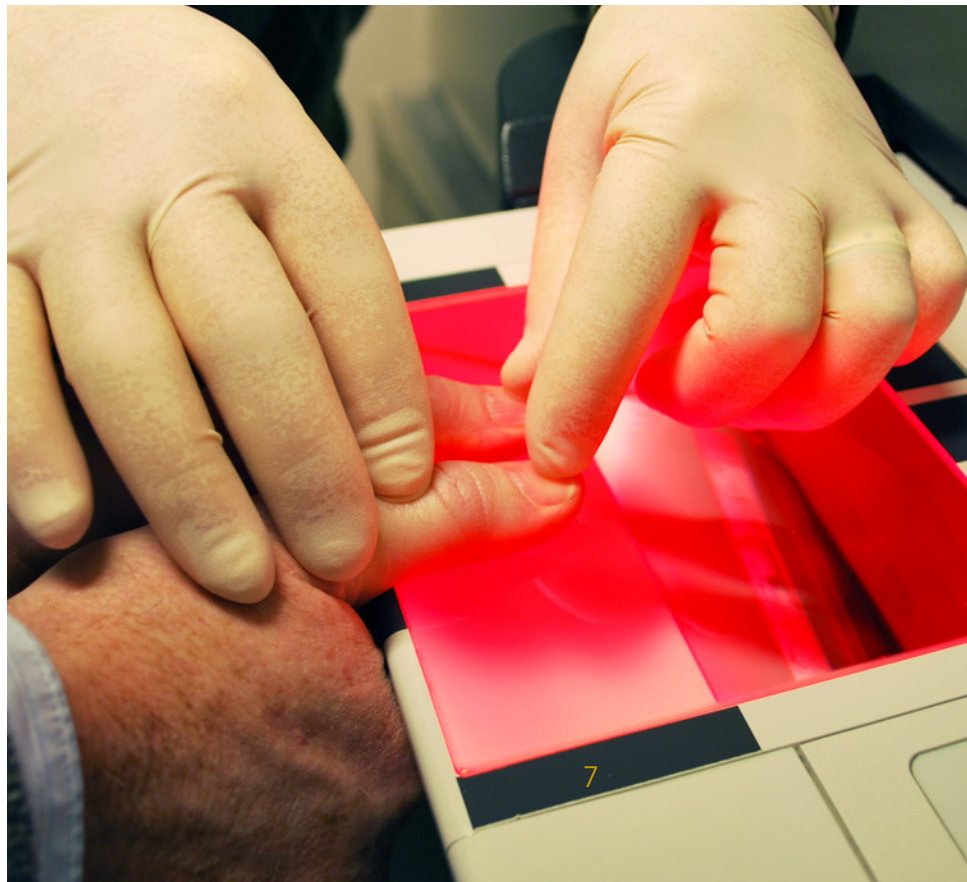
Due to a concern for public safety, the RCMP made changes in July of last year in CPIC protocols. The purpose was to eliminate the risk of sex offenders legally changing their names and slipping through background checks.

When a digital fingerprint is taken by the LiveScan machine, it is sent electronically

to the National Repository of Criminal Records, where it is then checked against thousands of names and birthdates to ensure the applicant isn't a pardoned sex offender. This level of background check can only be performed by the police agency in the city where the applicant resides. The enhancements have resulted in a huge influx for the EPS of vulnerable sector background checks. But, the LiveScan system sends back a response to a query within only a few minutes, which is speeding up the entire process significantly.

The EPS hopes to use LiveScan fingerprinting for all background checks in the near future.

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Appendices

EPS Staff Complement

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2011 AUTHORIZED FTEs	2011 FTEs AT MAY 31, 2011	VACANCIES (OVERSTRENGTH)
SWORN	1588.0	1531.3	56.7
RECRUITS	0.0	29.0	(29.0)
NON-SWORN	577.5	593.5	(16)
FULL COMPLEMENT	2165.5	2153.8	11.7

Financials

BUDGET VARIANCE by Major Category of Revenues & Expenditures First Quarter Forecast (\$000's)

	2011 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	Budget	Actual	Var	%	Budget	Projected	Var	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act	\$4,997	\$4,853	\$(144)	-2.9%	\$12,158	\$11,908	\$(250)	-2.1%
Transfer to COE General Revenues	-	-	-		-	-	-	
Provincial Grants	5,189	5,189	-	0.0%	23,194	23,019	(175)	-0.8%
Other	11,301	10,528	(773)	-6.8%	26,867	26,614	(253)	-0.9%
Total Revenue	21,487	20,570	(917)	-4.3%	62,219	61,541	(678)	-1.1%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and Benefits	98,722	97,305	1,417	1.4%	234,706	231,612	3,094	1.3%
EPS Overtime	2,979	3,213	(234)	-7.9%	8,691	9,108	(417)	-4.8%
External Overtime	125	205	(80)	-64.0%	299	599	(300)	-100.3%
	101,826	100,723	1,103	1.1%	243,696	241,319	2,377	1.0%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, Equipment, IT, Materials and Supplies	4,858	4,354	504	10.4%	11,038	11,501	(463)	-4.2%
Contracts and Services	7,109	6,663	446	6.3%	20,049	20,604	(555)	-2.8%
Vehicles	2,706	2,975	(269)	-9.9%	7,063	7,657	(594)	-8.4%
Facilities	5,678	5,472	206	3.6%	13,980	13,947	33	0.2%
Other	728	578	150	20.6%	2,844	2,750	94	3.3%
	21,079	20,042	1,037	4.9%	54,974	56,459	(1,485)	-2.7%
Total Expenditures	122,905	120,765	2,140	1.7%	298,669	297,778	892	0.3%
Position before Adjustments	101,418	100,195	1,223	1.2%	236,450	236,237	214	0.1%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget Adjustment					5,842	5,842	-	0.0%
Net Position	\$101,418	\$100,195	\$1,223	1.2%	\$242,292	\$242,078	\$214	0.1%