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REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2012 Second Quarter



2ND QUARTER REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY





The entire report can be found online at www.edmontonpolicecommission.ca

CITIZEN SURVEY SHOWS HIGH LEVELS OF CONFIDENCE AND SATISFACTION

Every two years, the EPS enlists an independent company to conduct a citizen survey to help identify key community issues, concerns, perceptions, and priorities in relation to crime, disorder, and neighbourhood safety. The survey also gives citizens an opportunity to tell the EPS how they think it is doing in relation to service delivery.

Survey results show that Edmontonians are confident in the EPS and are satisfied with the service they receive. In fact, 91 per cent of respondents either 'strongly agreed' or 'somewhat agreed' that they had a lot of confidence in the EPS. This was a two per cent increase from 2009 levels. When it came to satisfaction with services received, 84 per cent of respondents said they were satisfied; this was a two per cent increase from 2009 numbers.

The survey is a way for citizens to provide feedback that helps guide the Commission and EPS in terms of our priorities when it comes to leadership and governance that reflects the needs of Edmontonians," said Commission Chair Arlene Yakeley. "It tells us where citizens feel the police are doing well, and where the Service needs to improve."

Surveys conducted from 2001 to 2009 consistently show that citizens of Edmonton believe traffic, gangs, and drugs should be the primary focus of the EPS. 2011 was the first time that respondents identified the homicide rate as one of the top areas of focus, making the top three issues traffic, gangs, and the homicide rate. Drugs still ranked highly at number four.

Awareness of the Edmonton Police Commission increased by seven per cent, and most respondents identified the role of the Commission as overseeing police conduct.

REDUCING CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

CAT GOES ON NIGHT PROWL FOR CRIME IN NORTHEAST EDMONTON

The 10th Community Action Team (CAT) deployment focused police and community resources on reducing violence and crime along 118 Avenue from June 13 to 16.

CAT, part of the ongoing EPS Violence Reduction Strategy, brought an increase of police and other civic resources to the at-risk community to target violence and disorder. Social agencies also assisted with connecting vulnerable persons to services such as housing and addiction counselling.

Neighbourhood residents met with officers and received crime prevention materials at the CAT Mobile Action Centre in the Abbottsfield Mall parking lot, and many attended the two free education sessions about ending sexual exploitation and prostitution as well as preventing crimes through the use of civic services.

For more information about the EPS Violence Reduction Strategy, please visit www.edmontonpolice.ca/vrs.



"With the help of residents, we can reduce violence, gangs, alcohol and drugs, prostitution, and property crimes in the area," said Supt. Brad Ward of EPS Northeast Division.

EPS ACKNOWLEDGED AT ALBERTA CRIME PREVENTION AWARDS

On May 11, members of the EPS and the Sexual Assault Voices of Edmonton (SAVE) attended the 21st annual Alberta Crime Prevention Awards in Calgary. The annual awards recognize individual Albertans, police officers, community organizations and businesses for their contributions in making neighbourhoods safer, helping at-risk youth, and raising awareness about crime prevention.

EPS was acknowledged in two categories: Police and Police-Community Collaboration. In the Police category, Supt. David Veitch was recognized for demonstrating strong leadership in the area of crime prevention. Supt. Veitch is currently the lead of the Violence Reduction Strategy.

EPS received two acknowledgements in the Police-Community Collaboration category. First, the Community Action Team (CAT) was acknowledged for making a difference in neighbourhoods most affected by crime.

The second award in the same category was for the "Don't Be That Guy" campaign. When EPS identified a disturbing trend of alcohol-facilitated sexual assaults amongst 18-24 year olds they partnered with SAVE and created the prevention campaign. Since launching in 2010, "Don't Be That Guy" has been picked up by various law enforcement agencies across North America.

The ceremony was co-hosted by the Calgary Police Service and Alberta Justice and Solicitor General.



DON'T BE THAT GUY.



MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFE TOGETHER

Making Communities Safe Together was the theme of the EPS's 21st Annual Crime Prevention Week, May 13-19. The EPS scheduled activities throughout the week and created videos in support of each crime prevention strategy that focused on public awareness and participation.

"Our emphasis this year is to encourage the public to take a few minutes to learn how to protect their assets and families," explained Sgt. Daryl Mahoney, of the EPS Crime Prevention Unit. "We view crime prevention as a partnership, one in which both the police and public can play proactive roles in helping to minimize crime and its subsequent impacts."

Each day throughout Crime Prevention Week, the EPS focused its attention on a specific type of crime prevention, including the Report a Drug House program, personal self-defence workshop, and auto theft.

Partnerships, such as those shared between EPS and the Edmonton Public School Board and the City of Edmonton's Transportation Department, were pivotal to the success of the 2012 Crime Prevention Week. A television commercial, social media presence, West Edmonton Mall display and Crime Prevention Week branded giveaways for members of the public were also part of the week long activities.

CITIZEN-CENTRED POLICE SERVICE

MISSING PERSONS UNIT – FRESH EYES ON OLD FILES

The EPS Missing Persons Unit (MPU) took part in a national 'investigative triage initiative', bringing together investigators and specialists from across Canada to share ideas and discuss strategies regarding recent and historical missing person cases.

The four-day session was held in Edmonton and was hosted by the EPS, the National Centre for Missing Persons and Unidentified Remains, and Project Kare.

Several policing agencies presented ongoing missing person files, which allowed for collaboration, a fresh perspective and open discussion.

Constables Sean Jenkinson and Jim Gurney of the EPS MPU presented an unsolved missing person file from 2006 to the group of investigators and related experts.

"We received suggestions that expanded upon some of the investigative avenues we had already identified, and also some new ideas that would benefit the investigation," explained Gurney. "We were also able to provide feedback to the other agencies that presented their files. Some of the files showcased by other agencies had similarities to some EPS outstanding cases, so we were able to apply lessons learned to some of our files."

New contacts were also made that will increase the efficiency of investigative tasks, such as methods of obtaining various data related to a missing subject.

The feedback on the overall initiative by participants was overwhelmingly positive with a clear indication these opportunities are key to assisting law enforcement agencies in resolving and/or advancing their investigations.

COMMUNITY BREAKS UP WITH JOHN

A unique campaign called *dear john*, targeting men who stop to pick up sex trade workers in the Alberta Avenue area, ran from April 25 to May 30. The initiative included billboards, a dear john letter from community members, and a blog where Edmontonians could write letters, or tweet their messages to potential johns.

"Prostitution used to be prevalent along 118 Avenue," said Alex Stratford, community capacity builder with the Neighbourhood Empowerment Team (NET). "Since the campaign started we've certainly noticed it's been down." The increase in tips to the Report-a-John phone line was another indication that the campaign was effective.

The EPS is now considering *dear john* in other at-risk neighbourhoods.

The *dear john* campaign was done in partnership with NET, We Believe in 118, and the Centre to End all Sexual Exploitation.

Citizens can report a john by calling 780-421-2656.





LOCAL HEROES AWARDED ALONGSIDE POLICE AT ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY

In May, 2008, Wayne Brown was at home when he saw two men fighting on his front lawn. Wayne's wife called 911 while he went out to assist. When he pulled one man off the other, he noticed the suspect had a knife. A struggle took place and Wayne managed to get the knife free of the suspect's hands who then fled the scene.

The remaining male was bleeding profusely from deep wounds to his arms and legs. Using his own clothing and towels, Wayne applied first aid and waited for police to arrive.

His selfless act of bravery and his spontaneous decision to help another human being under extremely dangerous circumstances was remarkable. Seasoned investigators said they've witnessed very few acts of bravery that rival what he did. A trial judge even stated without Brown's intervention, there may well have been a homicide.

Wayne remained humble at the awards ceremony, saying "Police officers do this every day. They put their lives on the line. I just did it once. I think the guys and girls that do it every day really deserve more." Mr. Brown was recognized at the Edmonton Police Commission Citizen Award ceremony on May 23, along with 10 other citizens: Cameron Bennett, Janet Esteves, Viriato Friere, Kim Fulks, Douglas Green, Penny Headon, Darlene Lorie, Lucas Manley, Brent Raffard, and Daniel Scott. 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 officers 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 South-West Asia Service Medal. These awards demonstrate outstanding commitment to policing and exemplary service to the community. Wayne Brown accepted a Citizens Award from Chief Rod Knecht, Commission Chair Arlene Yakeley, and Bill Meade, Assistant Deputy Minister of Public Security.

MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

SPRING COMMERCIAL VEHICLE CHECKS

The EPS Traffic Section conducted a commercial vehicle inspection project this spring to help ensure safe commercial vehicle operation and safe roads for all motorists.

The compliance checks on vehicles over 4,500 kilograms were carried out in partnership with numerous provincial agencies on high-volume truck routes in Edmonton from May 8 to 10, 2012.

Inspectors focused on overweight loads, faulty equipment, securement of loads, over-dimensional loads, dangerous or stolen goods, and the condition of drivers.

The spring commercial vehicle check resulted in 241 vehicles inspected, with 584 violations, 121 summonses, and 28 vehicles towed from the check points. Only 33 per cent of vehicles passed inspection, 25 per cent required attention, and 42 per cent were declared out of service.

The EPS Traffic Section conducts commercial vehicle checks throughout the year in support of the Alberta Traffic Safety Plan.



"Police and provincial agencies are focused not only on enforcement, but on education of the commercial vehicle industry as well," said Staff Sgt. Barry Maron, of the EPS Traffic Section.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING TAKES VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGY TO NEXT LEVEL

On April 18, Edmonton City Council approved an additional \$1.8 million to the EPS budget, allowing the Service to implement several aspects of its Violence Reduction Strategy. This brought the total VRS funding to \$4.8 million, which added 68 new employees to the complement.

"This is extremely positive news for Edmonton and certainly demonstrates the support of City Council," said Edmonton Police Commission Chair Arlene Yakeley. "It allows the EPS to focus on public safety issues that Edmontonians have said are priorities."

"As recruits are brought on board, more experienced officers will be assigned to a new Downtown Beat Unit, Neighbourhood Empowerment Team and Public Safety Compliance Team, and to an additional surveillance unit," said Chief Rod Knecht. "But the majority of the employee movement will be related to the creation of a new high performance team, called Specialized Traffic Apprehension Teams."

Specialized Traffic Apprehension Teams (**42 positions):** Operating on a 24/7 basis, these highly visible officers will detect criminals where

they are most vulnerable: when they are mobile. The most significant difference between these units and the current Traffic Section patrols is that these specialized units will have the time and skills necessary to go beyond basic traffic enforcement. In simple terms, they are looking for all types of criminal or violent activity.

Chief Knecht plans to have the first Specialized Traffic Apprehension Team operational this summer. **Entertainment Zone Beat Officers (15 positions):** The downtown entertainment zone continues to grow, and so have the policing requirements associated with the increased entertainment activities. The additional positions mean the EPS will no longer have to draw officers from surrounding high-risk communities to meet the entertainment zone demands.

Surveillance Unit (seven positions), Neighbourhood Empowerment Teams (two positions), and Public Safety Compliance Teams (two positions): Surveillance teams are vital in gathering intelligence and evidence for investigations of homicides, sexual assaults, robberies, and other major crimes. The EPS is a key player in NET and PSCT, so additional EPS resources will benefit all agencies involved.



Appendices

EPS Staff Complement

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2012 AUTHORIZED FTEs		VACANCIES (OVERSTRENGTH)
SWORN	1647.0	1569.4	77.6
RECRUITS	0.0	59.0	(59.0)
NON-SWORN	607.5	600.5	7.0
FULL COMPLEMEN	Г 2254.5	2228.9	25.6

The authorized FTE's represent 2,254.5 authorized positions in 2012

Financials

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

	2012 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	Budget	Actual	Var	%	Budget	Actual	Var	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act	\$5,318	\$5,318	\$-	0.0%	\$13,658	\$13,658	\$-	0.0%
Provincial Grants Other	5,225 10,846	5,225 10,594	- (252)	0.0% -2.3%	23,492 23,603	23,019 23,489	(473) (114)	-2.0% -0.5%
Other	10,040	10,374	(202)	-2.3 /0	23,003	23,407	(114)	-0.3 /6
Total Revenue	21,389	21,137	(252)	-1.2%	60,753	60,166	(587)	-1.0%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and benefits	100,922	101,389	(467)	-0.5%	246,396	246,258	138	0.1%
EPS Overtime	3,245	3,375	(130)	-4.0%	8,997	9,339	(342)	-3.8%
External Overtime	180	147	33	18.3%	432	370	62	14.4%
	104,347	104,911	(564)	-0.5%	255,825	255,967	(142)	-0.1%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	5,990	5,496	494	8.2%	12,361	12,289	72	0.6%
Contracts and services	7,591	6,804	787	10.4%	21,081	20,266	815	3.9%
	3,201	3,167	34	1.1%	7,683	7,591	92	1.2%
Facilities Other	5,666 636	5,382 461	284 175	5.0% 27.5%	14,026 326	13,891 242	135 84	1.0% 25.8%
Oulei	030	401	175	27.3/0	520	242	04	23.070
	23,084	21,310	1,774	7.7%	55,477	54,279	1,198	2.2%
Total Expenditures	127,431	126,221	1,210	0.9%	311,302	310,246	1,056	0.3%
Position before Adjustments	106,042	105,084	958	0.9%	250,549	250,080	469	0.2%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					5,895	5,895		0.0%
Net Position	\$106,042	\$105,084	\$958	0.9%	\$256,444	\$255,975	\$469	0.2%