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REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2012 Fourth Quarter



COMMITTED TO POLICING EXCELLENCE

4TH QUARTER REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

LOOKING BACK AND MOVING FORWARD

The Edmonton Police Commission and Edmonton Police Service are extremely pleased with the initiatives that continued to develop in the final quarter of 2012. This quarter also saw City Council approve the 2013 Operating Budget.

A number of issues presented themselves in 2012, requiring advocacy on behalf of the Commission. Most notably, concern around the increasing number of beds in federal and provincial institutions located in Edmonton. With the support of the Commission, Chief Knecht continued to build on the assessment, sobering, and care concept aimed at assisting vulnerable people 24 hours a day.

The latest Citizen Survey results, released in 2012, showed Edmontonians have a great deal of confidence in the EPS and are satisfied with the services provided. Citizens also indicated that the top four issues police should focus on are traffic, gangs, homicide rate, and drugs.

Under the umbrella of the joint Violence Reduction Action Plan and the Service's Violence Reduction Strategy, 2012 began with projects specifically geared toward reducing violence in the city, which remains a top priority into the future. For example, several campaigns were launched to address issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, fraud, and personal and commercial robbery.

The creation of Strategic Traffic Apprehension Teams (STAT) allowed for specially trained officers to focus on reducing traffic violations and targeting some of Edmonton's most active criminals. Project Operation Warrant Execution (OWE) was geared toward reducing the number of people wanted on outstanding warrants. The monthly Community Action Team (CAT) deployments were held everywhere from distressed communities to the transit system and West Edmonton Mall.

The successes of 2012 provide a solid foundation as we move into 2013. Sound Commission oversight, efforts to reduce violence and a focus on providing exceptional policing services to Edmontonians and visitors alike will continue in 2013.

The Edmonton Police Commission and the Edmonton Police Service publish a number of reports that provide further details on policing in Edmonton.

Operational Area	Publication
Performance Measurement	Annual Policing Plan
Performance Results	Annual Policing Plan Report Card
Complaints Against EPS	Professional Standards Branch Annual Report
Citizen Opinions on Policing	Citizen Survey

All publications can be found at www.edmontonpolicecommission.ca and www.edmontonpolice.ca
For more information, contact the Edmonton Police Commission at 780-414-7510.

REDUCING CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

SPEAK OUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Edmonton police officers responded to approximately 5,300 reported cases of domestic violence between January and August of 2012. This was a 30 per cent increase compared to the same time period in 2011. In November, the EPS launched *Speak Out*, a powerful awareness campaign that urges the public to get involved and report incidents of domestic violence to police.

“Domestic violence or intimate partner violence should not be tolerated in any form, or at any level of society,” says Staff Sergeant Darcy Strang, EPS Domestic Offender Crime Section. “These victims often feel isolated and afraid to leave their abusive relationship, but they need to know police take the victim’s situation very seriously and can provide not only legal assistance, but also pivotal social support connections.”

“While the higher number of reported incidents is troubling, it might also indicate that more and more people – not only victims, but members of the community – are taking a stand against domestic violence and reporting these incidents to police,” explains Strang.

The campaign included a 15-second commercial posted online, and digital and print billboards that ran from Nov. 19, 2012 to Jan. 7, 2013 throughout the Edmonton area.

Campaign materials were also distributed to EPS School Resource Officers for communication with students.



EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT NEEDED TO COMBAT TRAFFIC FATALITIES

With 29 collision-related fatalities in 2012 - nine more than 2011 – it was a challenging year for members of the EPS Traffic Section. Fifty-eight per cent of the fatal collisions in 2012 involved excessive speed and 36 per cent involved impaired driving.

Having attended many fatal collisions over the course of his career, Staff Sergeant Ted Hrebien of EPS Major Collision Investigation Section has witnessed first-hand the carnage they create. “These collisions didn’t have to happen,” says Hrebien. “People need to take the act of driving more seriously, whether that means driving the posted speed limit or making the conscious decision of not driving after they have been drinking. We can all make our roads safe.”

The EPS has undertaken a number of enforcement efforts in recent years to address speed and impaired driving. In partnership with the City of Edmonton’s Office of Traffic Safety (OTS), the EPS collects data to identify high-risk locations and the type of traffic enforcement required. Using this information, both agencies work together to create strategies that target current and developing high-risk collision corridors and intersections.

The Checkstop program continued to be enhanced by additional Checkstops, resulting in 19 per cent more impaired driver arrests in 2011, and 12 per cent more in 2012.

The EPS Traffic Section also monitors the causes and locations of fatal and serious injury collisions very closely, and will continue to look at new ways to address this problem as the city grows.



NEW DESIGN FOR “DON’T BE THAT GUY” CAMPAIGN

The EPS along with the Sexual Assault Voices of Edmonton (SAVE) re-launched the “Don’t be that Guy” campaign, broadening its message from alcohol-facilitated sexual assaults to sexual assault of all types, regardless of a person’s culture, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

“The bottom line is sex without consent is sexual assault,” says Staff Sgt. Shawna Goodkey of the Sexual Assault Section. “This campaign reiterates this key message with the four new visuals SAVE has created.”

In 2012, almost 60 per cent of sexual assaults investigated by Sexual Assault Section involved alcohol.

This educational campaign continues to be edgy, with its message directed to males between the ages of 18 and 24 years old. The new ads will be posted in men’s washrooms in local bars and clubs, LRT stations, campus and entertainment newspapers.

Inquiries and requests have been coming in from the public, police and media agencies, and the “Don’t Be That Guy” campaign has spread worldwide. Feedback on the initial campaign was taken into account to create the new ads.



SAVE Partners:

- Edmonton Police Service
- Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton
- University of Alberta Sexual Assault Centre
- University of Alberta Women’s Studies
- Responsible Hospitality Edmonton
- Saffron Centre of Sherwood Park
- Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation
- Covenant Health Prevention of Alcohol Related Trauma in Youth (The PARTY Program)
- Red Cross

CITIZEN-CENTRED POLICE SERVICE

ASSESSMENT, SOBERING AND CARE CONCEPT

Building community, government and agency support for new ways of providing care to Edmonton's most vulnerable citizens continued in the fourth quarter. Meetings with stakeholder groups were organized in November to encourage discussion about how the current system of shelters and safe houses could be improved. The Service met with representatives from the community, several city shelters, and the government to talk about this important issue.

Cities assist their most vulnerable citizens in different ways. Most cities provide support to their homeless, addicted, or otherwise vulnerable citizens through a facility such as a medical, triage, or sobering centre. Although a facility has been discussed in Edmonton for some time, it is still in the concept phase while stakeholders work together to determine the best way to proceed.

EPS representatives visited Winnipeg and Calgary to review their operations and see what lessons could be learned. These cities, along with the Government of Alberta, are following the discussions in Edmonton to see if improved methods of treatment or assistance develop. In the United States, Salt Lake City has emerged as a potential model, so that city's support network will be reviewed in 2013.

MCCAULEY CUP ANOTHER SUCCESS; PLAYERS SKATED FOR NEW TROPHY

Despite frigid temperatures, Several officers from Downtown Division laced up their skates for a friendly game of hockey with local youth in the 4th Annual McCauley Cup at the McCauley outdoor skating rink on Dec. 27.

"The cold weather didn't scare us off, and it didn't keep the kids away either," says Sergeant David Kabyn of Downtown Division and organizer of the Cup. "We were very well prepared for the weather this year. We had two heated tents, a heated trailer, and lots of hot drinks and food to keep the players going." There was also a bonfire and hot dogs to keep everyone warm.

This year an official McCauley Cup trophy was created, thanks to sponsorship by the Edmonton Police Foundation. Kids playing in the game got the opportunity to have their picture taken with the trophy, EPS officers, and Oilers alumni. Photos were printed at the game as a keepsake for the youth. Other giveaways included Oilers toques, scarves, player puzzles, and EPS K-9 plush puppies.

"We are thankful for the great support this community event receives from our community partners," says Kabyn.

Sponsors of the game included the Edmonton Police Foundation, Oilers Community Foundation, EPS Canine Unit, United Cycle, Hertz, Trace Associates, Lucky 97 Supermarket and the Italian Bakery. A collection was also done for the Edmonton Food Bank.



PROJECT OWE'S FOCUS FAR AND WIDE

The EPS's Project OWE (Operation Warrant Execution) campaign had an international impact this time around.

The second phase of OWE, which ran from Nov. 13 to Nov. 25, saw law enforcement members round up individuals with serious outstanding warrants, not only in Edmonton, but across Canada and into the United States.

Close to 1,500 warrants were successfully executed during the second phase of Project OWE.

Key arrests during Project OWE:

A 30-year-old male wanted on numerous warrants including sexual assault, sexual interference, and possession of child pornography was located in Manitoba and will be brought back to Edmonton.

A 45-year-old-male wanted on assault causing bodily harm was located in Louisiana.

A 44-year-old male wanted on numerous warrants including impaired driving, failure to provide a breath sample, and failure to appear in court, was arrested in Edmonton. He now faces additional charges including unsafe storage of a firearm and unauthorized possession of a firearm as a result of a loaded rifle being found in his possession at the time of his arrest.

LOOK. MOVE. STOP.

EPS, Edmonton Fire Rescue, Alberta Health Services, and the Alberta Motor Association teamed up to educate the public on what to do when they see an emergency vehicle with its lights or sirens activated.

Look. Move. Stop.

These are three steps drivers should take when they see lights and hear sirens:

- **Look** in your rear view mirror to see what vehicle is approaching you from behind.
- Signal and **move** to the right to make room for the emergency vehicle to pass.
- **Stop** and make sure all emergency vehicles have passed. Signal and merge back into traffic when it is safe to do so.

"Saving lives is our top priority," says Constable Martin Doherty with Southeast Division. "Traffic is our biggest obstacle when responding to an emergency."

Following the rules of the road will help emergency responders get to the scene as quickly and safely as possible.

Edmonton's emergency services worked together to create an educational video that aired on local television stations in November and December.



Const. Tyler Watt (l) and Const. Martin Doherty were integral in making the Look. Move. Stop. campaign a success.



EPS MEMBERS RECEIVE QUEEN'S DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL

The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, Commission Chair Arlene Yakeley, and Chief Rod Knecht, bestowed 78 members of the EPS with the honour of the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in late November.

The commemorative medal was created to mark the 2012 celebrations of the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's accession to the throne. The medal was a tangible way for Canada to honour Her Majesty for her service to this country and honour significant contributions and achievements by Canadians.

PIPES AND DRUMS OF THE EPS CELEBRATE 50 YEARS

The 50th anniversary celebration of the Pipes and Drums of the EPS took place in early November at Edmonton City Hall. Although their history can be traced back to WWI, the band's first public performance was on Remembrance Day 1962. Since then, the band has performed thousands of times, acting as an ambassador for both the EPS and the city of Edmonton. As an added bonus to an already stellar year, the band marched on stage and performed Mull of Kintyre with Sir Paul McCartney at Rexall Place for two evenings in late November.



The Honourable Donald S. Ethell, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, and EPS Chief Rod Knecht conduct an inspection during the 50th anniversary ceremony.

GALA TO CELEBRATE 100 YEARS OF FEMALE POLICE OFFICERS

October 1, 1912, was a historic day for the EPS when Miss Annie Jackson became the first female police officer. Since that day, the Service has sworn in 450 women, more than 350 of whom are currently active.

“These numbers clearly show that women are playing an increasingly important role in today’s police service. This is a fact worth celebrating,” says Inspector Teri Uhryn.

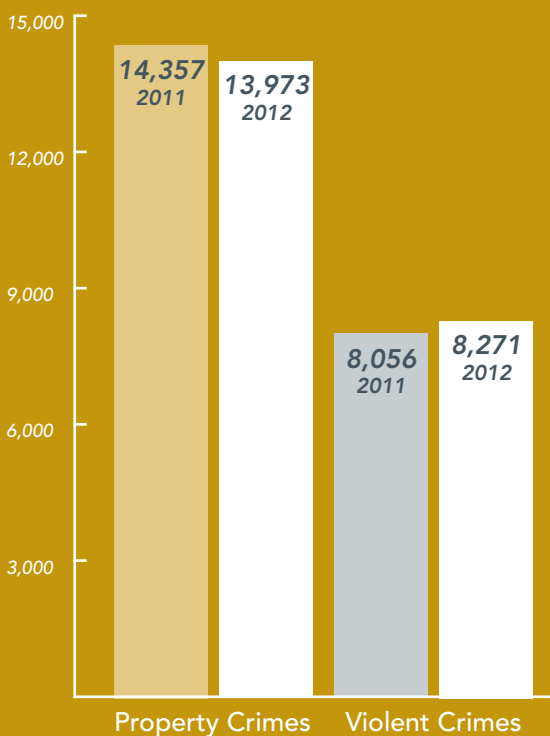
Uhryn chaired a committee that planned a gala evening at the Hotel MacDonald in October. Current and retired female officers attended the sold-out event. Danielle Campbell, Edmonton’s first sworn female member to serve as Deputy Chief, was the Master of Ceremonies.

“A diverse workforce allows for innovative ideas and encourages organizations to push past their traditional modes of thinking. Different opinions and perspectives are essential for progressive, effective operations,” notes Campbell.

Miss Annie Jackson would agree wholeheartedly.



Annie M. Jackson (1879-1959), the first female police officer to be hired by the Edmonton Police Service, worked on child protection cases, supervised adoptions, and acted as a parole officer for young women and girls. (Photo Courtesy of City of Edmonton Archives)



OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS

In 2012, EPS measured a reduction of 2.7 per cent within property crime and an increase of 2.7 per cent within violent crimes. Overall, there was a 0.8 per cent reduction in the eight crime indicators.

The eight crime indicators are:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Violent crimes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • homicide • assault • sexual assault • robbery | <p>Property crimes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • break and enter • theft from vehicle • theft of vehicle • theft over \$5,000 |
|---|---|

The eight crime indicators are measured daily and the data is used to focus on criminal activity and identify trends, patterns, and hot spots in Edmonton. Police resources are then deployed to address emerging and enduring crime and disorder issues. Violent Crimes statistics are based on victims of crime, not occurrences of crime.

MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

OFFICERS AWARDED FOR HEROISM

At a ceremony held on Nov. 12 at Edmonton Police Headquarters, the Royal Canadian Humane Association presented 26 citizens with awards to recognize exceptional acts of bravery and lifesaving while under duress. Among those receiving this prestigious acknowledgment were five EPS members: Constables Clint Burill, Leah Carpenter, Mario Dilullo, Nathan Downing, and Chris Weir. On July 12, 2011, the five officers responded to a fire in an apartment building. They assisted in getting all residents out safely and stayed at the scene to provide victim assistance, and take displaced tenants to temporary accommodations at a nearby school.

For his valiant efforts in attempting to save a fellow police officer in a dangerous situation the Bronze Medal for Bravery was awarded to Constable Mark Dilullo. For their assistance in evacuating residents from a burning building the Honorary Testimonial Certificate was awarded to Constables Clint Burrill, Leah Carpenter, Nathan Downing and Chris Weir.

BODY WORN VIDEO

A project is underway at EPS to test and report the equipping of police officers with Body Worn Video (BWV) recording systems.

BWV is a small recording device worn personally by officers as part of their uniform and captures an audio-visual record of events as they occur.

"It is thought to have major benefits for aiding investigations and supporting prosecutions," says Dr. Mary Stratton, BWV project coordinator. "It is potentially an objective aid in resolving complaints that may protect both police officers and the public."

In October, a small group of officers began wearing the cameras during their regular policing duties.

"This is a new technology, and we need to determine the possible benefits and issues involved in its application to police work," explains Superintendent Ed Keller.



CAT DEPLOYMENTS CONTINUED SUCCESS

The Community Action Team (CAT) is part of the ongoing EPS Violence Reduction Strategy. Deployments focus police and civic resources on at-risk areas for short periods of time to target disorder, violence, crime and traffic concerns. Social agencies also assist with connecting vulnerable persons to needed services.

Fifteen CAT deployments have taken place since the EPS launched the initiative in September 2011. They have resulted in an estimated 16,145 public interactions; 674 arrests; 395 criminal charges; 2,001 warrant executions; 2,905 tickets; 37 weapon and 46 drug offences; 1,917 vehicle stops; and 77 housing referrals.



Constable Curtis Maron goes over plans for the Abbotsfield Mall CAT deployment.

MAKE THE RIGHT CALL

The EPS launched a campaign in November asking the public to “make the right call.”

The goal was to educate the public about the difference between an emergency and a non-emergency, in hopes of reducing the number of unnecessary calls to 911.

On average, 911 operators receive 1,000 calls every day and 40 per cent of those calls are not emergency-related.

Part of the campaign includes increasing awareness about the #377 number, which can be dialled from any mobile phone for free to reach the EPS’s non-emergency complaint line.

“We hope the #377 number will be easier for residents to remember compared to the current 10-digit non-emergency number, and therefore reduce the number of unwanted calls to 911,” says Kim Pudde, EPS 911 Supervisor. “Each time our operators are tied up with a non-emergency call, there is a chance that someone with an urgent life or death call is made to wait for help.”

The majority of calls that are transferred from emergency 911 operators to the non-emergency police line come from mobile phones. As of Dec. 31, 2012, 911 received 370,090 calls and 264,265 of those calls came from mobile phones. The police non-emergency 911 calls that were transferred totalled 49,448, and of that total, 43,446 came from mobile phones.

These statistics include only transferred calls, not instances where the caller hung up and called the non-emergency line directly.

Campaign posters and ads will continue to be displayed throughout the city in LRT stations and on LRTs, on buses, and in newspapers in 2013.

Appendices

EPS Staff Complement

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2012 AUTHORIZED FTEs	2012 FTEs AS OF DEC. 31, 2012	VACANCIES (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1633.0	1612.3	20.7
RECRUITS	0.0	33.0	(33.0)
NON-SWORN	621.5	603.3	18.2
FULL COMPLEMENT	2254.5	2248.6	5.9

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

Financials

BUDGET VARIANCE by Major Category of Revenues & Expenditures For the Period Ending December 31, 2012

	2012 YEAR END			
	Budget	Actual	Var	%
REVENUE				
Traffic Safety Act	\$13,658	\$13,304	\$(354)	-2.6%
Provincial Grants	23,492	23,019	(473)	-2.0%
Other	26,123	26,958	835	3.2%
Total Revenue	63,273	63,281	8	0.0%
EXPENDITURES				
PERSONNEL				
Salary and benefits	253,560	251,246	2,314	0.9%
EPS Overtime	9,301	9,481	(180)	-1.9%
External Overtime	432	426	6	1.4%
	263,293	261,153	2,140	0.8%
NON-PERSONNEL				
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	12,225	15,503	(3,278)	-26.8%
Contracts and services	19,408	18,753	655	3.4%
Vehicles	7,625	7,663	(38)	-0.5%
Facilities	14,004	13,875	129	0.9%
Other	7,241	7,224	17	0.2%
	60,503	63,018	(2,515)	-4.2%
Total Expenditures	323,796	324,171	(375)	-0.1%
Net Position	\$260,523	\$260,890	\$(367)	-0.1%