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# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2013 Third Quarter



# EPS RECEIVES WEBBER SEAVEY AWARD FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE STRATEGIES

The EPS is the top recipient of the prestigious International Association of Chiefs of Police Webber Seavey Award for the Domestic Violence Reduction Strategy Program and the EPS' collaboration with the South Asian community to address domestic violence.

The Domestic Violence Reduction Strategy Program was created and led by Constable Alana Savage and consists of Victim Support Team (VST) constables. A minimum of two VST officers in each patrol squad conduct safety planning and intervention on domestic violence files identified by Domestic Offender Crimes Section. This is over and above the intervention that is already being conducted by the Domestic Violence Intervention Teams (DVIT) in each division, and addresses the identified gap in service delivery.

This level of intervention follow-up is not replicated by any other police agency in North America. Offender management, also a component of this program, was streamlined to ensure consistency across the patrol divisions specifically regarding domestic violence offenders who are released with conditions. This program was implemented in all patrol divisions in 2012.

Constable Harpreet Jhinjar's initiative began in 2010 with a recruit class project focusing on domestic violence in the East Indian community. Since then, Constable Jhinjar has brought the issue of domestic violence to the limelight within the South Asian community by creating PARIVAAR, a partnership with the EPS and various community stakeholders. This group has been instrumental in launching community domestic violence awareness campaigns.

The Webber Seavey Award is presented annually to agencies and departments worldwide in recognition for promoting a standard of excellence that exemplifies law enforcement's contribution and dedication to the quality of life in local communities. This program helps law enforcement agencies and the communities they serve by redefining the concept of law enforcement and how it is routinely performed.



Constable Alana Savage



Constable Harpreet Jhinjar

# COMMITTED TO PROFESSIONALISM

## SMLC POLICE LIAISON COMMITTEE AWARD PRESENTED TO NATASHA GOUDAR

The Sexual Minorities Liaison Committee (SMLC) Police Liaison Committee Award is an award of merit presented to an EPS employee who has made a significant contribution to the safety, security, and understanding of the LGBTQ community.

This year's recipient was Natasha Goudar, manager of the EPS Equity, Diversity, and Human Rights Unit (EDHRU). Ms. Goudar was presented the award by Dr. Kristopher Wells, the Chair of the SMLC, during the 2013 Edmonton Pride Festival in June.

She was recognized for her extensive work in building the new police EDHRU, helping to build a more inclusive police force, and strengthening the relationships between police officers and the many diverse communities they serve.

Ms. Goudar has been involved in EPS projects such as the Racism-Free Edmonton training for senior staff, the Handbook for Strengthening Harmony Between Communities and the Edmonton Police Service, the Diversity-Positive Recruiting consultation with the community, and the new Aboriginal Relations Unit.



*Natasha Goudar and Superintendent Garry Meads at the Pride Festival Awards Ceremony at the Citadel Theatre.*

## EPS PREVAILS AT ANNUAL CANINE COMPETITION



*L-R: Constable Mike Garth and PSD Quattro; Constable Jason Born and PSD Xeiko; Constable Murray Burke and PSD Maverick; and Constable Adam Segin and PSD Storm.*

Four teams from the EPS Canine Unit travelled to Saanich, B.C. in September to compete in the annual Canadian Police Canine Association Trials and came home as champions, finishing in the top five.

The Canadian Police Canine Association hosts the annual friendly competition for officers to network with other dog handlers and agencies across Canada and the United States.

Four EPS canine police officers and their police service dogs (PSD) competed against 27 other teams in the areas of obedience, agility, building searches, compound searches, evidence searches, tracking and criminal apprehension.

EPS canine champions were:

- Constable Murray Burke and PSD Maverick:
  - 1st in agility
  - 2nd in obedience
  - 3rd overall
- Constable Jason Born and PSD Xeiko
  - 2nd in agility
  - 2nd in criminal apprehension
  - 4th in tracking
  - 4th overall
- Constable Mike Garth and PSD Quattro
  - 3rd in tracking
  - 5th in agility
  - 5th in obedience
  - 5th overall
- Constable Adam Segin and PSD Storm:
  - 3rd in criminal apprehension
  - 5th in tracking

*"We are all proud of the achievements of our officers and PSDs, says Sergeant Bart Lawczynski, Canine Unit. "These are not just individual awards, but a reflection of the hard work and dedication all of the Canine members working together as a unit."*

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INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

# REDUCED CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

## TATTOO YOUR EQUIPMENT



*A piece of equipment gets a makeover to reduce the chance of theft.*

This summer, the EPS launched a campaign designed to curb the theft of heavy equipment by making the items more unique looking and easier to spot.

The equipment is expensive to purchase, in demand, and easily stolen. While equipment can cost upwards of \$100,000, there are few built-in anti-theft measures. From a uniform look to universal keys, the equipment is frequently parked in unfenced compounds with no security monitoring or lighting, making it an easy target for thieves.

"Tattoo kits" were available at no cost to business owners and individuals who owned heavy equipment. The kit included a removal-resistant ink marker, UV invisible ink pen, and a set of instructions.

## YOU TAG THEM, WE TAG YOU

The EPS launched a new project that spoke directly to graffiti vandals in order to put a stop to vandalism.

"You tag them, we'll tag you" is the slogan police strategically placed in areas where vandalism occurs.

"The goal of the campaign is to let vandals know the police are aware of the illegal behaviour that occurs in the city," says Sergeant Elli McEvoy. "Graffiti on private or public property is vandalism."

Graffiti vandalism is a visible and prominent crime in any neighbourhood. This can give a false reputation for a neighbourhood, making it appear unsafe.

"It's important for residents to report graffiti to police, especially during the summer months, when a spike is typically observed city-wide," says Constable Ryan Katchur, Graffiti Coordinator with the EPS.



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REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

COMMITTED TO  
PROFESSIONALISM

REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

### DON'T LET CRIMINALS USE A STOLEN PL8

Thefts from motor vehicles are common crimes of opportunity that happen fast and at any time of the day. Through public education, citizens have become more aware of these types of crimes and are removing all valuables from their vehicles. However, licence plates continue to be a commodity that criminals desire.

Criminals may use a stolen licence plate to disguise a stolen vehicle, to commit traffic violations or other crimes.

"From January to June 2013, about 1,100 licence plates were reported stolen city-wide," says Constable Jerrid Maze with Southwest Division. "You have the ability to prevent these thefts in just a matter of minutes. All you need to do is simply replace your screws with anti-theft screws that are available for free from your local police station."

The licence plate screws are designed to allow anyone to use a screwdriver to put the plates on but require a specialized tool - only available to police and authorized partners - to be removed.

Free anti-theft license plate screws are available at your local police stations.

For more information, visit [www.edmontonpolice.ca/platescrews](http://www.edmontonpolice.ca/platescrews)

**DON'T LET CRIMINALS USE A**



**SECURE YOUR PLATE USING FREE BOLTS  
AVAILABLE AT POLICE STATIONS**

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REDUCED CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

### CRIME PREVENTION DOESN'T HAVE TO BE COMPLICATED

The Inglewood Neighbourhood Empowerment Team (N.E.T.) needed to look no further than across the alley to discover a potential underlying cause of a rash of garage break and enters. Some undesirable activities were taking place in and around a green space running several blocks along a back alley. Overgrown trees and shrubs hid sleeping bags and remnants of camp sites. Residents of the nearby houses often woke up to find strangers sleeping on their patio furniture.

Partnering with other City of Edmonton staff, N.E.T. had the trees and shrubs on the green space trimmed and motion lights installed on the fences along the back alley. Going door-to-door, the team spoke to residents about making their property less desirable for trespassers.

No break and enters have been reported along the stretch since, showing that a few simple steps can go a long way towards preventing crime.



Before and after photographs of the Inglewood green space.



### OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS 2012 AND 2013 YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS



In the third quarter of 2013, violent crimes decreased by 5.6 per cent and property crimes increased by 13.2 per cent. Overall, there was a 6.1 per cent increase in the eight crime indicators.

### THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS ARE:

#### VIOLENT CRIMES

- Homicide
- Assault
- Sexual assault
- Robbery

#### PROPERTY CRIMES

- 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.

# INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP REDUCES CALLS FOR POLICE TO HIGH-RISE BY 98 PER CENT

When the first homicide of 2013 occurred in Capital Towers back in January, crime was continuing to rise at the residential building at an alarming rate.

Capital Towers, located at 100 Street and 106 Avenue, had become a location of great concern for EPS Downtown Division and the McCauley community due to the high number of drug-related violence and disorder incidents. Violence, victimization and calls for service to the EPS had escalated to 100 calls a month, and the crime and disorder was affecting the surrounding neighbourhoods.

As a result, the EPS, McCauley Revitalization Working Group, and building management and owners of Capital Towers joined forces and put a plan in motion to address and remove the causes behind the criminal activity within the building.

The project involved three phases:

- An assessment of the building and tenants in February 2013. The most vulnerable "at risk" residents and the most active suites/individuals responsible for attracting and committing violent crime were identified.
- A long-term sustainable plan to support vulnerable tenants through the intervention, relocation and care of those at risk of victimization. The plan also dealt with those individuals responsible for attracting criminal activity, through enforcement or relocation away from the building and vulnerable targets.

- The third phase involved working with building management, owners of the building and Safety Codes Edmonton to determine a long-term solution that would mitigate risk and vulnerability to the residents of Capital Towers. As a result, suites are being renovated and security of the building has been substantially improved in the common areas, the entrance, and in the elevators. A new facade will soon adorn the building, representing internal and external improvements and sending the message that Capital Towers will not tolerate criminal activity.

"A wrap up survey was conducted and the results showed a huge increase in resident perception of safety and security," say EPS Community Liaison Sergeant Ray Akbar, Downtown Division.

*"Tenants now feel safe enough to get involved in the process of revitalizing Capital Towers. They are excited about the improvements and optimistic about the future."*

Organizations that partnered with EPS on this important project include the City of Edmonton, Alberta Health Services and Capital Towers management.

*Calls for police assistance at Capital Towers went from 100 calls per month in March, to just two calls throughout the entire month of July 2013 thanks to a community-based partnership.*

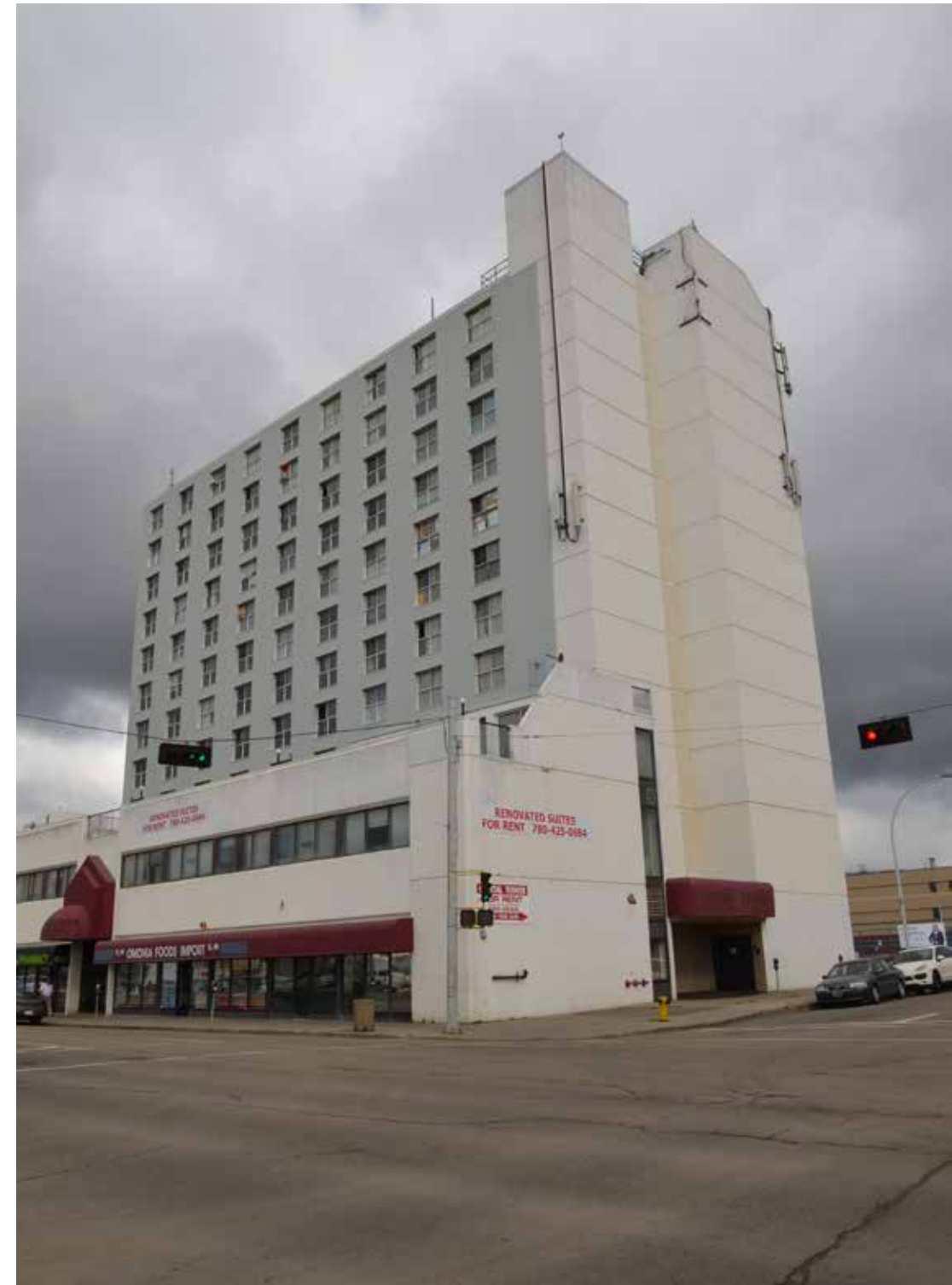
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REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES





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REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

## THE Y-50 STRATEGY

*A new term is appearing  
in the EPS: Y-50.*

Y-50 is a new strategy created by the EPS Youth Unit in response to the increase of repeat violent youth-related crimes in Edmonton.

The Youth Unit, with justice and intervention partners, addressed the risk factors associated with high-risk youth behaviours. This developed the Youth Offending Matrix that utilizes police data from three risk categories - violence, prolific offending and vulnerability - to identify and rank the 50 most violent and prolific youth offenders.

Y-50 constables monitor, investigate and gather intelligence about target youth with the goal of providing close supervision and support to minimize reoffending. Youth offenders who continue their criminality are subject to strategies focused on enforcement and public safety. Youth who are engaged are directed toward rehabilitation and reintegration.

Communication and coordinated sharing of intelligence with the divisions has resulted in a quicker turnaround time from release of the offender to the suspension and eventual arrest of the youth. For the engaged youths, the Y-50 project has been able to provide rehabilitative options such as treatment facilities outside of the city.

## LARGEST STOLEN GOODS SEIZURE EVER

EPS officers executed a search warrant on a house in the Cumberland area of Edmonton in late August. Approximately 1,100 hours of police time later, it was deemed the largest seizure of stolen goods in EPS history.

Earlier in the summer, police had received tips that a male was in possession of a large quantity of stolen goods. That's when Sergeant Joe Lewis went to work on the file. By late August, Sergeant Lewis had amassed a team ready to tackle the sheer volume of stolen items his section now knew the suspect had. A team of 20 EPS officers and eight civilian property clerks worked with three fish and wildlife officers and an Alberta Gaming and Liquor Control official.

Among the thousands of items seized were 24 men's watches valued at \$11,000; 13 sets of tires and rims valued at \$15,000; hundreds of home improvement store gift cards valued at \$13,000; 19 sets of golf clubs; and five pallets of assorted liquor valued at \$35,000; along with several animal pelts, fur rugs, and taxidermy items.

Police continue to pour time into this case as they seek to reunite owners with their stolen property.

*A property exhibit handler sorts through the items seized during a lengthy police investigation.*



# INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

## EVENT BRINGS COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE NEW SOUTHWEST STATION

Beautiful sunny skies greeted more than 200 people who attended a community event on August 10 to celebrate the official opening of southwest Edmonton's new police station.

"Our new station has been operational since the beginning of June," says EPS Superintendent Nigel Stevens. "We've had a chance to catch our collective breath, and we're excited to introduce ourselves now to our new neighbours."

Opening remarks were delivered by MLA Matt Jeneroux, Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel, Edmonton Police Commission Acting Chair Cathy Palmer, and EPS Chief Rod Knecht.

Those in attendance enjoyed police displays, children's entertainers, cake and refreshments.

*The new station is located at 1351 Windermere Way, just south of the Anthony Henday.*



*EPS Cadets were instrumental in helping Southwest Division Superintendent Nigel Stevens ensure the grand opening celebration was a success.*

## EPS PILOTS YOUTH POLICE ACADEMY

The EPS, in partnership with the Injera Initiative, piloted the Youth Police Academy (YPA) in the first week of July.

Based on the highly-successful EPS Citizens Police Academy, the YPA was created to help empower teens and young adults in preventing crime and building safer communities.

The YPA pilot was directed towards ethnocultural communities whose youth often face barriers and inequalities. "There are increasing concerns of youth committing crimes or being victimized because of social inequalities," says EPS Acting Sgt. Chapman Lee, YPA Coordinator. "The Youth Police Academy aims to bridge the gap between police and youth at a critical time in their lives when they are vulnerable."

During the one-week pilot program, youth underwent training in leadership development, conflict resolution, communication, and community capacity building. Participants also learned problem-solving skills while on neighbourhood patrol with EPS Beat Officers, and performed the physically-demanding Recruit Skills Challenge to help prepare them for possible law enforcement careers.

Feedback from participants and organizers has been all positive, and there is interest in continuing with the program in the future.

The Injera Initiative is a community partner project with EPS, the Edmonton Multicultural Coalition, REACH Edmonton, and the City of Edmonton.



*The 40 participants in the Youth Police Academy ranged in age from 15 to 25 and were selected by the Injera Initiative from Edmonton's newcomer communities.*

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INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

COMMITTED TO  
PROFESSIONALISM

REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

## THE POWER OF “PAWSITIVE” THINKING

The Zebra Child Protection Centre is using man’s best friend to help calm young abuse victims in an innovative new program designed to assist with investigations.

Zebra’s Very Important Paws (VIP) initiative introduces trained Labrador Retrievers at a critical junction of a child abuse investigation that involves the interview with the child. The initiative is the first of its kind in Canada, modelled after the Courthouse Dogs program in the United States where dogs are brought in to calm children involved in the justice system.

The VIP dogs help to build children’s comfort levels at moments that can be fraught with stress, anxiety and traumatizing memories. The dogs act as a warm and furry buffer between the interviewer and the child, becoming physical companions as well as compassionate listeners.

*“What the dogs really provide is comfort, allowing the child to get past the anxiety of having to tell a very painful story,” says Carolyn Thom, Specialized Investigator and Dog Handler.*

Zebra’s VIP dogs are a mother and daughter team named Fossey and Wren, two yellow labradors aged five and three, who arrived at the Zebra Centre in July 2013. The accredited work dogs are owned by the Burnaby-based Public Assistance Dogs Society (PADS), and were identified for this kind of assignment as young puppies. Along with their handlers, they received highly-specialized training to work with children and as partners in investigations.

*Specialized Investigator Carolyn Thom and VIP dog Fossey watch as a child interacts with VIP dog Wren.*



# APPENDICES

## EPS STAFF COMPLEMENT

### SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2013 AUTHORIZED FTE'S	2013 FTE'S AS OF 2013 SEPT 30	VACANCIES (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1,632.0	1,608.0	24.0
RECRUITS	0.0	30.0	(30.0)
NON-SWORN	671.5	648.7	22.8
FULL COMPLEMENT	2,303.5	2,286.7	16.8

The authorized FTE's represent 2,303.50 authorized positions in 2013

## OTHER COMMISSION AND EPS PUBLICATIONS

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](http://www.edmontonpolicecommission.ca) and [www.edmontonpolice.ca](http://www.edmontonpolice.ca)

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REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

# APPENDICES

## FINANCIALS

### BUDGET VARIANCE BY MAJOR CATEGORY OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES THIRD QUARTER FORECAST (\$'000'S)

	2013 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%
<b>REVENUE</b>								
Traffic Safety Act Fines	\$11,068	\$8,354	\$(2,714)	-24.5%	\$16,158	\$12,606	\$(3,552)	-22.0%
Provincial Grants	23,580	23,580	-	0.0%	23,580	23,580	-	0.0%
Other Revenue	18,226	18,617	391	2.1%	27,179	27,534	355	1.3%
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>52,874</b>	<b>50,551</b>	<b>(2,323)</b>	<b>-4.4%</b>	<b>66,917</b>	<b>63,720</b>	<b>(3,197)</b>	<b>-4.8%</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>								
<b>PERSONNEL</b>								
Salary and benefits	178,224	177,148	1,076	0.6%	269,310	267,955	1,355	0.5%
EPS Overtime	6,616	6,777	(161)	-2.4%	10,038	10,676	(638)	-6.4%
External Overtime	288	598	(310)	-107.6%	432	809	(377)	-87.3%
	<b>185,128</b>	<b>184,523</b>	<b>605</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>279,780</b>	<b>279,440</b>	<b>340</b>	<b>0.1%</b>
<b>NON-PERSONNEL</b>								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	8,671	8,788	(117)	-1.3%	11,660	12,352	(692)	-5.9%
Contracts and services	13,101	11,935	1,166	8.9%	20,183	18,621	1,562	7.7%
Vehicles	5,050	5,004	46	0.9%	7,705	7,642	63	0.8%
Facilities	10,209	9,537	672	6.6%	15,811	15,394	417	2.6%
Other	2,987	2,930	57	1.9%	3,739	3,796	(57)	-1.5%
	<b>40,018</b>	<b>38,194</b>	<b>1,824</b>	<b>4.6%</b>	<b>59,098</b>	<b>57,805</b>	<b>1,293</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>225,146</b>	<b>222,717</b>	<b>2,429</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>338,878</b>	<b>337,245</b>	<b>1,633</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>POSITION BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS</b>	<b>172,272</b>	<b>172,166</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>271,961</b>	<b>273,525</b>	<b>(1,564)</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					5,273	5,273	-	0.0%
<b>NET POSITION</b>	<b>\$172,272</b>	<b>\$172,166</b>	<b>\$106</b>	<b>0.1%</b>	<b>\$277,234</b>	<b>\$278,798</b>	<b>\$(1,564)</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>

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REDUCED CRIME AND  
VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY  
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES