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REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2014 Second Quarter









CITIZENS RECOGNIZED FOR BRAVERY AND COMPASSION

Each May the Edmonton Police Commission hosts a ceremony to recognize remarkable people who have gone to extraordinary lengths to assist fellow citizens or officers in a time of need.

The Citizen Award acknowledges individuals who have intervened in a crime in progress; assisted the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) in apprehending an offender; played a major role in the successful outcome of a police investigation; or put themselves at personal risk by coming to the aid of a police officer or fellow citizen in a dangerous situation, and in doing so have prevented injury, trauma or death.

This year nine people were recognized for their exceptional actions.

- Leigh-Ann Carruthers came to the aid of an injured and suicidal male who was threatening to jump off a bridge.
- Jean-Michel (Jaydee) Despres identified a violent man who was one of "Edmonton's most wanted" and safely followed him until police arrived to make the arrest.
- Charles Elliott witnessed an armed robbery and followed the suspect at a distance, resulting in the eventual arrest of a serial robber.
- Kris Faulkner and Priscilla Holloway came to the aid of a woman who had been assaulted and followed the suspect at a safe distance until police arrived.
- **Nishant Happy** and **Kathleen Oltsher** worked together to rescue a man who had jumped from a bridge into the cold rushing waters of the North Saskatchewan River.
- Paul Kuchma and Bart Pouteau from Edmonton Regional Search and Rescue located a suicidal female and rescued her from a precarious situation underneath a bridge.

"These individuals could have walked away or ignored the situation. Instead, they demonstrated courage, bravery and compassion. On behalf of the citizens and officers who were assisted and the Edmonton Police Commission. I extend our thanks and gratitude."

Shami Sandhu
Chair of the Edmonton Police Commission



Leigh-Ann Carruthers accepts her award from Chief Rod Knecht and Chair Shami Sandhu at the May awards ceremony.

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CITIZEN SURVEY SHOWS CONFIDENCE. **IDENTIFIES AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT**

A bi-annual citizen survey is key to helping the Commission and the EPS understand several important factors including satisfaction levels of the services provided by the EPS, areas of improvement, perceptions of crime and safety, and opinions on city-wide policing issues.

The 2014 Edmonton Police Service Citizen Survey was conducted in January and the results were released in May.

Several findings stand out. First, whether asked about their own community or the entire city, respondents identified 'traffic' as the main policing issue. Traffic has been in the top three for many years and the message is clear that citizens care about traffic in their neighbourhoods and across the city.

Secondly, the survey revealed a 93 per cent confidence rate and over 80 per cent of people who had contact with EPS in the past year were satisfied with the service they received. This is commendable for any organization, yet there is always room for improvement.

Thirdly, citizens identified response times as one of the five recommendations for improved service. It was also mentioned as one of the reasons for dissatisfaction with service. The Commission and the EPS will continue to monitor response times and look at ways to improve.

"In conjunction with regular workload updates from the EPS, and environmental scans that detect current issues and emerging trends, citizen survey results help set direction for the EPS and successfully plan for the future," says Chair Sandhu.

The full citizen survey can be found online.

DETECTIVE NAMED 2013 KIWANIS TOP COP

Detective Harjinder (Harry) Grewal was the recipient of the annual Oil Capital Kiwanis Top Cop Award for 2013.

The award, recognizing an active-duty officer who exhibits excellence in community policing both on the job and after hours, was presented in April and has been a distinguished benchmark of achievement for 36 years.

Detective Grewal has volunteered with the Edmonton and District Soccer Association (EDSA) for the past 18 years. He has given countless hours of his time at various events and has held a variety of board positions, including leadership as president for the past six years.

"Harry's impact with the EDSA was immediate, as he helped to draft the association's revised governance documents and assist with league discipline," says Mike Thome, Executive Director, EDSA.

Sergeant Mark Fay was one of the people that nominated Harry and enjoyed working with him. "Although Harry's most notable achievements centre around his volunteer commitment with the EDSA, he also has shown leadership skills and commitment to his community by volunteering for a monthly program on CKER radio that informs new Edmontonians about police, safety and crime prevention."

Today, Harry is an accomplished detective and serves in the Domestic Offender Crimes Section. He is described as an exceptional team player who will take the lead and assist others any way he can.



Detective Grewal was named the Oil Capital Kiwanis Top Cop for his ongoing commitment to the Edmonton and District Soccer Association.

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EPS CADETS RECOGNIZED AT GRADUATION

Edmonton Police Service Cadets received awards in recognition of their commitment and service over the past year.

"Our year-end celebration is the culmination of a year's worth of foot drills, fitness, presentations, volunteering, team-building, and leadership," says Constable Shannon Tenney, EPS Cadet Corps Coordinator.

Service awards were presented to each cadet, and a select few received special awards for exceptional volunteerism, service, enthusiasm, dedication, and leadership. Thirty-six cadets successfully completed the year—a number the EPS hopes will continue to grow.

"The cadet program exposes young people to what policing is all about while providing an opportunity to develop skills to carry with them throughout life," says Tenney. "It's a great stepping stone to a career in law enforcement and a wonderful foundation for leadership development in all aspects of a young person's life."

The Edmonton Police Service Cadet program is open to youth ages 13–20 who have an interest in pursuing a career in law enforcement and who want to make a difference in their community.

Visit <u>edmontonpolice.ca/cadets</u> for more information on the program.



Deputy Chief Danielle Campbell applies an epaulette to Cadet Meghan Kramer at the EPS Cadet Corps year-end celebration.

EPS AWARDS

The annual EPS awards ceremony held in May recognized members of the EPS by presenting them with commendations, officer safety awards, Alberta Police Officer Long Service Recognition Medals, and National Police Exemplary Service Medals. All of these awards demonstrate the outstanding commitment to policing and exemplary service to the community.



Constables David Webber, Duane Bateman, Alex Karampelas received commendations for helping a citizen escape from a submerged vehicle in July 2013.

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PURINA ANIMAL HALL OF FAME WELCOMES QUANTO

In April fallen Police Service Dog Quanto's service and bravery were honoured by induction into the Purina Animal Hall of Fame. In the fall of 2013, Quanto fell in the line of duty after being stabbed while police attempted to arrest a suspect.

Constable Matt Williamson, Quanto's handler, was in Toronto to participate in the 46th Annual Purina Animal Hall of Fame event, which also honoured four other animals for their actions taken to protect human lives.

"We are honoured by the recognition given to Quanto and Matt. We have had overwhelming support from the community and would like to thank everyone for their caring thoughts and words," says Staff Sergeant Trevor Hermanutz of the EPS Canine and Flight Operations Section.

"While we received many inspiring stories from across the country, we were profoundly touched by the stories of this year's inductees, including Quanto, who gave his life to protect his team and the citizens of Edmonton," says Susan Molenda, Vice President of Nestle Purina Pet Care.

The Purina Animal Hall of Fame recognizes incredible stories of pets that save lives. Over the course of more than four decades, the initiative has honoured pets and service dogs for their amazing acts of heroism and bravery. From sensing deadly medical conditions to saving their owners from wild animal attacks, 136 dogs, 27 cats, and one horse have been recognized.

Click here to watch a video story of PSD Quanto and Constable Williamson.



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NET BRINGS SAFER PARKING INITIATIVE TO EDMONTON

When researching ways to reduce thefts from vehicles, the Queen Alexandra Neighbourhood Empowerment Team (NET) discovered a Vancouver-based program called the Safer Parking Initiative. The program assesses parking facilities and grants awards to parking lots that meet safety standards.

NET and EPS joined forces with the Vancouver Police Department and Canadian Direct Insurance to bring the program to Edmonton.

"Theft from vehicles accounted for 36 per cent of all crime in Southwest Division and 31 per cent city-wide in 2013," says Constable John Beatson, Southwest Division. "We know from experience that many thefts happen in parking lots because it's a target rich environment. In a lot of cases it happens because people leave their doors unlocked, providing a perfect opportunity for thieves."

"The Safer Parking Initiative has reduced crime in awarded lots by 47 per cent in Vancouver and has been successful in getting various stakeholders together to improve parking safety," says Colin Brown, Chief Operating Officer of Canadian Direct Insurance, whose organization sponsors the initiative in Vancouver. "We are excited to now expand the program to Edmonton."

The Main – a parking lot on Whyte Avenue – and the east parkade at the University Hospital were awarded program status, and several other lots in the city are working towards meeting the criteria. Seven police officers and six civilians participated in a one-day training course and are now qualified to assess and certify parking lots.

For more information, visit www.saferparkingedmonton.com.



Constable John Beatson, Connie Marciniuk of NET, and Colin Brown with Canadian Direct Insurance proclaim May 24 as Safer Parking Day in Edmonton.

WHYTE AVENUE CAT DEPLOYMENT AIMS TO REDUCE CRIME AND DISORDER



Representatives from REACH and Crime Stoppers work alongside EPS in the Whyte Avenue CAT deployment.

Southwest Division led the mid-June Community Action Team (CAT) deployment that focused police and community efforts on reducing crime and disorder in the Whyte Avenue area.

During the deployment, a taxi driver played a key role in assisting CAT officers to locate and arrest a hit-and-run suspect near the popular entertainment district. When a car collided with a parked vehicle on Whyte Avenue near 103 Street, the driver fled the scene on a bus. An observant taxi driver followed the bus and contacted police who arrived and arrested the suspect near the University of Alberta.

Motorcycle noise also kept officers busy during the deployment. One evening officers issued 41 tickets for exhaust infractions and 64 tickets for other traffic safety violations.

The CAT deployment is a deliberate and focused approach to reducing crime and disorder in communities. CAT uses maximum contact, high visibility and a team approach to deal with neighbourhood-specific issues. Among the participants of the four-day CAT deployment were Traffic Section, two Specialized Traffic Apprehension Teams (STAT), two patrol officers from each of the five divisions, and the Bonnie Doon Neighbourhood Foot Patrol.

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GIVE EMERGENCY CREWS A 'BRAKE'

If emergency lights are flashing, slow down when passing.

This was the message the EPS, Alberta Motor Association (AMA), Emergency Medical Services and Edmonton Fire Rescue gave at the end of June to remind motorists to slow down.

Emergency services personnel experience near-misses from motorists speeding by roadside emergency vehicles and tow trucks far too often.

"Whether it's an ambulance, fire truck, police cruiser or a tow truck, the law says slow down to 60 km/h or less if traveling in the lane next to the stopped emergency vehicle," says Sergeant Gary Lamont with Major Collision Investigations Unit. "It is also appreciated if vehicles move over a lane away from the stopped emergency vehicle to make sure crews have enough room to work."

"Emergency responders aren't just vehicles with flashing lights," says Colin MacDiarmid, a tow truck operator with AMA. "We are all people with families and loved ones who are counting on us to make it home safely."

Speeding past emergency vehicles falls under the Traffic Safety Act, which results in heftier fines than regular speeding offenses.

> Sergeant Gary Lamont checks vehicle speeds on the Anthony Henday as part of a campaign reminding drivers that if they see an emergency vehicle on the road or highway, to slow down and move over.



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CRIME PREVENTION WEEK, MAY 11-17

Although Crime Prevention Week comes once a year, the EPS embraces the crime prevention philosophy year-round. "Crime prevention is about being aware of our surroundings and taking small steps to ensure our safety and the safety of our families throughout the year," says Sergeant Daryl Mahoney, Collaborative Policing Unit.

Several initiatives occurred during Crime Prevention Week this year. Sergeant Mahoney appeared on the Global Morning Show to talk about general safety, the importance of securing your home and yard when working outside, and home security tips while on summer vacation.

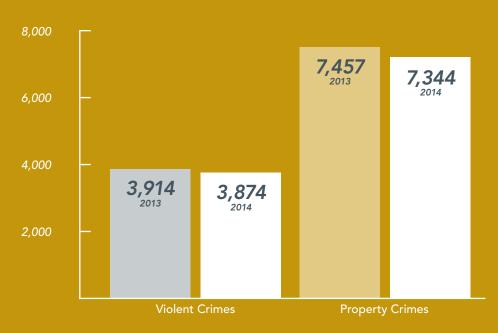
The Collaborative Policing Unit hosted a bike safety contest where children were encouraged to submit bike safety tips. The EPS also presented a safety session for seniors at Queen Alexandra Lodge. The course proved to be popular, filling up well in advance. Crime prevention tips and articles were posted on the EPS website and through corporate social media feeds.

The 23rd Annual Crime Prevention Week culminated with a free full-day Hard Target course.



The Hard Target course is designed to educate men and women of all ages on how to protect themselves in various situations by blending crime prevention and personal safety tips with basic self-defence techniques.

OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS 2013 AND 2014 YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS



THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS ARE:

VIOLENT CRIMES

- Sexual assault

PROPERTY CRIMES

- Break and enter
- Theft of vehicle
- Theft over \$5,000

activity and identify trends, patterns, and hot spots in Edmonton. Police resources are crime statistics are based on the number of victims of crime, rather than the number of

Data retrieved July 2, 2014.

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HOMICIDE STUDY IMPROVES UNDERSTANDING OF TRENDS

Over the course of several months, members of the EPS Homicide Section worked closely with Dr. Sandy Jung, Associate Professor with MacEwan University's Department of Psychology, to examine fundamental characteristics of homicides. The study, called "A Retrospective Look at Edmonton's Recent Homicide Cases", was the first of its kind in Canada.

With exclusive access to 124 closed homicide cases that occurred between 2007 and 2011, Dr. Jung delved into details about places in which homicides occurred, the people involved, and weapons used. The goal was to identify trends or characteristics of victims, offenders, circumstances, and the environment in which the offence took place.

The following general trends were identified:

- Homicides typically involved youthful males;
- Edged weapons were used in more than half of the cases, and edged weapon use was higher than the national average;
- Victims and suspects were most likely to be known to each other;
- Victims and offenders were largely unemployed and uneducated;
- Alcohol was used by half of the victims and offenders, and alcohol abuse problems were exhibited by more than half of the victims and offenders;
- Homicides were most likely to occur between midnight and 7 a.m.

"If you're leading a normal and productive lifestyle, your chance of becoming a victim of violent crime is slim," said Staff Sergeant Bill Clark, Homicide Section. "A large portion of the homicides involved people who were known to each other. Stranger-on-stranger incidents are rare."

These findings will be used to facilitate change and prompt future reductions in violence. In terms of the prevalence of alcohol and the lack of education and employment, the study also identified social issues that reach beyond policing.

Detailed results can be found online.

RCMP AND EPS PARTNERSHIP MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL

Crime and criminals have no borders. To ensure Edmontonians receive effective law enforcement services, policing must be able to traverse municipal borders. With so many communities in close proximity to Edmonton, a positive working relationship with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) is vital.

At the April public Commission meeting, EPS Deputy Chief Danielle Campbell and RCMP K Division Assistant Commissioner Marlin Degrand spoke about the exceptional rapport that exists between the two organizations and the effect it has on combating crime in the region and throughout the province.

Over the years, the partnership between the EPS and RCMP has grown into a mutually beneficial relationship, resulting in seamless transitions during pursuits, daily operations, and situations that require tactical and emergency response teams, Canine Unit, or air support.

"The reason for success is communication. It's open, it's daily, and there's mutual respect at all levels and ranks." Deputy Chief Danielle Campbell. "When we work together, we capitalize on opportunities of economies of scale."

Ongoing initiatives include integrated units and joint force operations such as: Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT), Integrated National Security Enforcement Team (INSET). EPS Economic Crimes, RCMP Serious and Organized Crime, and the Drug Recognition Expert Program.

"Citizens assume that this kind of relationship is the norm, but this is not the case in all parts of Canada. I can't say enough positive things about the partnership we have. This allows us to deliver the kind of services that all citizens deserve and expect, no matter where they live."

Marlin Degrand RCMP K Division

Relationships are being fostered on a less formal basis as well. For example, West Division officers have regular meetings with the adjacent RCMP detachment, and an officer exchange program is underway to promote learning and understanding.

The EPS will continue to build on the positive relationship and expand the officer exchange to every rank to promote better understanding of how each organization functions and develop shared expertise.

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PICS IMPROVES CUSTOMER SERVICE

With more than 69,000 applications coming into the Police Information Check Section (PICS) office in 2013, good customer service and efficient business practices are paramount.

"Police Information Check Section has undergone a complete transformation over the last year. This has resulted in the creation of a number of customer service options to suit the needs of all applicants requiring a police information check certificate," says Elanik. Many employers and volunteer sectors require applicants to undergo some form of security clearance. The Edmonton Police Service conducts a more robust "police information check" which includes a record of criminal convictions, upcoming court appearances, and outstanding warrants. This is especially important when potential employees or volunteers will be working with the most vulnerable people in our communities, such as children, the elderly, and the physically or mentally challenged.

"We recognize the role a police information check plays in maintaining public safety, but we also recognize the importance of ensuring the process is fair and will not hinder individuals from employment or volunteer opportunities due to a delay," says PICS Manager Dave Elanik.

Over the past year, several steps were taken to improve customer service, including relocation to the Nexus Business Centre on 118 Avenue and 143 Street and extended hours for fingerprinting services. Free and accessible parking as well as a spacious and comfortable reception area are vast improvements to the previous location. A number of process changes occurred, resulting in a more efficient and user friendly application.

The EPS is also the only police service in Canada to offer an "express processing" option for customers requiring an immediate criminal check for employment or post-secondary education purposes. About 80 per cent of applicants requiring a check for employment purposes were able to obtain it on the spot, which means no more waiting.

Future plans include online applications as well as pick-up of results at divisional stations rather than at the PICS office.

PICS Facts:

- 69,103 police information check applications were processed by PICS staff in 2013. This is a 7.7 per cent increase (4,931) from applications in 2012.
- The bulk of the requests were required for employment
 48 per cent (33,168) and volunteer purposes 27 per cent (18,657).
- Gross revenue in 2013 was \$2.8 million.
- More than 10,000 people were fingerprinted at the PICS office in 2013. Fingerprints are often taken for vulnerable sector applications, employment, immigration, travel waivers, and pardons.

EPS LAUNCHES INTERACTIVE VOICE RESPONSE SYSTEM

In late June, Police Communications Branch (PCB) rolled out the Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system that aims to free up non-emergency telephone operators and reduce wait times for callers who require police assistance.

Currently PCB staff handles all emergency and non-emergency calls in their call center. IVR will automate the non-emergency phone line, 780-423-4567 or #377, so that callers will be able to select from a menu that will provide two general call paths:

- "1" for general questions or information calls; and
- "2" for complaint calls, such as reporting a crime or concern.

The IVR will decrease the number of general information calls handled by call takers by approximately 20 per cent, allowing more time for call takers to deal with more emergent requests.

Close to 50 per cent of non-emergency line calls are classified as information only. "We expect that the IVR system will allow callers to get information faster, without having to wait for an operator," says Sergeant Mitch Liwczak of Police Communications Branch.

The IVR system will facilitate many common call types, reducing the need for call taker intervention. However, at any time during the call, customers can be transferred to a call taker if the nature of their inquiry requires it.

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EPS STAFF COMPLEMENT

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2014 AUTHORIZED FTE'S	2014 FTE'S AS OF 2014 JUNE 30	VACANCIES (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1,668.0	1,604.4	63.6
RECRUITS	0.0	34.0	(34.0)
NON-SWORN	667.5	668.6	(1.1)
FULL COMPLEMENT	2,335.5	2,307.0	28.5

The authorized FTE's represent 2335.50 authorized positions in 2014

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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.edmontonpolice.commission.ca and www.edmontonpolice.ca

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FINANCIALS

BUDGET VARIANCE BY MAJOR CATEGORY OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD ENDING JUNE 30, 2014 (\$000'S)

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	2014 YEAR TO DATE			YEAR END FORECAST				
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act	\$6,551	\$5,537	\$(1,014)	-15.5%	\$16,158	\$12,908	\$(3,250)	-20.1%
Provincial Grants					23,580	23,580		0.0%
Other	10,947	11,256	309	2.8%	27,067	28,642	1,575	5.8%
TOTAL REVENUE	17,498	16,793	(705)	-4.0%	66,805	65,130	(1,675)	-2.5%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and benefits	115,118	117,590	(2,472)	-2.1%	274,014	273,675	339	0.1%
EPS Overtime	3,870	3,885	(15)	-0.4%	10,114	10,675	(561)	-5.5%
External Overtime	180	169	11	6.1%	432	406	26	6.0%
	119,168	121,644	(2,476)	-2.1%	284,560	284,756	(196)	-0.1%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	6,671	6,818	(147)	-2.2%	11,169	13,201	(2,032)	-18.2%
Contracts and services	7,016	6,453	563	8.0%	19,304	17,560	1,744	9.0%
Vehicles	3,403	3,322	81	2.4%	8,167	7,938	229	2.8%
Facilities	6,511	6,143	368	5.7%	16,767	17,155	(388)	-2.3%
Other Expenditures	907	745	162	17.9%	4,850	5,007	(157)	-3.2%
	24,508	23,481	1,027	4.2%	60,257	60,861	(604)	-1.0%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	143,676	145,125	(1,449)	-1.0%	344,817	345,617	(800)	-0.2%
POSITION BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS	126,178	128,332	(2,154)	-1.7%	278,012	280,487	(2,475)	-0.9%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					7,115	7,115		0.0%
NET POSITION	\$126,178	\$128,332	\$(2,154)	-1.7%	\$285,127	\$287,602	\$(2,475)	-0.9%