

Information Report to the Board from the Chief of Halifax Regional Police

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting - January 15, 2018

Personnel

- Two civilian employees were hired, an Emergency Planning Administrator and a Victim Service Worker (term extension).
- Ten new police officers were hired.
- One civilian resigned.
- Two Staff Sergeants, one Sergeant, one Constable and one civilian retired.

Training

- Block Training began January 8, 2018. The two-day training includes Fair & Impartial Policing and Fatigue Management on day one and Rapid Deployment on the second day.
- HRP now has full access to the Northbrook gymnasium. With that, an incident structure, which can be reconfigured into many forms for conducting various scenarios, was installed.
- Sgt. Kenny Burton started in the Training Section, and will develop course curriculum.
- Cst. Phil Power started in the Training Section on a six-month developmental secondment. He's now helping with the Block Training and will assist in several training initiatives.

Operations

- HRP Traffic Unit completed 255 traffic stops, responded to 305 calls, issued 376 Summary Offence Tickets under the *Motor Vehicle Act* and made four arrests.
- On January 9, HRP Traffic Unit and RCMP VIP Services facilitated the motorcade for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau for his Atlantic provinces town hall meeting. Traffic Services were involved in escorting the Prime Minister from Halifax Stanfield International Airport to the venue at Sackville Junior High in Lower Sackville and to his hotel in downtown Halifax. On January 10, he was escorted by Traffic Services from downtown Halifax to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport.
- In January, the HRP Traffic Unit is starting an initiative for Intersection Safety, which reminds motorists and pedestrians to remain vigilant when approaching and using intersections, especially during the winter months when inclement weather effects reaction time and stopping distances for vehicles.

Notable Investigations

- **Manslaughter**
 - On August 15, 2016, two men who were known to one another had a verbal dispute inside an apartment building. One man shoved the other, causing him to fall and suffer injuries. The victim was transported to the hospital by EHS. He later died on August 21, 2016. His death was ruled a homicide by the Medical Examiner on August 25, 2016. On December 12, 2017, officers arrested a 66-year-old man from Halifax without incident. He's been charged with one count of manslaughter.
- **Break and Enter**
 - Investigators with the General Investigation Section of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division charged a man in relation to numerous break and enters in Halifax and Dartmouth. On December 19, 2017, officers assigned to the Quick Response Unit arrested a 33-year-old man in relation to 10 break and enters that occurred between November 23 to December 14. He was in possession of a weapon and resisted officers during the arrest.
 - At approximately 3 a.m. on December 19, 2017, Halifax Regional Police responded to a break and enter in the 2700 block of Fern Lane in Halifax. Through their investigation, they located and arrested the suspect without incident. A 45-year-old man from Halifax was charged with one count of break and enter.

Crime Trends

- **Break and enter trend:** Laundry room breaks are still problematic in East Division and are being actively investigated.

Outreach Initiatives and Projects

- Throughout the month of December, the HRP Traffic Unit, as well as patrol members, continued efforts to enhance visibility and enforcement surrounding impaired driving with the Operation Christmas initiative.
- In January, the HRP Traffic Cop Facebook page is doing special posts for Intersection Safety Month. Throughout the month, pictures of signs and lights will be posted along with descriptions of their meanings.

Communications

- The "Merry Beary" social media campaign concluded on December 31, 2017. The campaign highlighted the breadth of HRP's work through fun and light-hearted yet educational posts. The campaign sustained interest and support among social media users and employees, reaching thousands and earning hundreds of interactions (the gold standard in social media).
- Wanted Wednesday (#WantedWednesdayHfx) was launched on December 20 as a social media project between HRP's High-risk Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) Unit and PR



Unit. The campaign features people with outstanding arrest warrants for violent offences or a number of arrest warrants whom police have not been able to find. The goal is to locate and arrest each person who is profiled. There have been three lists and three arrests since its inception.

- As part of our focus on communication capacity building, the PR Unit provided media training to the Watch Commanders in November and January.
- In line with enhancing HRP's social media presence, the HRP's Ports Unit is now active on Twitter at @HRP_PortsUnit.

Buildings

- Members of the HRP Executive Management Team received the new facilities business case presentation on December 5 and have approved same. Preparations are now underway to present the business case to the Board of Police Commissioners.

Policies

- Five policies – Missing Persons, Charge Files, Crown Briefs and Case Disclosure, Identification of Criminals, Drugs and Report to Justice and Detention Orders – are in their final stages.
- Upcoming policies include Search and Strip Search, Use of Force, High Risk Prisoners, Major Crime/Cold Case/Homicide.

Police Diversity Working Group

- Members of the Police Diversity Working Group (PDWG), along with sworn and civilian members of HRP and RCMP, participated in a Blanket Exercise hosted by the PDWG Chair, Debbie Eisan at the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre on January 10.

