



**Halifax District Funding Request  
Regular Member Resources  
HRM Board of Police Commissioners Meeting  
January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

Prepared by: Insp. Robert A. Doyle

Halifax District RCMP



*This proposal is submitted under the authority and support of the Commanding Officer 'H' Division, Assistant Commissioner Brian Brennan. Policing services under this proposal would be supplied to the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) by the RCMP under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) between the Province of NS and the Government of Canada (Public Safety Canada). The proposal is subject to approval from HRM, the Province of NS, and the Minister of Public Safety.*

### **Introduction**

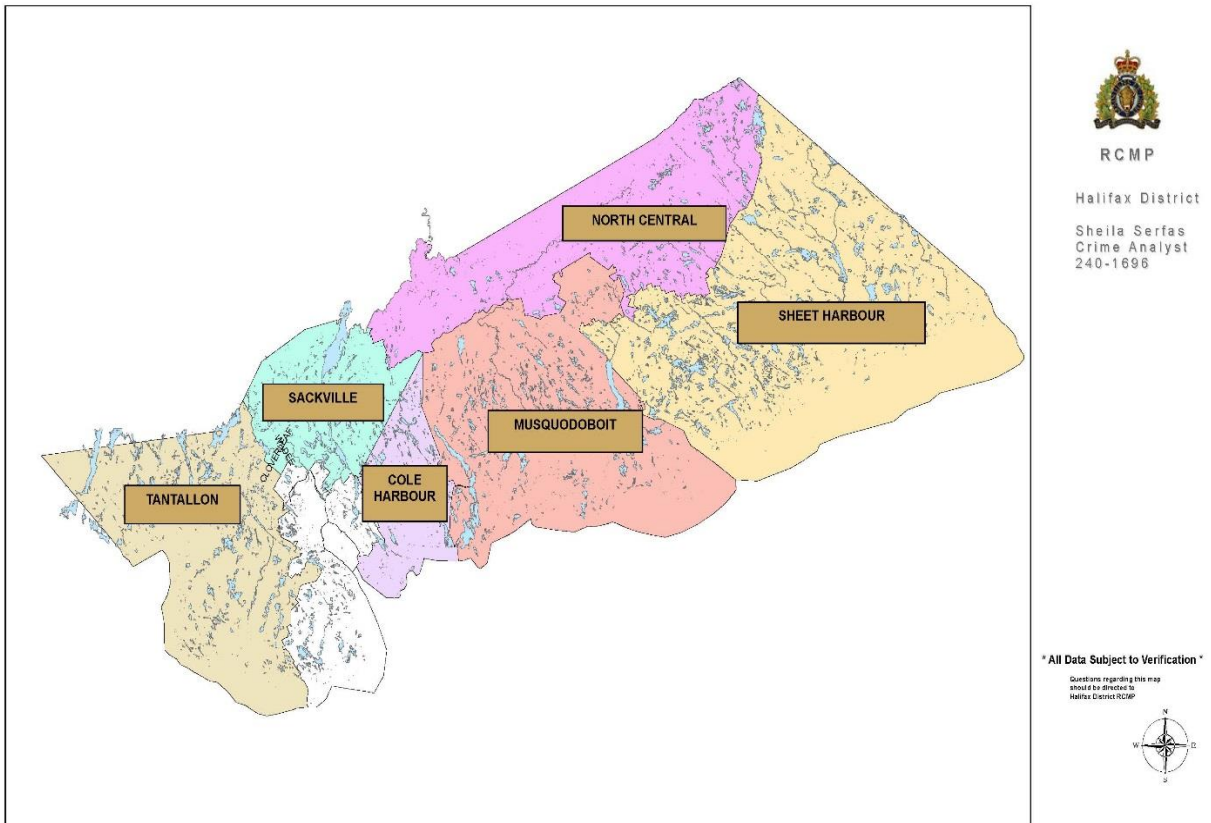
The RCMP has been a proud, valuable and contributing member of the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) working in close partnership with the Halifax Regional Police as well as a number of other partner agencies in delivering a first-class policing service. The RCMP is pleased to present this request to the HRM Board of Police Commissioners (BoPC) in an effort to secure new full-time equivalent (FTE) Regular Member resources for Halifax District RCMP that will further address the growing needs in the areas policed by the RCMP. The provision of services by the RCMP would be through an extension of the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) between the Government of Canada and the Province of Nova Scotia. Currently, a second agreement is in place between the Province of Nova Scotia and the Halifax Regional Municipality to recover the costs of RCMP services.

This service delivery request sets out 6 new Regular Member positions at the Constable rank to be placed within the District at the District Management Team's discretion based upon current and future needs. The rationale and total costing for these new resources is outlined as follows:

### **Points to Consider:**

- Criminal organizations have no boundaries and have seen recent growth in the HRM. However, law enforcement structures continue to segregate resources provided based upon jurisdictions.
- The prolific growth of Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMG) representation embedded in RCMP areas is remarkably different today than in recent years. Between Musquodoboit Harbour and Fall River, there is a significant presence of the Gate Keepers, Sedition, Bacchus and the Hells Angels each intent on growing their presence in the area.
- There has been significant residential and commercial growth in the last 10 years in suburban HRM where we now see RCMP residential areas bordering up against outside HRM municipalities; Middle Sackville meets Mount Uniacke, North Central meeting Enfield, Tantallon to Hubbards, Musquodoboit Harbour/Porters Lake area, etc.
- New subdivisions provide new areas for crime to occur. Coupled with this is the fact that other infrastructure such as schools, shopping and commercial areas in turn impact both internal and external drivers such as public and corporate benefit, health, safety and quality of life including a community sense of security.
- Homeowners in these areas have an expectation that their service delivery response times for calls for service would be the same or similar regardless of where they live in the HRM.
- Given the vast area the RCMP is responsible for policing, calls for service take a greater amount of time to attend.

- The Jordan Supreme Court Decision is applying further pressure on existing resources to ensure more timely, efficient and effective investigations.
- Contributing factors for crime, quality of life issues and social issues that did not have a substantial impact years ago have changed and increased creating growing pressures on existing RCMP resources today, ie social media.
- Mental health calls, mobile mental health assistance, cybercrime calls and complaints related to social media have increased exponentially. These calls for service often occupy members for hours at a time on first response.
- While it has not been quantified to determine what effect the legalisation of cannabis will have on our frontline resources, there will no doubt be a significant impact both from an enforcement perspective as well as from a training perspective.
- The issue of Human Trafficking is a growing problem within the HRM and more capacity is needed in order for frontline members to be active in identifying, preventing and investigating cases.
- This request for six (6) resources is based upon a balance between having an effective impact upon those issues identified above while at the same time recognizing the fiscal realities faced by the Halifax Regional Municipality.
- RCMP and HRP geographic coverage area as well as area measured in sq. kms;
  - HRM is 5,496.31 km<sup>2</sup>
    - HRP polices the urban core - Halifax, Dartmouth, Bedford as well as those communities within the Sambro Loop and the Purcell's Cove – Herring Cove Loop (area in white). The remaining areas of HRM are policed by the RCMP.



- The number of citizens policed by both the RCMP and HRP;
  - Total population of Halifax Regional Municipality as per the 2016 Census is 403,390. This includes HRM and the Indigenous Reserves of Cole Harbour 30, Sheet Harbour 36, Beaver Lake 17, Wallace Hills 14, and Shubenacadie 13.
  - RCMP jurisdiction of responsibility: 169,775 citizens or 42% of the population of HRM.
  - HRP jurisdiction of responsibility: 233,874 citizens or 58% of the population of HRM.
- The number of police officers/citizen for the RCMP and HRP;
  - Juristat<sup>1</sup> released the 2016 Police Resources in Canada publication March 29, 2017. In 2016, the provincial and territorial rate for all police organizations was 187 officers/100,000 population.
  - Among the 50 municipal police services, the third highest rate of police strength was reported by Halifax, Nova Scotia with 219 officers per 100,000 population. Victoria, British Columbia was the highest with 236 officers per 100,000 population and Montreal, Quebec with 229 officers per 100,000 population. Halifax District RCMP currently has 104 officers per 100,000 population.

**RCMP Cost per Officer:<sup>2</sup>**

| <b>RCMP Cost per Officer</b>                      |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| <i>Salary &amp; Pension</i>                       | <i>\$79,810</i>         |
| <i>Accommodations</i>                             | <i>\$10,852</i>         |
| <i>Leased Accommodations</i>                      | <i>\$ 791</i>           |
| <i>Divisional Administration</i>                  | <i>\$19,858</i>         |
| <i>Police Reporting Occurrence System (PROS)</i>  | <i>\$ 508</i>           |
| <b>Other:</b>                                     |                         |
| <i>Direct &amp; Indirect (excl PROS &amp; SS)</i> | <i>\$15,291</i>         |
| <i>Overtime</i>                                   | <i>\$ 7,470</i>         |
| <i>Public Service Pay</i>                         | <i>\$10,434</i>         |
| <i>Vehicle Fuel</i>                               | <i>\$ 2,341</i>         |
| <i>Vehicle Repairs &amp; Fit Up</i>               | <i>\$ 1,500</i>         |
| <i>Shared Services</i>                            | <i>\$ 815</i>           |
| <b>Equipment:</b>                                 |                         |
| <i>Criminal Operations</i>                        | <i>\$ 643</i>           |
| <i>Informatics</i>                                | <i>\$ 1,148</i>         |
| <i>Police Vehicles</i>                            | <i>\$ 3,831</i>         |
| <i>Special Projects &amp; Initiatives</i>         | <i>\$ 773</i>           |
| <i>Adjustment for HRM: PROS, OCC, etc</i>         | <i>(\$ 9,750)</i>       |
| <b>Total Cost Per Officer @ 70%</b>               | <b><i>\$146,315</i></b> |
| <b>Total Cost for Six (6) Officers</b>            | <b><i>\$877,890</i></b> |

**The estimated RCMP costs provided in this proposal include:**

- Member uniforms and personal equipment;
- Member salary and overtime;
- Member pensions and other benefits;

<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada - Juristat, 2016.

<sup>2</sup> Nova Scotia Department of Justice



**Halifax District Funding Request  
Regular Member Resources  
HRM Board of Police Commissioners Meeting  
Addendum - January 29th, 2018**

Prepared by: Insp. Robert A. Doyle

Halifax District RCMP

*This proposal is submitted under the authority and support of the Commanding Officer 'H' Division, Assistant Commissioner Brian Brennan. Policing services under this proposal would be supplied to the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) by the RCMP under the Provincial Police Service Agreement (PPSA) between the Province of NS and the Government of Canada (Public Safety Canada). The proposal is subject to approval from HRM, the Province of NS, and the Minister of Public Safety.*

**Introduction**

This report is an addendum to the original proposal presented to the Board of Police Commissioners on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It addresses a number of questions posed at that meeting and also provides further information and clarification in support of this request.

**Further Background information**

Halifax Regional Municipality is 5,577 square kilometers; almost the entire size of the Province of Prince Edward Island (5,630 sq. kms).

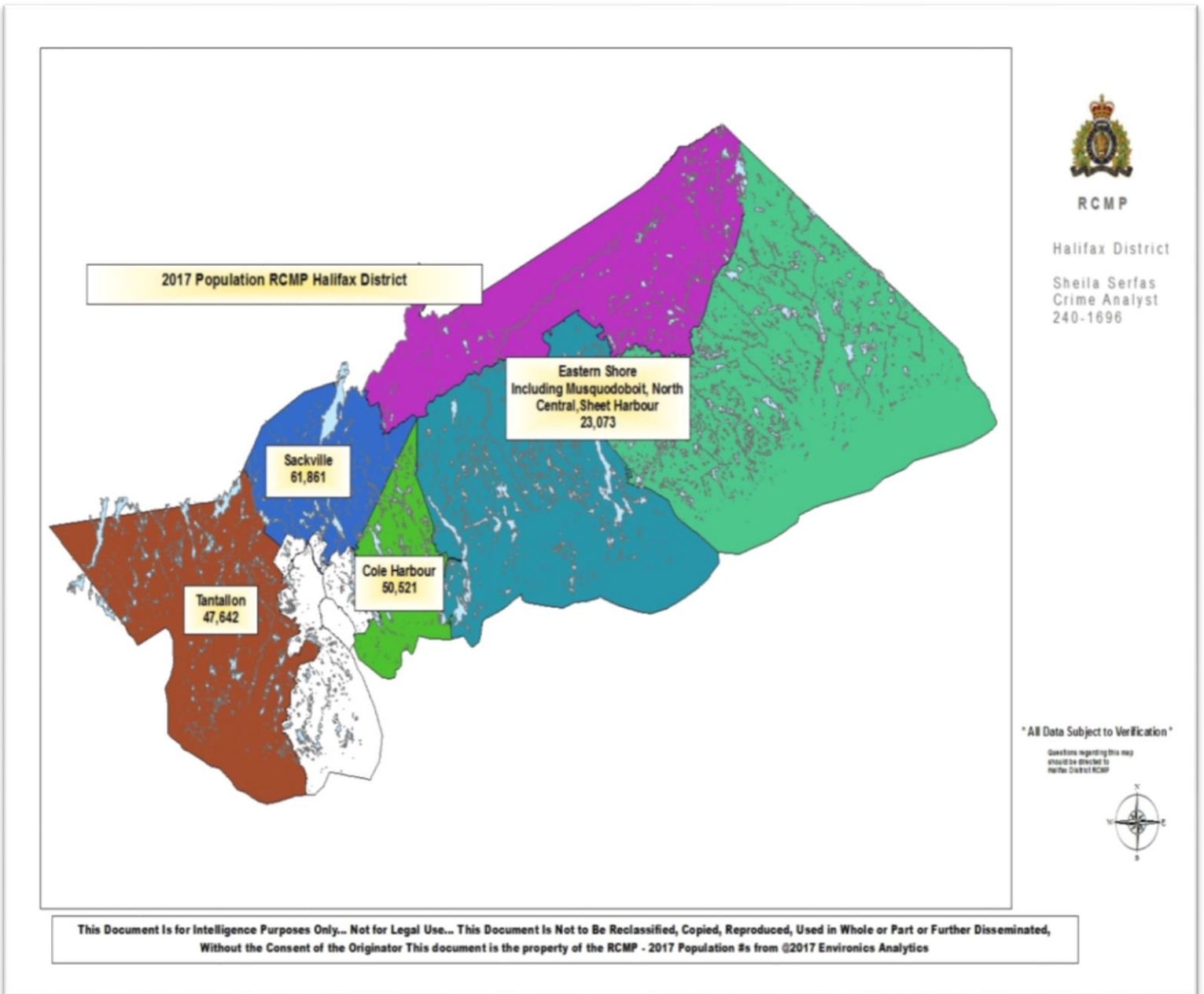


---

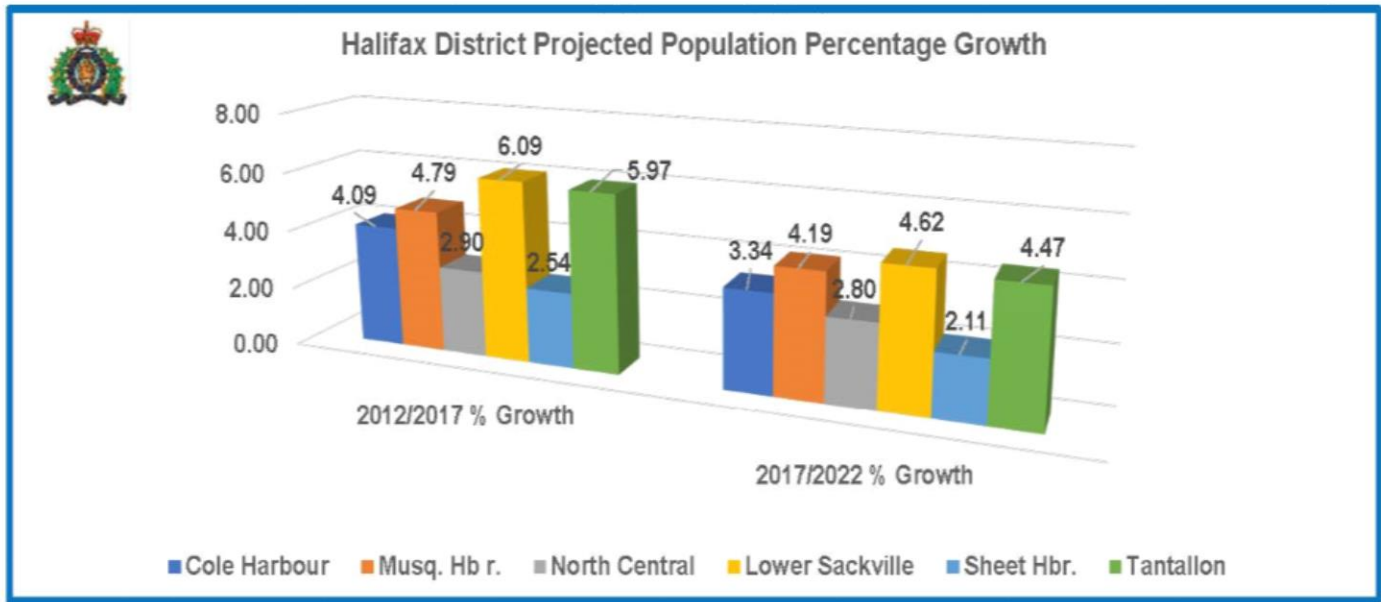
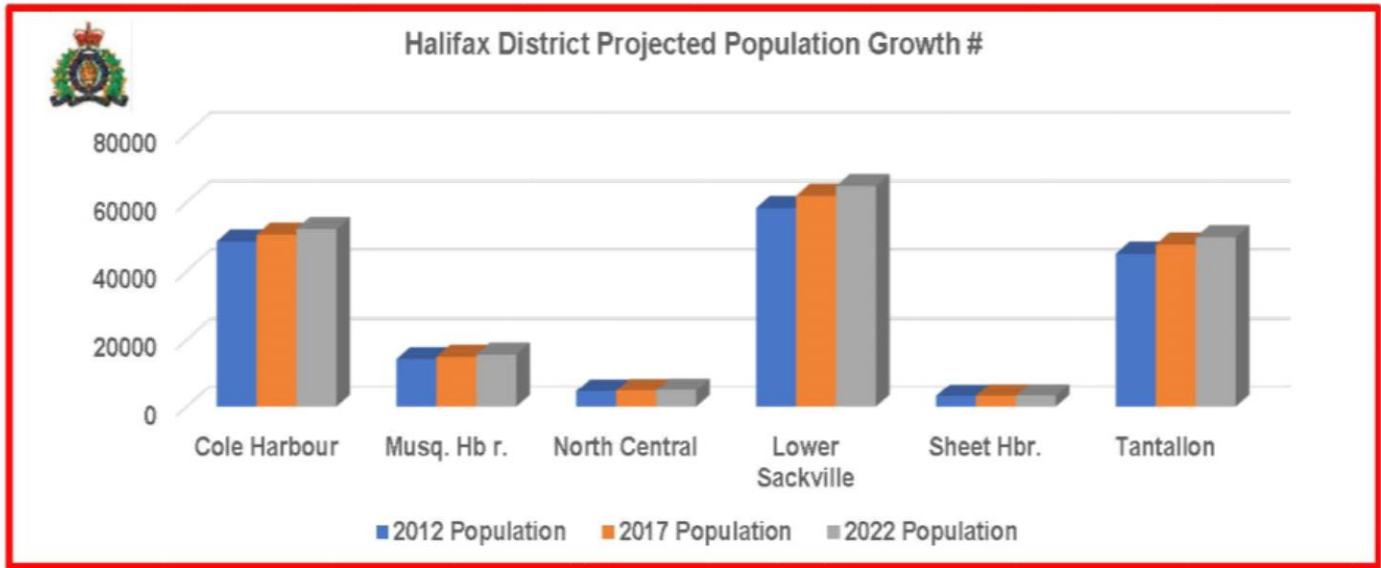
<sup>1</sup> Hrm|the urban geographer



- The RCMP police 95% of the geography of HRM as well as 185,953 citizens or 45 % of the population (Reference map). Population in RCMP areas in 2017:



Projected Population growth:<sup>2</sup>



<sup>2</sup> ESRI Arcgis online Demographics Data



## **Complex Policing Pressures**

The complexity of today's policing often requires deeper analysis into the causes and contributing factors for underlying community problems facing police. They are more in-depth and resource driven than simply responding to typical incidents or calls to police. Issues facing police today require a broader approach than looking at bottom line crime reductions. Incidents are addressed as they are called into police and typically have straightforward causes, however problems exist over longer periods of time and tend to have multiple and relatively complex causes and contributing factors.<sup>3</sup>

Some of the complex pressures on Halifax District today include:

### **Legalisation of Marijuana**

Impaired by Drug Drivers, Training, Education and costs associated to police. All officers have to become experts in identifying if a driver is impaired by drugs. An Ontario survey in 2014 showed 21% of driver's surveyed between the ages of 19-24 tested positive for marijuana while driving versus 3.4% impaired by Alcohol<sup>4</sup>.

### **Opioid Crisis**

The Opioid Crisis in other Provinces has led the RCMP in Halifax District to recognize that it is moving across the Country. Communities in the District have already been affected by Opioids and police cannot be naïve to the expected increase in these types of incidents and must prepare accordingly.

### **Social Media/Cybercrimes**

Significant impacts to every day calls for service in tracking down where a particular incident is happening due to the electronic component – you do not necessarily have a complainant in front of a police officer. Impacts to resource officers in schools, child exploitation and luring, frauds and scams impacting seniors and many other citizens in our communities continues to rise. There are growing expectations of the police from schools and parents to deal with these issues.

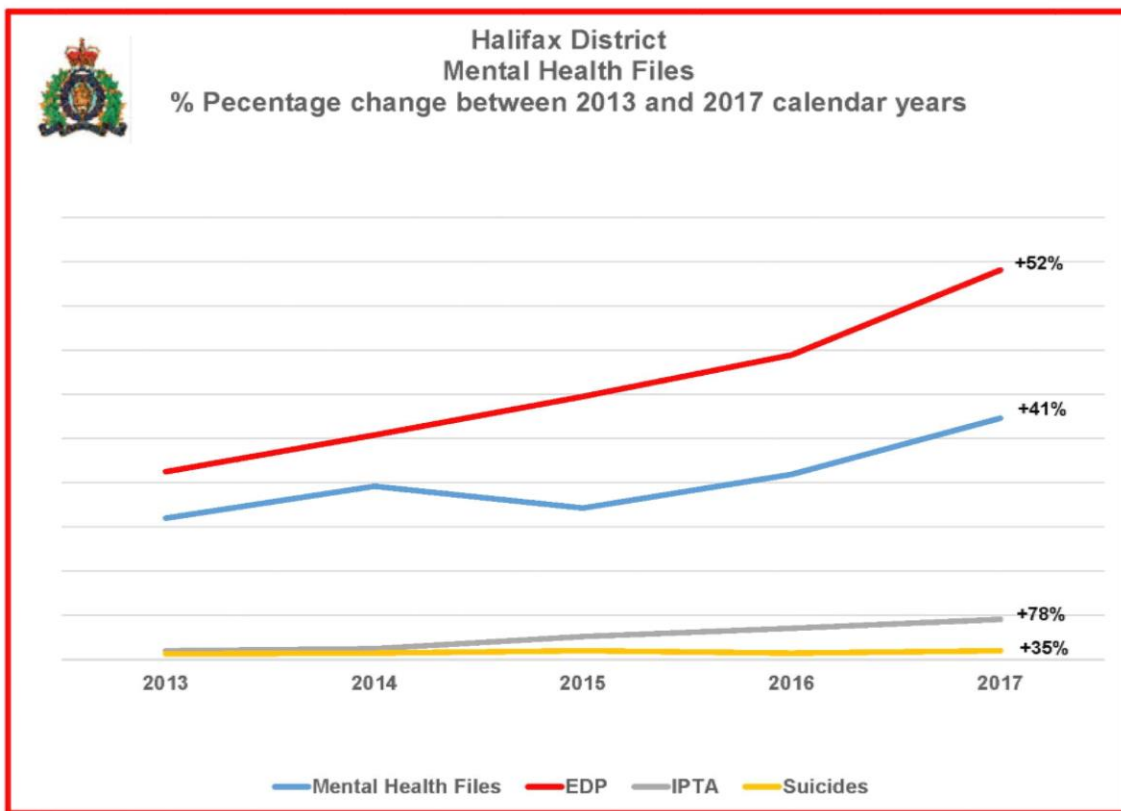
---

<sup>3</sup> COPS website – Information from Center for Problem Oriented Policing

<sup>4</sup> Province of Ontario Safety Policy and Education Branch

## Mental Health

Inordinate amounts of time spent at Health Facilities with mentally ill persons requiring assistance is exerting significant pressure on existing resources left behind to respond to other calls for service. Recidivist behavior calls to police for many mental health incidents consumes police hours. Depicted in the graph below show significant increases up to 52% in Mental Health events over the last five years including Mental Health occurrences, Emotionally Disturbed Person (EDP), Suicides and Involuntary Psychiatric Transport Act (IPTA). IPTA occurrences are incidents where the police have actually arrested a person under the Act and must remain in police custody while at hospital. This has in the past tied up officers for anywhere from 2 to 14 hours while the patient is waiting for a patient to be assessed.



## Schools in Halifax District:

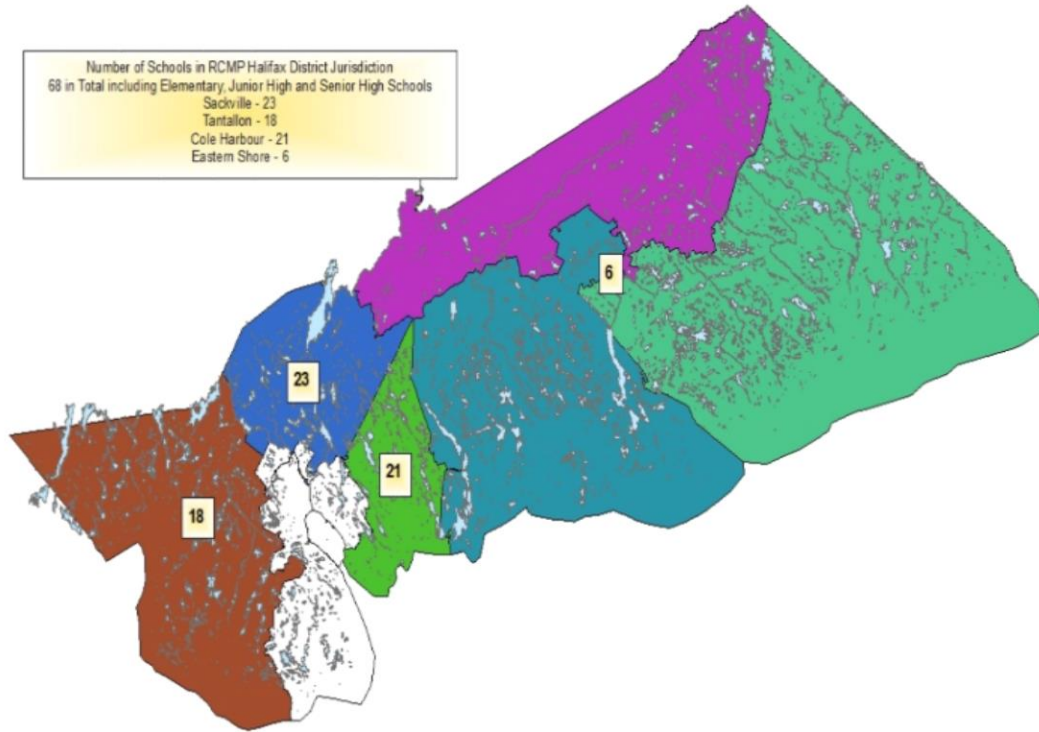


RCMP

Halifax District

Sheila Serfas  
Crime Analyst  
240-1696

Number of Schools in RCMP Halifax District Jurisdiction  
68 in Total including Elementary, Junior High and Senior High Schools  
Sackville - 23  
Tantallon - 18  
Cole Harbour - 21  
Eastern Shore - 6



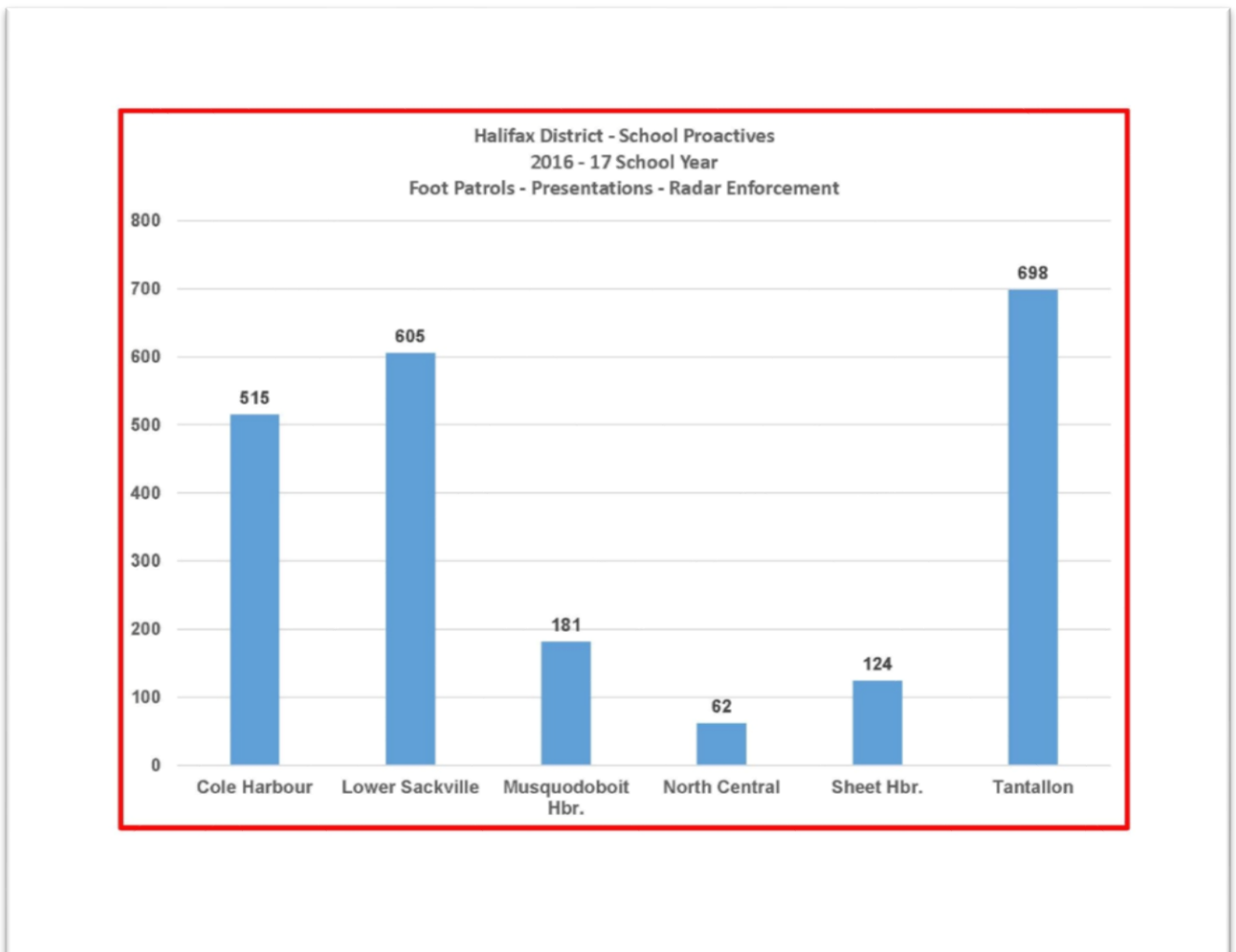
\* All Data Subject to Verification \*

Questions regarding this map  
should be directed to  
Halifax District RCMP



This Document Is for Intelligence Purposes Only... Not for Legal Use... This Document Is Not to Be Reclassified, Copied, Reproduced, Used in Whole or Part or Further Disseminated,  
Without the Consent of the Originator This document is the property of the RCMP

School Initiatives: In the 2016/2017 Calendar year Halifax District had numerous initiatives associated to the schools within RCMP jurisdiction:



### **Points for Clarification**

- Has the civilianization of School Safety Resource Officers (SSRO) been considered?
  - ❖ One of the RCMP's five strategic priorities is to reduce youth involvement in crime, both as victims and/or offenders. It is important that young people have the opportunity to provide their perspective on issues that affect them since they are key players in the prevention of crime in communities. Understanding their perspective enables *police officers* to interact more effectively with and better understand youth. Not continuing that relationship would be detrimental not only to youth but also to police.
  - ❖ The SSRO is seen by the school as an integral part of creating a safe learning environment. These police officers are regularly involved in operational issues at schools such as bomb threats, bullying and drug misuse.

- ❖ The SSRO is a sworn officer who brings their police experience and training into the classroom as a guest lecturer, intervener, counsellor, as well as a role model and person in authority at the one place all children convene and should feel safe. As the school environment is a common environment for child and police officer alike it serves as a natural point to engage and address concerns that children may have. This opportunity would be lost if a public servant were to take on the role as public servants have very different training, experiences and perspectives. The public servant, though associated with police, would be akin to the teachers they already have.
- When will these resources likely be in place?
  - ❖ Should this request receive support at all three levels of government, municipal, provincial and federal, the positions would then be added to Halifax District's Regular Member complement. At that point, the Career Development & Resourcing Unit at 'H' Division HQ would begin the search to find suitable candidates either through existing resources within the Province of Nova Scotia, other Divisions across the country, through the acquisition of Cadets from our Training Depot in Regina, SK or a combination of all three. Realistically, these positions would be filled on a phased in approach over the course of the fall/winter 2018/19 and potentially into the new fiscal year 2019/20.
- Impact if we don't receive approval for these resources?
  - ❖ Given the pressures on current resources coupled with concerns over the consistent deficits being experienced on overtime, policing service levels may be affected in terms of longer wait times, less time on minor crimes, removal of SSRO's to frontline duties as well as less time applied to proactive crime reduction initiatives that have served to increase public safety, ie. COMSTAT.

### **Conclusion**

Halifax District RCMP are committed to *coordinated strategic approaches to these problems and pressures as opposed to single incidents*. This carries with it a commitment to recognizing they are not routine calls and analyzing the situation so as to understand its causes and contributing factors. The goal is then developing and implementing responses designed to achieve long-term, sustainable improvements in the community's and police's response to these pressures.<sup>5</sup>

- *RCMP training costs – initial, ongoing and personnel development;*
- *Increased patrol and efficiencies/response time.*

**Population to police ratio based on authorized numbers of police officer positions:**

- RCMP: 169,775/176 = 1 officer per 965 citizens.
  - HRP: 233,874/530 = 1 officer per 441 citizens.
- The average cost of police officer/citizen for NS and the national average;
    - Average cost within the Province of Nova Scotia = \$297 per person.
    - Average cost across Canada = \$396 per person<sup>3</sup> (includes every police organization).

**Regular Member position growth for the RCMP in the past 10 years;**

Here are the new positions in Halifax District that have been created in the last 10 years. (2007 – 2010) The most recent was 2010.

- One (1) corporal position, 2007.
- Four (4) constable positions in 2008.
- Four (4) constable positions in 2009.
- Two (2) Inspector positions in 2010. (One in Cole Harbour and a second position within the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division.)



**Canada** 

---

<sup>3</sup> Statistics Canada - Juristat, 2016.