

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

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting – February 26, 2018

Personnel

- Seven civilian employees were hired, Booking Technician (term), Crossing Guard Supervisor, Functional Analyst, Policy and Business Initiatives Coordinator, Records Management Clerk (term), Traffic Support, Disability Case Management Coordinator (term).

Training

- Block Training continues with training that includes Fair & Impartial Policing, Fatigue Management and Rapid Deployment.
- Renovation to the new training area is progressing.
- The Training Division is preparing for the in-house cadet class with a draft schedule and budget submitted.

Operations

- In February, the Traffic Unit issued 523 Summary Offence Tickets under the *Motor Vehicle Act*.

Notable Investigations

- **Charges Laid in Homicide**
 - Investigators with the Homicide Unit of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division have charged a 23-year-old Dartmouth man with second degree murder in relation to the 2018 homicide of Deborah Yorke.
- **Weapons**
 - On February 7, police responded to a residence in relation to a weapons call involving a sensory irritant. Upon arrival police located three victims inside the residence who had been sprayed with a sensory irritant. A suspect was identified and members of patrol arrested an 18-year-old man.
- **Robbery**
 - On February 4, patrol members responded to two robberies in Dartmouth; On February 9, HRP released photos to the public seeking assistance in identifying the suspects. Several tips were received that day and investigators arrested a 17-year-old male youth. The second suspect was also identified and a warrant has been issued.

Outreach Initiatives and Projects

- Throughout the month of February, the HRP Traffic Unit focused its efforts on Distracted Driving, which includes motor vehicle offenses such as driving while operating a cell

phone or hand held device and obstructions to the driver such as pet on lap and obstructions in windshield.

Communications

- As part of our focus on communication capacity building, the PR Unit:
 - provided a Twitter workshop to the @HRPMountedUnit in January;
 - secured a social media officer for 3 Watch;
 - developed and implemented online messaging capacity for the Crisis Negotiator Team (as a way of connecting with people in crisis);
 - secured the support of the Traffic Unit officer in charge for ongoing social and traditional media efforts by its constables.
- Members of HRP participated in the 2018 Nova Scotia Law Enforcement Torch Run's Polar Plunge in support of Special Olympics Nova Scotia. HRP helped to promote the event via social media.

Buildings

- The new facilities business case has been finalized. A presentation to the Board of Police Commissioners is currently being worked on with a target date of either March or April 2018.

Policies

- Four policies – Drugs, Report to Justice and Detention Orders, Invisible and Private General Occurrence Reports (minor update) and Sexual Assault Investigations (minor update) – are in their final stages.
- Upcoming policies include Use of Force, High-Risk Prisoners, Search and Major Crime/Cold Case/Homicide.

Police Diversity Working Group

- Working on the Interpreter Programme to find ways to deliver better interpretation services to the citizens of Halifax.
- Agendas and minutes are updated on the Police Diversity Working Group's dedicated webpage.

