

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

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting – June 18, 2018

Personnel

- There were four new civilian employees hired (Chief Information Security Officer; Emergency Response Communicator; Junior Research Analyst (Intern) and Traffic Support).
- There was one sworn police officer who retired.

Training

- Two additional training days were added to Block Training 2018 to ensure all sworn members received training in Rapid Deployment.
- The annual recertification for C-8 training is currently underway.
- To prepare for the 2019 Cadet Class, curriculum development and Training Centre construction continues.
- HRP's application to the Department of Labour, seeking designation as a Private Career College to better serve our cadets, is being reviewed by the Province.
- Members instructed a three-week program for a class of five new lateral hires, which included Use of Force certification and HRP/HRM-specific policy training.

Operations

- During the month of June, the Traffic Services Unit is following the Road Safety Month theme, Distracted Driving, and focusing its efforts on offences such as operating a vehicle while using a hand-held device, unsafe lane change and failing to operate a motor vehicle in a prudent manner.
- Members of the Traffic Unit received training from Child Safety Link for child occupant restraints/booster seats. A plan was developed to include Child Safety Link technicians in future check points conducted by the Traffic Unit this summer to highlight the importance of proper child restraints and compliance with the Motor Vehicle Act.
- Several members of the Traffic Unit were in New Brunswick, June 8-10, in support of the Canada 911 Ride. The ride takes place annually in support of emergency services personnel, children fallen victim to a violent crime, and providing public defibrillators in memory of fallen emergency services personnel.

Notable Investigations

- On June 1 at 11:45 p.m., officers responded to the area of Gaston Road and Portland Street in relation to a male who had been stabbed. The 23-year-old man was transported to hospital with serious but non-life-threatening injuries. The incident is being investigated by the Integrated General Investigation Section of the Criminal Investigation Division. The investigation is ongoing and it's not believed to be a random act of violence.
- On June 1 at approximately 11:50 a.m., police received a report that a man entered a residence on Cunard Street, sexually assaulted a woman and fled the residence. At approximately 4:30 p.m. that same day police arrested a 47-year-old man without incident. He was charged on June 2 with multiple offences including aggravated sexual assault, break and enter and choking to overcome resistance.
- On June 5 at 10:38 p.m. police responded to a robbery that had occurred in Dartmouth. Two adult victims were inside their apartment when they answered a knock on their door. Two men wearing masks doused them with bear spray and stole cigarettes, medication and a small amount of cash. Officers located the two suspects at another apartment building where they were arrested.
- On June 9 at 2:54 a.m. police received a report of a disturbance on Primrose Street in Dartmouth. A man had pepper sprayed two male victims after a verbal altercation. Patrol members witnessed a vehicle that matched the description of the suspect's that was travelling at a high rate of speed. They conducted a traffic stop and placed the occupants of the vehicle, a man and a woman, under arrest.

Crime Trends (East Division):

- Robbery incidents have trended upward in East Division in 2018 compared to 2017.
- In the last 21-day period (May 15 - Jun 4) a total of six robberies took place.

Communications & Public Relations

- As part of our focus on strategic communication capacity building, the HRP PR Unit instructed two days of PR training to sworn officers from various ranks and units as well as civilian subject matter experts. Topics encompassed strategic communications, traditional media relations and social media.
- The social media initiative, #WantedWednesday, has reached its six-month mark. The project, an effort between HRP's High-risk Enforcement Action Team (HEAT) and PR Unit, 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. Forty of 70 people with outstanding warrants featured on Wanted Wednesday have been arrested, turned themselves in or had their warrant recalled.



Policies

- Policies in progress: Searches of Persons, Fire Calls, Dress & Deportment, Fraudulent Offenses and Ride-Along Policy Update.
- New policies: ID & Access Control

