

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

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting – September 17, 2018

Personnel

- There were four new civilian employees hired (Administrative Support, Accounting Clerk, Traffic Support (Term) and Crossing Guard Supervisor).
- There was one sworn police officer who retired.
- There was one civilian employee who resigned.
- The 2019 HRP Police Science Program received 1008 cadet applications of which 778 are active as well as 185 experienced police officer applications of which 65 are currently active. There were 80 women, 50 members of racially visible groups and four persons with a disability who applied.

Training

- In September, the HRP Training Section began its firearms training for officers and is also hosting an armorers course.
- Along with assistance from the HRP recruitment team, Training is continuing to run PARE tests in preparation for the 2019 Cadet Class.
- HRP will conduct a firearms instructor's course, which is usually done through SIG SAUER Academy or the Atlantic Police Academy. This year, however, HRP created a program that will be evaluated by the Province. In the event it can be kept in-house, we estimate HRP will save money and resources as well as increase the ability to train instructors as required.
- Work is being done to ensure that Drug Recognition Experts and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing members are trained and current. Training has been monitoring Canadian Police Knowledge Network (CPKN) training modules and rolled out three on-line courses that address impaired driving and the upcoming legislation.

Operations

- During the month of September, the Traffic Services Unit is following the Road Safety Month theme, Back to School Safety, and focusing its efforts on enforcement and education of violations including passing buses, illegal parking at schools and crosswalk/crossing guard violations.

- Last month, the Road Safety theme was Impaired Driving. Several compliance check-points were set-up throughout the month and 668 tickets were issued.

Notable Investigations

- On July 20, following a six-month investigation, members from the Integrated Guns and Gangs Unit, Integrated Drug Unit, Integrated Support Operations along with members of RCMP Street Crime Enforcement Unit, executed Controlled Drugs and Substance Act Search Warrants at locations in Dartmouth, Halifax and Bedford. Two men and two women are facing various charges including possession for the purpose of trafficking.
- On June 20 at 1:39 p.m., members of the Drug Unit and the Quick Response Unit conducted a traffic stop in Dartmouth. A 30-year-old man and 36-year-old woman, both from Dartmouth, were arrested for possession of drugs for the purpose of trafficking.
- On August 16 at 4:39 p.m. police responded to a report of a robbery at the CIBC Bank on Quinpool Road in Halifax. A man approached the teller and indicated he had a weapon, although no weapon was seen. He fled the scene on foot with an undisclosed amount of money. On August 21 at 6:40 p.m. officers were dispatched to a report of a robber at Shoppers Drug Mart on Quinpool Road. A suspect approached an employee to give him their money. The suspect fled the store with an undisclosed amount of money. On August 22 at approximately 5:40 p.m., members of the East Quick Response Unit arrested a man in Dartmouth. Investigators in the General Investigation Section of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division charged a 63-year-old Halifax man in relation to these two robberies.
- On August 29 12:35 a.m. police responded to a weapons complaint on Lincoln Cross after a group of youth walking in the area approached another group of youth and one adult who were inside a vehicle. Three youths were walking were sprayed with a sensory irritant and one of the youth was physically assaulted. A traffic stop was later conducted and a 19-year-old Hammonds Plains man and two youth were arrested in relation to the robbery and weapons offences.

Crime Trends:

- Laundry room break and enter incidents have trended upward in East Division.
- Multiple businesses on Ochterloney Street in Dartmouth have had break-ins. This is being monitored and extra patrol has been requested during overnight hours.
- Motor vehicle thefts in Zone 5 has been problematic.



Communications & Public Relations

- Halifax Regional Police, along with the RCMP Halifax District and the Canadian Forces Military Police, proudly co-hosted the 113th Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police annual conference held in Halifax from August 12 to 15.
- To increase awareness among citizens for the processes that are in place to file a complaint against police officers, regardless of their geography within HRM, the following deliverables have been achieved:
 - A link for RCMP's process is now on HRP's website on the *Complimenting or filing a complaint against a Halifax Regional Police Officer* page;
 - A two-sided brochure with the most salient content from the website has been printed;
 - An initial list of touch points for brochure dissemination has been developed.
- A back to school safety message was shared on social media channels the first week of September via a media release, safety tips and a video message from one of the Sgts. in charge of the HRP Traffic Services Unit.
- On August 16, HRP held a Chat with a Cop event at The Chickenburger in Bedford. The event brought police and community members together in an informal environment to discuss issues and learn more about one another.

Policies

- Policies in final review: Search of Persons, Drugs & Currency, Conflict of Interest, Fraudulent Offenses, Acoustic Hailing Device Audit.
- Policies in progress: Use of Force, Exposure and Homicide File Review.
- Business initiatives: Ports and Vessels Operational Procedure, Strategic Plan 2015-2020 engagement sessions, policy document project and HRP Business Planning 2019.

