

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

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting - January 14, 2019

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## Personnel

- There were three new civilian employees hired: two Emergency Response Communicators and one Crime Analyst.
- There were two civilian resignations: one Wellness Program Specialist and one Administrative Assistant.
- There were two sworn retirements (constables) and two civilian retirements (one Emergency Response Communicator and one Crime Analyst).
- The 2019 HRP Police Science Program received 1008 cadet applications of which 24 are active. There have been 20 offers made to cadets for placement in the training program, which begins January 21. As well, 185 experienced police officer applications of which 11 are currently active. Eleven offers of employment have been made.

## Training

- The Training Section conducted an orientation night for the 2019 Police Science Program cadets.
- The first week of Block Training started January 7. Topics include First Aid & Belt Trauma Kit (BTK) tourniquet; the new Impaired Legislation; Use of Force and Workplace Rights & Harassment Prevention.

## Operations

- During the month of January, the Traffic Services Unit is focused on Intersection Safety with members spending time in and around various HRM intersections, crosswalks and entrances to roadways to enforce and educate motorists and pedestrians on their roles under the Motor Vehicle Act.
- To support Operation Christmas, from November 28 to December 31, Traffic Services members set-up strategic check-points, which resulted in 36 impaired driving charges.

## Notable Investigations

- On December 21, just before 5 a.m., members of the Special Enforcement Section of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division, with the assistance of HRP Emergency Response Team, executed a search warrant at an apartment in Halifax. From the search, quantities of cocaine, cash and drug paraphernalia were seized. Five people were arrested inside the apartment and charged.

- On December 22 at 3:34 a.m. police responded to a vehicle/pedestrian collision in downtown Halifax. An adult male was crossing the street and was struck by a taxi cab. The pedestrian sustained life-threatening injuries and was transported to hospital. The driver, a 33-year-old man from Dartmouth, was arrested for leaving the scene of a collision and was charged with fail to stop at the scene of a collision causing bodily harm, under the Criminal Code.
- On January 5 at 3:15 p.m. police responded to a theft call at a store in Dartmouth. The vehicle driven by the suspect struck a parked vehicle while leaving the area and, after police located the vehicle on Main Street in Dartmouth, the suspect's vehicle struck a marked police vehicle head-on while fleeing police. No one was injured. The pursuit was called off and the suspect vehicle headed onto the Waverly Road where it struck another vehicle at approximately 3:45 p.m. A woman and two children sustained non-life-threatening injuries. The three suspects fled on foot but were tracked by a police service dog and apprehended by RCMP and HRP members in the 0-100 block of Rolling Hills Drive.
- On January 6 at approximately 5:45 a.m. police responded to a report of a sexual assault that had occurred a short time earlier in Halifax. A taxi driver drove a female to a residence in Halifax and sexually assaulted her while she was in the vehicle. As a result of the investigation, officers arrested the taxi driver at a residence in Halifax without incident at approximately 3:30 p.m. that afternoon. The taxi driver was charged with sexual assault.
- On January 7 at 11:09 p.m. police responded to a report of a break and enter into an Automated Teller Machine (ATM) at an apartment building in Halifax. Two suspects, believed to be males, wearing all black and face masks attempted to force open an ATM. Tenants interrupted the suspects before accessing the cash in the ATM. The suspects fled on foot. Investigators with the General Investigation Section and Forensic Identification Section of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division are conducting the investigation, which is in its early stages.

### **Communications & Public Relations**

- The PR Unit conducted one on one social media training sessions for officers assigned to social media duties in patrol and specialized units (Fraud and HEAT).
- Aligned with HRP's strategic plan, a draft external communications strategy framework has been prepared, which will help guide the unit's proactive and operational activities for the upcoming year.



- The PR Unit supported various operational initiatives, including Wanted Wednesday and highlighting public safety concerns related to holiday shopping and fraud, by organizing subject matter interviews, social media posts and other materials.

### **Employee Engagement & Survey Action**

- The results of the municipality's Employee Engagement Survey, which was conducted last year, have been reviewed in detail by the HRP Executive Management Team. Survey results were summarized in a Chief's Note and sent to all HRP employees. Inspector Stephanie Carlisle, Divisional Commander of HRP West Division, was appointed to lead this initiative. She will establish a support group who will act as a sounding board to help drive operational activities and set-up employee engagement information sessions for senior officers.

### **Police Diversity Working Group**

- The next meeting of the Police Diversity Working Group is scheduled for January 16.

### **Information Security**

- Activities continue to progress toward completion with no significant change since the last BoPC update.

