

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

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting - March 18, 2019

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### Personnel

- There were five new civilian employees hired: one Digital Forensic Examiner; one Records Management Clerk (term); one Administrative Support (term); one Disability Case Management Coordinator (term); and one Victim Services Case Worker.
- There was one Booking Technician (civilian) resignation.
- The Superintendent competition is underway and the Inspector competition was completed.

### Training

- Cadets in the Police Science Program have finished the Law portion of their training, which was facilitated by the Provincial Prosecution Services
- Block Training continues until the end of April.
- To prepare for Block Training 2020, the Training Section arranged for two members to attend RAPID training in Ottawa.

### Operations

- During the month of March, the Traffic Services Unit is focused on occupant restraints. The unit is working to highlight the importance of drivers and passengers wearing their seatbelts without modification, the maintenance of seat belts and ensuring children are in proper car seat systems.
- With a focus on distracted driving in February, members worked to identify issues relating to these offences and used a targeted enforcement approach.
- During the month of February, traffic members wrote a total of 747 tickets.

### Notable Investigations

- On February 20, shortly before 3 p.m., police received a call that a male youth had threatened another male youth with what was believed to be a gun in the area of Dartmouth High School. Police charged a youth in relation to the weapons call. An intimidation handgun was recovered at the scene. At approximately 5:30 p.m. students, who had been in lockdown, were cleared to leave the school. No one was injured as a result of the incident.
- On February 21, at approximately 1:16 a.m., police responded to a report of an injured male found on the sidewalk in the 100 block of Pinecrest Drive in

Dartmouth. Investigators determined that the 31-year-old male victim had been stabbed during a robbery. Shortly after police were able to take an 18-year-old male suspect into custody. The victim was transported to hospital by EHS and was treated for non-life-threatening injuries.

- On February 22, at 5:50 a.m. Halifax Regional Police responded to a report of a vehicle/pedestrian collision fatality in Dartmouth. A 57-year-old pedestrian was pronounced deceased at the scene. At approximately 2:22 p.m., police received a call from a member of the public who observed a parked unattended vehicle they felt might have been involved in the incident. Patrol members, investigators from the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division, Accident Investigation Section and Forensic Identification Section were able to connect the vehicle to the incident. A 24-year-old Bedford man was arrested without incident and will appear in court at a later date to face charges of criminal negligence causing death and failing to stop at a scene.
- On November 21, 2016, at approximately 10:45 p.m., police responded to a report of gunshots in the area of Falkland and Gottingen Streets in Halifax. When officers arrived, they located a man, who had been shot, in a vehicle. He was transported to the QEII Health Sciences Centre with life-threatening injuries and later succumbed to his injuries. An autopsy was conducted and the Medical Examiner ruled the man's death a homicide. On March 6, at approximately 1 p.m., investigators arrested a 27-year-old man in Halifax. He appeared in Halifax Provincial Court. face a charge of first degree murder.

## Communications & Public Relations

- Coordinated media relations for the February 28 badge presentation ceremony for two Police Service Dogs (PSD), PSD Sully and PSD Jynx, of the K-9 Unit. A traditional media release was issued along with social media posts and a live Facebook feed.
- Promoted and hosted a media launch at police headquarters for the Halifax Regional Police Foundation on March 4. A social media campaign was created to garner public awareness of the launch and the Foundation.
- The PR Unit continues to support external partners with social media posts to bring awareness to various initiatives. HRP shared social media posts March 4 to March 10 in partnership with Halifax District RCMP and Pharmacy Association of Nova Scotia (PANS) to encourage proper prescription drug drop-off among citizens.
- Provided social media support to promote educational messaging during the month of February. A series of multimedia posts were created for the provincial road safety theme, Distracted Driving. As well, an informative post was crafted for Human Trafficking Awareness Day on February 22.



- Coffee with a Cop was held on March 6 at Dalhousie University. The event brought police, students, staff and faculty together in an informal setting.

### **Police Diversity Working Group**

- The next meeting of the Police Diversity Working Group is scheduled for April 10.

### **Information Security**

- Of the 66 recommendations 10 have been completed, 36 are currently in-progress and 20 have not yet started.
- Work activity continues to progress for all items, however; the High Impact and High Likelihood items have dependencies that must be met before controls can be fully implemented to meet the recommendation requirements as presented in the assessment.
- ISMS Framework and supporting documents/policies continue to progress and are currently in peer review.

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

- The Executive Management Team (EMT) continues to have meetings on engagement and have identified action items. The 27 engagement talks have been completed. Members of EMT met with all employees of HRP to update them on current issues and provide an opportunity for a Q&A session.
- Inspector Stephanie Carlisle is set to engage employees for the newly developed working group.

### **Provincial Funding for Impaired Driving**

- Provincial funds are available to assist police agencies in Nova Scotia in investigating drug and alcohol impaired driving.
- Funds are allotted proportionally based on the size of the police agency. Halifax Regional Police was provided \$52,780 to spend by March 31, 2019.
- The following items have been ordered with this funding: blood kits, urine kits, swabs for oral fluid drug screening devices, masks, latex gloves and plastic containers to hold such items as an investigational kit.

