



## Item No. 10.2.1

### Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality January 15, 2025

**TO:** Chair Kent and Commissioners of the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality

**DATE:** January 8, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD)  
2025/2026 Resource Request: RCMP HRD Recommendation Report

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#### **ORIGIN**

Staff initiated.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality recommend that the HRM Budget Committee support the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Halifax Regional Detachment (RCMP HRD) resource request for additional fourteen (14) regular member positions as part of the budget deliberations for the 2025-2026 operating budget as set out in Attachment 1.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Halifax Regional Detachment achieved a number of key accomplishments within the previous year, demonstrating our ability to adapt and evolve to the changing HRM landscape. These accomplishments have contributed to more effective and efficient police service delivery across HRM.

Building upon these accomplishments, in September, 2024, RCMP HRD submitted its 2025/2026 resource request in the form of a business case to HRM Administration. On December 4, 2024, a supplemental presentation was submitted to the BOPC. The business case and presentation provide a two-year snapshot of resource request projections with the intention to provide the BoPC with a broad view of the strategic direction and priorities for HRD over this two-year period. In Year 1, the HRD Resource Request ask consists of a total of 14 Full-Time Employees (FTEs). This is made up of: a community office in Beechville (6 FTEs), a community office in Fall River (6 FTEs); 1 FTE Traffic Services member in Musquodoboit Harbour; and, 1 FTE Community Policing Officer in Sheet Harbour. In Year 2, HRD's Resource Request includes nine (9) FTEs consisting of: a community office in Eastern Passage (6 FTEs); 2 FTE Intimate Partner Violence Investigators; and 1 FTE Community Action Response Team (CART) position.

## DISCUSSION

In its 2025/26 Resource Request to the BoPC, HRD focused on a number of critical factors for consideration that impact service delivery. Aligning with the BoPC's 2024-2025 Workplan Pillars, HRD strives to support the BoPC by: developing the appropriate information packages with evidence-based information to assist BoPC's accountability function and informed-decision making; engaging and collaborating with its communities, businesses and residents to gain insight and determine strategic direction; adapting to population growth, societal changes, economic conditions, transformation and other contributing factors (i.e., Tantallon Wildfires); evolving police response based on community feedback and report findings and recommendations. HRD also considered the HRM Strategic Lens Framework with a focus on the Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Lens as well as the Risk Management and Continuous Improvement Lens. Specifically, these two lenses are reflected in several of the proposed service delivery enhancements.

HRM's population continues to expand at a rapid rate with the 2024/25 HRM population forecasted estimate at 502,736 people.<sup>1</sup> HRM has seen significant population growth in recent years, with a 12% increase since 2019. This growth has led to a notable rise in the demand for policing services, as reflected in the HRD's higher number of calls for service in 2024 compared to the previous two years.<sup>2</sup>

HRD's focus on Satellite Offices in the communities of Beechville and Fall River are needed to support the effective and efficient delivery of core police services in those areas, but more importantly reflect the direct feedback HRD has received from its community and stakeholder consultations. It is also in line with the BoPC pillar of *Engaging, Evolving and Adapting* to meet the needs of the community. We have heard from HRM Councillors relaying their citizen's interest to have more RCMP members visible, and involved in the community. The Wortley Report<sup>3</sup> identifies and speaks to the future potential growth of community offices in section 4.8 which reads:

*"Establish more community-level detachments. It is recommended that the police establish more community-level detachments like the one recently developed in North Preston. Such local detachments should operate seven days a week, twenty-four hours a day."*

As HRM considers its population growth strategy and service continuum, future investments for new RCMP resources could be aligned with this recommendation supporting community and operational needs.

HRD's North Preston Community Office has been established as a best practice, community-focused model. This office is made possible by leveraging opportunities and partnerships with HRM to incorporate public safety offices into already existing HRM infrastructure. In the Fall of 2024, HRD held multiple community engagement sessions in the Preston communities. The feedback, advice and guidance provided by the community was clear in that there was resounding support for this model and a call for greater HRD community involvement and engagement.

The population in the Beechville, Lakeside and Timberlea area is anticipated to grow by 23%<sup>4</sup> by 2033 with new residential developments and improvements. Beechville was designated a Provincial Heritage site in 2018. Its residents have a progressive vision for its future development with plans for affordable housing, recreation and commercial development; the community is also working to expand their community boundaries to reflect its original neighbourhood. With a deep sense of community, culture and engagement, Beechville's essence thrives with spirit and connection. Addressing recommendations of the

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<sup>1</sup> HRM Corporate Planning 2025/2026 budget and business planning update, December 12, 2024,

<sup>2</sup> HRD Resource Request Presentation to BOPC on January 6, 2025.

<sup>3</sup> Wortley, S. Halifax, Nova Scotia: Street Checks Report, March 2019.

<sup>4</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality, Environics Population Projections.

*Wortley Report*, a satellite office within Beechville will integrate HRD into the fabric of the community, building visibility, accessibility and fostering connection and trust.

In September, 2024, Assistant Commissioner Dennis Daley, the Commanding Officer of Nova Scotia RCMP, issued a formal apology to African Nova Scotians and to all people of African descent for the historic use of street checks and other negative interactions.<sup>5</sup> Following extensive community consultations led by a steering committee, 13 Nova Scotia communities were visited. As a result of what was learned, the RCMP in Nova Scotia established a Community-Led Nova Scotia RCMP Action Plan.<sup>6</sup> One of the key recommendations was ensuring RCMP involvement in African Nova Scotian communities.

The Fall River community is expected to grow approximately 31% by 2033<sup>7</sup> with a number of developments envisioned, including single family dwellings and townhome/condo units, as well as a long-term care facility; there is also the potential opportunity for the rezoning of the Aerotech Business Park to provide economic development for warehousing, logistics, and distribution businesses. These initiatives are in the planning stages but are believed to increase traffic given public transit is not available at this time. There are concerns the development planning is outpacing school and road infrastructure.<sup>8</sup> A satellite office in Fall River is will enhance service, bolster visibility and support community needs to ensure residents and community businesses have an integrated and modern public safety approach.

HRDs request for a dedicated Traffic Services member in Musquodoboit Harbour is directly related to providing proactive and reactive support to HRM's Road Safety Program. It's important to note that since amalgamation in 1996, there has been no new human resource investment in HRD's Traffic Safety Program.

As of November 2024, there have been 1,850 motor vehicle collisions within HRD. Within the Musquodoboit Harbour, Sheet Harbour and North Central office areas, there have been 223 collisions this year.<sup>9</sup> HRD is a key HRM safe system partner<sup>10</sup> and will continue to align proactive and enforcement road safety initiatives within our communities to reduce the number of fatal and serious injury collisions on our roads. This is a challenge given the projected population growth of approximately 11% in this area over the next four years; this translates into increased vehicle congestion in both the HRM urban core and rural communities. HRM's 2024 Road Safety Strategy has been endorsed as a strategic public safety priority by HRM Council. As noted above, and as part of the Safe System Approach, HRD will leverage relationships with other primary stakeholders to increase visibility, lead enforcement strategies and develop prevention campaigns. This additional resource will increase our capacity to focus on seatbelts, speeding and impaired, distracted and aggressive driving which lead to serious injuries and fatalities.

HRD is also requesting one new Community Policing Officer in the community of Sheet Harbour. Since amalgamation in 1996, there has been no new investment in FTEs for the Sheet Harbour community. The Sheet Harbour area spans 37 communities and 87 kilometers along the Eastern Shore. Its population is expected to grow 15% by 2033<sup>11</sup>. The Sheet Harbour office consists of 6 Full-Time Employees and 1 Public Service Employee. The office is managed by a corporal with 5 constables providing core policing to the area. This new position will respond to the growing population and expand the community

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<sup>5</sup> <https://rcmp.ca/en/nova-scotia/apology-historical-use-street-checks>

<sup>6</sup> <https://rcmp.ca/en/nova-scotia/apology-historical-use-street-checks/action-plan#s5>

<sup>7</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality, Environics Population Projections

<sup>8</sup> Luke Ettinger, "120-Unit Housing Development in Fall River Can Proceed After Decision by Province", February 18, 2024.

<sup>9</sup> RCMP HRD Statistics, December 2024.

<sup>10</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality 2024 Road Safety Strategy, p. 12.

<sup>11</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality, Environics Population Projections.

policing program in Sheet Harbour and the surrounding area. The *Price Waterhouse Cooper report*<sup>12</sup> highlights “the importance of creating community capacity to focus on ‘core policing’ functions.” HRD believes greater community service delivery requirements are key to holistic public safety well-being. Over the past two years, and specifically within the community of Sheet Harbour, General Duty resources have been tasked with prevention education and programming to schools, seniors’ groups and a number of community-based support services which help victims of crime. We have heard directly from the community on these efforts and a continued evolution of service-delivery capacity is important. This new resource will build on this work and strengthen HRD’s connection to community well-being allowing General Duty members to focus on their core policing duties.

In summary, HRD is committed to working with the BoPC, HRM’s Public Safety Office, the Halifax Regional Police (HRP), and its other stakeholders and partners to enhance public safety in HRM. We will support the important work of the BoPC as we look toward police transformation in 2025. HRD will continue to advance BoPC’s key pillars: *Develop, Engage, Adapt and Evolve*, as we work together to improve public safety. To support HRD in its ability to provide effective and efficient policing services in HRM, it is vital that we have the human resources necessary to: provide the best possible policing to our communities; align officer resourcing levels with the growing population; respond to increasing policing demands; and, to manage the complexity of service calls. Adequate resourcing will enable proactive policing, enhance public safety, and allow for more crime prevention and community involvement. HRD’s request follows best practices and recommendations from recent policing reform reports, including the *2023 HRM Policing Transformation Report developed by PricewaterhouseCoopers* and the *2023 Mass Casualty Commission Final Report*, aiming to strengthen the HRD RCMP’s community response capacity and improve service quality in rural HRM.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Financial implications of this request are not currently known.

The RCMP’s budget is approved by the Provincial Treasury Board. Should the resource request be supported, the financial implications will be updated for the HRM Budget Committee at a later date.

The RCMP per-officer cost for fiscal year 2024-25 was \$202,671.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

An initial presentation on the proposed 2025/26 funding request was made on December 4, 2024. HRD is scheduled to provide a second presentation on January 6, 2025. Public consultation is scheduled to be held on January 8, 2025 in a virtual format hosted by the BoPC.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

The Board of Police Commissioners for the Halifax Regional Municipality may:

1. Recommend that the HRM Budget Committee consider Halifax Regional Detachment Royal Canadian Mounted Police (HRD RCMP) resource request for an amended number of regular member positions as part of the budget deliberations for the 2025-2026 operating budget.
2. Recommend that the HRM Budget Committee do not consider the Halifax Regional Detachment

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<sup>12</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality Policing Model Transformation Study: Future Policing Model Recommendations. Price Waterhouse Cooper, November, 2022.

Royal Canadian Mounted Police (HRD RCMP) resource request for additional fourteen (14) regular member positions as part of the budget deliberations for the 2025-2026 operating budget.

### **LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Nova Scotia Police Act (2004)*

*35 (1) Every municipality is responsible for the policing of and maintenance of law and order in the municipality and for providing and maintaining an adequate, efficient and effective police department at its expense in accordance with its needs.*

*36 (1) The obligation of a municipality to provide policing services pursuant to Section 35 may be discharged by*

- (a) the establishment of a municipal police department pursuant to this Act;*
- (b) entering into an agreement with the Province, the Government of Canada or another municipality for the use or employment of an established police department or any portion of an established police department;*

*57 (1) A municipality receiving policing services in whole or in part from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Provincial Police shall establish a police advisory board.*

### **Contractual Authority**

*2012 Provincial Police Service Agreement (referred to as the PPSA or PSA)*

*- Original Signed -*

*The PPSA is the agreement that outlines the roles and responsibilities of the two contract partners (Canada and Nova Scotia), as well as the service provider (Royal Canadian Mounted Police) and the relationship to the Halifax Regional Municipality.*

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: Funding Request Business Case

Attachment 2: Funding Request Presentation

Attachment 3: 2024/25 Annual Performance Plan 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

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Report Prepared by: Insp. Jeff Mitchell, Management and Administrative Services Officer,  
RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment

Report Approved by: Supt. Don Moser, Acting Officer-in-Charge, RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment

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## **RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment**

Funding Request for Resources 2025-2026

Halifax Regional Municipality



Royal  
Canadian  
Mounted  
Police

Gendarmerie  
royale  
du Canada

Cathie O'Toole  
Chief Administrative Officer HRM

Becky Kent  
Chair Board of Police Commissioners

1841 Argyle Street  
Halifax, NS B3J 3A5

*Cathie O'Toole*

Dear Madam CAO / Madam Chair,

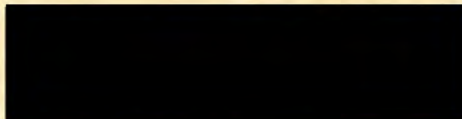
Kindly find within a number of recommended investments in the Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD).

Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) has benefitted by the investment of new full-time equivalent (FTEs) over the past two funding cycles. With your support, by late fall 2024, all new regular member positions are expected to be staffed. As a result, public safety outcomes for the sizeable population within the RCMP jurisdiction has been enhanced. In particular, I am most pleased by the initial investment of two intimate partner violence (IPV) dedicated specialists. The investment by council in this new modern concept will allow the HRD service delivery model to augment its service to victims.

Similarly, the ideas within this document will position the administration, Board of Police Commissioners, and Council to imagine viable investments matching rapid population growth as projected within the HRM planning functions. As HRD areas rapidly expand and urbanize, it is an appropriate time to imagine community offices that bolster presence and service delivery within those designated areas. This menu of items included will also facilitate administration's ability to assess population growth trends and urban planning responsibilities within the totality of the council's responsibility to deliver policing under the *Nova Scotia Police Act* using the business case process to infer and examine trends and data such as population to police officer ratios.

Current data reflects increased demands and expectations on the RCMP resulting in the demonstrable need for sustained growth of HRD. We have preliminarily separated these submissions into year 1 (2025 funding cycle) and year 2 (2026 funding cycle) for a more fulsome analysis in support of HRM and clients.

Your HRD senior team looks forward to presenting these ideas and working with HRM stakeholders in the coming months for the municipal funding cycle.



Original Signed

Jeffrey Christie  
Chief Superintendent  
Halifax Regional Detachment

Cc: Haley Crichton, Executive Director – Department of Justice

C/Supt Jeffrey Christie  
Detachment Commander  
RCMP Halifax Region

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## Executive Summary

With the evolution of growth in Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM), public safety management will need to remain dynamic. This submission considers the future growth of HRM and needs of its police service to address demographic, economic and social changes that will occur as part of this growth. As part of this Executive Summary, [Appendix A](#) has been added and contains four tables to visually demonstrate the increased calls for service and growth of proactive work Halifax Regional Detachment has been experiencing over the last several years. HRD offers quality, competent, effective and efficient service to its residents that aligns with policing standards, and with the priorities, objectives and goals of the Board of Police Commissioners and HRM council. This request will allow us to continue to do so in these changing times.

In Year 1, this 2025/2026 business case submission requests 1 Regular Member traffic position for Musquodoboit Harbour as well as 1 Regular Member community policing officer for Sheet Harbour. Despite an increase in calls for service, improved infrastructure and population growth, these areas on the Eastern Shore have not received any new FTE investment since amalgamation in 1996.

In Year 1, this business case also requests funding to establish 1 community policing office in Beechville and 1 community policing office in Fall River. Both areas are growing; these offices would be staffed with 1 supervisor and 5 constables to provide presence, visibility, local access and improve response times to the respective areas.

In Year 2, the submission outlines a request for 1 Regular Member Community Action Response Team (CART) Regular Member position as well as the establishment of a community office in Eastern Passage with 1 supervisor and 5 constables to staff the office.

An Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) unit of 4 Regular Member specialized investigators is envisioned. Funding was received for 2 positions in 2024 and staffing is currently underway. This submission requests funding in Year 2 for the additional 2 Regular Members to adequately resource this critical program and to fully realize the dedicated unit.

## Traffic Services Year 1

### **Request**

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests one (1) Regular Member traffic position for Musquodoboit Harbour Office.

### **Background/Context**

Since amalgamation in 1996, there has been no new investment in HRD's traffic safety program.

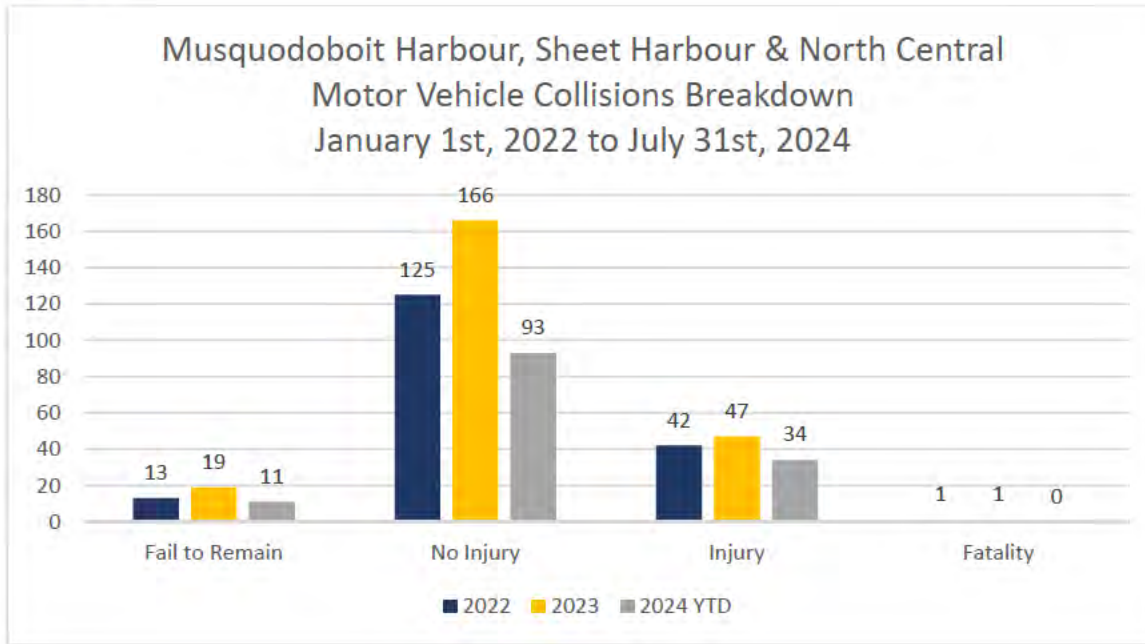
As of June 2024, there have been over 1,048 motor vehicle collisions within HRD, an increase from 920 collisions in 2023, indicating injury and fatality collisions are on the rise. Within the Musquodoboit Harbour, Sheet Harbour and North Central office areas, there have been 138 collisions this year (Table 1). HRD is a key HRM safe system partner and will continue to align proactive and enforcement road safety initiatives within our communities. HRD is committed to reducing and maintaining the number of fatal and serious injury collisions. This is challenging given the projected population growth of approximately 11% in this area over the next four years<sup>1</sup>; this translates into increased vehicle congestion in both the HRM urban core and rural outlying communities. The Road Safety Strategy has been endorsed as a strategic public safety priority by Halifax Regional Council. The Road Safety Program has an established partnership with HRD. By leveraging this relationship, the additional traffic resource will support increased visibility, lead enforcement strategies and prevention campaigns, partner with local stakeholders (EHS, fire and emergency department(s) and work with local community groups (i.e., ATV associations) with the ultimate objective of reducing injuries and fatalities on our roads.

Table 2 shows driving-related concerns rank in the top five types of calls for service within the Musquodoboit Harbour area. As a rural community, most households consist of at least two drivers and two or more vehicles. Many residents commute to work and/or attend higher education in the urban core of HRM. Vehicles are required to run errands and for everyday activities such as shopping, sports and recreation. There is also an increase of seasonal residents and tourists late spring through the fall, resulting in a significant increase of motorists on the roadways. Limited public transportation extends only to Porters Lake making the Number 7 Highway and its arterials busier each year. Negligent driver behaviours such as texting, speeding, and driving while impaired continue to cause injury and fatality collisions. The reduced options of public transport, taxis, and ride shares provide drivers with less options when drinking. Additionally, rural communities historically have a higher percentage of newly licensed inexperienced drivers on the roadways when compared to residents in the urban core who have other options available to get around. The Musquodoboit Harbour Office works in direct support to the neighbouring units of North Central, located in Middle Musquodoboit and the Sheet Harbour Office. Although the population density of these two abutting areas of HRD responsibility is far less, they still have their share of public safety concerns on the roadways. The existing 5-member traffic safety program is deployed with a corporal and constable at Lower Sackville; 2 constables at Cole Harbour, and 1 member at Tantallon. A traffic member posted to the Musquodoboit Harbour Office would be in direct support of both of these rural and isolated units and position HRD to address traffic safety concerns.

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<sup>1</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality Enviro-nics Population Projections for Police Zones

**Table 1**



**Table 2**

Musquodoboit Harbour Top 10 Calls for Service January 1st, 2024 to July 31st, 2024	
Call Type	Calls for Service
Traffic Stop	635
Proactive Assignment	623
Assist Citizen	216
Driving Complaint	117
MVC- Property Damage	70
False Alarm- Commercial	56
Mentally Ill Person	47
Verbal Dispute	44
Theft- Not in Progress	40
Other Criminal Code	38

Source: Halifax Regional Detachment

# Community Policing Officer Year 1

## Request

### **Community Policing Officer**

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests funding for one (1) Regular Member Community Policing Officer in Sheet Harbour.

## Background/Context

Since amalgamation in 1996, there has been no new investment in FTEs for the Sheet Harbour office.

The Sheet Harbour area spans 37 communities and 87 kilometers along the Eastern Shore. Its population is expected to grow 15% by 2033<sup>2</sup>. The current FTE count is 6 Regular Members and 1 Public Service Employee. The office is managed by a corporal with 5 constables providing core policing to the area. This position will respond to the growing population and expand the community policing program in Sheet Harbour and the surrounding area. A strategic consideration for this request relates to the number of mental health calls received in the area and the impact travel time to/from hospitals located within the core of HRM has on the current resources. This resource can support escort activities.

Consultation with stakeholders and partners indicates the desire for more direct consultation with the RCMP on community policing objectives and priorities and stronger links to mental health and wellness supports. In addition, the Price Waterhouse Cooper report<sup>3</sup> highlights “the importance of creating community capacity to focus on ‘core policing’ functions.” HRD believes greater community service delivery requirements is key to holistic public safety well-being.

The Sheet Harbour community policing officer would be paramount to achieve this objective and solidify a consistent presence and connection within the community. This resource would be responsible for providing a proactive and problem-solving response, relying on the engagement from community focussed residents and businesses to set objectives and priorities within the area. The community policing officer would further collaborate with general duty on issues directly related to policing and enforcement. The RCMP recognizes our community members expect an increased focus on community safety as a whole instead of an enforcement only approach to problem-solving. The community policing officer would work within their area to prevent / reduce social harms by proactively working with community members, community resources, healthcare and social services to establish priorities and identify solutions. Better integration of services between police and these services means better supports for our community members and facilitates root cause resolutions.

Adapting the model to include a community policing officer will mean greater focus on crime prevention, community-led response and strategic navigation to complement core policing. This Regular Member resource will work within the community of Sheet Harbour with the ultimate goal to proactively support crime reduction initiatives and enhance community engagement while boosting local accessibility to services.

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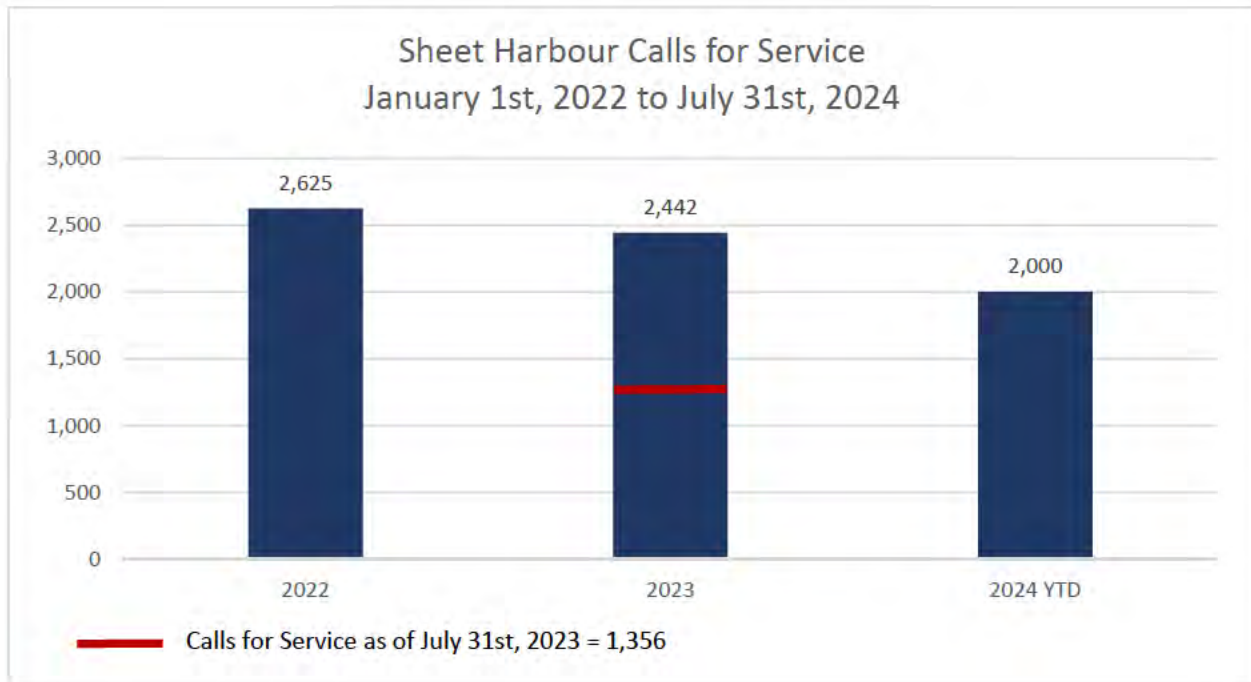
<sup>2</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Environics Population Projections

<sup>3</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality Policing Model Transformation Study: Future Policing Model Recommendations. Price Waterhouse Cooper. November, 2022.

**Table 3**

Sheet Harbour Top 10 Calls for Service January 1st, 2024 to July 31st, 2024	
Call Type	Calls for Service
Proactive Assignment	1,072
Traffic Stop	464
Assist Citizen	69
Assist Other Agency	33
Foot Patrol	25
Miscellaneous / Suspicious Circumstances	21
MVC- Property Damage	19
Other Criminal Code	17
False Alarm- Commercial	16
Unwanted Person	16

**Table 4**



Source: Halifax Regional Detachment

# Community Policing Office Year 1

## **Request**

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests support to establish a community policing office in the community of Beechville, with six (6) FTE positions to staff.

## **Background / Context**

This funding request emanates from a number of critical reports and recommendations related to improving the RCMP's model of policing<sup>4</sup> as well as the continued population and residential growth HRD is experiencing in its policing areas. As we witness increasing population growth, higher international migration and the need for more affordable housing, the RCMP must adapt its delivery of policing services to meet the changing community needs and expectations.

Population in the Beechville, Lakeside and Timberlea area is anticipated to grow by 23%<sup>5</sup> with new residential developments and improvements well within the line of sight. Beechville, a Historically Black Nova Scotian settlement established in 1813, was designated a Provincial Heritage site in 2018. Its residents have a progressive vision for its future development with plans for affordable housing, recreation and commercial development; the community is also working to expand their community boundaries to reflect its original neighbourhood. With a deep sense of community, culture and engagement, Beechville's essence thrives with spirit and connection. Addressing recommendations of the *Wortley Report*<sup>6</sup>, a policing office within Beechville will integrate the RCMP in a progressive manner. It will ensure the RCMP is visible and accessible as well as foster connection and trust. Optimistically, it would be possible to co-locate with another service provider and/or leverage existing or planned HRM infrastructure that is centrally situated, visible and accessible; in doing so the RCMP and community will be a vital centre of collaboration and integration within the HRM public safety ecosystem<sup>7</sup>. Building relationships are of key importance; the location will positively increase the profile of policing services within the community, while offering space for the RCMP and community members to collaborate, problem-solve and develop proactive strategies to manage local public safety issues and concerns, providing elevated locally focused attention to proactive community safety approaches, instead of enforcement focussed interactions. This request is linked to the RCMP's objective to create and sustain partnerships, and its deliverable to support reconciliation with African Nova Scotians and other people of African descent<sup>8</sup>. The community hub would be operated, staffed and governed by the RCMP with 1 supervisor and 5 constables. The constables would be assigned to a watch and performing core policing duties. This team would ensure better alignment between strategic and operational outcomes in the community as the residents have direct input into the development of crime prevention programs and initiatives applicable to their neighbourhood.

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<sup>4</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Public Safety Strategy 2023-2026; Price Waterhouse Cooper. (2022). Halifax Regional Municipality Policing Model Transformation Study: Future Policing Model Recommendations; Wortley, S. (2019). Halifax, Nova Scotia: Street Checks Report.

<sup>5</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Environics Population Projections

<sup>6</sup> Halifax, Nova Scotia: Street Checks Report. Dr. Scot Wortley. March 2019.

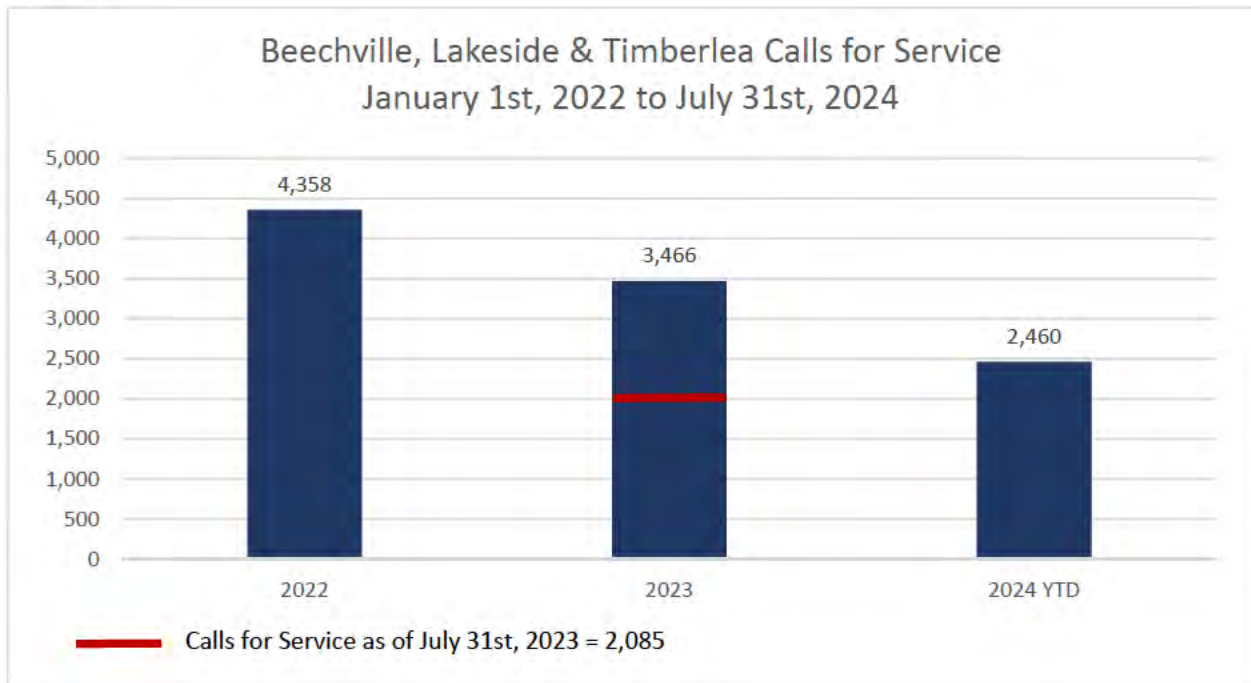
<sup>7</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Public Safety Strategy 2023-2026.

<sup>8</sup> RCMP. 2024/25 Annual Performance Plan.

**Table 5**

Beechville, Lakeside & Timberlea Top 10 Calls for Service January 1st, 2024 to July 31st, 2024	
Call Type	Calls for Service
Proactive Assignment	714
Traffic Stop	420
Driving Complaint	177
Assist Citizen	151
MVC- Property Damage	87
False Alarm- Commercial	54
Impaired Driving Complaint	42
Verbal Dispute	40
False Alarm- Residential	39
Other Criminal Code	38

**Table 6**



Source: Halifax Regional Detachment

# Community Policing Office Year 1

## **Request**

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests support to establish a community policing office in the community of Fall River, requiring six (6) FTE positions to staff.

## **Background / Context**

According to Halifax Partnership's Halifax Index 2024, the population in HRM grew 4.1% between 2022-2023 with almost 80% of the growth derived from international migration ranking Halifax 4<sup>th</sup> in population growth in Canada when compared with other major cities<sup>9</sup>. HRM is growing rapidly with an expected increase in population from approximately 477k in 2023 to 568k by 2033<sup>10</sup>. The Fall River policing area is expected to grow approximately 31% by 2033 with a number of developments envisioned, including single family dwellings and townhome/condo units, as well as a long-term care facility; there is also the potential opportunity for the rezoning of the Aerotech Business Park to provide economic development for warehousing, logistics, and distribution businesses. These initiatives are in the planning stages but would increase traffic given public transit is not available at this time. There are concerns the development planning is outpacing school and road infrastructure<sup>11</sup>.

A community policing office in Fall River is an option to enhance service, enhance visibility and respond to community needs to ensure residents and community businesses have an integrated and modern public safety approach. This also reflects a growing population and predicted external service delivery needs. The community policing office would provide police presence, access, and the ability to collaborate and problem-solve on issues of concern that are related to public safety in the area. The HRD's intended outcome is to build trust and increase the community's confidence in their police, giving greater local control and flexibility to address concerns. Optimistically, it would be possible to co-locate with another service provider and/or leverage existing or planned HRM infrastructure that is visible and centrally situated, establishing the RCMP HRD and community as a vital centre of collaboration and integration within the HRM public safety ecosystem.

The community policing office would serve as the hub for six (6) additional resources consisting of 1 supervisor and 5 constables, with constables assigned to a watch and performing core policing duties. Table X indicates the ten most prevalent types of calls for service received by HRD within the Fall River area. Given that the Lower Sackville Office is located a distance from Fall River, this location will provide better alignment between strategic and operational outcomes in the community as the residents would have direct input into the development of crime prevention programs and initiatives applicable to their neighbourhood. The location will positively increase the profile of policing services within the community and enable better response, while offering space for the RCMP and community members to collaborate, problem-solve and develop proactive strategies to manage local public safety issues and concerns.

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<sup>9</sup> Halifax Partnership

<sup>10</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Environics Population Projections

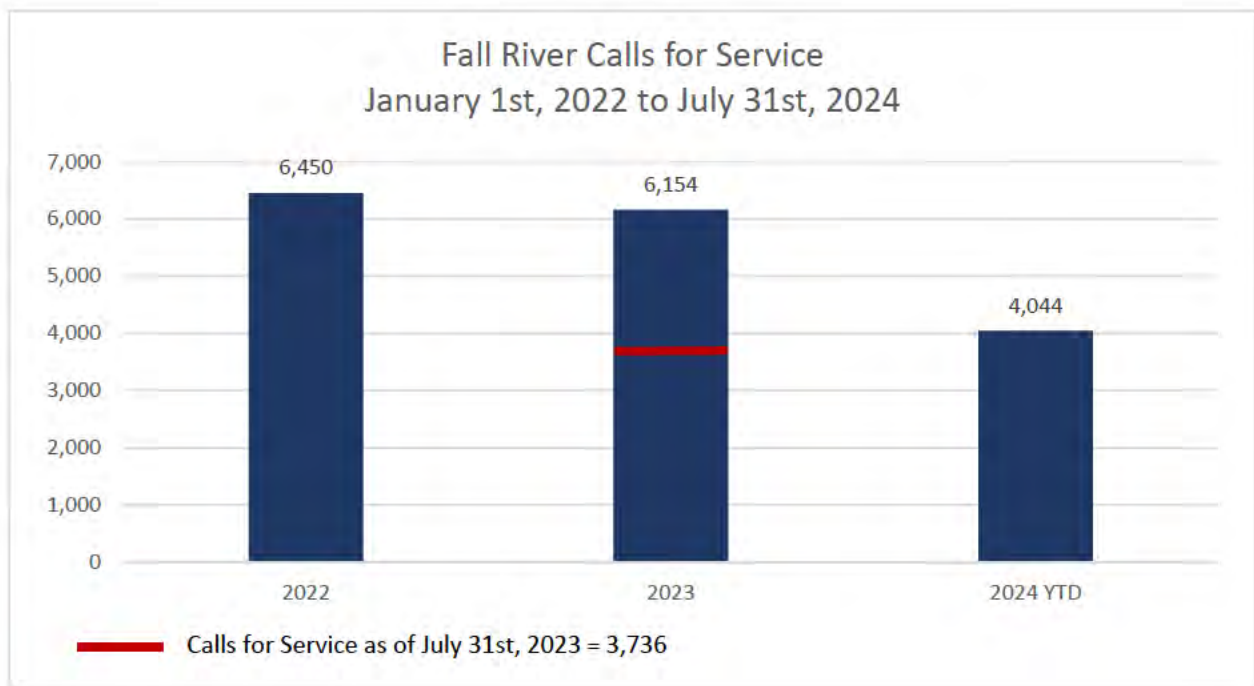
<sup>11</sup> CBC article, February, 2024



**Table 7**

Fall River Top 10 Calls for Service January 1st, 2024 to July 31st, 2024	
Call Type	Calls for Service
Traffic Stop	848
Proactive Assignment	722
Driving Complaint	349
Assist Other Agency	313
Assist Citizen	210
MVC- Property Damage	185
Airport Alarm- Pre-Board	171
False Alarm- Commercial	99
Suspicious Person	85
False Alarm- Residential	54

**Table 8**



Source: Halifax Regional Detachment

## Community Policing Office Year 2

### **Request**

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests support to establish a community policing office in the community of Eastern Passage and support for six (6) FTE positions to staff.

### **Background / Context**

Consultation with stakeholders and partners indicates the desire for more direct discussion with the RCMP on community policing objectives and priorities and stronger links to mental health and wellness supports<sup>12</sup>. Further, the Price Waterhouse Cooper report<sup>13</sup> highlights “the importance of creating community capacity to focus on ‘core policing’ functions.” HRD believes greater community engagement and providing a modern policing model that aligns with future population growth and service delivery requirements is key to holistic public safety well-being.

HRM is growing rapidly with an expected increase in population from approximately 477k in 2023 to 568k by 2033<sup>14</sup>. The Eastern Passage area is expected to grow 20% by 2033 with private housing developments planned and DND’s construction of a Canadian Surface Combatant Land-Based Testing Facility at Hartlen Point; there is also the Morris Lake Expansion that has been identified through the Provincial Special Planning initiative to increase housing. Eastern Passage has also become a destination for recreation and tourist activities. MacCormacks Beach Provincial Park has also become more popular within the summer months.

The intent of this business case is to establish a storefront location where community policing is woven into the fabric of the community of Eastern Passage thereby providing its residents and businesses with its presence, access, and the ability to collaborate and problem-solve on issues of concern that are related to public safety in the area. HRD’s intended outcome is to enhance service, build trust, increase the community’s confidence in the police, and better meet the public safety expectations of the community. In co-locating with another service provider and/or leveraging existing or planned HRM infrastructure that is visible, accessible and centrally situated, the RCMP and community will be a vital centre of collaboration and integration within the HRM public safety ecosystem<sup>15</sup>. A community policing office would serve as the hub for six (6) additional resources providing a consistent presence in the community. The community office would be staffed by 1 supervisor as well as 5 constables, with constables assigned to a watch and performing core policing duties. Building stronger engagement protocols within the community supports the establishment of well-defined public safety priorities and objectives. Integrating within the community in a progressive manner, the FTE resources would build relationships and interface with other health, social and community partners as required to find a tailored response strategy to any given community safety issue. As the Cole Harbour Office is located a distance from Eastern Passage, this location will also provide better alignment between strategic and operational outcomes in the community as the residents would have direct access for input into the development of crime prevention programs and initiatives applicable to their neighbourhood.

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<sup>12</sup> RCMP Consultation with Contract Partners

<sup>13</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality Policing Model Transformation Study: Future Policing Model Recommendations. Price Waterhouse Cooper. November, 2022

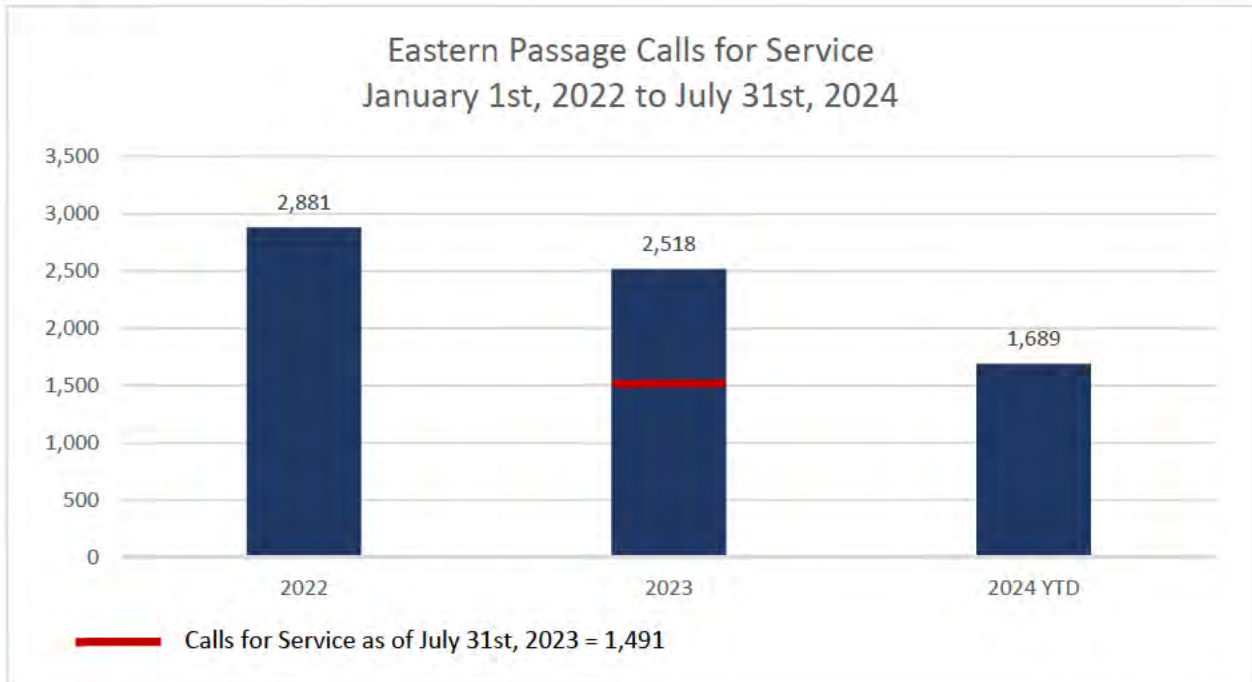
<sup>14</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Environics Population Projections

<sup>15</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Public Safety Strategy 2023-2026

**Table 9**

Eastern Passage Top 10 Calls for Service January 1st, 2024 to July 31st, 2024	
Call Type	Calls for Service
Proactive Assignment	590
Traffic Stop	203
Assist Citizen	116
Driving Complaint	69
MVC- Property Damage	39
Verbal Dispute	39
Assist Other Agency	30
Wellbeing Check	26
False Alarm- Commercial	24
Assault- Not in Progress	22

**Table 10**



Source: Halifax Regional Detachment

## Intimate Partner Violence Year 2

### **Request**

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests two Regular Member positions to resource this critical program's dedicated unit requirement of 4-Regular Members. These two new positions will complement the initial allocations and likely be assigned to the Cole Harbour and Tantallon offices.

### **Background/Context**

Nova Scotia recently declared Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) an epidemic in Nova Scotia<sup>16</sup>.

Police response to intimate partner violence has been underscored through recommendations of the Mass Casualty Commission<sup>17</sup> (MCC) as well as the Desmond Inquiry<sup>18</sup>, and align with federal, provincial and local priorities to address IPV. In addition, this direction supports the HRM Public Safety Strategy as the municipality identifies better responses to social issues. HRD recognizes that IPV impacts our community members regardless of cultural background, socio-economic status, sexual identity or preference in gender relationships. The statistics demonstrate that IPV calls continue to increase (Table X). ***In fact, high-risk IPV statistics for 2024 have already surpassed previous years statistics.*** Adapting HRD's service delivery model will align to best practices and provide an effective and consistent approach to the investigation and prosecution of these types of crimes. As HRM's population increases, so will IPV calls for service, especially for our more vulnerable populations which include, but are not limited to, indigenous women, new immigrant women, adolescents, those with disabilities and older adults. Having dedicated specialized investigators ensures victims are supported by investigators who: have knowledge and expertise specific to intimate partner violence; can facilitate enhanced services and connect victims to the appropriate partners and stakeholders within the community and broader justice system; and, provide timely, efficient case management of high risk IPV files. High-risk intimate partner files are complex, requiring evidence-based investigation through a dedicated specialized program. The investigative requirements and provincial standards for such investigations have evolved over many years and these violent crimes continue to be a significant public safety concern with IPV investigative standards and victim support being a keen focus of health and justice communities. Based on the high-risk nature of IPV, case management and investigative rigour must be applied to ensure timely and effective investigations. This requires investigators with increased knowledge of evolving IPV investigative best practices such as progressive investigative techniques and trauma informed practices to reduce harm; knowledge that can be used to educate general duty members at the response level. The files require ongoing, specialized investigative training (i.e., non-fatal strangulation, coercive control patterns) and the knowledge and skills to support best justice system outcomes. Developing innovative and collaborative relationships with public health, social and community partners is essential for effective outcomes. Dedicated investigators gain alignment and mutual respect with multiple agencies and community resources, ensuring the public safety and community stakeholders needs are being met. This request aligns with Halifax Regional Detachment's Annual Performance Plan (APP) 2024/25 to oversee high-risk operations and priorities and complements the initial investment of 2 FTEs.

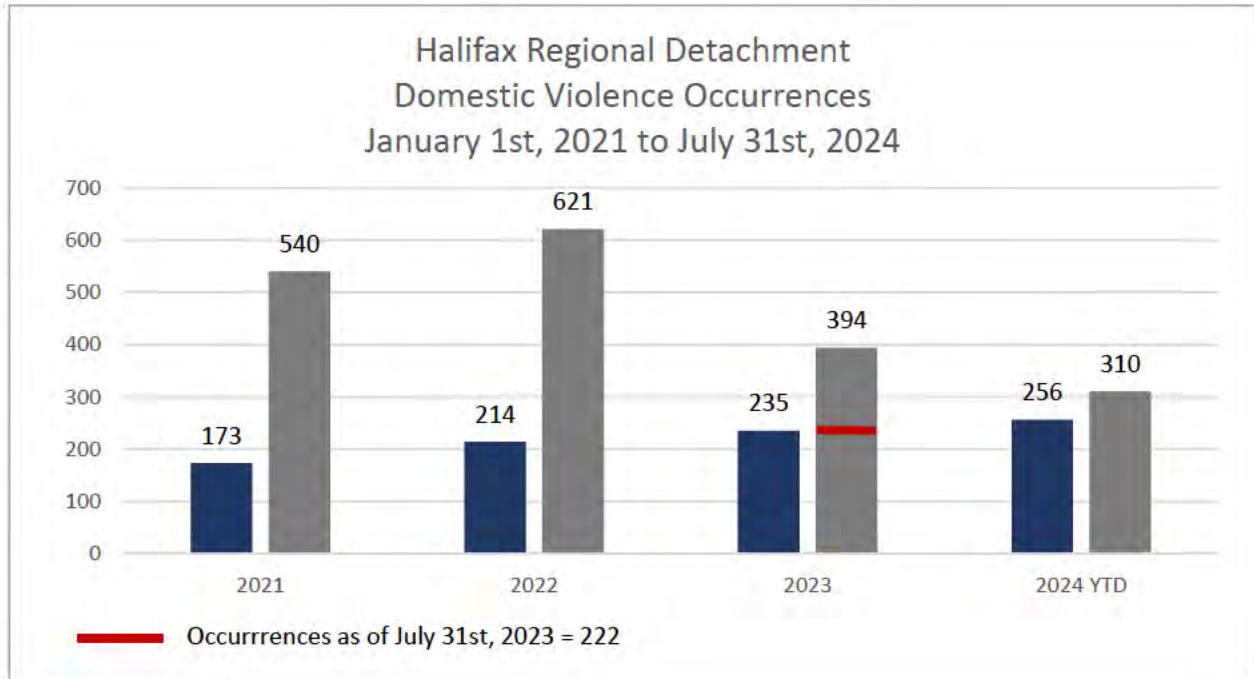
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<sup>16</sup> Intimate Partner Violence Epidemic Act Bill 482, September 12, 2024

<sup>17</sup> Turning the Tide Together. Final Report of the Mass Casualty Commission. Executive Summary and Recommendations. Mass Casualty Commission

<sup>18</sup> Report of the Inquiry into the Deaths of the Desmond Family. Paul Scovil. Provincial Court Judge. 2024

**Table 11**



Source: Halifax Regional Detachment

## Community Action Response Team Year 2

### Request

RCMP Halifax Regional Detachment (HRD) requests support for 1 Regular Member position for the Community Action Response Team (CART).

### Background/Context

The Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is experiencing rapid population growth, with projections indicating that by 2028, the population will reach 523,647<sup>19</sup>. This is a 10% increase since 2023. This will place additional pressure on community resources due to the increasing number of students in schools, a larger workforce, and a rise in individuals at risk of falling into crisis situations. By increasing the team's capacity, CART will be better equipped to address the complex challenges posed by a larger, more diverse population, ensuring that community support services are proactive and responsive.

The number of unhoused individuals is projected to rise. CART's expansion will not only support those who are experiencing homelessness, but also residents living in alternative housing solutions like Tiny Homes, Pallet Homes, encampments, and other community shelters. The team's presence is crucial for managing these communities, providing essential services, and ensuring the safety and well-being of all involved. A stronger CART will help HRM navigate these housing challenges and offer vital support to the unhoused and those in precarious living situations.

The growing senior population also presents significant concerns. By 2043, Statistics Canada projects that the number of individuals over the age of 65 will increase, "particularly during the period 2022-2030"<sup>20</sup>. With this growth comes an increase in elder abuse, financial fraud schemes targeting seniors, and a greater need for support in areas such as mental health. Seniors are often vulnerable to exploitation and isolation, requiring protection, prevention education, and direct assistance. Having additional resources within CART will be critical in addressing these issues, offering the necessary care and intervention to safeguard seniors' well-being and dignity, while ensuring they receive proper mental health support.

Additionally, the rising cost of living is expected to lead to an increase in property crimes, such as shoplifting. Nova Scotia currently has the highest rates of shoplifting in Canada as reported by Statistics Canada. This represents a 60% increase over last year. CART will play an essential role in combating this type of crime by engaging in crime prevention education, conducting proactive patrols, and collaborating with the Street Crime Enforcement Unit to identify and manage high-risk offenders. Expanding the team will enable CART to take a more proactive approach to addressing property crime, helping to promote public safety.

CART's strength is that its members offer connection to community residents, provide understanding to individual public safety concerns, and facilitate a response using networks and relationships it has established with community and social partners.

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<sup>19</sup> Halifax Regional Municipality. Environics Population Projections

<sup>20</sup> Government of Nova Scotia Economics and Statistics. Statistics Canada Population Projections 2022-2043. August 2022.

## Funding Analysis

### Funding Implications

The cost is for Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) and billed at 70% of the total cost. The cost is adjusted for dispatch services, NCO's and the Police Records Management System PROS, as HRM has IES and Versadex RMS. The Nova Scotia Department of Justice is the primary point of context for the cost of contracted policing services. Future costs per FTE are not determined. This is based on 2024 FTE costs.

### Per Officer Cost

Salary & Pension	104,830
Accommodations	12,540
Leased Accommodations	922
Divisional Administration	28,620
Police Reporting Occurrence System (PROS)	535
<b>Other</b>	
Direct & Indirect	10,466
Overtime	13,361
Public Service Pay	12,351
Vehicle Fuel	2,674
Vehicle Repairs and Fit up	2,110
Shared Services (Phone lines / Cell phones)	787
<b>Equipment</b>	
Criminal Operations	952
Informatics	4,823
Police Vehicles	6,524
Adjustment for: OCC, NCOs & PROS	(10,741)
<b>Total Per Officer Cost</b>	<b>190,754</b>

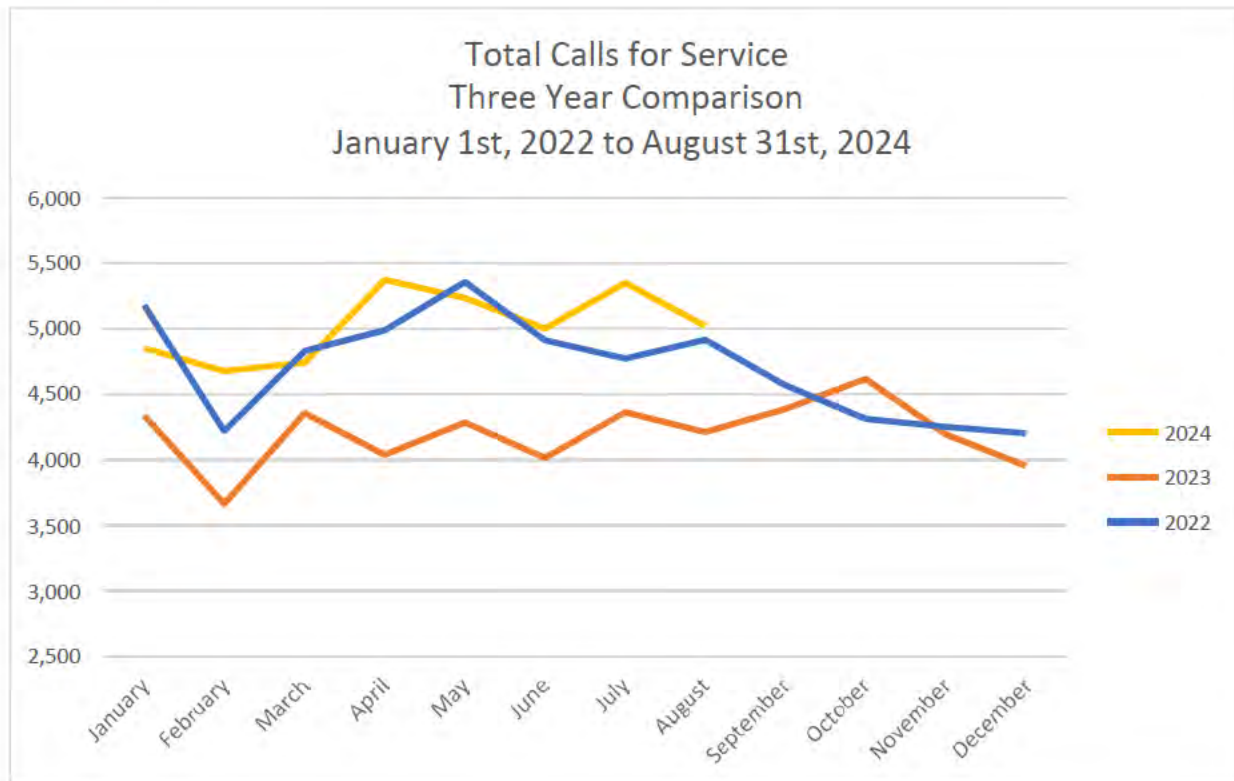
## Summary of Annual Requests by Year

\*should these requests be supported, a submission will be made to seek provincial funding for Public Service Employee (PSE) support to match Regular Member investment

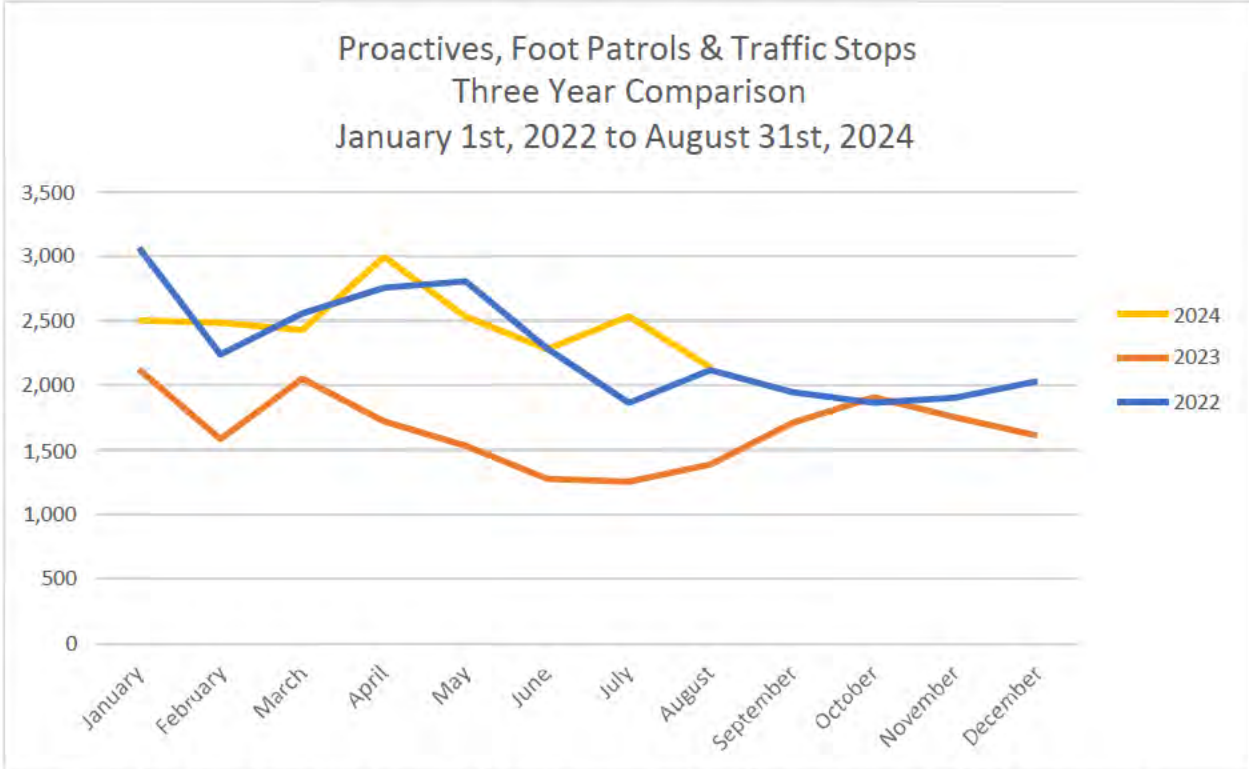
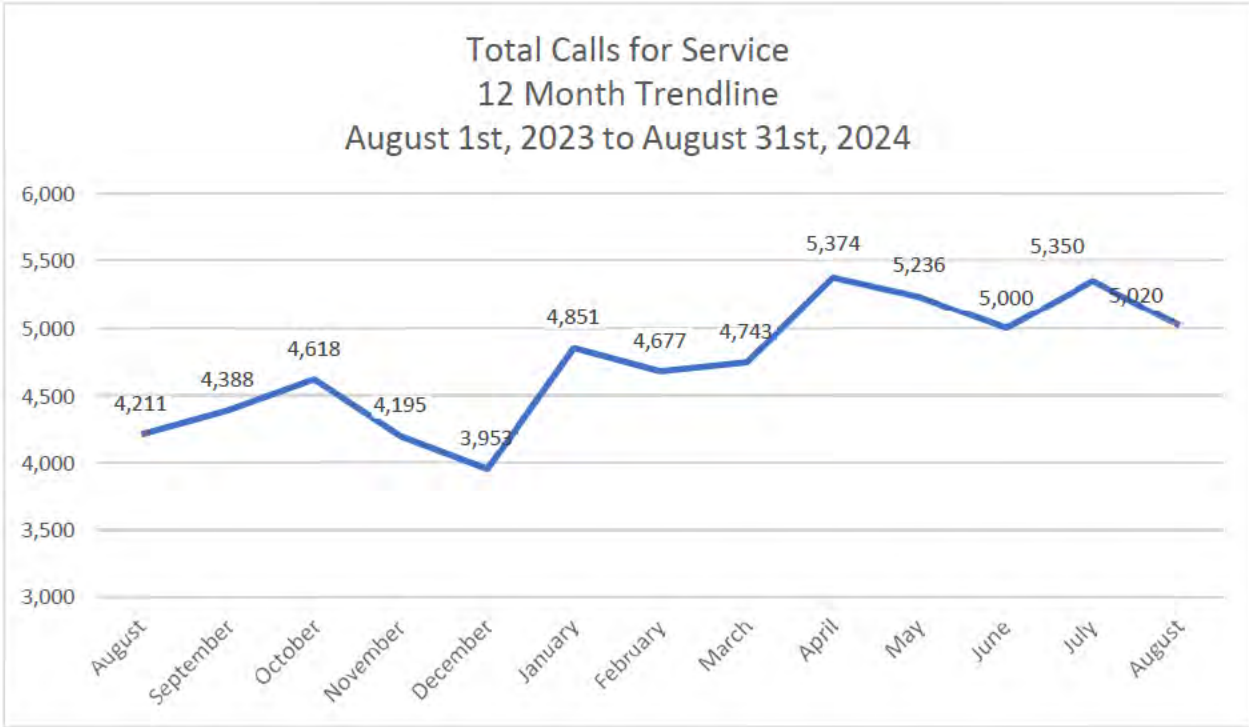
<b>Business Case</b>	<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Year 2</b>	<b>PSE (provincially funded)</b>
Traffic Services Position Musquodoboit Harbour	1 FTE		1 PSE
Community Policing Officer Sheet Harbour	1 FTE		1 PSE Victim Services 1 PSE Gen Admin
Community Policing Office Beechville	6 FTEs		1 PSE
Community Policing Office Fall River	6 FTEs		1 PSE
Community Policing Office Eastern Passage		6 FTEs	1 PSE
Intimate Partner Violence Specialized Investigators		2 FTEs	1 PSE
Community Action Response Team (CART)		1 FTE	



## Appendix A



- there has been a positive increase for total calls for service every month in 2024 compared to 2023 data
- From January 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 there were a total of 40,251 total calls for service, a 21% increase when comparing the same time frame in 2023



- there has been a positive increase for self-generated work every month in 2024 compared to 2023 data
- For the entire year of 2023 there were a total of 19,911 calls for self-generated work. As of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, there are a total of 19,898, just shy of 2023's total

Proactive, Foot Patrols & Traffic Stops  
12 Month Trendline  
August 1st, 2023 to August 31st, 2024



January 6, 2025

# **Halifax Board of Police Commissioners**

Halifax Regional Detachment  
Resource Request 2025-2026

# Presentation Outline

- Resource Request Summary
- HRD Policing Metrics
- Detailed Resource Request
- Closing Remarks

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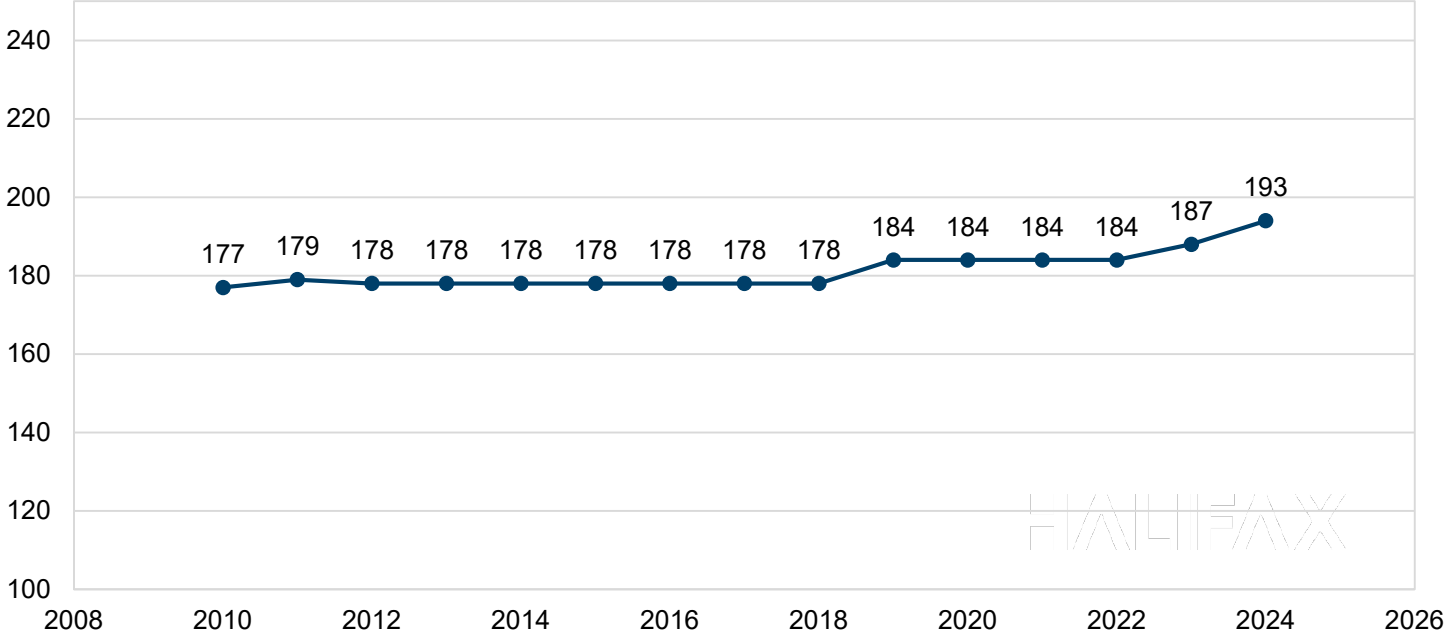
# 2024 Key Accomplishments

- Restructured Command Team
- Wildfire After Action Report & Improvement Plan
- New Annual Performance Plan
- New Prisoner Care Facility (Lower Sackville)
- Completed Fleet Review
- Completed Human Resource Management Review
- Established IPV & Traffic Services Programs
- Renewed Compstat Program

# Resource Request Summary

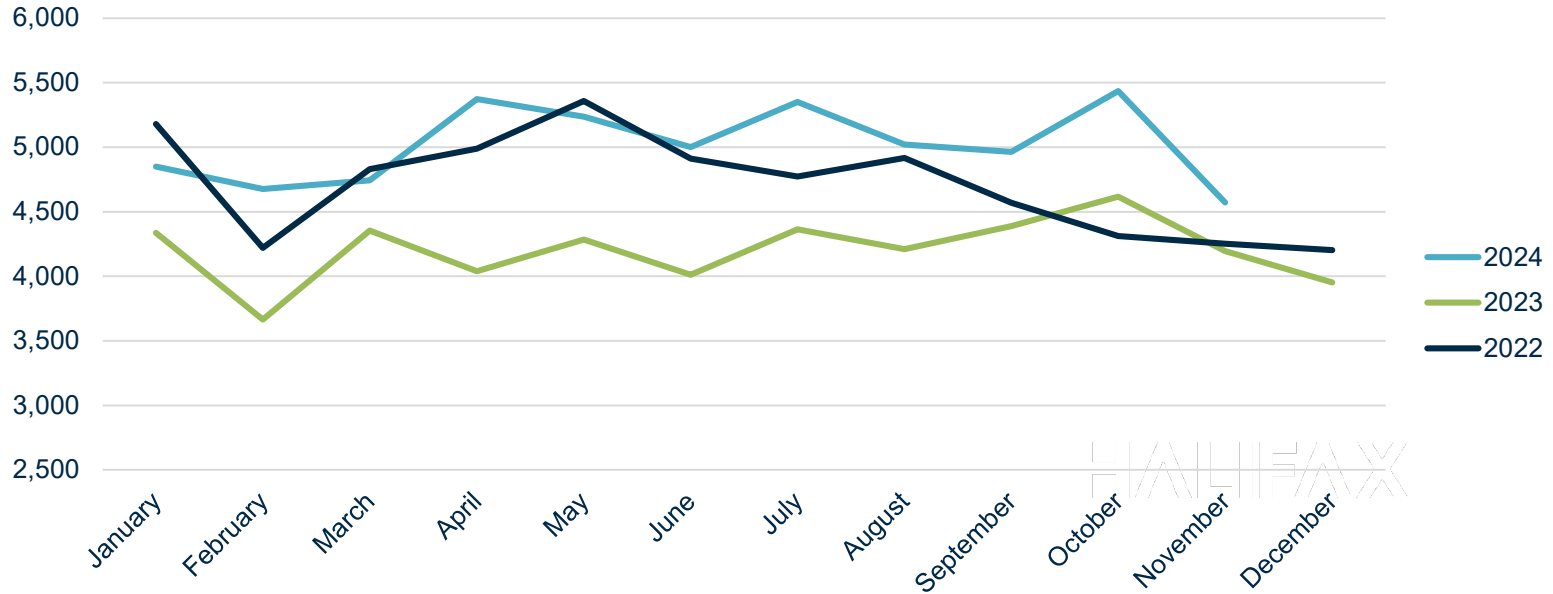
Business Case	Year 1 2025-2026	Public Service Employee
Traffic Services Position Musquodoboit Harbour	1 FTE	
Community Policing Officer Sheet Harbour	1 FTE	
Satellite Office Beechville	6 FTEs	1 PSE
Satellite Office Fall River	6 FTEs	1 PSE

# HRM Funded Regular Member Resources 2010-2024



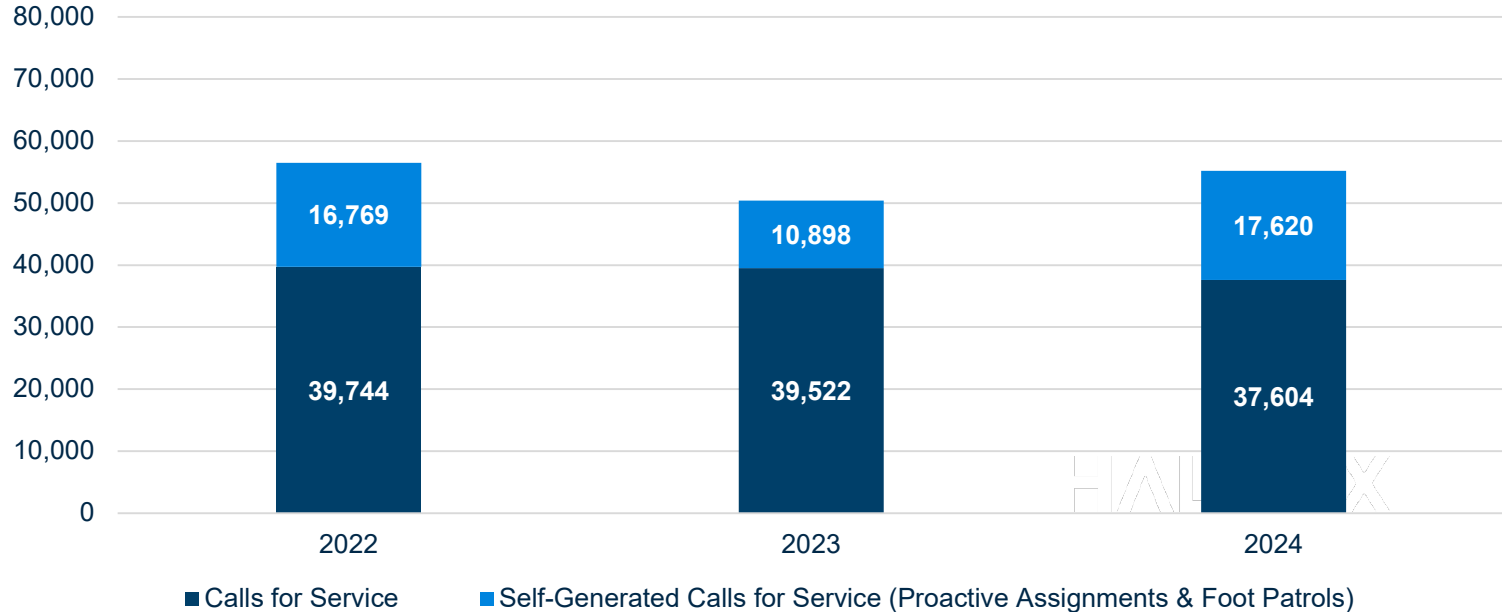


# Total Calls for Service January 1st, 2022 to November 30th, 2024

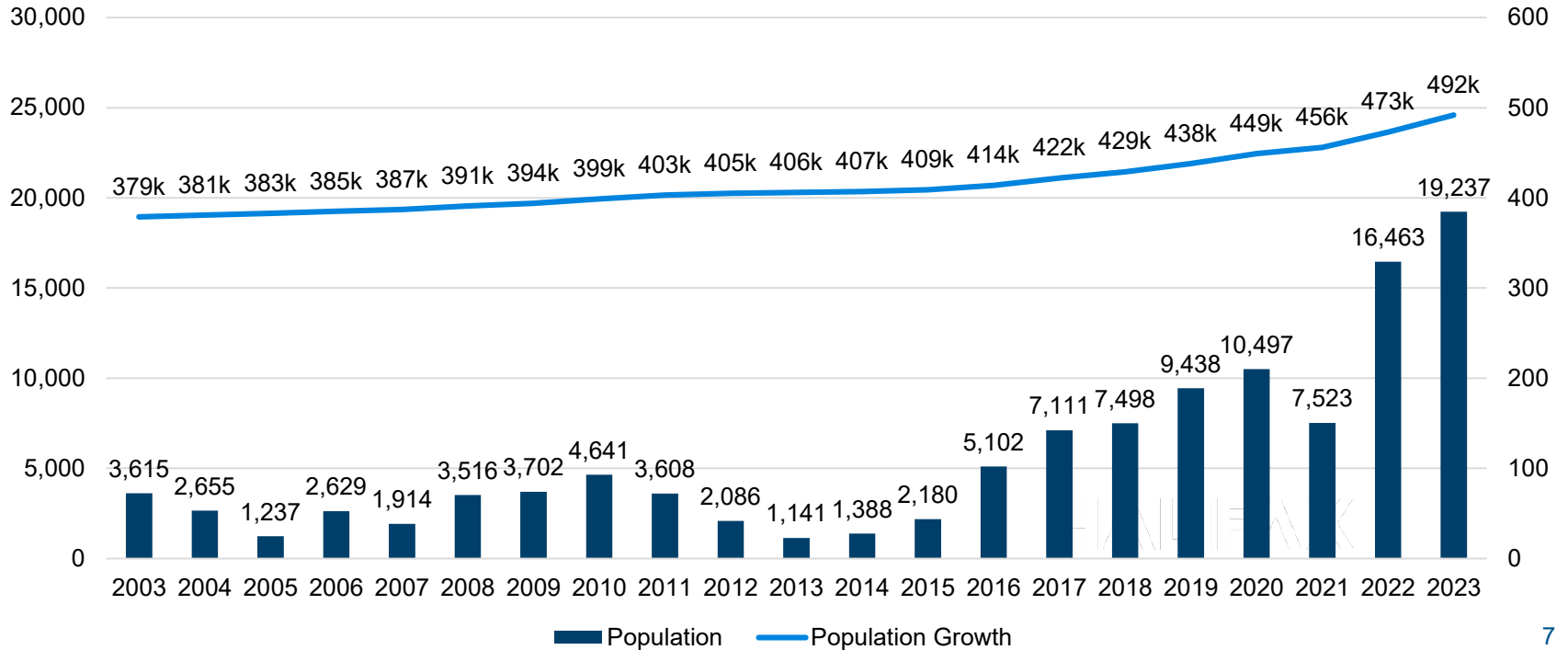


# Calls for Service

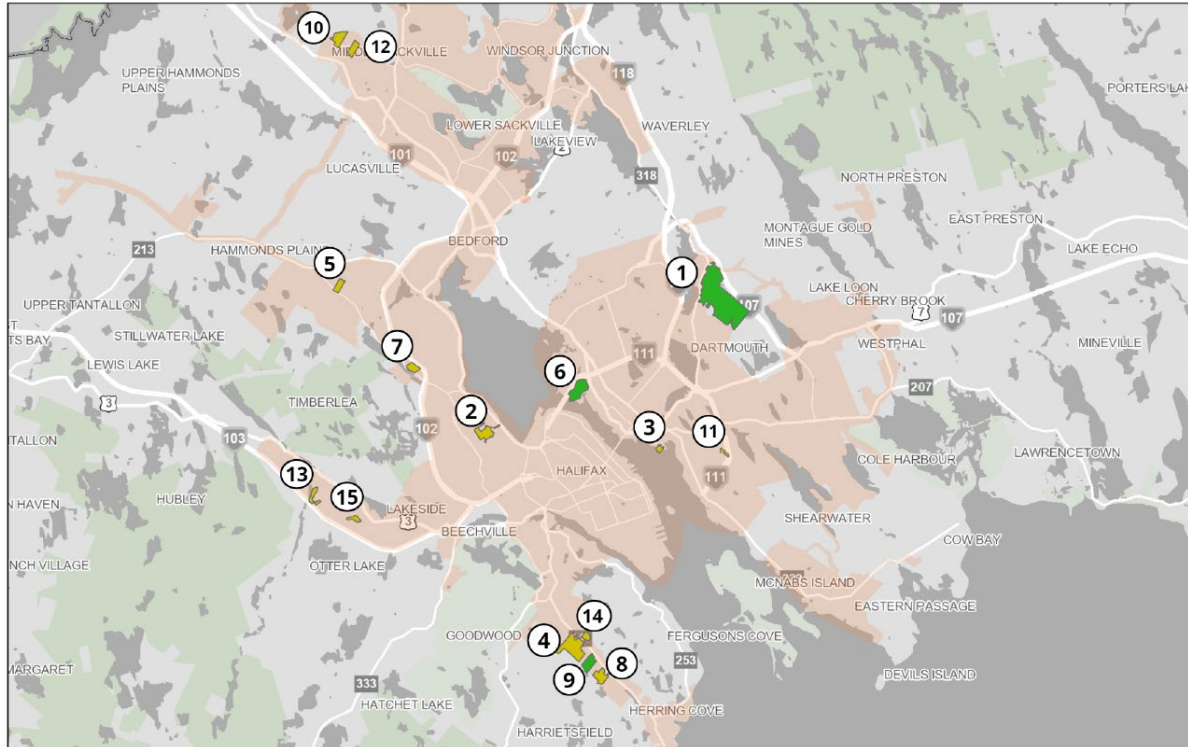
## January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Population Growth, Halifax, NS



# Major Infrastructure Subdivisions



	Name	Estimated # of Units
1	Parks Lake Charles (SPA)	4896 +789 + 151
2	Seton Ridge	2963
3	Kings Wharf	1146
4	Green Acres	998
5*	West Bedford Sub 1 (SPA)	579
6	Shannon Park	300
7	West Bedford Sub 10 (SPA)	250
8	Parkmoor Ridge	223
9	Briarwood	196
10	Berry Hills	172
11	Mount Hope	156
12	Twin Brooks	137
13	Brunello 11	120
14	Mcintosh	114
15	Brunello 14	101

\*West Bedford Sub 1 (SPA) area shared with Halifax Regional Police

# Detailed Resource Request

2025-2026

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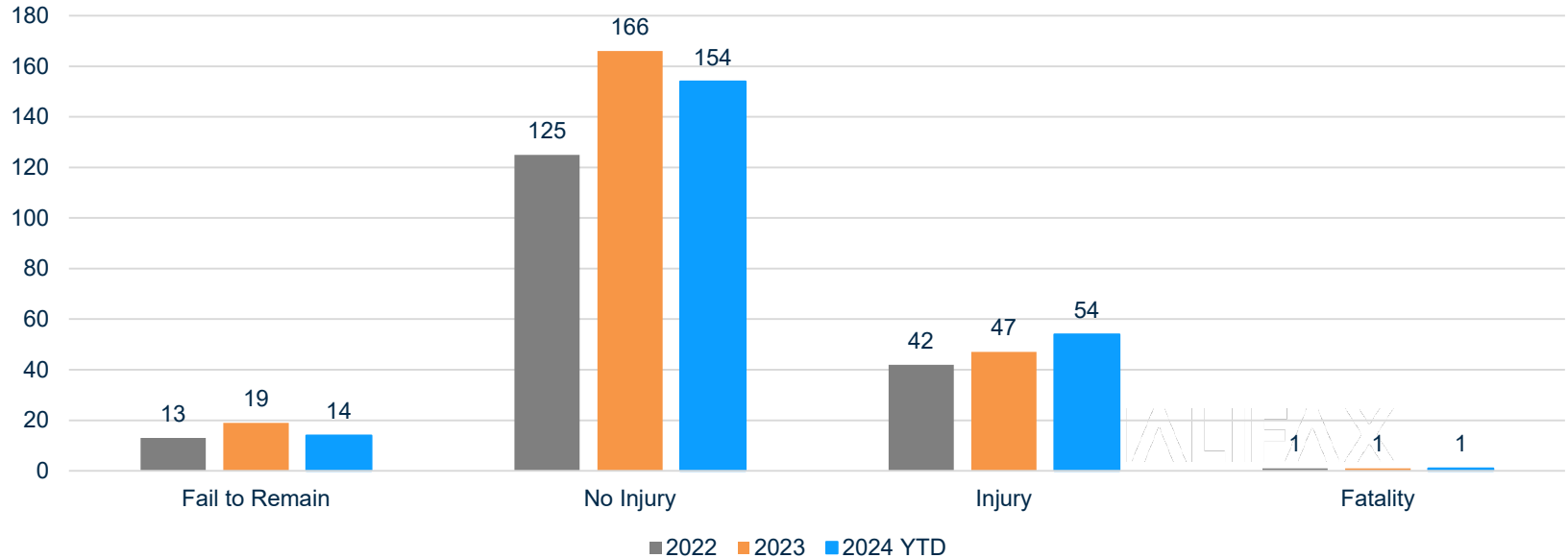
# Musquodoboit Harbour Traffic Position

- One FTE position
- Anticipated population growth in the area @ 10% within 4 years
- Steady increase in the number of injury accidents
- HRD contributes to HRM's Road Safety Strategy
- Enables public safety scalability



10

# Musquodoboit Harbour, Sheet Harbour & North Central Motor Vehicle Collisions January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Sheet Harbour Community Policing Officer

- One FTE resource
- Forecasted population growth is @ 9% within next 4 years
- Community expectations related to engagement and visibility
- Evidence that community-based relationships, connectivity and trust is rooted
- Service delivery enhancement

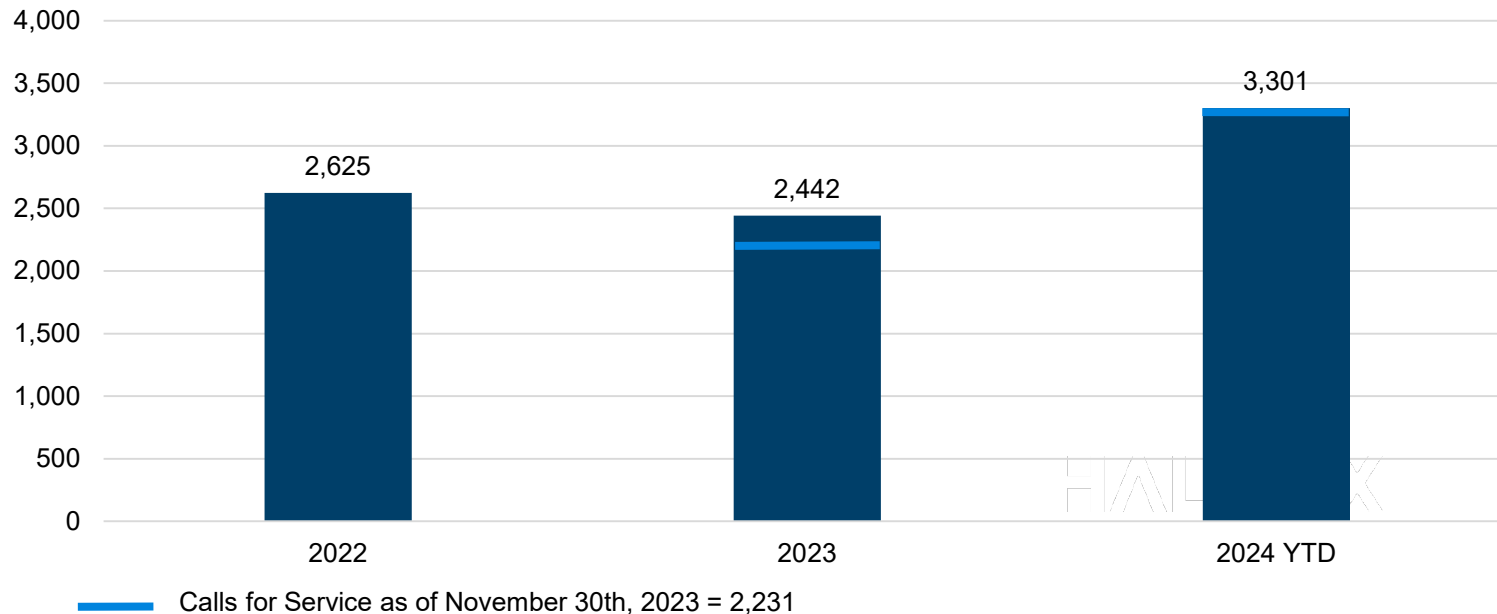
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# Sheet Harbour Calls for Service January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Satellite Offices

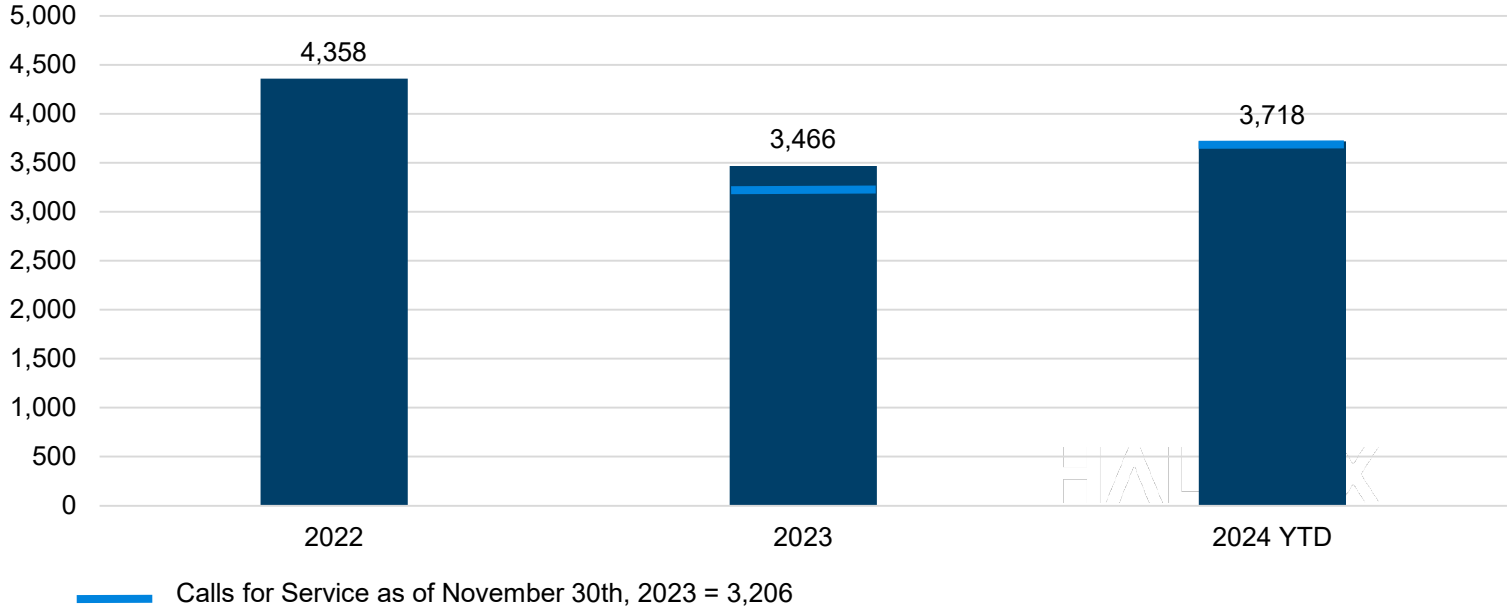


# Beechville Satellite Office

- Six FTEs
  - 1 Supervisor
  - 5 Regular Members
  - 1 Public Service Employee
- Forecasted population growth @ 12% by 2028
- NS RCMP Apology Action Plan
- Community expectations
- Service delivery enhancement



# Beechville Calls for Service January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024



# Fall River Satellite Office

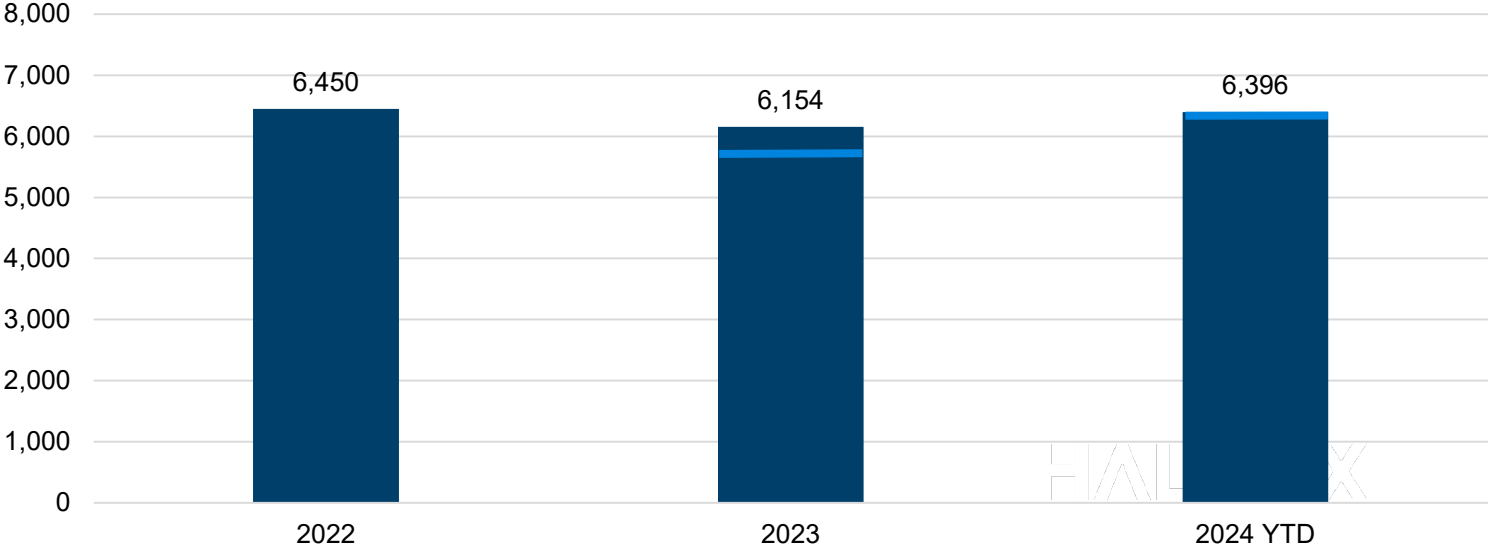
- Six FTEs
  - 1 Supervisor
  - 5 Regular Members
  - 1 Public Service Employee
- Anticipated population growth is @ 15% by 2028
- Increasing development and infrastructure
- Community expectations
- Service delivery enhancement



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# Fall River Calls for Service

## January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024



— Calls for Service as of November 30th, 2023 = 5,750

# Closing Remarks

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