

**ST. ALBERT RCMP  
Community  
Policing**

**Year End Report for  
School Boards**

**2023/2024**



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## **St. Albert Crime Prevention / Victim Services – Community Policing Unit**

The Community Policing Unit (CPVS) in St. Albert has a multi-duty responsibility model. Officers are part-time School Resource Officers, part time Crime Prevention Officers, and have a variety of other crime reduction duties including summer suppression green space patrols.

### **RCMP School Division Partners**

Conseil Scolaire Centre-Nord

St. Albert Public School Division

Greater St. Albert Catholic School Division

Sturgeon School Division

### **School Resource Officer Program**

During the school year, each school is assigned a primary contact from the CPVS unit to be their School Resource Officer. Schools were contacted by their School Resource Officer at the beginning of the school year to provide contact information and will respond to requests throughout the year. This year our School Resource Officer team consisted of Cpl. Kyle, Cst. McKay, Cst. Burroughs and Cst. Tran. Next year we will welcome a new member to our team, Cst. Glendenning! Cst. Glendenning has been a member at St. Albert detachment for four years, and while her start date with CPVS has not yet been announced, we are very excited to have her join our team in the near future!

#### **The Objectives of these Programs are:**

To build positive relationships with youth while maintaining a safe school environment through:

- Classroom interactions
- Problem solving with youth and staff
- Acting as a resource to the School Administrators
- Providing enforcement/ police investigation when needed

## **Grade 8 Drug Awareness Program**

St. Albert School Resource Officers continued to deliver a two lesson presentation to grade 8 students this year. The lessons focus on Alcohol, Vaping and Cannabis.

## **Grade 6 Drug Awareness Program**

St. Albert RCMP have received a response from RCMP National Youth Services on Botvin LifeSkills Training (Botvin LST) on whether the RCMP will be using this program. RCMP National Youth Services will likely be moving forward with the program pending; translation, updating the content to reflect Canadian stats, and a few other requirements. They have advised that at this time they are looking to continue the program within Indigenous communities only, therefore St. Albert is not currently able to utilize this program.

As in last year, our current Grade 6 program was created locally by our CPVS members based on their experiences and most valued lessons they've taught in the past. The classes included lessons on:

- Peer Pressure;
- Tobacco and Vaping;
- Alcohol and Cannabis;
- Online Safety; and
- Stress

We will continue to offer this program to all Grade 6 classes within St. Albert.

## **Violence Threat Risk Assessment**

Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) and Assessment of Risk To Others (ARTO) continues to be very useful for officers, schools and community partners to assess violent situations or threats of violence.



## **MacEwan Student Placement**

This year, the Field Placement portion of the MacEwan University's Policing Studies program continued to move forward for the Winter 2023 semester. We had Travis and Akbar join the CPVS team twice a week each, from January until April, completing over 200 hours each with St. Albert Detachment. They were able to observe and participate in many of the different areas of policing from paperwork to patrolling.

Opportunities they participated in:

- Visit schools and local businesses
- attending community meetings
- patrolling with CPVS members
- Records Management
- Victim Services and Court
- Front counter
- General Duty patrols
- Exhibit room
- Traffic
- Telecoms
- Municipal Enforcement ride-a-long
- Crime Reduction Unit – curfew checks
- Shadowed Criminal Analyst

St. Albert detachment has great pride in providing these students with such excellent opportunities to experience policing and life in the RCMP, as well as furthering their education in the field.

In the upcoming year, we will host one student from the MacEwan University Police Studies program from September through December, and one student from January until April.

## **Media**

The St. Albert RCMP continues to work with media partners to report the crime trends in the community. Articles on prevention strategies and on the “Good News” policing stories in St. Albert are also released to the media. The Media Team prepares the media releases and complete interviews as required for the detachment.

<b>St. Albert RCMP Media Resource Officer Team</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cst. Burroughs</li><li>• Cst. Tran</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cpl. Kyle</li></ul>

## Crime Stoppers

The St. Albert CPVS unit participates in the Crime Stoppers Program by receiving and distributing the Crime Stoppers Tips to various units in the detachment, and ensuring that information is reported back to Crime Stoppers at the conclusion of the investigation. The CPVS unit also promotes the program during media releases, to ensure community members have the information they need to report crimes anonymously.

## CAPTURE (formerly St. Albert Camera Registry)

This year the St. Albert RCMP transitioned our St. Albert Camera Registry to CAPTURE (Community Assisted Policing Through the Use of Recorded Evidence), which is now utilized as the provincial voluntary surveillance camera registry for the RCMP. The registry is intended to assist with obtaining video surveillance for criminal investigations. Residents and businesses in the community are asked to voluntarily sign up for the registry if they are willing to turn over video footage when requested for an ongoing investigation. Locally there are approximately 90 locations registered, and the CPVS unit will continue promoting the program. Anyone looking to register their location can do so by going to [www.ruralalbertcapture.ca](http://www.ruralalbertcapture.ca)



Community Assisted Policing Through Use of Recorded Evidence  
Communautés à l'Aide de la Police par le Transfert et l'Utilisation de Renseignements Enregistrés

[ruralalbertcapture.ca](http://ruralalbertcapture.ca) [ruralalbertcapture.ca/fr](http://ruralalbertcapture.ca/fr)

The image is a promotional graphic for the CAPTURE program. It features a blue header with the program's name in English and French. Below the header is an aerial photograph of a city with a river. Overlaid on the photo is a white camera icon and the word 'CAPTURE' in large, white, serif capital letters. To the right of the word is the Royal Canadian Mounted Police crest. At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the website addresses in English and French.

## St. Albert Safe Internet Exchange Zone

Safe Internet Exchange Zones are open 24/7 for exchange of items purchased off the internet on Kijiji, Facebook buy/sell sites, Marketplace, etc. providing buyers and sellers with the knowledge that the site is under video surveillance.

St. Albert RCMP partnered with the City of St. Albert and has a designated Safe Internet Exchange Zone at Servus Place. The site is easily accessible in a less busy area of the parking lot, and has few obstructions, ensuring continuous surveillance. This site can also be used for child custody exchanges.



## Stuff a Cruiser for the Food Bank

St. Albert RCMP CPVS teamed up with Superstore for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year to Stuff a Cruiser for the Food Bank! Together we collected 1406lbs of food and supplies such as diapers, and \$234.20 was raised for the St. Albert Community Village and Food Bank.



## Victim Services Liaison

The CPVS unit provides one member as an RCMP Liaison to the St. Albert Victim Services Unit (VSU). The member works closely with VSU to ensure the needs of Victims of Crime are met and that referrals are made from the RCMP to the VSU program. The Liaison member attends VSU board meetings and advocate meetings to provide information to VSU and address any concerns.

St. Albert VSU will be transitioning to the new provincial Regional Victim Serving Society (RVSS) model in the fall. This model has been created by the Government of Alberta to improve stability, consistency and sustainability of police-based victim services. They have advertised:

- **Meet:** with victims of crime and/or tragedy as an essential service responder, with or without volunteer advocate assistance.
- **Mitigate:** on behalf of their clients, mitigate the immediate aftereffects of an event (for example, provide empathy, a blanket, a bus ticket, etc.).
- **Refer:** as a warm handoff, clients to appropriate government, non-government, community, and professional resources and supports.
- **Accompany:** clients through the ensuing criminal justice system process, from the initial police investigation, through pre-trial, criminal prosecution and sentencing.
- **Coordinate:** local teams of volunteer advocates.
- **Engage:** with their local communities at events such as parades, farmer's markets, job fairs, Indigenous ceremonies and celebrations, etc.



## Paint the Police Car for PRIDE Month

During the month of June, we have been enjoying attending local schools to Paint the Police Car for Pride Month! We have been discussing with the youth that celebrating Pride month to us means that **everyone is important** and you should **always be kind!** This has been a great way to engage with youth and many of them were shocked that we were actually telling them that they had permission to put paint on our cars for this event!



## **Community Work**

In addition to all the work at the schools, the CPVS unit is very active in Community initiatives including participating in the following:

- Neighbourhood Watch
- Citizens On Patrol
- Mental Wellness Working Table
- Welcoming and Inclusive Working Table
- Elder Abuse Case Conference
- Neighbourhood Connections and Crime Prevention
- Inter-agency Information Sharing
- Neighbourhood Development Committee
- School Community Resource Team Meeting
- Strategy And Mobilization Committee
- VTRA Committee
- Sexual Violence Prevention & Response Sub-Committee

## **40 Developmental Assets**

St. Albert RCMP continues to support the 40 Developmental Asset Model and the use of Positive Tickets to reward youth for healthy choices and positive behavior. Positive Tickets are given to local youth by RCMP, Mayor and Council, Public Works, Block Party organizers and Community Social Development. This Crime Reduction Strategy allows youth to use these tickets for free access to city recreation facilities, while building healthy relationships with adults in the community. The tickets have no expiry so they can be kept by individuals and redeemed when they are able to. Over 600 positive tickets were redeemed in 2023!



## **Block Party Attendance**

As supported by the Alberta Justice and Solicitor General, and as part of the City of St. Albert Social Master Plan, Block Parties are part the RCMP Crime Reduction strategies.

These events allow Officers to:

- Speak about steps citizens can take to reduce crime in their neighborhood
- Encourage residents to watch out for each other
- Empower residents to report suspicious people or incidents
- Allow citizens the opportunity to ask officers questions

St. Albert RCMP partners with St. Albert City Neighbourhood Development and St. Albert Neighbourhood Watch to encourage residents to host Block Parties. The CPVS unit attended many of the scheduled block parties and will continue to do so this year.

## **Enhanced Green Space Patrols**

St. Albert CPVS continue to proactively patrol the green spaces in St. Albert from May – October as weather permits. The St. Albert Crime Map (not shown) determines hotspots or crimes trends occurring on or near green spaces in St. Albert, which supports the need for patrols on the trails and in the parks within the community. To provide these enhanced green space patrols, the unit's schedule changes from June until the end of August. These patrols have ensured safe spaces for all the community. This years patrol locations will be dependant on the activity and events within the community. We encourage community members to engage with members while they are on patrol!

## Project Kindness

The last several years our very own R/Cst. McKay engaged in “Project Kindness”, sending gift boxes to remote locations in the Northern Territories. These last two years, he has worked with some local youth and St. Albert Outreach High School to continue the project, and have the Outreach High School youth lead the project, presenting to multiple different community groups and schools to both fundraise and involve the community. This year, R/Cst. McKay, Outreach Principal JoAnn Blachford and two Outreach students flew to NWT together, visiting locations such as Yellowknife, Behchoko and Tuktoyaktuk to personally deliver kindness boxes. I think it’s safe to say it was an amazing experience for all involved, with memories to last a lifetime. Thank you to Outreach High School for partnering in this project and bringing joy to the more remote areas in Canada that the RCMP police!



### Certificate of Recognition

Presented to

Reservist Geoff McKay

*For the collaboration and engagement with St. Albert's Outreach High Schools' "Project Kindness", which delivered toys to three communities in the Northwest Territories, Sachs Harbour, Tuktoyaktuk, Yellowknife and Behchoko. The special project, extended kindness, joy, and the value of community to the children and communities. Your continued positive community and youth engagement is of great value and pride to the "G" Division R.C.M.P. but most importantly, to the positive relations built between the children and youth you engaged with throughout this initiative.*



  
Sgt L.ECKY, C/Supt  
Commanding Officer, "G" Division  
November 29 2023

## **School Report Summary**

The St. Albert RCMP Community Policing Unit has maintained positive relationships with all St. Albert School Divisions, school administration as well as students. The St. Albert CPVS team continued to provide education and awareness to students, parents and community members on a variety of topics this year.

The St. Albert RCMP continued to be a part of the safety response at all of the schools including participating in Safety Planning and Lockdowns as required. The detachment School Action For Emergencies (SAFE) plans were reviewed and updated, in partnership with the school divisions.

CPVS members continued to be involved with investigations involving school aged youth. The unit continued regular communication with school administration and worked with the schools and divisions to continue to promote Restorative Justice in such investigations, as well as provide supports to students and families. CPVS also connected with administration on investigations that would have an impact on the larger school community, in order for the schools to ensure appropriate resources were in place to support students after experiencing trauma and/or loss.

The St. Albert CPVS unit regularly promotes initiatives such as the #9PMRoutine and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) as they are valuable crime prevention programs.

This year the CPVS team participated in the Poverty Simulation with the city of St. Albert as Volunteers, and quite enjoyed playing the roles of "Cops and Robbers".