

# St. Albert RCMP Detachment

## School Resource Officer Program & Community Policing Program

Year End Report

2016/2017



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## **School Report Summary**

The RCMP School/ Youth Program partnership with the 4 School Divisions in St. Albert continues to grow and be productive. The General Duty Officers are visiting schools regularly, DARE is being taught, Grade 8 students are having open discussions with officers about drugs and the School Resource Officers working well at the Junior and High School levels.

2016/ 2017 has been a busy year for the School Resource Officer team as they intervened with bullying, social media issues, thefts, driving complaints and assaults. The partnership between the School Administrators, Counsellors, staff, parents and SRO's allows most cases to be resolved without criminal charges. Drug possession cases continue to be handled in accordance with the St. Albert Drug Free Protocol which allows for consequences to be assigned under the School Act when appropriate.

The implementation of the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) model will complement the existing St. Albert School/ RCMP SRO model well. VTRA is based on the principle of working with the student and his family to ensure his success, and areas using this model find that it provides an effective method of dealing with violent behavior while connecting the youth with resources to prevent the problems from reoccurring. Our officers are looking forward to the VTRA training and the implementation of the VTRA model this fall.

The St. Albert RCMP Community Policing/ School Resource Officer Unit has seen some staffing changes this spring. While a part-time Domestic Violence Case Coordinator joined the unit, two officers left as well. One officer transferred to the RCMP Musical Ride in Ottawa, while one took a job as a Detachment File Reviewer. Another officer will be joining the unit at the end of August to become our newest SRO and she is looking forward to teaching DARE and working with the schools and the community.

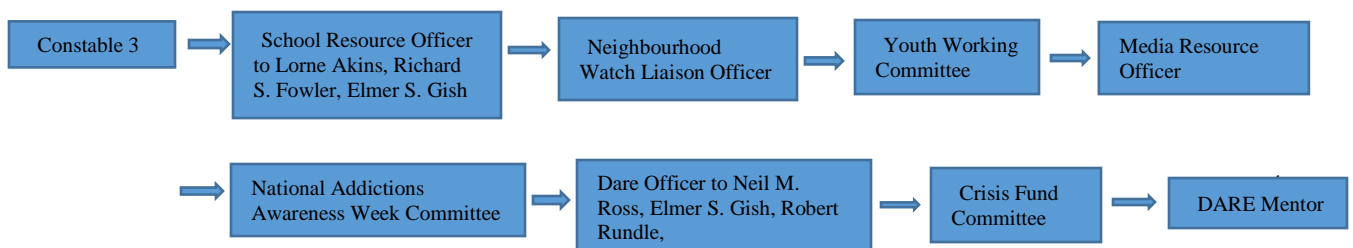
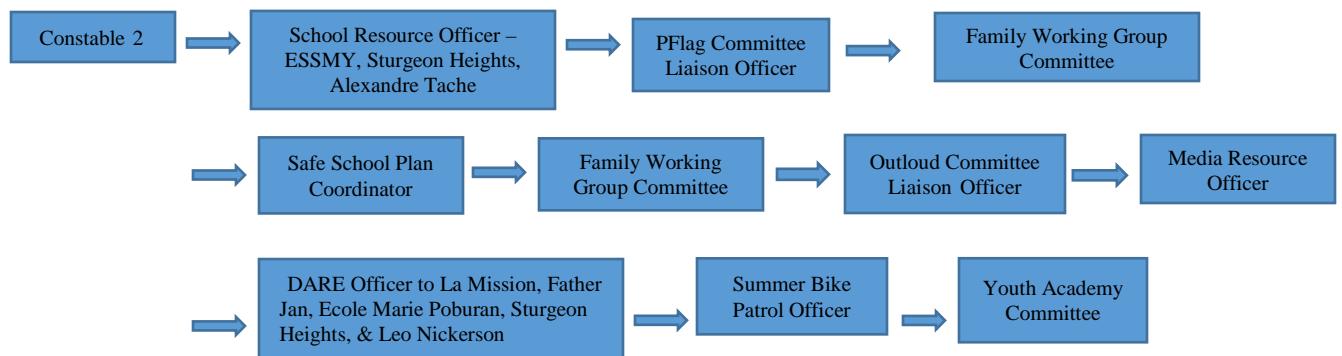
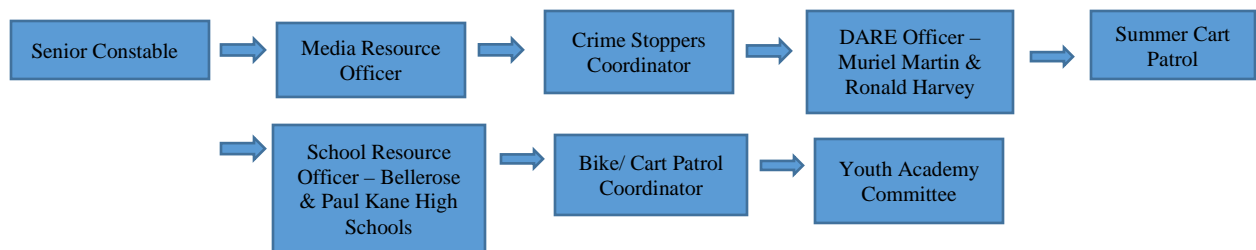
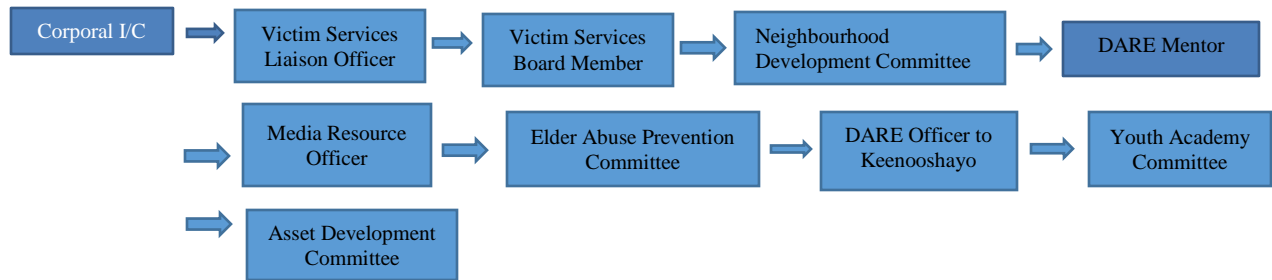
The CPVS unit was successful in providing some Healthy Relationship presentations to High School C.A.L.M. classes and have been invited to deliver this presentation to the summer school CALM classes as well. CPVS is continuing the Grade 8 Drug Awareness classes and will continue to build strong relationships with the Grade 6 population through the DARE program.

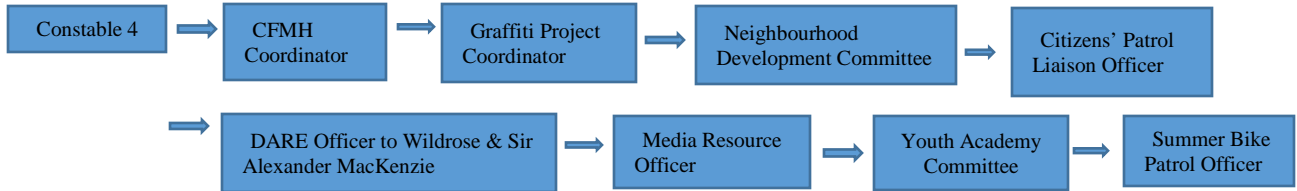
The Crime Free Multi Housing program is continuing to build in St. Albert and we have also introduced a Graffiti project to our unit. This Community Crime Prevention work keeps one officer and our Auxiliary Constable very busy, but the investment is paying off.

CPVS is looking forward to the 2017/2018 school year and another RCMP Youth Academy. We appreciate the continued support of the School Divisions with all our work and believe that St. Albert is an example of the power of partnerships.

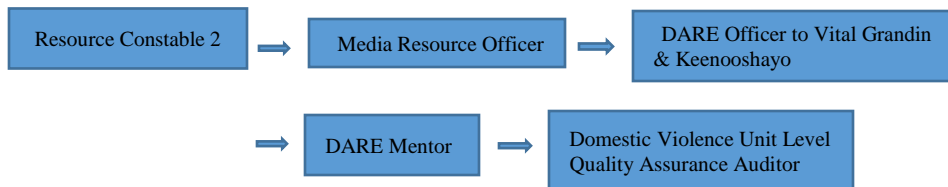
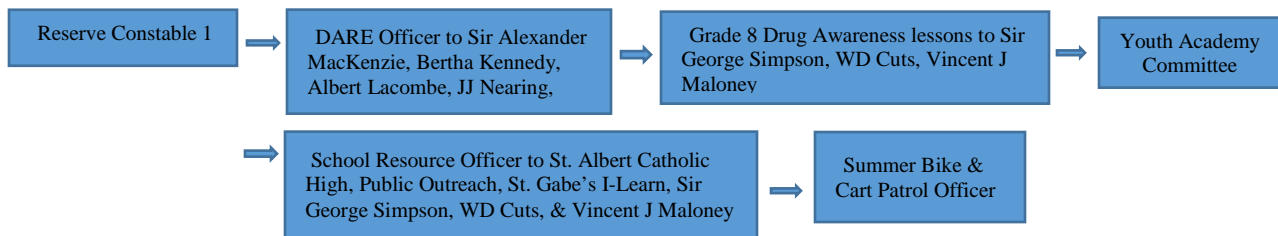
## St. Albert Community Policing/ Victim Services Unit

The Community Policing Unit (CP/VS) in St. Albert has a multi-duty responsibility model. Officers are part-time School Resource Officers, part time Crime Prevention officers, as well as having a variety of other community duties. During the summer, they switch to Bike and Cart patrol duties. The following chart represents the responsibilities of the officers in this unit.

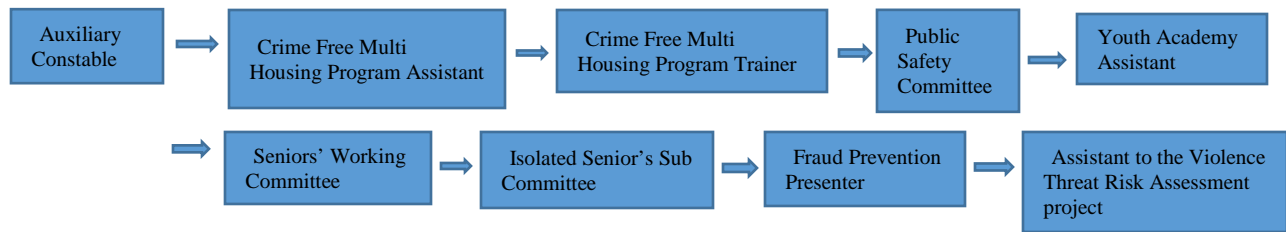




Reserve Constable Positions are retired officers who are re-hired by the RCMP to cover vacancies and work on special events. Although the Reserve Constables are sworn in for 3 year periods, they are not permanent employees. The hours for the Reserve Constable program is dependent on budget availability and policing needs.



Auxiliary Constables are community volunteers that are security cleared to work in the RCMP Detachment on crime prevention events and community policing projects.



## RCMP School Division Partners

- Conseil Scolaire Centre-Nord
- Greater St. Albert Catholic Separate School Division
- St. Albert Public School Division
- Sturgeon School Division

## School Liaison Program

2016/2017 SCHOOL LIST					
SCHOOL	OFFICER	SCHOOL	OFFICER	SCHOOL	OFFICER
Albert Lacombe	Autet	Keenooshayo	Tennant	Ronald Harvey	Van Horlick
Bertha Kennedy	Connolly	La Mission	Barrette	Sir A. Mackenzie	Grace
Ecole Father Jan	Avoine	Leo Nickerson	Baglole	Sir George Simpson	Frederick
Ecole Marie Poburan	Bulger	Lorne Akins	Marchand	Sturgeon Heights	MacDonald
Ecole Secondaire A. Tache	Barrette	Muriel Martin	Cannon	Vincent J. Maloney	Hynes
Elmer S. Gish	Foster	Neil M Ross	Grill	Vital Grandin	Gionet
Ecole Secondaire St. Marguerite D'Youville	Avoine	Richard S Fowler	Fung/ Dahl-Smith	Wildrose	Nezami
J.J. Nearing	Neal	Robert Rundle	Dosanjh	William D Cuts	Dunn

This program is in place in addition to the work that the DARE officers and the School Resource Officers are doing in the schools. Each General Duty Officer is assigned an Elementary or Junior High School to visit twice per month to get to know the building and its occupants.

**Being familiar with the school building, staff and students is an advantage and an operational necessity in the event of a lockdown, threat to the building or if there is a need to evacuate the school for an emergency.**

### Highlights of the School Liaison Program

In addition to answering calls for service and investigating crimes, General Duty RCMP officers documented **165** School Liaison contacts with the schools between August 2016 and March 31, 2017.

Visits	Telephone/ e-mail contacts	School Zone/ Radar patrols	Extra-Curricular Events Attended
78	18	66	2

(These contacts do not include the work of the School Resource Officers.)

These contacts included:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attendance at Lockdown drill</li> <li>• Patrolling during parent drop off and pick up times</li> <li>• Read to classes during reading week</li> <li>• Police dog visit at the school</li> <li>• Took pictures with the kindergarten class</li> <li>• Visited drama classes</li> <li>• Played a math game with students at lunch</li> <li>• Attended Winter Carnival</li> <li>• Observe fire drill</li> <li>• Gave advice about parents arguing at the school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• conducted radar operations, including writing tickets</li> <li>• Visible presence with the Vice Principal during bus duty</li> <li>• Attended some Remembrance Day services</li> <li>• Attended the school county fair</li> <li>• Question and answer sessions with students</li> <li>• Interacted with children during recess</li> <li>• Attend the Terry Fox run</li> <li>• Help with Breakfast Club</li> </ul>
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April 1, 2017, St. Albert RCMP changed the School Liaison Program. From that date, each of the 4 General Duty Watches are responsible for a group of schools so several officers will become familiar with each of those schools.

Watch 1	Watch 2	Watch 3	Watch 4
Albert Lacombe Elmer s Gish JJ Nearing La Mission Neil M Ross Sir George Simpson	Ecole Marie Poburan Richard S Fowler Ronald Harvey Sir Alexandre Mackenzie Bertha Kennedy	Keenooshayo Leo Nickerson Lorne Akins Robert Rundle Lois E Hole	Muriel Martin Vincent J Maloney Vital Grandin Wildrose William D Cuts Sturgeon Heights

April and May SLO visit numbers are as follows:

Watch 1	Watch 2	Watch 3	Watch 4
42	40	38	52

The overall SLO visits total from September 2016 to May 31, 2017 is **337**.

## **High School & Junior High School Resource Officer Program**

**The Objectives of these Programs are:**

- To build positive relationships with junior high and senior high school youth through:
  - classroom interactions
  - Problem solving with youth and staff
  - Acting as a resource to the school administrators
  - Providing enforcement/ police investigation when needed

### **Investigations Undertaken by School Resource Officers**

Although the SRO's handle most matters informally with consequences through the School Act, 22 matters were serious and investigated by SROs. A breakdown of these crime types are as follows:

Inappropriate photos being distributed	Thefts	Suspicious people in the schools
Drug seizures	Inappropriate dating behaviour	Threats
Inappropriate e-mails about drugs	Difficult parental behavior at schools	Bullying
Assaults	Fighting	Student disputes
Knife brought to school	Student's phone being damaged	Attempted theft of a student's car
Threat to the school	Suspicious vehicle	



The SRO program continues to be very successful and is a great partnership between the School Divisions, the schools and the RCMP.

### **High School Accomplishments**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legal Studies presentation at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Practice Lockdown at Bellerose</li> <li>• Halloween costume judging at Bellerose</li> <li>• Healthy Relationships presentation in CALM at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Bellerose Staff meeting</li> <li>• Legal Studies presentation at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Drug Awareness presentation at Paul Kane</li> <li>• National Addictions Awareness presentation at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Renaissance Breakfast at Bellerose with GOAL student</li> <li>• Honours Breakfast at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Visiting Industrial Arts classes</li> <li>• Drug/ Alcohol presentation at SACHS</li> <li>• Bellerose Bike a Thon</li> <li>• Paul Kane Student Services Open House</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas lunch at ESSMY</li> <li>• Drug possession investigation – student suspension &amp; creation of re-entry plan</li> <li>• Problem solving about relationship problems with a student</li> <li>• Christmas breakfast at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Problem solving meetings with student about behavior at volleyball game</li> <li>• Problem solving re: student with Instagram problem</li> <li>• National Addictions Week at Bellerose, Paul Kane, Outreach and St Albert Catholic High, ESSMY</li> <li>• Amplify activity at Paul Kane</li> <li>• Mock Disaster at Morinville High</li> <li>• Grad at Outreach</li> <li>• Safe Driving presentation with Crown Counsel at Paul Kane</li> </ul>
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### **Junior High SRO Accomplishments**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Justice Criminal Act Presentations at Sir George Simpson, ESSMY</li> <li>• Special Education class presentation at Simpson</li> <li>• Staff meeting at Lorne Akins</li> <li>• Fall Canoe trip is Simpson</li> <li>• Creation of a re-entry plan for a student at Simpson</li> <li>• April canoe class with Simpson</li> <li>• Simpson Grade 9 Farewell</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gym class visit at Simpson</li> <li>• Cyberbullying presentation at VJ Maloney</li> <li>• Threat investigation</li> <li>• Fowler assembly</li> <li>• Internet Integrity Day/ Cyberbullying presentations attended by 3 Junior Highs</li> <li>• Simpson Aboriginal Day</li> <li>• Cuts Rec Adventure Race</li> <li>• Men of Honour classes at VJM</li> <li>• June Simpson Canoe Trip</li> </ul>
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This year CPVS officers were asked to Mentor a new School Resource Officer in the region for a week. Presentations were shared with this officer and local officers explained the program and modelled SRO techniques during school visits.

### **St. Albert RCMP Youth Academy**

The St. Albert RCMP Youth Academy is now being held every 2 years. The next Youth Academy is being planned for the spring of 2018 and the School Divisions and School staff are encouraged to help us spread the word about this amazing opportunity.

### **Grade 8 Drug Awareness Program**

The Grade 8 Drug Awareness Program was taught to all Grade 8 classes in the city. The program was adjusted this year to encourage more interaction with the grade 8 students. The first class addressed the effects of marihuana, alcohol and other drugs on the brain and teenage mental health through showing a video, followed by a discussion.

The second class was changed from previous years to an interactive exercise that examines underage drinking, interactions with the police, as well as drinking and driving. This lesson has been very effective in generating discussions and questions between the students and the officer.

Junior High School	# of Grade 8 classes	Instructor	Junior High School	# of Grade 8 classes	Instructor
Vincent J. Maloney	7 classes	McKay	ESSMY	3 classes	Avoine
Sturgeon Heights	1 class	Avoine	Lorne Akins	5 classes	Fraser
Richard S Fowler	3 classes	Fraser	Alexandre Tache	1 class	Avoine
Sir George Simpson	6 classes	McKay	Elmer S Gish	2 classes	Fraser
W.D.Cuts	3 classes	McKay			

## Remembrance Day Ceremony

St. Albert Detachment celebrates Remembrance Day with the schools and again on November 11th with the community. In November of 2016, officers attended:

- |                    |                    |                  |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| • Keenooshayo      | Paul Kane          | VJM              |
| • Ecole Father Jan | ESSMY              | Lorne Akins      |
| • SAM              | Sir George Simpson | Sturgeon Heights |
| • La Mission       |                    |                  |

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Elementary School Interactions by SROs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recreation activities at Wildrose</li><li>• Day camp at YoWoCas with Wildrose</li><li>• Wildrose Police Dog Service presentation</li><li>• Spoke to students at Ronald Harvey about proper bus behavior</li><li>• Spoke to elementary students about assault</li><li>• Sod-breaking ceremony at Jensen Lakes</li><li>• ECS bike helmet safety talk at La Mission</li><li>• Forensic Science Investigation La Mission</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gish Assembly</li><li>• Read to Father Jan in French for ECS class for Reading Week</li><li>• Attended Father Jan volleyball practice</li><li>• ECS safety talks at Robert Rundle</li><li>• Read to classes at Keenooshayo for Reading week</li><li>• Camp Encounter with Albert Lacombe</li><li>• Bike trip with JJ Nearing students</li><li>• SAM BBQ</li></ul>
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### 2016/2017 DARE Program

DARE was offered to **all grade 6 classes** within St. Albert again this year. The majority of classes are taught by SROs, but there are also DARE officers in General Duty (GD).

DARE SCHOOL	DARE OFFICER	# of Grade 6 Classes
Albert Lacombe	McKay	2
Elmer Gish	Fraser	4
Sir Alexander MacKenzie	McKay & Lambert	4
Sturgeon Heights	Avoine	1
La Mission	Avoine	1
Keenooshayo	Bulger (GD) / Kading	2
Leo Nickerson	Avoine	2
Robert Rundle	Fraser	1 1/2
Vital Grandin	McIntosh	2
Wild Rose	Lambert	1
Ecole Marie Poburan	Avoine	2
Ecole Father Jan	Avoine	2
JJ Nearing	McKay	3
Muriel Martin	Burroughs	4
Neil M. Ross	Fraser	3
Ronald Harvey	Burroughs	2
Bertha Kennedy	McKay	1 1/2

The 10 week program that covers Healthy Choices and Life Skills is comprised of 9 classroom lessons and a graduation ceremony. 38 classrooms x 9 (1 hour) lessons = 342 teaching hours plus preparations time and graduation ceremony time.

DARE is a significant RCMP/ School investment towards healthy youth and its primary benefit is the relationship built between the RCMP and St. Albert youth. This proven long-lasting relationship sees students confidently approach their DARE officer now and even years later for advice and guidance. It is common for past DARE students to seek out their DARE officers to introduce new babies or spouses in their families. In many parts of the world, police are not trusted, but are instead feared. St. Albert's investment in the DARE program teaches life skills while building positive, trusting relationships that meet St. Albert's Social Master Plan goals of a thriving, caring, connected St. Albert.

This DARE curriculum that was developed by Dr. Michael Hecht of Penn State University and which is listed on the USA National Repository of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices, meets the 5 main values of the Social Master plan:

- Sense of Community and Connectedness – Lesson 9 My Help Network
- Diversity and Inclusion – Lesson 8 – Bullying
- Social Responsibility and Engagement – Lesson 1 Responsibilities and Healthy Choices
- Healthy Lifestyle and Well Being – Lesson 2 Drug information for Healthy Decision Making
- Capacity Building – Lesson 4 – Resistance Strategies

## **DARE Officer Training – K Division**

Cst. Fraser and Reserve Constable McIntosh taught new DARE officers in the RCMP headquarters this year. This 80 hour training prepares officers to teach at a grade 6 level and to use effective communication techniques to connect with the students. 1 of the new DARE officers will be teaching in St. Albert in the coming year.

## **Safe School Planning**

Cst. Avoine has worked diligently to complete the RCMP Safe School plans, which are accessible to all RCMP. These plans need to be updated yearly to ensure that key holder information is accurate. She has added the new Alexandre Tache building to the SAFE School plans data bank this year, and has updated any changes at local schools.

## **VTRA Training**

St. Albert RCMP has been working with school and community partners to implement the VTRA (Violence Threat Risk Assessment) plan in St. Albert, Sturgeon County and Morinville areas. June 27 and 28, 2017 mark the dates for the Level 1 VTRA training being held at Paul Kane school. Kevin Cameron, the VTRA designer, will be instructing so all partners will get the most up to date information on this threat assessment model.

## **School Staff Presentations**

A presentation was given to Teacher's Aids during Teachers' convention. Two topics were presented which were Fentanyl and Graffiti.

## **Student Placement**

The CPVS unit accepted a Field Placement student from Grant MacEwan University's Policing Studies program this year. This student observed School Resource Officer work in St. Albert schools and gained experience in investigations and in community crime prevention work.

As this student was a past DARE student of one of our officers and since he had also attended Morinville Detachment's Citizen Academy a few years ago, he spoke about the importance of positive relationship building between police officers and our youth. This young person has remained with the CPVS unit as a volunteer that will be involved in future community events.

## **Red Serge Events**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• K Division Regimental Dinner – Sang National Anthem</li><li>• Butterdome Remembrance Day ceremony</li><li>• Edmonton Government House – Royal Lifesaving Society Awards</li><li>• Dave Wynn Memorial Hockey Game</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-dedication of St. Albert cenotaph</li><li>• Citizenship ceremony</li><li>• Canada Day celebration</li><li>• DARE graduations</li><li>• Friendship Force event</li><li>• Legion Remembrance Day</li></ul>
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## **Community Work**

In addition to work in the schools, all officers in the Community Policing / School Resource Officers Unit also have responsibilities for additional work within the community.

### **Crime Free Multi Housing Program**

St. Albert RCMP is bringing Crime Free Multi Housing (CFMH) to the city as a way of creating more safety in our condo, seniors and apartment complexes. This program that originated in Arizona, combines CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles with other Crime Prevention techniques to reduce crime in these communities. The St. Albert Community Policing Unit will be tasked with conducting the CPTED audits, preparing the Crime Free Multi Housing reports for the building owners and liaising with the building residents to address any concerns that arise.

CFMH inspections have been done at 5 properties in St. Albert and one complex, 10 and 12 Nevada Place have attained their CFMH status.

### **Asset Development**

The 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 shared with Mayor and Council, Public Works, Block Parties and Community Social Development. Youth who receive these tickets can enjoy free access to city recreation facilities and free bus rides to and from the venue.

## **Community Activities**

The Community Policing Section is very active with Community activities such as:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Servus Sports Day</li><li>• McHappy Day</li><li>• 4 U By Us – BAM event</li><li>• Meetings at the Food Bank</li><li>• Seniors' Expo</li><li>• Rainmaker Rodeo Parade</li><li>• Public Safety Open House</li><li>• Tim Horton's Camp Day</li><li>• City of St. Albert Fun Run</li><li>• Coffee with a Cop events in partnership with McDonald's</li><li>• Childrens' Festival</li><li>• Amplify Henna night</li><li>• Farmer's Market attendance</li><li>• Emergency Operation Centre training and Mock Disaster exercise</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fraud Talks to the Community</li><li>• Crime Prevention Round Table meetings</li><li>• Assisted SAIF – Youth and Womens' Safety presentations</li><li>• Amplify Conference</li><li>• PRIDE BBQ in Lion's Park</li><li>• St. Albert Aboriginal Day</li><li>• Block Party visits</li><li>• Safety Talk with Sex Assault Crisis Centre</li><li>• Crime Free Multi-Housing Safety Socials</li><li>• Summer Bike Rodeos</li></ul>
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## **Media**

St. Albert RCMP continues to work with their 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.

<b>St. Albert RCMP Media Resource Officer Team</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cpl. Kading</li><li>• Cst. Burroughs</li><li>• Cst. Fraser</li><li>• Cst. Avoine</li><li>• Cst. Lambert</li><li>• R/Cst. McIntosh</li></ul>

The Media team reviews the RCMP files each day to look for items to release to the public. Preparing the releases, answering questions from reporters and documenting the media action on the files takes substantial time, but is important as it informs the community of crime trends.

<b>Month</b>	<b>Number of Media Releases Completed</b>
September 2016	29
October 2016	18
November 2016	15
December 2016	13
January 2017	7
February 2017	7
March 2017	15
April 2017	5
May 2017	14
June 2017	6 To Date
<b>Media Release Totals Sep 16 - June 17</b>	<b>123</b>

## **Domestic Violence Case Coordinator**

In September 2016, St. Albert RCMP implemented a part-time Domestic Violence Case Coordinator. This officer is responsible for reviewing Domestic Violence cases to ensure:

- that all supports are in place for the families
- that safety planning has been completed with them
- that they are supported through the Criminal Justice process
- that Victim Services are connected to the family
- that threat assessments are done when warranted

The Domestic Violence Case Coordinator has reviewed 71 Domestic Violence cases to date. She has also implemented a Court support process at the courthouse with a clear partnership with the Crown Prosecutor.

The Domestic Violence Case Coordinator also sits on the St. Albert Family Violence Awareness and Education Inter-agency Committee that seeks to reduce cases of Family Violence in the city.



## **Bike and Cart Patrol**

St. Albert RCMP have implemented the Police bike and cart schedule again year. The School Resource Officer's schedule changed mid- June to allow for officers to be present in the green spaces and parks on bike and cart patrols between Tuesdays to Saturdays. During these patrols, checks of school properties occur, enforcement and police investigations are undertaken and prevention work is done. While school is still in session, the School Resource Officers continue to be present in the schools, although they may arrive in the cart or on bikes.

St. Albert residents that frequent the trails and park areas regularly comment about how the presence of the officers on bikes and the cart make them feel safe. The officers are also more approachable on these types of transportation and can readily speak to residents need help or advice.