

St. Albert RCMP Detachment

School Resource Officer Program & Community Policing Program

Year End Report

2017/2018



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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.

2017/ 2018 has been another busy year for the School Resource Officer team and they continue to have a strong working relationship with the School administrators which results in most cases of bullying, social media issues, thefts, driving complaints and assaults being resolved informally. 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 has given school administrators, the community and the RCMP another tool that allows for timely and appropriate intervention in cases of threats or violence. While the schools and RCMP are operating under the VTRA principals, the final draft of the protocol is being prepared for review of each agency's legal departments for signing in the fall of 2018. VTRA will then officially become the standard for handling any threats or actual violence involving youth in the community or local schools. Level II VTRA training is planned for October and this will enhance the skills of the VTRA teams.

There have been some more changes in the St. Albert RCMP Community Policing Unit this year. The Domestic Violence Case Coordinator became a full time position and one officer is being transferred to Ottawa. This means that the unit will be short two DARE officers in the fall and no DARE Training is expected at Headquarters this winter. The unit is exploring options to handle the Grade 6 DARE classes in the coming year and will be speaking with the Divisions about these strategies. The CPVS unit is continuing the Grade 8 Drug Awareness classes and is revamping these classes to more directly address cannabis as Canada introduces new laws in October.

The final St. Albert Youth Academy was held this past spring break and the RCMP would like to thank all of our school partners for 5 very successful youth recruiting camps.

The Crime Free Multi Housing program is continuing to build in St. Albert and between this program and all of the RCMP community commitments, our officers and our Auxiliary Constable are kept very busy.

The St. Albert RCMP Community Policing Victim Services Unit is looking forward to the 2017/2018 school year in partnership with all of our School Divisions!

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, and also have 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.



Corporal

Victim Services Liaison Officer	Media Resource Officer
Victim Services Board Member	Neighbourhood Development Committee
Elder Abuse Prevention Committee	Youth Academy Committee
Drug Abuse Resistance Education Facilitator/ Mentor	
Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer – Vital Grandin School	
National Addictions Awareness Week Committee	



Senior
Constable

Media Resource Officer	Crime Stoppers Coordinator
Bike/ Cart Coordinator	Youth Academy Committee
School Resource Officer – Bellerose & Paul Kane High Schools	
Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer – Muriel Martin & Ronald Harvey	
Summer Cart Patrol Officer	



Constable
2

School Resource Officer – ESSMY, Sturgeon Heights, Alexandre Tache	Family Working Group Member
LGTBQ+ Liaison Officer	Media Resource Officer
Safe School Plan Coordinator	Summer Bike Patrol Officer
Youth Academy Committee	
Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer – La Mission, Father Jan, Ecole Marie Poburan, Sturgeon Heights & Leo Nickerson	Community Resource Committee



Constable
3

School Resource Officer to Lorne Akins, Richard S. Fowler, Elmer S. Gish	Youth Academy Committee
Youth Working Committee	
Dare Officer to Neil M. Ross, Elmer S. Gish, Robert Rundle	
Summer Bike Patrol Officer	



Constable
4

Graffiti Project Coordinator	Neighbourhood Development Committee
Citizens' Patrol Liaison Officer	Youth Academy Committee
Crime Free Multi Housing Coordinator	Media Resource Officer
Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer to Wildrose, Sir Alexander MacKenzie & Lois E. Hole	Summer Bike Patrol Officer
Media Resource Officer	
Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer	



Constable
5

Domestic Violence Coordinator	Domestic Violence Inter-agency Sub committee
Domestic Violence Court Support	Crisis Fund Committee
Liaison Officer to Probation	Liaison Officer to Children Services

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.



Reserve
Constable

Summer Bike & Cart Patrol Officer
 School Resource Officer to St. Albert Catholic High, Public Outreach, St. Gabe's I-Learn, Sir George Simpson, WD Cuts, & Vincent J Maloney
 Drug Abuse Resistance Education Officer to Sir Alexander MacKenzie, Bertha Kennedy, Albert Lacombe, JJ Nearing
 Grade 8 Drug Awareness lessons to Sir George Simpson, WD Cuts, Vincent J Maloney

Youth Academy Committee

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



Auxiliary
Constable

Crime Free Multi Housing Program Assistant
 Crime Free Multi Housing Program Trainer
 Public Safety Committee
 Isolated Senior's Sub Committee
 Assistant to the Violence Threat Risk Assessment project

Youth Academy Assistant

Fraud Prevention Presenter

Seniors' Working Committee

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

In addition to the work that the DARE officers and the School Resource Officers are doing, General Duty Officers visit Elementary or Junior High Schools. 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 in cases of other emergencies.

Highlights of the School Liaison Program

General Duty RCMP officers documented **794** School Liaison contacts with the schools between July 2017 and March 31, 2018. The Statistics for April to June 2018 have not yet been calculated. These visits include school zone and radar enforcement patrols, attending assemblies, walking through the school hallways and checking in with the school offices.

Each General Duty Watch is responsible for a group of schools as follows:

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 Father Jan	Muriel Martin Vincent J Maloney Vital Grandin Wildrose William D Cuts Sturgeon Heights

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 in partnership with school administrators, 23 matters were serious and investigated by SROs as police investigations. A breakdown of these crime types are as follows:

Inappropriate photos distributed	Thefts	Suspicious people
Drug use & seizures	Inappropriate internet behaviour	Threats
Inappropriate dating behaviour	Difficult parental behavior	Bullying
Assaults	Fighting	Student disputes
Mischief	Smoking/ vaping underage	Missing youth
Threat to the school	Suspicious vehicle	Children Services Investigations
PCHAD Youth Apprehension	Inappropriate comments	

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"> • Legal Studies presentation at Paul Kane • Practice Lockdown at Bellerose • Halloween activities at Bellerose • Halloween costume judging at Paul Kane • Healthy Relationships presentation in CALM at Paul Kane • Bellerose Staff meeting • Legal Studies presentation at Paul Kane • Terry Fox Run & BBQ at Bellerose • Drug Awareness presentation at Paul Kane • Renaissance Breakfast at Bellerose with GOAL student • Honours Brunch at Paul Kane • Welcome Back BBQ at Bellerose/ Meet the Teacher • Bellerose Parent Advisory Council meeting • Drug/ Alcohol presentation at SACHS • Bellerose Bike a Thon – opening/ closing ceremonies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas pancakes at Bellerose and Paul Kane • Christmas breakfast at Paul Kane • Forensic presentation – grade 11 and 12's Tache • National Addictions Week at Bellerose, Paul Kane, Outreach and Sir George Simpson, Albert Catholic High, ESSMY • Grad at Paul Kane and Bellerose • Flag Raising ceremony at A. Tache • Traffic control at Bellerose – hard running adventure race • Taste of Kane • Paul Kane Chemistry presentation – intoxicant chemical reactions • Mayz Days – Paul Kane BBQ – cooked burgers • Distracted driving – SACHS • Support for Bellerose/ SACHS – Humbolt collision
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Junior High SRO Accomplishments

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Justice Criminal Act Presentations at Sir George Simpson & ESSMY (in French), and Gish (English) • Lorne Akins Lockdown drill • Party Program for Lorne Akins, Fowler, Gish and Sturgeon Heights • Integrated Child Exploitation presentation at L. Akins • Internet Integrity presentation at S. Heights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas activities at S. Heights • Fentanyl presentations at Gish • Drug/ Alcohol presentations at Fowler • Get Real Day – Fowler • Lockdown drill at L. Akins • Support for VJM and Fowler for Humbolt collision • Career Day talks (4) at SG Simpson • Internet safety talks at L. Akins, and Cuts
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Grade 8 Drug Awareness Program

The 2 lesson Grade 8 Drug Awareness Program was taught to all St. Albert classes again this year. The interactive program addresses the effects of marijuana, alcohol and other drugs on the brain and teenage mental health, as well as an interactive exercise that examines underage drinking, and drinking and driving. This lesson has been very effective in generating discussions and questions between the students and the officers.

Currently the Public School Division requested a partnership with Alberta Health Services and the RCMP to create a new Junior High drug awareness that would incorporate information about marijuana and the new Canadian Laws. This curriculum will be completed in the fall of 2018 and will be presented to all school divisions for input.

The 2017/2018 grade 8 Drug Awareness program was assigned as follows:

Junior High School	# of Grade 8 classes	Instructor	Junior High School	# of Grade 8 classes	Instructor
Vincent J. Maloney	5 classes	McKay	ESSMY	3 classes	Avoine
Sturgeon Heights	1 class	Avoine	Lorne Akins	5 classes	Cannon
Richard S Fowler	3 classes	Cannon	Alexandre Tache	1 class	Avoine
Sir George Simpson	5 classes	McKay	Elmer S Gish	2 classes	Cannon
W.D.Cuts	4 classes	McKay			

St. Albert RCMP Youth Academy

The 5th and final St. Albert RCMP Youth Academy was held during the 2018 Spring Break and it was again, a very successful event. 26 youth from the Capital Region spent a week living at Bellerose School while they learned about the law, powers of arrest, and a wide variety of career pathways in the policing world. Meanwhile, the RCMP got to know a group of very positive youth and gained ideas from them about relating better to youth.

The RCMP Headquarters Recruiting Unit is planning to hold their own Youth Academy camps in the future, so St. Albert Detachment brought the local Academy plans to a close. A huge “Thank You” goes out to the school and community partners that made these past 5 years possible.

Remembrance Day Ceremony

St. Albert Detachment celebrates Remembrance Day with the schools and again on November 11th with the community. In November of 2017, there was 2 other events scheduled during the Remembrance Day ceremonies (SAM celebration and National Addictions Awareness Week presentations), so fewer schools were attended. The schools that did have Remembrance Day attendance were:

- Bellerose VJM
- SAM Sturgeon Heights

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Elementary School Interactions by SROs

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premier visit at Lois E Hole • Opening ceremony Father Jan • Leo Nickerson opening ceremony • Keenooshayo Hoop Dance • Safe School Plans update • Safety talk to all JJ Nearing classes- parking & crossing road • Robert Rundle turkey toss • Vital Grandin – Reading Week • Forensic presentations at Sturgeon Heights, La Mission • Robert Rundle – Pumpkin Pull • Halloween Safety – Muriel Martin ECS • Wildrose – Reading week grade 5, LEH grade 5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading week – Leo Nickerson & Ronald Harvey • Robert Rundle – Safety talk ECS (4 classes) • Chaperone SAM at Fountain Park pool • Chaperone Wildrose at Snow Valley • Ronald Harvey – ECS safety talks (2 classes) • School Zone Safety patrols for Tache, Poburan, LEH, V Grandin, A Lacombe, Wildrose, L Mission, JJ Nearing, S Heights, SAM, L Nickerson, M Martin, Keenooshayo, NM Ross, F Jan, S Gish • Terry Fox run at Wildrose
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2017/2018 DARE Program

DARE was offered to **all grade 6 classes** within St. Albert again this year by the School Resource Officers.

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

DARE, a 10 week program that discusses Healthy Choices and Life Skills with 10 and 11 year students, is comprised of 9 classroom lessons and a graduation ceremony. The program is a significant RCMP/ School investment towards healthy youth, with the primary benefit being a positive, long-lasting relationship built between the RCMP and St. Albert youth that allows youth to add another trusted adult to their safe network.

This DARE curriculum was developed by Dr. Michael Hecht of Penn State University and is listed on the USA National Repository of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices. Its lessons align well with the St. Albert Social Master Plan goal of a thriving, caring, connected St. Albert.

DARE Officer Training – K Division

There was no DARE Officer Training at “K” Division RCMP Headquarters this year, which means that no new DARE officers were trained for St. Albert. With officers being transferred to new opportunities, St. Albert is running into the very real possibility of not having enough DARE officers to teach this program at all local schools.

Safe School Planning

Cst. Avoine has updated all the Safety plans and lockdown plans for the St. Albert Schools and added any changes to the buildings to the data bank. This system is accessible by all RCMP personnel in times of emergency, including the specialized officers that belong to the RCMP Emergency Response Team.

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. Three Level 1 VTRA trainings have been hosted and each one was filled to capacity with a mixture of school, police and community agency people. The VTRA Protocol is being edited and it is hoped that the final document will be ready for agency signing in October of 2018.

In the meantime, schools and RCMP are using the VTRA principals to address threats or violence in schools. Approximately 9 Incidents were handled in this fashion and the partnership proved effective for all partners in keeping youth safe. On most cases, supports were found for the young person posing the threat and safety plans were introduced that diverted the young person away from this behavior.

School Staff Presentations

In February 2018, Cst. Lambert presented information on Fentanyl and other drugs to the Teacher's Aids during Teachers' convention held at Paul Kane.

Student Placement

The CPVS unit did not have a Field Placement student from Grant MacEwan University's Policing Studies program this year, but there are 2 students slated to get their policing work experience with the Detachment in the winter of 2019. They will work primarily with the Community Policing Unit and the St. Albert Victim Services program.

Red Serge Events

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dare graduations at multiple schools• Friendship Force event• Legion Remembrance Day• Canada Day Celebration• Rainmaker Rodeo Parade	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Indigenous Day• Citizenship ceremony• Opening Ceremony for the St. Albert Healing Garden• Graduation for Youth Academy
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Community Work

In addition to work in the schools, all officers in the Community Policing / School Resource Officers Unit are very active with Community activities such as:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McHappy Day • Meetings at the Food Bank • Seniors' Expo • Rainmaker Rodeo Parade • Public Safety Open House • Tim Horton's Camp Day • Coffee with a Cop events in partnership with McDonald's • The International Childrens' Festival • Farmer's Market attendance • Downtown BBQ • LGBTQ+ training • First Responders Breakfast – Ironwood • Children Services Meet & Greet • VTRA trainings/ steering committee • Neighbourhood Watch colouring book project • Graffiti project • Fentanyl presentation • Incident Command Structure 300 training • Crime stoppers releases & tips • Take your kid to work Day • Snowflake Festival • Crime Mapping project • Business Builders Breakfast meetings • LoSeCa theft and bullying talks • Costco – Stollery Hospital Day • Walmart – Children's Miracle Network Day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fraud Talks to the Community • Crime Prevention Round Table • Assisted SAIF – Youth and Womens' Safety presentations • Amplify Conference • PRIDE BBQ in Lion's Park • St. Albert Indigenous Day • Block Party visits • Crime Free Multi-Housing Safety Socials • Summer Bike Rodeos • Homeless panel participant • Citizens Academy pilot • Sturgeon Point Villas Sell & Swap • Tipi at Children's Festival • Youth Academy • Costco – Worker Safety Week • Tour PCHAD facility • Patrol Lions Park • Preschool presentations • Amber Alert training • Suicide prevention training • Domestic Violence training • SAM committee Social Master Plan • Presentation at the Family Resource Center • Elder Abuse Case conferences • Provincial Legislature – MLA Renaud introduction • Seniors Expo • G7 – security detail
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Crime Free Multi Housing Program

There are currently 8 St. Albert properties certified as part of the Crime Free Multi Housing (CFMH) program. This program that originated in Arizona, combines CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) principles with other Crime Prevention techniques to reduce crime in apartment buildings, condos and multi-family complexes.

To certify properties as part of the CFMH program, the Community Policing Unit conducted CPTED audits, prepared reports for the building owners and continues to liaise with the building residents to provide crime prevention information and discourage criminal behaviour.

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.

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

The Media team reviews the RCMP files daily for incidents to release to the public, prepares the information to send to the media and completes interviews as required.

Month	Number of Media Releases Completed
September 2017	12
October 2017	14
November 2017	22
December 2017	26
January 2018	8
February 2018	17
March 2018	18
April 2018	13
May 2018	13
June 2018	13 To Date
Media Release Totals Sep/ 17 – June/ 18	156

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.

Domestic Violence Case Coordinator

In September 2016, St. Albert RCMP implemented a part-time Domestic Violence Case Coordinator, and in 2017, the position was increased to full-time. This officer is responsible for reviewing Domestic Violence cases to ensure:

- that all supports are in place for the families and safety planning is in place
- that victims are supported through the Criminal Justice process and are connected to Victim Services
- that threat assessments are done when warranted

The Domestic Violence Case Coordinator has reviewed **171** Domestic Violence cases in the past year and is working closely with Children Services, Probation, the Crown Prosecutor and community agencies to reduce domestic violence in St. Albert.

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 in need help or advice.