

St. Albert Detachment



July 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018

Second Quarter - Quarterly Report

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INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Report

The RCMP Quarterly Policing Report has been prepared to provide City Council and the Community with an update on the status of policing in the City of St. Albert and efforts to proactively support of the policing strategic priorities and community safety matters.

Detachment Overview

The Policing Services Department has a mandate to; preserve the peace, protect life and property, prevent crime and offences, and apprehend criminals, offenders and others who may be lawfully taken into custody. This is done through a contract with Public Safety Canada (RCMP Municipal Policing Agreement) as well as other services provided by Municipal Employees including Municipal (Bylaw) Enforcement and the operation of the Primary 911 call answer and policing dispatch centre.

CORE Services

Policing Services provides the following services to residents and/or internal stakeholders including, City Departments and Council:

- Prevention and Education Services – This is a proactive approach to reduce crime and increase community awareness.
- Protective Services – This service is generally described as one designed to reduce victimization through proactive approaches such as park patrols and reactive approaches such as 911 responses.
- Intelligence Services – The gathering, compiling and disseminating information about crimes, offences, trends and social issues.
- Investigation Services – The gathering of information to determine the facts surrounding a particular crime or offence.
- Enforcement Services – The proactive approach to address violations and criminal acts.
- Other Police Services – services that cannot be rendered by another department or are best to be provided through policing such as police information/criminal record checks and fingerprint services.
- Support Services – Numerous services that are essential to the department's daily operations such as 911/Dispatch, police records management, and property and exhibit control.

ANNUAL POLICING PLAN STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

In consultation with the St. Albert Police Committee, various community stakeholders, partners and the public at large, the Officer in Charge (OIC) develops an Annual Policing Plan (APP) which

establishes a number of strategic priorities that are important to the public and consistent with policing priorities established by the Province of Alberta, RCMP and the Government of Canada. The policing priorities for this year's APP cycle which runs from April, 2018 until March 2019.

1. Traffic Safety.
2. Crime Reduction
3. Community Policing
4. Employee Wellness

Several initiatives and measures have been developed to support the four priorities. This report provides an update on the first quarter progress for 2018.

Priority: Traffic Safety

Objective: Enhance Road Safety

	Initiative	Measure	Status
1.	5% Increase in Impaired Driving Detection	Impaired Check Stop Initiative	Monitoring
2.	5% Decrease in total number of collisions	Weekly media messaging to public and ongoing collaboration with Traffic Safety initiative focused on strategic analysis, call volume and collision locations. It will include 600 traffic interactions (tickets/warnings) each month.	Monitoring
3.	50% Increase in distracted driving/Intersection Related Offences	Distracted driving/intersection focused enforcement initiative. 18 distracted driving/intersection related check stops to be completed. Enforcement strategies will include hot spot locations. Weekly media messaging to the public education/awareness of traffic priorities.	On Track

Traffic Safety continues to be a priority for the St. Albert RCMP. St. Albert Traffic services in partnership with Municipal Enforcement and General Duty members completed 15 check stops, to keep the detachment on track for proactive enforcement efforts. Check stops were focused on intersection safety and impaired driving detection. Impaired operation offences decreased 19%, noting 43 in Q2: 2018 and 53 in Q2: 2017. Impaired operation by drug offences remained constant at 5 occurrences noted in Q2: 2017/2018.

With the impending legalization of cannabis, training of members continued. At onset of cannabis legalization our traffic unit implemented a new schedule to increase check stop efforts for impaired by drug detection. Additional resources have been acquired and allocated to the traffic unit to promote traffic safety in our community.

St. Albert Traffic Services unit continues to be involved in the St. Albert Traffic Safety Committee as well as C.R.I.S.P. (Capital Region Intersection Safety Partnership). Attending monthly meetings and providing the police perspective and input in the joint organizational endeavor, to work together with the City, MES, and the contract company to strive for the safest engineering and enforcement we can attain for the City.

Approximately 1100 traffic interactions (tickets/warnings) were recorded this quarter, 390 of these interactions were for intersection related offences. Despite the efforts, traffic collisions increase 6%, with 346 reported in Q2: 2018 and 325 reported in Q2: 2017. This may be attributed due to increased speeds associated to warmer weather, dry roads and population growth attributed to city festivals, markets and community events. This will be monitored and enforcement continued throughout the year.

Priority: Crime Reduction

Objective: Crime Reduction and Habitual Offender Management

	Initiative	Measure	Status
1.	10% reduction in property crimes	2018/19 PROS statistics to be compared to 2017/18 statistics for property crimes. CRU will track through local process. Hot Spot enforcement. Educational messaging.	On Track
2.	10% increase in drug trafficking/possession charges	Source recruitment, intelligence led projects to disrupt drug traffickers will be a priority. Source training for membership and drug related charges to be tracked	On Track
3.	10% decrease in Breach of Probation - Offender Checks	CRU and GD to work collaboratively with CROWN and Probation for offender management and victim support.	On Track
4.	100% Increase in the Habitual Offender Management Program	Candidates for the program will be selected based on the prescribed requirements and tracked through a member of the Crime Reduction Unit. The CRU member and offender will work collaboratively to manage offender behaviour.	Monitoring

A 19% reduction has been noted in the total number of Property crimes in comparison of Q2: 2018 noted to be a total of 736 and Q2: 2017 noted to be 874. Specifically, a 25% reduction (Q2: 2018 noted to be 337 and Q2: 2017 noted to be 420) in theft under \$5000 offences, 15% reduction in theft from motor vehicles (Q2: 2018 reported to be 168 and Q2: 2018 reported as 199), a 30% reduction in theft of bicycles (Q2: 2018 reported 34, Q2: 2017 reported 49). A 23% increase was noted in the theft of vehicles (Q2: 2018 reported 47 and Q2: 2017 reported 36).

A 5 % reduction in mischief related offences (Q2: 2018 reported 193 and Q2: 2017 reported 202). A 33% decrease in break and enter offences was noted this quarter (Q2: 2018 reported 61 and Q2: 2017 reported 92). Residential break and enters, decreased 41%, (Q2: 2018 reported 27 and Q2: 2017 reported 46) and 50% decreased in business break and enters (Q2: 2018 reported 14 and Q2: 2017 reported 28). A 4% increase in possession of stolen property offences (Q2: 2018 reported 27 and Q2: 2017 reported 26), denotes positively to demonstrate our enforcement actions.

The RCMP participated in a media education campaign to empower citizens about proactive efforts that may be completed to prevent property victimization and encouragement to work collaboratively with the police. A public crime map was updated daily as a tool to educate the citizens of St. Albert on property crime in their area. These collaborative efforts provided intelligence to track emerging trends and develop weekly hot spot mapping. Intelligence is shared daily at the detachment level that identified locations, crimes and persons of interest, to proactively focus our General Duty and Crime Reduction efforts. The crime reduction focus will continue to be on the proactive identification of the problem, increased visibility, education and enforcement.

In comparison of Q2: 2018 to Q2: 2017, drug trafficking offences have increased 6.25% this quarter, keeping the unit on track to meet a 10% increase overall. Emerging trends denotes an increased of trafficking/possession crystal methamphetamine increased 50% (Q2: 2018 reported 15 occurrences and Q2: 2017 reported 10), trafficking/possession in Opioids (heroin and other) increased 200% (Q2: 2018 reported 6 and Q2: 2017 reported 2), trafficking/possession of cocaine increased 50% (Q2: 2018 reported 9 and Q2: 2017 reported 6). Confidential Source Handling training was completed for the membership. This developmental opportunity provide training on how to pro-actively and professionally connect with community members to garner valuable intelligence in relation to illegal crime activity.

A 12% decreased in Breach of Court Orders and Fail to Comply with Court Order charges has been noted (Q2: 2018 reported 79 and Q2: 2017 reported 90). A decrease in Q2, may be attributed to increased enforcement efforts. General Duty and the Crime Reduction Unit completed 124 offender checks in Q2. The Domestic Violence unit has 15 prolific/ habitual DV offenders that are being tracked during this quarter. Visits continue to elicit surprise from the client in that police actually check the curfew status and other court ordered conditions. These visits have been valuable in keeping those on conditions familiar with the members at the detachment. Conditions checks are prioritized, reviewed and assigned daily in relation to public risk and priority.

The crime reduction unit is continuing to identify and work collaboratively with clients interested in the offender management program. Outside agency, service delivery gaps have been identified as a barrier in supporting clients who are not in crisis through addictions and mental health counselling. These issues have been brought forward at the RCMP Provincial level for support and continued discussion.

Priority: Community Policing - Family/Youth/Partnerships/Visibility

Objective: Meaningful Community Engagement and Social Master Plan Contribution

	initiative	Measure	Status
1.	Mental Wellness and Homelessness	Working collaboratively in an interagency setting to identify community needs and develop and mental wellness and homelessness strategy.	On Track
2	Violent Threat Risk Assessment Program	Adoption of a collaborative Memorandum of Understanding for intelligence sharing and contribution in ongoing assessments.	On Track
3	Bike/Cart Patrol Program	Crime reduction initiative - High visibility community based patrols and attendance at block parties and high pedestrian traffic locations. Efforts include the number of tickets issued and # of community events attended.	On Track
4	School patrol and youth engagement/support Program	CPVS and GD will continue supplemental school visits. Member presence tracked includes traffic enforcement, school walk through, assembly participation and education prevention/awareness. CP will present DARE in elementary schools and during drug awareness week.	On Track
5	Continuous support of our Indigenous Residents	Member participation in cultural events and blanket ceremony training initiative.	On Track

The RCMP are partners at the Mental Wellness working table, the Diversity and Inclusion working Table, The Neighbour Connectors working table and the St. Albert Homelessness Coalition committee. These committees allow the police to partner on crime prevention projects and increase awareness of crime issues in the community, while gathering information about key community issues. All detachment members have received Road to Mental Readiness (R2MR) training and new policy and procedures have been implemented to connect investigators with appropriate health services to support persons in crisis. A 20% decrease has been noted in reported mental health occurrences (Q2: 2018 reported 93 and Q2: 2017 reported 116). Our domestic violence coordinator participated in panel discussion with partner agencies in our community to answer questions pertaining to Mental Wellness in domestic violence investigations.

The Violent Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA), protocol was re-drafted during this quarter to align with some requirements of the school boards. It is still in the process of being approved by

community partners. Plans are underway to hold a Level 2 VTRA training in St. Albert at the end of October 2018. Five CPVS officers are registered to attend. Three, Stage 1 VTRA cases (information gathering and risk assessment) completed this quarter.

There were 27 Bike/Cart shifts in the second quarter, patrolling all green spaces/parks, ball diamonds, football grounds, skate park, swimming/splash areas, farmers market and block parties. 26 Block Parties were attended with positive feed back from the community. 22 Violations issued & 29 Adult warnings/ 10 Youth warnings given.

In the first month of school opening, General Duty Watches completed 93 visits to St. Albert schools, which included traffic enforcement, in-school visits and night time patrols to prevent mischief. All CPVS officers received training in "Safe in 6" program from EPS. They have started delivering DARE in some elementary schools and Safe in 6 in some pilot project schools. The School Resource Officer Year End Report was delivered to the St. Albert Public School Board and trustees on September 26, 2018. During the month of September, CPVS conducted 72 school zone safety visits where officers spoke to drivers about parking safely, not parking in bus lanes and about dropping off kids safely. CPVS officers recorded 83 visits to classrooms in September.

Insp. Robinson participated in the City of St. Albert Indigenous Reconciliation Task Force meetings and planning for Orange Shirt Day. An event designed to commemorate the residential school experience, to honour the healing journey of the survivors and their families, and to commit to ongoing process of reconciliation. As part of the, RCMP Regimental Ball, Inspector Robinson made an offering to Elder Ghostkeeper who blessed the event and stayed as a guest with his grandson at this RCMP/ Community celebration.

Priority: Employee Wellness Strategy

Objective: Promotion of employee wellness and member well being.

	Initiative	Measure	Status
1.	Employee wellness strategy	Employee wellness strategy - annual/wellness leave, developmental opportunities and training.	On Track

Employee wellness is a detachment priority that is continually monitored at the detachment level. Support is provided by the leadership team, to the membership to ensure a positive work life balance, member recognition, development opportunity and well being of the member is maintained.

General Detachment Updates:

The RCMP received 5125 calls for service with 4759 investigations opened in Q2 of 2018, 1159 of these were criminal code offences. During the same period last year, the RCMP received 5764 calls for service with 5450 investigations opened, 1257 of these matters were criminal

code offences. Thus, a 6.6 % decrease in total calls for service and 8.5% decrease in criminal code matters.

Although there was a notable decrease in the totality of criminal offences the complexity of crime increased, posing greater operational and administrative demand on investigators. This affected our proactive efforts in the meeting the needs of this APP. Crimes against persons increased 13% overall (Q2: 2018 reported 207 and Q2:2017 reported 181). Specifically; Assault Peace officer increased from 0 reported in Q2: 2017 to 5 reported in Q2: 2018, Assault with a weapon increased 22% (Q2: 2018 reported 22 and Q2: 2017 reported 18), Assault increased 18% (Q2: 2018 reported 86 and Q2: 2017 reported 73) and Robbery offences increased 33 % (Q2: 2018 reported 6 and Q2: 2017 reported 4). Coroners Act – Sudden Death investigations increased 100%, from 16 reported Q2: 2018 and 8 reported Q2: 2017 and check well being increased 90%, with 57 reported in Q2:2018 and 30 reported in Q2:2017. These investigations at onset are investigated as suspicious, until evidence dictates otherwise. Thus, requiring additional operational and administrative demands.

Detachment resources fluctuated due to transfers, secondments, illness, and training. At the beginning of Q2 the detachment had 59 members with 57 positions actively serving the community at the end of Q2. Several members have already been identified to backfill vacancies.

On the following page I have provided the crime stats for the period of July 1 to September 30, 2014-2018. The chart also shows the five year stats that continue to affirm a trend that is consistent across Alberta.

*** The statistics provided are compiled by the "K" Division Corporate Client services. As investigations proceed or are concluded, the statistical scoring is amended to reflect the most accurate categorization at the time which can lead to minor differences in the stats throughout the year. ***

P.G. Robinson, Inspector,
Officer in Charge, St. Albert Detachment

**St Albert Municipal Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
Quarter 2: 2014 - 2018**

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

October-09-18

CATEGORY	Trend	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Homicides & Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	2	0
Robbery		0	5	4	4	6
Sexual Assaults		2	7	10	11	11
Other Sexual Offences		1	0	13	3	5
Assault		92	77	109	95	116
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		1	3	1	5	3
Extortion		0	0	0	0	8
Criminal Harassment		9	17	20	24	16
Uttering Threats		15	28	31	35	40
Other Persons		0	1	0	2	2
TOTAL PERSONS		120	138	188	181	207
Break & Enter		49	59	63	92	61
Theft of Motor Vehicle		23	37	37	36	47
Theft Over \$5,000		4	9	5	11	7
Theft Under \$5,000		210	440	324	420	337
Possn Stn Goods		9	23	22	26	27
Fraud		41	45	77	87	64
Arson		4	1	2	0	0
Mischief To Property		289	396	264	202	193
TOTAL PROPERTY		629	1,010	794	874	736
Offensive Weapons		11	13	6	16	10
Disturbing the peace		115	86	55	44	67
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		90	111	141	142	139
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		216	210	202	202	216
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		965	1,358	1,184	1,257	1,159
Fatals		0	0	0	0	0
Injury MVC		21	22	44	43	28
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		297	314	269	265	302
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		25	21	19	17	16
TOTAL MVC		343	357	332	325	346