

St. Albert Detachment



April 1st, 2017, to June 30th, 2017

First Quarter - Quarterly Report

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 in 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.
 - 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.
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ANNUAL POLICING PLAN STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

In consultation with various community stakeholders, partners, the public at large and Mayor and Council, 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 and Government of Canada. Three areas emerged strongly as being the policing priorities for this year's APP cycle which runs from April, 2017 until March 2018.

1. Traffic Safety.
2. Community Policing – Family/Youth/Partnerships/Visibility.
3. Property Crime Reduction.

Several initiatives and measures were developed to support the priorities. This report provides an update on the first quarter progress for 2017/18.

Priority: Traffic Safety

Objective: Enhance Road Safety

Goals:

- 1: 5% Decrease in Overall Collisions
- 2: 5% Increase in Impaired Driver Detection - (Charges and suspensions)

Initiatives:

1: Proactive Traffic Enforcement Strategy - Traffic Unit will provide ongoing intel on collision hot spots, traffic complaint locations, and traffic violation priorities to strategically focus traffic enforcement efforts. Initiative goal is 600 traffic interactions (tickets/warnings) each month using this strategic focus.

2: Distracted /Impaired Driving Initiatives and Education Campaign - 12 dedicated distracted driving operations, 15 dedicated Impaired Checkstop Operations, and continuing a weekly media messaging campaign focussed on educating and providing awareness to the public on traffic safety priorities.

3: Educate members on indicators of Impaired Driving by Drugs – education to be provided to general duty members by subject matter experts from our Traffic and Drug unit in preparation for legalization of marihuana and the potential increase in impaired driving by drugs.

Status: Quarter one statistics in 2017 compared to the same period in 2016 show a 6% decrease in the overall number of collisions (349 in Q1 2016 vs. 325 in Q1 2017). Impaired driving detection has increased 24% (from 33 impaired charges/licence suspensions in Q1 2016 to 41 in Q1 2017).

Traffic hot-spot concerns are identified to all members in daily musters so members can focus enforcement efforts in problem areas. During the first quarter of 2017 there were 2110 tickets or warning notices issued during proactive traffic stops, including in these problem areas. Traffic unit members have been involved with 21 joint traffic operations with Municipal Enforcement during Q1, have lead two large scale Checkstop operations at multiple locations, and four distracted driving operations. Most impaired drivers continue to be detected during proactive patrols and through calls from concerned citizens. The traffic unit, in coordination with the drug unit is currently developing a presentation for our general duty members on indications of impaired by drug driving which will roll out to our members in the coming months. Weekly media messaging continues related to traffic safety priorities.

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

Objective – Meaningful Community Engagement and Social Master Plan Contribution:

Initiatives and Goals/Measures:

1: Summer bike/cart patrol program - High visibility community based patrols and attendance at block parties, events, and high pedestrian traffic locations during peak hours. Efforts will be reported quarterly.

2: Jr. High and Elementary School Visit Program - Goal of 300 visits including walk through visits, traffic safety patrols, evening security patrols, presentations, and assembly attendances.

3: Domestic Violence High Risk Victim Support Program - goal - 1 active program. Part time DV coordinator developing program to ensure contacts with all high risk victims, partnerships with SAIF/DV Committee, and media/public awareness campaigns throughout year. Quarterly updates to be provided.

4: Bullying prevention program - goal 100% of Jr. High Schools offered bullying presentations, tracking of the number of presentations, ongoing DARE program which includes sessions on bullying, and ongoing participation and cooperation in the forming Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) program.

Status: It's recognized that the long term impact of our community policing efforts are difficult to measure through short term statistical impacts on crime. Based on the 2017 Community Satisfaction survey finding that 89% of citizens reported that St. Albert is a safe community to live in, and the high satisfaction with policing services, we are confident that these priority community efforts are having a meaningful impact for our community.

The 2017/18 Cart/Bike program began in April, with 39 shifts occurring to date.

New processes and tracking sheets were implemented for our school visit initiative, and 276 visits were logged in the first quarter.

Our part-time domestic violence coordinator has continued to develop relationships with SAIF, the Domestic Violence Interagency Committee, and with a new Crown prosecutor. The coordinator has also overseen domestic violence investigation quality, high risk offender threat assessments, and enhanced victim engagement and safety efforts. This member is transferring on a promotion out of St. Albert in the coming quarter, and to continue her efforts and in recognition of the benefits of this position, a temporary Domestic Violence Coordinator has been assigned to take over and extend the services to a full-time role as part of our Crime Prevention/Community Policing Unit.

Related to our bullying initiative, School Resource officers have distributed information about bullying presentations to all Junior High schools in St. Albert in effort to set up discussions for the fall. Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) implementation amongst the schools and various stakeholders continues to be supported by the local detachment, including training sessions that were held last quarter. This initiative will further enhance communication and coordination amongst agencies toward school safety.

Priority - Property Crime Reduction:

Objective: Reduce Property Crime

Measure/Goal:

- 1: 10% reduction in thefts of/from vehicles, break and enter, and mischief
- 2: 10% increase in drug trafficking/possession charges/seizures

Initiatives:

1: CRU/Crime Analyst Crime Reduction Strategy - Hot spot mapping of property crimes and weekly updated intelligence sharing for strategically directed patrols by all units. A summer bike patrol program focused on Hot Spot policing. Victimization prevention education/messaging program.

2: Licenced Premises Checks Program – High visibility deterrence – 200 licenced premises visits per month.

3: Habitual/Prolific Offender Condition Checks Program – Analyst/Probation to identify offenders on conditions, units will complete zero tolerance conditions checks to ensure compliance - 10% increase in efforts goal to 220 checks this year.

4: Drug Unit Strategy – continued focus on drugs impact on property crime through source recruitment, strategic intel gathering, and project based operations focussed on disrupting drug traffickers and users.

Status: Property crime continues to be a significant issue in St. Albert. There were mixed statistics in this area compared to last year's first quarter. Theft of vehicles was down from 40 incidents in Q1 2016 to 34 in Q1 2017, Break and Enters decreased from 40 to 34, Thefts from vehicles increased from 158 to 164, and mischief increased from 229 to 235 incidents. Last

quarter the Hot Spot mapping and daily muster meeting intelligence sharing were initiated to focus proactive patrols in problem areas in our effort to detect and deter property crime. Media messaging has continued to advise the public of efforts they can undertake to reduce the likelihood of victimization, including messaging about summer holiday home safety. Unlocked vehicles with valuables left inside continues to contribute to thefts from vehicle concerns.

Detachment members completed 428 bar walks and 122 curfew/condition checks of prolific/habitual offenders.

25 drug charges or seizures were tracked by the St. Albert Drug Unit in the first quarter of the APP. The overall aim is to achieve 236 charges or seizures during this APP cycle to meet a 10% increase in drug detection over last year. Our drug section has a new NCO i/c who has started to roll out his strategy focussing on source recruitment, strategic intelligence gathering, and project based operations. Several successful search warrants have been executed in the first quarter and enforcement efforts will continue in the coming quarters. It is noted that cocaine, fentanyl, and marijuana are commonly located during searches.

Unit Updates:

General Duties

During the last quarter our General Duty members continued using their proactive time contributing to our community's APP priorities. Efforts continued with our bar walk, street check, school visits, curfew check, and traffic enforcement initiatives. During the last quarter General Duty members responded to and investigated 3224 reported incidents in addition to their proactive efforts.

Drug unit

The new NCO i/c of the drug unit started in early April and has developed the drug strategy for 2017/18's APP. The unit will continue their effort toward achieving another 10% increase in drug enforcement in 2017/18, but may be impacted by ongoing resource changes in their unit. This past quarter the Drug Unit has mentored and assisted General Duty members in a number of drug investigation and related search warrant executions.

Community Policing/Victim Services Unit

The St. Albert Community Policing/ Victim Services (CPVS) completed all DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) lessons to Grade 6 classes in St. Albert and St. Albert Junior High Schools have received their two lesson Drug Awareness program that is taught at the Grade 8 level. This program presents information to the teens about alcohol and other drugs. It is presented

at a more mature level than DARE, and encourages the youth to learn through discussions with the officer and their peers.

St. Albert RCMP, in partnership with an inter-agency group, is moving forward with bringing the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) model to St. Albert. On June 27th and 28th a VTRA Level 1 training was held in St. Albert for 76 participants from schools and the community.

At the present St. Albert has four properties (eight buildings) Crime Free Multi Housing (CFMH) certified, with multiple other properties assessed, and inquiring to join the program. The City of St. Albert has approximately 108 multi-housing complexes, consisting of apartments, condos, four-plexes, and townhouses. Our trained officers have the knowledge, skills and ability to inspect and mentor properties to align themselves with CFMH. Through review of calls for service CP/VS officers are engaging property managers and owners in CFHM.

St. Albert CPVS delivered a training presentation to Public Works and is working to streamline the reporting process for graffiti found on city property.

The RCMP part time Domestic Violence (DV) Coordinator is involved in all high risk DV files and is actively addressing couples who are breaching “no contact” orders. The DV Coordinator’s duties and job description continues to evolve. Work with SAIF and the DV Inter-agency committee is going well and agencies are providing better services to families in need.

St. Albert CPVS is managing the bike/ cart schedule again this summer. 39 bike or cart patrols have been completed this quarter and feedback from the community continues to be positive. 49 Block parties have been attended by bike and cart patrol members this quarter.

St. Albert Victim Services has a new Executive Director and two new Program Managers in the unit. They have been busy providing free emotional support and referrals to St. Albert clients of crime and tragedy.

Traffic Unit

For the first quarter of this Annual Performance Plan, The Traffic NCO and the Senior Constable have attended monthly traffic safety strategic planning and the traffic safety steering committee meetings to provide input toward necessary changes for continuing safety for motorists and pedestrians travelling in the St. Albert area. Officers take part in monthly meetings with the City of St. Albert and media relations to provide proactive traffic safety messaging. Traffic members also attend the CRISP (Capital Region Intersection Safety Partnership) meetings at the Edmonton Traffic Safety Office as a part of the collective approach to traffic safety for the Capital Region. The Traffic Services unit continues to proactively patrol the St. Albert region and have obtained provincial funding to enhance impaired driving check stops as well continue to plan for distracted driving and other Traffic operations. This unit provides traffic hotspots at the daily muster meetings based on general public feedback, complaints, and traffic service member input to help focus detachment patrols to problem

areas. In the last quarter they investigated numerous collisions, including the youth cyclist fatal collision that occurred in Grandin.

Crime Reduction Unit

The St Albert Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) continues to identify hot spots and provide intelligence to all detachment members to concentrate policing activities in efforts to reduce property crime. CRU also assisted General Duty members on 30 files, including response, guidance and subject matter expertise, investigative follow up, and proactive surveillance and monitoring. Repeat offenders continue to remain a focus for CRU and this last quarter they executed a warrant on a suspected property trafficker, and assisted our Drug Unit and General Investigations Unit with executing search warrants associated to four files.

Work with Probation and their clients continue in efforts to deter prolific offenders from breaching their conditions. A media release was also forwarded by CRU related to how citizens can keep their homes safe over the summer vacation period.

Over the next quarter the Crime Reduction Unit will be using bike patrols at strategic times and locations in their effort to detect and deter property crime.

General Investigation Section

Over the last quarter the St. Albert General Investigation Section (GIS) assisted General Duty members in 30 investigations. The assistance was provided in the form of immediate response, general guidance, interview assistance, specific legal advice, and investigative direction. GIS members also assisted with drafting 12 judicial authorizations, and assisted in the execution of 2 search warrants.

General Detachment Updates:

During the quarter a member transferred out of our CP/VS unit to join the musical ride. A cadet arrived and started in our General Duties, and a member returned to duty from parental leave. Another cadet is due to arrive next quarter and the new Officer In Charge, Inspector Pam Robinson, will take command on August 14th.

Detachment resources fluctuate on an almost daily basis due to transfers, secondments, promotions, illness, training, and parental leave. At the time of this report the detachment had 62.5 positions actively serving the community.

Report Submitted by

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A/OIC St. Albert Detachment

**St Albert Municipal Detachment
Statistical Comparison
APP Q1: 2013 - 2017**

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

July-04-17

CATEGORY	Trend	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Homicides & Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	2	0
Robbery		3	0	3	3	3
Sexual Assaults		8	5	6	8	9
Other Sexual Offences		5	0	2	6	4
Assault		108	64	76	102	109
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		1	2	0	1	3
Extortion		0	1	0	0	0
Criminal Harassment		17	11	12	15	36
Uttering Threats		33	26	34	36	48
Other Persons		0	1	0	1	1
TOTAL PERSONS		175	110	133	174	213
Break & Enter		36	34	62	65	59
Theft of Motor Vehicle		25	27	33	40	34
Theft Over \$5,000		7	1	7	9	8
Theft Under \$5,000		205	236	304	357	306
Possn Stn Goods		21	9	10	17	6
Fraud		35	38	57	58	58
Arson		1	4	9	2	1
Mischief To Property		307	263	316	229	235
TOTAL PROPERTY		637	612	798	777	707
Offensive Weapons		12	16	4	7	7
Public Order		0	0	0	1	0
Disturbing the peace		0	81	81	69	66
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		205	93	105	91	126
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		217	190	190	168	199
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		1,029	912	1,121	1,119	1,119

This Report is generated from the PROS database and current scoring of files. All homicide files are not included in this report.