

St. Albert Detachment



July 01, 2016 to September 30, 2016

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 thus far in support of the policing strategic priorities and community safety matters.

Background

On June 23, 2014, City Council approved the Policing Long Term Department Plan to be used as a guiding document for police resource planning purposes.

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.
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- Support Services – Numerous services that are essential to the departments daily operations such as 911/Dispatch, police records management, and property and exhibit control.

ANNUAL POLICE 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. Four area's emerged strongly as being the policing priorities for this year's APP cycle which runs from April, 2016 until March 2017.

1. Property Crime/Drugs.
2. Police Community Relations/Visibility.
3. Traffic Safety.
4. Support for Persons with Mental Health Issues.

Several initiatives and measures have been developed to support the four priorities.

Property Crimes/Drugs:

Initiative: Continue to pursue and increase the number of street checks in order to gather intelligence, deter crime and show visibility.

Measure: Increase street, vehicle and property checks by 50%.

Status: In progress/on track, 847 have been conducted year to date.

Initiative: Conduct checks on habitual offenders and persons on parole and probation in order to reduce recidivism and crime.

Measure: Conduct 200 individual checks.

Status: In progress/on track, 76 have been completed year-to-date.

Initiative: Conduct regular and sustained licenced premises checks in order to deter illegal activities conducted at or near drinking establishments.

Measure: Increase checks by 15% from the previous year.

Status: In progress/on track, 1480 checks have been completed year-to-date.

Initiative: Since many property crimes are committed to purchase drugs, all units to actively pursue drug seizures and prosecutions.

Measure: *10% increase in seizures and charges related to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA).*

Status: *In progress/on track.*

The General Duty watches (uniformed patrol officers) have embraced the priorities and have continued to exceed expectations month after month with respect to conducting traffic stops, persons and vehicle checks and licenced premises checks. All while responding to and investigating 3449 calls for service this past quarter. The information generated during some of these checks and traffic stops contributes greatly to our intelligence process and helps the crime analyst determine the who, the what, the where and the when.

The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) have continued their efforts conducting Curfew Checks and working with Probation services. Several individuals whom they are monitoring have expressed to the RCMP or their Probation officer that they were surprised to have police checking on their curfew conditions. As a result of this sustained effort, some have moved out of the St. Albert area with hopes of avoiding being checked. However, similar efforts with respect to monitoring habitual offenders is widespread throughout the region and province.

CRU continues to concentrate on the property crime issue plaguing the province and St. Albert. They continue to rely heavily on analytics, crime stats, confidential information and collaboration with neighbouring RCMP detachments and Edmonton Police Services to identify the most prolific property crime offenders and strategies to disrupt their activities and lay charges. Despite charges being laid against many individuals for property crimes, these sort of offences rarely result in the perpetrators being held in custody or receiving lengthy jail terms when convicted.

CRU has been working closely with the St. Albert Drug unit to target those selling drugs in our community, which is directly connected to property crimes. Their assistance has contributed to a successful application for a search warrant which resulted in the seizure of drugs and cash and charges against the individuals involved.

The St. Albert Drug Unit continues to investigate and pursue drug traffickers in the St. Albert community. In an effort to Reduce Property Crimes the St. Albert RCMP is striving to increase CDSA charges and seizures by 10% from last year's enforcement efforts. From the start of this fiscal year, 2016-04-01 and until 2016-08-31, the St. Albert RCMP has investigated a total of 43 CDSA files resulting in 35 charges and 49 seizures. Which is on track to meeting our current goal. This reporting period the unit has laid eight drug related charges and has seized quantities of Methamphetamine, Cocaine and Fentanyl and are now preparing the necessary documentation for a successful prosecution in Court. The Unit continues to work with internal

and outside agencies like ALERT, The CRU team and the General Duty membership to effectively investigate drug traffickers.

Several investigations proceeded to trial this reporting period. All of the accused were found guilty or plead guilty. Some received jail sentences or house bound sentences. One of these individuals was charged with the trafficking of Fentanyl and received jail time. In that particular investigation the Drug Unit had seized well over 200 tablets of Fentanyl along with large amounts of Methamphetamine and Cocaine. The Drug Unit has also prepared and delivered presentations to each of the General Duty Watches to help educate and offer experience to the new members. These presentations were specifically focusing on the basics of a Possession For the Purpose of Trafficking (PPT) investigations. The presentation highlighted the indicia and articulation needed for drug investigations which is in support of Annual Performance Plan Objectives.

Police Community Relations/Visibility:

Initiative: Continue to maintain police visibility on the trail system and parks through the use of the golf cart, bike and foot patrols with a balance of education, public relations and enforcement.

Measure: *15% increase in bike/cart patrols.*

Status: *Exceeded goal, 105 completed thus far.*

Initiative: Continue to increase visibility in the schools for formal programs such as DARE and Grade 8 drug awareness and informal visits and presentations.

Measure: *10% increase in school visitations.*

Status: *In progress/on track, 94 conducted year to date, with school back in session we will see this increase considerably in the coming quarters.*

Initiative: Continue to build positive community relations through attendance at neighbourhood block parties.

Measure: *25% increase in block parties attended.*

Status: *Exceeded goal with 77 block parties attended.*

The St. Albert Community Policing section celebrated Canada Day by working in Red Serge at the City of St. Albert celebration at Rotary Park. Many photos were taken with residents and many past DARE students sought out their DARE officers so that they could introduce their husbands and new children to these favourite officers.

Every weekend in the summer brought multiple Block Parties to attend, and the Community Policing officers, along with General Duty officers, visited with adults and youth alike at these neighbourhood gatherings. Officers participated in egg toss competitions and posed for pictures by bouncy castles as they built positive relations with all ages. These events were attended in a variety of vehicles, including the golf cart, on bike's and in regular police cars.

4 multi-housing properties have been inspected and are now certified with the Crime Free Multi Housing program. Officers have attended the Safety Socials to celebrate these accomplishments with the building residents and continue to liaise with the Property managers to prevent crime or other problems from affecting these sites. Work is continuing with other properties in the city to encourage them to join the CFMH partnership.

Members of the St. Albert RCMP attended many special ceremonies and events this past quarter, including an Edmonton citizenship ceremony and the opening of a St. Albert Minor Baseball tournament in red serge this summer. As well, St. Albert members rode bikes in the Edmonton Pride Parade and also attended the St. Albert Pride BBQ in Lions Park. Many photos were taken with our officers at all of these events and appeared on many Facebook pages.

Traffic Safety:

Initiative: Target distracted drivers through education and enforcement.

Measure: *Increase distracted driving enforcement by 25%.*

Status: *On track to exceed goal, 162 distracted driving violation tickets issued.*

Initiative: Work with the local Media to develop an on-going and regular monthly media initiative for traffic safety and awareness.

Measure: *Provide a minimum of twelve traffic safety articles to the media for print.*

Status: *Exceeded goal with 36 completed thus far.*

Initiative: Enhanced traffic enforcement by Traffic and General Duty members.

Measure: *35% increase in warning and violation tickets issued.*

Status: *In progress/on track, 4239 warnings and tickets issued year to date.*

With summer comes an increase in traffic volume as people enjoy the long evenings and for some vacation time. The St. Albert Traffic Unit along with General Duty members were productive over the past quarter with continued focus on distracted driving and seatbelt infractions, behaviours that contribute to the larger goal of traffic safety and reducing injury collisions. The St. Albert Traffic Unit acquired an unmarked SUV from another Traffic Unit in the

Edmonton area, which significantly contributed to an increase in distracted driving enforcement due to the officers being seated higher and able to look down into vehicles and see people using their mobile devices in their laps. The St. Albert Traffic Stats have greatly increased for the months of August/September in Distracted driving and seatbelts directly because of this initiative. We continue to look for opportunities to be innovative and work collaboratively with other enforcement agencies and RCMP Traffic Units in the region to combat the dangers of distracted driving.

During the month of September, once the students were back in school, members of the Traffic Unit have conducted five “Party Program” presentations so far to help educate the youth on making good decisions with respect to driving so that they understand how their decisions and actions can have either a positive or negative impact that can affect many.

Support for Persons with Mental Health Issues:

Initiative: Work with partner agency to deliver training workshop to frontline personnel on options when dealing with persons with mental health issues.

Measure: *25% of detachment personnel to receive workshop.*

Status: *In progress/on track.*

Initiative: Work with community partners in an effort to explore and potentially develop a coordinated and sustainable multi-disciplined Community Crises Team.

Measure: *Preparation and submission of business case.*

Status: *In progress/on track.*

There continues to be significant interest from citizens and community groups with respect to this initiative. The Officer in Charge has met with representatives of the “Plugged In Community Centre Organization” to discuss training for First Responders when they interact with person with Autism. The RCMP is in the early stages of working with the St. Albert Fire Department to receive this training.

QUARTER TWO CRIME STATS:

St Albert Municipal Detachment Statistical Comparison Q2: 2012 - 2016

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

Wednesday, October 5, 2016

CATEGORY	Trend	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Homicides & Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	0	0
Robbery		0	0	0	5	3
Sexual Assaults		3	4	2	7	10
Other Sexual Offences		3	2	1	0	11
Assault		68	84	92	77	105
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		2	5	1	3	1
Extortion		0	1	0	0	0
Criminal Harassment		16	18	9	17	22
Uttering Threats		28	28	15	28	22
Other Persons		1	1	0	1	0
TOTAL PERSONS		121	143	120	138	174
Break & Enter		42	54	49	59	60
Theft of Motor Vehicle		31	31	23	37	37
Theft Over \$5,000		5	4	4	9	5
Theft Under \$5,000		232	290	210	440	324
Possn Stn Goods		11	13	9	23	21
Fraud		37	29	41	45	76
Arson		10	4	4	1	2
Mischief To Property		410	361	289	395	262
TOTAL PROPERTY		778	786	629	1,009	787
Offensive Weapons		6	9	11	12	5
Public Order		0	0	0	0	0
Disturbing the peace		0	99	115	86	55
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		248	125	90	105	130
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		254	233	216	203	190
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		1,153	1,162	965	1,350	1,151