

St. Albert Detachment



October 1st, 2016, to December 31st, 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.

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 departments daily operations such as 911/Dispatch, police records management, and property and exhibit control.
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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 areas 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: 1062 have been conducted over the first three quarters, compared to 990 during the entire 2015/16 fiscal year. RCMP Street Check scoring definitions changed during this last quarter which eliminated our ability to track our property and suspicious vehicle checks as part of our street check initiative. This will impact the final quarter of this fiscal year's results. To date we have achieved a 7% increase in street checks.

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: 143 have been completed fiscal year-to-date, we are on track to reach 200 by March 31.

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; 1988 checks have been completed year-to-date. We are striving for 2500 checks by March 31st.*

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). (Goal is 84 drug charges/130 seizures)*

Status: *71 charges and 97 seizures have occurred over the first 3 quarters of the APP.*

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, 108 completed year to date vs. 77 last year.*

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, 159 General Duty or Traffic section visits conducted year to date, we are trying to accomplish 250. Various presentations and programs have continued as noted in unit updates later in this report.*

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

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

Status: *Exceeded goal with 78 block parties attended (last year there were 45 visits).*

Traffic Safety:

Initiative: Target distracted drivers through education and enforcement.

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

Status: 265 distracted driving violation tickets have been issued over the last three quarters, compared to 283 last year at this time. The traffic section will continue to focus efforts in this area over the remainder of the APP.

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: The traffic NCO has completed 39 media discussions/releases with the media related to traffic safety.

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

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

Status: Exceeded goal with 6197 warnings and tickets issued year to date vs. a total of 4412 last fiscal year.

Support for Persons with Mental Health Issues:

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

Measure: 25% of detachment personnel to receive workshop.

Status: An RCMP course related to Crisis Intervention and De-escalation has been assigned for completion by all members of the detachment. This course should be completed during the next quarter.

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: At this time St. Albert Detachment continues to use Central Alberta District's Rural Police and Crisis (RPAC) team to assist in our interventions with persons experiencing mental health crisis. This team consists of District members of the RCMP and mental health workers who attend and assess individuals presenting safety concerns to themselves or others due to mental crisis. All members of St. Albert have also been tasked with completing training related Crisis Intervention and De-escalation, and continue to work with EMS as first responders to immediate concerns.

Unit Updates:

General Duties

When not responding to calls for service or following up investigations, our General Duty members have used their proactive time contributing to most areas of our community's APP priorities. Each month General Duties contribute significant effort to our bar walk, street check, school visits, curfew check, and traffic enforcement initiatives, in addition to their regular duties. During the last quarter General Duty members responded to and investigated 2899 reported incidents.

Drug unit

From the start of this fiscal year, 2016-04-01 and until 2016-12-31, the St. Albert RCMP has investigated a total of 134 CDSA files resulting in 71 charges and 97 seizures. This is on track to meet or exceed our current goal. This reporting period the St. Albert Drug Unit laid 41 drug related charges while seizing quantities of Methamphetamine, Cocaine and Fentanyl. The St. Albert Drug Unit continues to work with the St. Albert General Duty Members, Crime Reduction Team, Traffic Services and CPVS to effectively investigate drug traffickers to meet or exceed the APP goals. The St. Albert Drug Unit also completes drug focused curfew and street checks to contribute to our Detachment goals.

The Drug Unit spearheaded a presentation for RCMP and Municipal Enforcement members to present information on substances including Fentanyl and safety issues for first responders. All operational RCMP members are now equipped with Naloxone kits to respond to opioid overdoses or exposures.

Community Policing/Victim Services Unit

Nine St. Albert Schools received the DARE program this quarter, with approximately 540 students participating. Approximately 300 students received a Cyber Bullying Presentation during "Bullying Awareness Week" in November, approximately 250 High School students participated in Drug & Healthy Relationship presentations along with approximately 100 students participating in informal visits & presentations in High School Law classes.

The Community Policing unit continued to develop the Crime Free Multi Housing (CFMH) program in St. Albert with a total of 4 multi-housing properties that have been inspected and certified. Officers have attended the CFMH Safety Socials to celebrate these certification accomplishments with the building residents and continue to liaise with the Property managers to prevent crime or other problems from affecting these sites. St. Albert Community Policing Unit continues to work with an additional 3 properties to complete their certification for CFMH.

Community Policing coordinated a meeting last quarter with various community partners to discuss Violent Threat Risk Assessment protocol for youth in crisis. A steering committee has been formed to continue to explore the development of formal protocols for potential implementation in St. Albert.

Traffic Unit

Over the last quarter Cpl. GAULTOIS and the St. Albert Traffic Section have continued to work with the media to advise the public of various St. Albert driving issues and safety tips meant to enhance driver and pedestrian safety, including releases on distracted driving, mobility scooters, and impaired drivers.

With the lead up to the holiday season, Traffic section organized six dates to implement the detachment's Impaired Driver Checkstop campaign. This resulted in over 1600 vehicles being checked, 15 roadside tests conducted, two impaired drivers charged and five roadside suspensions issued. Several of these Checkstop dates involved multiple locations, and included large scale efforts on St. Albert Trail. Overall the public were pleased to see members conducting the checks, and police were pleased to find so many designated and sober drivers on our roads. Locally the detachment continues to detect more impaired drivers through observations called in by concerned citizens, and during our proactive patrols. During the last quarter, a new Checkstop tracking sheet was developed and implemented for gathering St. Albert specific statistics.

St. Albert traffic section continues to attend the Traffic Safety Committee and Capital Region Intersection Safety Partnership (CRISP) meetings in our aim to work with our road safety partners and to stay in front of the developing trends.

Crime Reduction Unit

The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) have continued working with Probation services. Monthly reports from Probation are used to highlight the offenders in the area who are on conditions. Curfew checks remain a priority with positive results from conducting random checks. There were six persons on conditions breached during these checks earlier in the year, and compliance to conditions appears to have increased. Probation officer continue to hear that individuals were surprised to have police checking on their curfew conditions.

CRU continues to concentrate on the property crime issues and the increases caused by financial hardships. They liaise with Edmonton City Police Services and neighbouring RCMP Detachments during weekly meetings. Many criminals are fluid throughout the region and are committing crimes in many different locations. CRU is encouraging the public to record their serial numbers; without this information they have found it difficult to link recovered property back to owners to support charges. Before Christmas, the CRU unit

sent out a media message on how the public could better protect themselves from seasonal thefts and frauds. CRU continues to work in partnership with our Drug Section and General Investigation Section, assisting on two search warrants this last quarter.

General Investigation Section

Over the last quarter the St. Albert General Investigation Section (GIS) assisted the General Duty Membership in an excess of 30 investigations. The assistance was provided in the form of immediate response, general guidance, interview assistance, specific legal advice, or investigative direction. GIS members also assisted with locating 3 high risk missing persons, drafting 7 judicial authorizations, and coordinated the execution of 2 search warrants. In one particular fraud investigation which carried over from the previous quarter, approximately 60 charges were laid against 1 individual, who had defrauded roughly 30 victims.

General Detachment Updates:

Over the last quarter our OIC was promoted to Red Deer, and his position has been temporarily filled by the Ops NCO until a new OIC is chosen and takes over Command.

During the last quarter an experienced member returned from parental leave to general duties, and two cadets started their careers here. The detachment received a part-time member with extensive Domestic Violence expertise who has been tasked with further supplementing the quality of our domestic conflict investigations as part of our Community Policing efforts. A member transferred out from our General Investigation unit, but we were fortunate that an experienced replacement had already arrived to fill the void. A member from our drug unit is due to transfer on a promotion out of Province. Two supervisor level positions continue to go through the RCMP promotion process, and are anticipated to have members named in the coming quarter.

Detachment resources fluctuate on an almost daily basis due to transfers, promotions, illness, training, and parental leave. This last quarter the detachment has maintained its strength, and at the time of this report had 62.5 positions actively serving the community.

Report Submitted by
J. C. (Jeff) JACOBSON, S/Sgt.
A/OIC St. Albert Detachment

QUARTER THREE CRIME STATISTICS:

St Albert Municipal Detachment Statistical Comparison Quarter 3: 2012 – 2016 (October 1st – December 31st)

January-05-17

CATEGORY	Trend	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Homicides & Offences Related to Death		0	0	0	0	0
Robbery		3	2	4	4	3
Sexual Assaults		4	6	6	9	12
Other Sexual Offences		0	1	1	2	2
Assault		79	68	76	95	80
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		2	1	1	0	1
Extortion		0	0	0	0	3
Criminal Harassment		18	6	9	25	20
Uttering Threats		26	16	20	35	22
Other Persons		0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PERSONS		132	100	117	170	143
Break & Enter		49	41	26	81	71
Theft of Motor Vehicle		24	14	34	32	56
Theft Over \$5,000		6	5	3	7	6
Theft Under \$5,000		159	128	221	308	280
Possn Stn Goods		5	7	11	8	17
Fraud		34	33	43	72	86
Arson		4	3	0	2	1
Mischief To Property		149	268	197	184	108
TOTAL PROPERTY		430	499	535	694	625
Offensive Weapons		4	1	4	11	4
Public Order		0	0	0	0	0
Disturbing the peace		47	68	68	55	24
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		85	70	69	80	94
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		136	139	141	146	122
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		698	738	793	1,010	890