

Information Report to the Board from the Chief of Halifax Regional Police

Board of Police Commissioners' Meeting - February 11, 2019

Personnel

- There were four new civilian employees hired: one Human Resource co-op student; one Administrative Assistant (Central); one Communications Specialist; and one Forensic Technician
- There was one Crime Analyst (civilian) resignation.
- There was one Superintendent (sworn) retirement.
- The 2019 HRP Police Science Program received 1008 cadet applications of which 23 cadets were offered training, which commenced on January 21, 2019.

Training

- Members of the Training Section are currently running both Block Training and the Police Science Program.
- Cadets in the Police Science Program have completed three weeks of training with days dedicated to "Peak Experienced Team Building" and "Mind, Body and Spirit".
- Research is now underway for next year's Rapid Response Training Module.
- Several training opportunities are currently being scheduled: Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Training in February, Level 2 Investigator's Course to be held in either February or March and Bicycle Training is being reviewed for needs and will be set-up shortly.

Operations

- During the month of February, the Traffic Services Unit is focused on Distracted Driving, which includes motor vehicle offenses such as driving while operating a cell phone or hand-held device and obstructions to the driver such as pet on lap and obstructions in windshields.
- With a focus on Intersection Safety in January, members dedicated time to cover all three divisions in specific intersections where known collision data indicates issues.
- During the month of January, traffic members wrote a total of 937 tickets.

Notable Investigations

- On January 16 at 3 a.m., HRP responded to a robbery that had just occurred in Halifax. Two males assaulted and knocked unconscious a 25-year-old man. The victim sustained minor injuries and was transported to hospital. The suspects, who are known to the victim, fled on foot with personal property from the victim. At 3:35 a.m. officers located and arrested the two suspects returning to the scene of the robbery. The suspects, a 23-year-old man and 32-year-old man who are both from Halifax, and are facing a robbery charge. The 32-year-old man is also facing a breach of probation charge.
- On January 16, at approximately 8:45 a.m., police charged a driver after a vehicle struck a crossing guard who was assisting several pedestrians in Halifax. The 74-year-old man was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The driver, a 24-year-old Halifax man, was charged under the Motor Vehicle Act for failing to yield to a pedestrian in a crosswalk and for driving while his view was obstructed.
- On January 24 at 12:20 a.m. police responded to a physical altercation where one male was injured by a hatchet in an apartment in Halifax. Patrol officers located a 36-year-old man from Halifax with non-life-threatening injuries in one apartment. In another apartment, they arrested the suspect. The victim and the suspect are known to one another. A 40-year-old man from Halifax is facing charges of attempted murder, assault with a weapon and mischief. Investigators with the Patrol, General Investigation Section and Forensic Identification Section of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division are conducting this investigation.
- On January 28 at approximately 10:30 a.m. officers were called to a robbery that just occurred at a bank located in Dartmouth. A man entered the location, indicated to staff that he was there to rob the bank and demanded money. The suspect fled the area with an undisclosed amount of cash. Police are continuing to investigate the robbery.
- On January 30 police were called to a break and enter that occurred early Tuesday morning at a pharmacy located in Halifax. Multiple suspects forced their way into the pharmacy causing damage to the interior, including trying to disable the security system and access an automatic teller machine. They left with an undisclosed amount of cash. Police are continuing to investigate the break and enter.
- On February 2 at approximately 8 p.m. police were called to a home invasion that had just occurred at a residence in Dartmouth. A man not known to the resident knocked on the door and when the resident answered the door he was struck in the head with what appeared to be a replica gun. The suspect made his way into the resident and continued the assault. The suspect fled on foot with an undisclosed sum of money. The 47-year-old victim was taken to hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries. Officers searched the area but did not locate the suspect. Police are continuing to investigate the home invasion.



Communications & Public Relations

- Coordinated media relations for the retirement of Police Service Dog (PSD) Steeler of the K-9 Unit. A traditional media release was issued along with several social media posts. Steeler, and his handler, appeared on both local (CTV Morning Live) and national (CTV News Channel and CBC's The National) television shows to discuss Steeler's eight-year career with HRP.
- A representative from the PR Unit presented to the Police Science Program cadets in February to explain the role of the unit along with an overview of HRP's social media policy and procedures.
- The PR Unit continues to support external partners with social media posts to bring awareness to various initiatives including Crime Stoppers Month in January and Safer Internet Day in February with tips provided by the Canadian Centre for Child Protection (Canadian Centre).
- Provided social media support to the provincial Road Safety Theme in January, Intersection Safety, and coordinated an interview on the topic for CTV's Live at 5 with the Sergeant in charge of the Traffic Unit. Education plays a key role in establishing responsibilities for both pedestrians and drivers.

Police Diversity Working Group

- The next meeting of the Police Diversity Working Group is scheduled for April 10.

Information Security

- Of the 66 recommendations in the KPMG Audit Report, eight have been completed, 39 are currently in-progress and 20 have not yet started.
- Work activity continues to progress for all items, however; the High Impact and High Likelihood items have dependencies that must be met before controls can be fully implemented to meet the recommendation requirements as presented in the assessment.
- Information Security Management System (ISMS) Framework and supporting documents/policies continue to progress and are currently in peer review.

Employee Engagement & Survey Action

- The results of the municipality's Employee Engagement Survey, which was conducted last year, were reviewed and areas of improvement were identified. The HRP Executive Management Team (EMT) held multiple meetings on engagement and identified next steps and action items. With that, 26 employee engagement sessions



were scheduled from January 15 to February 15. These sessions allowed members of the management team to provide an update and Q&A session to all sworn and civilian employees of HRP.

- Inspector Stephanie Carlisle will establish a working group, comprised of sworn and civilian members of different ranks within the organization, who will act as a sounding board to help drive operational activities. A Terms of Reference has also been developed.

Business Continuity & Updates

- HRP was advised by HRP that the gasoline tank, which supports police headquarters fueling point, has reached the end of its useful life. It must be replaced or removed. Additionally, there is a used oil receptacle tank located within the HRP HQ garage that requires relocation to the outside garage. HRP is currently in discussion with HRM on both issues to assess the associated business continuity risks.

