

2010 Annual Policing Plan
Presentation by Chief Mike Boyd
To the Edmonton Police Commission
February 18, 2010

- As Delivered -

SLIDE TWO

A/Chair Dunster Gibson, members of the Commission, today I have the pleasure of presenting to you the Edmonton Police Service 2010 Annual Policing Plans public highlights. This plan outlines the 23 initiatives which are being undertaken by the Edmonton Police Service to deliver on the Strategic Business Goals outlined in our 2009 – 2011 Strategic Business Plan that you see before you.

Those goals being:

- Reduced Crime and Victimization
- A Citizen-centered Police Service; and
- A model of Efficiency and Effectiveness

The Edmonton Police Service 2010 Annual Policing Plan focuses on the citizens, Partners, and Stakeholders.

It was developed to respond to community needs and expectations, organizational priorities and emerging trends. The Annual Policing Plan serves as a public report card that measures day to day operational activities and provides a more detailed description following the direction set out in the 2009-2011 Edmonton Police Service Strategic Business Plan. These operational activities will be reported and measured quarterly then summarized at year end.

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SLIDE THREE

In looking at the Policing Plan you will see the initiatives broken down by the strategic objective which they support.

We have fourteen initiatives which are being undertaken to reduce crime and victimization in Edmonton. These initiatives are what we are undertaking to ensure that we deliver on our target of reducing crime by 4% during 2010.

There are six initiatives in support of the Edmonton Police delivering Citizen-centered Policing. These initiatives range from increasing professionalism and reducing Public Complaints to ensuring the EPS is strengthening our contact to Edmonton's religious, youth and ethno-cultural communities.

We have three initiatives centered on being a model of efficiency and effectiveness which includes our ability to respond appropriately to any natural or human-caused disaster as well increasing our clearance rates.

I'd like to spend a few minutes highlighting some of the initiatives in the plan.

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The first initiative in the plan, and one you have seen before, is in relation to the Geographic Deployment Model. With the support of the Commission over the past three years, we have been able to attract, recruit and train enough officers to deploy the model at a high level. Starting in September of 2009 we began to see the result of the model being more fully staffed. The crime rate began to fall and by the end of 2009 crime was down 2.2%.

The model works. We have revised our goals this year to better our response time to priority one calls to 80% and we have set a target of 4% reduction in the eight crime indicators. This is achievable. We have the people, they are well trained and they are dedicated to their jobs.

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There are four initiatives I'd like to bring to your attention. Ones that will help us ensure we reduce crime and victimization.

Our work in reducing crime and victimization includes a number of programs which we have discussed before and which have been identified as areas of interest and concern to residents, councillors, members of the commission as well as members of the service.

First, we know it works when we have highly visible police officers walking the beat and working in communities identified as needing

innovative interdisciplinary teams to solve problems.

By the end of 2009 we were able to deploy more beat members and in 2010 we are conducting a review of the Beat Program with an end goal of developing and delivering a new Beat Officer Program. This will ultimately result in a more visible presence in more communities.

Second, our NET program will identify five problem neighbourhoods in the first quarter with an end goal of reducing calls for service in each neighbourhood by 4% by the end of the year.

Thirdly, we have assigned six provincially funded positions to Gang and Drug enforcement.

Last week we were able to show the public the result of targeting a high level drug trafficking gang and we took over \$850,000 in drugs and a dozen high powered weapons off the street with Project Guardian. And there is more to come. We will continue to investigate, disrupt and charge those who supply and traffic drugs in our city.

Finally, we have and will continue to work with our many partners to reduce alcohol facilitated sexual assault occurrences. This is not going to be easy. We know when we analyze the number and type of sexual assaults, the majority occurring right now are fueled by alcohol.

With our identified partners, we will be doing a great deal of public education on this type of crime. The first you will see of it will be in early March.

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SLIDE SIX

The next six initiatives are all focused on traffic issues.

All of these have been discussed at length over the past few years and continue to be of interest.

We will continue to focus on Traffic Safety on a daily basis. We have set measures to ensure that our education and enforcement activities are strong and successful.

Through our partnership with the Office of Traffic Safety we are continuing with programs that have had some success in the past.

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SLIDE SEVEN

As a Citizen-centered Police Service we need to continue to listen to and understand the needs of the community and implement solutions to address these community needs. This requires systems and processes to ensure effective communications with those who may have been a victim of a crime or those who feel they need to be heard.

The following are four of the initiatives in the 2010 Policing Plan.

First, we have set a goal of reducing public complaints by 5% over the 2009 baseline. This

includes complaints of conduct and complaints of service.

We all take public complaints very seriously. We have and will continue to ensure complaints are heard and investigated. However, to reduce the number we will continue to provide training in Reasonable Officer Response, de-escalation skills and report writing. Our goal is to have fewer complaints and this will be accomplished through our training, our supervision and leadership.

Secondly, the Chief's Advisory Council set up a number of years ago continues to meet and to strengthen contact and service to our First-nations, religious, youth and ethno-cultural communities. We have expanded and now include 10 Community Liaison Committees.

I can tell you in the past 4 months, we now have a Senior Officer on each committee and in the coming weeks we will start hosting a series of meetings with the Communities. On February 25th we are meeting with the Asian Community and on March 20th we are holding our second meeting with the African community. Edmonton has several communities coming from different countries in Africa and we want to ensure our engagement with all communities.

Thirdly we have set a target for our Victims Services Unit of increasing call backs to victims. This Unit does an incredible job everyday ensuring victims of crime have someone to talk with. We will continue to provide excellent

customer service and greater opportunity for feedback.

Finally, we are targeting a 10% increase in crime scene response to Break and Enters and Theft of Autos.

We know that if our investigators can get to a crime scene and conduct a thorough analysis, we have greater opportunity to collect evidence and identify criminals. Resources are now in place to allow for more members to conduct forensic investigations.

These are four of the six identified initiatives focused on the EPS being a Citizen-centered Police Service. We have well trained and highly professional sworn and non-sworn members in the right positions to ensure we succeed in

2010. Next slide

SLIDE EIGHT

The EPS 2010 Policing Plan includes three initiatives in support of our being a Model of Efficiency and Effectiveness. To achieve this we need to provide effective leadership at all levels, steward our resources appropriately and ensure effective collaboration to address community needs.

In December of 2009 there was a great deal of public discussion on Clearance Rates. At the time I advised this Commission that we would be setting a strong goal for 2010.

That goal is to increase the overall clearance rate by 5% for the 8 crime indicators.

We know by clearing more files, as a result of strong investigations, we will create greater public confidence. This will also factor into our reducing victimization or repeat victimization.

Secondly, we have committed an additional resource to the Disaster and Emergency Operations Planning Section to ensure that we have a Continuity of Operations Plan in place by the end of the second quarter. This is a big piece of work that is being done in conjunction with our Emergency Service partners.

Finally in concert with a provincial committee, we have established a Provincial Investigative Certification Program. Currently levels 100, 200, and 400 are being delivered and level 300 is in development.

This program development and pilot are scheduled for completion by the end of the year. So why is this important? We know that better investigations, stronger, more consistent and standardized investigative techniques and skills lead to high standards across the province and a better success rate. This is needed so cases can be strong and so victims and offenders can find justice. It is also necessary in the preparation of strong evidence if we are going to ensure that the public is protected from offenders who repeat their victimization of Edmontonians.

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SLIDE NINE

The plan we have set out this year highlights a number of operational initiatives which compliment the twenty four hour daily response to calls for service, criminal investigations, law enforcement and community policing activities performed by members of the Edmonton Police Service.

These 23 initiatives have been planned and will be measured to ensure the Commission and those they represent, the public, understand our operations and what our focus will be on as we work towards reducing crime by 4% and increasing the number of crimes cleared by 5%.

I am confident we have the right people, in the right jobs to achieve our goals.

I wish to thank the members of the Commission for your input, guidance and support in the development of this plan and to commend the members of the Police Service for their continued support. I know they are dedicated to protect and proud to serve the citizens of Edmonton. As a result, our combined efforts in creating a safe, vibrant city, achieved in partnership through innovative, responsive community policing will be successful.

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The Deputy's and I will now answer any questions you may have on the Plan