

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2012 First Quarter



COMMITTED TO POLICING EXCELLENCE

1ST QUARTER REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

*Vision:
A safe, vibrant city
achieved in partnership
through innovative,
responsive and
progressive policing.*

EPS ANNOUNCES TWO NEW DEPUTY CHIEFS

Recruitment of the best candidates is a top priority for the Edmonton Police Service and the Edmonton Police Commission. Although most of the focus in the public realm is on hiring new recruits, significant attention is placed on hiring the best candidates to lead the EPS in an executive role.

A nation-wide search began at the end of 2011 and interviews of several qualified candidates from across the country occurred in the first quarter of 2012.

On March 16, Chief Knecht announced the hiring of Danielle Campbell and Brian Simpson as the new Deputy Chiefs.

A veteran police officer with 23 years of experience, including most recently as Superintendent for EPS's West Division, Ms. Campbell was selected to the position of Deputy Chief, Specialized Community Support Bureau. She began her new role on April 1, 2012.

Currently a Director General responsible for Operational Preparedness with the RCMP in Ottawa, Mr. Simpson will fill the position of Deputy Chief, Community Policing Bureau with EPS. Prior to his role in Ottawa, he was the Detachment Commander for the City of Red Deer. Mr. Simpson will begin his role with the EPS on May 1, 2012.

"Both candidates have a great deal of experience and have achieved significant successes throughout their careers," says Commission Chair Arlene Yakeley. "I'm confident their leadership skills will ensure the citizens of Edmonton continue to receive innovative and progressive policing now and well into the future."

REDUCING CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

CAT DEPLOYMENTS CONTINUE IN 2012

In the first quarter of 2012, the Service's Community Action Team (CAT) has been deployed in Beverly, McCauley, Boyle, and several communities along 118 Avenue.

The CAT pilot project, launched in September 2011, was created to identify and target struggling communities in Edmonton that experience increased rates of violent crime and social disorder.

As part of the Violence Reduction Strategy, CAT encourages partnerships and community involvement to prevent and deal with crime. It provides high police visibility, valuable intelligence, as well as enforcement to reduce crime and increase public safety.

Since the monthly pilot project began, CAT deployments have resulted in 389 arrests and 1,138 outstanding warrants (including 450 criminal warrants and 543 provincial warrants). There have been over 1,000 traffic and alcohol related tickets issued, with almost 500 incidents of consuming alcohol in public. Twenty-eight people living on the street have been housed, with another 64 referrals in process.



Const. Megan Strohan (l) and Sgt. Kimberly Clark handed out toques at a CAT deployment in Beverly on Jan. 18.

VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGY WORKSHOP

On March 20, EPS members met with over 30 community partners and agencies to discuss the progress made on the Violence Reduction Strategy (VRS) and to determine what the next steps are in moving the strategy forward.

“It takes all of us to prevent crime and today we are doing just that, meeting with our community partners,” says Supt. David Veitch, who heads up the VRS. “We want to hear what we can do better to make people and places even safer from violence. Collectively there are some very good initiatives in our communities that are making a difference.”

Speakers at the one day event included Police Chief Rod Knecht, Supt. David Veitch, Kathy Barnhart with the City of Edmonton, and Jan Fox of REACH Edmonton. A final report on the workshop is expected to be completed in April.

“Collectively there are some very good initiatives in our communities that are making a difference.”

CHANGE YOUR PIN DAY IN EDMONTON



On Feb. 29, Mayor Stephen Mandel presented an official proclamation to Acting Deputy Chief Ken MacKay which designated March 1, 2012 as Change Your PIN Day in Edmonton.

Change Your PIN Day marked the kick-off to Fraud Prevention Month. Throughout the month of March, Economic Crimes members attended several events to discuss PIN pad fraud, identity theft, auto theft, and internet crimes.

PIN pad fraudsters can empty bank accounts. While banks will reimburse the stolen funds, the problem is, an account may be empty when the mortgage or rent comes due. Bounced cheques and missed payments will affect credit records.

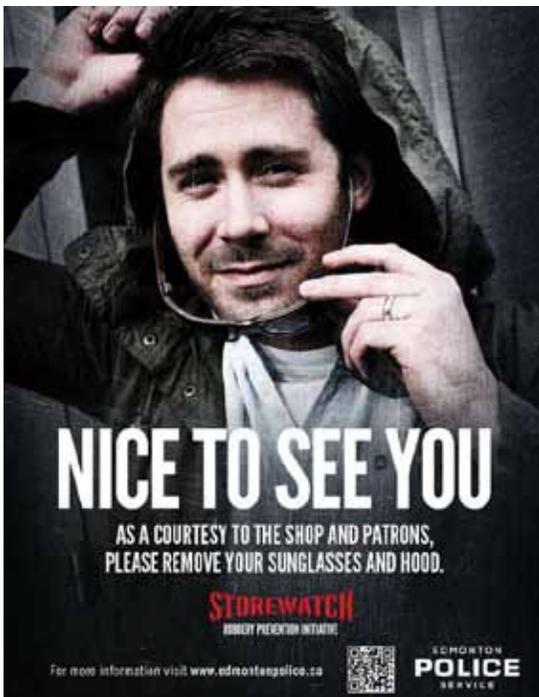
Changing your PIN regularly (at least every two months) can go a long way towards preventing thieves from accessing personal bank accounts.

NICE TO SEE YOU, WE'RE WATCHING YOU

For EPS Robbery Section, education and enforcement go hand in hand, and they are always looking for creative ways to address emerging crime trends. "While there has been a general decline in commercial robberies in the past seven years, we have noted a spike relative to pharmacies in the past two years," says Staff Sgt. Howard Kunce.

Their latest crime reduction initiative is a series of posters. Now the public can choose from the original poster, "No Hats, No Hoods, No Sunglasses", or two new versions. "We're Watching You" asks the public to be aware of people they believe are intentionally altering their appearance to commit a crime. "Nice to See You" encourages individuals to remove their hats, hoods or sunglasses when entering the premises as a courtesy to staff.

The posters can be downloaded and printed by visiting edmontonpolice.ca.



OPERATION WARRANT EXECUTION



In February, the EPS launched Operation Warrant Execution (OWE), a public initiative to encourage citizens with outstanding warrants to step up and deal with them.

There were more than 16,000 outstanding warrants in the Edmonton area, including everything from serious offences such as violent crimes against members of the public, to more minor offences like failing to remove snow.

"The purpose of OWE is to reduce violence in our city," says Staff Sgt. Regan James, Targeted Offenders Section. "This campaign was created to empower citizens to take responsibility for their actions and to reassure the public that EPS is dedicated to curbing crime in Edmonton."

As of March 28, more than 1,400 people were arrested and over 3,000 warrants were executed. The message "Got a Warrant? Face up to it!" appeared on billboards and LRT platforms throughout Edmonton.

"This campaign was created to empower citizens to take responsibility for their actions and to reassure the public that EPS is dedicated to curbing crime in Edmonton."

CITIZEN-CENTRED POLICE SERVICE

KIWANIS TOP COP FOCUSED ON SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Sgt. Patti Nichol was the 2011 recipient of the Kiwanis Oil Capital Top Cop Award.

The award, recognizing an active-duty officer who exhibits excellence in community policing both on and off the job, was presented for the 36th year and has become a distinguished benchmark of achievement.

Sgt. Nichol has volunteered with the Special Olympics for seven years and for the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics for 10 years. She has given countless hours of her time at fundraising events. She has also exposed many EPS officers to these special athletes, recruiting members to participate in sports with the athletes and come out to events.

Four years ago, Patti started the Special Olympics Edmonton basketball team. A former basketball player herself, she has passed on her knowledge to many special athletes. In her time as head coach, the program has grown to two teams.

“Patti has a very special way of reaching her players,” says one of the athlete’s parents. “It is obvious that the team members respect and admire her by the way they respond to her.”

Sgt. Nichol is not only a coach but also a mentor to the athletes, helping them succeed in sport and life. “She always treats me and the other players with respect,” says Daniel, a Special Olympian. “When she coaches we feel like adults, not different.”

The Top Cop award was presented on Feb. 21.



“When she coaches we feel like adults, not different.”



100 community members attended the outreach meeting on March 15 at Edmonton's Africa Centre.

EPS AND LOCAL AFRICAN COMMUNITY FOSTER RELATIONSHIP

EPS officers met with members of the local African community in March to discuss policing concerns and highlight opportunities to work together in the future. The community outreach meeting was held in March and hosted by the African Community Liaison Committee (ACLC), part of the EPS Chief's Community Advisory Council.

The Council was created to help provide Edmonton's multicultural and diverse communities with opportunities for dialogue, awareness and partnership in community policing – with the goal of addressing community safety issues and improving quality of life.

Chief Rod Knecht and Mayor Stephen Mandel participated in the community meeting, and Dr. Peter Obiefuna, ACLC Co-Chair, brought together the top discussion themes for review with participants.

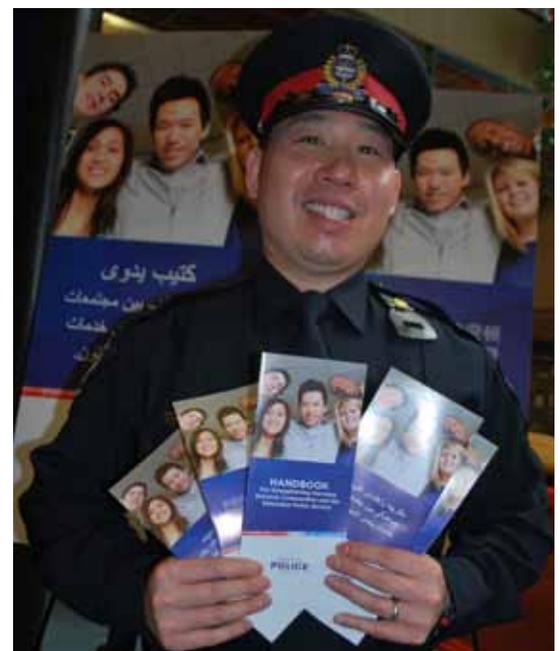
EPS and City of Edmonton staff were also on hand to provide information about police resources, careers in policing, as well as services available through the City of Edmonton.

POLICE REACH OUT TO MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES IN 16 LANGUAGES

The EPS is helping the city's growing multicultural communities understand the role of police with a handbook that is available in 16 languages.

The Handbook for Strengthening Harmony between Communities and the Edmonton Police Service was created to help members of Edmonton's diverse communities understand the role of police, explain what to expect if approached by police, and provide information on how to access police services. It also explains the rights and responsibilities of both community members and police officers.

It is unique and was recognized by the UNESCO Canadian Coalition of Municipalities Against Racism and Discrimination as a "promising tool for the future." It's available in Arabic, Dari, English, French, Hindi, Oromo, Pashto, Persian/Farsi, Polish, Punjabi, Simple Chinese, Somali, Spanish, Swahili, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.



Const. Chapman Lee, who assists with Chinese interpretation services for EPS, participates in the handbook launch at Police Headquarters on March 23.

MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS

BUDGET REVIEW WELL UNDERWAY

Even though the year has just begun, the EPS is already well into a review of its 2012 operating budget. Divisions have been asked to identify unanticipated or emerging needs, and to identify any opportunities (up to 3% of their total budget) where costs could be deferred or deleted altogether or increases in revenue achieved.

The review process prioritizes the newly identified needs, along with the identified opportunities. Chief's Committee will then make a series of decisions as to which funds should be reallocated from planned initiatives to the new ones.

It's a challenging exercise, as every dollar reallocated to a new initiative has to be taken away from an existing budget or program. By going through this process on a regular basis, EPS is able to realise the maximum value from its operating budget.

The exercise is expected to be complete by the end of the second quarter. A second budget review is scheduled for this fall.

RECRUIT TRAINING CLASS 122 GRADUATES



On Feb. 24, 32 members of Recruit Training Class (RTC) #122 graduated during a special ceremony at City Hall. More than 500 people, mainly friends and proud families of the recruits, attended the ceremony.

Members of RTC #120 and #122 participated in the traditional Ezio Faraone memorial run that has recruits and training staff run from police headquarters to Ezio Faraone Memorial Park.

The 32 recruits brought many different life skills with them to their new jobs. One was a former member of the Canadian Forces, who served deployments to Afghanistan as a rifleman and medic. Another was a substitute teacher with Edmonton Public Schools. The class also included a former Correctional Peace Officer who worked at the Remand Centre.

Many of the recruits have volunteered their time in a variety of activities. From coaching youth soccer teams to being EPS volunteers – these recruits have a good, solid grasp of the importance of community involvement.

RTC #123 will graduate at the end of April and RTC #124 began training in February. The EPS has scheduled RTC #125 to start training in June 2012.

Appendices

EPS Staff Complement

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2012 AUTHORIZED FTEs	2012 FTEs AT 2012, MARCH 31	VACANCIES (OVERSTRENGTH)
SWORN	1603.0	1539.4	63.6
RECRUITS	0.0	62.0	(62.0)
NON-SWORN	605.5	591.3	14.2
FULL COMPLEMENT	2208.5	2192.7	15.8

Financials

BUDGET VARIANCE by Major Category of Revenues & Expenditures First Quarter Forecast (\$'000's)

	2012 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	Budget	Actual	Var	%	Budget	Projected	Var	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act	\$1,820	\$1,820	\$-	0.0%	\$12,908	\$12,908	\$-	0.0%
Provincial Grants	-	-	-		23,492	23,019	(473)	-2.0%
Other	3,809	3,779	(30)	-0.8%	23,603	23,396	(207)	-0.9%
Total Revenue	5,629	5,599	(30)	-0.5%	60,003	59,323	(680)	-1.1%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and benefits	40,824	40,557	267	0.7%	245,288	244,758	530	0.2%
EPS Overtime	1,260	1,334	(74)	-5.9%	8,953	9,165	(212)	-2.4%
External Overtime	72	58	14	19.4%	432	439	(7)	-1.6%
	42,156	41,949	207	0.5%	254,673	254,362	311	0.1%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	3,469	3,557	(88)	-2.5%	11,912	12,132	(220)	-1.8%
Contracts and services	2,942	2,646	296	10.1%	20,883	21,235	(352)	-1.7%
Vehicles	1,284	1,155	129	10.0%	7,702	7,702	-	0.0%
Facilities	2,257	2,287	(30)	-1.3%	14,494	14,438	56	0.4%
Other	253	36	217	85.8%	326	91	235	72.1%
	10,205	9,681	524	5.1%	55,317	55,598	(281)	-0.5%
Total Expenditures	52,361	51,630	731	1.4%	309,990	309,960	30	0.0%
Position before Adjustments	46,732	46,031	701	1.5%	249,987	250,637	(650)	-0.3%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					4,656	4,656	-	0.0%
Net Position	\$46,732	\$46,031	\$701	1.5%	\$254,643	\$255,293	\$(650)	-0.3%