

COMMITTED TO POLICING EXCELLENCE



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2011 Third Quarter



LOOKING FORWARD 2011 - 2014

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

THIRD QUARTER OVERVIEW

Edmonton continued to see a reduction in overall crime in the third quarter.

Property crimes like break and enters and theft from vehicles continued to decrease as did violent crimes like assault and robbery. However, the rate of violent crime did not decrease at the same pace as property crime. Between January and September 2011, property crime and violent crime was down 23 per cent compared to the same time in 2010.

Although the numbers in most crime categories decreased, the severity of violence increased this year. As a result, the Edmonton Police Service launched the Violence Reduction Strategy in August. As part of a joint plan with the City of Edmonton and REACH, the strategy features initiatives designed to detect and prevent violent behavior.



REDUCING CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

VIOLENCE REDUCTION STRATEGY

Faced with an unusually high number of homicides, Chief Knecht launched the EPS's first ever Violence Reduction Strategy in August. As part of a joint plan with the City of Edmonton and REACH, the strategy features initiatives designed to detect and prevent violent behaviour.

- **Community Action Team (CAT)** deployments into areas of economic or social disadvantage.
- **Weekly Community Crime Update** video productions that discuss the causes of violent crime and what citizens can do to avoid becoming victims.
- **5 x 5 x 5 Initiatives:** a series of city-wide prevention and suppression activities designed to deal with localized problems in specific geographic areas.
- **Edged Weapon Control Measures** to properly prepare knife-related offenses for court prosecutions.
- **Enhanced Peace Officer Education** to further engage the City of Edmonton's existing team of bylaw and peace officers in violence prevention activities.

While it is too early to determine the impact of the Violence Reduction Strategy, it has received a good deal of public attention and encouraged several other stakeholder agencies to become involved. "All indications we have from frontline staff and members of the community are that the strategies employed so far seem to be working," said Chief Rod Knecht.



CAT launched a series of deployments in the McCauley area in early September. The disruption of violence through education, prevention, intervention and suppression tactics is the primary focus for all CAT deployments.

ELECTRONIC BRACELETS MONITOR HIGH RISK OFFENDERS



Det. James Clover of the Behavioural Assessment Unit, shows a tracking bracelet. The EPS recently received funding to purchase more bracelets to track high risk offenders.

The Behavioural Assessment Unit will benefit from two government funded projects over the next several years. As part of the Alberta Safe Communities Innovation Fund, \$435,500 will help provide transitional housing and support services for high-risk violent and sexual offenders to reintegrate them into society.

Part of the funding will also go toward electronic monitoring bracelets that will track these offenders.

"The tracking bracelets greatly assist in monitoring offenders," explains Det. James Clover. "Electronic monitoring holds offenders accountable by providing information on an offender's whereabouts at all times."

Once a bracelet is put on an offender, they are monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The bracelets are designed with an alarm and are capable of two-way conversations.

Currently, the bracelets are monitoring four offenders: three high-risk sexual offenders and one domestic violence offender.

CITIZEN-CENTRED POLICE SERVICE

EYES ON THE ALLEY

An alley that was filled with old mattresses, chairs, and couches was transformed into a community gallery through the work of the downtown Neighbourhood Empowerment Team (NET) and the community.

Partnering with Alberta Health Services, Arts on the Ave, Catholic Social Services, Edmonton Arts Council, Community Services, Capital City Clean Up, and Homeward Trust, the 82 Street Team took on the problem of illegal dumping and graffiti.

The Eyes on the Alley campaign features garbage bins emblazoned with faces of residents who are invested in their community and looking to take back their alley. "The aim of the initiative is to reduce the amount of illegal dumping, increase a sense of ownership, and invite positive community activity into the area during the summer months," says Acting Sgt. Steve Sharpe, NET.

"Our research suggests this is the first time this type of campaign has been done in Canada - or anywhere, for that matter," adds Kris Andreychuk, NET.



An alley bin featuring the face of Sam, a local area resident.

YOUNG AND OLD ENJOY AIR-1 10TH ANNIVERSARY ACTIVITIES

People were lined up before the event was set to start. It seemed a number of Edmontonians were anxious to get a close up look at Air-1 and Air-2 on display at Vallevand Kennels on Saturday, September 17.

Both young and old clustered around the choppers and listened intently as members of the EPS flight crew explained what the aircraft was capable of and how they assist officers working on the ground. But it wasn't just citizens who were all smiles. So too were Air-1 alumni who were reunited once again and were able to swap stories of their time policing Edmonton from the sky.

Cst. Patrick Tracy and Det. Aubrey Zalaski, hosts of 630 Ched's Cop Talk, were broadcasting live on location. Among the guests on their show was Mr. Ed Bean, a prominent businessman who contributed \$100,000 to make Air-1 a reality in 2001.

Thanks to the generosity of the citizens attending the event, the Edmonton Food Bank also benefited from the collection of non-perishable food items and a number of cash donations.



MODEL OF EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS



“DON’T LET IT HIT YOU” CAMPAIGN HITS THE STREETS

It’s hoped a new campaign designed to remind people not to jaywalk will be effective in Edmonton. Decals of an injured woman are adhered to the asphalt and act as a reminder for citizens not to jaywalk, but to use a crosswalk.

This type of asphalt art campaign is the first of its kind in Edmonton.

“We’re hoping this pilot project will get people’s attention and make them think twice before they decide to jaywalk,” says Const. Jerrid Maze. “Not only is jaywalking illegal, it’s a risky business that could get you injured or killed.”

Three people have died this year in Edmonton while ‘jaywalking’ or crossing against a traffic signal. That accounts for 18 per cent of all traffic fatalities in 2011. Three people were also seriously injured and required hospitalization.

More than 800 pedestrians have been charged with jaywalking and crossing against a traffic signal in the first nine months of this year. The fine for crossing a road illegally is up to \$250.

Const. Jerrid Maze kneeling beside an anti jaywalking decal.

NIGHT SAFETY CENTRE – OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The Night Safety Centre opened its doors on September 16. The Centre is located in the historic Flat Iron Building in downtown Edmonton and provides support for sexually exploited persons over the age of 18 who have recently experienced any form of violence.

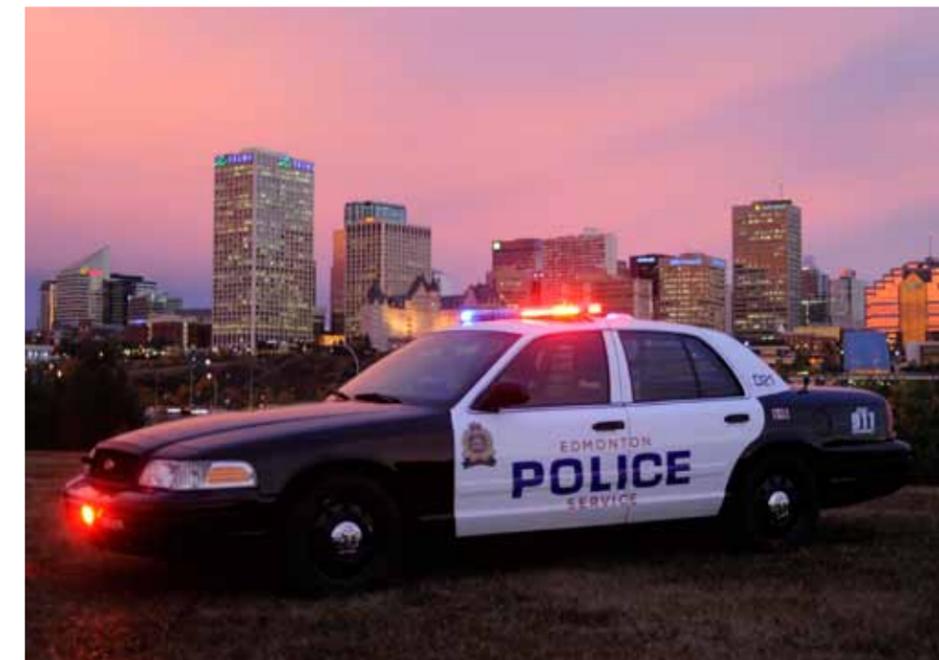
The Centre is operational from 11 p.m. to 6 a.m., Friday – Monday, and is a pilot project funded for three years by the Province of Alberta’s Safer Communities Innovations Fund.

“The Centre provides support and referral services for sexually exploited persons on weekend nights, when few other resources are available,” Says Staff Sgt. John Fiorilli of the Vice Section.

Victims are referred primarily by EPS, RCMP, Sexual Assault Response Team, and community outreach agencies operating vans at night (Crossroads Outreach, Salvation Army, etc.).



BLACK AND WHITE CARS ON THE ROAD



In early September, citizens started to see the first of several black and white police cars on the streets of Edmonton. EPS has approximately 250 patrol cars and is in the process of searching for a replacement for the classic Crown Victoria since it will no longer be produced.

Currently the EPS is outfitting and testing the Dodge Charger, Chevrolet Caprice, and Ford Interceptor. A few hybrid vehicles will also be tested, including the Toyota Camry, Ford Fusion, and Ford Escape. Test driving several vehicles will help determine which car is the most suitable.

Appendices

EPS Staff Complement

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2011 AUTHORIZED FTEs	2011 FTEs AT SEPT. 30, 2011	VACANCIES (OVERSTRENGTH)
SWORN	1588.0	1514.0	74.0
RECRUITS	0.0	56.0	(56.0)
NON-SWORN	577.5	584.7	(7.2)
FULL COMPLEMENT	2165.5	2154.7	10.8

Financials

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

	2011 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	Budget	Actual	Var	%	Budget	Projected	Var	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act	\$8,134	\$8,915	\$781	9.6%	\$12,158	\$12,908	\$750	6.2%
Transfer to COE General Revenues	-	(781)	(781)		-	(750)	(750)	
Provincial Grants	23,194	22,983	(211)	-0.9%	23,194	22,983	(211)	-0.9%
Other	18,291	17,706	(585)	-3.2%	26,867	25,793	(1,074)	-4.0%
Total Revenue	49,619	48,823	(796)	-1.6%	62,219	60,934	(1,285)	-2.1%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and benefits	155,186	153,507	1,679	1.1%	234,333	231,912	2,421	1.0%
EPS Overtime	5,529	5,711	(182)	-3.3%	8,691	9,056	(365)	-4.2%
External Overtime	199	285	(86)	-43.2%	299	450	(151)	-50.5%
	160,914	159,503	1,411	0.9%	243,323	241,418	1,905	0.8%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	8,004	7,048	956	11.9%	11,177	10,989	188	1.7%
Contracts and services	12,695	12,044	651	5.1%	20,116	20,003	113	0.6%
Vehicles	4,354	4,899	(545)	-12.5%	7,063	7,976	(913)	-12.9%
Facilities	9,037	8,754	283	3.1%	13,480	13,334	146	1.1%
Other	2,361	2,017	344	14.6%	2,847	2,750	97	3.4%
	36,451	34,762	1,689	4.6%	54,683	55,052	(369)	-0.7%
Total Expenditures	197,365	194,265	3,100	1.6%	298,006	296,470	1,536	0.5%
Position before Adjustments	147,746	145,442	2,304	1.6%	235,787	235,536	251	0.1%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					6,506	6,506	-	0.0%
Net Position	\$147,746	\$145,442	\$2,304	1.6%	\$242,293	\$242,042	\$251	0.1%