



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2014 Fourth Quarter



CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGETS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL

Preparation for the 2015 budget year was especially busy, given the Edmonton Police Commission and the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) prepared both the 2015-2018 capital and the 2015 operating budget proposals for presentation to City Council.

“The service packages that were put forward in the capital and operating budgets were those the Commission believed to be important to the successful operation of the Edmonton Police Service and ultimately of benefit to the citizens of Edmonton.”

– Chair Shami Sandhu, Edmonton Police Commission

The 2015-2018 Capital Budget identified eleven projects that are essential for ongoing Edmonton Police Service programs. Four projects, worth \$71.5 million, related to growth and the seven remaining projects, worth \$64.6 million, related to the renewal of existing assets. During the presentation to City Council on November 27, the Commission and Service highlighted the Digital Asset Management System, Northwest Campus, Public Safety Radio System, helicopter, and the co-located dispatch centre.

Although it was a demanding fiscal year for City Council, all 11 capital projects were approved either in whole or in part.

On December 4, the Commission and EPS presented the proposed 2015 Operating Budget to City Council. Preparation of the operating budget took into account several internal and external factors such as service standards; response times; crime rates; physical, economic and growth rates in Edmonton; downtown development; and increasing legal requirements.

To address some of these issues, the EPS will be implementing two service packages in 2015. The first service package - 14 positions for the new Northwest Division - was funded with the budget initially allocated to EPS. Council approved the second service package for 17 frontline patrol officers and 18 additional staff for various operational areas.

[Click here to view the presentations that were given to City Council.](#)

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APPENDICES

EPS RECEIVES NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

EPS members, sworn and non-sworn, work hard to make Edmonton the safest major city in Canada, and for the Service to be recognized as a leader in policing. In 2014, several employees and units received national and international recognition.

- Acting Detective Bryce Clarke received the Canadian Paraplegic Association (Alberta) 2014 Shining Star Award.
- EPS Service Dog Quanto was posthumously enshrined in the Purina Animal Hall of Fame.
- School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit became the first Canadian SRO Unit to win the US-based National Association of School Resource Officers Model Agency Award.
- Inspector Dan Jones and Sergeant David Kabyn were presented with The Centre to End All Sexual Exploitation 2014 Men of Honour Awards.
- University of Alberta selected Constable Alana Savage as one of three 2014 Alumni Award of Excellence winners.
- Corporate Communications Unit won three awards:
 - International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) award for Internal Communications for the This Is Who I Am video series.
 - IABC External Communications award and a PR Daily award for the best television commercial category for the Speak Out domestic violence awareness campaign.
- Superintendents Greg Preston and Mark Neufeld received the Order of Merit of Police Officers for their contributions to Canadian policing throughout their careers.
- EPS received a Silver Award from Canadian Occupational Safety Magazine, as one of Canada's Safest Employers.



On September 9, 2014, Superintendents Greg Preston (top photo) and Mark Neufeld were invested in the Order of Merit of the Police Forces by His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D., Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada, at a ceremony held at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

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APPENDICES

SECOND EPS COMIC BOOK RELEASED

Legacy of Heroes: Flight into Danger is an exciting true story taken from the EPS archives.

In 1919, Constable William Nixon was shot while on patrol. Before he died, Constable Nixon identified his killer, a petty criminal named John Larson. Larson fled the city, heading for the remote coal mining town of Mountain Park.

Police Chief Hill looked to the sky for a solution. He found it in the form of ace pilot Wilfred "Wop" May. May and his brother owned one of the world's first barnstorming companies.

On September 1, 1919, Detective James Campbell boarded May's fragile Curtiss Jenny aircraft, and took off in pursuit of Nixon's killer.

"It was a daring move on the part of the police," says Legacy of Heroes writer Jeff Awid. "Airplanes were relatively new, and as far as we know, had never before been used to go after a criminal."

"When you think about it, it's pretty amazing," says artist Jared Robinson. "Where do you land your plane when you run out of fuel and airports haven't been built yet? It must have taken a lot of guts to do what Wop May and Detective Campbell did."

Legacy of Heroes: Flight into Danger was released in early October and is the second issue in the popular comic book series. The first featured Alex Decoteau, a young Métis man who joined the police department in 1911 and became the first Aboriginal police officer in Canada.



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MAKE YOUR MOVE TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE

In December, the EPS launched *Make Your Move*, a public awareness campaign that urges people to get involved and interrupt behaviours that may lead to sexual violence.

"Sexual assault is a serious crime the EPS continues to see in the city, and these incidents are often facilitated by alcohol," says Staff Sergeant Shawna Grimes with the Sexual Assault Section. "The *Make Your Move* message encourages bar patrons to look out for each other by stopping comments and actions that promote sexual violence."

In 2014, 374 sexual assaults were reported to the EPS Sexual Assault Section, an increase from 355 reported in 2013, and 337 in 2012.

"Education and public awareness campaigns often encourage people to come forward and report incidents of sexual violence to the police," says Grimes. "We want to empower others to do the same."

Make Your Move is aimed at bar patrons, both men and women, and the main messages are simple but head-turning: look out for each other, get your friends home safely, and never feel like you owe anyone anything.

The campaign ran from December 15, 2014 to January 11, 2015, with print posters displayed in the washrooms of approximately 20 bars across Edmonton. The campaign was also featured on social media through the EPS Facebook, Twitter and Flickr accounts.



DOGS ARE A KID'S BEST FRIEND!



Constable Ryan Busby and Police Service Dog Jagger visited Katherine Therrien Elementary School on November 28 to speak to students about crime prevention and careers in policing. The EPS Canine Unit visits approximately 75 schools and attends 350 public events annually.

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APPENDICES

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VICTIMIZATION

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

INCREASED EFFICIENCY
AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

EPS AFRICAN COMMUNITY TOWN HALL MEETING

In November, the EPS African Community Liaison Committee (ACLC) hosted a town hall meeting at Edmonton's Africa Centre to help provide the city's multicultural and diverse communities with opportunities for dialogue, awareness, and partnership in community policing.

In attendance were Chief Rod Knecht and senior officers, as well as representatives from EPS Recruiting; Victim Services; Hate Crimes; the Equity, Diversity, Human Rights Unit; EPS Northeast Division; the City of Edmonton; and City Council.

A variety of topics and issues were covered in the presentations and the question and answer session, and feedback from participants was positive.

"We've seen some very positive relationships develop when we've acted as a bridge between the police and the community," says Jidiri Ndagije, Co-Chair of the ACLC. "For community policing to be successful, people need to trust police, and go to the police when they need assistance."

The ACLC attends several meetings and events annually in the African community. This was the second time the ACLC hosted a town hall meeting between police and the community, with the first meeting held on March 15, 2012.

Diverse, a Canadian multicultural awareness magazine, ranked the EPS African Town Hall Meeting as one of the top events that shaped diversity and inclusion in Edmonton in 2014.



Over 250 Edmontonians of African heritage met with members of the EPS to discuss policing concerns and highlight opportunities to work together.



"We have a unique opportunity through the ACLC to work together and build trust – because communication builds understanding, understanding builds trust, and trust builds relationships." - Jidiri Ndagije

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AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES

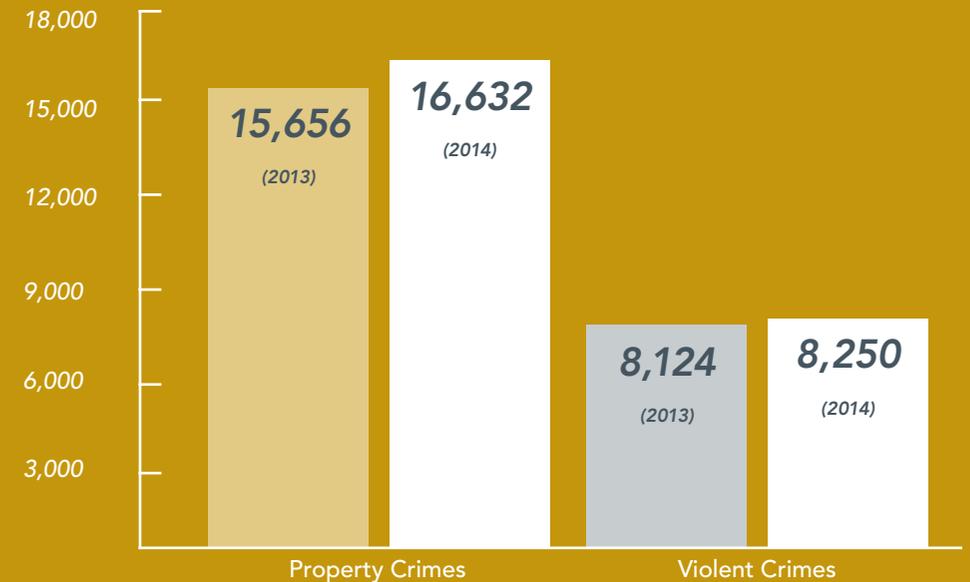
6TH ANNUAL McCAULEY CUP

More than 50 youth and EPS officers participated in this year's McCauley Cup on December 23. Downtown Division has organized the McCauley Cup for the last six years. The friendly game of hockey builds positive relationships between the youth and police officers.



Donated by Elite Sportswear, medals were given out to each youth at the end of the hockey game.

OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS 2013 AND 2014 YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS



In the fourth quarter, property crimes increased by 6.2 per cent and violent crimes decreased by 1.6 per cent, compared to the same time frame in 2013.

THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS ARE:

VIOLENT CRIMES

- Homicide
- Assault
- Sexual assault
- Robbery

PROPERTY CRIMES

- Break and enter
- Theft from vehicle
- Theft of vehicle
- Theft over \$5,000

The eight crime indicators are measured daily and the data is used to focus on criminal activity and identify trends, patterns, and hot spots in Edmonton. Police resources are then deployed to address emerging and enduring crime and disorder issues. Violent crime statistics are based on the number of victims of crime, rather than the number of incidents of crime.

Data retrieved January 22, 2015.

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APPENDICES

CAT TARGETS CRIME IN CLAREVIEW

The EPS Community Action Team (CAT) targeted crime and disorder in and around the Clareview Campus corridor in November to help reduce property crimes that typically increase with the start of the Christmas season.

Increased police resources patrolled hot spot locations for suspicious activities, the EPS Specialized Traffic Apprehension Teams (STAT) focused on traffic enforcement along roadways and parking lots, and officers and volunteers educated residents and visitors about crimes in the area. Police were on the lookout for prolific offenders, executed criminal warrants, and checked that individuals were complying with court-imposed conditions. Various social agencies also assisted in connecting vulnerable persons with needed services.

Overall, crime indicators in the area dropped by approximately 75 per cent during the CAT deployment and retail businesses reported that shoplifting was down. Police made four arrests, laid 27 charges, issued 149 tickets, executed 85 warrants, seized eight vehicles, and had over 500 interactions with members of the public about crimes in the area.



Acting Staff Sergeant Steven Maertens-Poole with EPS Northeast Division coordinates police resources for the CAT deployment that took place in mid-November.

EPS TACKLES CYBERCRIME WITH NEW INVESTIGATIVE DETAIL

In late 2014, the EPS announced plans for a new four-member detail to investigate cybercrime.

Cybercrime investigators will look at everything from complex cyberbullying to extortion. They will also assist other areas of the service with criminal investigations that involve computers or other technological devices such as smartphones.

Cybercrime is a growing issue in Edmonton. In 2012, there were 51 reported incidents, with that number almost tripling in 2013 to 144 cases. Given the prevalence and rapidly progressing technology in our environment, specialized skills in addressing these types of crimes are a necessity for any major police service.

“Cyber threats, which are increasing in number, impact our city’s and nation’s security and economy, as well as the average citizen,” says Inspector Chad Tawfik. “Cyber criminals work beyond borders and technology allows them to plot against victims here in the Edmonton area.”

The new unit is expected to start in 2015.

CHECKSTOPS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Each year, EPS officers spend numerous hours at Checkstop locations, speaking to thousands of motorists as they pass through. In the 29 Checkstop campaigns deployed by EPS in 2014, a total of 160 impaired arrests were made and 240 suspensions were issued.

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APPENDICES

OPERATION 24 HOURS HANDS OUT MORE THAN 19,000 VIOLATIONS IN 2014

In 2014, more than 19,000 tickets were issued by EPS officers and automated enforcement during Operation 24 Hours, a regular enforcement initiative that targets excessive speeding and dangerous driving practices.

The last Operation 24 Hours of the year took place on Wednesday, October 29. In the 24-hour enforcement period, 1,866 speeding violations were issued and 514 tickets were handed out for a variety of violations, including seatbelt infractions, impaired driving, distracted driving, traffic safety violations, and Criminal Code violations.

One motorist was stopped by Northeast Division officers at Yellowhead Trail and Victoria Trail for failing to obey a traffic control device. The driver failed to provide documentation, and investigation by officers determined he was wanted on five outstanding warrants, including three counts of sexual assault. The man was taken into custody and charged with suspended driving and breach of recognizance.

Operation 24 Hours was held seven times in 2014, with 19,429 tickets issued, including 16,272 for speeding violations. This is an increase from the eight enforcement initiatives held in 2013, where 18,663 tickets were issued, 14,706 for speeding offences.

An EPS officer conducts laser speed enforcement as part of Operation 24 Hours. Operation 24 Hours is held throughout the year to improve traffic safety in the city.



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COMMONWEALTH GAMES BID PROCESS UPDATE

Although the City of Edmonton pulled its bid for the 2022 Commonwealth Games in February 2015, the EPS spent considerable time in the 4th quarter of 2014 preparing the safety and security portion of the proposal.

“The goal was to show that Edmonton and Canada have the experience, the competency, and the resources to allow for a safe environment to host the Commonwealth Games,” says Inspector Ed Mclsaac. “The expectation was that the Games will not have an impact on the day-to-day operations of policing Edmonton.”

Inspector Mclsaac and Constable Nigel Headley examined all police and emergency services in the region, and estimated the total human resources required. They also developed a staffing phase-in period leading up to the Games, should Edmonton be selected.

“A staffing plan has been established that is consistent with past Games and accounts for police officers, peace officers, security guards and volunteers,” says Inspector Mclsaac. “We attempted to identify all logistical support in order to facilitate, enhance, and secure the unique experience of the Commonwealth Games for participants, visitors, and citizens.”



NEW APP ALLOWS CITIZENS TO JOIN THE FIGHT ON CRIME

In mid-October, EPS launched its first external app. A free download from iTunes and Google Play, the app provides easy access to online reporting, media releases, and updates on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest, and Flickr. The app helps users find police stations and it has an alert feature that allows notifications to be pushed out, such as traffic conditions, suspicious individuals, and missing persons alerts.

New features coming in the future include geographic-specific alerts and crime mapping.

This app is not for emergencies and does not replace 911.



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APPENDICES

APPENDICES

EPS STAFF COMPLEMENT

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2014 AUTHORIZED FTE'S	2014 FTE'S AS OF 2014 DECEMBER 31	VACANCIES (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1,668.0	1,589.6	78.4
RECRUITS	0.0	76.0	(76.0)
NON-SWORN	668.0	685.2	(17.2)
FULL COMPLEMENT	2,336.0	2,350.8	(14.8)

The authorized FTE's represent 2336.00 authorized positions in 2014

OTHER COMMISSION AND EPS PUBLICATIONS

The Edmonton Police Commission and the Edmonton Police Service publish a number of reports that provide further details on policing in Edmonton.

OPERATIONAL AREA	PUBLICATION
Performance Measurement	Annual Policing Plan
Performance Results	Annual Policing Plan Report Card
Complaints Against EPS	Professional Standards Branch Annual Report
Citizen Opinions on Policing	Citizen Survey

All publications can be found at www.edmontonpolicecommission.ca and www.edmontonpolice.ca

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APPENDICES

APPENDICES

FINANCIALS

BUDGET VARIANCE BY MAJOR CATEGORY OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2014 (\$000'S)

	2014 YEAR END			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%
REVENUE				
Traffic Safety Act Fines	\$16,158	\$13,552	\$(2,606)	-16.1%
Provincial Grants	23,580	24,166	586	2.5%
Other Revenue	27,067	27,579	512	1.9%
TOTAL REVENUE	66,805	65,297	(1,508)	-2.3%
EXPENDITURES				
PERSONNEL				
Salary and benefits	274,749	273,761	988	0.4%
EPS Overtime	10,119	10,515	(396)	-3.9%
External Overtime	432	479	(47)	-10.9%
	285,300	284,755	545	0.2%
NON-PERSONNEL				
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	11,804	13,790	(1,986)	-16.8%
Contracts and services	18,609	18,565	44	0.2%
Vehicles	8,167	7,960	207	2.5%
Facilities	16,197	15,240	957	5.9%
Other Expenditures	12,038	11,149	889	7.4%
	66,815	66,704	111	0.2%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	352,115	351,459	656	0.2%
NET POSITION	\$285,310	\$286,162	\$(852)	-0.3%

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AND EFFECTIVENESS

APPENDICES