



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2015 First Quarter



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REDUCED CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

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EPS CONSTABLE ROB BROWN NAMED KIWANIS TOP COP 2014

Constable Rob Brown was the recipient of the 39th annual Oil Capital Kiwanis Top Cop Award. He was selected for volunteering countless hours to the Eastglen High School Blue Devils football team.

The award, recognising an active-duty officer who exhibits excellence in community policing both on the job and after hours, was presented in March.

Constable Brown was a professional football player with the Edmonton Eskimos and the Montreal Alouettes. After retiring from the CFL, he moved back to Edmonton and became a member of the EPS in 2009. In 2013, Rob joined Eastglen Composite High School as their School Resource Officer (SRO), and soon became the assistant coach of the Eastglen Blue Devils football team.

He worked behind the scenes and asked his Edmonton Eskimo alumni connections to provide some much needed used equipment for the Blue Devils. This led to Nissan Canada contacting him with some amazing news.

Each year Nissan searches for high schools across Canada that need a helping hand, and Eastglen was one of two Alberta schools chosen. Nissan generously provided funding for the team, new uniforms and equipment, and renovated the team's locker room. They also provided the team with an all-expenses paid trip to the 2014 Grey Cup in Vancouver.

Sergeant Ray Wood, SRO Unit, nominated Constable Brown and says, "The SRO Unit is indeed lucky to have Constable Rob Brown residing in our city. His actions show the phenomenal things we can do as a police service in our community."

"Top Cops possess a dedication to the community, a passion for caring that drills deep into the core of their character," says Chief Rod Knecht. "Constable Rob Brown is that kind of police officer. He is a true leader, an outstanding person that knows the value of community service and community building."

Police Chief Rod Knecht; Heather Gillis, President of the Kiwanis Club of Edmonton - Oil Capital; Constable Rob Brown; Ed Hervey, General Manager, Edmonton Eskimos; Darren Fox, Principal, Eastglen Composite High School; and Carol Symons, Director of District Support Services, Edmonton Public School Board.



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THIS IS WHO WE ARE

The EPS is filled with talented sworn and civilian members who dedicate their lives to keeping the community safe and constantly work to be leaders in policing.

The video series, "This is Who We Are," highlights teams within the EPS and shows how relationships with external partners complement complex investigations. The first video in the series featured Economic Crimes Section and was launched during Fraud Prevention Month in March 2015.

EPS' preceding YouTube series, "This is Who I Am," features unique stories of EPS employees who are making a positive impact in the organization.



RTC #130 GRADUATES

Excitement, anticipation, and nervousness surged in the air the afternoon of February 14 as 28 EPS recruits (23 males, five females) and two police service dogs gathered at Edmonton City Hall and were sworn-in as new officers. 2015 will see another two classes graduating, with an anticipated total of 80 new officers hitting the streets this year.



Chief Knecht looks on as Constable Ryan Clary receives his graduation diploma from his father, RCMP Staff Sergeant Wayne Clary.

ENGAGING THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY

The EPS participated in a Muslim community engagement session hosted by the Edmonton Council for Muslim Communities on March 23, 2015 at the Edmonton Islamic Academy. Acting Chief Brian Simpson, Deputy Chief Tony Harder, and other EPS members (sworn and civilian) built positive relationships with the community. Mayor Don Iveson, city councillors, and the RCMP also took part in this session. Over 30 Muslim communities were represented at the event.

Building relationships and trust with our diverse communities continues to be part of EPS's ongoing commitment to becoming Canada's safest major city.



Mayor Don Iveson and EPS Inspector Dan Jones engage in dialogue with Muslim community leaders.

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CAT CONTINUES TO PROWL THROUGHOUT EDMONTON

Community Action Team (CAT) is part of the ongoing EPS Violence Reduction Strategy that brings police and other civic resources into communities to target violence and disorder. Social agencies also assist with connecting vulnerable persons to services such as housing and addiction counselling.

In the first quarter of 2015, CAT was busy with three deployments: Alberta Avenue, Bonnie Doon, and Edmonton City Centre Mall. While all deployments are similar, each one is specific to the needs of the community. The January CAT deployment in the Alberta Avenue area focused its resources on reducing the growing number of property crimes and encouraging neighbourhood residents to participate in the efforts. February's four-day deployment in Bonnie Doon focused on patrolling the community and conducting curfew checks. Acting Staff Sergeant Ben Fox added, "In Bonnie Doon, we did follow-up on individuals with outstanding warrants."

The March deployment at City Centre Mall connected citizens with EPS officers and social agencies that provide community support.

Since its inception in September 2011, there have been 43 CAT deployments, resulting in:

- Total arrests: 1,682
- Warrants executed: 4,797
- Charges laid: 1,279
- Tickets written: 9,131
- Public interactions: 82,430
- Housing referrals: 122
- Residences visited: 4,339
- Partners from other agencies assisting: 416



Acting Staff Sergeant Ben Fox high-fives neighbourhood kids at the community barbecue at Bonnie Doon mall.



Staff Sergeant Bruce Edwards with honorary EPS recruit, Zaden, at the Alberta Avenue CAT deployment.



EPS members and various social agency participants kicked-off the March CAT deployment in City Centre Mall.

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NET BRINGS SAFER PARKING INITIATIVE TO AHS

When his boss told him about the Safer Parking Initiative (SPI) program that could make parking lots safer, Jeff Bevan, a security advisor with Alberta Health Services (AHS), was immediately interested. After all, it is his job to conduct security assessments at AHS sites in Edmonton. That means ensuring safety in their parking lots and multi-storey parkades is part of his job.

The SPI program awards parking facilities that have been vetted by Edmonton Police Service and Neighbourhood Empowerment Team (NET). Award recipients have met program criteria in areas such as lighting, signage, maintenance, pedestrian access and management practices.

“Alberta Health Services is highly committed to the safety of our facilities,” says Bevan. We want the SPI program to be successful in Edmonton and then expand it to other AHS facilities in the province.”

“We know from talking to police officers and community members that in some lots people are afraid to park because of the activity they see going on,” said Connie Marciniuk, Community Capacity Builder with NET. “It’s not just about theft from vehicles, it’s about whether or not people feel safe. Is it dark? Is it unclean and poorly maintained? Are people loitering? These are the things that make people fear being victimized.”

Safer Parking Award Winning Lot
Managed by:



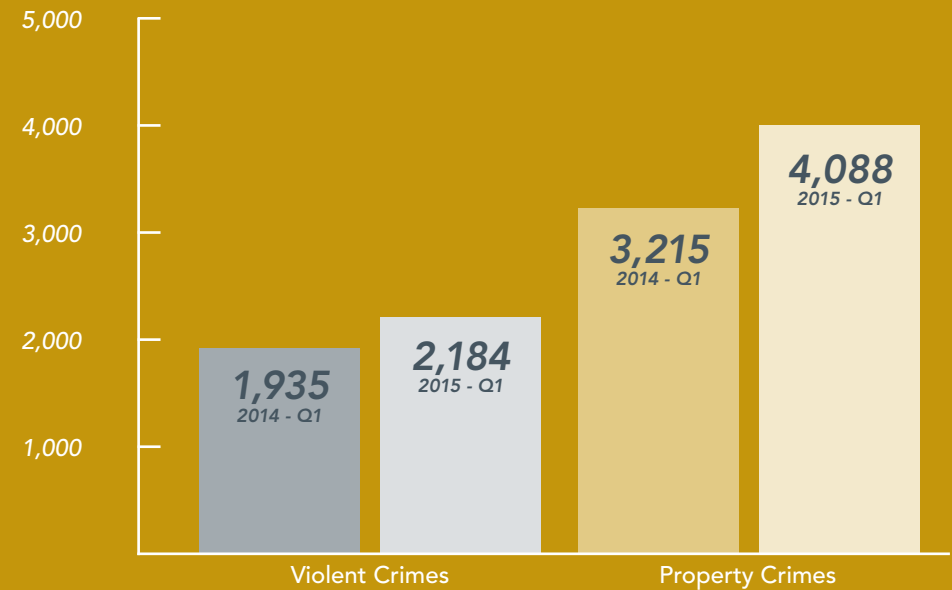
While AHS currently has two award-winning parking facilities (the Kaye Edmonton Clinic and the east parkade at the University Hospital campus) Bevan is working on meeting program criteria at other AHS sites in their Edmonton zone.

“We’re always looking for technical or design features that further the safety of our patients, staff and visitors,” says Bevan. “Certification through SPI highlights our ongoing commitment.”

Vancouver police and Canadian Direct Insurance partnered with the EPS and NET to bring the program to Edmonton last year. Since then, five lots have received awards and seven are in the process of meeting criteria.

For more information, visit www.saferparkingedmonton.com.

OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS 2014 AND 2015 YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS



In the first quarter, property crimes increased by 27.2 per cent and violent crimes increased by 12.9 per cent, compared to the same time frame in 2014.

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.

Source: Cognos CSR-12 UCR Violations. Generated 04/14/15.

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UAV TAKES FLIGHT WITH THE EDMONTON POLICE SERVICE

EPS is now using an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in traffic collision investigations.

"The UAV provides aerial data for collision reconstruction and effective courtroom testimony," says Constable Binoy Prabhu, lead of the UAV program with EPS Traffic Section. "The UAV can take specific scene data and evidence which we can then use for forensic measurement that assists major collision investigators."

Information provided from the UAV allows investigators to effectively measure and examine tire marks, distances and lines of sight.

Traffic Section conceived the idea of using an UAV for collision investigation in January 2014. In June 2014, the EPS received its operations certificate by Transport Canada.

Major Collision Investigation Unit first used the UAV in a fatal collision on June 29, 2014 and has since used the UAV in over 15 major collision investigations.

The EPS follows Transport Canada regulations. Operation of the UAV requires proper permits and pilot training. Flight plans must be filed to notify other pilots operating in the area.

Traffic Section now has three officers fully trained to operate the UAV and four other police officers at various stages of training to qualify as UAV operators.

EPS UAV FACTS

- Operated by two police officers (pilot and spotter) and UAV must be kept in sight at all times.
- Restricted by present Transport Canada Special Flight Operations Certificate (SFOC) to an operational altitude of 300 feet above ground level.
- Can remain in the air for approximately 12 minutes and has an effective control range of over 2,000 feet.
- The UAV includes a flight data recorder; a 5,000 lumen search light; thermal imaging capabilities; and a remote controlled digital camera.



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RUBBER HITTING THE ROAD

No amount of snow could stop Scona Beat officers from putting the rubber to the road this winter.

With the emergence of the “fatbike,” Scona Beat officers have the option of patrolling the Whyte Avenue area year-round, regardless of the winter conditions.

“With 26-inch tires surrounded by four-inch wide rubber, we’re not racing around Old Scona, per say, it’s more like hunting,” said Constable Mike Zacharuk, noting the wide-rimmed bikes also come in handy when working on missing person investigations.

An avid rider and owner of a fatbike, Constable Zacharuk made a successful pitch for the purchase of two fatbikes for deployment with Scona Beats. Initially conceptualized in Alaska, and since deployed with numerous police services in Idaho, California and Utah, the fatbike provides police with greater visibility and access to various terrains, even in harsh winter climates such as Edmonton.

“The EPS has an active bike detail, but typically only throughout the summer months,” explained Constable Mike Zacharuk. “Now with the introduction of fatbikes, we’ll be able to deploy a couple of officers year-round throughout the Old Scona area.”

It’s difficult to argue with success. Fatbikes had an immediate impact as a crime-fighting tool on Edmonton streets within their first week of deployment. While on the hunt for a violent young offender in January, Constable Zacharuk and Constable Ryan Katchur

discreetly rolled up to a popular coffee shop near the University of Alberta riding their new fatbikes. In a matter of 35 minutes, a 20-year-old male suspect was arrested.

The fatbikes are also quickly becoming a conversation piece for police, providing another opportunity for positive interaction with the public.

“They’re certainly getting people’s attention,” said Constable Zacharuk. “In a city that is increasingly trying to encourage cycling on our streets, this initiative shows the community that we’re a proactive police service that rides year-round.”



Constables Mike Zacharuk and Ryan Katchur on Whyte Avenue with their fatbikes.

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NORTHWEST DIVISION INTERIM STATION UP AND RUNNING

Temperatures hitting -30C could not dampen the spirits of Patrol Squad #6 officers who hit the ground running when Northwest Division began operations at 7 a.m. on Sunday, January 4, 2015.

Since then, Northwest officers have been busy with a variety of proactive duties and call responses, such as the quick and successful conclusion of a car theft with a baby on board, and hosting the division's first CAT deployment in late January. The officers have also been actively getting to know community partners, business owners and residents.

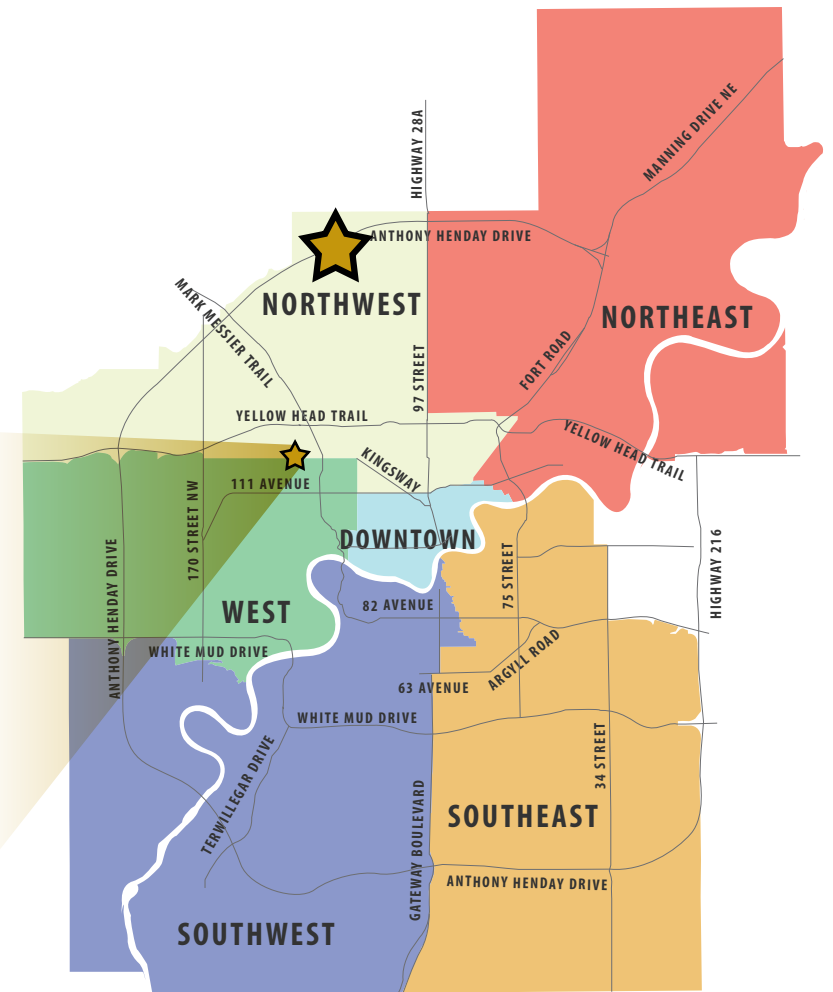
The opening of Northwest Division was smooth thanks to the collaborative work of members across the entire organization.

The new division was created to respond to urban growth. In 2007, EPS was divided into five divisions that varied in size and caseloads. Over time, unbalanced workloads and span of control issues emerged, and in 2011, EPS began reviewing the boundaries to address these issues. By consulting with divisional staff and analyzing crimes per neighbourhood, EPS developed a model for six divisions to more equitably distribute the police workload across the city.

Preliminary analysis of call volumes is showing Northwest Division is helping to improve EPS response times and evenly distribute workloads between Northeast, Downtown and West Divisions.



The temporary Northwest Division Station is located on 116 Avenue and 142 Street. There is no public access at the temporary facility, however, the public will be able to attend the permanent Northwest Station when it opens in the EPS Campus near 127 Street and Anthony Henday Drive in 2018.



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EPS STAFF COMPLEMENT

SWORN, NON-SWORN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2015 AUTHORIZED FTE'S	2015 FTE'S AS OF 2015 MARCH 31	VACANCIES (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1,692.00	1,604.88	87.12
RECRUITS	0.00	83.00	(83.00)
NON-SWORN	695.75	685.16	10.59
FULL COMPLEMENT	2,387.75	2,373.04	14.71

The authorized FTE's represent 2387.75 authorized positions in 2015

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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FINANCIALS

BUDGET VARIANCE BY MAJOR CATEGORY OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2015 (\$000'S)

	2015 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act Fines	\$2,046	\$1,864	\$(182)	-8.9%	\$14,408	\$14,095	\$(313)	-2.2%
Transfer from Reserve (Office of Traffic Safety)	-	-	-		15,700	15,700	-	0.0%
Provincial Grants	433	91	(342)	-79.0%	27,148	27,148	-	0.0%
Other Revenue	4,288	3,921	(366)	-8.5%	28,033	26,903	(1,130)	-4.0%
TOTAL REVENUE	6,767	5,876	(890)	-13.2%	85,289	83,846	(1,443)	-1.7%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and benefits	49,414	47,754	1,660	3.4%	283,914	283,338	576	0.2%
EPS Overtime	1,569	1,645	(76)	-4.8%	10,232	10,232	-	0.0%
External Overtime	74	48	26	35.1%	445	518	(73)	-16.4%
	51,057	49,447	1,610	3.2%	294,591	294,088	503	0.2%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	4,564	4,075	489	10.7%	13,274	13,744	(470)	-3.5%
Contracts and services	3,182	2,496	686	21.6%	22,383	22,367	16	0.1%
Vehicles	1,149	886	263	22.9%	7,136	7,136	-	0.0%
Facilities	2,742	2,282	460	16.8%	17,079	16,784	295	1.7%
Other Expenditures	169	(146)	314	186.1%	3,952	3,982	(30)	-0.8%
	11,806	9,593	2,212	18.7%	63,824	64,013	(189)	-0.3%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	62,863	59,040	3,822	6.1%	358,415	358,101	314	0.1%
POSITION BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS	56,096	53,164	2,932	5.2%	273,126	274,255	(1,129)	-0.4%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					5,320	5,320	-	0.0%
NET POSITION	\$56,096	\$53,164	\$2,932	5.2%	\$278,446	\$279,575	\$(1,129)	-0.4%