



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2016 Second Quarter

COMMITTED TO POLICING EXCELLENCE



CITY PARK DEDICATED TO FALLEN CONSTABLE



On June 8, 2016, one year after Constable Dan Woodall was killed in the line of duty, the Woodall family, citizens, municipal leaders and Edmonton Police Service (EPS) members came together to honour his life by dedicating a park in his name.

Located in the Woodall family's neighbourhood of South Terwillegar, and featuring a soccer pitch, baseball diamond, and toboggan hill, Constable Dan Woodall Park will pay tribute to a devoted family man who loved soccer. Following the official ceremony, members of the EPS Blues soccer team, EPS recruits and Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson joined Constable Woodall's two sons, Gabe and Callen, in an inaugural match on the park's pitch.

In the heart of the park, an Autumn Blaze Maple tree was planted in Constable Woodall's memory. The tree's compost was created from flowers given to police in the days following his death. He is also remembered by a monument and several commemorative benches that were donated and placed throughout the park. He will be missed, but as the plaque in Constable Dan Woodall Park says, "his memory will be with us forever."



Claire Woodall and her sons, Callen and Gabe, at Constable Dan Woodall Park in southwest Edmonton.

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2016 CITIZEN SURVEY RESULTS

Every two years, the Edmonton Police Commission and the EPS work together to prepare and implement a citizen survey. The survey measures several aspects, including citizen satisfaction with and perception of policing in Edmonton, perception of crime and disorder, and top policing priorities.

The information is used to inform policing priorities as the Commission and the EPS pursue their shared vision of making Edmonton the safest major city in Canada and for the EPS to be recognized as a leader in policing.

People who had contact with EPS over the past year were asked how satisfied they were with the service they received. Answers ranged from 78 per cent satisfaction with response times to 87 per cent satisfaction with the online crime reporting tool. Ninety-four per cent of respondents stated that they either somewhat or strongly agreed that they had confidence in the EPS.

The top three city-wide issues that respondents felt the EPS should address were traffic, drugs, and general crime. The top three issues Edmontonians reported as affecting their neighbourhood were speeding/careless driving, people breaking into homes, and suspicious loitering. In addition, 80 per cent of respondents felt very safe or reasonably safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark.

The survey was also piloted online using the City of Edmonton's Insight community; an inclusive and accessible online citizen panel made up of diverse Edmontonians who provide feedback on City policies, initiatives and issues. Results are expected in the third quarter.

[View the full 2016 Citizen Survey document here.](#)

Under the Alberta Policing Standards, the EPS is required to formally consult with Edmontonians at least once every four years.

They must seek opinions on the following matters:

- *the performance of the police service*
- *the conduct of police personnel*
- *the interaction of police officers with citizens*
- *public perceptions regarding safety and security in the community*
- *recommendations for improvement, and*
- *citizens' level of satisfaction.*

CITY BREAKS GROUND ON ALEX DECOTEAU PARK



Chris Buyze, President of the Downtown Edmonton Community League; Lieutenant-Colonel Kevin Weidlich; Mayor Don Iveson; Izola Mottershead; Deputy Chief Tony Harder; and Councillor Scott McKeen.

On the northwest corner of 105 Street and 102 Avenue, right in the heart of downtown, there sits a potholed dirt parking lot with sagging wooden dividers. Thanks to the efforts of the City of Edmonton, the Downtown Edmonton Community League (DECL) and a group of students from Patricia Heights Elementary School, this worn-out lot will soon be transformed into the Alex Decoteau Park.

"When you open parks like this, it creates safe zones. It creates good places for people to go, and when good people go to places like that, they stay good."

- Deputy Chief Tony Harder

On June 10, Deputy Chief Tony Harder joined Mayor Iveson, Decoteau decedent Ms. Izola Mottershead, and DECL President Chris Buyze to break ground.

Son of a Métis father and a Cree mother, Alex Decoteau joined the Edmonton Police Service in 1911, becoming Canada's first Aboriginal police officer. He was also a decorated athlete who competed in the Olympics in 1912 and a Canadian soldier who gave his life at Passchendaele in 1917.

When a class of elementary students from Patricia Heights school heard his inspiring story, they decided a park should be named after this multi-faceted Canadian hero. Their idea was quickly supported by community members and the Edmonton Police Service, and their vision will soon become reality.

When the new park opens in 2017, it will feature water fountains, a fenced off-leash area, public art and a community vegetable garden. It is the first park to be built downtown in more than 15 years, and will bring a much-anticipated community green space to the city's core.

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EDMONTON POLICE CADETS GRADUATE



On Wednesday, June 1, over 200 people gathered at MacEwan University to acknowledge 48 Edmonton Police Service Cadets for their commitment to their corps and to the community.

EPS Recruit Constable Jack Klick spoke about how participating in the cadet program helped him in his journey to become a police officer. "Having always wanted to become a police officer, I saw cadets as a form of an extended job interview," says Constable Klick. "It allowed me so many opportunities to absorb EPS values, such as integrity, teamwork and altruism. It has prepared me to give my best throughout my recruit training."

Two cadet alumni are currently in training to become sworn EPS officers and two more are applying to the service.

Awards handed out that evening included the Danny Kam Memorial for exemplary dedication, spirit and enthusiasm; Unsung Hero; Top Fitness; Dress and Department; and EPCC Leadership Award.

The Edmonton Police Service Cadet Program provides youth interested in law enforcement with opportunities for skill enhancement, community service and leadership. For more information, visit www.edmontonpolice.ca/joineps/cadets.

EPS EXTENDS A HELPING HAND



As the Fort McMurray and area fire evacuees started arriving in Edmonton in early May, members of the EPS were called into action. From working at the Emergency Operation Centre, to escorting Edmonton Fire Rescue Services pumper trucks to Fort McMurray, and to members of the Victim Services Unit (VSU) assisting evacuees at the Reception Centre with registration, food, clothing, lodging banking and insurance claims, EPS was on hand throughout the entire 24-day crisis.

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“FAKE GUN, REAL DANGER” SAFETY CAMPAIGN

At the end of June, the EPS launched a safety campaign to educate youth about the dangers of playing with imitation guns such as airsoft in public spaces like residential neighbourhoods, parks, and malls.

Police respond to numerous incidents where firearms are reported, but upon closer examination, the guns are revealed to be imitations. Because these guns look realistic, the potential exists for a deadly confrontation between police and the individuals carrying them.

In 2014, imitation guns were involved in 1,160 EPS files, and in 2015, the number went up to nearly 1,600 EPS files. These occurrences typically rise over the summer with more youth playing outdoors and in public.

The EPS developed the safety campaign in consultation with the community to build awareness around imitation guns, encourage their safe use, and reduce the number of incidents requiring police response.

The campaign targets imitation gun owners as well as the general public through a series of provocative multimedia materials. The message is simple: police can't tell if your gun is real or fake. Avoid a confrontation. Don't show imitation guns in public.

Imitation guns can be fun to play with, but they must be used in a safe, responsible and lawful manner.

[Click here for more information on imitation gun safety.](#)

Constable Clay Hilbert illustrates how similar a fake gun is to a real gun and warns “If it looks like a gun, police must treat it like a gun.”



LOOKS CAN BE DECEIVING

Police can't tell if your gun is real or fake.
Avoid a confrontation. Don't show imitation guns in public.

edmontonpolice.ca/fakegunrealdanger

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NEW APPROACH TO COMMUNITY WELLNESS RECEIVES COUNCIL SUPPORT

A joint report about short and long-term plans for improving community wellness for vulnerable Edmontonians was approved by Community Services Committee and City Council in May.

The short-term strategy involves augmenting existing services, such as mental health services and medical supports, as well as improved case management and detox services. The initial stage also includes a co-located hub pilot project, which would deliver integrated supports for complex clients. This pilot project would provide the foundation for the long-term strategy; the implementation of a permanent co-located service hub.

At the May 9 meeting of the City of Edmonton's Community Services Committee the following motion was put forward: "That Community Services Committee recommend to City Council: That the Mayor, on behalf of City Council, advocate to the Province and community agencies for short-term and long-term strategies for community wellness approaches to serve vulnerable Edmontonians." The report and motion was passed unanimously by Edmonton City Council later that month.

The EPS and Commission will continue to work closely with the City of Edmonton, local social agencies, and departments within the provincial government to ensure this project moves forward.

[The full report can be viewed on the Edmonton Police Commission website.](#)

"ONLINE BUYER BEWARE" CAMPAIGN PROMOTES INTERNET BUY-AND-SELL SAFETY

The EPS launched an online campaign in May to educate the public on the risks associated with making purchases through buy-and-sell websites.

Whether it's someone buying stolen goods without knowing it, or a robbery after meeting with a stranger, a range of complaints are reported to police as a result of these transactions daily.

"We've seen citizens transfer payment and never receive an item, or unknowingly purchase fraudulent goods that have been misrepresented," explains Constable Rob Wellon, Northwest Division Criminal Investigation Section. "E-ticket fraud is also a big problem. Event tickets are copied and sold to multiple buyers who do not realize they've purchased duplicated tickets until they're denied entry."

"Online Buyer Beware" aims to make the public aware of the steps one can take to reduce the risks involved in these purchases, such as meeting in a well-lit, public location and questioning prices that seem too good to be true.

The campaign ran from May 17 to June 13 on Kijiji, Facebook and EPS social media accounts. It was viewed more than 280,000 times.

[The EPS public website has also been updated with tips to reduce online buy-and-sell risk and advice on what to do if you are a victim of a crime.](#)



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DRUGS, FIREARMS, CASH SEIZED IN ONGOING INVESTIGATION

Citizens continue to tell us that drugs should be one of the top three policing priorities in Edmonton. Although investigations into gangs and drugs occur across the city year-round, an investigation into activities in Edmonton's northwest resulted in a significant drug seizure in the second quarter of the year.

Seven people were charged in relation to an ongoing investigation which yielded \$94,000 in various drugs, firearms, and paraphernalia. It happened in late May, when the Northwest Division Special Project Team executed search warrants at five residences in the city's north end.

The seized items included:

- Over 600 grams of methamphetamine (street value of over \$42,000)
- 632 fentanyl pills (street value of over \$22,000)
- 205 grams of shatter, a derivative of marijuana (street value of over \$14,000)
- Over 150 oxycodone pills and various quantities of crack cocaine, mushrooms and GHB
- Buffing agents
- Sawed off shotgun and an airsoft gun
- Cash proceeds of crime

\$900,000 METH BUST LARGEST IN EDMONTON'S HISTORY



The Edmonton Drug and Gang Enforcement (EDGE) Unit was conducting an investigation when they observed drug-related activity. A vehicle stop was initiated and police seized four kilograms of cocaine, and nine kilograms of methamphetamine from the vehicle. The cocaine had a street value of \$525,000 and the street value of the methamphetamine is approximately \$384,000.

Inspector Dwayne Lakusta presented a portion of the \$900,000 haul of drugs at a media availability held in police headquarters in late June.

OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS 2015 AND 2016 YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS



By the end of the second quarter of 2016, property crimes increased by 22.7 per cent and violent crimes decreased by 1.2 per cent compared to the same time frame in 2015.

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 8 Crime Indicators, generated July 8, 2016.

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PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEE BUDGET CONSULTATION RESULTS

Most City of Edmonton departments felt the effects of the economic downturn during budget deliberations in November 2015. As a result, the EPS had many important programs that remained unfunded. To advance these programs, the EPS needed to find the funding from within, and that meant taking a look at all current programs and determining which were no longer valuable. Who better to ask about services than the people who receive them and those who deliver them: the citizens of Edmonton and EPS employees.

In the first quarter of 2016, citizens were given several opportunities to provide feedback about which policing services they valued the most. More than 3,000 Edmontonians participated in the online survey, answered questions through social media, or visited one of the open houses held in March. In addition, police officers and civilian employees were given a similar survey to help gauge their opinions on the same matters. The results are in, and people have spoken about what police services are most important to them.

Citizens and police employees identified the following as least important for police to respond to:

- Mental health calls where there is no criminal offence
- Off-hours bylaw complaints
- Theft of gas from gas stations
- Vehicle break ins where minor items have been taken
- Intoxicated people where there is no criminal offence
- Collisions with minor damage and no injury.

The report also listed several recommendations based on citizen and employee response.

- Review the types of calls that police respond to and provide citizens alternate methods of reporting, such as expanded online reporting and collision reporting centres.
- Review existing programs such as Neighbourhood Empowerment Teams and Community Liaison Constables for redundancies with other programs
- Review service delivery and civilianize, outsource, or offer tiered-policing where possible.

The EPS will continue to review programs and has already begun to implement changes based on the ongoing internal review and public feedback.

[Read the full report here.](#)

The Edmonton Police Commission and the Edmonton Police Service worked together to provide several avenues for citizens and police employees to provide feedback:

- *Online public consultation survey and employee survey in February*
- *Social media consultation, March 7-11 daily questions*
- *Public open houses, March 22*

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OFFICERS TO ENFORCE ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY ON WHYTE AVENUE THIS SUMMER

Repeat offenders who cause trouble on Whyte Avenue can now be banned from the popular entertainment area for life.

The EPS sought and received the Crown Prosecutor's approval to impose an area restriction as a bail condition for repeat offenders who initiate trouble on Whyte Avenue. The new Whyte Avenue Area Restriction condition covers the area from 109 Street to 99 Street, and a two-block radius north and south of 82 Avenue.

"Our beat officers spend a lot of time on the Avenue, and take pride in building relationships with visitors and business owners along Whyte," said Constable Ryan Ferry, EPS Hospitality Policing Unit. "The bail condition gives Scona Beat officers another tool to help enhance our crime and offender management efforts on the Ave."

By the end of the second quarter, disorderly conduct accounted for 46 per cent of all incidents responded to on Whyte Avenue.

"These are the types of incidents, which usually involve intoxicated individuals, that we're going to be clamping down on," said Constable Ferry. "We also depend on the cooperation of business owners to properly manage their clientele to ensure everyone has a memorable experience on Whyte."

Officers walking the beat on Whyte Avenue this summer want visitors to have fun and enjoy one of the city's favourite gathering spots. "For the most part, people behave themselves while on Whyte Avenue, though there are some individuals who repeatedly cross the line and compromise the safety of others, including officers," says Southwest Division Inspector Erik Johnson. "This type of behavior won't be tolerated."

The pilot project is scheduled to last throughout the summer. If successful, it could be expanded to other entertainment zones in the city.



Constable Ryan Ferry announced the zero tolerance policy for rowdy and violent behaviour on Whyte Avenue this summer.

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EPS STAFF COMPLEMENT

SWORN, CIVILIAN AND RECRUITS

STAFF	2016 AUTHORIZED FTE'S	2016 FTE'S AS OF 2016 JUNE 30	VACANCIES (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1,792.00	1,709.81	82.19
RECRUITS	0.00	65.00	(65.00)
CIVILIAN	730.00	741.58	(11.58)
FULL COMPLEMENT	2,522.00	2,516.39	5.61

The authorized FTE's represent 2,522.00 authorized positions in 2016

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 SECOND QUARTER FORECAST (000'S)

	2016 YEAR TO DATE				YEAR END FORECAST			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%
REVENUE								
Traffic Safety Act Fines	\$7,196	\$5,315	\$(1,881)	-26.1%	\$17,808	\$13,434	\$(4,374)	-24.6%
Transfer from Reserve (Office of Traffic Safety)	10,192	10,192	-	0.0%	20,384	20,384	-	0.0%
Provincial Grants	3,662	3,365	(297)	-8.1%	27,273	27,596	323	1.2%
Other Revenue	10,846	10,750	(96)	-0.9%	27,131	26,048	(1,083)	-4.0%
TOTAL REVENUE	31,896	29,622	(2,274)	-7.1%	92,596	87,462	(5,134)	-5.5%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary and benefits	127,852	126,831	1,021	0.8%	302,468	296,452	6,016	2.0%
EPS Overtime	3,746	4,173	(427)	-11.4%	10,609	10,967	(358)	-3.4%
External Overtime	180	190	(10)	-5.6%	432	454	(22)	-5.1%
	131,778	131,194	584	0.4%	313,509	307,873	5,636	1.8%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Furniture, equipment, IT, materials and supplies	5,540	5,061	479	8.6%	12,891	16,186	(3,295)	-25.6%
Contracts and services	7,615	6,851	764	10.0%	21,399	19,867	1,532	7.2%
Vehicles	2,971	3,138	(167)	-5.6%	2,143	2,426	(283)	-13.2%
Facilities	6,950	6,249	701	10.1%	17,567	18,472	(905)	-5.2%
Other Expenditures	1,129	1,113	16	1.4%	9,798	9,229	569	5.8%
	24,205	22,412	1,793	7.4%	63,798	66,180	(2,382)	-3.7%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	155,983	153,606	2,377	1.5%	377,307	374,053	3,254	0.9%
POSITION BEFORE ADJUSTMENTS	124,087	123,984	103	0.1%	284,711	286,591	(1,880)	-0.7%
Tangible Capital Assets Budget adjustment					5,642	5,642	-	0.0%
NET POSITION	\$124,087	\$123,984	\$103	0.1%	\$290,353	\$292,233	\$(1,880)	-0.6%