

Monthly Report

Police Department

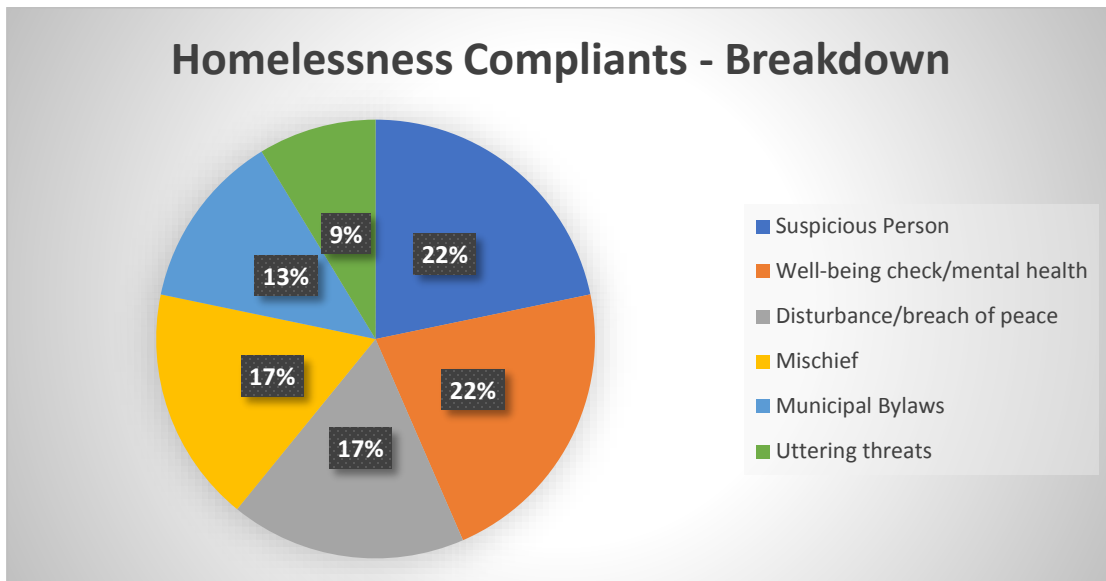
April 2024

TRAINING

ACE (African Canadian Experience) Training: Both Deputy Chief Hunter and Cst Michelle Harrison are scheduled to attend the ACE Course that is scheduled for April 22nd to the 26th. This course is hosted by the Department of Justice and is designed for members who are in a position to make changes and influence others in relation to police relationships with minority groups and to understand issues faced by minority groups. The curriculum included presentations on Human Rights Legislation, History of African Nova Scotians, and open and frank discussions on topics such as equality, equity and white privilege. In January 2021, both Chief Pike and Sgt Aaron Graham attended and completed this training.

GENERAL OPERATIONAL UPDATES:

Homelessness: Files associated with homeless numbered 40 for the month of March 2024. This is down from 60 in February and 85 in January. Eight of the files in March included more than 1 person while two files included 3 people and six included 2 people. One person was in 19 complaints. Of the 19 files, 6 of these included a second or third person. The majority of complaints involve the same 3 people.



Shoplifting Complaints: In March, APD logged 6 complaints of shoplifting. This is down from 8 in February and 14 in January. When looking at all types of thefts, APD logged 37 complaints in March, 46 in February and 49 in January.

Changes in Occurrences/Charges: Our criminal charge stats in March were down slightly, but still higher than previous months with 108 Criminal Charges laid. In February we had a total of 139 charges with 83 in January and 50 in December 2023. This month's stats are in line with those of the first half of 2023. We also logged 478 complaints in March, which is an increase over February (419) but lower than in January (481). As noted, we logged a total of 1116 criminal charges and 6280 occurrences in 2023. In 2022 we had 796 criminal charges and 6165 files. Our stats in 2021 indicate that we had 680 criminal charges and 5371 occurrences.

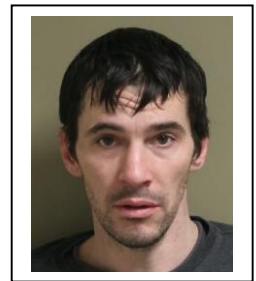
CDSA Charges: There has been a significant increase in our drug charges, which is primarily relating to trafficking offenses as crowns, by policy, will not normally not prosecute drug possession charges. We expect that the Stats Canada releases in the Spring of 2024 will confirm a substantial increase related to trafficking cocaine charges when comparing 2022 stats to 2023 statistics. In 2024 to date, we have laid 18 charges under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA). In 2023 we laid 37 CDSA charges. In 2022, three such charges were laid under the CDSA. The 2022 charges include those laid by the integrated team with the RCMP prior to our SCEU members returning to APD. These incidents only include incidents within town limits.

OPERATIONAL

March 29th, 2024 – Firearms Offenses: The Cumberland Street Crime Unit, which currently consists of 2 APD members and 1 Cumberland RCMP member, assisted Cumberland RCMP in regards to a firearms complaint in Springhill where a male allegedly drew and pointed a handgun at a female before fleeing the scene. The Street Crime Unit assisted the RCMP in executing a search warrant at a residence in Springhill and resulted in the seizure of 2 handguns, a replica firearm and ammunition. A 26-year-old male, Klace David Mitchell was arrested and faces numerous charges that include firearms offenses, assault and mischief.

March 22nd, 2024 – Property Offenses: The Cumberland Integrated Street Crime Unit executed a search warrant in West Brook on March 22nd and recovered in excess of \$260,000. A 60-year-old male and a 58-year-old female are facing numerous charges that include obstruction, possession of property obtained by crime and tampering with vehicle identification numbers. This search is related to a search in Maccan, NS by Street Crime on February 27th in which a substantial amount of property was recovered and a 27-year-old Cumberland County man was charged.

March 21st 2024 – Robbery Subject Arrested: Jamie Trenholm, who was the subject of a February 29th, 2024, press release, was arrested without incident when the Major Crime Unit, with the assistance of the APD Patrol Unit executed a Feeney Warrant at a local residence. A Feeney Warrant authorizes police to enter a dwelling to execute a warrant of arrest. TRENHOLM was wanted for a robbery and assault that allegedly took place at an Amherst residence on February 25th, 2024. The victim suffered non-life-threatening injuries and was treated at the Cumberland Regional Health Care Centre and later released. The victim and the subject are known to each other. TRENHOLM has been charged with robbery, assault with a weapon, uttering threats, possession of a weapon, aggravated assault and 3 counts of failing to comply with a release order.



Parking Issues: The Amherst Police Department made several posts via social media in relation to complaints and concerns surrounding parking in the area of the Amherst Stadium during games. As a result of larger-than-normal crowds, parking issues arose when complaints were received and vehicles were noted as parking illegally, including parked on or too close to crosswalks or intersections, parked on the sidewalk or parked in front of hydrants. Several tickets were issued during games in the month of March.

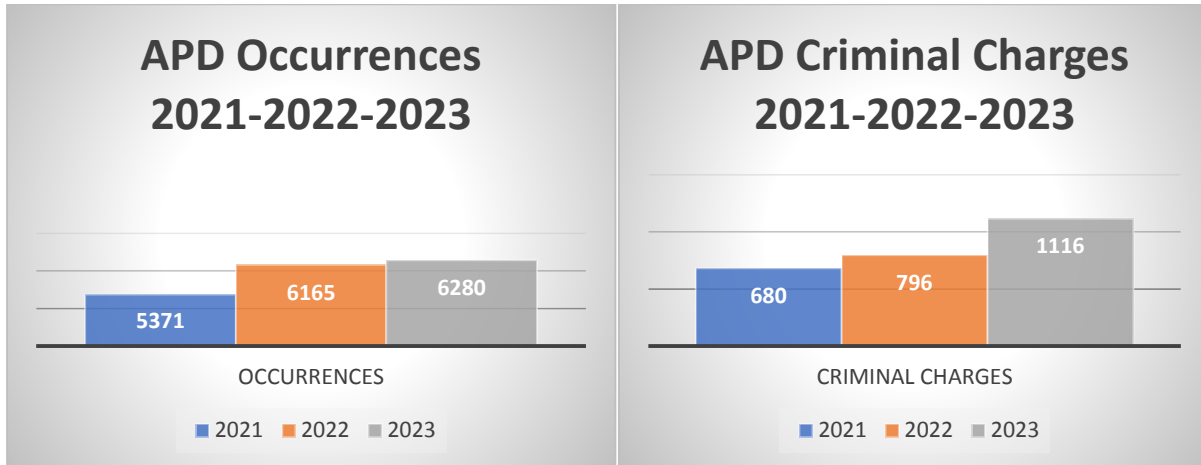
Safe, Approach and Rescue Vehicle: On March 20th, Sgt Aaron Graham attended and picked the vehicle up and brought it back to Amherst. It has been inspected, registered and insured. As per the agreement with GardaWorld, the decals on the vehicle have been removed thanks to the hard work of D/Chief Hunter, Sgt Graham and Justin MacKay who lent a hand.



OPERATIONAL STATS – February 2023

Occurrences:	478	Criminal Code Charges:	108
Impaired by Alcohol:	2	CDSA:	7
Impaired by Drug:	1	CBCA:	0
Traffic Tickets:	59	PPA:	1
Traffic Written Warnings:	1	Vehicle Checks:	161
LCA:	5	Foot Patrol Hours:	37hrs, 45 min
Bike Patrol Hours:	0	Parking Tickets:	22
Parking Warnings:	1		

Year-End Stats Comparisons:



TASK UPDATES

<p>Task: Accessible Parking: The Traffic Authority will proceed with moving the accessible parking spot in front of the Bank of Nova Scotia building to a spot in front of Town Hall.</p> <p>Update Status: 2024-04-08: In Progress. Memo to be drafted for Aaron B and Jason B (public works) to move one of the accessible parking spots on the south side of Victoria to a spot in front of Town Hall. Have discussed this verbally already. DDPIke</p>
<p>Task: Safe Approach and Rescue Vehicle: Council approved of entering into an MOU with GardaWorld for the purchase of a decommissioned Armoured Cash Vehicle for the price of \$2.00 + applicable taxes</p> <p>Update Status: In progress. 2024-04-08: Vehicle was delivered on March 20th and is inspected, registered and insured. Staff finished removing decals as per agreement. Currently being stored in APD garage. DDPIke</p>
<p>Task: Marsh Trail ATV Issues: That staff be directed to install signs, barriers and cameras along the centennial walking trail, and further that Council approves funding for such.</p> <p>Update Status 2024-04-08: In progress. Capital Budget approved for enhancements for trial and to provide protection and monitoring.</p>
<p>Task: Taxi By-Law</p> <p>Update Status: 2024-04-08: Most Taxis have had their vehicles and drivers approved for 2024/25 year. Report to council drafted via memo and to be part of April COW package. DDPIke</p>