

# MEMORANDUM

To: Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
From: Dwayne Pike, Chief of Police  
Date: October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Subject: APD Flash/Crest Change

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Over the past couple of months, we have been doing some research into modernizing our APD shoulder flashes. In the last two decades or so, most Nova Scotia Municipal Departments have changed their shoulder flashes as many have a common theme or look.

In May of 2024, one of our members, Cst Stewart Anthony, forwarded a design idea to D/Chief Hunter and I for an APD crest. His design incorporated both the traditional Amherst Coat of Arms, but in a modern format as shown in Fig 1.

Drawing from this design, D/Chief Hunter did some further research and added some minor changes and added a green ribbon around police. The green ribbon is the international symbol of mental health awareness. As a part of the APD crest, this represents our commitment to supporting our members and staff and their mental wellness. Another change, which is part of other newer designs, is the partial maple leaf that exists on the newer Truro, Halifax, Annapolis Royal, Bridgewater, Kentville and Westville flashes. We've also included the 'waves' in the background.

Deputy Chief Hunter reached out to a design company and asked that they provide us with an embroidered flash with the suggested changes. Because the Amherst Coat of Arms is very detailed, it was decided to just incorporate the main part of the TOA Coat of Arms, which still includes the traditional details<sup>i</sup>.

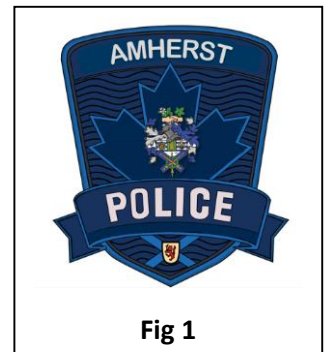


Fig 1

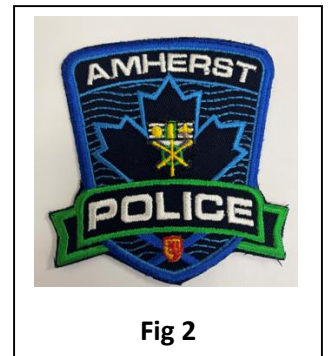
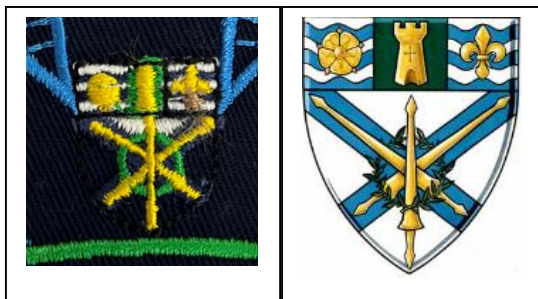


Fig 2









The green square refers to the Town's position on the isthmus between the Cumberland Basin and the Northumberland Strait, which are represented by the stylized waves. The tower alludes to the fortifications that once existed in the area, and the rose and fleur-de-lis to the English and French troops that once fought over it.

Recent changes to policing crests in Nova Scotia have common attributes which include the maple leaf outline (often in blue) and the 'police' ribbon at the bottom. Several crests also have a similar shape, flattened at the top and coming to a peak at the bottom. The BPS, HRP, TPS, ARPS and the APD draft all have the waves in the background. See Appendix A for the crest changes in other Nova Scotia Municipal Police Departments.

We would maintain the older crest for our dress uniforms, as we have many in stock. Our plan is to roll the new crest out over the next year, adding it to new issued clothing and slowly switch over to clothing already issued. The change in crest would not impact any other current design on either the vehicles, stationary or our building as we also use a separate crest for those items. Financial impacts are minimal.

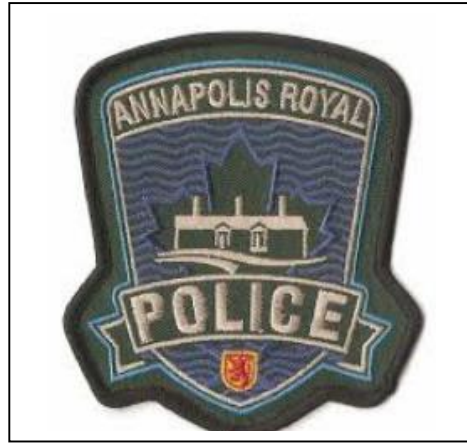
We are seeking the support of the Amherst Board of Police Commissioners to implement this change, or if required, provide any suggestions to the changes in our crest.

## Appendix A

| Older Crest  | Newer Crest  |
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|  The older crest for the Amherst Police is a shield-shaped patch with a gold border. The word "AMHERST" is embroidered in gold at the top, and "POLICE" is at the bottom. The center features a heraldic crest with a crown on top, a shield with a cross, and a sword. |  The newer crest for the Amherst Police is a shield-shaped patch with a blue border. The word "AMHERST" is in white at the top, and "POLICE" is in white on a green banner at the bottom. The center features a stylized blue maple leaf with a yellow and black crest in the middle.      |
|  The older crest for the Truro Police is a shield-shaped patch with a gold border. The word "TRURO" is in gold at the top, and "POLICE" is in gold at the bottom. The center features a heraldic crest with a shield, a crown, and a figure.                           |  The newer crest for the Truro Police is a shield-shaped patch with a blue border. The word "TRURO" is in white at the top, and "POLICE" is in white on a blue banner at the bottom. The center features a stylized blue maple leaf with a heraldic crest in the middle.                  |
|  The older crest for the Bridgewater Police is a shield-shaped patch with a gold border. The word "BRIDGEWATER" is in gold at the top, and "POLICE" is in gold at the bottom. The center features a circular emblem with a bridge over water.                         |  The newer crest for the Bridgewater Police is a shield-shaped patch with a black border. The word "BRIDGEWATER" is in white at the top, and "POLICE" is in white on a black banner at the bottom. The center features a stylized white maple leaf with a circular emblem in the middle. |

**Older Crest**

**Newer Crest**



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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.gg.ca/en/heraldry/public-register/project/3456#:~:text=Symbolism,whom%20the%20town%20was%20named.>