

Monthly Departmental Report

Amherst Police Department

December 2018

This report covers month of November 2018

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

AWLE Conference: Cst Andrea Vriend attended the Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement Conference from November 6th to November 9th in Moncton NB. The idea for the AWLE came out of New Brunswick and focuses exploring issues for women in the policing environment and how we can create a healthy work environment for all. This year over 170 women from 33 different departments and agencies in the Maritimes were in attendance. The theme was 'Lead-Her-Ship from within: Explore your influence'. Numerous speakers presented on various topics including Senator Beverly Busson who was the first female Commissioner of the RCMP who spoke about all the challenges she faced as a female police officer over the course of her career.

R2MR Booster Sessions: Acting Chief Dwayne Pike and Cst Aaron Graham provided follow up training to some of the platoons and support staff on "Road to Mental Readiness", a program that focuses on Mental Health wellness, recognizing signs of stress and building resilience in our staff. This booster focuses on reviewing the Mental Health Continuum Model and a review of the Ad Hoc review which is a 'check in' amongst staff after a stressful incident.

Negotiators Recertification: Acting Staff Sergeant Brian Gairns attended the Canadian Police College from November 26th to the 30th to be recertified as a Crisis Negotiator. The crisis negotiator plays a central role during critical incidents involving a barricaded person. Much of the training involved high stress scenarios and utilized other assets such as ERT, containment teams and incident commanders.

OPERATIONAL

Park Street Dog Attack: On November 12th members responded to a complaint of 3 large dogs that attacked and killed a smaller dog. Police attended and utilized pepper spray to try and control the animals and were able to corral them into a makeshift fenced in area. The Animal Control Officer also attended. There were four dogs, which included a small puppy. The larger dogs remained aggressive for two or three hours. The animals were seized and the owner later turned the animals over to the shelter. The owner advised that they had escaped from the house. At this time, the ACO has decided to separate the animals, have them neutered, and determine whether they can be rehabilitated and rehomed outside the area. Charges against the owners are being reviewed. As a result of the incident, the current bylaw is being reviewed to make any recommendations to Council if changes are required.

Christmas Parade: The Christmas Parade was held on Saturday, December 17th with APD dealing with traffic flow and street closures. This requires more resources than are typically working and as a result nightshift staff come in early while dayshift staff stayed late. This provides the required staffing to ensure that each point of the parade is managed effectively. Once again, the parade was a success.

Arrests – Stolen Dump Truck: On November 21st two males were arrested in Amherst after the vehicle they were driving was stopped by local compliance officers. The two were in a dump truck that did not report to the scales as required. When stopped by the compliance officer the two fled and police were called. The dump truck was stolen from Moncton NB and the two males were later located behind Tim Horton's on South Albion Street. During the arrest and search one male had a disassembled shotgun in his backpack. Both are facing numerous charges and were released on conditions.

CRIME PREVENTION/SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER

YMCA Youth Drop In: Cst Wood and Cst Harrison continue to attend the YMCA Youth Drop in on Thursday nights. This provides opportunities for relationship building with our youth. At this time, numbers are hitting between 60-75 per night. Some youth are also sent home with donated food.

Northern Healthy Connections: Constable Wood organized two information sessions for our members with Northern Healthy Connections who attended and provided information on opioid harm reduction and needle exchange programs in our area. These sessions provided some insight in regards to opiate issues in our community and provided police with an opportunity to share their perspective on the issue.

Senior Police Academy: On November 7th the last session of the Senior Police Academy was held. Overall, 35 seniors attended the program. Presentations included Dawn Ferris from Autumn House and Cst Wood and Senior Safety Coordinator Ray Bristol did presentations on the 911/811 and 211 systems.

CRAM-A-CRUISER: Cram-a-cruiser events were scheduled for November 8th and 9th as the community vehicle was parked at several locations around the community, including schools and the shopping areas. The event resulted in several cruisers full of food and clothing and over \$180 in monetary donations for the food bank and coats for Cumberland. This year the PeeWee AAA Ramblers assisted with the events.

Coats for Cumberland: On November 19th the coats and clothing collected during the Cram-a-Cruiser events were sorted and distributed. Approximately 450 coats were given away.

Grief Counselling and Support: As a result of a sudden death involving a staff member's family at West Highlands School, Cst Harrison assisted in the classrooms with teachers and offered support to staff, including pulling together a grief counselling session for staff.

Red Ribbon Launch: The annual Red Ribbon Launch was held at the Amherst Police Department. Representatives of Amherst Town Council, local law enforcement and first responders were present with the local chapter of MADD. A checkpoint was held on Robert Angus Drive where participants passed out red ribbons to remind motorists of the risks associated with impaired driving.

MCU Investigations: Cst Wood was involved in several investigations during the month. These included a sudden death, interviews relating to a fraud and overseeing/coordinating the dog attack file with the Animal Control Officer.

Press Releases: Cst Wood prepared several press releases that included information on the Bar Suspension Program. Constable Wood has also taken a more active role in management APD social media via Facebook.

FOCUSED ENFORCEMENT

APD members focused on seatbelt safety. As a result, over 28 hours were dedicated to this initiative. In total, 6 tickets and 3 warnings were issued.

OPERATIONAL STATS – November 2018

Occurrences: 506
Impaired by Alcohol: 0
Impaired by Drug: 0
Traffic Tickets: 49
Vehicle Checks: 193
Foot Patrol Hours: 28h 41m

Criminal Code Charges: 84
CDSA: 1
Traffic Written Warnings: 24
LCA: 7
Bike Patrol Hours: 0