

MONTHLY REPORT

Amherst Police Department

February 2019

This report covers the month of January 2019

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

Domestic Violence Training: On January 17th, 11 members attended a training session hosted by the Department of Justice. Members selected included those who are supervisors or who have the capacity to act as a supervisor. The session, which was held at the Amherst Fire Hall, included presentations on arrest, charges and legal decisions, a presentation on fatal and non-fatal strangulation from the Provincial Medical Examiner and other domestic violence topics. Four additional members were also scheduled to attend a training seminar in New Glasgow on February 7th.

Autism Awareness: On the evening of January 17th, Acting Chief Pike and Acting D/Chief Hunter attended a seminar at the Amherst Fire Hall on Autism Awareness for First Responders. The information was presented by Vicky Harvey from Autism Nova Scotia and provided some valuable information for first responders when coming into contact with people who are autistic. The presentation provided the audience with a better understanding of the different types of autism, what signs to look for and some guidelines for first responders when dealing with emergency situations and autistic people.

Warrant Writing Course: Cst Derek Hebert, who is one of 2 members assigned to the Cumberland Integrated Street Crime Unit, attended a 7 day warrant writing course. As a member of the street crime unit, one of Cst Heberts' major duties is the collection of information, often through confidential sources and using that information for drafting warrants and judicial authorizations. The course covered the different kinds of warrants and approached learning as an unfolding scenario, including drafting the information to obtain, approval submissions and court testimony.

OPERATIONAL

Home Invasion – East Victoria Street: The investigation into the December 17th home invasion is continuing. The incident, which involved the assault of an 84 year old man and the theft of his truck is being investigated by the Major Crime Unit with assistance from the Cumberland Street Crime Enforcement Unit and the APD Patrol Section.

January 25th - Armed Robbery: A 17 year old male was arrested in relation to an armed robbery that occurred at Needs in Amherst on January 25th. The male, who is also facing charges relating to a second armed robbery in Springhill on January 26th, entered the store armed with a knife and demanded cigarettes and cash. The youth was arrested on January 29th by members of the Street Crime Unit. This matter was investigated by the Cumberland County Street Crime Unit (SCEU), The Amherst Police Department, and the Cumberland District RCMP.

Sexual Assault Audit: Sgt Lepper, Cst Harrison and Domestic Violence Coordinator Lydia Quinn have completed an audit on the 2016/2018 APD Sexual Assault investigations. Their report has been submitted to the Chief and is currently being reviewed. There were no issues noted with the investigations.

PERSONNEL

New Hires: The Police Department hired 2 new part time officers who were sworn in on January 4th, 2019. These positions are being used to fill long term absences in the patrol division.

Constable Nicole Germain is 23 years old is a graduate of the Atlantic Police Academy and is originally from Ontario. Since graduation, she has worked at Casino NS and the Halifax Airport, which included a supervisory position. Nicole is a huge sports advocate and regularly plays hockey, rugby and soccer. She also volunteers with several different charities.

Constable Tristan Follows is 30 years old and since graduating from the Atlantic Police Academy had been working with Paladin Security. Raised in Bridgewater, he attended the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and became a red seal chef. While he was working in Jasper, BC he worked for the Victoria, BC Police Department as a Reserve Constable and dedicated much of his time to community policing initiatives. Tristan lives a very active and healthy lifestyle including exercise and weight training.

Departure: Cst Brandon Sutherland-Metz has accepted a position with the RCMP and his last shift with APD was on January 19th. Constable Metz completed his OJT with the Amherst Police Department several years ago and was hired as a part time officer in June 2018. Brandon has a long history with the department and the community, He volunteered with Cops for Kids for many years and was involved with the Amherst Youth Town Council. He has learned that he will be posted in Hinton, Alberta once he has completed his 6 weeks of training.

CRIME PREVENTION/SCHOOL RESOURCE*

- Attended Cumberland Kids Meeting & Cumberland Kids Managers Meeting
- Attended Youth Drop In at the YMCA. The numbers are still high, consistently in the 70's;
- Presented ice/snow safety in the primary classes of one elementary school, utilizing materials from the Red Cross as hand outs. Several parents reached out to Cst Harrison to express their appreciation.
- Attended Bible Hill Detachment for Safe Task Force meeting
- Attended an RJ session for a youth in regards to a Possession of Drugs file, the session went very well and those in attendance were pleased with the youth's thoughtfulness regarding the incident.
- Assisted in packing grocery bags for the West Highlands Backpack program, a program designed to help feed kids and families who may not have enough food. This program aims to provide options for food during the weekends when the school cannot supplement meals for students in need.
- Attended West Highlands School SAC meeting, where participants were asked to fill out a survey/questionnaire for the Education Center on how they feel information is relayed on report cards. Attendees were are tasked with decisions regarding budgeting and classroom needs
- Met with facilitators of Youth Drop In as Sarah MacMaster will be presenting to council the Youth's need to have a dedicated space to call their own.
- Dealt with an issue of intimate images on social media, which prompted the school to request presentations regarding these issues/Investigations. Dates are being worked out;
- Attended a behavior team meeting at one of the schools for a special needs boy with high needs.
- Conducted routine foot patrols of all schools and continuously offering support to staff and students.
- Conduct regular patrols of elementary schools during peak hours to aid with traffic. Cst Harrison advised that there has been an improvement as officers have made patrols around the school zones and presence makes a difference

**Constable Wood was off for much of January as a result of an injury*

OPERATIONAL STATS – January 2019

APD

Occurrences: 381
Impaired by Alcohol: 0
Impaired by Drug: 0
Traffic Tickets: 33
Vehicle Checks: 198
Foot Patrol Hours: 71h 7m

Criminal Code Charges: 87
CDSA: 3
Traffic Written Warnings: 72
LCA: 2
Bike Patrol Hours: 0