

# Monthly Departmental Report

Amherst Police Department

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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This report covers month of September 2018

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

**Firearms Training 9mm/Carbine/Shotgun:** All officers completed their mandatory annual firearms qualifications in 9mm pistols, shotguns and carbine rifles. The training is provided by Sgt. Tim Hunter and Cst. Chris Jobe. The carbine officers receive 2 days training while the non-carbine officers receive 1 day of training. Officers are required to successfully complete the department's qualifications and are trained on tactical deployment, containment and working in teams. Each officer is also required to complete a use of force scenario which includes legal articulation. The officer must articulate the factors they considered when making their decision whether or not to use force and if so how they assessed the level of force required. The articulation by the officer is an important component of the training. Even if their use of force was appropriate, if they can not effectively articulate their decision process important information could be missing and could impact the findings of a review of their actions.

**Containment Training:** All members completed a 12 hour day of containment training. Containment is a response to a high risk situation in which the goal of police is to 'contain' the threat. This may include barricaded persons or a hostage situation. Training consists of classroom review of terminology and tactics and several live action scenarios. This year our members conducted training in Warren and Hastings as well as in the industrial park utilizing a property and a building provided by Atlantic Commercial Properties.

**Human Source Management:** Constable Derek HEBERT, who has been assigned to the Cumberland Street Crime Unit, attending the Human Source Course in Halifax from September 23<sup>rd</sup>, to the 28<sup>th</sup>. The Street Crime unit utilizes information through many different types of forms, the most important of which is the cultivation of human sources. This course teaches the candidate all the skills required to utilize human sources and includes scenarios with actors to ensure that proper procedure is followed and case law requirements are met.

**NSCPA Fall Conference:** The NSCPA/NSAPB Fall Conference was held in Bridgewater on September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Acting Chief Dwayne Pike attended along with ABPC members Paul Calder, Sandy Fairbanks and Darrell Jones. The agenda included presentations/discussions on Cannabis legislation and impaired driving, policing standards, the additional officer program and workplace drug/alcohol issues. The honourable Stephen McNeil, premier of Nova Scotia, was the speaker at the Gala Dinner.

## PERSONNEL

**Long Service Awards:** Acting Deputy Chief Tim Hunter received his Provincial 25 year long service award on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Tim started his career in policing with the Springhill Police before working in New Glasgow for his APA On the job training and then in Lunenburg before coming to Amherst in August of 1992. Acting Chief Dwayne Pike attended the ceremony and along with Justice Minister Mark Furey, presented Tim with his medal. Constable Tom Wood also attended and was part of the honour guard, carrying the Amherst flag.

## OPERATIONAL

**Head's Up, Helmets On:** The Heads Up Helmets On program was held again this year. The goal of the program is to promote the use of helmets for persons operating bicycles, and skateboards. Persons observed wearing helmets received rewards in the form of redeemable coupons. Those observed not wearing helmets could be issued a ticket but with an option to attend an information session on helmet safety to have the ticket withdrawn. A total of 30 people were processed under the program over the summer months with 21 referred to the information session. Over 150 coupons from McDonald's and Dairy Queen for ice cream were passed out by police over the summer to people spotted in compliance with the bike helmet laws.

**Stay At Home Compliance Checks:** For the month of September, members of the Amherst Police Department conducted a total of 206 compliance checks on people who are currently on house arrest or curfews as a result of conditional sentence orders or court orders. As a condition of their release from custody, or as a measure to protect the public, people on these kinds of conditions are often required to present themselves at their door to prove compliance to a police officer. Those who are found breaching their conditions may be subject to further criminal charges, having their conditions tightened or having their release revoked completely.

**Move Over/Franks Law:** Members of the Amherst Police Department, Cumberland RCMP, Amherst Fire Department and other first responders gathered at the Amherst Centre Mall on September 12<sup>th</sup> in regards to promoting and bringing awareness to “Frank’s Law”, the provincial requirement that vehicle drivers ‘slow down and move over’ when approaching a stopped emergency vehicle. Approximately 10 APD members were in attendance.

### **CRIME PREVENTION/SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER**

September was a busy month for both Cst Wood and Cst Harrison as they were covering platoon shifts as a result of the shortages because of Carbine, Firearms and Containment Training during the month.

On September 8<sup>th</sup>, Cst Wood attended a Truck show at the Amherst Centre Mall and set up the Madd Pedal Cart course. The impaired driving goggles were utilized so that participants could see the different results in their driving when using the goggles.

On September 14<sup>th</sup>, Cst Wood held information sessions for the “Head’s Up, Helmets On” program. This session is used to provide an alternative to charges under the Motor Vehicle Act and to educate people on helmet laws and the dangers of riding a bike without wearing a helmet.

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, officers attended and participated in a mock disaster and evacuation exercise at Gables Lodge. The object of the scenario was to test the safety policies and the cooperation between emergency responders and staff.

### **FOCUSED ENFORCEMENT**

APD members focused on school zones for the month of September, ensuring that school areas were safe for youths returning to school. In total there was 21 hours and 41 minutes of time invested in this initiative. Very few infractions were noted with only 1 ticket and 1 warning issued.

### **OPERATIONAL STATS – September 2018**

Occurrences: 456  
Impaired by Alcohol: 1  
Impaired by Drug: 0  
Traffic Tickets: 28  
Vehicle Checks: 156  
Foot Patrol Hours: 64hours, 50m

Criminal Code Charges: 25  
CDSA: 1  
Traffic Written Warnings: 32  
LCA: 2  
Bike Patrol Hours: 0