

ABPC Chief's Report

Amherst Police Department

February 27th, 2019

This report covers months of November 2018, December 2018 and January 2019

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

AWLE Conference: Cst Andrea Vriend attended the Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement Conference from November 6th to November 9th, held in Moncton NB. The idea for the AWLE came out of New Brunswick and focuses on 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-Your-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.

DRE – Continuing Education: On December 13th, the 3 APD Drug Recognition Experts, Sgt Galloway, Cst Hirtle and Cst Walsh attended training in Dartmouth in relation to impaired driving investigations and their roles as DRE's. This training is a required portion of DRE recertification and is required every 2 years. This years training was especially relevant due to the changes in impaired driving legislation and the legalization of cannabis.

Sexual Assault Investigators Course: Cst Tom Wood and Cst Michelle Harrison attended the Sexual Assault investigators Course from December 3rd to 7th in Dartmouth. This training, which was hosted by the Department of Justice, was designed to assist experienced investigators in developing the skills and knowledge as they relate to the investigation of sexual assault incidents and to provide investigators with the necessary knowledge, skills and ability to adequately handle the complexities and demands of sexual assault investigations. Constable Wood and Cst Harrison will be using their training when completing the APD Sexual Assault Audit this month.

ICS 100: Several members (17 in total) completed the Incident Command System 100 online course. This course, which is the prerequisite to other ICS courses, provides the foundation for understanding how ICS works and is structured and how it can be applied to managing a major incident. Of these members, several were selected to attend the ICS 200 course in January 2019.

ICS 200: On January 8th and 9th, several members completed the ICS 200 course, which provides the basics for responding and dealing with a critical incident, often involving the utilization of multiple resources and agencies. ICS 200 is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently within the ICS model. It is geared towards those individuals who may assume a supervisory position.

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 scenio, including drafing the information to obtain, approval submissions and court testimony.

OPERATIONAL

NOVEMBER 2018

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 then 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 stay 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 charged and were released on conditions.

DECEMBER 2018

Home Invasion – East Victoria Street: Police are continuing the investigation into a home invasion on December 17th in which an 84 year old man was assaulted and taken to hospital to be treated for injuries that were not life threatening. A truck belonging to the victim was located the following day in the parking lot of the Cumberland YMCA. The investigation is being conducted by the Major Crime Unit with assistance from the Cumberland Street Crime Enforcement Unit.

JANUARY 2019

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 Janaury 26th, entered the store armed with a knife and demanded ciagrettes and cash. The youth was arrested on Janaury 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 sealed 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.

FOCUSED ENFORCEMENT

In November, 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.

In December, APD members focused on "Operation Impact" which consisted of checkpoints looking for impaired drivers and ensuring that roads were safe during the Christmas season. As a result of this initiative, 23 checkpoints were conducted with over 18 hours of enforcement. The results were 7 tickets being issued, 2 warnings and over 1,300 vehicles being checked.

CRIME PREVENTION/SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER

YMCA Youth Drop In: Cst Wood and Cst Harrison continue to attend the YMCA 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.

Traffic Issues, West Highland School: As a result of several complaints regarding traffic at drop off points on Hickman Street in January 2019, officers conducted 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.

West Highland School Backpack Program: In January 2019, Cst Harrison 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.

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

December 2018

Occurrences: 450
Impaired by Alcohol: 1
Impaired by Drug: 0
Traffic Tickets: 38
Vehicle Checks: 199
Foot Patrol Hours: 36h 35m

Criminal Code Charges: 52
CDSA: 2
Traffic Written Warnings: 39
LCA: 2
Bike Patrol Hours: 0

January 2019

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

Quarterly Reports – 4th Quarter 2018

SCEU Quarterly Reports - 4th Quarter:

CC Search Warrants Executed: 23
CC charges laid: 8
Street Value of Seized Drugs: \$ 8,910.00
Value of other property: \$1,722.00
Firearms seized: 2

CDSA Warrants Executed: 2
CDSA charges laid: 6
Total Cash seized: \$1,263.00
Street Value, Other Contraband: \$51,550.00
Other weapons Seized: 4

SCEU – 2018 Annual

	1 st Quarter	2 nd Quarter	3 rd Quarter	4 th Quarter	Total
CC Search Warrants Executed	23	5	22	23	73
CDSA Warrants Executed	16	3	8	2	29
CC charges laid:	63	11	28	8	110
CDSA charges laid	74	5	27	6	112
Street Value of Seized Drugs	\$167,595	\$70,375.00	\$33,959.00	\$8,910.00	\$280,839.00
Total Cash seized	\$4,710.60	\$0.00	\$17,617.10	\$1,2363.00	\$29,980.10
Value of other property	\$25,270.00	\$1,350.00	\$6,603.00	\$1,722.00	\$34,945.00
Street Value, Other Contraband	\$35.00	\$0.00	\$7.00	\$51,550.00	\$51,592.00
Firearms seized (long	2	3	3	2	10
Firearms seized (handgun):	1	0	0	0	1
Other weapons Seized:	11	0	2	4	17

Amherst Police Department Quarterly Stats

Quarterly Stats 2018											
1st Qtr = January 1st - March 31st				3rd Qtr = July 1st - September 30th							
2nd Qtr = April 1st - June 30th				4th Qtr = October 1st - December 31st							
Offence Category	2018 1st Qtr	2017 1st Qtr	2018 2nd Qtr	2017 2nd Qtr	2018 3rd Qtr	2017 3rd Qtr	2018 4th Qtr	2017 4th Qtr	2018 Comparison 4th period ending	2017 Comparison 4th period ending	%
Assault	37	42	57	51	59	56	50	33	203	182	11.54%
Break & Enter - Business	6	2	1	1	7	1	7	7	21	11	90.91%
Break & Enter - Residence	7	7	8	9	15	18	17	14	47	48	-2.08%
Domestic Incident	50	56	48	35	42	61	37	43	177	195	-9.23%
Impaired Driving	17	13	20	10	22	8	20	9	79	40	97.50%
Liquor Act Offences	11	9	12	14	7	12	17	12	47	47	-
Other Criminal Code	66	63	89	64	120	101	89	78	364	306	18.95%
Possession of Stolen Prop.	3	2	2	4	1	5	6	6	12	17	-29.41%
Robbery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	-100.00%
Sexual Assault	3	2	3	2	2	4	4	3	12	11	9.09%
Spousal Partner Abuse	12	15	17	11	10	12	12	13	51	51	-
Theft	48	28	46	49	68	76	64	58	226	211	7.11%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	5	1	1	3	1	1	3	2	10	7	42.86%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	7	4	17	13	25	18	11	9	60	44	36.36%
MVA SOT's	90	48	109	141	118	106	157	93	474	388	22.16%
LCA SOT's	8	4	12	8	6	18	14	9	40	39	2.56%
Traffic Warning Issued	55	78	84	123	126	118	141	64	406	383	6.00%
Vandalism (Mischief)	12	10	7	8	18	6	13	5	50	29	72.41%
Occurrences	1106	1023	1378	1273	1561	1395	1398	1213	5443	4904	10.99%
Vehicle Checks	396	399	475	591	590	569	675	426	2136	1985	7.61%
Foot Patrol Hours	148h 24m	231h 21m	191h 55m	277h 44m	161h 28m	202h 39m	157h 15m	222h 36m	659h 2m	711h 44m	/
Bike Patrol Hours	0	0	0	11h 53m	7h 3m	6h 6m	0	0	7h 3m	17h 59m	/
Red indicates a decrease Blue indicates an increase	Updated: January 8, 2019										