

# Monthly Report

## Amherst Police Department

### November 2018

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This report covers the month of October 2018

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

**Domestic Violence Educator:** Cst Michelle Harrison attended Domestic Violence Educator training on October 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. This training provides officers with up to date information on policies and procedures for domestic abuse investigations. The APD Domestic Violence Educator is also responsible for reviewing all domestic files, providing guidance and direction and ensuring that standards are met.

**Interoperability Forum:** A/Chief Pike, A/D/Chief Hunter and Executive Assistant Nancy Guiderson attended an interoperability forum in Dartmouth on October 16<sup>th</sup>. This forum highlighted many of the issues relating to public safety and communications and included presentations on the TMR2 network used by the majority of Policing and public safety agencies in the Atlantic Provinces.

**FOIPOP Training:** Acting Chief Pike and Acting D/Chief Hunter attended a one day session on FOIPOP in Truro Nova Scotia on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The training included a review of legislation under the Municipal Government Act as well as strategies to streamline the process and make decisions relating to the release of personal information. Various scenarios were reviewed as group exercises as well as a panel discussion with representatives from different departments.

**Property Crime Examiner Course:** Sgt Kevin Girouard attended the PCE course in Halifax from October 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup>. This course provided instruction on examining crime scenes of property crimes and included exhibit examination, fingerprinting, DNA, footwear and tire tracks and photography. The ability to have a member trained in Property Crime Examination reduces the need to rely on RCMP IDENT members for assistance on Property Crimes.

#### OPERATIONAL

**Substance Use Policy:** A/Chief Pike attended a meeting with several other chiefs of Municipal Departments for a discussion on the issue of the use of substances that impair by employees. Those in attendance agreed that a 'fit for duty' policy for cannabis should remain consistent with our current policies on substance use. As a result, the expectation is that officers are expected to report for duty alert, professional and not displaying any signs of impairment. The public expectation is that police officers will be in the right frame of mind to make good decisions. We trust our officers to make the right decisions regarding healthy lifestyle choices, which includes showing up for work fit for duty.

**Seniors Police Academy:** The Police and Seniors Safety Academy started its 5 week run on October 10<sup>th</sup> and continued until November 7<sup>th</sup>. The Academy, which is partnered between APD and Furlong-Jones Funeral Service, provides information on a variety of topics which includes emergency preparedness, frauds and scams, winter driving tips and fall prevention. The workshops were held on Wednesday's from 09:30 to 11:30 with lunch provided. To date, presentations included information on Cannabis legalization, Town of Amherst Initiatives for Seniors, Housing NS, and YMCA programs.

**Halloween 2018:** The operational plan for Halloween 2018 included both mobile and foot patrols in various parts of town. Special attention was placed on the busier areas of town such as Winston Avenue and Abby Road by ensuring foot patrol coverage. Once again the Pumpkin Patrol, consisting of volunteers from the WestCumb Amateur Radio Club and the Amherst Fire Department, provided support by patrolling and keeping our children safe.

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

**YMCA Youth Drop In:** Cst Wood and Cst Harrison took turns attending the YMCA Drop in on Thursday nights. The number of youths attending is currently in the 70's and there have been numerous opportunities for our members to build a rapport and a relationship with our youth.

**Race Against Drugs:** Race Against Drugs was held at West Highlands School on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, and over 100 grade 5 students from schools in Cumberland County attended to learn about healthy choices and safety and includes representation from various community groups and agencies. The Amherst Lion's Club has been a long time partner in this initiative and their work on crime prevention and drug awareness has had an impact on our community.

**MADD Road Rally:** Held on October 6<sup>th</sup>, this years rally took 13 teams to various locations in both Cumberland and Westmoreland County. The rally is hosted by the Cumberland-Tantramar Chapter of Mother's Against Drunk Driving and included checkpoints with small challenges for extra points. Trophies were presented for the best scores as well as the best dressed teams.

**Pumpkins for Poverty:** This event was hosted at Victoria Park on October 19<sup>th</sup> in support of 'Empowering Beyond Barriers'. Pumpkins were given out for a monetary or food donation. Several members of the Amherst Police Department attended to assist, along with the PeeWee AAA Ramblers. The event raised over \$800.

**Press Releases:** Cst Wood prepared and released several press releases that included Halloween safety, Cram A Cruiser events, Counterfeit American \$20 bills, and the Amherst Bar Suspension Program.

## **FOCUSED ENFORCEMENT**

APD members focused on intersection safety for the month of October, ensuring that people are obeying traffic signs and signals in relation to intersections. In total there was over 79 hours dedicated to this initiative and 10 tickets and 29 warnings issued for intersection related offenses, with 6 tickets and 5 warnings issued for other infractions.

## **OPERATIONAL STATS – October 2018**

Occurrences: 442  
Impaired by Alcohol: 0  
Impaired by Drug: 0  
Traffic Tickets: 67  
Vehicle Checks: 283  
Foot Patrol Hours: 91hours, 59m

Criminal Code Charges: 57  
CDSA: 3  
Traffic Written Warnings: 78  
LCA: 5  
Bike Patrol Hours: 0