

Amherst Board of Police Commissioners

Monthly Report

Amherst Police Department

April 10, 2019

This report covers the month of February & March 2019

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING

SFST (Standardized Field Sobriety Testing) Refresher: On February 5th, all of the SFST trained members attended a refresher prepared by the Provincial Impaired Driving Team. The team, which is comprised of both RCMP and Municipal Police officers, went through the training modules and the roadside testing and scripts for dealing with drivers suspected of impairment by drugs. The training is a part of the Province's initiative to deal with impaired driving as a result of the legalization of cannabis. In total 9 of our members attended refresher training.

Domestic Violence Training: On February 7th, 4 members attended a training session hosted by the Department of Justice in New Glasgow, NS. Members selected included those who have the capacity to act as a supervisor. The session 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. Previous to this, 11 members, also supervisors and 2 IC's attended a training session in Amherst on January 17th.

Strangulation and Non-Lethal Strangulation Assaults: Members were provided with a link to on-line training in relation to investigations involving strangulation. The course itself is 25 minutes to complete, and provides valuable information about the severity and complexities surrounding strangulation injuries and the importance of using an informed integrated team approach beginning with the initial contact of first responders all the way through the legal processes. The link to the training was also provided to our local crown and other police agencies. A majority of APD members have completed this training.

OPERATIONAL

Possession of Stolen Property, February 18th: A 42 year old male is facing several charges after a traffic stop on South Albion Street. The male had been driving a Grey Chevrolet truck when an officer had discovered that the license plate on the vehicle did not belong to the vehicle. The vehicle was stopped and police discovered that the male was prohibited from driving a motor vehicle and was arrested. Subsequent investigation resulted in several charges including possession of stolen property x 2 (license plate and the truck), breach of undertaking and charges under the Motor Vehicle Act. The male was remanded into custody to appear in court on February 19th.

Methamphetamine Seizure, February 19th: A 42 year old male was stopped by police after an officer observed him driving a vehicle when he was prohibited from doing so. The vehicle was stopped near Lawrence Street. The male was arrested and searched after his arrest. A quantity of methamphetamine was found in his possession. The male is currently facing charges of operating a motor vehicle while prohibited, possession for the purpose of trafficking and failing to comply with a probation order.

Thefts from Vehicles, February 25th: A 19 year old male is facing multiple charges after he was arrested on February 25th for breaking into vehicles. Residents on Croft Street had heard noises near their property and discovered an unknown male inside one of their vehicles. The male fled the area but was arrested by police after a short foot chase. Subsequent investigation into the matter resulted in police also linking the male to thefts from vehicles on February 15th-17th. In total, the male faces over 30 criminal charges for the incidents.

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.

Itunes Cards – Frauds. Constable Wood has been investigating a fraud involving itunes cards. In these cases, fraud artists call the victim and advised that they are in arrears on bills (CRA, phone, hospital bills) and request payment via itune cards. Victims purchase the itunes cards and provide the card numbers so that the suspect can access the money on the card. Fraud artists are able to sell the itunes codes online. One recent victim in Amherst was defrauded for close to \$20,000 and had purchased over 200 itunes cards. Suspects in these frauds usually target seniors who are more vulnerable.

Stunting, West Victoria Street: On March 12th, at approximately 4:14pm, police stopped a speeding vehicle on West Victoria Street. The vehicle was clocked at 104 km/h in a 50km/h zone. The 25 year old driver was stopped and charged with ‘Stunting’ which carries a fine of \$2422.50 for a first offense.

Permanent Chief Appointment: On March 25th, Dwayne Pike was appointed as the permanent Chief of Police. Dwayne has been with the Amherst Police Department for close to 23 years and was Acting Chief for nine months as a result of the retirement of Chief Ian Naylor in July of 2018. Prior to his appointment as Chief, Dwayne was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2014.

Fallen Fire Fighter: On March 30th, Chief Dwayne Pike, Cst Tom and Cst Charlie Munro attended the funeral for Skyler Blackie, a member of the Truro Fire Department who died tragically as a result of a training accident. The funeral was attended by Fire Department members from all over North America. APD members marched with members of the Amherst Fire Department

CRIME PREVENTION/SCHOOL RESOURCE

February included some planning for the International Women’s Day Luncheon which was held March 8th, 2019

Members attended the YMCA Youth Drop in which continues to see the attendance numbers in the 70’s.

Constable Harrison, as part of the ASIST Team (Adolescent Support Interagency Service Team), attended the high school for a meeting concerning the progress of an ASIST client.

Constable Harrison attended Domestic Violence Training in New Glasgow.

Constable Harrison has set 3 dates in April to complete presentations on Internet Safety. She has invited CyberScan to attend and assist with the presentations to the 3 schools.

Constable Harrison attended “Grief and Bereavement’ training in Debert. This training is designed to provide educators and resource persons with the tools to support families and youth who are grieving, an issue that Cst Harrison and our members deal with on a regular basis.

Constable Wood attended an ATV Rally on February 23rd with MADD at the Sackville Winter Carnival. He manned the MADD booth, providing information to attendees on impaired driving and the initiative that MADD is involved in.

On February 25th, Cst Wood and Acting D/Chief Hunter attended a CrimeStoppers monthly meeting in Oxford.

On February 27th, Cst Wood did a 2 hour presentation on Internet Safety at Maggie’s Place.

In March, Constable Harrison moved into her new office space at ARHS. This provides her with space to meet students and staff and a workspace to call her own at the school.

Constables' Wood and Harrison both attended International Womens' Day committee meetings and the Luncheon that was held on March 8th. Chief Pike and Acting S/Sgt also attended. The guest speaker this year was Lacey Fisher.

Constable Harrison conducted several SafeTALK sessions in March, including one in Springhill and one at Trinity United Church. SafeTALK is about suicide prevention, and teaches one to recognize the signs indicating risk of suicide and how to communicate to that person and provide resources.

Police Week planning is now underway, with both Cst Wood and Cst Harrison starting preparations. The event will be held on May 14th at the Amherst Centre Mall.

FOCUSED ENFORCEMENT:

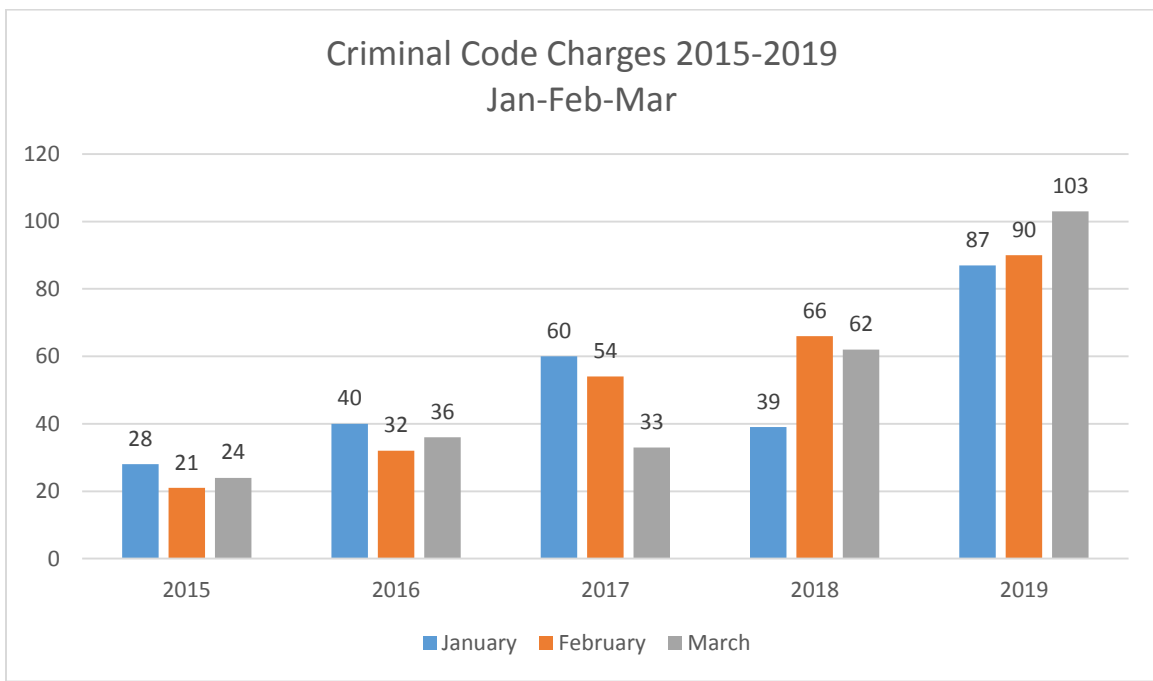
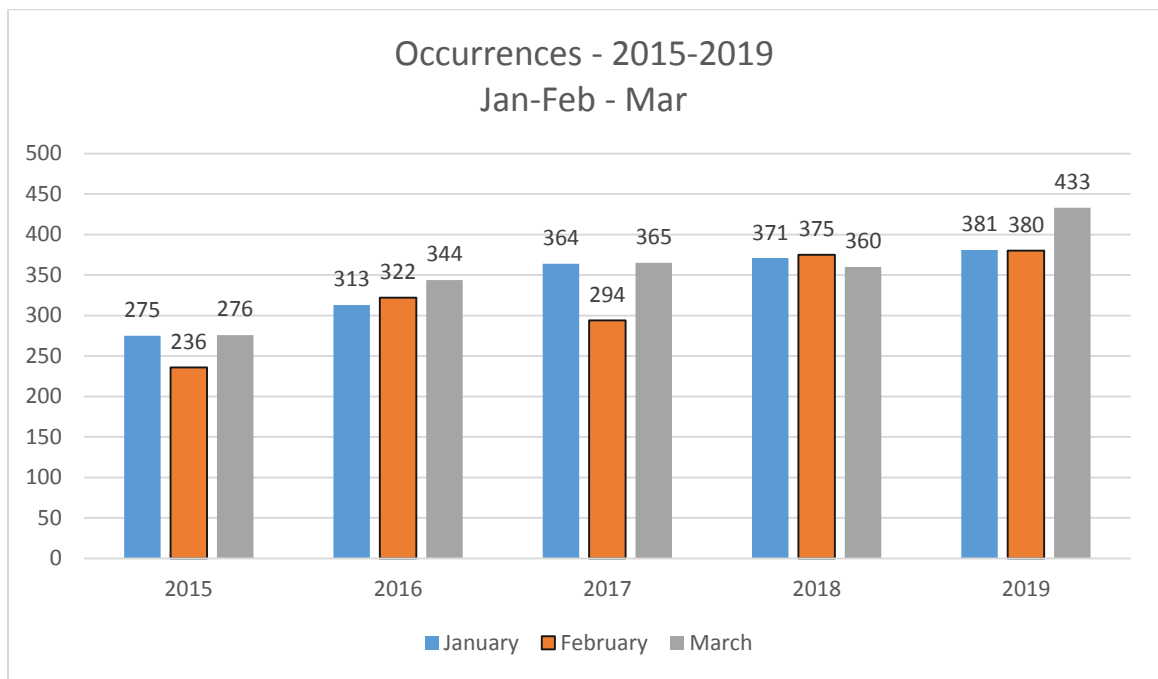
February's Focused Enforcement was distracted driving. Members dedicated over 45 hours to this initiative which resulted in 5 tickets for distracted driving, 8 tickets for other offenses and 7 warnings.

OPERATIONAL STATS – February 2019

Occurrences: 380	Criminal Code Charges: 90
Impaired by Alcohol: 2	CDSA: 2
Impaired by Drug: 0	Traffic Written Warnings: 75
Traffic Tickets: 58	LCA: 1
Vehicle Checks: 219	Bike Patrol Hours: 0
Foot Patrol Hours: 52h 51m	

OPERATIONAL STATS – March 2019

Occurrences: 433	Criminal Code Charges: 103
Impaired by Alcohol: 1	CDSA: 8
Impaired by Drug: 0	Traffic Written Warnings: 67
Traffic Tickets: 60	LCA: 6
Vehicle Checks: 273	Bike Patrol Hours: 0
Foot Patrol Hours: 81h 13m	



1st Qtr = January 1st - March 31st		2nd Qtr = April 1st - June 30th		3rd Qtr = July 1st - September 30th		4th Qtr = October 1st - December 31st					
Offence Category	2019 1st Qtr	2018 1st Qtr	2019 2nd Qtr	2018 2nd Qtr	2019 3rd Qtr	2018 3rd Qtr	2019 4th Qtr	2018 4th Qtr	2019 Comparison 1st period ending	2018 Comparison 1st period ending	%
Assault	33	37		57		59		50	33	37	-10.81%
Break & Enter - Business	1	6		1		7		7	1	6	-83.33%
Break & Enter - Residence	8	7		8		15		17	8	7	14.28%
Domestic Incident	42	50		48		42		37	42	50	-16.00%
Impaired Driving	14	17		20		22		20	14	17	-17.65%
Liquor Act Offences	11	11		12		7		17	11	11	-
Other Criminal Code	89	66		89		120		89	89	66	34.85%
Possession of Stolen Pro	0	3		2		1		6	0	3	-100.00%
Robbery	1	0		0		0		0	1	0	100.00%
Sexual Assault	6	3		3		2		4	6	3	100.00%
Spousal Partner Abuse	7	12		17		10		12	7	12	-41.67%
Theft	38	48		46		68		64	38	48	-20.83%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1	5		1		1		3	1	5	-80.00%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	7	7		17		25		11	7	7	-
MVA SOTs	151	90		109		118		157	151	90	67.78%
LCA SOTs	9	8		12		6		14	9	8	12.50%
Traffic Warning Issued	214	55		84		126		141	214	55	289.09%
Vandalism (Miscief)	7	12		7		18		13	7	12	-41.67%
Occurrences	1194	1106		1378		1561		1398	1194	1106	7.96%
Vehicle Checks	690	396		475		590		675	690	396	74.24%
Foot Patrol Hours	205h 11m	148h 24m		191h 55m		161h 28m		157h 15m	205h 11m	148h 24m	/
Bike Patrol Hours	0	0		0		7h 3m		0	0	0	/
Updated: April 3, 2019											
Red indicates a decrease Blue indicates an increase											