



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

2019 *Fourth Quarter*



TWO EPS MEMBERS RECEIVE ORDER OF MERIT OF THE POLICE FORCES

On Oct. 29, EPS members Superintendent Terry Rocchio and retired Acting Deputy Chief Chad Tawfik were bestowed the Order of Merit of the Police Forces by the Right Honourable Julie Payette, Governor General of Canada.

The ceremony, which took place at Rideau Hall in Ottawa, inducted the two men into the honour's prestigious ranks for going above and beyond the call of duty. Supt. Rocchio and retired Acting Deputy Chief Tawfik were selected for exceptional leadership and outstanding contributions as part of their commitment to serving the citizens of Edmonton.

In their six decades of collective service, both men have contributed greatly to the accomplishments and advancement of EPS. They join EPS officers Deputy Chief Greg Preston and retired Supt. Mark Neufeld who were vested with the Order of Merit of the Police Forces in 2014.



Supt. Rocchio and retired Acting Deputy Chief Tawfik at Rideau Hall.

ANNUAL EPS AND EPC AWARDS RECOGNIZE OFFICERS AND CITIZENS

The EPC and EPS honoured officers and citizens for excellence in service and bravery at their annual awards ceremonies on Oct. 4.

EPS officers were presented with the National Police Exemplary Service Medal and Alberta Police Officer Long Service Recognition Medals, Senior Officer Commissions, Officer Safety Award and Commendations.

A ceremony highlight included the Medal of Valour presentation, the first in over a decade, to two officers for outstanding acts of heroism and courage in circumstances of peril. Const. Michael Bates was honoured for rescuing two pilots from an airplane that crashed in the Athabasca River, and Const. Michael Chernyk was honoured for defending himself and protecting others around him during a violent attack.

The EPC awarded citizens for exemplary bravery in aiding members of the public or police, and EPS employees were recognized for service to the community, problem solving and long service.



Medal of Valour presented to Const. Michael Bates

HOTSPOT CAMPAIGN AIMS TO CURB VEHICLE THEFT

In response to rising theft-from and theft-of vehicles in Edmonton, EPS launched a new campaign that encouraged citizens to stay alert and take steps to prevent crime.

“These two crimes continue to be on the rise year after year and we need all communities to be more vigilant about protecting and securing their vehicles,” says Sgt. Smith of West Division Crime Management Team. “Dealing with the aftermath of having your car broken into or stolen, is much worse than making the extra effort to protect your property.”

Large roadside signs were placed in nine neighbourhoods identified as vehicle theft HotSpots. Their presence reminds those in the area to practice safe habits, such as locking up vehicles, removing valuables and being mindful of where vehicles are parked. The signs will stay in place until March 2020.



A SOBERING TRAFFIC SAFETY MESSAGE

Throughout the quarter, EPS was actively involved in numerous efforts supporting safe and sober driving.

On Nov. 1, EPS hosted MADD Canada’s annual Project Red Ribbon Campaign launch which honoured victims of impaired driving while focusing on the importance of driving sober.

On Dec. 5, EPS partnered with local organizations to reinforce the dangers of impaired driving. The event included participants, such as Oilers alum Jason Strudwick, wearing Ford of Canada’s Drowsy Driving and Drunk Driving Suits which mimic the effects of alcohol and extreme exhaustion.

On Dec. 6, the Impaired Driving Unit deployed its Holiday Checkstop Program which raised public awareness and helped keep impaired drivers off city roads.



“EPS was honoured to host MADD Canada for the 2019 Project Red Ribbon launch in November, reminding everyone to drive sober or arrange a sober ride home.”

SAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS BY UNLOADING YOUR SLEIGH

In early December, EPS launched a campaign reminding citizens to remove valuables from their vehicles during the holidays.

In the campaign, Santa becomes a victim of theft after thieves ransack his sleigh of its Christmas gifts. The campaign also provides tips to prevent theft such as locking idling vehicles and removing valuables.



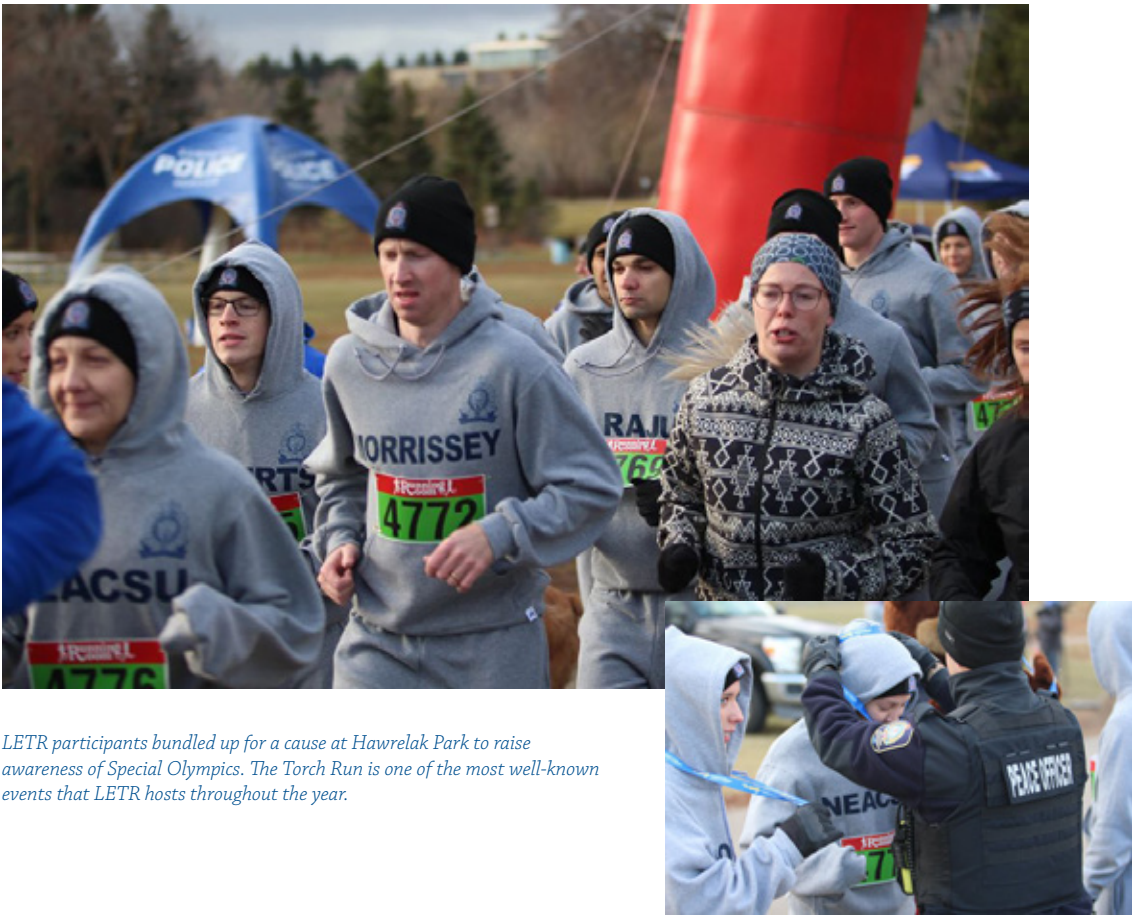
Remember: if they can see it, they can steal it.

HEROES UNITE!

On Oct. 26, EPS members participated in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) at Hawrelak Park.

All proceeds from the event provide Special Olympians with the opportunity to train and compete in a variety of sports. The event also increases awareness of Special Olympics and ensures that individuals with disabilities can continue to participate in sporting opportunities across Canada.

This is one of many LETR events, including the infamous Polar Plunge, that EPS proudly participates in throughout the calendar year in support of Special Olympics.



LETR participants bundled up for a cause at Hawrelak Park to raise awareness of Special Olympics. The Torch Run is one of the most well-known events that LETR hosts throughout the year.

INTERNATIONAL “SWATTING” INVESTIGATION RESULTS IN CHARGES

Charges have been laid against three youths in Scotland following a series of threatening phone calls that put schools in five countries on high alert earlier this year.

Over the course of three days in February, multiple Edmonton schools received phone calls through an online calling app that threatened either a bomb or impending attack by an armed suspect. The schools were placed on heightened alert and, in some cases, initiated lockdown procedures while EPS responded.

As the EPS School Resource Officer Unit coordinated with the affected schools, it became evident that the calls were part of a large-scale hoax. The EPS Cyber Crimes Investigations Unit (CCIU) linked the calls to similar calls made to schools in Calgary and Texas, USA. They were then traced back to the UK, where CCIU learned from their counterparts overseas that over 80 similar hoax calls were made to the Netherlands, England, Scotland and the USA.

Police services in all affected countries collaborated on the investigation, which resulted in numerous charges under Scottish law against the three youths and pending charges against one youth in England.

“We left no stone unturned in this lengthy investigation, even across international borders, and three suspects are now facing charges in their home country.”

*Det. Philip Hawkins,
Cyber Crimes Investigations Unit*



TWENTY-EIGHT STRONG:
RTC CLASS 146 GRADUATES

On Oct. 25, EPS welcomed its newest constables and canines to its sworn ranks in a formal ceremony at City Hall.

Graduating from Recruiting Training Class 146 were 28 officers (18 male, 10 female), as well as two canine teams (PSD Frodo, PSD Gando) that recently completed their Dog Master Training Class.

The members of Class 146 came from diverse backgrounds including the armed forces, security, corrections, social services, health care, business, trades, music and sports. The class also features the first brother-sister duo to graduate together.



BREAKING DOWN COMMUNICATION BARRIERS

EPS partnered with Deaf and Hear Alberta to develop and distribute visual cards that help police officers and drivers with hearing loss communicate with one another.

Const. Trevor Claydon identified the need following an interaction with a Deaf driver, recognizing that more could be done to break down communication barriers during traffic stops. After discovering other police agencies had developed information cards to assist in similar situations, Const. Claydon began working with Edmonton’s Deaf and hard of hearing community to develop a tool that suited the needs of local officers and drivers.

The card features symbols and text that can be pointed to by either party to facilitate conversation. One side provides the officer with communication tips for interacting with the Deaf driver, and the other side includes symbols indicating the various reasons for the traffic stop and documentation requirements.

“The visual nature of the card will help us share information more effectively and bridge these communication gaps, so we can continue to provide the same level of service to all members of the community,” says Deputy Chief Greg Preston.

Cards are available free of charge at EPS division stations and the Deaf and Hear Alberta office.



Const. Trevor Claydon uses the communication card to assist a Deaf driver during a traffic stop. The card features symbols and text that can be pointed at by either party to facilitate conversation.



OFFICERS LACE-UP FOR THE MCCAULEY CUP

Dec. 28 marked over a decade of community tradition at the 11th annual McCauley Cup, where Downtown Division and EPS members from across the city laced up their skates for a friendly game of hockey.

The event saw more than 100 members and families, and even attracted local dignitaries including MP Kerry Diotte, MLA Janis Irwin and Councillor Scott McKeen.

The McCauley Cup has become a cornerstone in bridging the gap between EPS and the community. Originally created by a Downtown Beat officer 11 years ago, the annual game gives youth a chance to connect with officers and showcase their skills. The game continues to grow in popularity and welcomes new players and spectators every year. This year’s sunny Saturday afternoon was no exception.



“The event continues to grow and has become a special milestone in the community that the kids and police officers always get a little competitive and excited about.” Const. David McFarland, Downtown Division and McCauley Cup organizer



EPS PILOTS RAPID DNA TECHNOLOGY

EPS has become the first police service in Canada to pilot a rapid DNA identification system. The technology, currently used by law enforcement agencies across the USA, can process DNA samples in a fraction of the time required by traditional laboratory tests.

Over the past several years, EPS has tracked the progress of rapid DNA technologies. A 90-day pilot managed by the Forensic Services Branch will allow EPS to see how the technology performs in real-life situations.

“Policing as a whole is transforming, and a significant component to our strategy is leveraging technologies that can create immediate value and impact,” said Chief of Police Dale McFee. “We are pleased to be piloting the use of rapid DNA for a public safety mission here in Canada, and we are looking forward to the results of this trial.”



“Policing as a whole is transforming, and a significant component to our strategy is leveraging technologies that can create immediate value and impact.” Chief of Police Dale McFee

RESOLVING CONFLICT ONE DAY AT A TIME

EPS joined community partners to host a free information fair and interactive training session at Kingsway Mall on Oct. 17 in honour of Conflict Resolution Day.

The event marks the eighth year EPS has participated and helped raise public awareness of alternative ways to deal with disputes.

“Our goal is to build capacity for individuals to handle conflict in productive ways,” said Donna Cross, the EPS Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Program Coordinator.

While formal investigations are sometimes necessary, the EPS Professional Standards Branch offers the ADR process to help resolve formal public complaints against police officers. Between 15 and 25 per cent of formal complaints are resolved successfully without investigation.



Donna Cross, second from left, is joined by members of the Conflict Resolution Day planning committee.

FINANCIALS

EDMONTON POLICE COMMISSION (EPC) & AUDIT								
BUDGET VARIANCE BY MAJOR CATEGORY FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019								
	CURRENT PERIOD				YEAR END FORECAST			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL	VARIANCE	%	BUDGET	PROJECTION	VARIANCE	%
EXPENDITURES								
PERSONNEL								
Salary	873	732	141	16%	873	873	-	0%
Benefits	178	109	69	39%	178	178	-	0%
EPC Overtime	7	-	7	100%	7	1	6	86%
	1,058	841	217	21%	1,058	1,052	6	1%
NON-PERSONNEL								
Materials & Supplies	3	3	-	0%	3	3	-	0%
Furniture & Equipment	10	9	1	10%	10	8	2	20%
Contracts & Services	559	272	287	51%	559	320	239	43%
Building Cost	133	129	4	3%	133	136	(3)	-2%
Travel and Training	102	82	20	20%	102	102	-	0%
Other General Costs	24	17	7	29%	24	24	-	0%
	831	512	319	38%	831	593	238	29%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,889	1,353	536	28%	1,889	1,645	244	13%
REVENUE	-	-	-		-	-	-	
NET POSITION	1,889	1,353	536	28%	1,889	1,645	244	13%

The Edmonton Police Commission budget is part of the overall budget allocated to the Edmonton Police Service.

EXPENSES

FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2019 – DECEMBER 31, 2019.

	Executive Director	T.O'Brien	M. Ruth	K. Mackenzie	L. Hawn	J. McDougall	A. Hussainaly	J. Hamilton	E.Ambtman	A. Singh
Conferences										
Hosting		461.41		30.45						
TOTAL	\$0.00	\$461.41	\$0.00	\$30.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

COMMISSIONER MEETING
ATTENDANCE RECORD

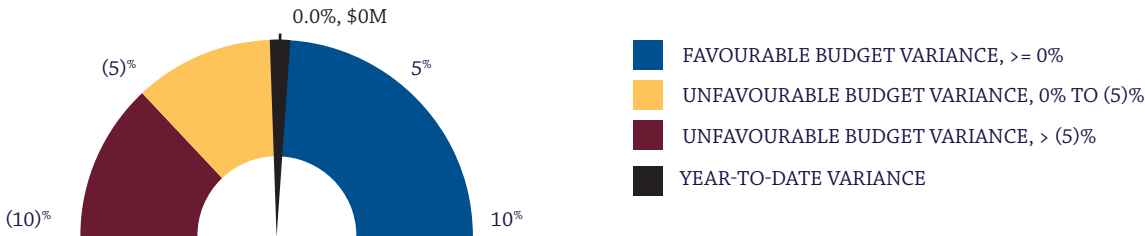
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

COMMISSIONER	# COMMISSION MEETINGS ATTENDED
TIM O'BRIEN, CHAIR	11/11
MICKI RUTH, VICE CHAIR	11/11
KAREN MACKENZE	9/11
LAURIE HAWN	9/11
JANET-SUE HAMILTON	10/11
ANEELA HUSSAINALY	10/11
JOHN MCDOUGALL	9/11
ERICK AMBTMAN	9/11
ASHVIN SINGH	10/11
SARAH HAMILTON	9/11
SCOTT MCKEEN	8/11

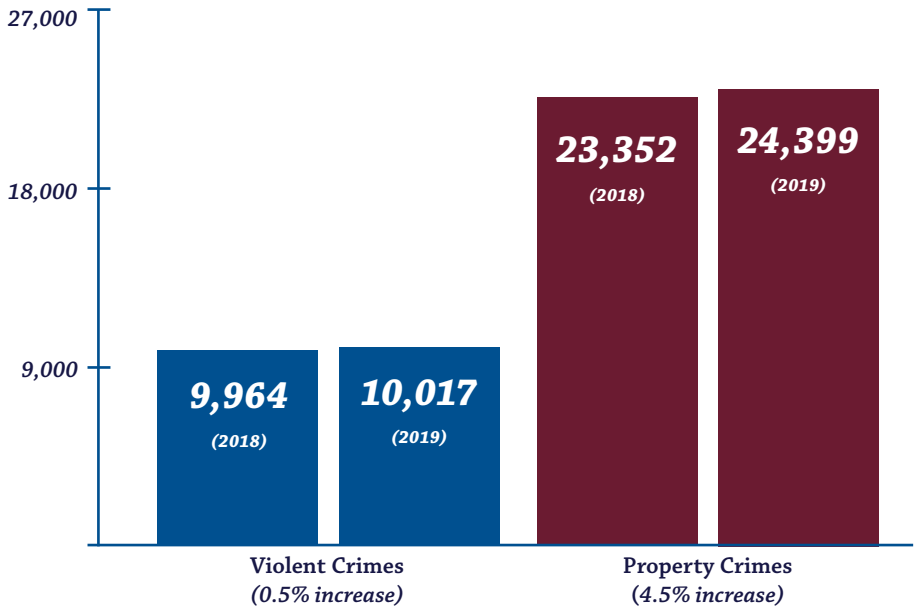
EPS FINANCIALS

BUDGET VARIANCE BY MAJOR CATEGORY OF REVENUES & EXPENDITURES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019 (\$000'S)

	2019 YEAR-TO-DATE			
REVENUE	96,957	94,470	(2,487)	-2.6%
Personnel	368,575	369,044	(469)	-0.1%
Non-Personnel	86,006	81,967	4,039	4.7%
EXPENSE	454,581	451,011	3,570	0.8%
TRANSFER TO/FROM EPS RESERVE	-	1,083	(1,083)	0.0%
NET POSITION	357,624	357,624	0	0.0%



OVERALL CRIME IN THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS
2018 AND 2019 YEAR-TO-DATE COMPARISONS



For 2019, property crimes increased by 4.5 per cent and violent crimes increased by 0.5 per cent compared to property crime indicators in 2018.

THE EIGHT CRIME INDICATORS ARE:

PROPERTY CRIMES

- Break and enter
- Theft from vehicle
- Theft of vehicle
- Theft over \$5,000

VIOLENT CRIMES

- Homicide
- Assault
- Sexual assault
- Robbery

The eight crime indicators are measured daily and the data is used to focus on criminal activity and identify trends, patterns, and hot spots in Edmonton. Police resources are then deployed to address emerging and enduring crime and disorder issues. Violent crime statistics are based on the number of victims of crime, rather than the number of incidents of crime.

Source: Cognos CSR 12 8 Crime Indicators Variance, ran Jan. 14 2020

EPS STAFF COMPLEMENT

SWORN, CIVILIAN, AND RECRUITS			
STAFF	2019 AUTHORIZED FTE'S	2019 ACTUAL FTE'S	VACANCIES/ (OVER STRENGTH)
SWORN	1,846.00	1,819.00	23.00
RECRUITS	0.00	55.00	(55.00)
CIVILIANS	847.50	830.604	16.90
FULL COMPLEMENT	2,689.50	2,704.60	(15.10)

The authorized FTE's represent 2,697.50 authorized positions in 2019

OTHER COMMISSION AND EPS PUBLICATIONS

The Edmonton Police Commission and the Edmonton Police Service publish a number of reports that provide further details on policing in Edmonton.

OPERATIONAL AREA	PUBLICATION
Performance Measurement	Annual Policing Plan
Performance Results	Annual Policing Plan Report Card
Complaints Against EPS	Professional Standards Branch Annual Report
Citizen Opinions on Policing	Citizen Survey

All publications can be found at www.edmontonpolicecommission.ca and www.edmontonpolice.ca