



EPS Guns & Gangs Strategy

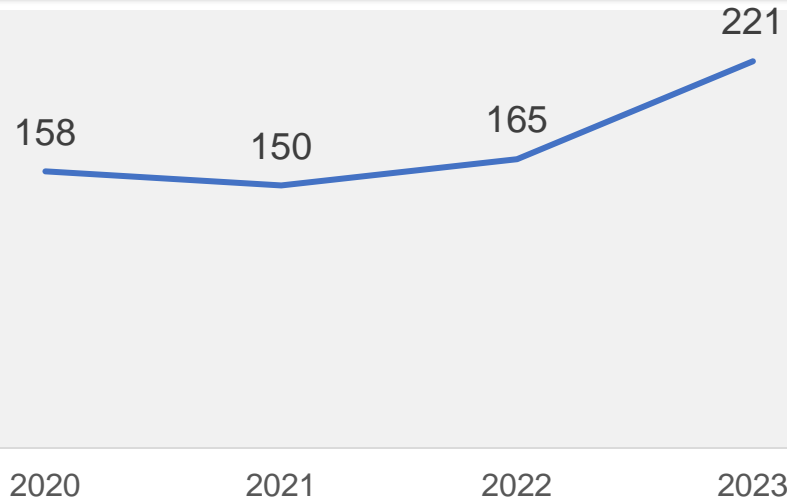
Presentation to Edmonton Police Commission

March 2024

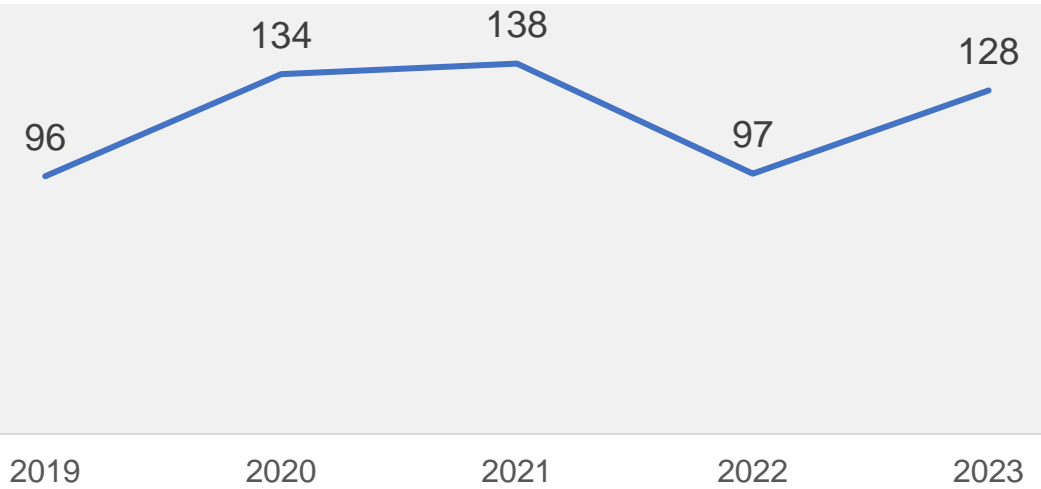


An unacceptable trend of organized crime related activities and violence in Edmonton

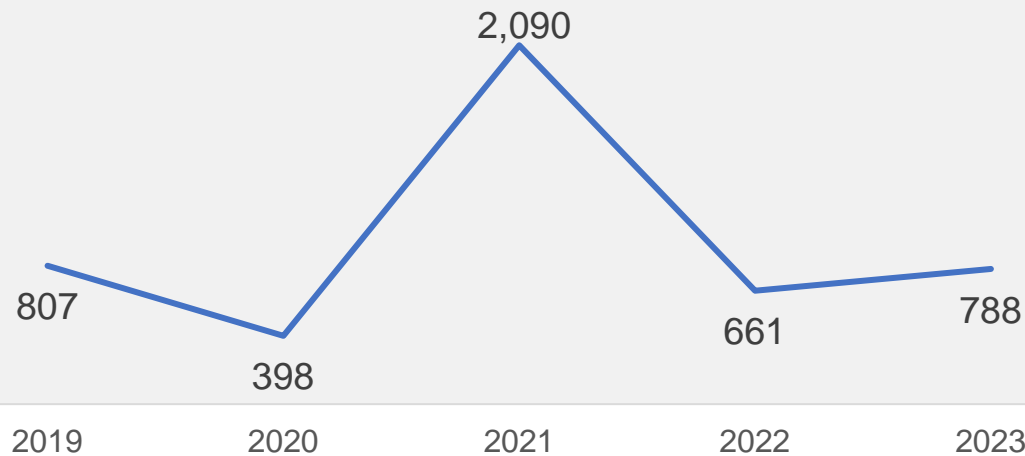
of Shootings



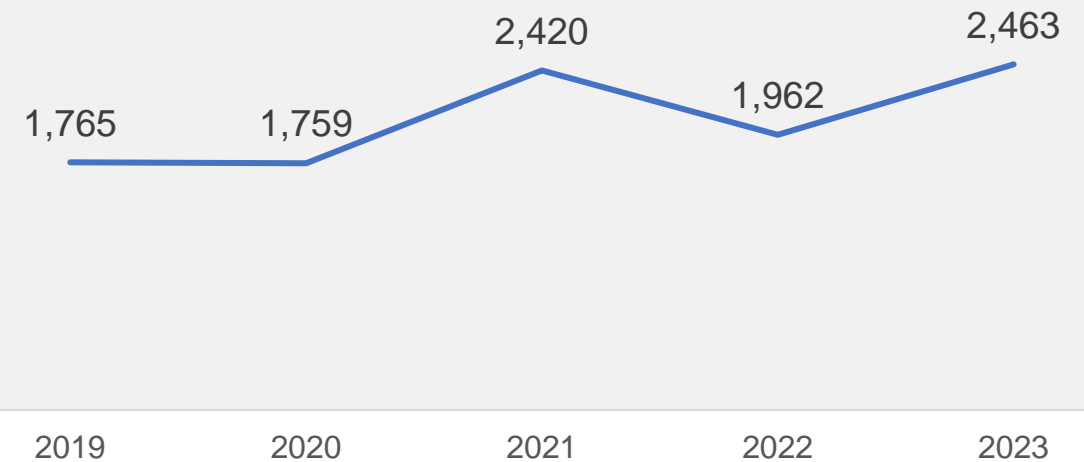
of People Injured/Killed by a Firearm



Volume of Drugs Seized (kg)



of Seized Firearms & Airguns





Key drivers of the violence

**Drug
Trafficking**

Extortion

**Conflicts/
Retaliation**

**Firearms
Trafficking**

**Firearms
Manufacturing**

**Reputation
building**



EPS Guns & Gangs Strategy Overview

FOCUS AREAS:

01 **FOCUSED DETERRENCE**

- Use specific deterrence measures to impact the criminogenic lifestyle
- Engage the community as a partner

02 **INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE**

- Focus investigative resources on the highest harm offenders
- Train frontline resources to improve overall investigative quality

03 **YOUNG PEOPLE INTERVENTION**

- Offer appropriate diversion options
- Support the right social agencies
- Engage the community as a partner

STRATEGIC PILLARS:



Partnerships



Awareness



Intelligence



Integration



Outcome and Measures

Outcome

Gun and gang activity in Edmonton is reduced to enhance the safety of communities.

Measures

1. Increased solve rate on non-fatal gang-related shooting occurrences
2. Increase in rate of convictions for users of firearms, drug traffickers and firearms traffickers
3. Decrease in proportion of gang-related homicides
4. Decrease in rate of growth for firearms-related offences



Our Action Plan: What we have done

1. FOCUSED DETERRENCE

01 Stood up a second Gang Suppression Team

02 Developed the Gang Response and Intelligence Program (GRiP)

03 Conducted multiple investigative projects



2. INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

01

Bolstered the Firearms Investigation Unit (FIU) with 3 members

02

Piloted a new Firearms Compliance Unit (FCU)

03

Created the Drug Expert Investigations Team (DEIT)

04

Conducted multiple complex investigations



3. YOUNG PEOPLE INTERVENTION

01

Created GAP19, a justice referred day program that targets the highest risk youth (12 -18 years old)

02

Participated in the governance committee for the Building Safer Communities Fund (BSCF)

03

Supported Bent Arrow Traditional Healing Society to implement the Indigenous Mentorship Program



Some results in 2023

Guns & Gangs Section and EDGE Section Only

FOCUSED DETERRENCE

- 3 successful outcomes in court: guilty plea, guilty verdict and pending guilty verdict in firearms related charges

INVESTIGATIVE EXCELLENCE

- 9 successful convictions in court for shootings and firearms trafficking charges
- 2 homicides solved



127

Firearms Seized



\$482,000

Value of Stolen Property Recovered



\$4.5 million

Value of Controlled Substances Seized



\$425,800

Money Seized

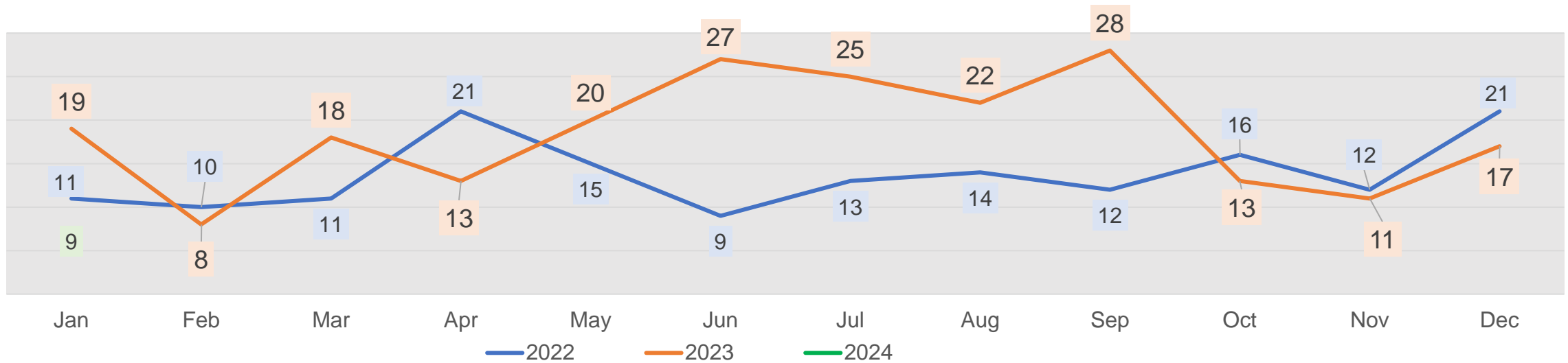
Youth Services Section Only

YOUNG PEOPLE INTERVENTION

- Alberta Correctional Services approved for youth mentors to meet young people in custody.
- 30 youth referrals to the Gap19 program

We have experienced a positive trend in the past two months

3-Year Trend of Shootings in Edmonton (2022 -2024)



Key Trend Statistics	Dec '22				Jan '23			
	Dec '22	Dec '23	(vs PY)		Jan '23	Jan '24	(Vs PY)	
# of Shootings	21	17	-19%	↓	19	9	-53%	↓
# of people injured or killed by a firearm	17	10	-41%	↓	13	6	-54%	↓
# of firearms related homicides	5	0	-100%	↓	3	0	-100%	↓
# of seized firearms & airguns	161	192	+19%	↑	141	164	+16%	↑

01

Project GASLIGHT: Over 30 ongoing investigations around extortion, arsons and shootings targeting affluent SE Asians

02

Setting up an Organized Crime Hub to leverage data-driven targeting and directed activities for Guns & Gangs and EDGE Teams

03

Additional team to conduct investigations on organized crime activities and street gangs

04

Additional resources for Firearms Compliance Unit (FCU)

05 Leverage 2 GST teams for 7 days/week coverage and proactive policing of gang related subjects

06 Leverage Bill C-48 to keep violent offenders off the streets

07 Establish Mentorship & Gang Solutions (MAGS) to address at risk youth

Thank You
Questions?





Strategy at a Glance

Principles	Top 3 Focus areas	Who it targets	Who will do it	
Education Providing training, awareness, and support to build system-wide capacity (within EPS and the community) to successfully reduce gun and gang activity	Suppression Reduce the sources of gun and gang violence or activities	Focused deterrence Take proactive actions to persuade frequent violent offenders to exit the criminal lifestyle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shooters Organized traffickers Violent gang members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIU EDGE GST CAIS CSWB
		Investigative excellence Conduct high-quality investigations that lead to swift and certain justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shooters Straw purchasers Firearms traffickers Organized drug traffickers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FIU FEU EDGE CPB
	Intervention Intervene where gun and gang violence or activity occurs or is expected to occur	Young people intervention Divert young people away from gangs and the justice system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gang-involved youth High-risk youth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EDGE - DEIT GST CPB CSWB CRS Community partners
	Prevention Prevent gang membership and gun violence before it happens	Work with partners to provide the right education and resources to communities to prevent gun and gang violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government Community groups Social agencies EPS
Strategic Pillars	Partnerships	Awareness	Intelligence	Integration