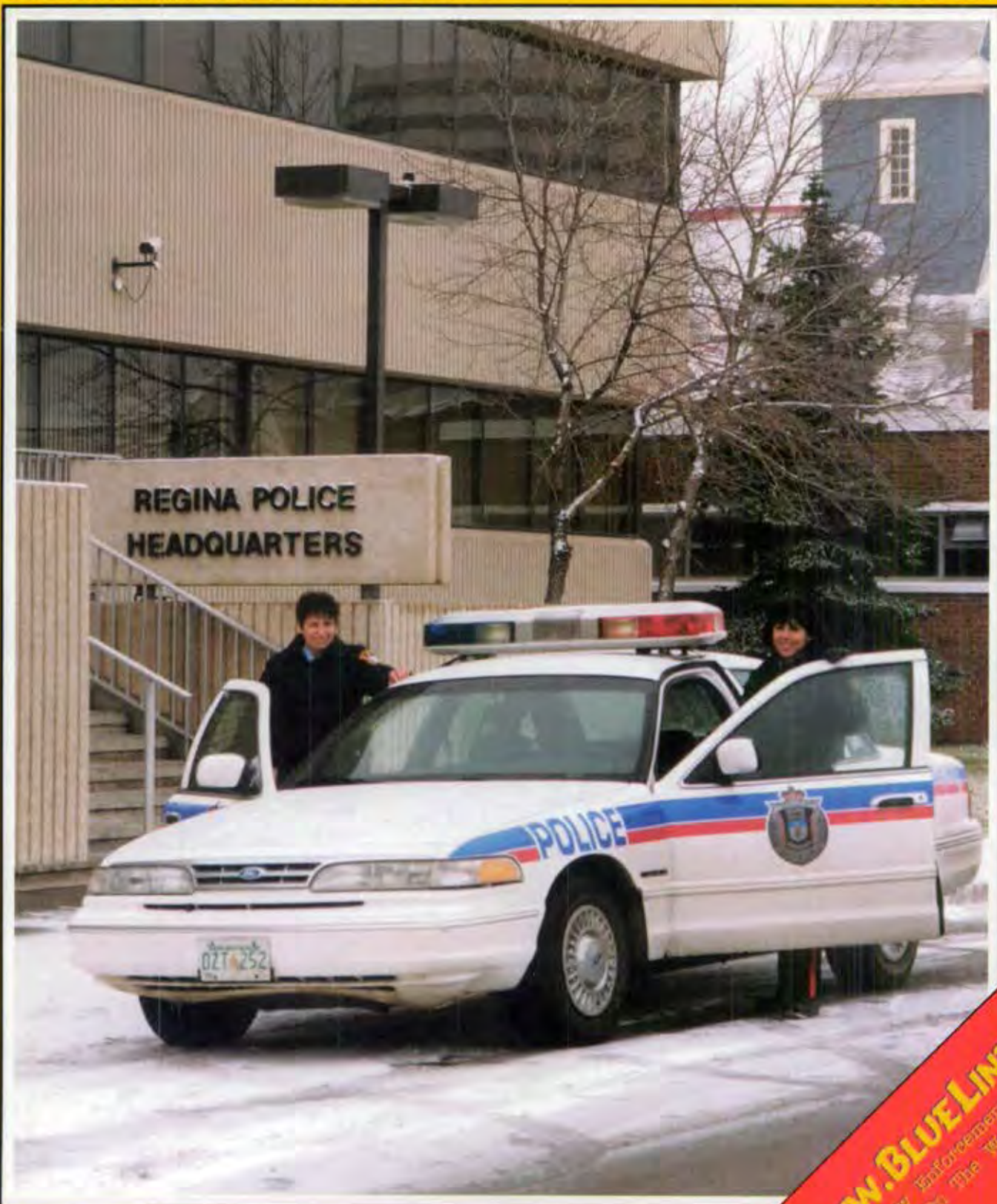


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Canada's National Law Enforcement Magazine

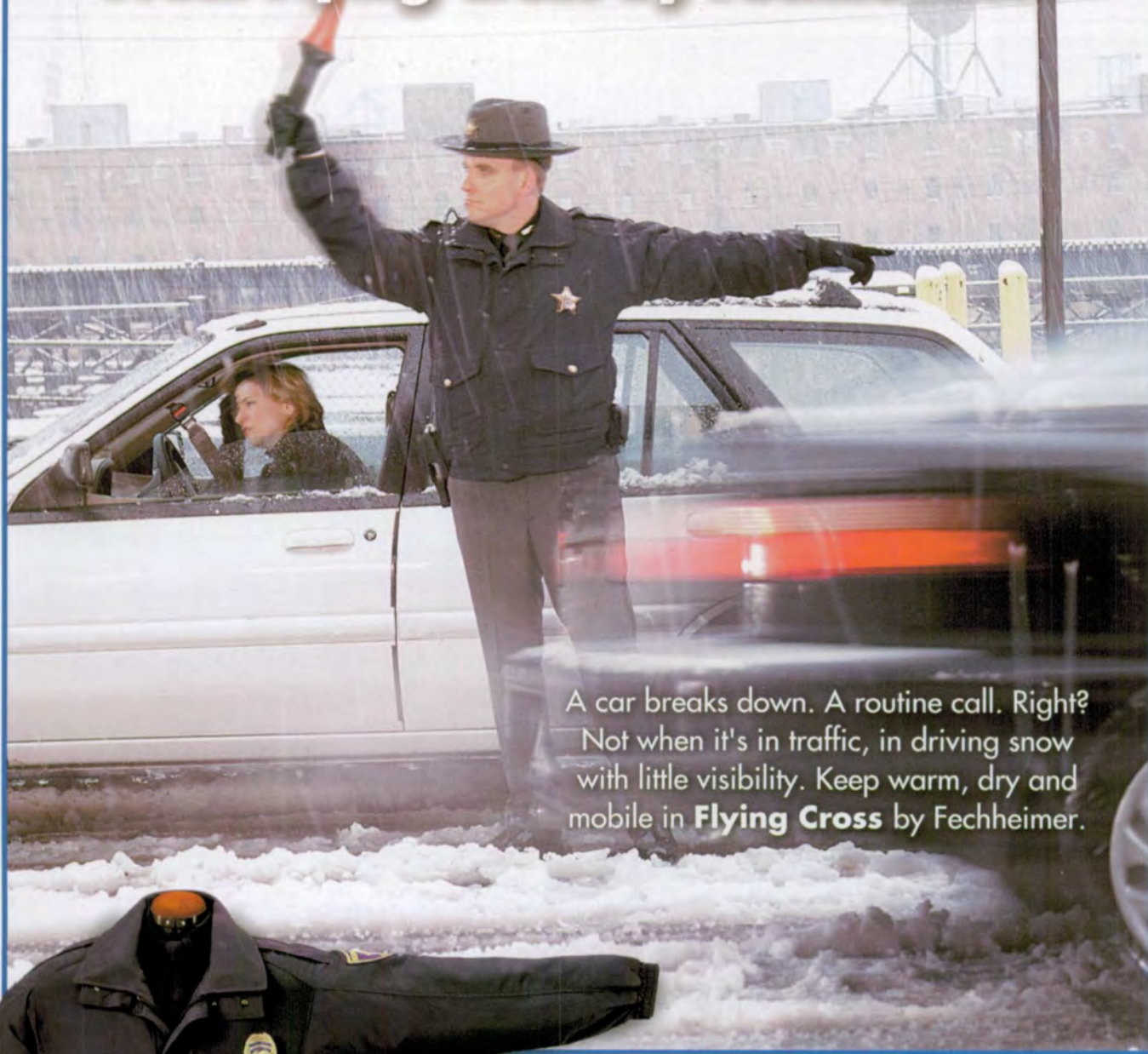
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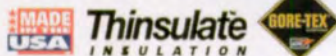
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**BLUE LINE**

Canada's National Law Enforcement Magazine October 1999



Cold weather is coming and we thought you should be reminded about what it looks like by checking out this month's cover picture.

This month we have featured Regina Police officers Angie MacDougall and Rhonda Geres in a feature that explains the experiences of female officers breaking into the ranks of police speciality squads. Blue Line correspondent Dave Brown interviewed both these officers about their experiences in becoming involved in their SWAT and Dive teams. You can read this story starting on page 14 in this issue.

Blue Line's News Editor, Blair McQuillan, was invited back to interview Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Gwen Boniface after one year in command of this 6,000 member force. Blair has also filed a story about an O.P.P. initiative that sees youths from across Ontario attend a summer camp at the headquarters facilities in Orillia. This innovative concept has become very popular with officers and youths from across the province.

Blue Line Magazine is very proud to have been designated "required reading" by Niagara College's law enforcement and justice related courses. As one professor put it, "Blue Line Magazine is the only book that can get our students immersed in the culture of law enforcement in Canada. It keeps them current and keeps them knowledgeable."

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# Bad ideas with good intentions are still bad ideas

by Morley Lyburner

Recently two officers were given a national award with the blessing of their top managers and Transport Canada for a program that sought to help teenagers understand the effects of alcohol on their ability to drive a motor vehicle. I don't know how it came about but it is not legal and should not be emulated by any other agency.

The concept involves taking teenagers to an off-road test track and permit them to consume quantities of alcohol and then test their driving skills so they can experience, first hand, the effects. The idea came complete with precautions such as not to exceed 90mgs., ensuring the youths are of legal drinking age, the vehicle has two sets of brakes, and the activity was away from the driving public.

The program was boasted as being a complete success with the youths and the community being impressed with the program. This positive impression was underscored by a suitable quote in the newspapers from one of the program organizers who told of youths behind the wheel saying, "Oh my God, I'm drunk."

I was completely puzzled. I had never seen anything like it and was severely challenged to try to make some sense out of it. As I was reading this information I somehow thought I must be completely out of touch. In my time as a Traffic cop and Breath Tech this would be considered illegal. No one can drive while their ability is impaired. It doesn't matter if it is off-road, under close supervision, or in measured quantities. But in this sometimes "Alice-in-Wonderland" world we live in maybe there are some exceptions. But even if someone had thought it

was legally correct there would still be the ethical problem of encouraging someone to drive while impaired and, even worse, with the encouragement of the police.

I hit the books and the phones to find out more. What did I find out? I am not out of touch at all. It is not legal to do this, either in the past or the present. The youths have no exemption from the criminal code nor do the officers for counseling them to do so.

I was curious how such a muddled idea got approval from so many higher levels of the police and Transport Canada. I was also torn by the position of the officers. They thought up a very original concept, went through the appropriate channels of approval, were advised the idea was terrific, worked hard and then placed on a pedestal for recognition. Then someone mean, like me, comes along and kicks things out from under them.

I spoke with representatives from Transport Canada, the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police and one of the awarded officers. They all focussed on the same thing. It was a controlled environment and the readings did not exceed an enforceable level of consumption.

When I emphasized the drive ability impaired angle of the Criminal Code rather than the over 80mg sections my suspicions were confirmed. It was clear to me that all these people had centred their approvals on the alcohol readings and not on the physical impairment of the subjects.

When asked by one person what I would do that would be better my only suggestion was that teens could probably be taught the same lesson by using goggles similar to those produced by *Fatal Vision* company in Wisconsin. (see arti-

cle on page 26 of the June edition). If testing the effects of alcohol is a priority the best way to relate to teenagers would be to test them on their favorite video game. Some games even simulate car and motorcycle driving. At least in these environments the only driving police are encouraging is virtual over actual.

In a just-released edition of Transport Canada's own publication, *Smashed*, it was pointed out that you should "talk to your teens about drinking and driving. Include a strict zero tolerance policy about alcohol..." In another part of the same booklet they state "over the years, teens have responded particularly well to the problem of drinking and driving. The decrease in their rate of involvement in alcohol-related crashes has led that of all other age groups during the past decade."

It would appear that someone in the rarified air of upper management saw a good initiative and wanted the positive public relations it would generate. It is obvious that no one thought it through. The first sentence in a Canada Press news story innocently stated, "Getting a couple of teenagers drunk and putting them behind the wheel of a car may not sound like a smart idea... but it garnered two officers a national award..." I can only affirm the first part of this sentence. I am sure I can hear the sounds of body armour being hastily lowered over many posteriors.

I take no pleasure in being the mean person who put the damper on this thing but I will take that chance. It is illegal and there can be very serious consequences if someone screws up. If it means no other officers in this country try to do the same thing then I will proudly wear the "mean editor" title.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Just an observation you might consider - the photo that appears on page forty just above the heading "step seven - practice not shooting", in my view, sends a bad message. This photo clearly indicates that the officer is faced with a situation where he should have fired his weapon. I hope this photo is not representative of any type of training attitude that is being communicated to any Officer. This photo should appear above the caption "too late - you're dead".

D. Rumley  
Peel Regional Police

The Brockville Police Service Bicycle patrol article, featured in the May 1999 issue of *Blue Line Magazine*, has resulted in numerous inquiries about the unit operation and the bicycles and equipment we use.

Calls have been received from police services coast to coast in our country as well as abroad. We feel this is indictive of the impact of your magazine. I am certain *Blue Line* qualifies as Canada's premiere law enforcement information publication for timely updates on a wide variety of issues, police news and product information.

We would like to thank you for providing the opportunity for a small city police service to be featured in your magazine. It is a source of pride for our members, board, council and the community at large.

Barry King, Chief of Police  
Brockville Police Service



I very much appreciated the effort you made to find a back issue of *Blue Line Magazine* for me. As you mentioned, there has been quite a change over the years. I enjoy *Blue Line* for a number of reasons. I learn more about other police services/forces, enjoy the case law discussions, look at the new products and services in the product news and find the various discussions enlightening. I feel the magazine fills an important role within the Canadian law enforcement community.

Ian McDonell  
Edmonton Police Service

Great magazine! I look forward to reading it at home and the office. I would like to say thanks for all the great information I get every month and keep up the great work.

Bryan Larkin  
Guelph, Ontario



# Why cops must be allowed to chase cars

by John Kennedy  
Vermilion Bay, Ontario

With all the negative publicity surrounding high speed chases, I would like to respond with my point of view.

I have been a police officer with the Ontario Provincial Police for over thirty years. I have had three high speed chases that affected my career. I can guarantee you no police officer enjoys a chase of any type, high speed or otherwise. The outcome can be too unpredictable.

On February 14, 1986, after being posted to Vermilion Bay detachment, I was heading west on patrol on Hwy #17 when I saw an eastbound car with only one licence plate. When I turned around to check the car the other driver saw me turn around and suddenly turned down a dead-end road.

I did manage to run the licence plate through the computer system and it came back as missing/stolen in Quebec the previous year. I waited until the car came back to the highway. I stopped the car and approached the driver. The driver kept letting the car roll ahead and after 50 feet "gunned it" and took off eastbound at high speeds.

I radioed the Dryden detachment dispatcher

and told them to send a cruiser westbound as soon as they could, as I was chasing a car doing more than 160 km/h. The car was passing cars and trucks on blind hills. I was more worried about the school children standing on the sides of the highway near Dryden as they waited for the school buses at 8:30 a.m.

The Dryden cruiser had set up a "running roadblock" approximately 10-12 kilometres west of Dryden. When the car reached the road block, the driver tried to go around the Dryden cruiser but struck the side of the cruiser and spun out of control on the icy shoulder. The car slid backwards across the highway into a deep snow-filled ditch. The Dryden officer was slightly injured.

I ran down into the ditch approached the car when I saw a hand at the right rear door handle. I pulled the door open and a young red-headed boy fell out into the snow. He was blind folded, gagged and his hands were taped together. He told me his name and that he was from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan and he had been kidnapped at knife point sometime the night before.

The driver was a convicted paedophile. The car had been stolen in Ottawa a year ago. I found two sets of stolen licence plates in the trunk as well and a small bag of drugs. The driver was

also wanted in Minden, Ont. for sexual assaults on young boys. He was also a suspect in the disappearance of several young children across western-Canada.

In another incident on January 4, 1990, I chased a pickup truck at high speed before I managed to stop the truck. I found a four-year-old boy who had been abducted in Red Water, Alberta two days before.

Given the present climate regarding high speed chases and the new rules now under consideration governing chases, I should have just given up and ended these chases. It seems there is no need to chase a speeding car or because it had a year old missing/stolen licence plate. If Dryden had chosen not to send a cruiser on a roadblock and I had just let the car go because it only had a year old missing/stolen licence plate, I am quite certain, the kidnapper would have likely ducked down some side-road near Dryden and killed his seven-year-old captive and no one would have been the wiser.

Why don't the arm-chair critics call the parents of these kidnapped children and tell them I was wrong for chasing these cars?

Don't judge us until you have sat behind the wheel of a police car and learn to make instant decisions about everything going on around you - then live with yourself if you make a wrong one.



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#### Health

Highly toxic; contact with water produces toxic gas, may be fatal if inhaled. Inhalation or contact with vapours, substance, or decomposition products may cause severe injury or death. May produce corrosive solutions on contact with water. Fire will produce irritating, corrosive and/or toxic gases. Runoff from fire control may cause pollution.

#### Public Safety Call

Emergency Response Telephone Number on Shipping Paper first. If Shipping Paper not available or no answer, refer to appropriate telephone number listed above. Isolate spill or leak area immediately for at least 100 to 150 meters (330 to 490 feet) in all directions. Keep unauthorized personnel away. Stay upwind. Keep out of low areas. Ventilate the area before entry.

#### Protective Clothing

Wear positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Wear chemical protective clothing which is specifically recommended by the manufacturer. Structural firefighters' protective clothing is recommended for fire situations ONLY; it is not effective in spill situations.

#### EVACUATION

##### Large Spill

See the Table of Initial Isolation and Protective Action Distances for highlighted substances. For non-highlighted substances, increase, in the downwind direction, as necessary, the isolation distance shown under "PUBLIC SAFETY".

##### Fire

If tank, rail car or tank truck is involved in a fire, ISOLATE for 800 meters (1/2 mile) in all directions; also, consider initial evacuation for 800 meters (1/2 mile) in all directions.

#### EMERGENCY RESPONSE

##### Fire

DO NOT USE WATER OR FOAM.

##### Small Fires

Dry chemical, soda ash, lime or sand.

##### Large Fires

DRY sand, dry chemical, soda ash or lime or withdraw from area and let fire burn. FOR CHLOROSILANES, use AFFF alcohol-resistant medium expansion foam; DO NOT USE dry chemicals, soda ash or lime on chlorosilane fires as they may release large quantities of hydrogen gas which may explode. Move containers from fire area if you can do it without risk.

#### Fire involving Tanks or Car/Trailer Loads

Fight fire from maximum distance or use unmanned hose holders or monitor nozzles. Cool containers with flooding quantities of water until well after fire is out. Do not get water inside containers. Withdraw immediately in case of rising sound from venting safety devices or discoloration of tank. ALWAYS stay away from the ends of tanks.



#### Spill or Leak

Fully encapsulating, vapour protective clothing should be worn for spills and leaks with no fire. ELIMINATE all ignition sources (no smoking, flares, sparks or flames in immediate area). Do not touch or walk through spilled material. Stop leak if you can do it without risk. DO NOT GET WATER on spilled substance or inside containers. Use water spray to reduce vapours or divert vapour cloud drift. FOR CHLOROSILANES, use AFFF alcohol-resistant medium expansion foam to reduce vapours.

#### Small Spills

Cover with DRY earth, DRY sand, or other non-combustible material followed with plastic sheet to minimize spreading or contact with rain. Dike for later disposal; do not apply water unless directed to do so.

#### Powder Spills

Cover powder spill with plastic sheet or tarp to minimize spreading and keep powder dry. DO NOT CLEAN-UP OR DISPOSE OF, EXCEPT UNDER SUPERVISION OF A SPECIALIST.

#### FIRST AID

- Move victim to fresh air.
- Call emergency medical care.
- Apply artificial respiration if victim is not breathing.
- Do not use mouth-to-mouth method if victim ingested or inhaled the substance; induce artificial respiration with the aid of a pocket mask equipped with a one-way valve or other proper respiratory medical device.
- Administer oxygen if breathing is difficult.
- Remove and isolate contaminated clothing and shoes.
- In case of contact with substance, wipe from skin immediately; flush skin or eyes with running water for at least 20 minutes.
- Keep victim warm and quiet.
- Ensure that medical personnel are aware of the material(s) involved, and take precautions to protect themselves.



## A helicopter could have prevented this tragic waste of life



by Steve Satow

I attended the funeral of Sgt. Rick MacDonald of Sudbury Regional Police. Rick's death was a carbon copy of the death of Constable Rick Sonnenberg in Calgary. Both men were run down by a stolen vehicle being driven by a teenager while they were laying out a spike belt.

In Calgary, as many readers will know, Rick Sonnenberg's death led to the acquisition of HAWC1 - the first dedicated municipal police helicopter in Canada.

Ironically, had a helicopter been in operation in Sudbury, Rick MacDonald would not have died. But, while death is a major spur to getting things done, it seems that the lessons it offers us are seldom learned by those not directly involved.

Why, as a species, do we so stubbornly refuse to learn from the examples, and mistakes, of others? Why, for instance, does Canada trail decades behind the rest of the Western World in recognising the efficacy of police helicopters?

If a helicopter had been available near Sudbury at the time of the fatal pursuit it would have taken over the surveillance of the stolen van. As a result the pursuing cruisers could have dropped back to a safer speed and less "provocative" distance and, most importantly in this case, there would have been absolutely no need for officers to put themselves at risk deploying spike belts.

This lesson has been offered to us almost one hundred times over the last four years by HAWC1. Roughly, that is the number of pursuits that the Calgary helicopter has successfully terminated *without any deaths, injuries or significant damage.*

I have heard all the arguments against helicopters and, for those who wish to listen, I can counter every one of them. But the most common claim offered by the antagonists is that helicopters are too expensive. No, they are not! Even without playing the emotive card of "the value of human lives saved" it is possible to prove that helicopters can be extremely cost-effective in most reasonable sized cities.

And by "cost-effective" I actually mean that

they can pay for themselves without increasing the budget in many situations. Although, personally, I do not think that this should be the yardstick by which helicopters are judged.

In Europe helicopters are federally funded. In the States many of the police departments benefit from the confiscated proceeds of crime to fund their helicopter operations.

Why, in Canada, where the government can justify the expenditure of \$700 MILLION for a fleet of 15 SAR helicopters are they unable to

raise \$15 million to equip every major city with a helicopter?

I believe that it is time for the police and the public to take politicians to task over this issue and ask how many more people will have to die? How many more ridiculously expensive SIU investigations will we need to fund? How long are they going to ignore all the evidence from the last 50 years of helicopter operations around the world before they start to take this issue seriously?

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# Face-to-face with the commissioner

## Gwen Boniface reflects on her first year at the helm

by Blair McQuillan



There is one word that best sums up Gwen Boniface's first year as the head of the Ontario Provincial Police - busy.

"It's gone by really fast," the commissioner said of her first year on the job. "When you enter into it you think you can pace

your way through it with a fair bit of foresight, but the year has flown by."

Since Boniface received the Commissioner's Tipstaff from former commissioner Thomas O'Grady in May 1998, she has been busy overseeing daily operations at OPP headquarters in Orillia, attending numerous public functions where her presence is requested and travelling across the province to meet with community members and police officers in the municipalities the force serves.

"I tend to deal best when I'm dealing face-to-face," Boniface said. "That's my style so it's been a lot of racing from one end of the province to the other. It's the greatest challenge, but also the greatest reward."

And when speaking with the commissioner one gets the feeling that she is more concerned about having enough time to meet all of her policing obligations than having a moment or two to rest.

"It's been exciting, it's been rewarding, it's been exhausting," she says with a smile.

While Boniface is enjoying her own success, she is also excited about the progress the entire force has made in terms of community based policing.

"We've made some good accomplishments at the community level," the commissioner said.

Perhaps the OPP's success is due to the fact that the force initiates community policing programs based on the needs of each municipality as opposed to the entire province as a whole.

"We put some business plans in place that help define what the priorities for the communities are," said Boniface, who is married and has a teenage son. "They're coming up from the community and then presented back to the community by the detachment commander."

The force then continually monitors the programs to ensure that they are meeting the needs of those they are sworn to protect, the commissioner said.

"It's been a pretty successful year right across the province on a number of those fronts."

Boniface is especially proud of two community policing programs involving young children.

In July and August, the OPP ran two separate week-long youth camps at their headquarters in Orillia. A total of 84 underprivileged children between the ages of 11 and 13 from across the province took part in the second annual event.

"Our officers volunteered to be counsellors and come in and work the week," the commis-



Blue Line Magazine's News Editor, Blair McQuillan, interviews Commissioner Gwen Boniface in her Orillia office. "Refreshingly casual" is how Blair describes her.

sioner said. "It was great."

Boniface said the police officers really get involved in the youth camps and work hard to build a rapport with the children.

After the first youth camp, held in July 1998, the commissioner learned how valuable the experience was for those involved.

"I had one officer, who would have around 25 years on the force, say it was the most significant thing he's been involved with in his career."

In addition to the camps, the provincial force is also trying to reach youngsters through literature.

In May, the OPP's commissioned officers association released a children's book entitled "Helping You". The book contains five OPP-related stories aimed at kids between the ages of four and six.

"There is a keen interest in trying to deal with kids and it fits nicely with where we need to go at the community level," Boniface said.

The Sutton, Ont., native says she is very passionate about law enforcement and the opportunity to aid those in need prompted her to join the OPP more than 20 years ago.

Since becoming a provincial police officer in 1977, Boniface has worked in a number of areas including the First Nations and Contract Policing Branch and the Organizational Development Bureau. She was the chief superintendent of the Western Region before being selected to head the OPP.

The commissioner, who earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from York University and a Bachelor of Laws degree at Osgoode Law School, was called to the bar in February 1990.

Boniface says her law degree has helped her in all facets of her work and while she does not recommend law school for every police officer,

she does believe they should always keep their minds open to new experiences and information.

"In any job you bring a piece of yourself and a piece of what you've learned and the skills you've built," she said. "As long as you always have the desire to learn you can always grow within the policing environment."

But sometimes police officers can experience growing pains. The commissioner has been faced with this over the last 18 months as the provincial force has expanded into new municipalities and taken on former municipal officers as part of the ongoing restructuring process in Ontario.

The transition can sometimes be a difficult one and Boniface wants to ensure that all police members under her command make the switch as seamlessly as possible.

"It's always an emotional issue," she said. "People make decisions at the beginning of their career on where they want to be or who they want to join as a police service and all of a sudden their life changes unexpectedly."

In an effort to make the transition from municipal to provincial policing easier for the officers involved, Boniface and other senior officers continually review the amalgamation process in the municipalities they have absorbed to try and determine if they can make smoother transitions in the future.

"As a police leader you have to recognize the emotion involved in the transition and ask how we can make it easier."

As for the future of the provincial police service, the commissioner is very optimistic.

"I think the OPP will continue to be quite stable in all of its mandates," Boniface said. "We're policing in more than 400 municipalities right now and I'm sure that will continue. We've been in this business for the past 90 years."



# Cops, children, camping and caring

by Blair McQuillan

It was just like any other camp.

There were children singing camp songs, long line-ups in the mess hall and mosquitoes in the air.

The only difference was the counsellors at this camp were members of the Ontario Provincial Police.

On Aug. 8, more than 40 kids from across Ontario arrived at the OPP General Headquarters in Orillia for the police service's second annual youth camp.

The camp, founded by Supt. Bob Eamer in 1997, provides underprivileged children between the ages of 11 and 13 with an opportunity to travel, meet new people, learn about themselves and receive positive reinforcement.

"We want them to have one week in a very safe environment," said Eamer, the regional commander for Eastern Ontario and the executive director for the OPP Youth Camp. "That doesn't sound like much, but for many of those children that's not something that's easy for them to have."

A total of 84 children stayed in Orillia during two separate week-long camps. The first group of kids passed through the youth camp in July.

Police officers, social workers and teachers in communities across the province identify and select the children who attend the camp, Eamer said. Only one child in 85,000 will be selected to make the trip.

"We come across those children of families that are having a rough time and maybe need a helping hand," he said. "I could not have foreseen how much of an impact we'd have in having these children for seven days."

For Cst. Peter Durocher, who has acted as camp co-ordinator for the past two years, the most important impact counsellors can make on the children is in the area of self-esteem.

"We reinforce that they're all special people and that each and everyone of them can accomplish anything, anytime," said Durocher, a media relations officer stationed in Orillia. "This is the mandate of our camp."

"They're at the age where they will listen to



what you say," said Sue Thorburn, the camp's logistics co-ordinator and an eight-year OPP civilian member. "They haven't been influenced enough by their peers yet to blow off any good advice you might give them."

"At this point we have a chance to give them that positive reinforcement and have them take it back with them for the next couple of years when they're going to have to make some tough decisions."

And the children do seem to listen to the counsellors.

Thirteen-year-old Angela Payne said she will never forget the time she spent in Orillia or the police officers who made her stay a special one.

"I'll remember all of the things that (the



counsellors) have done for us," the Armprior resident said. "They've encouraged us and taught us that we're special too."

Eleven-year-old Joanna Rosenberger from Matheson also learned a valuable lesson at the camp.

"I learned that we're all special in different ways," she said.

But Eamer says the kids aren't the only ones who benefit from the week away from home.

"The big impact is on the officers," he said of the 25 volunteers who help run the camp, which is funded through donations from police officers and the private sector. "They take so much from it. It really gives them an opportunity to make a difference in someone's life."

"It's knowing that you can help out in some

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way and form a bond with the kids," said counsellor Angel Hargrove, a five-year OPP constable from Temiskaming. "I really enjoy being with kids and I just wanted to see if I could make a difference and try to help the kids."

While all officers who volunteer for the camp want to make a difference, one rookie officer from Pickle Lake said he was hoping the camp would give him the opportunity to learn more about kids.

"Most of the counsellors here have kids where I don't," Cst. Barry Kelly said. "So I bring more of a learning perspective."

However, the camp does more than educate. It is a vacation after all and both the counsellors and kids need to have some fun. In addition to learning valuable life lessons, the campers took part in paddle boat rides, a scavenger hunt and a karaoke night. The most popular activity of the week wasn't much of a surprise.

"Canada's Wonderland," 12-year-old Collingwood resident Garry Keddy said succinctly. "I liked the rides and the games and stuff."

Martin Plamondon from Hearst said he enjoyed Wonderland, but was also impressed with



the vehicle that brought him to the camp.

"I liked coming in on the plane," the 12-year-old said of his first flight.

While Plamondon took home memories of flying through the air for the first time, others at the camp were left with memories that are equally heart warming and emotional.

Durocher said his most memorable experience at this year's camp involved a young girl and one of the counsellors.

"We had a little one at Canada's Wonderland who dropped her camera and the camera broke," he explained. "It was her grandmother's."

One of the counsellors, a tactics rescue team member who has served in Bosnia, told the staff he would try to have the camera repaired or replaced. The following day, after trying unsuccessfully to have the camera fixed, he presented the girl with a new one.

"She started to cry and tears started to run down this six-foot police officer's face," Durocher said. "That is what this camp is all about: The bonding between us and the bonding between these children."

Eamer, who has served with the provincial force for 36 years, said he is proud of the youth camp's success and the positive affect it has had on everyone who has been associated with it.

"This is probably the most emotional thing I've ever done," he said. "For one little girl here the highlight of her week was that she was able to have milk everyday."

"With these children it doesn't take much to make a big impact."

For more information on the OPP Youth Camp contact Supt. Bob Eamer at (613) 284-4500.

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# Case Study R.v. Polashek (1999)

by Gino Arcaro



**Note:** The complete case study and relevant explanation can be found in the second edition of Gino Arcaro's book entitled, *Basic Police Procedures*, published by Nelson Thomson Learning, Scarborough, Ont.

The following is an update from a previous article dealing with the subject of the odour of marijuana.

This 1999 case law decision, made by the Ontario Court of Appeal, provides valuable procedural guidelines relating to numerous police procedures that commonly apply during routine investigations.

## Issues

- 1) Circumstances that constitute reasonable grounds to conduct a warrantless search of a car for drugs.
- 2) Whether the odour of marijuana alone constitutes reasonable grounds.
- 3) Search of a person incident to an arrest.
- 4) Warrantless search of the trunk of a car as

part of a search incident to an arrest.

- 5) When to inform an arrested person of the right to counsel.
- 6) Whether a warrantless search has to be delayed if the person invokes the right to counsel.
- 7) Admissibility of physical evidence seized after the commission of a sec. 10(b) Charter violation.
- 8) Admissibility of a confession obtained after the commission of a sec. 10(b) Charter violation.

## Offence

*"possession for the purpose of trafficking"*

## Circumstances

At 1:00 a.m., a police officer lawfully stopped a car, driven by the accused, for a Highway Traffic Act violation. The officer had a 20 to 30 second conversation with the accused while the accused sat in his car. During this conversation, the officer detected a "strong odour" of marijuana emanating from inside the vehicle. The officer saw no smoke and could not determine whether the odour was of burnt or unburnt marijuana. The officer told the accused that he smelled marijuana. The accused responded by looking to his right and over both shoulders, and

said, "No, you don't."

The officer formed reasonable grounds that the accused had possession of marijuana, based on the following factors:

- the odour,
- the accused's response,
- the time of night, and
- the area, where drug use was common.

The officer asked the accused to leave the car and conducted a cursory search of the accused. The officer found cannabis resin in the accused's pocket. The officer arrested the accused for possession of marijuana and continued the search of his person. The officer found over \$4,000.00 in cash in his pockets. The accused was handcuffed and seated in the cruiser.

Officers then searched the interior and the trunk of the car. An ownership, found in the glove compartment, showed that another person owned the car. Wrapped bags of marijuana, a scale, rolling papers, and a small amount of LSD were seized from the trunk. The accused was arrested again, for possession for the purpose of trafficking. After this arrest, the officer informed the accused of the right to counsel for the first time. Thirteen minutes had elapsed after the initial arrest. The accused stated he understood and wished to reserve his right to speak to a lawyer until later. The officer questioned the accused, who responded with an inculpatory statement by saying, "What can I say? You caught me; I'm busted."

## Trial

The accused was convicted. The trial judge ruled that:

- Reasonable grounds existed to arrest.
- The search of the trunk was incident to the arrest.
- No sec. 10(b) Charter violation occurred.
- The Crown proved the case without the accused's statement (the accused did not testify at the voir dire).

## Ontario Court of Appeal

The court made the following decisions:

- The court agreed with the accused, in part, that the odour of marijuana alone does not usually constitute reasonable grounds to arrest for possession because the sense of smell is:
  - highly subjective,
  - leaves no trace, and
  - is an unreviewable opinion
- However, the court also stated that it "would not go so far [to say] that the presence of the smell of marijuana can never provide the requisite reasonable and probable grounds for an arrest."
- The circumstances will determine whether the smell of marijuana alone forms reasonable grounds. One determining factor is whether the officer can prove that he or she has sufficient expertise, based on experience or training, to justify an opinion of present possession.
- In this case, the odour alone would not have

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been sufficient to form reasonable grounds.

- Reasonable grounds did exist in this case because the officer did not base his belief solely on the odour. He combined other factors, including the accused's response, the location, the time of day, and the experience of making 40 to 50 marijuana seizures in that area. Additionally, forming reasonable grounds to make an arrest is not as "exacting" as forming it for a search warrant. A lower standard applies.
- The court recognized that this was a "close case" because no smoke or any other object was seen in the car to support the present possession of marijuana.
- The search of the trunk was lawful. It fell within the common law authority as a search incident to an arrest. The reasons were as follows:
  - The accused was arrested shortly after being removed from the car.
  - The search of his person revealed a quantity of cannabis resin and a large amount of money.
  - The area was known to the officer for drug trafficking.
  - There was a "reasonable prospect" that more drugs would be found in the car.
- The police were not required to delay the search incident to the arrest until the accused spoke to a lawyer.
- The 13-minute delay to inform the accused did constitute a sec. 10(b) Charter violation. The S.C.C. has ruled that the right to counsel must be informed immediately after detention.
- The items found in the trunk were non-

conscriptive evidence. Their admission would not affect trial fairness. Therefore, these items were not excluded.

- The inculpatory statement was conscriptive evidence. Its admission would render the trial unfair. The accused did not testify at the voir dire during the trial. The trial judge did not have to determine trial fairness. Consequently, the court allowed the appeal, quashed the conviction, and ordered a new trial to resolve whether the admission of the statement would affect trial fairness.

The court made a final significant comment relating to police education. During the trial, the officer was asked what he was taught about when to read an arrested person the right to counsel. The officer testified that, "We're not really taught at any particular point in time, it's just done subsequent to the arrest." The court responded to this by saying, "This suggests a serious systemic failure within the police community, given that the decision in *Debot* was released over six years prior to the arrest in this case."

Gino Arcaro served fifteen years with the Niagara Regional Police Service. Currently, he is a professor at Niagara College, Welland. He has authored six law enforcement textbooks to date. Any questions regarding case law can be directed to Gino Arcaro via email to [niacolts@itcanada.com](mailto:niacolts@itcanada.com).

**A LOOK BACK**  
**BLUE LINE NEWS WEEK**  
**25 May 1998**

BRAMPTON, Ont. (CP) - Three Australian men were arrested at Toronto's International Airport after six kilograms of cocaine were found in 15 pairs of shoes.

The three were arrested by customs officials and provincial police Saturday morning at Terminal Two after getting off a flight from Trinidad.

Customs spokesman Duncan Smith said five shoes containing high-grade cocaine were found in each man's suitcase.

"The strong smell of contact cement on the shoes alerted our officers," Smith said. "We then ran the shoes through an X-ray machine."

Sgt. Len Lanza said the well-packed drugs were shaped like the sole of the men's well-worn casual shoes. "This is very common," Lanza said. "It isn't a unique way of smuggling drugs."

The men - a hairdresser, laborer and restaurateur - were scheduled to board another flight to Vancouver before heading back to Australia.

Paul Pavlou, 41, Stephen Labozzetta, 39, and Lee Pascu, 30, have been charged with importing a controlled substance. They appeared in court Monday and were ordered detained.

Police said if convicted, the men will be deported from Canada after serving their sentences. They face a maximum of seven years in jail if convicted.

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# Breaking through the "glass walls"

## Women are now forming an integral part of police speciality units

by Dave Brown



It's a cold Sunday in November.

In the middle of a Regina residential area, a domestic dispute begins to turn violent. The situation quickly unravels and police respond. The resident reacts by barricading himself in his estranged wife's home with a weapon and threatens to shoot her and any police officers that come to her door. The Regina Police Service send in their SWAT unit.

The officers move quickly. A containment unit clears residents from the danger area and a two-person sniper team is strategically placed. The Regina SWAT team operates with quiet efficiency, honed by years of joint training with the Los Angeles Police Department. Within 15 minutes of the first call, the sniper unit is providing valuable intelligence while negotiators attempt to resolve the situation peacefully.

Behind the lens of her Remington sniper rifle is Regina Police Service Constable Angie MacDougall.

One of the more experienced members of the SWAT team, Angie joined the unit in 1991. For all of the officers on the squad, it took incredible amounts of hard work and dedication to become an integrated part of this elite unit. For Angie, it was not that long ago that all the dedication and ability in the world would not have been enough for her to become part of a police tactical team.

While the world has sometimes changed rapidly around them, police departments have only gradually accepted women into the ranks of patrol officers. They were even less welcoming into the traditional male domains of the tactical teams.

In theory, it seems to be a perfect match. Specialty units require exceptional standards in physical fitness, commitment to the task and ability under fire, but none of these are gender-specific traits. In practice, there was some resistance to the idea of women on tactical teams. With the world changing, however, it was inevitable.

It took the efforts of a dedicated individual that simply did not consider it unusual for a female to try out for the SWAT team, in combination with a progressive department like the Regina Police Service for it to work. Policing a population of 180,000 citizens, the Regina Police Service has a complement of 303 officers and 118 Special Constables and civilians. As of 1998 there were 25 females on the force with seven more recently completed training. Regina Police have one female Staff Sergeant, one female Sergeant and three female Corporals. Policing this tough prairie city requires a dedicated police force and the Regina Police Service decided long ago that they would select their officers based on ability and not gender.

In fact, one of the first sworn police women



Photos: Terry Edwards

in Canada joined the Regina Police Department on July 15, 1957. At that time, she had to meet certain educational and physical requirements not required of male officers of the day. As a female police officer she also had to be a Registered Nurse and a proficient typist. She resigned from the force in 1959 to pursue her former career as a nurse.

### SWAT Team

Today, Regina Police have several tactical units, such as an 18-member SWAT team, a six-member underwater dive team and a complement of trained hostage negotiators, which employ both men and women working closely together. The SWAT team will see anywhere from 8 to 20 call-outs a year. In a typical operation, four to six team members are summoned by pagers.

Becoming a member of the SWAT team is not easy for any officer. For Angie MacDougall it was no different. Regina Police Service uses a six-step selection process designed to eliminate favouritism and appointments based on friendship. The most qualified candidates are chosen from all the applicants based on a physical fitness test similar to the RCMP Emergency Response Team selection test, a psychological evaluation and stress test, and a shooting skills test. No modifications are made for females.

The first year she applied, Angie did not make it. She applied again one year later and was successful over 25 other applicants. "The standards are realistic but not impossible," Angie stated. "They are not so tough that females are automatically eliminated."

"When I first joined the team, you could see that there was that 'old boys club' mentality. They didn't really exclude me, but it took a while

for them to accept me. But that's probably no different than when any other new member joins such a close-knit group."

"I felt like I was living in a glass house for the first six months. Once they saw that I could do my job, we began to work together." There were even a few unusual situations that were dealt with using common sense. "They had my SWAT gear in a locker in the women's washroom, but I just didn't really feel part of the team. We finally moved it in with the others and things started to gel quickly after that. Now, we all get along great; we're all there as professionals to get a job done."

Angie explained that not everyone was quite so quick to accept. "One officer had serious reservations about my placement on the team and certainly did not disguise the fact that he was watching me closely in our training and operational situations. Probably my most gratifying experience was when he approached me one day and told me that all his doubts were erased. He said he would go through any door with me at anytime. That's when I knew it was going to work."



Photo: Ron Brown



The team has an on-going program of testing and training. Members must pass two physical tests per year and a shooting test once per month on all the team weapons. The team trains two days per month, and snipers spend an additional three to four days training every year.

"SWAT teams need people from all walks of life. That way we can draw on each other's strengths," Angie concluded.

So why does a female even want to be on a tactical team? Probably, for the same reason as anyone else. "I remember once, we did an early morning search warrant on a north end apartment. We knew there were weapons, and the suspects had already stated that they were prepared to kill police officers. We did a full-house entry and it went down with perfection. When the door crashed in and the flash-bangs went off, the whole floor just shook. The coordination was perfect and the noise and smoke just created this huge adrenaline rush. It was great!"

### **Underwater Dive Team**

Angie MacDougall did more than become one of the first women in Canada to become a member of a SWAT team. She also inspired those that would come through the ranks behind her.

One of these is Constable Rhonda Geres. An experienced diver, she did not consider it unusual or different for a female to become a police diver. She credits Angie for breaking ground with the SWAT team and making it easier for her to be accepted on the dive team.

While Rhonda may have found acceptance, it was just as tough a selection process to join the team in the first place. Diving requires a great deal of physical strength. Divers must be able to carry heavy equipment for great distances. They must be able to walk through sucking mud or be prepared to physically assist another diver. It also requires endurance and intelligence so that all their strength is not used up all at once.

"I was surprised that there were so few women on underwater dive teams," Rhonda reports. "There are many women that dive recreationally."

Rhonda found the other team members to be very supportive. "They were great. Once they had confidence in my ability, they saw it was really to everyone's advantage to work together."

She had her share of unusual situations that had not necessarily been anticipated. "We have to rely on each other to work together as professionals. After all," she wryly adds, "we all change in the same truck."

The six-member team will typically respond to several calls in a year. Most of them will be body or vehicle recoveries. They train on deep-water dives and confined-area diving in both summer and winter. Beyond regular certification dives, much of their practice is more on an individual basis.

Rhonda sees no barriers to women police divers, other than the ones that they may put in place themselves. "You really must be seen by everyone else that you're capable and able to do the job." Beyond that, there is the psychological stamina required in order to be comfortable feeling around in dark, murky spaces for possible dead bodies. "Some divers just do not like those dark, confined spaces. I love them!"

### **Women on Tactical Teams**

When asked why women would want to join tactical units such as the SWAT team and the Underwater Dive team, Angie MacDougall and Rhonda Geres both cite the feeling of working closer with their fellow professionals as the key attraction. It has made their careers more fulfilling and they have learned new skills. On the way, they also learned a lot about themselves.

Today, both Constable MacDougall and Constable Geres emphasize that they are only a small part of an integrated unit that works closely together to achieve common goals. They feel that they do not deserve individual recognition because, while it takes a lot of dedication and ability, what they have done is not any more outstanding than what any other member of their team has done.

"The glass ceiling" is a term used to describe situations that stop women from reaching the top levels of organizations. In the police specialty area the problem could be described as "the glass wall" in that many women may feel they can not move laterally within their own level. Certainly we may one day reach the point where it is not the least bit remarkable to see women officers on specialty units, but we are not there yet. In the mean time, even if women have made the commitment to their profession and their teams do not choose to recognize their own accomplishments, they still act as role models to all their fellow officers... male and female.

After all, it may not be the type of work for everyone, but the opportunity should not be closed to anyone.

The hostage crisis in November, 1998 was resolved peacefully when the suspect surrendered. Constable Angie MacDougall left the SWAT team in 1999 after 8 exciting years on the unit. Now a Detective Constable with the Regina Police Service, she works out of the Regina Children's Justice Centre. She may be contacted at (306) 777-8628. Constable Rhonda Geres is still on the underwater dive team.

## **STATS & FACTS**

The City of Regina, with a population of 185,400 people, is located in the Province of Saskatchewan and is the capital city of the province.

The Regina Police Service consists of 295 police officers (269 male and 26 female) and 114 civilian and support staff for a total of 309 members. The police to population ratio is 628 citizens for each officer. The police budget for 1997 was around \$31 million. This figure breaks down to a per capita cost of \$167.

The Regina police reported that on average each officer on the department investigates 94 criminal code incidents each year. The total number of criminal code offences recorded with the police service was 27,752 during the year 1997. The police service reported a 21 per cent clearance rate on property crimes and an 72 per cent clearance rate on crimes of violence. Overall there was a 4 per cent decrease in crime over the previous year of 1996.

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# Buying into offender rehabilitation

## How purchasing from Canada's largest prison-industry program strikes the perfect balance between good business and community safety.

by Robert Stevens

Police officers have two primary objectives: first, preventing crime in the community, and second, apprehending those suspected of committing crimes.

Many tools are needed to accomplish these objectives - everything from cars and radios to firearms and file cabinets. But it may surprise you to learn that some of the key equipment police officers from Nova Scotia to British Columbia use to do their jobs each day is built by a unique group of police 'customers' - convicted offenders.

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The working environments are as close to the 'real world' of work as is possible; many of the shops are ISO-certified, and the deadlines, pressures and demands are just the same. And research has shown that offenders with *CORCAN* experience are more likely to return to society and become law-abiding citizens than



offenders without that experience.

Purchases from *CORCAN* help the agency rehabilitate offenders without incurring additional cost to the taxpayer. *CORCAN* operates on a break-even basis using sales to public-sector organizations like the RCMP to fund not only its more commercial activities, but also post-release support services across the country that give released offenders more opportunity to find jobs. Without *CORCAN*, these programs would require funding to continue operations or be forced to close.

And the final benefit to the taxpayer stems from effective rehabilitation. Incarceration is expensive, costing on average over \$50,000 per year per offender. Rehabilitation programs like *CORCAN* work. And when offenders become

productive members of society, tremendous savings accrue to the government - and in the end, to taxpayers.

Organizations like the RCMP also like the idea that they are supporting a 'sibling' government organization. After all, *CORCAN*'s parent department, the Correctional Service of Canada, and the RCMP are part of the portfolio of the Solicitor General of Canada. "And I can't help but chuckle when I think that some of the guys I've caught might have made the desk, chair, or file folder I use," muses one officer.

From time to time, people get concerned that one is shutting out competition from the private sector by purchasing from *CORCAN*. But that's just not the case. In fact, purchases from *CORCAN* amount to only a tiny percentage of police service spending on products and services.

Making the decision to purchase *CORCAN* products isn't just a matter of good business sense. It also contributes directly to the fulfilment of the mission and vision as a police service. For example, police services are committed to promoting safe communities. *CORCAN*'s rehabilitation program makes safer communities. They contribute to communities through enhancement of public safety, partnerships and consultation, and effective and efficient use of resources. *CORCAN* meets all of those criteria.

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## Blue Line Magazine is going to school



Blue Line is no longer just a magazine.

Beginning this month, the national law enforcement publication will also become a textbook for students enrolled in the Police Foundations and Law and Security Administration programs at Niagara College in Welland, Ont.

Blue Line's case law and other selected articles will be used as reference material to give students an "educated perspective" of law enforcement in Canada.

Gino Arcaro, Blue Line's case law editor and co-ordinator of both the Police Foundations and Law and Security Administration programs at the college, said he has been using his legal articles in the classroom for years and decided it was time to start using the entire magazine as an educational tool.

"It started a couple of years ago," Arcaro said. "I began using the case law article that I write either as a classroom case study to ana-

lyse or a supplement to the students' reading."

In May, Arcaro approached his staff with the idea of using Blue Line's wide range of articles in some general education courses to give students a better understanding of law enforcement and the police officer's role in society.

The staff readily agreed to the idea.

"Every general education teacher has raved about Blue Line," said Arcaro, who has taught at Niagara College for ten years. "They're looking forward to using the magazine as an educational tool."

Over the next seven months, Blue Line will publish case law articles on topics ranging from forming reasonable grounds to search and seizure, which will be used in the two policing courses that Arcaro teaches.

Students will also see Blue Line articles appearing in their psychology, sociology, political science, public administration and ethics courses. Throughout the year, general education teachers will incorporate articles relating to these

courses into their curriculum as examples of how classroom theory relates to real-life policing, Arcaro said.

"With all of the contemporary issues the magazine covers I think it's a must read," he said.

Blue Line publisher Morley Lymburner said Arcaro has launched an exciting initiative that reflects one of the magazine's mandates.

"Blue Line has always been dedicated to educating the law enforcement officers of today and tomorrow," Lymburner said. "The Niagara College initiative is an excellent opportunity for future police officers to learn about the law enforcement profession and the kind of working environment they will face when they have completed their studies. We do our best to bring the streets between the covers of every issue. It is certainly an honour to be recognized for our efforts by Niagara College staff."

## University offers degree in police studies



Aspiring law enforcement officers who entered the police studies program at the University of Regina in September will be well on their way toward earning a degree by the time they find a job and enter the Saskatchewan Police College.

"It's a joint co-operative program between the university and police college," Murray Knuttila, the university's dean of arts, said of the new police studies program.

During the first two years of the four-year bachelor of arts program, students will learn about the justice system, criminal law, First Nations, human behaviour and gender issues. Students will then apply to a police service and enter police college once they are hired.

Students accepted by a police force will take part in an internship as part of the bachelor of arts program.

After the cadets have graduated from the police college, they will make arrangements to complete the final two years of the university program and obtain a bachelor of arts in police studies.

The Saskatchewan Police College, located on the university's campus, runs a 17-week program but there were demands to expand the training it provides.

Program organizers hope the new initiative will strike a balance between a police recruit's need for intellectual and physical skills.

"Our objective is that (the college) will be able to get into more skill based training and away from some of the academic areas we're involved in right now," said Kent Brumskill, the director of the police college. "Our hope is that we won't be spending a lot of our time in areas that can be covered in the university program."

Brumskill said police services hiring the

university graduates will be getting an officer who is better equipped to deal with the community.

Students who are not hired by a police force will be able to use the credits they have acquired to enter any other bachelor of arts program the university offers, Knuttila said.

"If you don't get into the police college you haven't wasted two years," he said. "You could go on to complete one of the other degree options."

However, the university's police studies program is not a prerequisite for entering the Saskatchewan Police College.

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by Terry Barker

*Blue Talk is a regular column of advice on the topic of police communication problems. Terry Barker is the creator and teacher of Dalhousie's Communication Skills for Police Personnel course, and is the author of Boss Talk and the Five Minute Police Officer. He taught communication skills for the RCMP, the Justice Institute of B.C. and the Canadian Police College for over 20 years, and is recognized in Canadian police circles as an expert on the subject of how members can talk to each other better. Send your questions, anonymous if you wish, to Blue Line at Fax 905 640-7547 or email [blueline@blueline.ca](mailto:blueline@blueline.ca)*

I've recently been promoted to corporal and I've been advised that I'm to be sent to a small detachment in Saskatchewan as the NCO i/c. This will be my first solo shot at management. I don't know any of the members there, so I get a chance to start with a clean slate. During my career I've been supervised by plenty of dinosaurs and sadists, so I think I know what NOT to do. My question is, what should I do to get good motivation and maximum performance from my subordinates?

I think that one of the worst pieces of advice ever given to new supervisors is that a new broom sweeps clean. Translated, it means that you are expected to go in to an unknown situation and immediately take action. Never mind what has gone before, you are now in charge; your way or the doorway.

Think about it. Would you want your doctor to prescribe medicine without examining you first? Would you enter a barricaded house without having all the information you could possibly get? Would you punish a child without hearing their side of the story first? Of course not. Likewise, when you take over a work group, before making any changes at all, you must do a hell of a job of serious listening.

Most people dislike change, and you represent a major shift in their lives. You are a new power source who can write bad performance

reviews, assign unpleasant tasks and control leave dates. They will be apprehensive about you. Sometimes, apprehension can grow into dislike or even fear. You will want to reassure them as soon as possible that you are not going to change all their horses in midstream.

You should quickly hold a general meeting of all the members and tell them how glad you are to be here, and how you are looking forward to getting to know them and work with them. Let them know that you do not intend to make any changes to the status quo until you've scoped the situation and listened to all the members suggestions for change. Tell them that any major initiatives will be the result of consultation and mutual consent.

Don't ask them to air their grievances at this meeting, you want to keep the mood of this initial session upbeat and forward-looking.

Then have private interviews with each member. They should do 90% of the talking, and your 10% should be limited to questions and assurances. Ask them to tell you about themselves, hobbies, sports, family, work history, and any other personal stuff they may volunteer, and make sure you get answers to these key questions:

What kind of work do you do here? How long have you been doing it? What do you like most about it? Least? Why? What suggestions do you have for improving things around here? Anything else?

The last one is a grab bag question designed to open the door to any lurking thoughts that s/he might not have expressed up to this point. You should end every interview with this one.

In a short while, call another general meeting and present the collected ideas to the group. Try for consensus. If you can make changes that have everyone's approval, you'll be well on the way to developing the kind of team spirit that comes from participation, rather than simple unquestioning obedience.

You will also have demonstrated the kind of leadership based on mutual respect, rather than blind power. As Caesar once described it, the best role the leader can play is to be first among equals.

## Endowment Fund needs your support



The Vancouver Police Historical Society & Centennial Museum on 15 January 1998, with permission of the Canuel family, initiated an endowment fund to award scholarships and bursaries in memory of former Chief Constable Raymond J. Canuel.

The purpose of the fund is to make awards to successful applicants from secondary school graduating (and succeeding) classes of 2000 A.D., who clearly demonstrate furthering their education with a goal oriented toward a career in the policing field.

At present this endowment fund has been sanctioned by the Advanced Education Council of British Columbia and is listed in the calendars of all post secondary institutions and public universities. This source of financial assistance is open to students Canada wide.

This effort on the part of the Vancouver Police Historical & Centennial Museum has met with resounding success from within the community of Vancouver and beyond.

Tax deductible contributions can be made through the Vancouver Police Centennial Museum at 240 E. Cordova St. Vancouver B.C. V5A 1L3 (604) 665-3346. Tax receipts will be forwarded.



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by Tom Rataj

# Paperless Case Disclosure

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AdLib Publishing Systems Incorporated of Burlington, Ontario has come to the aid of investigators with their premier software package, *AdLib Disclosure Management System*. It is a law enforcement specific version of their *AdLib Publishing System*, which was designed to integrate the collection, organisation and dissemination of information through CD-ROM (*Compact Disc - Read Only Memory*) technology. In addition to the general publishing version and the Canadian law enforcement version, there is also a customised American law enforcement version.

Taking advantage of the fact that a large percentage of information is being processed electronically these days, *AdLib* makes it easy to organise, maintain, and publish it in an electronic form. Any file created or processed on a computer can be utilised by this product. Word processing documents, spreadsheets, graphic files, audio and video files, officer's memo-book notes, as well as photographs and any other original documents that can be scanned or otherwise entered into a computer can be used.

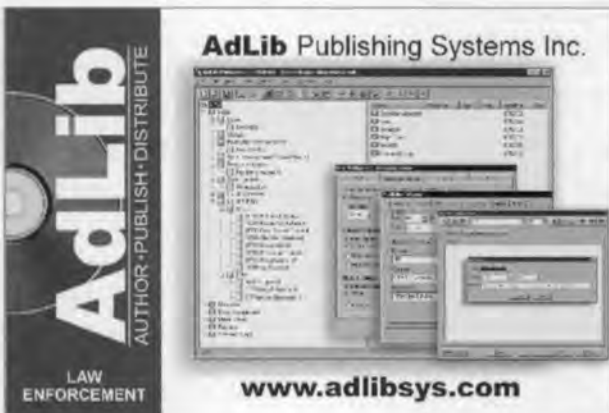
Capable of storing more than 10,000 pages of information, CD-ROM technology is perfect for the huge amounts of information required for major cases such as homicides or frauds. While original physical evidence will still be needed at trial, the disclosure process can be simplified by using *AdLib*.

Instead of copying and delivering thousands of pages of information and other materials to the Crown and defence, an entire case can be delivered on a \$2.00 CD-ROM. The savings in shipping and handling costs alone could be significant.

## Organisation

The primary working area of *AdLib* uses a familiar library, book and chapter concept, laid-out in a Windows Explorer style screen. The user builds a hierarchical file system consisting of several levels to organise the information into related books and chapters.

Once the structure is completed, the user can simply (drag-and-drop) or (cut-and-paste) the files into it. To facilitate this, *AdLib* launches Windows Explorer and shares the available screen space, making it easy to simultaneously view the location of the source file and its target



location in *AdLib*. Instead of actually copying the files from one place to another, *AdLib* creates a link to the original file location, which ensures that when the final disclosure is published, the most current version of a file is used. Reorganising the files or levels of a case is as simple as promoting or demoting files, chapters or books with the appropriate tools on the toolbar.

The information can be copied in its original file format or it can be converted to Adobe Acrobat PDF (portable document format) file format, which allows the file to be viewed on any computer.

Included with the *AdLib* software is a copy of the free Acrobat Reader, which allows the recipient to view all the files on the CD-ROM, without having to have the software that was used to create the original file. Once the case has been completed, the Publisher wizard guides the user through a number of steps that collect general information about the case, and prepare it for being written to the CD-ROM. A number of tabbed dialogue boxes allow the user to enter information about the case manager, the sender, the recipient, as well as any important shipping information or other miscellaneous notes.

## Mastering

Once a case is completely assembled, *AdLib*'s CD Mastering component takes over. As with the Publishing process, the mastering process uses a wizard based approach, that guides the user through the process of mastering the CD.

A few additional mouse clicks and the entire CD is mastered automatically with no further user intervention. The actual speed of the mastering process is of course dependent on the speed of the hardware being used. Some of the newer CD writers are capable of recording an entire CD-ROM full of information (650MB) in less than 15 minutes.

The final product is then a self-contained electronic disclosure package that the recipient

simply inserts into the CD-ROM player on his or her PC and uses. Any file can be viewed or printed at will.

## Hardware

The minimum hardware and software requirements for *AdLib* are: a typically configured 486 based PC with at least 16MB of RAM, 30MB of available hard disk space for the *AdLib* program, 1.3GB of available hard disk space for mastering, and a CD-ROM player and recorder, along with Windows 95/98/NT. A flatbed scanner is required to scan any existing paper documents or photographs.

The price of scanners has fallen rapidly in the past 2 years, with many excellent models now in the under \$200 range, while recent price drops in CD writers has created an excellent selection in the under \$400 range. These price reductions make the use of this product even more affordable.

Installation of the program takes about 5 minutes. Included on the CD-ROM is a basic multimedia-type product demo that adequately demonstrates how the program works. The user's guide also includes a tutorial, which guides new users through the process of creating a sample disclosure package.

*AdLib* recently added a new scanner module, which allows items to be scanned directly into the program, instead of through another program.

## Impressions

*AdLib* passed my personal software usability test, that being, to be able to use the product without having to refer to any documentation anywhere in the process, from installation through to using the program for all general tasks.

While *AdLib* is still a relatively new product (version 1.5), it does demonstrate a reasonably good implementation of Windows standards. It is easy to use and intuitive, requiring only moderate computer skills to use successfully. There are a few usability features that could be added that would improve speed of operations and simplicity, although the current version is quite effective and useful.

Peel Regional Police, just west of Toronto have been using *AdLib* for some time now and find it to be a very useful tool, saving both time and money. In addition to using it for disclosure, they have also been using it to publish archived materials in their Intelligence Unit.

*AdLib Disclosure Publishing System* is available directly at a price of \$975 for a single installation. The new *AdLib Scanner* module is available separately for \$223.50. For more information, check out [www.adlibsys.com](http://www.adlibsys.com) or call (905) 631-2875.

# Criminals, not police, are the problem

by Julian Fantino



Once again the law enforcement community and law-abiding citizens have been jolted into reality by another senseless death of a police officer killed in the line of duty - a police officer doing his job while most of us slept in the safety and comfort of our homes.

The tragic death of Sergeant Richard McDonald of the Sudbury Regional Police has resonated deeply in the community he served, the policing profession as a whole and, one would hope, into the hearts and minds of those we entrust with political leadership and law-making at all levels of government.

The sad reality of the tragedy also involves the death of a 16-year-old youth whose conduct, along with that of his two accomplices, will be duly defined by due process which, for obvious reasons, I will respect at this time. I do, however, feel that certain aspects of due process, especially the failure of our justice system to hold young offenders accountable for their criminal conduct, has been an abysmal disappointment for law abiding citizens and police officers.

Now we have another dose of reality; a peace officer killed as a result of a criminal act at a time when the usual array of police critics are unduly preoccupied regulating, inquiring, investigating and forever second-guessing the actions of police officers to obscene proportions. I am not an advocate of a system that does not hold police officers accountable or that allows them to

escape public scrutiny. I do, however, feel that all too often our role in society tends to be devalued by those who have become instant experts of a complex profession.

Regrettably, all too often the law and order concerns raised by law enforcement professionals with regard to public and officer safety, including the dreaded police pursuits (more appropriately classified as incidents of lawbreakers taking flight from police), for the most part tend to be downplayed by those who want more stringent controls on police to the delight of criminals.

Then, of course, the rhetorical commentary about police being alarmists at a time when statistics on reported crime are coming down. Tell that to frontline police officers where the reality of crime, trauma and victimization unfolds.

On the specific issue of the role of police in society, there is no question that every police response to law-breaking not only pursuits, must ensure that public safety is not unduly compromised. However, providing criminals with any kind of immunity from apprehension by simply taking flight from police as suggested by some, represents a tolerance for anarchy and victimization that I believe law-abiding Canadians are not willing to endure - and should not.

Ironically, if the police argue for a helicopter as a proven public and officer safety enhancement, some politicians have termed the initiative as the police wanting a new "toy" or that the proposal is nothing more than a "testosterone" thing for police. When Ontario police

officers lobbied for semiautomatic service pistols, radical elements raised the concern that given the added firepower, police officers would shoot more people indiscriminately. When police officers act lawfully, honourably, professionally and very often bravely, at great personal risk in situations that result in serious injury or death to a person, they are designated "subject officers," which, in the reality of the day, really means they are suspected of having engaged in some kind of criminal conduct.

Then we have the usual police critics publicly espousing their views that, like some out of control animal, police must be brought to heel.

As professionals, police officers in this country have consistently acted honourably and have been dedicated to the service of citizens everywhere. All too often these officers have underscored the honour and integrity of the profession by making the ultimate sacrifice. We don't have a problem with policing in Canada, rather, our problem is with the criminal element and their bleeding heart friends whose rhetoric has become outrageous.

As a sophisticated society we are well advised to act on the profound words of Acting Sergeant Corine Fewster, wife of Sergeant McDonald who stated, "I believe Rick would want us to fight for legislation that will improve officer and public safety to help ensure that criminals are dealt with based on their crimes and not their age." A proposal that makes perfect sense and whose time is long overdue.

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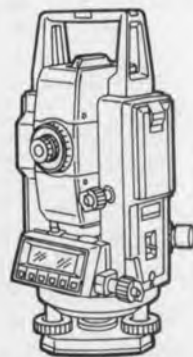
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# Quebec police divers - surpassing the challenge

by Scott Fuller



(This is the 4th article in the Police Diver series)

The Quebec Police Force Dive Unit (Surete de Quebec, Service d'urgence, Section de plongee sous-marine) was formally created in February of 1971.

From early in 1964, members of the force had performed part-time, voluntary underwater duties throughout Quebec using their own personal diving equipment and wet suits. When the force restructured in 1971, an operational requirement for a special underwater unit was identified. It was then staffed with one permanent diver and two reserve divers! Personal diving equipment and wet suits were purchased and the team was issued a 20-foot aluminum boat, one 90 hp outboard motor and a towing trailer. Sergeant Charles Sarrazin is officially credited with being the first "force diver" and with establishing the unit's excellent diving safety record.

The Dive Unit was, and still is, tasked with all underwater search and recovery in the legal jurisdiction of Quebec... a staggering 594,860 square miles! The challenge of the task has even more meaning when one considers that Quebec borders on four U.S. states, three other Canadian provinces and extends into the arctic. It also has cooperative diving agreements with those states and provinces for all adjoining waterways.

## The present

The dive unit was expanded in 1975 after experiencing a drastic increase in taskings for its services and the realization that the enormous size of Quebec seriously degraded the unit's call-out-to-scene response time. The dive unit was staffed with two teams of divers, with each team having three permanent divers and three further reserve divers available (with one specially trained police diver/bomb tech also available to either team).

One team is based in Quebec City and covers the eastern portion of Quebec, while the other team is based in Montreal, covering the western part. The team's Chief Divers are Agent Harold Sheppard who supervises the Montreal based western team and Agent Regis Emond who supervises the Quebec City based eastern team. Dive taskings come from all of the Quebec Police Force's ten districts with divers also being re-called to dive-duty by means of personal pagers when off-duty.

## Logistics support

Each team is equipped with a specially designed and equipped 1993 International diesel truck (model 4700LP) which has a retractable rear-end suspension permitting it to be lowered for ease of access, loading and unloading the wide range of equipment carried. It is equipped with air brakes, standard and mobile police radio equipment, a cellular phone, four doors for crew access, an AC/DC power converter, air conditioning and special space heaters.



The trucks each contain sets of individual diving equipment and dry suits, reels of pre-measured line and cable, underwater lights, metal detectors, video and static cameras, dive flags, an oxygen set and a first aid kit, flares and diver recall signals, an evidence kit and containers, body bags, chain saws, ice anchors, boot-ice-picks, ice scoops, shovels, a tool box, floatation jackets, full-body harnesses, tent shelters, sleeping bags, anchors and chain, oars and paddles. Water, food, stoves, portable heaters, tables and chairs are also carried.

The equipment is specially stowed in a variety of exterior and interior compartments to eliminate damage and facilitate ease of access.

Each truck tows a trailer-mounted 16 foot inflatable Zeppelin boat with a 30hp outboard motor (with a 9.9 hp backup motor). A depth sounder, GPS and compasses round out each boat's equipment. All equipment is listed on equipment checklists and subject to pre and post-dive, monthly, biannual and annual inspections and maintenance.

Contractors service some of the team's equipment and perform hydrostatic and interior visual inspections as well as pressure-tolerance testing of the diver regulators. Side scan sonar and remotely operated vehicles are leased as required. The team also deploys year-round by air using QPF helicopters, float and ski-equipped light aircraft, other QPF marine craft, snowmobiles and Coast Guard vessels.

## Diving conditions

The team quite often dives under ice, at night, in extremely limited visibility and in confined spaces in a wide variety of contaminated, polluted, fresh and salt water and in tides and extreme currents. Standard scuba, surface-supplied-air diving and nitrox diving are all performed using AGA and Superlite helmets equipped with a hard-wired diver-to-supervisor sub-com system. A back-up air supply is carried by all divers on all dives. All dives are planned for and conducted under no-decompression diving rules with all surface intervals being well planned to maximize diver

safety. Team standard operating procedures are methodically carried out and all divers present at any dive site must agree on equipment used, procedures, limitations and techniques before that particular dive will be performed. Team members have also learned from other police diver "lessons-learned" and standard operating procedures are rigidly followed by all divers.

The divers also practice critical-incident stress management and follow QPF policy on stress-reduction counselling in addition to annual personal medical fitness-to-dive examinations which includes psychological testing. Like other police divers, the QPF divers are well-known for their good sense of humour, believed to be a key in lowering levels of stress in emergency response personnel.

The team searches large areas with towed bars and sleds, remotely operated vehicles and side-scan sonar as well as employing all standard pattern jackstay-type, shot-line and grid-search techniques. The divers employ buoys and floats to mark areas already searched and have become particularly proficient in narrowing down their underwater efforts from the "last-seen" site of many of the drowning victims they search for. The Dive Unit averaged a success rate of over 87 per cent in 1997.

#### Dive tasks

The Dive Unit logged between 180 and 200 call-outs in 1996-1997. Fifty per cent were in support of criminal investigations, 45 per cent were for humanitarian reasons and 5 per cent were tasked for "other requirements". Dives recovered human remains from accidents, suicides and homicides; retrieved weapons, explosives, narcotics, cars, trucks, vans, boats, buses, motorcycles, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, and other stolen and lost property of every description. Dives were made in swamps, rivers, lakes, streams, quarries, harbours, ports, canal locks, the Atlantic ocean and a number of man-made spillways, weirs, sluices, pools, sewers, water treatment tanks, hydro-electric plants and reservoirs.

The unit performs a number of other diving-related tasks including the investigation of aircraft crashes, train derailments and other transportation accidents. A QPF diver is required by the Chief Coroner of Quebec to be present and consulted in all marine and diving fatalities and are all qualified as expert witnesses in Quebec courts. The divers have assisted in port arson investigations, in the recovery of military property, removal and disposal of ammunition and explosives, the recovery gang-war murder victims from underwater grave sites, the conduct of police marine surveillance and underwater security surveys prior to the visit of VIP's and to perform "other tasks" for public safety.

The teams have investigated many sport and commercial diving fatalities including several on the shipwreck of the Empress of Ireland located in the St. Lawrence river. The Dive Unit works



with the Dive Team from the Montreal Urban Community Police Service, (the only other police dive team in Quebec). It assists Ports Canada Police, Canadian National Railways Police, Canada Customs, the RCMP and all other Quebec law enforcement agencies. It works closely with the other QPF specialty teams such as the Marine Unit, the Canine Unit, the Helicopter Unit and the Tactical Unit. It also works with all Quebec public safety rescue, paramedical and emergency water rescue teams. These tasks are many and varied and the divers are kept very busy maintaining and servicing equipment, attending public displays and providing other forms of leadership in marine safety education and awareness to schools, colleges, universities and other educational institutions in Quebec. They are frequently called upon to act in a consulting capacity to law enforcement outside Quebec and to assist with other marine-

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### Selection and training

All divers are drawn from volunteering officers of the Quebec Police Force who must first be qualified and experienced open-water divers certified by a recognized agency. They must then pass strict medical, physical and diving fitness standards, pool swim tests, diving theory exams, search and recovery dive training and open water skill testing.

Only then is the candidate accepted as a reserve diver and must then undergo a two-year on-the-job probationary-diver apprenticeship period (restricted to diving to a limit of 15 metres on air... with permanent divers being restricted to diving to a 40 metre limit on air) before being placed in a permanent position with the Dive Unit. All divers then undergo annual diving requalification, medical re-examination, hyperbaric chamber pressure and gas tolerance testing, CPR, oxygen and first aid requalification training.

All members are expected to "keep current" with diving practices, standards and advances in underwater search and recovery techniques as well as keep up the advances in police and legal evidence procedures and policies.

The Maritime Institute of Quebec, located in Rimouski, is the focal point of all the Dive Unit's training. The institute provides a great deal of technical expertise to the team in standard, mixed gas and nitrox diving training as well as in all areas of diving theory.

The unit strictly follows the police diving standards of the Canadian Standards Association, the

occupational health and safety code of Quebec and the Quebec Department of Labour diving standards. The team's diving technical references include their own diving training manual and all of the police and public safety diving manuals in common use by law enforcement.

### Evidence

Particular attention is paid to the search for, recovery and analysis of any evidence gathered from underwater sites with team members practicing many professional underwater archaeological techniques related to provenance, location, initial measurement and recording. The team has attained a high measure of success in introducing evidence in court through its diligence and adoption of modern underwater crime scene protocols.

### Professional development

The Quebec Police Force Dive Unit keeps pace with the advances in diving techniques and technology through attendance at various law enforcement events such as the International Police Diver Symposium and active membership in the Emergency Services Diving Association. It has taken steps to establish a unit diving technical reference library, to consult other police and public safety divers and teams, to adopt nitrox and mixed gas diving, to examine oxygen and mixed gas rebreathers, to work closely with a number of recreational diving associations and agencies and to interface professionally with the commercial, scientific and military diving communities in and outside Quebec's borders.

It trials and evaluates new diving technologies in controlled open water conditions. The Dive Unit also employs commercial divers under contract and supervision, when a given dive task merits specialized underwater work such as cutting or welding or prolonged exposure to contaminated or hazmat conditions.

The QPF divers have operated with the Underwater Search and Recovery Unit of the Ontario Provincial Police and RCMP Dive Teams. The Dive Unit also operates with army combat engineer divers, navy dive teams and with Canadian Forces Search and Rescue Technician divers, frequently engaging in cooperative dive training and exercises as well as formal joint diving operations.

The permanent divers are paid 5 per cent over the salary rate for SQ officers plus a special allowance paid per dive. The SQ divers do not, as yet, have an official "police diver" qualification uniform badge, however, the Dive Unit has its own official logo. It is believed that only the OPP USRU and the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police USRU have official "police diver" qualification uniform badges in Canada.

### The future

The Dive Unit of the Quebec Police Force has met many challenges in its past. It has developed expertise, sound diving practices and earned a much envied, "zero-accident" diving safety record. It must now re-examine itself with an eye to its future. The average age of the permanent divers in the unit is presently 45. By adding in the six reserve divers this drops to 38. The number and type of taskings has grown to the point where more permanent and more reserve

divers can easily be employed.

The adoption and implementation of side scan sonar and remotely operated vehicles will require more full time support staff as these tools reduce risk to the diver, limit the area of search considerably and enhance operational dives by helping pinpoint underwater sites and objects more accurately.

The drastic increase in the use of explosives by criminals in Quebec suggests that the number of explosives-trained technician/divers in the Dive Unit must also increase. Quebec has not yet experienced a major aircraft crash in over 35 years, however, it has major air routes over it and major air traffic into and out of its airports. The St. Lawrence Seaway carries a very high percentile of the world's shipping with Montreal being a critical transit seaway port.

Major ship accidents or other marine disasters have not occurred in recent years but Quebec history includes several major shipwrecks. The number of personal water craft, all-terrain vehicles and snowmobiles in use in Quebec has drastically increased just in the past two years alone. Major and minor highways in Quebec are being expanded and improved and will carry a greatly increased number of citizens and tourists to Quebec's thousands of lakes and waterways. In recent years, several waterways have overflowed to cause serious flooding in many communities. The future of the QPF Dive Unit will undoubtedly see it expand and to make greater use of advancing diving technology.

Scott Fuller is the author of several police diving articles including the first bibliography on police and public safety diving and is presently completing a formal study and analysis of police diving in Canada. He may be contacted at email [scottf@intranet.ca](mailto:scottf@intranet.ca).

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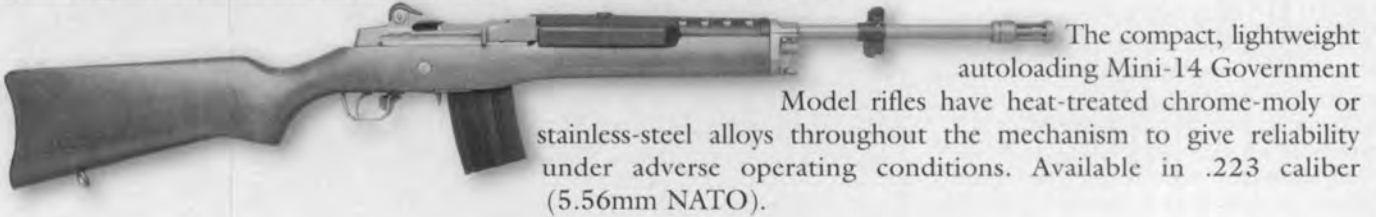
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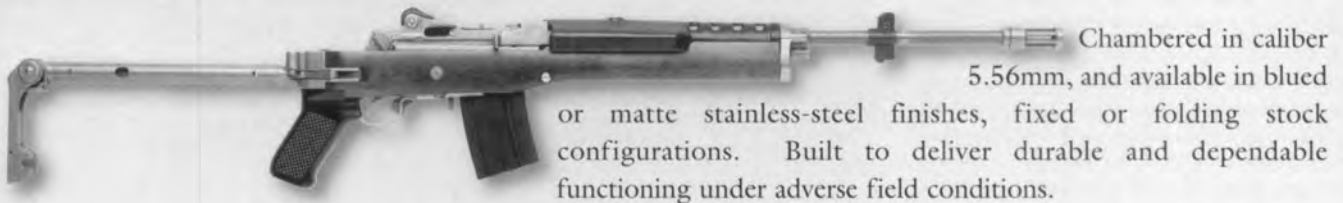
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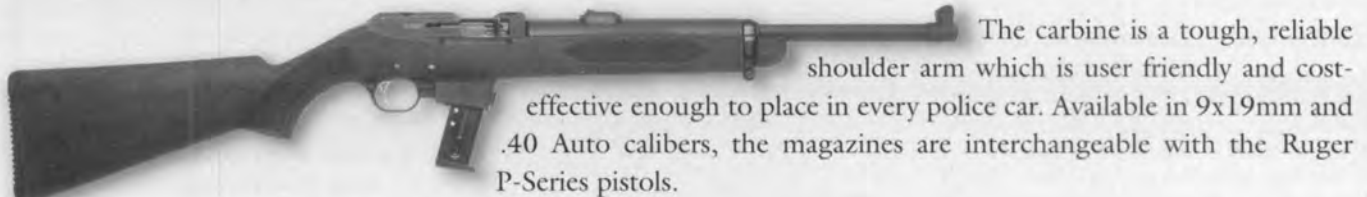
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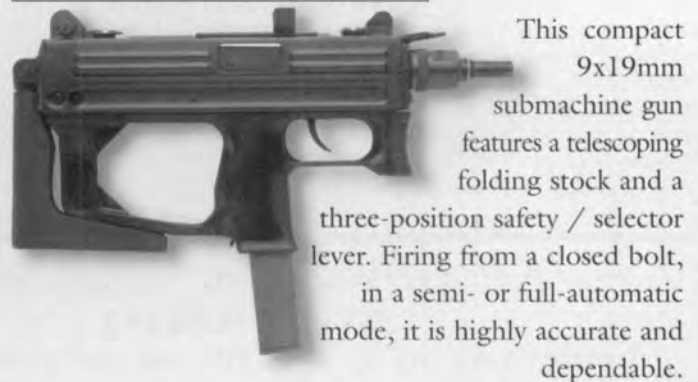
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# Halifax Regional Police

## 250 years of policing in the community



Recently an American tourist in Halifax noticed the words "Established 1996" in the logo on the door of a Halifax Regional Police cruiser and exclaimed, "Wow, I can't believe you've only had

police here for three years!"

While its true Halifax Regional Police have existed for just three short years, the Halifax region has been policed for 250 years by the former municipal police departments in the old cities of Dartmouth, Halifax and Town of Bedford. Regionalization brought these three departments with distinct histories together to form Halifax Regional Police.

The Halifax Police Department was formally established on October 28, 1864, Dartmouth in 1874 and Bedford established its own police department in 1982. But the history of law enforcement goes back more than a hundred years before that, with the arrival of 13 ships from England. On July 18, 1749, less than one month after the city was founded, the area's 2,532 settlers elected one constable from each of the ship's companies to be sworn in as peace officers, and from that date forward, formal policing of the region began.

### Crime and punishment of the 1700's

Back then, penalties for crime were swift and harsh. There is record of a Thomas Munroe being sentenced to death for being found in possession of stolen clothing. Less than a year later, three men were convicted and sentenced to death for stealing a cow. That sentence was later repealed.

Judgements were not only harsh, but courts took ingenious measures to identify criminals. Since there were no formal "criminal records", people convicted of certain crimes were branded. In 1754, three men were convicted of manslaughter. The Magistrate ordered the men to have the letter "M" burned into their left hands so if the men appeared in court again, the judge would know they had been convicted of man-



slaughter before.

Hanging was a common form of punishment in the 1700s. In May of 1765 the first and only hangings took place in Dartmouth. Two men convicted of murdering a man and woman from Halifax, and four other men convicted of a housebreak were hanged. After that, all public hangings took place at the Halifax Commons.

In the late 1700s rioting and break and enters became routine. In fact, the first police station built in Halifax was burnt to the ground in a riot in 1793.

In an attempt to quell the crime wave, the "Night Patrol" was formed. Then, in July of 1813, a short-lived "Militia Patrol" was established because of rioting in the city had once again become an ongoing problem. It was disbanded in February of 1814, but quickly reinstated less than a month later because rioting returned. A permanent "Night Watch" was es-

established in 1846.

In October of 1864 the Day Watch and Night Watch in Halifax merged to form the Halifax Police Department under City Marshall Garrett Cotter. Six divisions were formed with five men assigned to each Sergeant.

### Police Stations of the 1800's

Some officers complain about their stations ... they may be too small or too dark, or maybe even too old for their liking. In 1869, the Halifax police station, which was located in the basement of City Hall was in such bad repair, police chose to sit outside the station rather than go in.

Then Mayor James MacKintosh wrote in his annual report, "The Police Station is a disgrace to the City of Halifax. It is a perfect pest hole, saturated with sewage, ill ventilated and unhealthy in the extreme ... no one could remain for an hour in the Police Station without great danger."

It wasn't until May of 1890, a new Police Station was opened at the corner of Duke and Barrington Streets, close to where the current headquarters building stands.

By 1897, "modern technology" had appeared at most police stations with electric lighting being installed at the Dartmouth Police Station along with many new regulations being put in place as well, such as the standard carrying of police batons.

### It's a tough job, but someone's got to do it (circa 1897)

The Dartmouth Police Regulations, as adopted by Town Council on June 11, 1897 outlined the responsibilities of the Chief of Police ... and you think being a Chief today is hard

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work! It reads as follows:

"The Chief of Police shall be under the direction and control of the Police Committee. He shall see that the rules and orders of the Police Committee are faithfully carried out. He shall serve or cause to be served all Assessment Notices, Tax Notices, Water Rate Notices, Sewer Notices. Whenever so instructed by the Chairman of the Police Committee, the Chief of Police shall use his best endeavours to collect taxes, water and sewer rates, and shall give such work precedence over all other duties.

He shall also serve or cause to be served all writs ... he shall be in attendance at the civil and police courts whenever in session.

He shall be on duty each day, Sunday excepted, (an except as hereinafter provided) from 10 am to 1 pm and from 3 to 6 pm and from 8 pm until the arrival of the last boat from Halifax. He shall be on duty each alternate Sunday from 2 pm until 5 pm and from 6:30 to 9 pm giving his attention to points where experience shall have shown it to be most necessary. He shall patrol one of the beats mentioned in section 1 and 2 each weekday and night, except Saturday. During the whole of Saturday, he shall patrol the Town Plot unless ordered or called off in any emergency. He shall see that fires are attended to at the Town Hall when required between 10 and 12 each night.

*In case of a riot or disturbance or illegal act accompanied with violence with in the Town or a just apprehension thereof, he shall at once notify the Chairman of the Police Committee, who will direct him as to the best means to be taken from the preservation of the peace."*

#### **Urban myth or historical fact?**

Urban myth and legend is not foreign to policing history. There is one particular story that pops up in both the annals of Dartmouth and Halifax history -- and for that reason, one wonders if it's truth or urban myth.

In 1885, Halifax police added a horse-drawn wagon to their beat. The officer in charge of the wagon was named Mickey Lawless. Story goes, Mickey attended an accident at Buckingham Street one morning where a horse was killed. He couldn't spell Buckingham, so he dragged the horse to Duke Street to do his report. Now the same story appears again in Dartmouth history, with an officer dragging a horse from Ochterloney Street to King Street.

One of the greatest stories -- this one true -- from the Halifax police history book is that of



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the city's first recorded bank robbery. It took place on August 1, 1876 when a man of "decent appearance" asked a janitor at the Bank of Nova Scotia if he could go into the bank to look for something he had lost. While staff were on the front steps of the bank watching a Barnam Circus parade, the bandit made off with \$29,571.51. Three men were later arrested in Bedford, but all were released. No one was ever charged with the robbery.

And community policing was alive and well in Dartmouth, even back in the early 1900's. On November 5, 1909 two men from New England held up the Ropeworks messenger for the payroll. The messenger was shot in the mouth. The staff of Ropeworks cornered the bandits in a farmhouse near Big Albro Lake without the help of police. The men were brought to trial and got eight years in Dorchester.

#### **"Firsts" in Canadian policing history**

Halifax police hold the distinction of issuing Canada's first traffic violation. It happened on October 7, 1793, when George Weiss of Halifax was issued a ticket for "disorderly riding in the streets". He was given the option of paying a fine of 10 shillings, working on the highway for four days, or being sent to the House of Correction to receive "10 stripes" then discharged. No word on which punishment he chose.

Then in 1862, Halifax police received the

first telegram to a police department that helped warn them of criminals headed their way. The telegram came from Horton, Nova Scotia and warned of two horse thieves heading to town. The two were arrested when they arrived. It's the first known case of using a telegram to combat crime.

And on October 9, 1934, Halifax became the first city in Canada to introduce radio patrol cars to their fleet. The transmitter was set up on October 6, and the first car went on patrol at 4:00 p.m. on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

The history of policing the region is long and proud. For 250 years police in the region have worked closely with the community to make it a safer place to live and work. As the department's gift to the region to mark 250 years of policing in the community, Halifax Regional Police have established a Legacy Fund to raise money for Nova Scotia's first Children's Safety Village. The Village will open in September of 2001.

## **STATS & FACTS**

The Halifax Region, with a population of 205,100 people, is located in the Province of Nova Scotia and is the capital city of the province.

The Halifax Regional Police Service consists of 428 police officers (401 male and 27 female) and 125 civilian and support staff for a total of 553 members. The police to population ratio is 479 citizens for each officer. The police budget for 1997 was around \$35 million. This figure breaks down to a per capita cost of \$168.

The Halifax Regional Police reported that on average each officer on the department investigates 57 criminal code incidents each year. The total number of criminal code offences recorded with the police service was 24,299 during the year 1997. The police service reported a 21 per cent clearance rate on property crimes and an 60 per cent clearance rate on crimes of violence. Overall there was a 2 per cent decrease in crime over the previous year of 1996.



**Without Fear or Favour**  
**The Life and Politics of an Urban Cop**  
 Authors: *Bill McCormack & Bob Cooper*  
 Publisher: *Stoddart*  
 Reviewed By: *Morley Lyburner*

"Insightful and entertaining" is how I described Bill McCormack's previous book *"Life on Homicide"*. This leaves me speechless as to how to embrace higher levels of those terms to describe this new book *Without Fear or Favour*. Perhaps I could simply reverse the order and call it "entertaining and insightful." But even this does not do this new book justice.

It was difficult to put this book down. After reading it I finally got a better insight into this super-straight copper I knew for so many years. I am introduced to the human side of the man so many in policing looked up to and admired. Seldom do we read about the background of a chief in the making. And this book certainly does that. Although I am sure he has held back much detail McCormack's book is still a worthy adventure into the inner workings of a major police service at a level seldom seen by the rank and file.

I worked my entire career as a constable through at least 18 of the 22 Chapters of this book and shared the street level results of what McCormack saw at the other end of the spectrum. Although his circle of acquaintances were at a much higher level than my own I could relate to his feelings of struggle, joy, accomplishment, pride, and frustration. This book helped me understand much of the back-room politics that affected my everyday work.

Until McCormack's arrival at the top levels of police work much of the reasons for things happening was kept quiet to minions such as I and we were basically told to follow orders and shut up.

McCormack was a boss who seemed to understand the "need-to-know-why" generation that he commanded. He did much toward opening up communication to the rank-and-file. He also was a chief who finally understood the importance of his position and knew how to properly wield that authority. He was a man who was groomed and was therefore ready to accept the challenges of the position of chief at a time when he was sorely needed. He also understood that his real power came from the bottom up and not by the mystical position in and of itself.

Two sections of this book highlight these attributes best for me. In Chapter 15 entitled "Protecting the G7 McCormack, as Deputy Chief, was placed in charge of protecting the world leaders for their three-day stay in Toronto. To describe this event as an exercise in hearing kittens would be an understatement. I was a traffic cop at the time and standing my ground alone in an intersection with Maggie Thatcher's group wanting to head west on

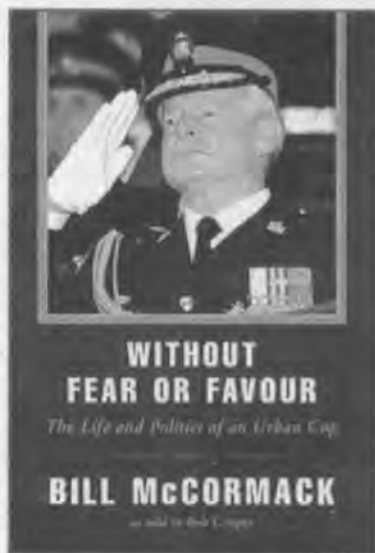
Front Street and the Japanese delegation flying north on York Street.

While my little problem was occurring McCormack was faced with a much greater dilemma. How to stop 3,000 protesters from attempting to breach a barricade built around the G7 meeting area. It was in McCormack's nature to understand the feelings and motivations of others. Instead of firming the police lines he decided to approach the group and make a suggestion;

"I'll tell you what I'm prepared to do. Those of you who want to crash the police lines as a sign of your disapproval of the Summit, come to the barricade, tell the uniformed officer facing you that you're there to defy the presence of the police and to protest against the Conference, then jump over the barricade and stand still. The officer will place you under arrest, put restraints on your wrists, have your picture taken, and put you on a bus that'll take you to a police station, where you will be released without charge. You will have accomplished your mission, and as long as you don't try to harm anybody, you won't be left with a criminal record. What do you say?" It was a gamble but they accepted the offer and received sensational media coverage as the officers carried away over 1,000 protesters. Other than a lot of tired coppers no one was hurt.

The second part of this book brings an insight into this man by describing an event that occurred while he was being driven to an important event in crowded downtown Toronto traffic. This abridged excerpt shows McCormack's ability to laugh at himself and his position;

"Like a good navigator, I began figuring out alternative routes. 'Turn here!' I barked. (The driver) aimed the cruiser towards an off-ramp... 'Okay now, make a right!' I barked again. 'A right, sir? Are you sure?' the driver gasped... 'Yeah, up here! It'll be okay, you'll see!' We emerged from a concrete canyon... staring straight into the glare of hundreds of on-rushing headlights!... The driver slammed the car into reverse and we spiralled backward up the ramp. Finally we were safe and sound... Suddenly it occurred to me that someone might have recognized the police chief going east in the westbound lanes of one of the busiest highways in Toronto. In horror, I quickly crossed my arms and placed a hand over each shoulder flash before ducking ingloriously out of sight



beneath the dashboard."

In spite of it all McCormack was a human being in a chief's uniform.

"Without Fear or Favour" can still be found in the bookstores under the category of True Crime. This is interesting in that this is exactly where the public views this ram-rod straight man who led Canada's second largest police force through some of its more politically strife filled years. The fact that it is placed in the true crime category instead of biography is reflective of McCormack's previous title "Life on Homicide." It is an unfortunate reality of life that once you are categorized it is difficult to change perceptions. And to some degree it is perceptions that McCormack fights in the last chapters of this book.

I was somewhat disappointed in the last two Chapters because they entail some of the saddest and most frustrating portions of McCormack's career. He dwells considerably on his difficulties with the Police Services Board and Ontario Government.

At one level I can see McCormack trying to tell his side of the story of these tumultuous times but it is at the expense of pointing out the positive aspects of his tenure. He made great advances in improving technology, communications and equipment that had a positive affect on the officers and other members of the police service. He had an open office and was always available for those who needed to speak with him. Much the same as Susan Eng, however, he did have a stubborn and unyielding side to him and when these two disagreed sparks would soon follow. To McCormack's credit, however, he was astute enough to see this and found ways to either gracefully walk around controversy or anticipate it and plan for its impact.

I found this book spellbinding and appreciated reading about McCormack's earlier life and family. It was also nice to hear his opinions with regard to policing and life in general. I particularly enjoyed his chapter on the abortion issues and the police officer's responsibility. If there is one point that he and I could agree on it would be this chapter. It is particularly poignant to me in that it comes from a person who is a good practising Catholic and it sends a strong message to both Catholic and Protestant officers who feel they must come to terms with this contentious issue. It all points back to a very apt title... "Without Fear or Favour."

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# Getting computers into cruisers is a tough job

Technology has played an important role in the evolution of the modern police force. As we move from batons-yielding officers on foot patrol, to armed officers that patrol on horseback, to officers shielded by bullet proof vests in police vehicles, we can see how technology can be shaped into tools that facilitate the law enforcement process. Now, like every other business, police forces are equipping officers with notebook computers on the road.

Toronto Police Services and Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police are example of forces that are rethinking the business of policing by providing notebook computers to in-vehicle officers.

## Toronto Police Service Revamps its Communications

When Toronto Police Services identified a need to upgrade the mobile data terminals in its police vehicles, it took the opportunity to arm its officers with better communications equipment that could also provide an open platform to access all of its information systems.

Toronto Police Services developed an effective Information Technology strategy that would serve as a blueprint for expanding its current communications infrastructure, as well as enable officers to effectively use notebook computers in police cruisers. The force's complex strategy was built around the need to have tools that can adapt to TCP/IP standards over radio, as well as provide the capability to access different radio networks. After careful evaluation, the Toronto Police selected and implemented new middleware, software and hardware technologies to accomplish this task.

In the end, the Toronto Police Service was successful in building its new communications infrastructure, but when it installed mainstream notebook computers and mounting devices in its cruisers significant problems were immediately noticed.

"While the pilot was a huge success, we experienced more failures with the laptop and mount hardware than we expected," said Ravi Unninaray, consultant, Toronto Police Services, who adds that the failures sent them back to the garages to review another group of in-vehicle computing solutions. Once again, various notebooks and mounting devices were installed in cruisers from Toronto's 51 Division and after a three-month evaluation period, the recommendation was unanimously in favour of using Panasonic's Toughbook CF-25 notebook and a customized mounting device designed and built by Precision Mounting.

"We ran a number of different tests on Panasonic's notebook and monitored feedback from our officers as well as our garage technicians," says Unninaray. "Our garage technicians were impressed because none of the units were returned for repair, and the officers liked the unit because of the ergonomics, performance and survivability."

Today the Toronto Police Service has 30 units in operation and will have over 400 of the newer CF-27 notebooks installed within the next 12 to 18 months.

Immediate benefits already mentioned by officers include the ability to read the bright TFT display in direct sunlight. Over the long-term the Toronto Police plans to use the notebooks, in concert with its new communications backbone, to enable officers to perform unique tasks such as searching and receiving colour mugshots from the Services' Forensic Computer database while in their cruisers.

## Ottawa-Carleton Regional Builds Communications for Expanded Jurisdiction

Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police developed a similar blueprint for the creation of a newer and more comprehensive communications infrastructure after eleven different municipalities were amalgamated under its jurisdiction. This added responsibility coupled with its already outdated in-vehicle data terminals, meant that its officers needed better tech-



nology to do their jobs.

The communications revamp, which meant a massive overhaul of the existing computing backbone, required a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) infrastructure that would enable the officers to better store and retrieve information.

"We certainly needed a new back end, in terms of CAD and RMS solutions," said Constable Dylan Tansey, Mobile Workstation Coordinator for the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police. "It was also essential that we replace the terminals used in our cruisers. We were working with dumb terminals that had limited functionality, small screens, no data entry

capability, etc."

Eventually, Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police settled on CAD and RMS solutions from Ottawa-based Versaterm Inc. Its RFQ for the hardware component of the communications solution led to seven responses and the resulting products were put through a three-stage evaluation process: Mandatory Requirements; Rated Criteria; and Field Evaluation. Participation in the third stage would not be considered unless the product scored favourably in the second. After careful review, Panasonic's Toughbook CF-27 was the only unit to qualify for field evaluation.

"I don't feel that our mandatory standards were too harsh," says Tansey. "We simply outlined the requirements that our officers need to get the job done on a daily basis."

The requirements included: moisture and shock resistance; the ability to withstand extreme temperatures (both hot and cold); scratch and damage resistance; a reinforced screen and casing; a carrying handle; and the absence of a fan to avoid particles being ingested by the unit.

Panasonic's Toughbook complied with all the criteria. It also offered other major advantages: a customizable RAM expansion to 160 MB (to enable the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police to use Windows NT as its operating system); a weight of only 7.7 pounds (compared to some of the other 13-pound units); and the use of a Lithium Ion battery (which offers five hours of portability and doesn't require complete draining before recharge).

Today, Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police are installing 150 units in various police cruisers. New efficiencies, such as running mapping software rather than having the officers call in for directions, have already been realized.

"We've created a virtual office in each vehicle and these laptops have opened the door to a variety of different applications," says Tansey.

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## Think twice about upgrading a computer

By Reid Goldsborough

Does it make sense to upgrade a PC anymore? With new computers costing less than \$1,000, sometimes much less, why should you sink money into a PC that's already on its way to obsolescence?

Many computer users feel compelled to periodically add more memory, larger hard disks, faster processors, new motherboards, more powerful graphics cards, and other components to their PCs.

More than bragging rights are involved. New operating systems and application programs have stiffer hardware requirements, forcing you to upgrade to keep up.

But upgrading has its pitfalls. Even those used to getting silicon under their fingernails frequently run into compatibility problems. The added RAM doesn't work with the existing RAM, the new hard disk prevents Windows from loading, the new graphics card conflicts with the old printer, the motherboard doesn't fit right inside the case, and so on.

If you have someone do the work for you, you still have to pay for the new components, along with the labour.

With this seemingly never-ending cycle of new software requiring new hardware requiring upgrading hassle and expense, it's as if the

software and hardware industries are in cahoots, conspiring against you and your budget. Though this has led to impressive growth for the PC sector, the benefits to users have sometimes been less evident.

The situation is changing. For most people, the speed bottleneck is no longer the PC itself but the Internet. Surfing the Web can be painfully slow with 56K modems, no matter how fast your other hardware. Fortunately, relief is on the way with fast cable and DSL modems, though cable and telecommunications companies haven't been quick in making these services widely available.

Another argument against new hardware components is that most software upgrades aren't as compelling as they once were. The PC revolution is now two decades old, and most programs have already gone through many upgrades. "Mature" software has less room for further improvement. Many computer journalists, professionals, and users are realizing that upgrading software shouldn't be a knee-jerk process.

If you're running Windows 95 without prob-



lems and don't need the USB support of Windows 98, save your money. Unless you oversee other Microsoft-only users and can benefit from Microsoft Office 2000's collaboration and Web-integration features, stick to Office 97.

Perhaps the most persuasive reason for not upgrading hardware piecemeal is the dramatic price decrease of new computers. The latest trend is the bundling of "free" PCs with paid Internet access.

Sure, some companies offering such services are experiencing start-up problems. These firms also lock you into using their Internet service for given periods of time. But this is the least expensive way to obtain a PC so far, and it looks to be a hit. Established retailers such as Best Buy and Circuit City are starting to jump onto this bandwagon.

Other companies, such as eMachines and Microworkz, have made names for themselves with their ultra low-cost computers. All this has decreased the price of all PCs, with name-brand (and often more reliable) vendors such as Gateway 2000, Dell, Compaq, and Hewlett Packard being forced to offer lines of PCs at their lowest price ever.

With powerful-enough new PCs so inexpensive, it can simply be more cost- and time-effective to buy cheap and keep for two years rather than buy expensive and incrementally upgrade components over four years.

Yet there are times when it does make sense to add components to a system. RAM is dirt cheap these days, and if your computer has only 16 or 32 megabytes of memory and you run more than two programs at once under Windows 95 or Windows 98, you'll gain a big performance boost by going to 32 or 64 megabytes.

If you're running out of storage, adding a second hard drive or a removable hard drive can also make sense.

Adding a new processor or motherboard usually does not make sense today. One exception is if you've already replaced the RAM, hard drive, and graphics card and don't want to lose this investment.

Still, buying a new PC is often the best upgrade. Along with a system in which all the components are compatible, you'll get a new warranty, which can be a money-saver if something goes wrong in the future.

But if your current system does everything you need, stick with it. Appropriate technology is the rationale here, with the watchword being, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Reid Goldsborough is a syndicated columnist and author of the book *Straight Talk About the Information Superhighway*. He can be reached at [reidgold@netaxs.com](mailto:reidgold@netaxs.com) or <http://members.home.net/reidgold>

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# Police Leadership Forum announces award recipient



Last month the Police Leadership Forum announced that RCMP Superintendent J. P. (Bud) Bechdholt was the recipient of the 1999 Leadership Award. This first-time award was presented to

Supt. Bechdholt at the Forum's annual meeting held in Windsor on September 27th.

Superintendent J. P. (Bud) Bechdholt was chosen from thirteen individuals and programs nominated for the award. The six-judge panel was unanimous in its decision.

Superintendent J. P. (Bud) Bechdholt has 33 years service with the RCMP. Before Nanaimo, his postings included Maple Ridge, Richmond, Clearwater, Watson Lake and Inuvik. He holds Bachelor of Arts degrees in both Psychology and Economics, as well as a diploma in Industrial-Organizational Psychology. He and his wife Wendy have two children, Curtis and Tammie. Supt. Bechdholt's hobbies include running, weight-lifting and kayaking.

Superintendent Bechdholt is the Officer in Charge of the Nanaimo RCMP Detachment, located on the east coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia. This 119 member detachment consists of 180 staff (including civilians) and serves a population of 75,000.

The Police Leadership Forum felt that Superintendent Bechdholt's contribution to the field of policing is significant because of the positive results and good morale his detachment has achieved under his direction. His open style of management allows his managers to develop and pursue their sections, ideas and goals, as long as they're in line with the commitments to the community. These managers, in turn, encourage new ideas and risk taking that results in the empowerment of front-line officers.

Supt. Bechdholt's nominators stated that he consistently strives to maintain and promote the highest ethical and policing standards within his detachment. He expects nothing less of his managers and staff. Since his arrival in Nanaimo five years ago, Nanaimo's policing standards have actually increased, despite annual manpower and budget constraints.

Perhaps there can be fewer forms of praise higher than the support of those men and women who work for and with Supt. Bechdholt on a daily basis. Ninety-one per cent of the 178 person detachment signed a petition which supports his nomination. Each signature endorses the fact that Supt. Bechdholt epitomizes the saying, "Good managers do things right, but a good leader does the right thing."

## Correction

In the August / September issue the address that appeared for Michaels of Oregon was incorrect.

The correct address for Michaels of Oregon Law Enforcement Products is: P.O. Box 1690, Oregon City, Oregon 97045.

Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused.

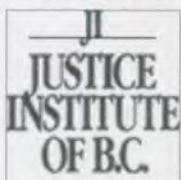
In their submission to the award panel the nominators stated that Supt. Bechdholt empowers his managers within his detachment to make decisions and solicit input from their staff and police officers to improve internal efficiencies. These managers, in turn, pass along and guide front-line officers. As a result, new initiatives are not paralysed by the paranoia of a mistake. With mistakes considered a cost of doing business,



improved production, innovation, and personal empowerment are a guaranteed result.

The Police Leadership forum is currently accepting nominations for the 2000 Leadership Award. For further details and an application form Phone 613 998-0793 or Fax 613 990-9738.

## New Training Centre addresses computer crime Justice Institute Creates Centre for Information Technology & Security



The Justice Institute of BC Police Academy today announced the establishment of the Centre for Information Technology and Security (CITS). The Centre will offer introductory, advanced and intermediate level training programs which will focus on the detection, investigation, and analysis of high technology crime cases.

"The criminal threats posed by new technology are mind boggling," says Steve Watt, director of the Police Academy of the Justice Institute of BC. "most law enforcement agencies have not had the training they need to enable them to deal with today's computer crimes. We've established the Centre for Information Technology and Security to meet these needs within the law enforcement community."

The Centre is developing strategic alliances with a number of post-secondary educational institutions, high technology crime investigation associations and consortiums, Canadian and international government bodies, and law enforcement agencies to share ideas and strategies on training initiatives.

CITS aims to become the centre of excellence in the field of information security and education by developing and offering the best in innovative and timely instructional programs.

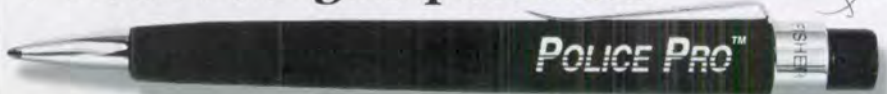
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- **Advanced Internet Investigation Skills for Law Enforcement**  
(July 19-23, October 25-29)

- **Using the Internet as an Investigative Research Tool**  
(October 15)
- **Introduction to Computer Encryption**  
(November 19)
- **Internet Based Open Source Intelligence Gathering Techniques**  
(3 days, Fall '99)
- **Investigating Computer Crimes**  
(3 days, Fall '99)
- **Investigating Child Pornography on the Internet**  
(3 days, Fall, '99)
- **Level 1 Forensic Data Recovery course**  
(5 days, Fall '99)
- **Level 2 Forensic Data Recovery course**  
(5 days, Fall '99)
- **Network Security and Forensic Techniques course**  
(5 days, Fall '99)
- **Conducting Undercover Operations on the Internet course**  
(5 days, Fall '99)

For further information on the JI Centre for Information Technology and Security, contact Mark LaLonde, Program Coordinator, at 604-528-5768, FAX 604-528-5754, or by e-mail at [mlalonde@jibc.bc.ca](mailto:mlalonde@jibc.bc.ca).

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### Up-Coming Events

October 13 - 15, 1999

#### Fourth International Conference on the Child Montreal - Quebec

Hosted by the Organization for the Protection of Children's Rights, this conference will bring together those that work for the best interests of children. Topics include the prevention of violence, moving towards solutions, conditions that cause violence and current perspectives on violence. For more information contact Angela Ficca at (514) 593-4303.

October 18 - 19, 1999

#### 38th Annual Ontario Traffic & Safety Education Conference Mississauga - Ontario

The conference is open to all law enforcement, educators and public health agencies. This year's conference will feature a

variety of speakers focusing on traffic and community safety related issues. For details contact Cst. Donna Smith at (416) 808-7042.

Fall of 1999

#### Organized Crime Undercover Techniques Course Calgary - Alberta

This course will feature experienced instructors and Calgary's top drug and vice experts. The course is specifically designed for law enforcement investigators involved in covert operations. For more information contact Kathy Coonfer at (403) 268-8638.

October 24 - 26, 1999

#### Fifth Annual Crisis Negotiation Training Seminar Calgary - Alberta

This seminar, co-sponsored by the Calgary Police Service and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, is primarily case studies of recent

hostage / barricade situations in Canada and the United States along with presentations on recent developments in the field. For further details on the seminar contact Det. Greg Harris at (403) 295-7951.

Oct. 30 - Nov. 4, 1999

#### 106th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference

Charlotte - North Carolina Each year more than 12,000 police chiefs, senior law enforcement officials, exhibitors and other police executives from more than 100 nations attend this event. For more conference details call 1-800-THE-IACP.

November 3 - 5, 1999

#### Recertification Course for Negotiators Sarnia - Ontario

Hosted by the Sarnia Police Service and the Canadian Critical Incident Association this will be a refresher course for current negotiators who need to update their resumes. Staff Sgt. Barney McNeilly and Dr. Peter Collins will act as instructors. For information contact Cst. Bruce Williams at (519) 344-8861 ext. 279.

November 7 - 10, 1999

#### Policing Cyberspace Conference and Trade Exhibition

Vancouver - British Columbia Hosted by the Society for the Policing of Cyberspace, this conference will address critical interna-

tional issues emerging from the use and abuse of cyberspace. Topics include computer hacking, child / adult pornography on the Internet, cyber stalking, proceeds of crime legislation, telecommunications fraud and more. For more information on the conference contact Bessie Pang at (604) 980-3679.

November 8 - 11, 1999

#### 12th Annual Hold-up Squad Robbery Investigators Seminar

Toronto - Ontario For information on the hold-up squad robbery investigators seminar, hosted by the Toronto Police Service, contact Det. Steven Proulx at (416) 808-7350.

November 13 - 16, 1999

#### International Association of Arson Investigators Seminar Regina - Saskatchewan

The conference will include an in-depth look at the principles of fire behavior, scientific fire investigation, reconstruction, fire deaths and case studies. For more information contact Dave Schulz at (306) 779-8636.

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# TEN-SEVEN

Law Enforcement News From Blue Line Magazine

## Associations back federal gun registry

Two police associations representing Canada's police chiefs and front line officers have agreed to support the federal gun registry.

The police chief's threw their support behind the firearms registry during the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police annual August meeting in Hamilton, Ont., saying that it will help protect police officers and the public.

Delegates at the Canadian Police Associations, annual meeting in Regina also agreed to back the registry, but called for a review to address public concerns regarding the system's viability, association president Grant Obst said.

He added that the association originally supported the registry on three conditions and members want a review to make sure those conditions will be met.

The association wants to ensure that the cost of the registry does not take money from police budgets, result in less police officers on



the streets and that the information gathered is of use to officers.

The association will ask Ottawa to have the Auditor General conduct a review.

The Saskatchewan Federation of Police Officers had asked the police association to vote on the possibility of withdrawing support for the registry.

The federation said the money being spent on the registry should be directed to front-line policing. At least \$120 million will be spent on the registry in its first five years.

Federation members also question whether the registry would help protect officers as supporters suggest.

The firearms registry has been the centre of controversy ever since the federal government passed Bill C-68 four years ago.

The legislation requires gun owners to obtain a licence by Jan. 1, 2001 and register all of their guns by Jan. 1, 2003.

Reports indicate that 400,000 licences have been issued and 1.3 million firearms have been registered so far.

The North West Territories, Yukon, Nunavut, Alberta, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, Ontario and New Brunswick have filed challenges with the Supreme Court of Canada against the registry.

## Chiefs vote on crime issues during meeting



Members of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police passed a resolution in August to support the idea of decriminalizing small amounts of marijuana.

The chiefs voted in favor of issuing tickets instead of making arrests and sending the cases to court.

The association wants the federal government to consider changing the nation's drug laws.

York Region police Chief Julian Fantino said the association members want new laws that will give police more flexibility when dealing with minor drug cases, but do not support the legalization of marijuana or other drugs.

New legislation would allow police to send offenders to drug programs, instead of court, the chief said.

During their annual meeting held in Hamilton, Ont., the chiefs also called on Ottawa to increase the amount of time it takes for a convicted sex offender to receive a pardon.

The chiefs added they want police access to the criminal records of those pardoned to facilitate background checks.

Fantino said it's a critical issue for employers and volunteer groups who hire people to work with children.





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\$25 from the sale of each print and \$75 from the sale of each Premium Edition will be donated to the Choppers for Coppers fund or The Metropolitan Toronto Police Museum.

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## Officer recognized by CBA

An RCMP officer was honored in August by a bankers association for his role in an undercover investigation into two organized crime groups.

The Canadian Bankers Association presented Cpl. Stephen Fedor with the Canadian Banks' Law Enforcement Award for his work as lead investigator during a 10-month investigation into a counterfeiting and forgery ring.

"I feel very honored and humbled," said Fedor, an 18-year RCMP veteran who works in Bowmaville, Ont. "I take it as not a singular honor, but one for all 145 officers who worked on the project."



**Fedor**

The investigation, which concluded last December following several raids, focused on two organized crime groups working together to produce counterfeit credit cards and Canadian currency.

Close to 30 raids on businesses and residences in Toronto and Vancouver resulted in 14 arrests. About \$5 million in counterfeit currency has been seized since the operation concluded.

Court cases are pending.

The Canadian Banks' Law Enforcement Award has been given to 175 officers since 1972.

## RCMP appoint crime commissioner

The RCMP has appointed its first deputy commissioner of organized crime.

Zack Zaccardelli, a 30-year veteran, will be responsible for co-ordinating efforts by all police forces in a national crackdown on organized crime.

Zaccardelli's appointment shows the RCMP is committed to combating organized

criminal groups, the force said.

The deputy commissioner's appointment was announced following reports from Criminal Intelligence Service Canada that Asian drug gangs are an increasing risk to public safety.

The Hells Angels and East European-based gangs are also increasing in strength and sophistication, CISC said.

## Ottawa chief announces retirement

After five years as the head of the Ottawa-Carleton Police Service, Brian Ford announced in September he will retire next summer.

The 57-year-old chief will step aside at the end of June even though his contract wasn't due to expire until 2001.



Ford, a 35-year police veteran, was selected to head the Ottawa-Carleton force when the region's four police services amalgamated in 1995.

Ford said he will remain on the job for about 10 more months to allow enough time for a successor to be selected.

## Recovering our missing children



Missing children investigations, like any police inquiry, can be complex, time consuming and exhaustive. Fortunately, there is a law enforcement unit that can offer assistance.

The RCMP's Missing Children's Registry (MCR) can assist police forces by co-ordinating investigations, intercepting missing children crossing international borders and distributing information to law enforcement agencies and the public.

"The unit offers many services," said Cst. Marie-France Dedieu, an operations analyst with the MCR. "We will do whatever is legally available to assist any law enforcement agency."

Most police services contact the registry in cases where it is believed a child has been taken across international borders, Dedieu said.

"They request our assistance to liaise with all Interpol countries when a child has been taken outside of Canada," the nine-year RCMP veteran said. "In international cases the registry can complete Interpol notices where all Interpol countries will be notified of a missing child and wanted suspect."

In addition to investigative assistance, the registry provides photo aging services for any child missing for more than two years, offers guidance to parents of abducted children and can arrange transportation for a child's return home.

Many law enforcement agencies also take advantage of the MCR's missing children investigation training seminar. The two-day workshop covers topics including runaways, parental abductions and stranger abductions.

"The workshop is free of charge to the requesting agency," Dedieu said. "It only costs the police agency the time officers are taken off of the road for the training."

The Missing Children's Registry has been involved in 4,873 investigations since it was established in 1986. Of those, 3,349 cases have been closed, giving the unit a 68 per cent success rate.

With over 800 cases in 1998 and new investigations opening everyday, Dedieu said her job is a challenging one, however, the rewards make up for the heavy workload.

"Dealing with missing children cases is not always easy, but if I can help bring back children to their homes, then it's all worth it."

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## Victim of Taber shooting gets sport memorabilia

TABER, Alta. (CP) — The people of Brantford, Ont., were so moved by the story of a young sports fan who was shot and badly wounded at his high school last spring that they have gathered and given him a gift of sports memorabilia — including a hockey stick signed by hometown legend Wayne Gretzky.

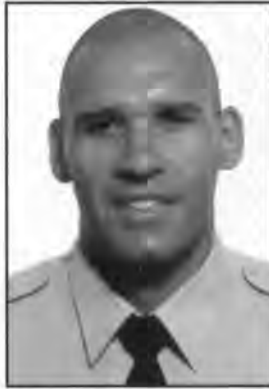
But as the organizer of the effort arrived in the southern Alberta town of Taber on (Aug. 5) to present the gift, he was thrilled to find a hale and hearty 17-year-old youth, waiting for him.

"He was up and walking and looking very good," said a surprised Cst. Cheney Venn of the Brantford police service.

"He seems like a typical 17-year-old with that 17-year-old exuberance. My reward is just seeing (his) face."

Venn, who is friends with Taber Cst. Matt Allen, said the two police departments wanted to do something to cheer up the boy, who they feared might never walk again.

Venn asked Gretzky's father Walter for some autographed items and even approached



Cst. Cheney Venn



Cst. Matt Allen

Wayne himself during a charity golf tournament. He said the hockey player was anxious to help out.

Most helpful of all, he said, were the people of Brantford.

"The outpouring of support was tremendous," he said. "We had people wanting to donate \$20 or \$30 and all I wanted was \$5 from each. This is not only from the Brantford po-

lice service, but also the people of Brantford and the Gretzkys."

The 17-year-old victim was in serious condition and still bedridden with a bullet lodged in his spine.

He was injured April 18 during a shooting at W. R. Myers High School which killed Jason Lang, 17.

A 14-year-old boy is charged with murder and attempted murder.

Surgeons had to repair the 17-year-old's intestines, which were badly ripped as the bullet tore through his stomach. There is a small pucker on his belly a few inches up from his navel and a matching scar on his back.

"That's where they took the bullet out," he said.

It has taken a couple of operations to get to the point where he can walk, albeit with a noticeable limp and a brace on his right leg.

Story reprinted with permission from The Lethbridge Herald

Name of shooting victim withheld.

## War on narcotics to be assessed by OAS

Thirty-four countries have agreed to a standard assessment of how they are faring in the on-going battle against the illicit drug trade.

The countries, including Canada and the United States, are part of the Organization of American States, which plans to deliver its first report in 2001.

The report will be based on information filed by each country on annual drug seizures, rehabilitation programs and other initiatives to curb narcotic production and use.

Most OAS countries already have anti-drug plans in place, but in the past there has been no uniform means of assessing how effect they are.

The release of the first annual report will ensure a much more transparent approach to drugs in the hemisphere, said Jean Fournier, Canada's deputy solicitor general.

OAS officials said it is difficult to determine how much the global drug trade is worth.

United Nations estimates are as high as \$50 billion U.S.


The government publication, Canada's Drug Strategy, estimates the drug trade cost Canadians almost \$1.4 billion in 1992 for health care, missed work and law enforcement.

Staff Sgt. Derk Doornbos of the RCMP's drug enforcement unit, said the new OAS evaluation will allow law enforcement agencies to determine how they compare to others in the Americas.

# MOST WANTED

**NAME: Grant Warren BEAUCAGE**

**WANTED FOR: Murder**

<b>DATE OF BIRTH:</b> 20 October 1953	<b>RACE:</b> White	<b>SEX:</b> Male	
<b>HEIGHT:</b> 5'9" (177 cm)	<b>WEIGHT:</b> 226 lbs. (103 kg)	<b>HAIR:</b> Lt. Brown ( Greying )	

### CASE DETAILS

**IDENTIFYING MARKS:** Lt. Brown Moustache, Fair Complexion

**OCCUPATION:** Prefers to live off of welfare, but has worked as a salesman.

**INTERESTS:** Subject is an avid golfer and will likely frequent golf courses wherever he is residing. Other interests include hockey, gambling on sports and watching rental movies.

**OTHER DETAILS:** The Halton Regional Police Service holds a Canada Wide Arrest Warrant for the subject on a charge of First Degree Murder for the 1994 stabbing death of his wife. The subject disappeared while out on bail. The subject may have taken a bus to Niagara Falls, Ont., on the evening of January 22, 1997. The subject claims to suffer from tuberculosis. His past includes cocaine use and his Ontario driver's licence has been suspended since 1977 for unpaid fines. The subject was last seen wearing a red, down filled winter coat and may have a red coat with white leather sleeves with him. Any agency with information pertaining to Beaucage's whereabouts please contact Det.-Sgt. Jim Chapman or Det. Al. Frost at (905) 825-4777 ext. 4856 or 5081.



# CRIMINALLY FUNNY



*Humorous tales of laughable oddities from both sides of the thin blue line*

## Stuck tennis ball causes sticky situation for rookie

by Mark Tonner

Part of being a rookie officer with the Vancouver police is the requirement to complete ones dreaded "inside time." For me, it meant nine months spent as a jail guard in the city lockup, dealing with the great unwashed in far too intimate a fashion.

The smells were perhaps the worst of it. The corruption and personal decay parading past us was truly mind altering- especially when you consider we had to search everyone who came up.

Is it acceptable to mention we dealt with guys who saved their excrement in jacket pockets to have readers ponder what it's like to find such gems?

If you read that, it must be.

On the day I had six months completed, jail assignments were reduced from nine to six months, but only for those coming in after that point - meaning no reprieve for yours truly.

My last three months were a time of chaotic impatience, and desperate attempts at comic relief.

I saw everything I did as a sort of performance art, but one of my best pieces went awry.



Our jail was connected with our warrant section through a system of vacuum tubes extending into an adjacent building. Paper documents were rolled up and sent in plastic shuttles, as they were needed.

Big Bill, a long time custodial guard, shared an endless stream of stories relating to things done in years gone by. One of the legends involved a tennis ball, sent through the vacuum tube system on the end of a long string. When the people at the other end went to grasp the ball, it was tugged back by the sender.

It sounded a little improbable to me, but I did note that the tube's entrance appeared to be the right diameter. The next night, I brought in a tennis ball and, summoning courage, popped it into the opening.

No problem. The ladies at the other end gave us a ring, we all had a chuckle, and continued sending the thing back and forth for a couple of hours.

It was a slow night, and the coffee was perilously strong. I found a way to tie string to the ball, and hooked it to a fresh, industrial-sized roll. The roll was set up so as to spin on a pencil, and "pop" away the ball went.

The roll spun madly. You could hear the ball, clacking and banging as it progressed through the system into the next building. It seemed its travels would never end. The roll, which began as eight inches long and six in diameter, shrunk down almost to its spindle.

The tube started to draw string more slowly, then came to a halt. I tried to draw the ball back, but the string came up tight. Big Bill, in his best "seen all this before" tone insisted "you just have to reef on it, son."

He grabbed the string and snapped it. There must have been some vacuum left, because you could hear the string-end, tinkling along inside the pipe, as it made its way to whatever jam awaited. The ball hadn't come through the other side; I called the girls there to make sure. Which left the least desirable option - confessing to the boss.

The corporal's silence told all. He called out our engineers (late on a Saturday night) and they spent most of the early morning in the next building, opening holes in drywall, looking for the blockage. When I came in the next night there was a mountain of string on the corporal's desk.

Try unravelling a large roll sometime. It makes a larger heap than you'd think possible.

My job, I was told, was to wind the string back on to the roll, and return it to service. I declined, offering instead to buy a new roll, and was left with one final task: writing what we call a "Why" note. That's a generic departmental report form; in this case explaining why I'd pulled such an asinine stunt.

You know you've messed up when you begin writing with: "In an effort to provide comic relief to my co-workers..."

It's been a few years, and my career seems to have survived, after a fashion. By coincidence, I'm working for the same supervisor again, in patrol. There are fresh new embarrassments to chuckle over every week, but these days they're usually happening to someone else. Which suits this boy just fine.



This is an excerpt from the yet to be published book *The Odd Squad*. Anyone wishing to contribute their own humour may send it via e-mail to: [toby\\_hinton@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:toby_hinton@city.vancouver.bc.ca)

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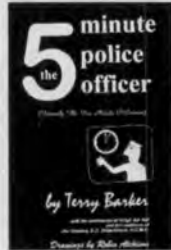
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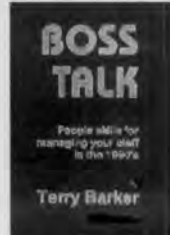
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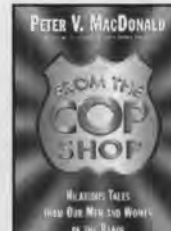
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