

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY  January 18, 2013 – Vol. 18 No. 3

Executive Digest

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VANCOUVER - Some B.C. police dog units bite and injure people as much as 10 times more than dog units that use a less aggressive style of training, a CTV News investigation has found.

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Commissioner advising restraint for officers and protesters



huffingtonpost.ca

Jan 17, 2013

TORONTO - Ontario's top cop has taken to YouTube to defend provincial police handling of Idle No More demonstrations and blockades, saying it fits into an overall strategy that's difficult to explain to the public.

In a video message posted Tuesday, Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Chris Lewis responded to criticism of what some perceive as a failure to end rail blockades and other protest disruptions.

He pointed to the OPP's framework for police preparedness for aboriginal critical incidents, which was developed in the aftermath of the 1995 police shooting death of native protester Dudley George at Ipperwash Park. It stresses negotiation and minimal use of force.

"These concepts and strategies developed from experience, hard work and common sense are difficult and complex to explain to the general public," Lewis said in the video.

"I totally understand that."

An Ontario judge who has issued two injunctions to end blockades of critical rail arteries, including one in OPP jurisdiction, slammed police last week for not enforcing the injunctions right away to end the aboriginal protests.

Superior Court Judge David Brown ordered a small group of protesters who blocked the railway near Kingston, Ont., affecting freight and passenger train service between Toronto and Montreal, to leave in a few hours.

But, Brown said, the OPP officer on the



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scene of the blockade told the sheriff it was "too dangerous" to serve the injunction that night on the 15 protesters and suggested it be done the next morning.

That came after another similar injunction issued by Brown to end a First Nations blockade of a rail line in Sarnia, Ont., wasn't enforced for two weeks by Sarnia police. Brown did not mince words in his ruling criticizing what he called police inaction.

"No person in Canada stands above or outside of the law," Brown said.

"Although that principle of the rule of law is simple, at the same time it is fragile. Without Canadians sharing a public expectation of obeying the law, the rule of law will shatter."

Public safety is the primary concern and Lewis trumpeted the fact that there haven't been any reports of injuries to protesters, police or members of the public at the protests in OPP jurisdiction.

"There may be situations requiring our immediate enforcement action and we will at times do so, but otherwise we will continue to investigate these incidents and lay charges after the event where appropriate."

No one from the OPP communications department was immediately available Tuesday to say whether any charges have been laid after Idle No More blockades or protests.

The Idle No More movement began last month in protest of a federal government omnibus bill that First Nations groups say threatens their treaty rights set out in the Constitution.

Police services are not able to solve those longtime disputes, Lewis said. The commissioner said he would rather be criticized for a decision not to jeopardize people's lives than for taking "unnecessary, aggressive action that undoubtedly will."

"First Nations have the ability to paralyze this country by shutting down travel and trade routes," he said.

"It is a difficult situation no matter how we view or address it."

THURSDAY JANUARY 10, 2013

Jan 10 2013

ANTIGONISH, N.S. - RCMP in Nova Scotia have arrested 24 people in Antigonish County and Cape Breton on drug and weapons charges.

Police say the arrests and 130 charges represent the culmination of a 13-month investigation, code-named Operation Hakon.

Investigators say they targeted criminal groups involved in trafficking large amounts of cocaine, hashish, marijuana, and ecstasy.

Police say they seized 100 marijuana plants, 25 kilograms of marijuana and smaller quantities of cocaine, hashish and hash oil.

As well, they seized six cars, body armour and 17 firearms, including an AK-47. (CJFX)

Jan 10 2013

OTTAWA - The number of former offenders applying to have their criminal records sealed has plummeted since the Conservative government brought in tough new rules and quadrupled the application fee.

Figures obtained by The Canadian Press show that total applications are down more than 40 per cent.

And fewer than 3,700 record suspensions were granted between March and December 2012, compared with more than 24,000 in the last full year before Ottawa began overhauling the pardons system.

The changes all stem from the 2010 revelation that serial predator Graham James, a former junior hockey coach, was quietly granted a routine pardon in 2007.

Jan 10 2013

FORT MACLEOD, Alta. - The Alberta government is returning more than \$10 million to the town of Fort Macleod to offset the cost of a promised police college that didn't go ahead.

Municipal Affairs Minister Doug Griffiths has spoken to town council and says it's the right thing to do. The money is meant to cover the cash the municipality had already invested in the \$122-million project before the government cancelled it.

Fort Macleod waited for years for the police college that was promised by the government in 2006.

A ground-breaking ceremony was finally held in 2011, but last August the province abruptly announced it was not going ahead with the training centre. (CJOC, The Canadian Press)

Jan 10 2013

VICTORIA - The B.C. Court of Appeal has ordered a new trial for a Vancouver Island police officer and municipality found civilly negligent in the shooting death of a 33-year-old man who was mentally ill.

Majencio Camaso hadn't been taking his medication when he grabbed a metal bar in July of 2004 and charged Saanich police Const. Kristopher Dukeshire in the parking lot of a local elementary school.

Dukeshire fired three shots, striking Camaso twice, and the father was later pronounced dead in hospital.

Camaso's widow and daughter sued Dukeshire and the District of Saanich, as well as several others, and in April 2011 the B.C. Supreme Court found the constable and municipality negligent, awarding damages of about \$235,000.

Dukeshire and the municipality appealed, and Appeal Court Justice Richard Low has now ruled the trial judge made mistakes assessing the evidence and has ordered a new trial instead of dismissing the lawsuit.

No date has been set for a new trial, which Low says will be limited to the claims of negligence.

Jan 10 2013

VICTORIA - The BC government says it will consider justice system reforms proposed by the family of a Victoria-area teenager who was brutally murdered by some classmates.

The parents of 18-year-old Kimberly Proctor of Langford say young people raised to adult court should get adult sentences.

Kimberly's father Fred Proctor is angry that the two teenage boys who raped, tortured and murdered his daughter in 2010 will be able to apply for parole in 10 years, even though they were raised to adult court.

He calls that ridiculous, saying the family could be dragged through a parole hearing in just a few years time.

In addition to adult sentences, the Proctors say the names of young offenders should be made public and teens who are identified as anti-social should have mandatory counselling.

Attorney-General Shirley Bond says the murder was an unthinkable tragedy and she'll consider the proposals, including taking them to the federal government.

FRIDAY JANUARY 11, 2013

Jan 11 2013

HALIFAX - Nova Scotia's Justice Department says it took the rare step this week of ordering the removal of metal barricades from a home in Nine Mile River that had been part of a police investigation.

The government says it's the first time its Safer Communities and Neighbourhoods Act was used to remove excessive fortifications from a property.

The legislation, enacted in 2007, is more commonly used to evict people from properties where illegal activities are taking place.

The government says it was asked to intervene after police found heavy metal bars

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installed across the doors of a home they were searching on Renfrew Road following an attempted murder on New Year's Eve.

Acting Justice Minister Maurice Smith says barricades are often intended to prevent police from entering a premises and endanger emergency responders.

The government says the owners of the property co-operated with the order and workers removed three metal barricades from the home on Wednesday.

Jan 11 2013

LETHBRIDGE, Alta. - A police officer from Lethbridge in southern Alberta is accused of hitting a man during an arrest.

Police say the officer was involved in a traffic stop last May when a 20-year-old man approached him.

Police say the constable struck the man while arresting him for public intoxication and the man fell and hit his head on the pavement.

He was taken to hospital and released a short time later, although he returned later in the day and was treated for a serious head injury.

The Crown reviewed an investigation into the officer's conduct and recommended he be charged.

David John Easter, who is 38, is to appear in court Feb. 13 on a charge of assault causing bodily harm.

Jan 11 2013

MONTREAL - Saturday will mark the third, grim anniversary since an earthquake

in Haiti killed 200,000 people and made unwitting heroes of at least 14 Canadian police and military officers who scrambled to pull survivors from the rubble in the hours that followed.

At a ceremony Thursday to honour those 14 officers for their bravery — including five from the Montreal police — some of the men said the memory of the devastation and sorrow was still too painful to discuss.

On January 12, 2010, Montreal police Sgt. Denis Roy jumped from the second-floor balcony of a restaurant in Port-au-Prince before the building collapsed, then headed to what was left of the hospital, where he pulled a teenager to safety. Roy volunteered in the days that followed to search for and rescue more survivors.

Asked to speak about his experience, he pointed instead to the tattoo which now covers his left arm, with the date of the earthquake wrapped around his wrist and a dragon, symbolizing the earthquake, leading up to his shoulder.

"The flames represent all the people close to me who died there," he said.

Among the other recipients decorated at RCMP headquarters in Montreal were also officers from the Sûreté du Québec, the RCMP and the Ottawa police — who returned into collapsing buildings, dug out holes and moved mountains of concrete to rescue as many people as possible.

International Co-operation Minister Julian Fantino, who has been under fire in the past

week for saying he would freeze any new aid to Haiti, pending a review of how the money is spent, was among the dignitaries in attendance, along with RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson. Fantino would not take any questions, but commended the officers for their "incredible bravery and selflessness" in Haiti under volatile and dangerous conditions.

Saguenay Police Constable Bertrand Fraser had been in Haiti for an hour and a half when the walls started shaking all around him.

"In the first minute after the earthquake you could hear a fly buzzing," recalled Fraser, who had just returned from holiday in the Dominican Republic when the quake hit. "Then after that came the screams. It was hell. Just hell."

With a colleague from the RCMP, Fraser went straight to the house across the street, which had fallen on top of a mother and her two children, a 7-year-old and a newborn baby.

"We heard them calling out, crying, screaming. It was terrible," Fraser said. "The ceiling caved in on them and we managed to move some rocks around and get the baby out through a hole no bigger than a groundhog's hole. We got the mother and the other child out several hours later. We had to lift the whole ceiling off them."

It wasn't until after midnight, about seven hours later, that Fraser "finished his shift," he said.

"We couldn't see anything, there were no vehicles, no phones, no lights, and nothing was working."

Fraser hasn't seen or heard from the mother and her children since, but says he

The *Police Leadership Award* recognizes and encourages a standard of excellence that exemplifies leadership as "an activity not a position," and pride in service to the public. Its goal is to increase effectiveness, influence, and quality of police situational leadership from both an organization and community perspective.

This award is open to active Canadian police officers below the rank of senior officer who have demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to service through deeds resulting in a measurable benefit to their peers, service and community.

The 2012 award recipient will be recognized in the May 2013 issue of *Blue Line Magazine* and will receive the award at a presentation held in conjunction with the *Blue Line Expo*, April 23, 2013.

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thinks of them often.

"We've had time to forget, but it's still emotional. The camaraderie and human contact with people we didn't even know ... it's hard to explain."

The 13 police officers and one member of the Canadian Forces honoured Thursday were all in Haiti to participate in International Police Peace Operations to train police abroad, patrol streets and provide humanitarian assistance, among other roles.

(Montreal Gazette)

Jan 11 2013

MONTREAL - Calling it the first in-house police investigative unit of its kind in Canada, Montreal Mayor Michael Applebaum announced this morning the formation of a new anti-corruption unit made up mainly of Montreal police officers able to investigate all aspects of city affairs.



journalmetro.com

Issuing a warning to all "profiteers and schemers" that attempt to swindle taxpayers through rigged construction contracts or other means, Applebaum, accompanied by Montreal Police Chief Marc Parent, said the new 20-member squad dubbed EPIM - Escouade de protection de l'intégrité municipale, or squad to protect municipal integrity - will have access to all aspects of civic affairs. All doors and files, he said would be open.

At the same time, Applebaum revealed that investigators from the provincial Charbonneau Commission investigating corruption in the construction industry were visiting Montreal's city hall Friday afternoon to speak with him. Applebaum said he did not know what issues the investigators would raise, but said the visit was a normal part of the investigative process and he would furnish all information requested.

EPIM is supposed to be formed in the next weeks. Parent estimated it would cost roughly \$3 million in its first year, given the cost of establishing headquarters and paying staff. The new unit will be autonomous and independent, with carte blanche to investigate all dossiers of the city of Montreal, Applebaum said. Asked whether the public could have confidence in an investigative unit mandated to police the city made up of police who are employees of the city, Applebaum reiterated that the squad was independent and answered to no one but itself.

"With the adoption of this squad, I'm sending a clear message to all the profiteers and schemers who wish to steal our tax contributions: be warned. You now have a new obstacle in front of you," Applebaum said.

The new squad has the mandate to assure the integrity of the administration of the city of Montreal, particularly in the matters of issuing of contracts. Details from media reports and the Charbonneau Commission have unveiled allegations of widespread collusion among contractors bidding on public works projects, of which the city issues \$1.5 billion a year, aided in many cases by corrupt civil servants, engineers and political parties who obtained hundreds of thousands in kickbacks.

Parent said the squad would work in cooperation with the provincial anti-corruption squad composed of Sureté du Québec police officers known as UPAC, as well as with investigators from the Charbonneau Commission. It is also expected to put in place new strategies and tools to limit corruption in city contracts. Investigators will also go out in the field to construction projects and have the power to investigate companies.

Applebaum said the squad would investigate any activities or contracts that could be corrupt, not just in the construction field, noting that it would look at anything from the awarding of computer technology contracts to the price of firefighters' clothing.

(Montreal Gazette)

Jan 11 2013

VANCOUVER - A B.C. woman convicted of murdering her husband's lover after she confessed to undercover police officers has lost a bid to appeal her conviction.

Jean Ann James was suspected in the murder of Gladys Wakabayashi, who was discovered with her throat slit in her Vancouver home in June 1992.

An investigation at the time didn't find enough evidence against James, so police launched an undercover operation in 2007 to set up a fake criminal organization and she confessed to a supposed crime boss in a so-called Mr. Big operation.

James was convicted of first-degree murder in November 2011 but filed an appeal, claiming the trial judge made several errors.

She said the judge should not have allowed opinion evidence from police about a partial shoe print found at the crime scene, and did not properly instruct the jury on evidence of bad character she offered to the undercover officers.

The appeal court rejected the appeal, upholding the judge's conduct, saying the only mistake he made was a harmless one and the evidence against James was overwhelming.

Jan 11 2013

OTTAWA - A federal agency has lost a portable hard drive containing personal information about more than half a million people who took out student loans.

Human Resources and Skills Development Canada said Friday the device contained data on 583,000 Canada Student Loans Program borrowers from 2000 to 2006.

The missing files include student names, social insurance numbers, dates of birth, contact

information and loan balances of borrowers, as well as the personal contact information of 250 department employees.

Borrowers from Quebec, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories during this time period are not affected.

No banking or medical information was on the portable device.

Human Resources Minister Diane Finley said she has called on the RCMP to assist with the incident, "given its serious nature."

In addition, the office of the federal privacy commissioner announced Friday it would investigate.

The loss of the hard drive from an office in Gatineau, Que., came to light as the department looked into another breach - a missing USB key containing the personal information of more than 5,000 Canadians.

The privacy commissioner's office has already begun a probe of that incident, which was publicized last month.

Human Resources says that while there is no evidence any of the information in the latest breach has been used for fraudulent purposes, an extensive search for the hard drive continues.

In her statement, Finley said she had directed officials to take immediate action to ensure "that such an unnecessary situation" does not happen again.

She has requested that departmental employees across Canada receive information about "the seriousness of these recent incidents" and that they participate in mandatory training on a new security policy.

The new policy immediately bans portable hard drives within the department. In addition, unapproved USB keys are not to be connected to the computer network.

All portable security devices will be assessed for the risk they pose, to ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place.

New data-loss prevention technology - which can control or prevent the transfer of sensitive information - will also be introduced.

Finally, staff will be subject to disciplinary measures, including possible firing, should privacy and security codes not be followed.

Alyson Queen, a spokeswoman for the minister, said the Mounties were contacted Monday. "They will determine what further steps are required."

Jan 11 2013

KIMMIRUT - A young Kimmirut man convicted of firing numerous rifle rounds this past March 18 into staff houses occupied by two RCMP members and their families must serve 34 and a half months in prison in addition to the time he's already served, Justice Andrew Mahar ruled Jan. 10.

David Lyta, 22, pleaded guilty this past Oct. 2 to one count of intentionally discharging a firearm into a place, knowing another person is present in the place.

The charge that Lyta pleaded guilty to now carries a mandatory minimum prison sentence of four years.

SUNDAY JANUARY 13, 2013

Jan 13 2013

OTTAWA - The head of the RCMP admitted that Canada's national police force neglected to keep tabs on hundreds of cases of serious misconduct committed by Mounties across the country for years.



theglobeandmail.com

Commissioner Bob Paulson acknowledged that an access to information request by CBC News inadvertently revealed that not even senior leaders in the RCMP could say with confidence whether incidents of misconduct that include assaults, impaired driving and fraud were a problem in the force.

"You're right," said Paulson, who has been on the job just over a year. "The RCMP hadn't been tracking until I got here and now we are. We're tracking them all."

The discovery that no one within the RCMP had a comprehensive list of Mounties who'd been disciplined, became obvious after CBC News asked for basic data between 2005 and 2008 that included offences and findings by internal adjudications boards.

CBC News submitted the request in November 2008. It was delivered four years later in November 2012. An officer who handled the file offered an embarrassed apology, and explained the delay was due to the list having to be created from scratch.

There are approximately 19,000 serving members, and just 335 were brought before a tribunal over the four year period, including:

35 cases of assault, sexual assault and harassment. 30 officers impaired on the job or while driving. 29 Mounties who gave false or misleading statements. 16 unauthorized uses of CPIC, the central police data base.

"What happened was terrible, but it is also a terrible thing when a young aboriginal person of previous good character has to be sent to the penitentiary," Mahar said in an oral sentencing judgment Jan. 10.

In his judgment, Mahar said that what Lyta did was "extremely serious."

Drunk and suicidal, Lyta fired multiple rounds from a .22 rifle at housing units occupied by RCMP members Larry Olson and Stephen Nolan.

Bullets passed through living areas and bedrooms in the two residences, lodging in window frames and ceilings, Mahar said in his judgment.

"One of the bedrooms was occupied by the three-year-old son of Stephen Nolan and Heather McCann, who heard glass breaking through a baby monitor," Mahar said.

He also said the two RCMP members "had no way of knowing how many assailants were outside their homes or what sort of weapons were involved; all they knew was that they and their families were in extreme danger."

The two RCMP members "huddled in their homes" for "several long and terrifying hours," waiting for an emergency response team to arrive from Iqaluit, Mahar said.

(Nunatsiaq News)

Jan 11 2013

An RCMP officer injured on the job says he wants Ottawa to stop clawing back his disability cheques.

David White receives about \$67 a month of the \$1,200 he is paid in benefits and pension.

"Over the last ten years, that's approximately \$100,000," he said of the money he has lost.

White suffered hearing loss and developed sound sensitivity a decade ago when responding to a home invasion. An extremely loud alarm did the damage.

White, who served for more than 20 years, is the representative plaintiff in a class-action suit started in 2008. It could represent up to 1,000 Mounties.

Ottawa agreed to settle a similar suit with military veterans this week, but is fighting the RCMP case. The federal government would not comment on this story.

"It's been an uphill battle," White said.

Dan Wallace, a lawyer for disabled RCMP veterans, said the government should reach a settlement.

"The government made a decision to fight the Canadian Forces case and spent a lot of taxpayers' dollars in legal fees and made the veterans fight for six years in the courts," he said.

"Now it seems they're going to make the RCMP veterans go through the same path."

The government reduces RCMP veterans' long-term disability benefits by the amount of their disability pension.

In White's case, that means his \$1,273.74 disability pension is subtracted from his disability benefits. He gets the remaining \$67.20 a month.

(CBC News)

Many of the allegations are also criminal offences, including two cases of possession of child pornography. The CBC asked for details on which cases went on to criminal prosecution, but the RCMP did not make that information available.

And while about 50 of the cases were withdrawn, in some cases due to the expiry of the statutory time limit for a hearing, more than a third were deemed so egregious the officers involved either quit, were forced to resign or had to forfeit 10 days pay — the harshest punishment under the RCMP Act short of dismissal.

However the commissioner downplays the significance of the findings.

"95 per cent are just things where people have made mistakes", Paulson told CBC News. "And, police work is very complicated and people are going to make mistakes."

The RCMP withheld some data requested by CBC News. The reasons why some Mounties were punished were redacted, including for the 21 officers who resigned over their misconduct.

The RCMP also refused to list the regions in which all of the incidents took place. An RCMP spokesman told CBC News that was to protect the privacy of the offenders, even though none were named in the document.

(CBC News)

MONDAY JANUARY 14, 2013

Jan 14 2013

PRINCE GEORGE, B.C. - Any softball fan knows you can't steal first base, but someone should have told a thief in Prince George, B.C., that he shouldn't try to steal anything from one feisty senior.

The robber, described as overweight and wearing a puffy winter jacket, may have too closely resembled a softball when he broke into the senior's home late last week.

RCMP say the elderly woman grabbed a baseball bat and used the crook for batting practice, nailing him several times after he climbed into the house through a window.

He was going, going - gone, by the time Mounties arrived.



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Police say they'd like to throw some heat, too, and want to hear from anyone who may have information about where the faux foul ball is recovering from possible arm, hand or torso injuries.

The would-be victim, meanwhile, is anything but - and is safe at home base. (CKPG)

Jan 14 2013

VANCOUVER - Canada's human smuggling law has been struck down by the British Columbia Supreme Court, leaving two high-profile prosecutions in limbo with the suggestion the federal government should go back to the drawing board.



thestar.com

The decision comes in the first of two trials for men accused of ferrying Tamil migrants to B.C.'s west coast.

A publication ban was lifted today on a ruling issued Friday by Justice Arne Silverman, who found the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act infringes on charter rights and could lead to the prosecution of people like humanitarian workers.

Silverman says Parliament could potentially solve the problem by crafting "properly worded" legislation that addresses the issues.

The trial for four men, which was set to start this month, has been adjourned and jury selection has been cancelled.

Jan 14 2013

TORONTO - Ontario's police watchdog won't lay criminal charges against a Toronto police officer accused of beating up a man in a case that prompted a public spat between the two agencies.

The Special Investigations Unit announced earlier this month that it was closing the investigation into a complaint from Tyrone Phillips, 27, because it couldn't get his original complaint.

After some public back and forth between the SIU, the Toronto police and the Office of the Independent Police Review Director, Phillips got his own complaint back from the OIPRD and the SIU reopened the case.

SIU director Ian Scott says today that he has concluded there are no reasonable grounds to charge the Toronto police officer.

He says Phillips and a friend were arrested in the early morning hours of July 28, after they left a nightclub and "became involved" with two police officers, who took them to the ground.

Phillips was taken to the hospital, where he was diagnosed with a concussion, but Scott

says he isn't satisfied that the police officer in question was the one who caused Phillips' injuries and if he did Scott isn't satisfied the force was excessive.

Jan 14 2013

MONTREAL - A driver who set off a police chase Sunday evening in Sherbrooke when he refused to pull his vehicle over died overnight, Sûreté du Québec Sgt. Claude Denis said Monday morning.

"The first elements of the investigation indicate this was a suicide," Denis added.

The SQ took charge of the investigation about 8:45 p.m.

Local police had attempted to pull the driver's vehicle over about 6:30 p.m., not about 8:30 p.m. as originally indicated, Denis said.

The incident took place on Grandes Fourches Rd.

During the chase, he said, the man's car hit the pillar of an overpass at high speed.

The man had been alone in the vehicle.

Denis said he could not provide the age of the deceased.

(Montreal Gazette)

**TUESDAY
JANUARY 15, 2013**

Jan 15 2013

NEW YORK - The New York Police Department wants pharmacies in and around the city to fight prescription drug thefts by stocking pill bottles fitted with GPS tracking chips.

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly is expected to unveil the project Tuesday at a California conference on health issues hosted by former President Bill Clinton's foundation.

In prepared remarks provided in advance of his appearance, Kelly says the NYPD is concerned about a growing potential for crimes related to the black market for painkillers and other highly addictive prescription drugs.

He says the NYPD is proposing to distribute so-called GPS bottles for pharmacists to hide on their shelves with legitimate supplies.

That way, if there's a robbery or burglary, police would be able to track the loot.

Jan 15 2013

TORONTO - Ontario's top police officer says provincial police are handling Idle No More protests and blockades with discretion, refusing to take what he calls "unnecessary, aggressive action."

Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Chris Lewis posted a video message on YouTube today responding to criticism of what some perceive as a failure to act to end rail blockades and other protest disruptions.

An Ontario judge who has issued two injunctions to end blockades of critical rail arteries, including one in OPP jurisdiction, slammed police last week for not enforcing the injunctions right away to end the aboriginal protests.

Lewis does not mention the judge or the

court decision in his message, instead lamenting criticism "in the media" from "various pundits and commentators with their own agendas."

Lewis says the OPP is using its framework for police preparedness for aboriginal incidents and that he understands those strategies are "difficult and complex to explain to the general public."

The Idle No More movement began last month in protest of a federal government omnibus bill that First Nations groups say threatens their treaty rights set out in the Constitution.

Jan 15 2013

Halifax Regional Police Chief Jean-Michel Blais says all options are open to discussion as he attends meetings in Ottawa designed to address the increasing cost of policing in Canada.



thechronicleherald.com

Blais is one of dozens of police chiefs, politicians from all levels of government and members of civilian oversight bodies who will attend the two-day national Summit on the Economics of Policing to look for ways to deal with Canada's newest crime-fighting crisis — money.

While national crime rates are falling, the cost of policing continues to climb and in some jurisdictions, the cost has doubled over the last 15 years. Municipalities are struggling to pay the bill.

Blais said he recognizes the problem that presents.

"We have to be looking at all possibilities when it comes to optimization of the policing dollar that we have here," he told CBC News.

Blais only had to walk a few metres from his old job as the Halifax Regional Municipality's top Mountie to become its police chief — Halifax is the only city in Canada patrolled by a municipal police force and the RCMP.

Policing is a \$92-million business in Halifax annually, if the criminals co-operate and everything goes according to budget.

In a city the size of the Halifax Regional Municipality, that doesn't always happen. There is chronic drug abuse, gun problems and in 2011, had the second highest homicide rate in the country per 100,000 people, according to Statistics Canada.

Blais said the city is a policing and budgeting challenge.

"It's larger than Prince Edward Island. It's slightly smaller than Toronto, yet it only has about an eighth of the population of Toronto," he said. "That makes policing

expensive in and of itself.”

The marriage between the RCMP and the Halifax Regional Police force came after a long courtship. It started in 1996 when the province amalgamated the municipalities that now make up the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Before that, the RCMP patrolled Halifax County while municipal forces served the old cities of Halifax, Dartmouth and Bedford.

The three municipal forces merged in 1996 to form the Halifax Regional Police force but by 2003, the RCMP and Halifax Regional Police were still in separate police bunkers. That's when major crime investigators from both sides began working side by side in one office.

Now, there is an integrated traffic unit that has RCMP and Halifax Regional Police officers driving each other's police cruisers. There is a joint communications system as well as other smaller combined units.

Blais conceded the merged service is not the cheapest, but said he believes it provides a better value for the dollar. That's the math he'll try to explain during a panel discussion at the federal summit in Ottawa.

(CBC News)

Jan 15 2013

HUMBOLDT, Sask. - Saskatchewan's highest court is putting the brakes on police randomly stopping people in private parking lots.

The Saskatchewan Court of Appeal says in a decision recently posted online that the province's Traffic Safety Act does not authorize police to conduct random stops in private parking areas.

The case involved a woman who was stopped by officers in a parking lot at a hotel in Humboldt in 2009.

The woman tried to take a roadside breath test, but couldn't and was charged with failing to provide a sample of her breath.

But Chief Justice John Klebuc said there was nothing unusual in the way the vehicle was being driven and no reason officers couldn't wait until she drove onto the road to check for a driver's licence and vehicle registration.

Klebuc said the detention, the demand for information and the sample impacted on the woman's liberty and privacy interests.

Jan 15 2013

WINDSOR, Ont. - A provincial arbitrator has awarded officers and civilians with the Windsor Police Service a pay raise of nearly 12 per cent over four years.

Tuesday's ruling followed arbitration hearings with the police services board and the Windsor Police Association over the weekend.

The award is retroactive to January 2011 and will push the annual salary of a first-class constable to more than \$90,000 by January 2014, which is in line with what officers make in London, Toronto and on the provincial police force.

The pay hikes will add \$1.8 million annually to the police budget.

Mayor Eddie Francis has said savings will have to be found within the police budget, and police Chief Al Fredericks says he will do it

through attrition, not layoffs.

The arbitrator also ruled on post-retirement benefits, deciding that existing members of the force will be grandfathered and changes will affect only officers hired after 2015.

(CKLW)

Jan 15 2013

BRANDON, Man. - An aboriginal man in Manitoba says he lied about police officers dropping him off on the outskirts of Brandon and forcing him to walk back in the cold.

Jay Moosetail told the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network that officers threatened to make him walk and uttered racist comments after he left a party on the weekend.

He says he was mad and decided to get back at police by going on Facebook and posting a story about a cold walk home.

Const. Ron Burgess, a police spokesman, says the department found out about the allegation through social media and did not receive a formal complaint from the man.

But he says the matter is being taken seriously and police have requested an outside investigation.

The RCMP says it is looking into the case but can't comment yet on any findings.

(APTN, The Canadian Press)

Jan 15 2013

TORONTO - Eight Toronto Transit Commission enforcement officers have been fired, and five are facing criminal charges following a four-month investigation.

The TTC alleges five officers submitted false tickets made out to people of no fixed address for offences including panhandling, loitering and trespassing.

However, those tickets were never served, and the TTC alleges the officers were not at the locations where the falsified tickets were supposed to have been issued.

Fines were never collected, and the commission says the tickets are being cancelled.

The five officers are each charged with attempting to obstruct justice and fabricating evidence.

Charged are Michael Schmidt, 44, of Barrie, Tony Catic, 45, of Oakville, John Psthumus, 44, of Toronto, Jamie Greenbank, 48, of Milton and Neil Malik, 38, of Ajax.

(CFRB, 680News, The Canadian Press)

Jan 15 2013

BURNABY, B.C. - Eleven fire fighters cut through a door and then sawed a pathway through ceiling-high mounds of garbage packed inside a small Burnaby, B.C., home to rescue an elderly man who had been pinned under debris for at least three days.

RCMP were called to the house in the city east of Vancouver Monday night after an anxious friend reported not seeing the neighbour, in his 70s, for several days.

Police sought the aid of the Burnaby Fire Department, whose members arrived later that

night to help them gain entry.

Inside, they discovered "quite a mess" before uncovering the trapped man, said Assistant Fire Chief Greg Mervin.

"These fellows had to go in and try and find a problem there, and they had to dig through to find this fellow," he said on Tuesday, adding the man was suffering severe dehydration.

There was neither heat nor electricity in the house.

"Had it been another day or two, with our cold temperatures, the outcome may have not been as good as it was. It was probably very rewarding for these firefighters."

Jan 15 2013

SURREY, B.C. - Assurances are being made by the RCMP officer in charge of the Surrey, B.C., detachment that citizens are safe in their community.

The pledge from Chief Supt. Bill Fordy comes after a spasm of shootings over the span of 32 hours left four men dead and one person wounded.

Fordy says the shootings are all related to the criminal underworld, underscoring that there is nothing glamorous about a life of crime.

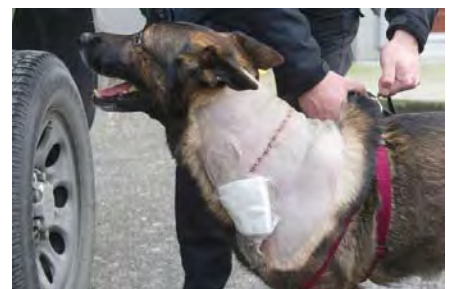
Police say 29-year-old Manjinder "Manny" Hairan is the most recent victim after he was killed and another man was wounded in a shooting early this morning.

The two victims of a shooting in a Surrey parkade on Sunday night are John McGiveron and Geordie Carlow, both 33 years old and both known to police.

A 27-year-old Surrey man, Manjot Dhillon, has also been identified as the victim of a shooting early Sunday evening.

Jan 15 2013

VANCOUVER - Charges have been laid in the stabbing of Teak, the Vancouver police dog who helped apprehend a robbery suspect last Friday.



theprovince.com

Kyle Scott Martin, 20, of Vancouver has been charged with robbery, possession of a dangerous weapon, carrying a concealed weapon and harming a service animal. Martin remains in custody pending his next appearance in provincial court on Wednesday.

Teak, an eight-year-old German shepherd, underwent life-saving surgery Saturday morning to close the 25-centimetre stab wound he sustained during the arrest. The dog is expected to recover fully after being released from veterinarian care Sunday.

The canine had recently received an award for brave service and was only weeks shy of retirement. He will now retire early to live with his partner and handler Const. Derrick Gibson.

(Vancouver Province)

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 16, 2013

Jan 16 2013

WATERLOO, Ont. - Numerous people are facing charges after drug raids in several communities across southern Ontario on Wednesday morning.

The arrests came after an investigation by Waterloo regional and provincial police that focused on the production, distribution and sale of illicit drugs.

Police say 21 search warrants were executed by tactical teams and drug investigators from several forces just after 6 a.m. Wednesday and that drugs, cash, guns, stolen property and explosives were seized.

The co-ordinated raids took place in Bruce County, Grey County, Kingston, Toronto, Waterloo Region and Wellington County and also involved officers from the Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Toronto and Halton Region forces.

Waterloo regional police Insp. Kevin Thaler could not say how many people were arrested or what charges were laid but said more details would be released Thursday at a news conference.

The investigation was continuing on Wednesday and police said they expected more items would be seized.

Jan 16 2013

QUEBEC - The Quebec government is moving to crack down on repeat drunk-driving offenders.

Justice Minister Bertrand St-Arnaud says an offender's vehicle will be seized after each infraction and confiscated for good upon a third offence.

A repeat offender could also be tagged as a "dangerous delinquent."

St-Arnaud told a news conference in Quebec City today that the government is determined to attack on various fronts.

He says that will include a clear directive to Crown prosecutors to be tougher at every step in legal proceedings involving drivers who have consumed alcohol or drugs.

Today's announcement comes just a few days after two fatal hit-and-run deaths that allegedly involved impaired driving.

Jan 16 2013

CHILLIWACK, B.C. - A crook picked the wrong target when he tried to break into a truck in Chilliwack, B.C., Sunday.

The vehicle was owned by RCMP Staff Sgt. Suki Manj and his wife, Corp. Tammy Hollingsworth, who were both off-duty and at home at the time.

When Manj spotted the would-be thief he rushed outside in -5 degree temperatures wearing

only his shorts and got involved in a struggle with the bad guy.

Hollingsworth called 911 before joining her husband in the fight, along with some neighbours who came to help.

Officers arrived on the scene and arrested a 25-year old man from Chilliwack, who's since been released and will appear in court in February.

The married officers suffered frost-bitten toes while Manj also pulled his back.

Jan 16 2013

VICTORIA - Justice Minister Shirley Bond says the government is refining its drunk driving laws amid court challenges from 17 motorists who were forced into costly driver education programs.

Bond says the government is reviewing penalties for 1,200 motorists who were handed immediate roadside prohibitions during a three-week period in November 2011 just before the B.C. Supreme Court struck down part of the law.

The Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles is examining the five-year driving records of each of the 1,200 motorists to determine if their driver education penalties should be waived.

The review is expected to be completed in six to eight weeks and drivers who escape the penalties could save almost \$2,600.

Bond says the review will determine if those motorists will still have to take the responsible driver program and install the ignition interlock system, which disables a vehicle if alcohol is detected.

But the minister says the government is sticking to its get-tough impaired driving penalty program that has saved as many as 104 lives since September 2010.

Jan 16 2013

SASKATOON - Saskatoon police Chief Clive Weighill is expressing frustration after the death of a 57-year old man in one of his department's detention cells.



thestarphoenix.com

The man was arrested for public intoxication on Tuesday night and was found dead in his cell Wednesday morning.

Police said the man was checked by an off-duty paramedic and throughout the night by staff.

Weighill said his officers aren't equipped to properly deal with the thousands of people with addiction and mental health issues who wind up in police cells every year.

He wants the province to come up with a long-term solution to the problem.

"Just through default, there's no other entity

in the city that can handle this, and these people end up in our detention area - and we're not trained health practitioners," Weighill said.

"I think my frustration is beginning to peak, and I'm requesting some help and some sustainable solutions from (the ministries of) health, social services and corrections to deal with this critical issue. We have to put an end to putting unfortunate people in police cells for non-criminal addictions issues."

Weighill added that the issue isn't just one for his department, saying that police services in Regina, Prince Albert and RCMP jurisdictions across the province are grappling with the same concerns.

Saskatoon's Major Crime Unit and the Office of the Chief Coroner are investigating the incident.

(CKOM)

Jan 16 2013

IQUALUIT - Part of the floor of Iqaluit's new \$18 million RCMP detachment building is settling downwards into the permafrost, says a government spokesperson.



Less than eight months after the Iqaluit RCMP moved into their new home in May 2010, the building started to have problems with its foundation.

In an email, a spokesperson from Public Works and Government Services Canada said the permafrost under the building melted because portions of the thermosyphon system failed.

The thermosyphon system is a series of pipes that run under the concrete floor to move heat away from the frozen soil, allowing the building to be built directly on the ground instead of on piles.

The construction contract was awarded to Iqaluit's Almiq Contracting in 2007. RCMP haven't paid Almiq in full because of the ongoing problems with the building.

Public Works and the Mounties are trying to figure out a long term solution for the sinking floor.

It is not clear why the thermosyphon loop failed and the cost of any repairs has yet to be determined.

Staff Sgt. Monte Lecomte said any structural issues with the building haven't affected operations.

(CBC News)

Jan 16 2013

Police in Peel Region are searching for a knapsack containing a handgun, ammunition and a Royal Canadian Mounted Police badge stolen from a hotel in Brampton Wednesday afternoon.

According to Peel police, an RCMP officer was conducting an investigation at a hotel located when his bag was stolen at around 2:30 p.m.

The knapsack contained a silver Smith and Wesson 9mm handgun stamped with the RCMP logo, 46 rounds of ammunition, pepper spray, handcuffs, expandable baton, badge and the officer's wallet with identification.

Police are currently searching for the missing bag.
(CP24)

Jan 16 2013

VANCOUVER - Some B.C. police dog units bite and injure people as much as 10 times more than dog units that use a less aggressive style of training, a CTV News investigation has found.

That's an indication that dogs following a "bite and hold" method – meaning that every time they are released, they will bite a subject – are biting subjects when they don't deserve it, according to a former police dog handler.

"Why should people get bit if they don't have to get bit," said Doug Deacon, who spent years training police dogs in B.C.

"Does a police officer have a right to go in and punch someone all the time? No. Should a dog be biting all the time? No," he said.

CTV News looked at statistics from municipal police detachments, as well as records disclosed under Access to Information rules from the RCMP.

They showed that many police dogs are used to apprehend subjects, some with knives, guns or other weapons, or people who were threatening others.

However other times dogs were used to attack people who were hiding behind office equipment, under staircases, or using marijuana. In six cases, the dogs bit innocent people by accident.

In one accidental bite, a Maple Ridge caterer, Bill Evanow, was a Good Samaritan trying to help police catch a thief in March 2011. He was mistaken for the thief by the dog, which bit his leg, taking out a chunk of muscle and causing permanent damage.

In 56 cases in 2010 and 2011, RCMP dogs bit someone under 18, according to the records. The two youngest people bit were 13-year-old boy whom police allege was operating a dangerous motor vehicle, and a 13-year-old girl whom police say was actively resisting arrest.

RCMP Staff Sergeant Dave Willson said that the "bite and hold" training protects officers and dogs from dangerous subjects. At the end of the day, the force trusts the decisions of the dog handlers to engage the dogs in tough situations, he said.

"The deploying of the dog to apprehend someone is the decision of the handler. It's not the dog deciding to bite someone," he said.

In comparison, the training method used by police in Saanich, New Westminster, and Delta police is known as "bark and hold." In that method, the dog approaches a subject and barks, unless it detects motion or is ordered to

bite by the handler.

Those three detachments had between zero and three bites each year, the records show.

In comparison, Vancouver, which polices a higher population, and the RCMP, which polices a still higher population in BC, injured 88 people and 222 people in 2011 respectively.

When the differences in population are taken into account, RCMP dogs bit about 5 times more often per capita, and VPD dogs bit almost 10 times more per capita, the records show.

Neither Vancouver Police nor the RCMP could point to any studies on police dog bites in Canada. The Vancouver Police recommended the work of Florida-based criminologist Charles Mesloh, who found that "bark and hold" dogs bit more often for each time they were deployed in Florida.

Mesloh told CTV News there were many differences in the way that police dogs were used in the two countries that made comparing the data difficult.

However, he said that in Florida he would recommend the "bite and hold" system because it afforded more protection for police and appeared to result in fewer injuries.

Deacon said the difference between countries could be explained by weaknesses in control by police dog handlers in local police forces.

Some handlers are excellent, he said, but others do not control their dogs well.

"I think that if you use the basic founda-

tions from good, sound dog training such as they use in sport, that would really help and enhance police dog control and it would reduce the number of bites and lawsuits," he said.

(CTV News)

THURSDAY JANUARY 17, 2013

Jan 17 2013

OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada says the Crown can seize a vehicle belonging to a repeat drunk driver, overturning a lower court ruling.

The justices have ruled 7-0 that the judge in the Quebec case was wrong to deny a forfeiture order against Alphide Manning after he pleaded guilty to two impaired driving charges.

The trial judge denied the Crown's motion to seize the truck Manning was driving when he was arrested, saying that would be a disproportionate penalty.

Manning was sentenced to 12 months on one charge and five months on the other.

The justices say the judge failed to give appropriate weight to the accused's criminal record, which includes five convictions for alcohol-related driving offences.

The ruling comes as the Quebec government is looking to crack down on drunk driving by making seizures of vehicles routine.



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Putting Police Officers Back on the Streets



Policing is tough. Policing in 2013 is even tougher. Fiscal realities force compromises as police departments try to live within budgets that are smaller than they need. Officers who were trained to be, and who want to be, out on the streets solving and preventing crimes, are often behind desks, or processing prisoners, or staffing the evidence room, or perhaps even delivering subpoenas. It's not ideal. Front line officers don't like it. But it seems the only solution when the demands on police forces keep growing while their budgets are flat-lining. But there is another option that can save money while putting police officers back on the street where they would rather be, and where they're trained to be. It allows police to deploy resources appropriately and effectively. And it's already happening in many communities across the country.

Commissionaires is a not-for-profit company founded in 1925 with the mandate of providing meaningful employment to Canadian Forces veterans and former RCMP officers. For nearly 90 years, Commissionaires has been protecting people and property, offering leading-edge security services to its growing list of clients. In recent years, Commissionaires has been providing non-core police services to many police departments across Canada. It's proven to be a very cost-effective way for police administrators to meet their demanding budget targets and put their officers where they should be. It's a classic win-win.

This is not a new idea, but it is gathering more support lately. In Ontario, a formal review

of provincial expenditures undertaken by noted Canadian economist Don Drummond, has identified the need for a more creative approach to delivering police services that will protect Ontarians within existing budgetary parameters. In fact, there is a specific recommendation wherein Drummond calls on provincial and police decision-makers to "review the core responsibilities of police to eliminate their use for non-core duties."



"Review the core responsibilities of police to eliminate their use for non-core duties."

Don Drummond -

Commissionaires can provide support for those non-core police services. Commissionaires themselves are experienced security professionals. Many of them served their country in hot spots around the world, from the Balkans to Afghanistan. Others served their communities while in the RCMP. So they understand security and are fulfilled by serving the public. But they are not police officers. Across the country, Commissionaires is supporting police depart-

ments by taking on some of those behind-the-scenes, non-core tasks that must be done so that police officers can do their jobs.

Commissionaires can provide support for detention services, arrest/release processing, prisoner monitoring, escort and transport, evidence custody, and summons and subpoena services, among others. These are not core police services, yet they must be provided and managed well if police officers are to perform at optimal levels. This approach is working well right now in many Canadian communities throughout six provinces. With 50 offices across the country, Commissionaires represents a truly national solution to this challenging and widespread problem.

Police departments provide an essential and indispensable service to Canadians, yet they are not exempt from the fiscal challenges confronting the broader public sector in virtually every community, in every province. Citizens expect their hard-earned tax dollars funding police services to be invested thoughtfully, responsibly, efficiently, and with the promise that our police officers will actually be doing the jobs for which they've been trained: protecting the public by preventing, investigating, and solving crimes. Using a cost-effective third-party, like Commissionaires, to support non-core police services, can put more officers where they really want to be: back on the street, serving and protecting their communities.

Get resourceful. Get Commissionaires
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