

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

Sept 27, 2013 – Vol. 18 No. 39

Executive Digest

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Tiff between two services going back to court



Sep 22 2013

Superior Court Judge Michèle Lacroix has ordered a new trial for a provincial police officer convicted of insulting two officers from the municipal force in Trois-Rivières.

She also expressed hope for a "satisfactory compromise between two police forces that have to maintain order in society, starting with maintaining order and respect between themselves."

The case involves an incident in Trois-Rivières in December 2011.

Two officers from the municipal force were on night patrol in an unmarked car in a neighbourhood beset by break-ins when they spotted a van with tinted windows they considered suspicious emerging from behind a store.

As it turned out, the vehicle was being driven by a plainclothes Sûreté du Québec officer doing a stakeout, but he didn't advise

the others right away after they pulled him over.

Initially, he wouldn't even answer their questions about what he was doing there.

After an increasingly acrimonious exchange, he finally did identify himself, but called the municipal officers "des deux de pique" (a couple of losers).

He was subsequently mailed a citation for insulting an officer in the exercise of his duty and obstructing an officer. At a trial in 2012, he was acquitted on the obstruction charge but convicted for the insult and fined \$100.

The SQ officer appealed the conviction, on the grounds it was "unreasonable" and the judge did not respect his right to a full defence by cutting short the trial.

"It's possible the cross-examination would not have improved the (SQ) officer's situation," Judge Lacroix noted, but she agreed he had not



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been given the opportunity to fully explain himself, so she consented to a new trial.
(Montreal Gazette)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

Sep 19 2013

HIGH RIVER, Alta. - The Alberta and federal governments will share the cost of compensating people whose homes were damaged by RCMP in the flood ravaged community of High River.

The town is to pay out approved damage claims and then apply to the provincial government for compensation.

Alberta officials say the province will then apply to share the costs with Ottawa under the federal Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangement.

During the June floods, police and other first responders broke some doors and windows of some homes and RCMP confiscated some firearms, which have since been returned.

Sep 19 2013

WINNIPEG - The Manitoba government is looking at more measures to fight bullying in schools, which could include protection orders and an anonymous tip line.

It was just two weeks ago that the government passed Bill 18 in the legislature, which was criticized by some as lacking teeth.

The bill expanded the definition of bullying and required schools to allow gay-straight alliances and other equality groups.

Now, Education Minister Nancy Allan is looking at enforcement measures.

She says the province has been examining an anonymous tip line in British Columbia, and an announcement with a local partner is coming soon.

Allan also says the government is eyeing a new law in Nova Scotia that can see suspected bullies lose their Internet service or have their electronic devices seized.

Allan is also planning a province-wide code of conduct that would set down specific penalties for bullying in schools.

She says that could be in place within six months.

Sep 19 2013

CALGARY - The police service dog calendars were such a big hit with Calgarians that a second batch was printed to keep up with demand.

The first 2500 calendars sold out within 48 hours so organizers printed an additional 1500 copies.

The 2014 Calgary Police Service Canine Unit calendars are \$10 each and all proceeds go to the Calgary Police Foundation.

(CTV News)

Sep 19 2013

EDMONTON - Police use-of-force incidents have fallen significantly in Edmonton in recent years, according to a report tendered at a meeting of the city's police commission on Thursday evening.

Acting Insp. Tom Farquhar told the commission 943 use of force incidents took place in 2013, down from 978 in 2012.

Of the 943 incidents, 557 were more serious "Category 2" incidents. That's less than half the number of such incidents five years ago, when the city saw 1,134 Category 2 incidents. The numbers have been falling since; in 2009, there were 919 incidents, and by 2012, 603.

This year's decrease comes despite a significant rise in the overall number of police calls, which rose to 116,403 in 2013 from 112,586 the year before.

Farquhar said he attributes the drop in use of force incidents to more specialized training and education, as well as good recruiting, a practice of daily debriefings for officers, and an overall maturing in the workforce.

He said Edmonton police are now given significant training in dealing with people with mental health issues, and the organization has adopted a "reasonable officer" model, where police are taught to think about the potential approaches to each situation before they go in, and consider the context of the scene.

Farquhar said an emphasis on supervisory oversight throughout an incident is also having an effect.

Police commission members lauded the

decrease in use-of-force incidents, but Farquhar said the number is expected now to gradually plateau — or even increase — from its current level.

He said that's because officers are still expected to use force when it is justified and lawful, and done to protect the public.

"We're not trying to get the numbers down," he said. "We're trying to make sure the numbers are justified."

Calls involving use of force by police dogs were up slightly, with 21 incidents in 2013 compared to 17 the previous year.

(Edmonton Journal)

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2013

Sep 20 2013

OTTAWA - The case of a Canadian naval officer convicted of passing secrets to Russia is still very much on the radar of Canada's spy agency.

A newly declassified analysis by the Canadian Security Intelligence Service warns the Jeffrey Delisle case typifies the threat of disgruntled employees passing secrets.

Delisle was sentenced to 20 years in prison this year after pleading guilty to passing classified western intelligence to Russia in exchange for cash.

The CSIS analysis says the Delisle case highlights the risk of what it calls the "insider threat."

It says individuals who engage in insider espionage can be motivated by many factors, but selling secrets is usually the last act of a long-simmering emotional crisis.

Delisle was experiencing financial difficulties and told authorities he felt distraught over the breakup of his marriage.

The CSIS analysis also found most rogue insiders were male and were spurred to betray their country by factors such as revenge for a perceived wrong or the need for cash to support an addiction like gambling.

Sep 20 2013

HALIFAX - Nova Scotia's police watchdog says an RCMP officer used reasonable force during an arrest in February that left a man with a broken arm.

The Serious Incident Response Team says the man resisted arrest and swung a wooden club at the officer after police received a report of groceries being stolen at a store in Boylston on Feb. 14.

Investigators say the officer was defending himself when he struck the man on the left arm with his baton.

SIRT says the man who was arrested has a history of mental illness.

It says the man was charged with theft, mischief, resisting arrest and assaulting a

**BLUE LINE
NEWSWEEK**
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peace officer and was remanded by the provincial court for an assessment last month.

Sep 20 2013

CALGARY - Alberta emergency officials will investigate after a phone glitch disrupted 911 emergency service in Calgary, prompting police and fire crews to increase street patrols and temporarily use social media to respond to calls.

Shortly before 10:50 p.m. Wednesday, the city's emergency management agency was advised of intermittent service outages affecting Telus's phone network.

It meant some people dialing 911 received a busy signal. Calls to the dispatch centre were nearly double the normal volume as individuals struggled to seek emergency help.

"Citizens did the right thing — they redialled," said Kay Choi, deputy commander of public safety communications.

Police, EMS and other emergency responders took immediate backup measures, she noted.

"We will look into this further and come up with the next steps to mitigate another situation if it ever occurs. I want to make it perfectly clear that the 911 centre was fully functional. It was the telephone lines that were compromised."

It remains uncertain what caused the disruption, a widespread outage that also included parts of British Columbia and Ontario.

"We are still investigating," said company spokesman Chris Gerritsen, who characterized the incident as highly unusual.

As a backup plan, fire crews and police bolstered their presence on city streets. Some calls were even dispatched using Twitter and other forms of social media.

No one was hurt as a result of the disruption.

"As far as I know, all of the incidents we are aware of were responded to," said Bruce Burrell, the city's director of emergency management.

Calgary police Supt. James Hardy said officers increased their presence on city streets and handled a difficult situation well.

The network was not fully restored until about 2:40 a.m. Thursday. "Had it continued, we'd have to take other steps," he said. "We're going to look at a review from Telus to see how we can do better."

(Calgary Herald)

Sep 20 2013

EDMONTON - A panel on legal issues facing people with fetal alcohol spectrum disorder is recommending conditional sentences would be better for those convicted of offences.

Ian Binnie, a former Supreme Court justice, chaired a panel which heard evidence from experts over three days in Edmonton.

Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder is a group

of conditions that can occur in a person whose mother drank alcohol during pregnancy; conditions can include a range of physical, behaviour and learning problems.

On Friday, the jury came up with statement advocating that the federal government amend the Criminal Code to provide for conditional sentences for people with FASD.

Binnie said right now, judges have to sentence according to mandatory minimum sentences for various crimes brought in over the years by the Harper government.

But Binnie says people with FASD can't adjust to the structure of jail, and then parole. (CHED)

Sep 20 2013

EDMONTON - Just six days after the release of its controversial web series The Squad, Edmonton police were already looking at cancelling the reality show, emails and documents show.

Launched April 19, the internally produced videos followed a West Division squad as they responded to real calls and patrolled city streets.

Police had intended to release a 12-week season, with a new episode posted on the police YouTube page every Friday. Instead, the series was cancelled. All references to it were removed from the Edmonton Police Service website, and the videos taken down.

Documents obtained by the Journal through a freedom of information request show the scheduled weekly release appeared to quickly hit a snag, with only two episodes ever posted.

Launched with the intent give the public a behind-the-scenes look at policing in Edmonton, The Squad was produced by the department's digital media unit with a total budget of about \$5,000.

Following the release of the first episode, Screaming Man, the series was challenged by some community critics, who saw it as exploitative entertainment at the expense of vulnerable people. Some wondered whether the subject in the episode — a man screaming from the darkness of the river valley — suffered from mental illness, while others pointed out many homeless people find shelter in river valley encampments.

The second episode, Clothes Overboard, shows officers investigating an alleged domestic dispute, described as a "lovers' spat."

None of the people shown in the videos signed release waivers, deputy police chief Brian Simpson told the Journal days after the series launched. Instead, faces were blurred out and major landmarks were avoided. Simpson also said each episode was vetted by police lawyers.

But enough problems persisted that the series was cancelled May 17 after "weighing the risks and benefits," Jeff Awid, a member of the digital media unit, wrote in an undated

internal memo.

He described the series as popular with the public, with the first episode receiving more than 16,000 online views.

(Edmonton Journal)

**SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2013**

Sep 21 2013

SAANICH - Saanich Police Chief Const. Mike Chadwick has announced he will retire at the end of January.



"I'll be 60 next year, and I promised my wife I wouldn't be doing this when I was 60," Chadwick told the Times Colonist.

The Saanich police department has historically hired from within, promoting the deputy chief instead of holding an open competition for the job.

The current deputy chief is Bob Downie.

Chadwick has been chief since September 2009, moving up after eight years as deputy chief. He has been with the department since 1975.

Chadwick said he plans on doing some travelling with his wife, Suzanne, a retired 911 communications operator. The couple has five children and three grandchildren.

(Times Colonist)

Sep 21 2013

HALIFAX - A police officer who was stabbed twice outside a homeless shelter in downtown Halifax has been released from hospital.

Halifax Regional Police say a 31-year-old man is due in provincial court Monday to face charges including attempted murder, aggravated assault and assaulting a police officer.

The officer, a constable who has been with the force for six years, was rushed to hospital Friday night after he was wounded in the neck and forearm.

Two officers went to the Metro Turning Point shelter at around 8:30 p.m. to arrest a suspect wanted on an arrest warrant.

Investigators say the man was spotted on the steps outside the emergency shelter, but he fled when he saw police.

Const. Pierre Bourdages says the man later turned on one of the officers and stabbed him in the neck.

Bourdages says the man was later Tasered by the other officer and taken into custody

and a knife was recovered at the scene.

Bourdages says the suspect failed to appear in court Friday on a charge of assault with a weapon and police learned that he was at the shelter.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2013

Sep 22 2013

STEINBACH - Two RCMP officers had to be treated in a Steinbach hospital early Saturday morning after their cruiser was struck by a vehicle driven by an alleged drunk driver.

The officers and four occupants of a Buick Century suffered non life-threatening injuries following the crash on Road 37 North in the RM of Ste. Anne at 1 a.m.

Police allege the driver of the Buick ran a stop sign and caused the collision.

Cameron Kostash, 24, of the community of Richer faces a number of charges, including four counts of criminal negligence causing bodily harm, four counts of impaired driving causing bodily harm and three counts of uttering threats to kill a police officer.

He was also charged with resisting arrest, and is being held in custody at the Winnipeg Remand Centre.

At the time of the incident, Kostash was also under charges of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle stemming from a separate incident, RCMP said.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 2013

Sep 23 2013

OTTAWA - There is no "mass phenomenon" of homegrown radicalization in Canada, Prime Minister Stephen Harper said Monday amid troubling reports of a potential Canadian terror link to the deadly shopping mall attack in Kenya.



Two Canadians are among the 62 confirmed fatalities in the Nairobi raid and hostage-taking by the Somalia-based, al-Qaida-linked group al-Shabab. More than 175 people were injured in the assault that began

Saturday and remained unresolved Monday afternoon.

Monday was a busy day in Canada on the terrorism front.

Federal lawyers were in an Edmonton courtroom arguing against Omar Khadr being moved from a maximum security federal penitentiary to a provincial jail. The 27-year-old Canadian spent years imprisoned at Guantamo Bay before pleading guilty to terrorism charges in a U.S. military court in 2010.

And in Toronto, federal prosecutors bypassed a preliminary hearing and sent two men directly to trial for an alleged terror plot against a Via Rail train.

Canadians have also been implicated in last January's deadly Algerian gas plant

attack, and a Canadian has been named by Bulgarian officials as a suspect in last year's bus bombing in Burgas.

Harper, however, waved off any suggestion that a pattern is emerging.

"I'm not worried about such a thing as a mass phenomenon, but obviously there are always cases that we follow very closely and work with our international partners on."

Sep 24 2013

KENORA - Members of the Treaty Three Police board of directors have decided to appoint the inspector of the Souix Lookout OPP detachment, Dan Davidson, as interim police chief. Davidson will take over from outgoing

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police chief Conrad DeLaronde who announced his intention to resign from the troubled police force in early August.

The police board has not said how long they expect to keep Davidson in charge of the force as interim police chief. Members of the police board are declining interview requests.

Davidson has spent his career policing Northwest communities, which he began as a constable in Red Lake in 1991. He was also a constable in Cobourg, Ontario, eventually moving on to become a detective in Thunder Bay in 1999. He has worked for the past 13 years as detective inspector of Sioux Lookout's OPP detachment where he has had experience working with both the Treaty Three Police and the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service.

"We met with Mr. Davidson twice in Kenora and we were very impressed with his studied and committed outlook on community policing," said the chairman of the police board, Eli Mandamin. "This seems to be an excellent fit under the present circumstances."

Davidson may find himself in charge of a troubled police force when he officially takes the reigns from DeLaronde on Oct. 18. Over the past several months the aboriginal police service has been rocked by labour dispute where management broke the officers' collective contract after saying it could not afford to abide by it.

Before a new police board was elected by the Treaty 3 chiefs and negotiations began with the officers' union, DeLaronde found himself the target of much criticism and anger from officers and their supporters both publicly and on social media. He has been accused of being "anti-union" by representatives of Public Service Alliance of Canada.

Despite the anger pointed at him by his own officers at the end of his time as police chief, the police board said DeLaronde is to be commended for the years of leadership he has provided the force. DeLaronde became Treaty Three Police Chief in 2008 after 23 years with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

The police board and the union have been in closed-door meetings since August discussing how the two sides intend to find a compromise on contentious issues such as wage and benefit cuts to keep the police force inside a budget which is not set to increase by much over the next four years.

The police board is promising to shed some light on what the police force's current situation is at an open house being planned in Kenora on Oct. 10.

(Kenora Daily Miner and News)

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

Sep 24 2013

CALGARY - Police say they've made the city's biggest methamphetamine bust, seizing more than \$1 million worth of drugs and weapons.



Two men were arrested Sept. 11 in a north-east Calgary parking lot after a gang unit investigation that began in July.

The suspected drug traffickers posed a high risk to public safety, police say.

Police searched two vehicles and discovered a cache of drugs and weapons. In one vehicle, they seized 10 kilograms of crystal methamphetamine, 260 grams of crack cocaine and almost \$9,500 in cash.

In the second vehicle, more methamphetamine was found, along with powdered and crack cocaine, a loaded .22 calibre handgun with an extended magazine, a GPS tracking device, police-type radios, gloves and balaclavas, an axe, baton, hammer, pry bar and two bats.

Jason Quinn Antonio, 38, of Calgary, is charged with two counts of possession for the purpose of trafficking and one count of possession of proceeds of crime.

Further drug and weapons charges are pending.

Jose Rodolfo Cruz Rivera, 59, of Calgary, has been charged with one count of trafficking a controlled substance.

(Calgary Herald)

Sep 24 2013

CALGARY - The man who an Alberta senior says claimed her rental property as a "sovereign embassy" had a warrant issued for his arrest in Quebec when he stopped showing up in the middle of his assault trial.

Andreas Pirelli, who sources have confirmed also goes by Mario Antonacci, was in the middle of a trial in Montreal in May 2010 when media reports say he failed to show up and a warrant was issued.

The charges stemmed from a 2007 incident in which a landlady was allegedly thrown down a flight of stairs and broke several bones.

The Alberta senior, Rebekah Caverhill, has

been locked in a two-year battle with Pirelli who she says identified himself as a follower of the Freeman-on-the-Land movement and has refused to leave the property.

A Calgary judge has now ordered Pirelli to vacate the premises by 12:01 a.m. Saturday.

Pirelli did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the Quebec charges.

Sep 24 2013

TORONTO - After a turbulent relationship with the outgoing head of Ontario's police watchdog, Toronto Police Chief Bill Blair says he expects an "excellent working relationship" with the agency's incoming director.

Next month, veteran Crown attorney Tony Loparco, who currently runs the Crown office in Scarborough, will step into the role of head of Ontario's Special Investigations Unit.

"He's a very experienced Crown, well-known by my officers, and very respected," Chief Blair said in an interview with The Globe and Mail Monday.

"I have every confidence of Mr. Loparco's background – he'll bring his experience, and he'll have our full support to do the important work he has to do."

Mr. Loparco takes over the SIU during a particularly tumultuous time for the agency and its relationship with the Toronto Police. Ian Scott, whose five-year term ends next month, was an outspoken critic of Toronto's force. Just last month, he singled out Chief Blair, accusing the chief of not co-operating with the SIU.

"He doesn't answer my letters, and I think if he bought into the concept [of public confidence in civilian oversight], there would be a freer discourse and dialogue between the two of us," Mr. Scott told The Globe and Mail last month.

In response at the time, Mark Pugash, the spokesman for the Toronto Police, called Mr. Scott's comments "totally wrong," and referred to a 2011 report by former Ontario chief justice Patrick LeSage saying that police chiefs must report to police boards, and not to the SIU.

When asked whether he has any regrets on the way the situation was handled, Chief Blair said "not at all. I didn't engage with Mr. Scott on the matter."

He said that his responsibility is to ensure that officers co-operate with the SIU in investigations, and that all SIU directors – including Mr. Scott – have received this co-operation.

"Mr. Scott's free to make whatever comments, and he's made them. I'm not going to debate the law with Mr. Scott," he said. "I do, however, look forward to working collaboratively with his successor."

(Globe and Mail)

In a recruitment coup of doll-sized proportions, Barbie will be joining the ranks of the RCMP, but only while supplies last.



RCMP Barbie is one of the newest additions to the Dolls of the World collection, which includes Barbies in traditional dress from various countries.

Barbie appears serious about her career move into law enforcement, as she's dressed in a close replica of the uniform Mounties currently wear: scarlet tunic with cross strap and belt, navy breeches with a yellow stripe, Strathcona riding boots and a Stetson, which "can be removed to reveal her bright red hair," according to the official RCMP retail site.

While RCMP Barbie is officially licensed by the RCMP Foundation, the noted fashion plate has been allowed to maintain her sense of style. Her red hair would normally have to be worn pulled back in a bun, and her heeled boots would, of course, be flat.

"She's making a fashion statement," said Bianca McGregor, the RCMP Heritage Centre's director of marketing and strategic partnerships.

The doll also comes with a pink passport, presumably in case she takes on any international investigations.

RCMP Barbie is a limited-edition doll, with only 1,200 released for sale at \$29.99. The Heritage Centre in Regina received 100 to sell in its gift shop, but the doll is also available at the official RCMP shop online. The Centre hopes to secure more, McGregor said.

A portion of the proceeds from the sale of each doll will go to the RCMP Foundation, which supports programs for at-risk youth.

(CTV News)

Sep 24 2013

CALGARY - Calgary's Chief of Police, Rick Hanson, will stay on as the city's top cop and has had his contract extended until 2018.



The announcement was made on Tuesday afternoon at the Calgary Police Commission.

"The commission had struck an ad hoc committee to review the contract. After several months of negotiations, commission has now unanimously agreed to extend the chief's contract," said Calgary Police Commission Chair, Mike Shaikh.

Hanson joined the CPS in 1975 and took the helm as chief in 2007.

He has a degree in Social Sciences from the U of C and was Chief Superintendent in charge of Integrated and Federal Policing with the RCMP "K" Division before becoming Calgary chief.

"Under Chief Hanson's leadership, which has been exceptionally great because we have been able to reduce crime by 35 percent, we have a satisfaction ratio, citizen satisfaction ratio, of 96 percent, based on a 2012 survey, we believe that this is the leadership we want to have continue for the next few years to come," said Shaikh.

"We have a chief that gets it. We have a chief that really understands the drivers of crime, who understands that the police service is about much more than putting bad guys away but is about addressing all of those elements in the community that impact the community and that keep us all safe. We have the best chief in the country, without question, and I'm thrilled that he has agreed to stay on," said Mayor Naheed Nenshi.

"I said it when I came, six year ago, and I'll say it again, you can only function in this role when you have the support of the commission, the mayor and council, and the members of the service," said Hanson. "As we move forward, I'm just appreciative of that support and you have to have that to move forward."

Hanson's contract was last extended in 2010 to 2015 and Tuesday's announcement extends that by an additional three years.

(CTV News)



Sep 25 2013

SYDNEY, N.S. - A Nova Scotia provincial court judge has thrown out cases involving eight people after ruling a Cape Breton police officer preparing informations didn't have sufficient knowledge of what they contained.

Judge Jean Whalen says nine informations filed by Const. Mary Gibbons of the Cape Breton Regional Police weren't valid.

A written decision released Tuesday by Whalen says the constable did not have personal knowledge, nor reasonable and probable grounds to believe an offence had been committed.

Gibbons had testified that prior to swear-

ing an information, she did not review the Crown sheet, occurrence reports or any other reports, or speak to the investigating officer.

She said she believed the investigating officers had reasonable and probable grounds to believe an offence had been committed, and if not, the sergeant would have grounds.

Whalen's ruling said her decision wasn't meant to harm the veteran officer's reputation, but rather to point out that her job wasn't to blindly follow the instructions of a superior.

She also said superior officers who issue instructions for informations to be laid should have provided Gibbons with all the information she needed.

Desiree Vassallo, spokeswoman for the Cape Breton Regional Police Service, says the police force changed its process for swearing informations about a year ago.

She said several hundred informations were in question and, working with the local Crown attorney office, they were all amended and resworn.

The police service has since assigned one officer to swearing informations.

The Crown says it intends to appeal the ruling.

(Cape Breton Post)

Sep 25 2013

WINNIPEG - A Winnipeg judge has ruled out a mandatory three-year prison term for a mentally disabled man convicted in a firearms case, saying it would be too harsh and out of line with his fundamental rights.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice Colleen Suche has, instead, sentenced Mario Adamo to time served and three years of supervised probation after finding him guilty of possessing a prohibited gun.

The Crown had wanted five years for the 39-year-old, who was arrested in April 2009 when police discovered a loaded gun at his mother's home, along with a list of gang members and a bulletproof vest.

Adamo was beaten by two Hells Angels gang members in 2000 and left severely cognitively impaired.

Court of Queen's Bench Justice Colleen Suche says the federal prison system lacks the ability to deal with Adamo's mental health needs.

Parliament enacted the three-year mandatory sentence in May 2008 to help crack down on gang-related gun crime, but it's believed Suche's ruling could trigger a legal battle in the Court of Appeal.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Sep 25 2013

TORONTO - Police in Ontario say they have interrupted an international drug ring after they found 24 kilograms of

heroin, some of which was woven into carpets seized at Toronto's Pearson International Airport.



Eleven people, mostly residents of the Greater Toronto Area, are facing 76 drug charges in the investigation that police have dubbed Project Infinity.

The joint investigation between provincial and Toronto police as well as the Canada Border Services Agency began in June 2010, when border services agents at Pearson airport found 15 kilograms of heroin hidden inside 27 carpets.

In total throughout the investigation police seized 160 kilograms of ephedrin, which is used to make crystal meth, 24 kilograms of heroin, 20 kilograms of ecstasy, four kilograms of crystal meth, a kilogram of cocaine and nearly a kilogram of opium.

Police say the drugs were found not only in carpets, but also concealed in crockery, vanilla powder, silver plates and a wooden clock.

Sep 25 2013

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. - A rural municipal police chief in Saskatchewan who is under investigation for his conduct has been fired.

Ron Boechler had been head of the police service in the RM of Corman Park since 2010.

Boechler went on medical leave in February and was placed on administrative leave in April.

The RM's board of police commissioners says the chief was sacked after he refused to be interviewed by Prince Albert police, who are investigating a complaint about his conduct.

Details of the circumstances surrounding the complaint have not been released.

The board says Boechler was asked in August to meet with an investigator, but he refused the request last week and was fired.

(CJWW)

Sep 25 2013

WINDSOR, Ont. - A Windsor police officer has been handed a conditional sentence after being convicted of assault.

Video surveillance showed Const. Kent Rice - a 14-year veteran - punching and kicking a man in a stairwell in February 2012.

While Rice avoids jail, the conviction means he will have a criminal record, and as part of his one-year probation he must

complete 60 hours of community service.

Rice's future with the Windsor Police Service will now be decided at a Police Act hearing.

Lawyer Andrew Bradie had asked for a conditional sentence for Rice, telling the court that the victim, Gladson Chinyangwa, did not suffer any injuries.

The Crown sought a range in sentencing from a suspended sentence to a maximum of one day in jail.

(CKLW)

Sep 25 2013

LANDIS, Sask. - Hazardous material crews were cleaning up oil spilled from a Canadian National train car that derailed close to a small community in western Saskatchewan early Wednesday.

RCMP said 17 rail cars - some carrying flammable petroleum, ethanol and chemicals - came off the tracks after 4 a.m. within 500 to 700 metres of the village of Landis, west of Saskatoon.

"The spill involved a petroleum product that is not considered highly explosive," Sgt. Grant Rusk said.

"Because of the flammable nature of some of the other rail-car contents, and the proximity to Landis and the school, the decision was made to close the Landis School for the day while the contents of the damaged cars were unloaded."

No one was injured.

Chandler said some of the cars were on their sides and CN crews were working to clean up the area.

"One of the derailed cars is leaking lube oil," he said from Edmonton.

The Saskatchewan government said one of the other derailed cars contains ethanol and was on its side, but was not leaking.

Sep 25 2013

OTTAWA - A Federal Court judge has set aside a move by the firearms lobby to have Quebec's long gun registry data destroyed immediately.

The court stayed a motion brought by Canada's National Firearms Association and a Quebec gun dealer, saying federal legislation abolishing the registry is still under litigation.

The Conservative government in Ottawa abolished the registry last year but Quebec fought to preserve the provincial data, saying it wanted to start its own gun registry.

The Quebec Court of Appeal ruled the federal legislation was valid and that the data should be destroyed - as it has been elsewhere in Canada - but the province is seeking a leave to appeal the case to the Supreme Court of Canada.

The long gun registry remains in effect in Quebec as the provincial government argues the law is unconstitutional.

Federal Court judge Sean Harrington says it would be "entirely inappropriate" to order

the destruction of records that are the heart of an ongoing court appeal.

Sep 25 2013

MANNING, Alta. - A Mountie patrolling a highway in northern Alberta had a bright spot during his shift - he saw a fireball crossing the sky.

A camera in the cruiser captured it so he could show people what he saw.

Mounties in Manning say the officer was driving on Highway 35 near the hamlet of Hawk Hills on Saturday night when the meteor streaked across the sky.

The Telus World of Science in Edmonton confirmed the sighting.

Manning is about six hours north of Edmonton.

Sep 25 2013

MONTREAL - A published report says the Canada Revenue Agency gave the former head of the Montreal Mafia a tax refund of \$381,737 to which he was not entitled.

Nick Rizzuto was arrested as part of a sweeping police operation in November 2006 and sent to prison.

Enquete, an investigative program on Radio-Canada, says Rizzuto received a cheque dated Sept. 13, 2007 for more than \$381,000 at a time when, according to the program, he owed tax authorities \$1.5 million.

A photo of a cheque worth \$381,737 made out to Rizzuto was posted on Radio-Canada's website on Wednesday.

Radio-Canada, the French-language CBC network, quoted Jean-Pierre Paquette, a former Canada Revenue Agency auditor, as saying he told the Rizzuto family not to cash the cheque and that he even went to Rizzuto's home to get the cheque.

Paquette said he believes the cheque was probably the work of a corrupt civil servant.

Sep 25 2013

TORONTO - Nearly five months after suffering sudden cardiac arrest during Toronto's Half Marathon, Toronto Police Const. Andrew Rosbrook is on a team of over 250 law enforcement professionals participating in the National Peace Officers' Memorial 'Run To Remember.'

His commitment to run his 4th relay, which began Sept. 26, is in part because of a MIKEY defibrillator. The 460 km 'Run to Remember' started at the Ontario Police Memorial site at Queens Park in Toronto and ends three days later in Ottawa where the annual Police and Peace Officers' Memorial Service happens on Parliament Hill.

In May, 2013, as Rosbrook was about to finish his race, he collapsed with no sign of breathing or heartbeat. In seconds, Det. Const. Laurie McCann with an off-duty doctor and a

paramedic trainee performed CPR until paramedics arrived with a portable MIKEY.

After being shocked once, Rosbrook's heart began beating. He was then taken by ambulance to hospital. A stent was placed in his left descending artery, which had become completely blocked. Three days later he was released, and a month later he was running again.

Said Mikey Network Chairman Hugh Heron, "Const. Rosbrook is our 16th save. His miraculous recovery has allowed him to participate in a sport that he loves, and is true testimony to his second chance at life."

In a recent Facebook post Rosbrook said, "I am doing this run not only to give thanks to fallen officers and support their families, but to illustrate and highlight the awesome benefit of AED's, the crucial role MIKEY played in my survival and recovery and my hope that one day they'll be as commonplace in our society as fire extinguishers."

Rosbrook will be participating in the relay with Const. McCann, now a good friend, who helped save his life five months ago.

The Mikey Network, founded in 2003, is a registered Canadian charity working to create public awareness and provide education about heart healthy lifestyles. To date, over 1,350 MIKEY defibrillators have been placed across Canada, and 16 lives have now been saved.

(CNW)

Sep 25 2013

Drugged driving has been a safety issue of increasing public concern but its role in motor vehicle crashes had not been adequately examined.

In a new study conducted at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, researchers assessed the association of driver drug use, as well as the combination of drugs and alcohol, with the risk of fatal crash.

They found that drug use is associated with a significantly increased risk of fatal crash involvement, particularly when used in combination with alcohol. The study provides critical data for understanding the joint effect of alcohol and drugs on driving safety.

Data for the study came from two national information systems sources sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration: the 2007 National Roadside Survey of Alcohol and Drug Use by Drivers and the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), a repository of investigation data for all crashes that resulted in at least one fatality within 30 days of the crash and that occurred on a public road.

This second data source also contains detailed information about the crash circumstances as well as individuals and vehicles involved in the crash. This is the first study to use both data sources to quantify relative risks of fatal crash involvement associated with different drugs.

Results of the Mailman School study led by Guohua Li, MD, DrPH, professor of

Epidemiology and director of the Center for Injury Epidemiology and Prevention, show that 31.9% of the drivers involved in fatal car crashes (cases) and 13.7% of the drivers interviewed at the roadside survey (controls) tested positive for at least one non-alcohol drug.

Overall, drivers testing positive for drugs were three times as likely as those testing negative to be involved in a fatal crash. Among the drugs studied, depressants conferred the highest risk, followed by stimulants, narcotics, and marijuana.

Elevated blood alcohol levels were found in 57.0% of the cases and 8.8% of the controls; and the risk of fatal crash involvement



increased exponentially as these levels rose. About one-fifth (20.5%) of the cases tested positive for alcohol and one or more drugs, compared with 2.2% of the controls.

Relative to drivers who tested positive for neither alcohol nor drugs, the odds of fatal crash involvement increased by more than 13 times for those who were alcohol-positive but drug-negative, more than two-fold for those who were alcohol-negative but drug-positive, and 23 times for those who were positive for both alcohol and drugs.

While heightened risk of fatal crash involvement associated with driver drug use was comparable across demographic groups and geographic regions, Dr. Li cautions that


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findings need to be carefully interpreted.

First, a positive test indicates that the driver had used the drug detected but does not necessarily mean that the driver was impaired by the drug at the time of crash or survey.

Secondly, variations in individual tolerance and pharmacological characteristics of different drugs make it difficult to determine drug impairment. Also, there is no uniformly accepted definition of impairment for different drugs.

"The possible interaction of drugs in combination with alcohol on driving safety has long been a concern," said Dr. Li, who is also professor of Anesthesiology at Columbia.

"While alcohol-impaired driving remains the greatest threat to traffic safety, these findings about drugged driving are particularly salient in light of the increases in the availability of prescription stimulants and opioids over the past decade."

(Accident Analysis and Prevention, EurekAlert)

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

Sep 26 2013

OTTAWA – What started as a one-off charity fundraiser has become the subject of frantic bidding, as members of the public seeking tickets for sold-out tours of Kingston Penitentiary search online for sellers.

The last batch of 2,000 tickets to take a rare, inside look at Kingston Pen sold out within half an hour on Wednesday. But public demand for tours of the infamous prison, which closes Sept 30, after 178 years of operation, remains sky-high.

Several people posted online, pleading for tickets, and offering to pay several times the \$20 face value or asking potential sellers to name a price.

Multiple posters listed themselves as willing to pay \$75 per ticket for the chance to take a 90-minute tour of the penitentiary, which has housed Canada's most notorious criminals.

"A friend and I made arrangements to come from out of town just for this tour and now it is sold out," one poster from Cambridge, Ont wrote. "Please if any are available please contact me."

Correctional Services Canada is closing the maximum-security penitentiary at the end of September.

Proceeds from the tours – which take place from Oct. 2 to Oct. 20 – will go to the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox and Addington United Way branch, which has sold 9,000 tickets overall.

The federal government announced last year the maximum-security facility that housed notorious killers Paul Bernardo and Russell Williams would close.

The closure of Kingston Penitentiary, a national historic site, and the medium-security Leclerc Institution in Quebec, would

save \$120 million a year, according to the federal government.

The prison was opened on June 1, 1835 as the Provincial Penitentiary of the Province of Upper Canada.

(Postmedia)

Sep 26 2013

HALIFAX - RCMP officers working in rural or remote postings often had little in the way of backup.

When there was no one else to turn to, the officers turned to their wives who took on roles like answering phones, dispatching their husbands to calls and providing a female presence when there were female prisoners.

The RCMP recognized the contributions of police wives last week in Halifax, where 34 women from across Nova Scotia were presented with a certificate of appreciation and the Second Man Award, an honorary, silver brooch with the RCMP's crest for their efforts over the years. More than 450 of the awards are being handed out across the country.

The idea behind the awards came from the book, *When the Second Man was a Woman* by Ruth Lee-Knight, which chronicles the stories of some of these RCMP wives from across Canada who were often called upon to perform a range of duties in support of police operations.

The call went out to RCMP officers across the country to nominate women they believed deserved the award.

(Kings County News)

Sep 26 2013

WINNIPEG - A judge has ruled a maximum youth sentence isn't enough for a Winnipeg teen with severe cognitive disorders who went on a violent and bloody crime spree.

Provincial court Judge Lynn Stannard has instead given the teen a seven-year adult sentence for a series of random attacks in September 2011 that put six people in hospital with stab wounds.

The teen, who was 15 at the time of the assaults, had pleaded guilty to numerous charges of assault, robbery and attempted robbery.

Court heard he was free on bail at the time after being charged for choking a female group-home worker with a telephone cord after she refused to let him use the phone in March 2011.

Court was also told the youth abuses alcohol and drugs and has been involved in gang life since the age of 13.

A judge ruled that the maximum youth sentence of two years of custody and a year of community supervision isn't long enough to hold him accountable, or allow any rehabilitation in jail to take effect.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Sep 26 2013

PENTICTON, B.C. - A former Summerland, B.C., RCMP officer

convicted of murdering his common-law wife is fighting both his conviction and sentence.

Keith Wiens was found guilty in July of the second degree murder of Lynn Kalmring and was ordered to spend a minimum of 13 years in prison before parole eligibility.

The B.C. Supreme Court jury that heard the case in Kelowna deliberated for just a few hours before recommending Wiens spend at least 20 years behind bars before being allowed to apply for parole, while the Crown requested a 15 minimum.

The 57-year-old has now filed court documents stating the 13-year parole restriction is excessive, given his unblemished past.

Wiens is also appealing his conviction, arguing trial Judge Geoff Barrow did not give proper weight to certain trial evidence.

Wiens said he shot Kalmring in self defence when she lunged at him with a knife, but Barrow ruled the August 2011 murder in the couple's Penticton home was impulsive, senseless and alcohol-fuelled, prompted by an increasingly bitter eight-month battle over finances.

(CKOR)

Sep 26 2013

SAINTE-ANNE-DE-SOREL, Que. - Police have found the body of a notorious murderer and former Hells Angels gangster who recently escaped from a minimum-security federal prison northeast of Montreal.

Police believe 48-year-old Rene Charlebois committed suicide in an island home in Sainte-Anne-de-Sorel, on the St-Lawrence River.

Officers arrived early Thursday morning with an arrest warrant for Charlebois. The chalet was rented, but not in the biker's name, police said.

Prison guards discovered that he was missing Sept. 14 during a head count at the Montee Saint-Francois prison in the Montreal suburb of Laval.

Charlebois, who was reportedly close with incarcerated former Hells leader Maurice "Mom" Boucher, started serving a 20-year sentence in federal prison in 2003.

He was arrested in a 2001 biker roundup and sources told QMI Agency that Charlebois had said "the day I get out of (prison) I won't be coming back."

Charlebois later pleaded guilty to murdering Claude DeSerre, a Hells member-turned-police informant. DeSerre's body was found in February 2000 about 70 km north of Montreal. He was tied up in a chalet and shot in the head.

When police found his body they discovered that an audio recording device they gave DeSerre captured the last moments of his death, including the voice of his murderer.

The Correctional Service of Canada has opened an investigation to try to determine how Charlebois escaped.

(Toronto Sun)