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Morality, marijuana and boots on the ground

I was recently introduced to a position paper by Jeff Wheeldon, who ran for the Green Party in the Manitoba riding of Provencher. He came in third in a three person race. At some level, however, I would be pleased if he had won as he clearly understands the nature of morality in legislation.

Wheeldon's paper Morality, Marijuana and Legislation offers a good lesson in the intricacies of the laws of our land. Our newly elected law-makers would do well to read it before they consider dumping more laws on an unsuspecting public.

Wheeldon pointed out that our law is often based on morals, but it is just as often based on social and political goals, needs (e.g., funding needs require taxes), and bad precedents (i.e., a lot of legislation is in place to clean up other legislation). Not everything that is against the law is necessarily immoral, and not everything that is immoral is illegal (e.g., adultery).

In order to have just legislation, Wheeldon wrote, it must be both just and enforceable, and must not have unintended consequences or results that cause harm. A law that is itself unjust (e.g., discriminatory, exploitative or immoral) should not exist. But a just law that cannot hope to be enforced is also wrong, as it undermines the value of the law in general and sets up mixed expectations regarding law enforcement.

The main thrust of Wheeldon's paper is, of course, in support of legalizing marijuana. Do we want police to be the sole touchstone for this societal issue? We must also debate whether we should dispense with a law on moral grounds before the facts of the matter are fully disclosed and understood.

Before we look at legalizing pot, we must consider that advocates do not speak of how to control people who drive and smoke weed. Studies show the drug distorts time and distance so now we are back to police controlling drivers who partake in a recreational drug. So much for the promised reduction in enforcement costs.

Another issue not addressed is how to handle the new health issues. Cigarettes are bad enough but now we want to compound this by encouraging the use of another toxic substance, putting more pressure on our already cash strapped health system. Cops will be happy... until legislators pass laws limiting the sale and use of marijuana, to be enforced by our already cash strapped police agencies.

There's a reason they call pot a weed. Just about anyone can grow it. Legalization advocates promise millions in new taxes from happy users. As with contraband cigarettes widely available under the counter at a store near you users would be even happier to buy their pot tax free. Combating that tax avoidance will cost plenty, eating up more of the promised enforcement savings.

THC is fat soluble. It stays in the system and does not easily purge from the body. Alcohol does and leaves abusers with a painful reminder of their over imbibing. All a THC abuser has to do is go on a diet and the gift of legalized pot keeps on giving as the pounds burn off. A couple of high flashes and another person on the road is killed. Another hit on the promised savings in enforcement costs.

In a cold and callous way I would prefer other jurisdictions take the chances. We should thank Washington, Colorado and now British Columbia for their look-the-other-way attitude. Studies are beginning to give us a picture of what happens when we encourage our kids to smoke pot (because the word legalized tells them so) and perhaps now we will get a clearer picture of its true effects on society. However, they (and we) must assume a doctrine of acceptable losses of human life. Are the politicians ready to do so?

We can learn from all this and, given what we currently know, institute effective countermeasures before legalization. I suggest we begin with compulsory blood tests for motorists. Of course, this can only be done after determining the level of THC we will tolerate on a permanent basis. Once the threshold of accumulated THC-to-fat ratio has been determined, motorists exceeding it must be banned for life or until their levels magically return to, uh... normal.

I have often said that most of a cop's job is keeping people from their own misadventure. Keep ratcheting up the opportunities for misadventure and cops will always be gainfully employed, and in ever increasing numbers.

To my friends who pontificate about legalizing marijuana, and any other drug de jure, remember that it's easy to talk about the morality of creating or dispensing with legislation but quite another when the boots hit the ground. At the other end of it all saving tax dollars will never be in the mix.
A new counter-terrorism strategy released in May by the Edmonton Police Service (EPS) has been progressing well, says Insp. Chad Tawfik.

The strategy “has involved ongoing collaborative efforts with our partners in law enforcement, including the RCMP Integrated National Security Enforcement Team (INSET), as well as building upon our existing community engagement and partnerships.”

Tawfik says the EPS developed the strategy in response to a growing number of national events and areas requiring increased attention.

“It wasn’t any one specific incident that prompted the creation of the counter-terrorism strategy, but, let’s face it, we can’t pretend that the threat doesn’t exist anymore,” he explains.

A 2015 Senate interim committee report warned Canadians must be vigilant because violent extremism is a real threat to our way of life. The committee was told 93 Canadians were identified as seeking to join Islamist extremist groups like the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), al Qaeda, Boko Haram and al Shabaab; 80 radicalized Canadians participated with terrorists overseas and then returned to Canada; and approximately 145 Canadians were believed to be abroad supporting terrorist groups.

Those numbers have since increased, Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) Director, Michel Coulombe told the committee in the spring.

The EPS counter-terrorism strategy document states terrorist threats have evolved and become more diverse and decentralized, as seen in recent lone terrorist attacks. Threats include criminal incidents and events that may result in injuries, death or property loss; domestic or homegrown extremists who spread propaganda, recruit others, provide money and other resources, or who participate in related criminal activities; and high-risk travellers who travel abroad to participate in terrorist-related activities.

Taking a balanced approach, the strategy doesn’t just limit operations to those already involved in terrorist activities but also aims to keep at-risk individuals from being drawn into radical extremist ideology. It aligns closely with Public Safety Canada’s counter-terrorism strategy and is structured around three key components:
the prevention component encompasses community outreach and building relationships to help understand diverse communities and individuals who are motivated to engage in terrorist activities.

Recognizing that everyone has a responsibility to keep their community safe, the EPS strives to establish understanding, trust and opens lines of communication, empowering citizens to feel they can take an active role in preventing terrorist threats.

Intervention involves intelligence-related activities while still keeping pace with a changing cyber environment, the proliferation of more sophisticated weaponry, emerging telecommunications trends and the accelerated flow of people, resources and ideas from around the world.

The EPS Strategic Intelligence Unit is the conduit between the force and the RCMP-led Integrated National Security Enforcement Team (INSET) and other partner agencies. It maintains the integrity of investigations and ensures there are no gaps in sharing information.

Recognizing that police take a leading role in investigating and suppressing terrorist activities, the EPS strategy also ensures that any police response is carefully designed to manage the actual threat while minimizing interference with the public.

While comprehensive in its design, Tawfik emphasises that community outreach and public involvement is critical. Terrorism thrives on fear. While it’s important to reduce the overall frequency and severity of crime, he stresses it’s equally important to involve the community to reduce the fear and perception of crime.

“IT’s important to understand that this is a socially based issue,” explains Tawfik. “Law enforcement is just one part of the solution. It’s very important for us to build trust and ongoing relationships in the community because it doesn’t matter whether we’re talking about terrorist threats or any other crime, tackling it really has to be a collaborative effort.”

Tony Palermo is a freelance writer and Blue Line Magazine’s eastern Ontario correspondent. He can be reached at tony@blueline.ca
Terrorism is a serious and persistent threat to the safety and security of Canada and its citizens. Terrorist activity includes an act or omission undertaken, inside or outside Canada, for a political, religious or ideological purpose that is intended to intimidate the public with respect to its security, including its economic security, or to compel a person, government or organization (whether inside or outside Canada) from doing or refraining from doing any act, and that intentionally causes one of a number of specified forms of serious harm. (Public Safety Canada)

The RCMP has the primary legislated responsibility for national security related criminal threats in Canada in partnership with intelligence and other law enforcement agencies. The EPS works with the RCMP through INSET and contributes significantly to developing and sustaining an effective integrated national security network. The EPS Counter-Terrorism Strategy focuses the efforts of law enforcement to ensure decisive action is taken toward threats that pose a risk to our community. To succeed, efforts are not limited to operations directed at groups or individuals already involved in terrorist activities, but are also preventative and aimed at keeping at-risk individuals from being drawn into destructive ideology.

The core objective is to build resilience against terrorism.

The Strategy
There are many terrorist organizations that are designated as security threats and known to be operating in Canada. Terrorist threats have evolved into being more decentralized, as seen in recent lone terrorist attacks, and include threats that are increasingly diverse. Threats manifest themselves in a variety of ways, including:

- Domestic or home-grown extremists are citizens or long-term residents of Canada that identify themselves with extremist beliefs. Extremists may contribute to the problem by:
  - Participating in disseminating propaganda and/or demonstrations;
  - Providing capital or instrumental in resources;
  - Assisting to recruiting others; or
  - Through criminal activism.

- High-risk travelers are radicalized individuals who travel abroad to participate in terrorist related activities. As the number of persons identified as possible or past high-risk travellers increases, so does the risk of terrorism incidents occurring in our communities. Revoked passports of potential high-risk travellers may further increase risk to our communities.

- Domestic criminal incidents are events that may result in injuries, deaths or property loss. Potential targets for domestic incidents of terrorism include critical infrastructure, such as processes, systems, facilities, technologies,
networks, assets and services essential to the health, safety, security or economic well-being of Canadians and the effective functioning of government. But a potential target might not necessarily be only focused on critical infrastructure or a location designated as a key asset.

Other targets may include largely populated events/locations or those that may be of high political or media exposure.

Recent terrorist events within Canada and internationally also illustrate that targets may appear to be more isolated and random.

**Key Components**

The EPS Counter-Terrorism Strategy has three key components which are necessary to achieve its core objective of building resilience against terrorism. The ultimate goal is a city where individuals and communities are able to withstand violent extremist ideologies.

**Prevention Community Outreach / Prevent**

This component focuses on the motivations of individuals who engage in, or have the potential to engage in, terrorist activities at home and abroad.

In order to be effective, the EPS must build and maintain relationships and partnerships with diverse communities to establish mutual understanding and trust.

Community outreach and engagement will work toward public safety and address threats by building law enforcement’s knowledge and understanding of diverse communities. This helps establish trust and builds a conduit for positive communication.

Citizens also have a responsibility to act and to build strong and supportive local communities. Together we can make certain all of Edmonton’s communities are respected and treated equally.

The EPS Equity, Diversity and Human Rights (EDHR) Section was developed to focus on building these relationships.

It is not about simply targeting individuals that may be susceptible to being radicalized. to violence; rather it is about building respect, confidence and providing support so our city is inclusive of everyone in support of public safety.

This is not a role only for EDHR, as relationship building is a duty for all EPS members.

**Intervention Intelligence/Detect**

Historically, intelligence has focused on identifying terrorists, terrorist organizations and their supporters, capabilities and the nature of their plans. As the terrorist threat changes it is important for law enforcement to be responsive to that change.

Drivers, such as globalization, rapid technological change and an increasingly networked society create new and different vulnerabilities that terrorists seek to exploit.

It is important to keep pace with a changing cyber environment, the proliferation of more sophisticated weaponry, emerging telecommunication trends and the accelerated flow of people, resources and ideas around the world.

By focusing efforts on intelligence, the EPS will stay abreast of current trends and risks, as well as ensuring communication flows between the EPS and its agency partners.

The EPS Strategic Intelligence Unit (SIU) is the conduit between police information and intelligence to the RCMP-led INSET, other law enforcement partners and CSIS. SIU ensures there are no gaps in sharing information and ensures law enforcement efforts are coordinated, deconflicted, and the integrity of investigations are maintained.

**Suppression Investigations/ Deny and Respond**

Terrorist activities are criminal acts and the investigation of those acts will continue to be led by police. In order to guarantee a proportionate and measured response, the actions taken will be carefully designed to manage the actual threat, while minimizing interference with the public as people go about their daily activities.

The EPS currently has members seconded to INSET, multi-agency teams made up of specially trained members of the RCMP and other law enforcement and national security partners at the federal, provincial and municipal levels.

The INSET model provides a cohesive, integrated approach to ensure prevention, early detection and investigation of any potential national-security criminal threats to Canada and the public.

Preparedness is another key factor to success. Dedicated resources are essential to complete and augment an effective and efficient response to terrorism threats. This area of focus further enables a rapid return to ordinary life and reduces the impact and severity of terrorist activity.

**Policing Activities**

The key components of the strategy are to incorporate a broad range of policing duties that are the responsibility of every police officer and not just specialized areas. For example, police first responders could participate with community engagement, routinely gather intelligence or be required for an active police response or investigation at any moment. The EPS has formalized work processes to ensure effective prevention, intervention and suppression processes are in place.

**Alignment with other Strategies**

The EPS strategy is closely aligned with Public Safety Canada’s Strategy on Counter-Terrorism, which has four mutually reinforcing elements Prevent — Detect — Deny — Respond. The functions of these elements are aligned to the EPS Counter—Terrorism key components of Prevention — Intervention — Suppression.

The EPS strategy fits within the organization’s Violence Reduction Strategy (VRS), based on the premise that if we work to impact root causes of violence, we will be successful in decreasing violence overall within our community.

A copy of the report maybe found on the media section of the Edmonton Police website at emontonpolice.ca
by Jill Kenney

The month formerly known as November is upon us, a time when moustaches sprout on thousands of men around the world in the name of men’s health.

During Movember, Canadians band together in teams within their industry to create a network challenge at Movember.com. These create a fun and competitive environment, showcase the collective achievement of the industry and raise awareness and funds for men’s health, particularly prostate and testicular cancer, mental health and physical inactivity. To date, $175 million has been raised in Canada.

Burnaby RCMP’s team, The Burnaby Fuzz, was a part of Movember’s Great Canadian Police Challenge last year. Lead by Insp. Michael Labossiere, members raised $27,742 with fundraising activities that included direct donations, BBQs, and silent and live auctions.

The Burnaby Fuzz eagerly registered for a sixth consecutive year because they believe Movember is such a great cause and very well aligned with their organization and core values of Respect, Accountability, Professionalism, Integrity, Honesty and Compassion.

“Movember is effective, fun and impactful. It also supports causes that affect many RCMP officers and their families,” said Michael Labossiere, Burnaby Fuzz team captain.

“Our team is inclusive of all stakeholders in our community, including co-workers, partners, municipal employees and parents of students.

“Each time someone comes up to me and relates their personal experience on how being involved with our Movember team has positively impacted them or a family members health, it’s such a powerful and memorable thing.”

York Regional Police officers were also a part of the 2014 police challenge. The team’s 100 members raised $25,000.

“Three years ago the York Region Emergency Services Movember Fundraising Challenge was created. This brought together police, fire and EMS personnel in a fun filled challenge to raise funds and awareness for men’s health,” said captain Kevin Swain.

“This light-hearted competition brought us together to work towards a common goal of starting conversations and raising funds to allow Movember to continue supporting men’s health issues, in particular PTSD related illnesses.”

PTSD illnesses are a significant reason why Swain and his colleagues support Movember. They feel it only makes sense to do everything they can to assist colleagues who are suffering in silence. The issue is personal for Swain, who devotes time to sharing his personal story of dealing with PTSD, depression and his own suicide attempt. He understands suicide can be an uncomfortable topic but doesn’t want to see anyone have to go through what he did.

Swain and his colleagues believe the conversations they start today will help someone tomorrow, and the money they raise will fund much needed research to help save hundreds or even thousands of lives.

This year, the Movember Foundation is adding another way to champion men’s health with MOVE; a 30 day fitness challenge to promote physical activity. For Mo Sistas, MOVE is a way to do something tangible in...
the name of men’s health, and for Mo Bros it’s a new challenge. Grow your Mo, MOVE or take things to the next level and do both.

“It’s exciting that there is going to officially be a new way to participate in Movember this year,” Labossiere said. “Personally, I’ll commit to running and swimming. As a team, we plan to organize some MOVE events and some internal fitness competitions.”

“This is such a great idea,” said Swain. “Physical fitness and a healthy lifestyle are imperative for police officers. I’d love to incorporate a “move for MO” session for our members that would encourage everyone to get active for at least 30 minutes while on shift or at home.”

Labossiere and Swain chose to captain their teams because they felt it was important to encourage an enjoyable way to promote men’s health within their agencies. Movember provides a chance to bring health, humour and camaraderie into the workplace and to the community. The moustache is a great conversation starter and an excellent way to bring municipal police and RCMP members together.

From Movember 1st Mo Bros start clean-shaven and groom their way to a fine moustache. Mo Bros and Mo Sistas can also commit to MOVE with the 30-day fitness challenge. Labossiere says “the main thing is to have fun and do good.”

The Rules
1. Once registered at Movember.com each Mo Bro must begin the 1st of Movember with a clean-shaven face.
2. Mo Bros and Mo Sistas can also commit to the MOVE challenge and MOVE everyday of Movember.
3. For the entire month of Movember each Mo Bro must grow and groom a moustache.
4. Don’t fake it. No beards, goatees or fake moustaches.
5. Use the power of the moustache to create conversations about men’s health and to raise funds for prostate and testicular cancer and mental health.
Get involved.
Sign up at Movember.com today!

For more information and to register for this year’s event visit: http://www.ca.movember.com

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The Movember Foundation is a global charity committed to men living happier, healthier longer lives. Since 2003, millions have joined the men’s health movement, raising $677 million and funding over 1,000 programs focusing on prostate and testicular cancer, poor mental health and physical inactivity.

From 30 Mo Bros in 2003 to over five million Mo Bros and Mo Sistas to date, Movember is all about creating positive change for men’s health by raising awareness, educating men year-round and taking over the month formerly known as November.

For more information and to register for this year’s event visit: http://www.ca.movember.com
Order of Merit of the Police Forces

His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada, presided over the annual Order of Merit of the Police Forces investiture ceremonies at Rideau Hall on September 18th, and at the Citadelle on October 5th, 2015.

2015 Appointments

**COMANDER**

Chief Constable James Chu, C.O.M.
Vancouver Police Department

**OFFICERS**

Deputy Chief Roger Chaffin, O.O.M.
Calgary Police Service

Chief Glenn DeCaire, O.O.M.
Hamilton Police Service

Chief Constable Frank Elsner, O.O.M.
Victoria Police Department

Deputy Chief Michael Federico, O.O.M.
Toronto Police Service

A/Commissioner Tracy Hardy, O.O.M.
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Chief Eric Jolliffe, O.O.M.
York Regional Police

A/Commissioner James Malizia, O.O.M.
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Deputy Chief Mark Saunders, O.O.M.
Toronto Police Service

**MEMBERS**

C/Superintendent Michael Armstrong,
Ontario Provincial Police

Superintendent David Attfield,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Sergeant Rob Bernier,
Ottawa Police Service

C/Superintendent Fred Bertucca,
Ontario Provincial Police

Staff Sergeant Ghalib Bhayani,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Inspector Carole Bird,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

C/Superintendent Peter Clark,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Staff Sergeant Ghalib Bhayani,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Chief Richard Bourassa,
Moose Jaw Police Service

Director Serge Boulet, 
Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu Police Service

Staff Sergeant Jacques Brassard,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Superintendent Donald Campbell,
Toronto Police Service

Superintendent Claude Castonguay,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

A/Commissioner Brenda Butterworth-Carr,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

C/Superintendent Gaetan Courchesne,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

C/Superintendent Charles Cox,
Ontario Provincial Police

Chief Dale Cox,
Lakeshore Regional Police Service

Superintendent Joanne Crampton,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Superintendent Len DelPino,
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
On May 18, 2013, constables Nicholas-Yan Charbonneau, Yannick Horion and Sophie Pilon, of the Régie intermunicipale de police Thérèse-de-Blainville, rescued five people from a smoke-filled apartment in Sainte-Thérèse-de-Blainville, Quebec. The victims had tried to escape but had fallen unconscious before they could reach the door. Struggling to breathe in the toxic smoke, the officers entered the house several times to locate the victims and bring them safely outside, one by one.

The decoration awarded to Cst. Pilon will be presented at a later date.

On January 16, 2014, Cst. Robert Hunka of the Truro Police Service rescued an elderly woman from a burning building in Truro, Nova Scotia. Without a mask or any protective equipment, Hunka entered the apartment, which was filled with thick, black smoke. He felt his way along the walls until he located the victim in a bedroom and then carried her outside the apartment building to safety.

On January 23, 2014, 10 police officers from the Sûreté du Québec risked their lives to rescue senior citizens who were trapped by flames during a fire at the Résidence du Havre nursing home in L’Isle-Verte, Quebec. Without any equipment, the officers braved both the extreme cold weather outside, and the heat and toxic smoke filling the hallways inside the three-storey building. They acted quickly as the fire spread, with some victims trapped in their rooms or on their balconies. Sadly, despite the rescuers’ best efforts, 32 people lost their lives in the fire.

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•••

Cst. Robert John Hunka, M.B.
Greenfield, Nova Scotia

On January 16, 2014, Cst. Robert Hunka of the Truro Police Service rescued an elderly woman from a burning building in Truro, Nova Scotia. Without a mask or any protective equipment, Hunka entered the apartment, which was filled with thick, black smoke. He felt his way along the walls until he located the victim in a bedroom and then carried her outside the apartment building to safety.

•••
Blair Foster was "hired off the street" in 1975 and immediately began working as a police officer in Woodstock, New Brunswick since there was no requirement to have police training.

"I worked for about three months and realized I didn't know anything about police work so I applied to the (Atlantic) Police Academy and I was accepted. I left Hartland on January 2, 1976 and started at the police academy on January 3."

After graduating from the academy in December 1976 he joined the Saint John Police Force, working there until May 1977 when he was hired by the Fredericton Police Force.

"I've been here ever since," said Foster, who has worked in various positions from patrol/traffic and accident reconstruction to identification and serving summonses.

He's seen many changes in the way police work is done over the years. "It's not like when we used to walk the beat 40 years ago. We never even had a portable radio when I started out. There was no Charter of Rights and Freedoms. When you arrested someone you didn't have to give them a phone call to a lawyer," Foster recalls.

In 2012 the New Brunswick's Department of Public Safety presented Foster with a Certificate of Recognition for his leadership and commitment to public safety as it related to the Princess Margaret Bridge closure.

Foster was an active member of the organizing committee, according to the government's web site. When the closure was extended in the fall of 2011, he was the first to come forward and found ways to continue the rapid response on the Westmorland Street Bridge. In 2011, Foster and his team responded to 107 incidents on the bridge. In more than half of the cases, his team was on scene before the incident was sent to dispatch.

Foster, who is from Hartland, New Brunswick didn't hesitate when asked why he has stayed with the force so long.

"I enjoy the work," he said. While working as a police officer is enjoyable, "It's a young man's game out in the street," he added.

Fredericton Police Force Chief Leanne Fitch met Foster in 1982 when she was working as a summer park patrol student.

"I clearly recall my first encounter with him — an early lesson learned, as he growled at me for leaving my issued black Police FPF notebook behind in the briefing room, but what I have learned over the years, is that his growl is worse than his bite and that he has a very big heart," Fitch said.

Fitch said Foster has a passion for traffic safety and forensic identification skills, and has had a long, colourful career in policing in New Brunswick.

Foster will be presented with this 40-year bar during a ceremony at Government House in December. He will retire January 3, 2016 with fond memories of both co-workers and the men and women he has met in the line of duty.

"I will be thinking of the people that I've met over the years. It's hard to explain but it's at that point that you can either help them or you can't — and 95 per cent of the time they usually get help. Very few slip through the cracks but a lot of these people are people you'll remember for the rest of your life — and the people I worked with, I'll miss them when I retire."

Foster has no immediate plans for his retirement but, he said, it will give him an opportunity to spend more time with his partner Joy, son Blair, daughter Shelley and his three grandchild.
After being lost for several decades, the medals of First World War veteran Pte. David Andrew Lickers have been added to a collection at the Woodland Cultural Centre.

Amid a thanksgiving invocation in Cayuga from Amos Key Jr. and a flourish of military honours, Six Nations police Chief Glenn Lickers and his wife, Elaine, formally received a Victory Medal and a replica of the British War Medal as representatives of the late soldier's family.

Lickers, the half great-grandnephew of Pte. Lickers, said he is grateful the medals were being returned to the family. He noted that Pte. Lickers "stepped up in a warrior's capacity" to fight for freedom.

He also thanked Sgt. Ralph Feisthauer, the sergeant's mother, Jean, and the work of the organization If Ye Break Faith who researched the historical record and directed the medals to the Lickers family.

"Without their efforts these medals could have ended up on EBay or in someone's private collection," said Lickers.

Then he requested that the medals be placed in the Woodland centre collection of memorabilia dedicated to the history of Six Nations involvement in wars.

Paula Whitlow, director of the Woodland centre, thanked the Lickers for the medals.

Christopher Harvie, If Ye Break Faith project director, said that Pte. Lickers and his two brothers, Joseph and William, joined the 58th Battalion between November 1915 and January 1916.

David and William were in an attack on a German defensive line at the Somme, code-named Regina Trench, in which parts of the enemy trench were taken for an hour before being beaten off in a counterattack, Harvie told the gathering.

The casualties in the 58th's War Diary were listed as 30 killed, 144 wounded and 111 missing.

William was among the dead, and Pte. Lickers was among the missing, but found his way back. The record shows he later was sentenced to 14 days field punishment for drunkenness.

"In that, David was not at all different than many soldiers, young men away from home introduced to vice, except that he got caught," Harvie said.

But before he could serve his sentence in full, Pte. Lickers went back to fight with his battalion. While under fire on Nov. 3, he was "buried by a shell and hit on the head by a sandbag." He remained unconscious for three weeks, with paralysis on the left side of this body.
He was sent to convalesce in England. "His continuing symptoms being epileptiform seizures, as many as four or five a day," the record says.

The patient was listed as being "easily excited, sleeps poorly, wakes up with sudden starts and troublesome dreams."

After more months of hospitalization, Pte. Lickers was sent to Canada for further treatment. In early 1918, his condition was reassessed. He was found to be "physically unfit" for further military service and granted an honourable discharge.

"It is at this point that David fades into history like so many others who came home from war and went on into private life," Harvie said.

"I feel it is fitting that we're paying tribute to an ordinary man. Posterity may better remember the giants, but history is truly made by ordinary people."

After the war, the 58th Battalion was by, Canadian military custom, rolled into the Royal Regiment of Canada along with other battalions, so their records and honours would be preserved.

Representing the RRC, Capt. Richard Tovey lauded Pte. Lickers's bravery.

Tovey told the gathering that he is retiring and Monday's ceremony was his last official duty in uniform.

"I can't think of anywhere else I would rather be wearing it than in the remembrance of the service of a Canadian soldier."

Years later, Pte. Lickers's Victory Medal and another soldier's medal turned up in a sock along with pocket change abandoned in a boarding room apartment in Toronto.

Jean Feisthauer found the items and contacted her son, Sgt. Ralph Feisthauer, stationed at Canadian Forces Base Borden.

He examined them and told her the medals must be returned to the families of the soldiers. Feisthauer and Harvie worked together to verify the Lickers family. The family of the other soldier has yet to be verified.

"There are no words to describe how happy I am," Jean Feisthauer said as she stood with the Lickers family.

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Child witnesses in different parts of the country might have very different experiences with the legal system including, but not limited to, the investigative interview, a 2002 London Family Court Clinic report found.

“Child witnesses in Canada: Where we’ve been, where we’re going”, was broad in scope and reviewed aspects of children’s participation throughout the legal process. One key operational challenge to better service delivery for child witnesses and victims was identified as the, “unevenness of training for key players such as police and judges.”

Others have also concluded that child interviewing practices vary widely across Canada (Brubacher, Bala, Roberts, & Price, in press; Roberts & Cameron, 2015), probably in large part because child welfare services are primarily mandated through provincial and territorial legislation.

Investigative interviewing is taught from evidence-based practice in some locales; however, many professionals interviewing children receive only general advice (e.g., information about building rapport, using open ended questions, not delivering suggestive information), which may not all have a basis in empirical evidence.

As such, the interviewing techniques taught to both police officers and child protection workers across the country demonstrate a high level of inconsistency. Since there is no standardized set of primary guidelines, there is often confusion or lack of knowledge of what exactly occurs, and what should occur, inside a conducted investigative interview.

Among the recommendations in the London report was to develop a “standardized training and service delivery protocol” to address the inconsistencies. This suggestion need not imply that one single interview protocol, trained by a single group of trainers, be used by everyone. Such a monopoly risks impeding the process of continual learning and change driven by different perspectives from both researchers and practitioners.

Nevertheless, it is a laudable goal to set certain nationwide standards in the content of child interview training programs and protocols. As a starting point, we aimed to find out what was presently being taught to Canadian child interviewing professionals, by whom and where it takes place.

Our goals and team introduction

We created a survey asking police officers and child protection workers the two groups of professionals most often tasked with interviewing children about the guidelines and techniques they use, perceptions about their training and interviewing arrangements and the challenges they face. The aim of this research was not to single out ‘bad practice’ but strictly to provide information.

We hoped to alleviate some of the confusion or lack of knowledge about interview practices. Our goal was to create awareness about the degree of consensus and consistency in the interview techniques that ultimately influence child victims’ experiences and progression through the legal system.

We are a team of five researchers, clinicians, and trainers from different backgrounds, and have experiences with a variety of interviewing guidelines and protocols.

• Academics Sonja Brubacher and Kim Roberts have diverse experience in research and interview training, both in Canada and internationally.
• Barry Cooper is a researcher, clinician and member of the Forensic Alliance, which delivers training across the country and internationally.
• Heather Price is a Saskatchewan academic who conducts research and delivers training.
• Lynn Barry is currently working towards her PhD in social work and is a program consultant with the Canadian Child Abuse Association.
Training techniques: Specific guidelines and general advice

Respondents were asked whether they used specific recognized interview protocol/guidelines, or conversely, received general advice about interviewing not embedded within a protocol structure.

The types of protocols used by police, child protection and CAC workers who reported using a specific protocol (80 per cent) can be seen in Figure 1. The remaining 20 per cent who reported not using a specific protocol were relatively evenly distributed across police and child protection.

Aside from police trained by White Buffalo in Saskatchewan, the interviewing protocols used were spread among the cognitive interview (Fisher & Geiselman, 1992), the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Protocol (NICHD; Lamb, Orbach, Hershkowitz, Esplin, & Horowitz, 2007), and the StepWise Interview Guidelines (Yuille, Cooper, & Herv 2009). Child protection workers, and interviewers working at CACs were most likely to be trained on the StepWise guidelines.

• McKenzie Vanderloon (Psychology masters candidate) provided support in areas of recruitment, data collection, analysis and writing.

Learning from experiences

Potential participants were recruited via email containing a survey link. The survey was 16 questions. Some contained multiple choice responses but most were open-ended, permitting written answers with no restriction on length. All responses were anonymous and cannot be traced back to the individual participant.

Completed survey responses were received from 191 professionals who interview children. Police officers at all levels comprised 74 per cent of all respondents; 22 per cent were child protection workers from child welfare organizations and professionals working at child advocacy centres (CACs). Three per cent were from other agencies such as court services or hospitals and one per cent did not specify their occupation.

The number of responses obtained from each province and territory varied widely. Two-fifths of survey respondents work in Saskatchewan (41.8 per cent or 80/191), likely because the Saskatchewan Chiefs of Police openly supported the project.

Further, most of the Saskatchewan police respondents reported being trained in the Child Forensic Interview course taught by a private organization. This somewhat skewed the current data.

Relatively high response rates were also obtained from British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, Quebec and the Northwest Territories. The survey remains open in an attempt to elicit further responses from the remaining provinces and territories so that the final data can represent the entire nation https://goo.gl/ZKXrZe (English) and https://goo.gl/bNUM49 (French).

Some respondents (44 per cent) also offered details about any other general advice they received on how to interview children, with or without accompaniment to training with a specific protocol. The most common type of advice given was related to the interview itself. Examples included building rapport, using open-ended questions and not being suggestive.

Other advice was to use activities in the interview such as colouring or drawing family members. Advice about developmental considerations (e.g., how to engage a young child who is distracted or may not understand all the terminology), and safety planning (e.g., if child discloses information that may require a joint investigation) was also reported.

Training providers

Most respondents provided information about who provided their training (96 per cent). For police not trained by White Buffalo, the most common responses were national and local police colleges. The majority of child protection workers reported receiving their training from the Canadian Child Abuse Association (CCAA) or from academics.

Both police and child protection commonly received in-house training from colleagues. Other types of agencies mentioned by both police officers and child protection workers were professional consultants, provincial children’s aid societies and local police services.

Figure 1: Types of training received as a proportion of each profession.

Note: Only respondents from Saskatchewan trained in the Child Forensic Interview course reported using an interview protocol developed by White Buffalo, so the per centage is disproportionately high.
The interview

We were also interested in identifying how interviews are typically conducted. We asked respondents whether they usually interview children alone or with another person in the room. Of those who responded to this question, 74 per cent reported interviewing alone and 26 per cent reported interviewing with another person.

Respondents were also asked about interviewing teams. The most common arrangement was a police officer conducting the interview and a child protection worker watching from a monitor in a separate office. Regardless of the arrangements, most individuals indicated that they were satisfied with who is present and how they participate.

The majority of respondents revealed that they were content because they felt it was most appropriate for the child. For example, responses included “easier for child to focus” for those who used individual interviews or “reduces chances child will have to be interviewed twice” for team interviewers.

Biggest challenges

Nearly all respondents answered a question asking about their greatest interviewing challenges. As shown in Figure 2, the most common were related to the child (38 per cent), regardless of profession. Examples included keeping the child focused, trying to get information from a child who is unwilling or unable (e.g., shy), trying to establish the veracity of statements from a child who provided inconsistent answers, the child’s age (e.g., the child doesn’t have the vocabulary yet to describe what happened), or children with atypical development impeding their ability to describe what has happened (e.g., communication disorders, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, etc.).

Challenges related to the interview itself were also frequently discussed. Common challenges regarding the interview were: struggling to use open-ended questions, not making leading statements and gathering enough detail when there are time constraints. Likewise, many respondents reported barriers between themselves and the child to be a concern, such as how to establish rapport and make the child feel comfortable. Also in line with these challenges were organisational level issues such as interview rooms that were not child friendly and lack of equipment to conduct a comfortable and effective interview.

From a legal standpoint, challenges included how the interview may be criticized based on the judicial system’s interpretation of how the child acts (e.g., child’s emotional- ity, consistency).

Some of the challenges interviewers reported including low confidence, lack of expertise due to infrequent exposure to interviews and not feeling emotionally equipped to conduct the interview effectively.

Challenges related to training appeared in response to numerous questions. Respondents’ statements referred to a dearth of training in general, a shortage of follow-up instruction and training failing to equip the interviewer to feel prepared to conduct an interview.

Refresher training

Respondents were asked whether they received any follow-up training. Of those who responded to this question (85 per cent), just over half reported they had none (50.3 per cent), and 10.6 per cent of the total sample indicated that they had never received any initial training.

Among the 48 per cent of respondents who did receive some kind of follow-up, the most common type reported by police officers was informal training (e.g., casual in-house exchange of experiences and advice among colleagues or from other consultants).

The most common follow-up provided to child protection workers was formal training (e.g., formal follow-up course or formal meeting with superiors who gave constructive feedback on a taped interview) and personal self-developments such as reading literature and taking courses on their own time.

Other types of follow-up reported by all interviewers included attending conferences and workshops (see Figure 3 for a representation of type of follow-up training by profession).
Respondents were given the opportunity to state whether they would like more information on child interviewing. The most common response (32 per cent) was to learn more about alternative interviewing guidelines/protocols besides the one they presently used or were trained on.

Many desired occasional follow-up or refresher training (e.g., once a year or every two years). Training on evaluating the truthfulness of children’s accounts and how to handle inconsistent children were other specific topics frequently mentioned.

Finally, many respondents requested information and training on interviewing children with special needs (e.g., autism spectrum, fetal alcohol spectrum and attention deficit hyperactivity disorders).

**Lessons so far**

The current results have yielded new information and awareness on the interview practices used in Canada and have highlighted some of the challenges and needs of front-line interviewers. As expected, there is a lack of consensus nationwide on the strategies used for interviewing children, and in the frequency and delivery of training. This was shown through the varied responses in the types of interviews being conducted and differences in the amount of training, from none to initial and formal follow-up training.

There were also a broad array of challenges reported, from knowing how to manage child factors such as reluctance and inconsistency, to organizational level barriers like having a child-friendly interview environment and attitudes towards training; addressing these may be a first step towards creating an atmosphere that has consistency regardless of a child’s location across the country.

**Over to you!**

We hope this interim report has been informative. Our survey is still open at https://goo.gl/ZKXrZe (English) and https://goo.gl/bNUM49 (French) if you would like to contribute to the growing body of knowledge on Canadian child interviewing practices and comparison across regions.

We want to thank everyone who took the time to complete our survey. For more information, or to have the survey links emailed to you/your organisation, you can contact Sonja Brubacher (s.brubacher@deakin.edu.au), Kim Roberts (kroberts@wlu.ca), Heather Price (Heather.Price@uregina.ca), Barry Cooper, bcooper@theforensicalliance.com, or Lynn Barry (lynnb@ccaa.org).

‘Only respondents from Saskatchewan trained in the Child Forensic Interview course reported using an interview protocol developed by White Buffalo, so this percentage is disproportionally high.

**References**


Starting from the ground up, we’ve revamped the way we deliver new content at Blue Line EXPO. With the introduction of Blue Line Conference we went out to you, the followers and readers of this magazine, and asked you not only what type of sessions you wanted to take, but also what you wanted to LEAD. The results below are a wide array of wanted to take, but also what you wanted to Blue Line EXPO. With the introduction of vamped the way we deliver new content at.

Have a look below; you just might find the training you’ve been needing.

Automotive Investigations

It is well known among the police community that approximately 40 percent of the vehicles obtained by theft are never recovered, indicating that the thefts are linked to organized crime and terrorist groups with the intent of reselling the vehicle as a whole or dismantled and sold in parts. This session is presented by OMVIC-the regulator of the care trade in Ontario and provider of the Specialized Vehicle Theft Investigative Techniques course at the Canadian Police College. This session will introduce the front line office to basic auto theft investigation techniques and showcase OMVIC as an agency that can assist police with any cases involving car dealers.

Contraband Tobacco and Its Impact on Organized Crime

Do you know how contraband tobacco impacts organized crime? Contraband tobacco is a serious problem all over Canada and is particularly bad in Ontario where an estimated 1-in-3 cigarettes purchased over the last year were illegal. Gary Grant, a 39-year veteran of the Toronto Police and Spokesperson of the National Coalition Against Contraband Tobacco will speak on the connections between the contraband trade and organized crime. Gary will speak on what governments at the municipal, provincial and federal levels have committed to do to combat the illegal cigarette problem.

How to Combat Organized Retail Crime

Participants will be provided an operation overview of Organized Retail Crime and its impact on law enforcement, security/loss prevention and retailers. Participants will be introduced to the retailcop website to assist in intelligence-led policing and combating ORC. Organized Retail Crime is the fastest growing method for criminal organizations to generate revenue to further other illicit activities and the violence is only increasing.

Crime Prevention Through Social Development

Near the end of 2012, a new Chief was sworn in for the Winnipeg Police Service. One of its main priorities was to advance Crime Prevention Through Social Development. CPTSD may be understood from a philosophical point of view, but police work is generally practical in nature and applying this approach can be difficult to do without some explanation and examples from a police perspective. After three years, the WPS has some suggestions on how CPTSD can be applied in our daily duties and are willing to share some of their successes, frustrations, and lessons learned. This includes dealing with bureaucracy, internal and external organizations, and critics.

Case Law Updates for Frontline Officers

We provide up to date, realistic, continuing legal education to frontline officers from the perspective of criminal lawyers (one of whom is a former police officer) who frequently represents police officers on criminal and Police Services Act charges, complaints resolutions, and SIU investigations. Our goal is to use our unique combination of experiences to help officers understand what the courts expect from them and how they can do better in their day to day work.

PTSD and Policing

Post-traumatic stress disorder is a matter of increasing concern to police services. Given the high risks associated with police work, it is unsurprising that cases of PTSD will arise in police workplaces. The challenge for police services is to manage PTSD cases lawfully, honouring the obligations placed on services under, amongst other things, police legislation and human rights codes. This presentation will explore the interplay between police discipline in PTSD cases and the employer’s duty to accommodate employees who suffer from this condition, and will propose a number of best practices for managing PTSD cases in police workplaces.

Community Policing and Technology

Constable Blake Chersinoff will be presenting the IPatrol+ App, a mobile app available for free on the App Store. IPatrol+ is designed to assist and record the activities of community policing volunteers while on patrol. IPatrol+ records routes, activities and community interactions. Volunteers can document the location and incidences of graffiti, abandoned autos, drug and alcohol use, erratic and dangerous driving, illegal dumping and more. At the end of the patrol, these records are then emailed to the constable in charge. This presentation will briefly discuss how the app was created and provide a case study highlighting the features of the app and how community policing groups will benefit from its use.

Ethics: The Impact on Leadership in Policing

This session will explore the connection between individual ethics in the framework of the criminal justice system, with an emphasis on leadership roles in the organization. We will examine the ethical dilemmas of leadership, the foundations and context of moral choice,
the moral implication of decision-making within public organizations and the impact upon staff morale. An emphasis will be made on critical thinking, normative decision-making and the role of values in public policy and management.

**Basic Note-taking for Law Enforcement**

Because of the fast-paced environment of law enforcement, memory is most times not good enough to recreate a scenario and bring the incident into the courtroom. Notes continue to come under scrutiny in legal processes both criminally and civilly. This presentation will explore both the shortfalls and successes of officers notes and create some scenarios that will engage the learners with some food for thought with respect to recording events.

**Police Judo and the Ethical Use of Force**

Police Judo promotes a much needed hands-on approach to dealing with resistive and combative people. This multi-media presentation will be delivered by two seasoned lecturers and cofounders of Police Judo and the Odd Squad who have extensive policing and martial arts training experience. Issues regarding the ethical applications of effective and practical uses of force will be addressed. Tried and true methods of physically taking people into custody will be shown and discussed. Anyone interested in arrest and control tactics by law enforcement will find this course beneficial.

**Connecting the Dots: Deploying a Video Library System on a Network**

As digital data becomes an increasing part of the policing world, its important to learn how to manage the flow of data so that it becomes a valued asset. Learn the various approaches for deploying a network-based media library system that collects audio, video, and metadata on numerous sources such as surveillance systems, interview/interrogation systems, body cameras, police care cameras, GPS data, ticketing systems, social media and more. Central to this discussion is creating and extracting metadata from media files in order to create a rich database critical to search activities or for distributing assets to related law-enforcement entities.

**Community Policing Leadership Strategies in VUCA Situation**

VUCA stands for Volatility, Uncertainty, Complexity and Ambiguity-terms used to describe the chaotic, turbulent and rapidly changing communities that have become the new normal in the world of policing. This presentation describes the need for developing deliberate community policing strategies in VUCA situations in order to deliver humane results with confidence. Learn how VUCA applies to community policing strategy and what deliberate leadership strategies are most effective.

**Breaking the Stigma: Understanding Compassion Fatigue**

You can be profoundly affected by the work you do whether it be by direct exposure to a traumatic event, secondary exposure and more. Compassion fatigue has been described as the cost of caring for others in emotional pain and can strike the most dedicated worker. Burned out, worn down, fatigued and traumatized workers can descend down a path filled with serious physical and mental health difficulties. This session focuses on assisting workers to identify different forms of work-related trauma, learn proper debriefing techniques and learn how to build resiliency before taking time off work.

**Police Response and Mental Health**

Police officers are often the first to respond when persons experience a mental health crisis in the community. They must de-escalate volatile situations and bring the person to the attention of either the criminal justice or mental health care system. Issues such as repeated police contact, excessive ED wait times, liability concerns and the lack of resources suggest the system is broken. This presentation will provide the evidence to show how the use of a new mental health screening tool by a major police service enhanced the ability of police officers to identify persons with serious mental disorders and has contributed toward building a more collaborative relationship with our partners in the ED. It helps officers to accurately capture their observations pertaining to a person’s state of mind and to more effectively articulate their beliefs to ED staff.

**Police Professionalism-The Time Has Come Today**

The economics of community safety and the demands of changing public attitudes and expectations brings us to a watershed moment in policing.

The intent of this presentation is both a historical look at the concept of police professionals and an examination of what is required to be acknowledged as a professional in today’s dynamic working environments. It will explore the issues related to the recognition of the profession and identify opportunities to advance a Canadian policing profession in light of the changing societal and economic realities and the recent events that have implications for policing management and governance. Throughout history the roles and perspectives of police have evolved and changed in response to the pressures and drivers for safe and secure communities. Policing will need to impact peoples lives in new and transformative ways but the professional foundations must be strong.

**REGISTER NOW**

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CLOSE TO HOME

Hanging by a thread

by Steve Brnjas

There were times in my 18 years of policing that were particularly dark. Even though I had a strong faith, hope was distant. Not that I let on. My family did not know and heaven forbid that my co-workers would see my veil slip. I felt there would definitely be a stigma if I saw a counsellor paid for by the service. What if word got back to my NCOs? So I just slipped further and further into the darkness.

The last time this occurred, my family and I had gone to a favourite camp for a summer vacation. I got up one morning before 6 a.m., grabbed my Bible and walked into the woods. I was not sure if I would come back.

I went to a rock that sat at the edge of a lake, heard a friend start up his boat and watched as he glided out onto the lake to go fishing. Soon he was out of sight and I was left alone. God seemed very far away from me, and had been for some time. I would often say that I was holding on to the thread of His cloak... and I was holding on for dear life.

I looked up into the sky. "Lord, I am in a very bad place. My hope is gone. I need something from you that shows me that things will change, otherwise I do not know what I will do." I knew I should not do what I was about to do.

As a response I randomly flipped open my Bible. My finger fell on Jeremiah 29:11. It was God speaking through the prophet Jeremiah to the Israelites. They were in captivity in Babylon. Their hope was also gone. I felt God was speaking the words directly to me.

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you, declares the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes.

I was not sure how, but those words changed my world. My God made a promise to me. I was not abandoned or hopeless. My God did not forget who I was or turn His back to me. Something was going to change. I walked out of that forest and back to my loving family, who were just beginning to stir to begin the day's fun.

Within a year, I received a miraculous call to pastoral ministry. I felt God's hand was clearly on this decision. Ever since that morning 10 years ago, I have been on a steady journey of self-discovery and discovering who God really was. Though at times I look wistfully at a passing cruiser with its roof lights and siren going, I recognize that season has passed. I can look back at my policing career and remember those who had my back through those difficult times, even though they did not know how bad the times were for me.

To those men and women in both blue and white shirts, I say a great "Thank You." I also wished I had talked to them more about what I was going through. Maybe I would never have gotten to the point of being beside a lake with my life hanging in the balance (did I mention that I was a lousy swimmer?).

I am not a counsellor, but I have been to that dark place. No copper should have to go through the dark places alone. If you are in a very dark place right now, I urge you to find someone to talk to. For some it might be God, for others it might be a friend or counsellor. I am not Superman but you can email me if you would like (smbrnjas@hotmail.com). Find someone you trust who will listen.

I remember sharing my story very honestly, including the dark times, a few years ago at a men's breakfast. Unknown to me, there was a police officer there who later shared with me how he had been at that point a year earlier. It was only the pictures of his family on his desk that snapped him out of it.

I wonder how many others are out there, hanging by a thread.

Steve Brnjas served 18-years with Waterloo Regional Police and is currently an ordained pastor with the Mennonite Churches of Eastern Canada. Contact: smbrnjas@hotmail.com or 519 807-1134.
ODDITORIALS

VANCOUVER- A Vancouver, Washington man who attempted to skip out on a $20 restaurant bill was caught after he left his wallet behind, according to the Columbian.

Police said 31-year-old Adam Thomas of Vancouver refused to pay his $20 bill at the El Presidente Restaurant. Instead, Thomas told police that he showed a knife and fled the scene.

Thomas left his wallet at the restaurant. Vancouver police arrested him less than half an hour later.

Thomas was charged with suspicion of first-degree robbery and an outstanding warrant.

(PGW)

PETERBOROUGH - A woman who had taken a vow silence broke it to allegedly swear at officers who were attempting to have her not hold up downtown traffic.

Peterborough police say officers were called to an intersection to investigate a report of a woman carrying a sign and walking into traffic. Police say the woman was causing vehicles to stop and honk at her.

When officers approached the woman, police say she would only communicate through writing, explaining she had taken a vow of silence.

Officers attempted to tell the woman that it was unsafe to walk into traffic, police say, and at that point the woman broke her vow of silence and began swearing at officers.

She was arrested for causing a disturbance and, during the arrest, police say she resisted by flailing her arms and kicking at officers. Police say she also kicked the side of the cruiser, causing $300 in damage.

Katherina Charbonneau, 37, was charged with cause a disturbance, obstruct/resist peace officer and mischief under $5,000.

(Peterborough This Week)

The job of the Tuktoyaktuk RCMP was made a lot easier when a suspect they were looking for rear-ended a police truck with his snowmobile.

Tuktoyaktuk RCMP got a call about an assault on, and learned the suspect had driven away on a snowmobile before police arrived.

Officers were patrolling the community, looking for the suspect, when he “unexpectedly collided with the back end of the RCMP truck,” according to a news release.

Tyler Green, 31, faced nine charges including assault, assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm, impaired operation of a motor vehicle and dangerous driving.

(WPG)

WINNIPEG - Winnipeg police have arrested a robbery suspect - six years after someone left false teeth at the scene of the crime.

Police say a woman with a knife held up a Winnipeg convenience store in October 2007 and stole an undisclosed amount of cash.

The lone male occupant entered the station through the front doors.

Once inside, the man became belligerent, demanding that officers provide him with a place to sleep for the night. During the rant, officers could smell alcohol coming from the man’s breath. The officer that had observed the man driving spoke with him further and shortly after arrested him for impaired driving.

After providing a sample of his breath, which was over two times the legal limit of .08, the man was provided with a place to sleep for the night.

(YRP News Release)
We all know that exercise improves blood pressure and sugar, weight management and cardiovascular health but many may not know about the link between physical exercise and mental health.

The link is so strong that some studies show that exercise can be just as beneficial as therapy for reducing symptoms of anxiety and depression. As a therapist and runner, I am conflicted when I see "Running is cheaper than therapy" on t-shirts, yet I know it to be true.

There are multiple ideas as to how exercise improves our mental health. One explanation is that increased blood flow to the brain activates a part in the brain, the HPA axis, which then affects processes in several other parts, such as those that control emotion and cognitive functions.

Increased blood flow to the brain can improve our ability to respond to stress and boost our mood, motivation and memory.

Exercise assists in reducing cortisol, the stress hormone that contributes to a variety of physical and psychological difficulties.

Some studies show that exercise is just as effective as antidepressants in improving mood. I am not suggesting that you stop taking a prescribed antidepressant because you signed up for a spin class. Those kinds of decisions must be made with the guidance of a health care professional. What I am saying is that I have seen clients be able to taper off medication due to lifestyle changes and the research supports my observations.

Exercise is believed to improve our mental health in many other ways. It boosts our self-esteem and tends to make us feel stronger, fitter and more sociable. Research shows that we feel psychologically stronger when we feel stronger physically. Take weightlifting, for example. Pushing myself to keep going when I want to put the weight down makes me feel like I can also do this in life.

It also feels good to see the gains and to do something that we know is good for us. Exercise assists in reducing cortisol, the stress hormone that contributes to a variety of physical and psychological difficulties.

Research shows that 20-30 minutes of exercise daily for three months reduces anxiety levels, regardless of the source. This included anxiety for persons who had always identified as being "an anxious person" as well as those who were anxious about a current stressor. Interestingly, individuals who suffer from crippling anxiety to the point of activating the fight or flight response or panic attacks also benefit greatly from exercise.

Exercise serves as a form of exposure therapy in that individuals experience bodily sensations similar to the fight-flight response, such as increased heart rate and sweating. If they stick with it over the initial discomfort, their body will respond by activating a calming response. They experience the initial symptoms of panic followed by relief. Repeating this cycle often can actually reduce, if not eliminate, the physical fight-flight response or panic attack experienced outside of dangerous situations.

Exercise can alleviate the physical pain that oftentimes accompanies depression. Serotonin, one of the neurotransmitters produced through exercise, is considered a "feel good" chemical because it improves pain tolerance and mood. Achieving a runner's high can reduce the likelihood that a person will reach for a bottle or pill to relieve psychological or even physical pain.

Cognitively, exercise contributes to mental alertness clearly important in policing. This is boosted even more when we get adequate sleep. Yes, you guessed it exercise also contributes to better sleep. Police work, especially shifts, wreaks havoc on sleep schedules. Exercising produces serotonin, which is linked to the sleep-wake
cycle. Some researchers also believe it has a calming effect because it activates the sympathetic nervous system (SNS) which arouses us and then activates the parasympathetic nervous system (PNS) to release chemicals that calm us.

Some say that they are too tired to exercise. This presents a dilemma because exercise actually contributes to energy. We are capable of generating our own energy if we will push ourselves when we feel we are too depleted to exercise. There have been times when I felt too tired to exercise and mysteriously “found” my energy at the gym.

(I must've left it there by mistake). I’ve heard the same from clients who were more energized following a workout than before it.

Furthermore, when we exercise we tend to eat better. It becomes a lifestyle where we don’t want to counteract a good sweat with a bag of donuts. It also makes it easier to give up other counterproductive vices such as cigarettes and alcohol.

Doctors say that a sedentary lifestyle is the new smoking. We know the costs but we struggle to give it up. Starting to exercise or increasing the frequency does not have to be a daunting task or a wholesale shift in our routine. Like anything else, you want to start slow. As little as 10 minutes is enough to get the feel good chemicals going and if you feel like you could go for another 5-10 minutes, DO IT!

Also, think broadly about what is considered exercise. It’s not just the time spent in the gym or on the running track. It includes walking your dog or playing a sport. I challenge you to commit to regular exercise even if you don’t struggle with anxiety or mood concerns. Think of it as building your mental muscle for future flexing.

**Stephanie Conn** is a registered clinical counselour and former communications dispatcher and police officer. To find out more visit **www.conncounselling.com** or email her at **stephanie@blueline.ca**.
Encountering the mentally ill perceived as risky

It’s really too bad that plagiarism is considered bad form it would make writing this column so much easier.

I’d start by copying large sections of a “policy essay” entitled “Building on the evidence: Guiding policy and research on police encounters with person with mental illnesses,” written by Allison Robertson of Duke University and published recently in Criminology and Public Policy. This issue of the journal had a whole bunch of articles about police interactions with people with mental illnesses, but any article that starts with the word “evidence” warms the cockles of my heart. (I have always wondered exactly where the cockles are. Is that near the aorta?)

The first thing that jumped out at me from these studies was, ironically, not one of the points the authors were trying to make. A couple of researchers from the University of Massachusetts (Melissa Schaefer Morabito and Kelly Socia) took an in-depth look at the dangers when police and people with mental illnesses interact. Essentially they asked whether the allegedly common belief that such encounters were more dangerous actually holds up and what they found was

Never mind, I will get to that in a minute.

What really grabbed my attention was that the police agency involved in the study, the Portland (Oregon) Police Bureau, had actually trained ALL its members to the CIT (1) standard meaning they have all had about 40 hours of training in how to interact with people with mental illnesses.

Wow. We are talking just shy of 1,000 officers. In my mind, the first take home message here is that “where there is a will there is a way.” As far as I can tell, US police services are not rolling in money any more than those in Canada and if Portland has managed to provide this level of training, it just goes to show what a little commitment to the cause can do.

Ahem. Back to the subject at hand.

As the authors point out, there are a whole lot of assumptions and misconceptions about danger and people with mental illnesses and the increased likelihood of officers being injured when encountering them. So what did they find?

On the surface, it looks like there might be a grain of truth to the rumours. They found that 11.5 per cent of reported use of force events involved mentally ill subjects, a disproportionate number. Of these, the officer was injured 12 per cent of the time and the mentally ill person 28 per cent of the time. This is a little high compared to the overall numbers of seven and 18 per cent in encounters with NOT mentally ill people.

However, when they fed all the bazillion relevant variables into a computer and computed complex things involving Greek letters, it turned out that mental illness was not really the culprit here. In fact, by itself it did not result in increased use of force or injury but there are things that might go along with mental illness that are relevant.

The biggy is (not surprisingly) substance use. If you have a mental illness and are “using,” then the risk goes up. If you assault an officer, are armed, try to run away, resist then the likelihood goes up. Alas, it appears that people with mental illnesses are more
likely to fall into these categories and thus are at higher risk.

Simply having a mental illness detectable to an officer, however, is not sufficient. I think this is generally good news. The take-home message? Don’t assume that things are more likely to go off the rails if your subject appears to have a mental illness because the data don’t support that.

(If I were writing this column for people in the health care system rather than police, I would now go off on a harangue about how no one really wants to deal with people who have both mental health and substance use problems, and how the relative unavailability of treatment facilities for those with concurrent disorders is not helping matters but that is for another audience.)

The other paper in this group that really made an impact on me was called “Police use of force and the suspect with mental illness: a methodological conundrum,” by Geoffrey Alpert, who appears to work at both the University of North Carolina and Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia (sounds like a neat stunt to me!).

If you are actually involved in any data collection about police interactions with people with mental illnesses or if you are trying to measure outcomes and effectiveness, you really need to read this article. He points out (kind of depressingly) the enormous challenges facing researchers in this area. How does one really define mental illness and how sure are we that the people who police think are mentally ill actually ARE mentally ill?

Can you reliably distinguish between people with mental illnesses and those with substance problems and people with both? Frankly, I know for sure that I can’t. I have been asked by many police officers, “How would YOU distinguish between a person who is mentally ill and a person who is high on drugs?”

“Easy!” I always reply. “You admit them to hospital and wait a few weeks. If they were on drugs, they should stop doing whatever it was they were doing. If they have a mental illness, the symptoms usually won’t go away without treatment.” So that’s how I do it. How do you do it?

There are a variety of other measurement issues as well. What exactly counts as use of force? What is an injury? And on and on. There are no magic answers, and many tough questions. If you are involved in asking or answering any of these, you should dig up these articles. They just might help.

In case you are not familiar with the model, is the co-called “Memphis Model” or Crisis Intervention Team Model. To make a long story short, it suggests that a small group of officers in an organization should receive the 40 hours of training and then act as a resource to other officers.

Dr. Dorothy Cotton is Blue Line’s psychology columnist, she can be reached at deepblue@blueline.ca
Just imagine driving down the highway at better than 100k when your vehicle suddenly begins behaving as if it’s got a mind of its own.

The air conditioning switches to Max and starts blasting cold air on the highest fan speed. The radio suddenly changes stations and goes to full volume. The wipers turn on and the washer starts spraying. You try turning things off but nothing works.

Just as you’re coming to terms with all of this, the transmission slips into neutral and you rapidly begin losing speed. Following traffic begins passing your suddenly unresponsive and seemingly possessed vehicle. If all that wasn’t enough, the infotainment system screen displays a picture of the hackers causing the strange behaviour.

You manage to pull off the highway and safely stop and wonder “what the #%&! just happened?”

Surprise, your vehicle was just wirelessly hacked by a couple of guys sitting in their basement more than 15km away!

Think this sounds far-fetched? It’s not, as it was actually done in July 2015 near St. Louis as a proof of concept by a pair of security researchers working in conjunction with a writer for Wired magazine.

Zero-day exploit

As the automotive industry works feverishly to connect vehicles to the Internet and users’ smartphones to the increasingly sophisticated vehicle infotainment systems, security concerns continue to mount.

Part of the problem is that many vehicle-based Internet-connected services are fee-based, so the car companies generate a fair bit of monthly cash from subscribers. In their rush to create new and improved services (and revenue streams), they may not be paying enough attention to security.

After years of research into hacking automotive computers, the security researchers discovered a “zero-day exploit” in the Uconnect infotainment system installed in many Fiat-Chrysler products, including the Jeep Cherokee they used for this demonstration.

A zero-day exploit is a flaw in a computer program that allows malicious software to enter and engage in unauthorised activities on a device, typically a computer, but also embedded systems such as Uconnect. It gets its name from the fact that the software author has zero-days left to fix the problem because someone has already found and is exploiting it.

Using the vehicle’s Internet connection over the Sprint cellular network, the researchers gained access to the Uconnect system through IP Port #6667. They then ran a program that rewrote the firmware in the system to give them wide ranging access to the Controller Area-Network Bus (CAN-bus) system that controls and monitors almost all of a modern vehicle’s mechanical and electronic parts.

The CAN-bus system is a network of microcontrollers and devices that can communicate directly without needing a computer to act as a host. Originally developed by Bosch, it has been used since 1987.

The system also communicates directly with the Engine Control Unit (ECU), commonly referred to as the vehicle’s “computer,” which controls and monitors most of the mechanical and electronic parts.

The ECU in the Jeep runs the market-leading QNX Neutrino Operating System (OS), which can be found in upwards of 60-million vehicles and other machines around the world.

There was some early and unfounded speculation that QNX was somehow vulnerable or at fault, although this was not the case. QNX, a division of BlackBerry, wrote on its Fact-Check blog that “In this particular case the vulnerability came about through certain architecture and software components that are unrelated to the QNX Neutrino O/S.” The zero-day exploit was effectively an unlocked side-door to the entire system.

Previous attempts

Prior to this proof of concept demonstration, the two researchers hacked a Ford Escape and a Toyota Prius purchased in 2013 as part of a US Defence Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) grant to study the

TECHNOLOGY

by Tom Rataj

Hack my Jeep
issue. The Wired magazine writer participated then too, although in those previous tests, the researchers were hard-wired into the vehicles’ computer through the Onboard Diagnostics (OBD-II) port.

In those tests they disabled the brakes, manipulated the steering, tightened the seatbelt and blew the horn.

To get to that point they spent a year physically and electronically disassembling the two test cars to completely understand how everything worked and interacted. They also obtained mechanics’ accounts for every major automaker so they would have access to technical manuals and wiring diagrams.

From their initial research they determined that the Jeep Cherokee was the most “hack-able” from 24 vehicles they had short-listed. Other models with serious vulnerabilities included the Cadillac Escalade and Infiniti Q50.

They were able to control the brakes, engine and other less critical functions in the Jeep but, strangely enough, could only take over steering when the vehicle was in reverse.

The researchers indicated that the vulnerability is present in all Fiat-Chrysler vehicles produced from late 2013 through to early 2015 model years.

Other researchers from the University of California at San Diego and University of Washington demonstrated in 2011 that they could wirelessly control the brakes of a vehicle and disable its locks. They shared their research only with the affected auto makers.

**Patch that**

Fortunately the Jeep-hacking researchers were working in conjunction with Fiat-Chrysler for about 9-months. The company developed a software patch prior to the public disclosure of the vulnerability and recalled 1.4 million vehicles.

The DIY patch can be downloaded by vehicle owners and installed in 30-45 minutes using a USB key or they can have the dealer handle it free of charge.

**Trolling for victims**

Because the hack is made possible through the vehicle’s cellular connection, the researchers were also able to track the hacked vehicle, receiving precise GPS co-ordinates. Additionally, once they had access to the system they could obtain the VIN, brand, model and Internet Protocol (IP) address of the Uconnect system.

While demonstrating to the Wired magazine writer, they were able to identify a number of Chrysler vehicles being driven around numerous areas of the US, often hundreds or thousands of kilometers away.

Locating a specific victim is a bit more complicated, although a little discreet surveillance could net a hacker the VIN number of a target vehicle. Using the researcher’s system, they could then wirelessly find the vehicle and arrange an “accident” by a number of means.

**Solutions**

US law makers have already created legislation imposing more responsibilities on automakers to prevent this from becoming widespread. Automakers have also hired personnel to combat such vulnerabilities.

The cofounder of security industry organization ‘I Am the Cavalry,’ which is focused on securing Internet-of-Things (IoT) objects such as vehicles and medical devices, is helping to develop recommendations for automakers. These include: better system design to reduce access points for attacks, internal monitoring systems to detect intrusion attempts, segmented software architecture that limits how far an intrusion can go, regular software and firmware updates for the systems (as is done with computers) and third party testing.

Many companies have already implemented automatic over-the-air (OTA) updates to systems and features in their vehicles.

While this is a whole lot more complicated than it may seem, the potential is there for all sorts of serious and potentially fatal problems.

A disenfranchised programmer, terrorist group sympathizer or sleeper-agent working for one of the car-makers could create havoc by deliberately adding a zero-day exploit and then later implementing an attack on one (or thousands) of targets or random vehicles simultaneously. This could include public safety vehicles.

Tom Rataj is Blue Line’s Technology columnist and can be reached at technews@blueline.ca

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**BLUE LINE MAGAZINE**

NOVEMBER 2015
Untimely report to justice breached Charter

Failing to file a report to a justice after police seize an item can amount to a s. 8 Charter breach.

In R. v. Garcia-Machado, 2015 ONCA 569 the accused crashed his vehicle into two trees, seriously injuring himself and his front-seat passenger. Hospital staff drew Garcia-Machado’s blood for medical purposes. Believing he was intoxicated, police subsequently obtained a search warrant authorizing the seizure of his blood and hospital records relating to medical treatment after the crash.

The warrant required police to bring the seized items before the justice who issued the warrant or another justice “to be dealt with according to law.”

A toxicologist analyzed the blood and determined that Garcia-Machado’s BAC at the time of the crash was over 80mg% and that his level of intoxication would have impaired a person’s ability to drive. He was charged with impaired driving causing bodily harm and over 80mg% causing bodily harm some two months after the crash. A report to a justice, however, was not filed for about another seven weeks after the charges were sworn (15 weeks after the seizure).

In the Ontario Court of Justice the investigating officer testified he thought s. 489.1(1) of the Criminal Code, which requires a report be made “as soon as is practicable,” was only operative when charges were laid. He said he did not know that the provision required him to report to a justice "as soon as is practicable" after the seizure.

The judge found that Garcia-Machado had “a high expectation of privacy in the items seized, both of which contain a high level of personal and private information.” He concluded that “police failure to report to a justice as soon as practicable rendered the otherwise valid search unlawful and unreasonable, contrary to s. 8 of the Charter.”

He then excluded the evidence under s. 24(2) and acquitted Garcia-Machado.

The Crown appealed to the Ontario Court of Appeal, arguing that the officer’s failure to file a timely report was not a s. 8 Charter breach. The court rejected this submission, agreeing with the trial judge that police breached Garcia-Machado’s rights.

Reporting to a justice

The court noted that there were a number of conflicting cases concerning whether a failure to comply with s. 489.1(1) amounted to a breach of the Charter. Some cases support the view such a failure renders the continued detention of a seized item unreasonable while others support the view that failure to comply does not breach s. 8.

Associate Chief Justice Hoy, authoring the unanimous judgment, recognized that s. 489.1(1) "applies to both warrantless common law seizures and seizures pursuant to a warrant.” He then went on to find that a s. 8 breach occurred when the officer failed to comply with the requirement to report as soon as practicable. By failing to do so, the continued detention of the seized item was unreasonable.

If a peace officer fails to file a report under s. 489.1(1), the property seized is not subject to judicial supervision during the investigation under s. 490. The real importance of s. 489.1(1) is its link to s. 490 [para. 16].

[It] is clear that an individual retains a residual, post-taking reasonable expectation of privacy in items lawfully seized and that Charter protection continues while the state detains items it has taken. Sections 489.1(1) and 490 govern the continued detention by the state of the items seized and, I conclude, the requirement in s. 489.1(1) to report to a justice as soon as practicable plays a role in protecting privacy interests.

The constable’s post-taking violation of s. 489.1(1) by failing to report to a justice for more than three months after seizure of the blood and hospital records compromised judicial oversight of state-detained property in which the accused had a residual privacy interest. It therefore rendered the continued detention unreasonable and breached s. 8 [para. 45].

Admissibility

Despite the Charter breach, the court overturned the trial judge‘ exclusion of the evidence because he failed to consider a number of relevant factors in his s. 24(2) analysis. The evidence was admissible, the Crown’s appeal was allowed, Garcia-Machado’s acquittal was set aside and a new trial ordered.

Study finds cops are better observers

Judges and juries often assume that police officers’ statements are more reliable than those of regular eyewitnesses. Because of this assumption, police officers’ statements typically carry more weight in legal cases. Now this assumption is supported by scientific evidence.

Dutch research shows that trained detectives of specialized observation teams are much better at registering details of a drug deal than ordinary civilians.

This new study counters previous legal psychological research which revealed no relevant differences in observation skills between police professionals and civilians.

The findings have been published in Legal and Criminological Psychology.

In a unique collaboration between VU University Amsterdam and the Haarlem Police Force, researchers asked civilians and detectives of specialized observation teams to observe a drug deal near a hotel, which had been recorded on video. Both groups had received identical instructions prior to observation. Prosecutors had also given them a detailed description of the type of details in which they were interested.

Observation team detectives reported many more details about the deal than civilians, and their information was much more reliable. The detectives were also better at identifying drug dealers. Civilians, on the other hand, paid more attention to details that were completely unrelated to the drug deal. Specifically, they were better at identifying a painting they saw in the hotel lobby than the police.

“The research findings were very surprising to us”, the researchers said. “Until now, most legal psychologists assumed that police professionals are no better at observing crimes than ordinary civilians, but that does not seem to apply to these Dutch observation detectives. Perhaps this is due to their specialized training.”

The researchers, Annelies Vredeveldt and Peter van Koppen from VU University Amsterdam and Joris Knol from the Haarlem Police Force, expect that this study will lead to a great deal of international academic interest in differences between civilians and police professionals in observation and memory. (VU University Amsterdam/EurekAlert)
BC’s top court has ruled that an accused did not have a reasonable expectation of privacy in Internet Service Provider (ISP) information because he fraudulently set up the account.

In R. v. Caza, 2015 BCCA 374, a police detective was investigating a peer-to-peer network used for sharing child pornography files. Using the username and password of another man who had been arrested, the detective posed as the contact.

The detective discovered a number of messages referencing child pornography from the username Paper123boy. The following day messages arrived offering to share files which contained child pornography. The Internet Protocol (IP) address for Paper123boy was captured and it was determined that Shaw was the ISP.

A "law enforcement request" was sent to Shaw, which provided the name and address of the IP user. The address holder, Feltham, had briefly resided with the accused Caza but cancelled his Shaw account when he moved out.

Caza continued to reside at the address, then reinstated the account by fraudulently posing as Feltham. Police prepared an information to obtain a search warrant (ITO) for Caza’s residence and arrested him.

A search revealed a 500 gigabyte hard drive containing thousands of images and videos of child pornography. Caza was charged with several offences related to possessing and distributing child pornography and luring a person under the age of 16.

In BC Supreme Court Caza sought to have the seized hard drive excluded as evidence arguing, in part, that police required a warrant to obtain the IP subscriber information from Shaw.

The judge found Caza had no reasonable expectation of privacy in the subscriber information associated with the IP address, thus the request was not a warrantless search and therefore not unreasonable. Furthermore, even if there was a s. 8 Charter breach, the judge would have admitted the evidence under s. 24(2).

Caza had no reasonable expectation of privacy in the subscriber information which led to a search of Internet activities in his own home. Since there was no Charter breach, a s. 24(2) analysis was unnecessary. Caza’s appeal was dismissed.
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DISPATCHES

Shawn Devine, an officer of 27 years and life-long city resident will be North Bay’s new police chief. Devine currently serves as deputy chief. The 51-year-old started his policing career as a constable in North Bay in 1988. Devine has served in the Patrol, Administration and Criminal Investigation Sections during his career. He is taking over from Paul Cook who is retiring after 33 years in policing.

Carol Crowe, a superintendent has been selected as deputy police chief for the Halton Region. Crowe has been assigned to various patrol and administrative bureaus within the police service, most recently as commander of Oakville, professional standards and human resources. Crowe joined Halton police in October 1989.

Nishan Duraiappah, a superintendent who is in charge of the services’ Office of Continuous Improvement and Strategic Management has been selected as a deputy police chief for Halton Region. Duraiappah has worked in numerous units such as the drug and morality bureau, as diversity co-ordinator, and in uniform and investigative roles. Duraiappah started his policing career in 1995 with Halton.

Roger Chaffin has been appointed as Calgary’s new Chief of Police. Chaffin is a 30 year veteran of the force. He has been with CPS since 1986 and was most recently in charge of the Bureau of Organizational Support. Chaffin was appointed to the Order of Merit for Police Forces an has also received the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Jeff McGuire, police chief for the Niagara Regional Police Service has been given the Award of Tolerance by the friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies in recognition of his contribution to Canadian society. The FSWC presents this award to honour police officers who have most exemplified the values of equality, justice and human rights.

Catherine Campbell, a constable with the Truro Police Service was recently killed. She was off-duty at the time and the crime was not related to her position as a police officer. She had been on the force for six years and was a volunteer firefighter for ten years. Campbell is survived by her parents, sister and brother.
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Use of Force Our Way

by Robert Lunney

Police in the United States are dealing with a crisis of public confidence in the use of deadly force, a serious threat to legitimacy. Thus far the search for remedies has zeroed in on training. Without a foundation and comprehensive strategy for change, training alone will predictably fall short of success.

With foresight and perception, Canadian police leaders have an opportunity to use this cross-border crisis to review our own approach to use of force in a comprehensive way and raise professional standards in the process. A check list for attention could look like this:

1. **Philosophy** — The underlying culture and ethos of an organization must run like a thread through policies, training and practices, controlling the instincts and reactions of its members and how they interact with each other and their public. True to our roots, the principles of Sir Robert Peel remain the bedrock of Canadian policing philosophy, relevant in content and language to this day. Peel’s sixth principle is a commitment:

   To use physical force only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient to obtain public co-operation to an extent necessary to secure observance of law or to restore order; and to use only the minimum degree of physical force which is necessary on any particular occasion for achieving a police objective.

   While the primary responsibility rests with top police leadership, governance boards, oversight bodies and police associations should be consulted and involved in defining and affirming a statement expressing the underlying philosophy of policing in Canada. Desirably this should be a national goal.

2. **Legality** — Alignment with Canadian law and jurisprudence is the first touchstone for reviewing use of force policy, carried out in collaboration with the best available legal advice. Provincial attorneys general should be consulted and involved.

3. **Strategy** — Strategy is the means by which the philosophy is ingrained in the minds of police service members. It is essential to think through and implement measures for bringing about the desired results. The strategy should include a plan for after-care support for officers, involved families and survivors of use of force incidents.

4. **Screening and hiring** — It is critical that only persons of good character and integrity be entrusted with the appointment of peace officer. Candidates with the motivation and character aligning with the policing philosophy should be screened in, those who do not, screened out. The police service’s website and recruitment videos should reflect the realities of the police officers’ job on a day-to-day level, emphasizing the ideas of community policing, crime prevention and high standards of professionalism. A police recruiting video that emphasizes militaristic images is appealing to the wrong audience.

5. **Education and Training** — Education is the foundation of training. The principles and values of the policing philosophy and internal policy must be reflected in all aspects of learning, from the indoctrination of new recruits through to in-service training. A review would include scrutiny of foundational education and training at the police colleges. Use of force training should be delivered through an integrated process, rather than by teaching tactical communication, open-hand techniques, less than lethal weapons and deadly force as separate subject matter. This will require ingenuity in design by training staff. A certification program for police use of force trainers is a reasonable goal at the provincial level.

6. **Accountability** — The role of the chief and governing authorities is critical to embedding a culture of continuous improvement through the judicious assessment of incidents and outcomes. A policy driven review of every deadly force incident with reporting to the governing authority will contribute to public confidence. The early official statements in the aftermath of a deadly force incident are a test of accountability. Although restraining legislation and protection of a clean investigation will inhibit the amount and detail released near the beginning of an investigation, spokespersons, including the chief, must demonstrate the greatest possible degree of openness and candor. In provinces employing a special agency to investigate a deadly force incident, this responsibility passes to that bureau. There are many cases when these agencies have not met the test of timeliness and clarity, to the detriment of the reputation of the involved police service rather than the agency. Where these conditions exist, government intervention is the only option.

   A policy review based on these six steps could be undertaken by individual police services in collaboration with their police association, provincial attorney general, governing board and oversight agency. Several may already have done so. While national standards for use of force policy would be desirable, the constitutional make up of the country may render this impractical. At a time when fundamental changes to the economy are causing stress in all parts of Canada, the loss of public confidence and a lowering of police legitimacy triggered by use of force incidents would be tragic. Prevention always trumps damage control.

Robert Lunney is the former chief of the Edmonton and Peel Regional police services. He is Blue Line Magazine’s Police Management editor and the author of Parting Shots — My Passion for Policing. He may be contacted by email at lunney@blueline.ca.
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