A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

October 24, 2014 - Vol. 19 No. 43

Executivé Digest

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SAINT-JEAN-SUR-RICHELIEU, Que. - Quebec provincial police are identifying the soldier killed in a hit-and-run incident as 53-year-old Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent.

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House of Commons resumes after stunning Parliament Hill attack



Oct 23 2014

OTTAWA - The House of Commons is back in action, kicked off by an exhilarating show of support for the sergeant-at-arms of the House of Commons, who was among those who opened fire Wednesday on the gunman who stormed Parliament Hill.

Applause from all sides of the House rained down on a stoic Kevin Vickers as he carried the mace into the legislative chamber. Vickers, better known to political wonks as the ceremonially garbed sergeant-at-arms carrying the mace to open the Commons each day, was reported by multiple sources as the person who shot the gunman.

Vickers was largely expressionless, save for an occasional nod of acknowledgment. At one point, he appeared close to tears during the ovation, which lasted several minutes. Several more ovations ensued over the course of the morning.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper delivered a statement to express the government's gratitude for the work of the police and security services, and to reiterate that Canada won't be cowed by Wednesday's attack.

"In this struggle in which we are engaged, in which not only our finest values must be pushed to work, so must be, and will be, the highest unity and resolve." Harper said.

"We will not be intimidated. We will be

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vigilant, but we will not run scared. We will be prudent, but we will not panic. Here we are, in our seats, in our chamber in the very heart of Canadian democracy, and the work is going on."

Harper also indicated that an effort to toughen up the "surveillance, detention and arrest" powers of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service would be forthcoming in short order.

"They need to be much strengthened, and I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that work - which is already underway - will be expedited."

Harper's remarks ended with the remarkable spectacle of the prime minister walking across the floor to embrace and shake hands with both Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau and NDP Leader Tom Mulcair.

Earlier in the morning, heavy hearts and high security were on full display at the National War Memorial as Harper arrived to pay tribute to the Canadian soldier killed in the shooting.

Harper was on hand to lay flowers at the cenotaph where Cpl. Nathan Cirillo was fatally shot by a gunman who then stormed Parliament Hill before dying in a hail of gunfire that echoed through the marble-lined halls of the Centre Block.

As Harper arrived, officers swooped in to detain a man who police later said tried to breach the crime scene - a reference to the memorial itself, where Cirillo was serving as an honour guard at the time of the shooting.

"Get down on the ground," yelled one officer as several police, guns drawn and trained on the dishevelled-looking man, approached and placed him in handcuffs without incident.

None of the commotion seemed to disrupt the solemnity at the memorial, where Harper and wife Laureen quietly laid a bouquet of flowers, paused briefly, their heads bowed, before turning to leave.

Several other MPs were on hand to pay their respects. An impromptu singing of O Canada even rippled through the crowd at one point.

At the same time, however, politicians, police forces and intelligence officials were beginning to undertake the long work of assessing security around Parliament Hill - and the safety of the country itself - in the wake of the shocking attacks in the nation's capital.

The Parliament Buildings remained under close surveillance early today as the RCMP continued to sweep the area for evidence.

They are still piecing together the events that led to the fatal shooting of Cirillo and the burst of bullets that echoed later inside Parliament's Hall of Honour.

Michael Zehaf Bibeau, born in 1982 and known to police in Montreal and Vancouver, has been identified as the gunman. He was killed just feet from where hundreds of MPs were meeting for their weekly caucus meetings.

Three other people injured in the melee were released from hospital Wednesday, including one person with a minor gunshot wound.

Construction worker Scott Walsh said he was in a manhole near the East Block building, between the memorial and the Centre Block, when he heard two gunshots echo down the street.

In the ensuing panic, people around him started screaming, including a woman pushing a child in a stroller.

He said she started to run, so he went to help her.

That's when he saw a man with long black hair, his face covered by a white scarf with decals on it and wearing a black jacket.

"He had a double-barrelled shotgun, he was about five feet from me, and he ran right beside us, ran past the woman with the stroller and child," he said.

The gunman then hijacked a dark car at gunpoint, he said, and drove it up towards the Peace Tower.

The shootings placed the heart of the national capital under lockdown throughout the day as police scoured the city's downtown core for other possible assailants. By Thursday morning, however, Ottawa police said they believed only one gunman was involved in the attacks

Const. Marc Soucy said no other assailants were being sought, but added the investigation was ongoing.

Parliament Hill remains closed to visitors, however, and a full investigation into House of Commons security is underway.

As late as 9:30 at night - almost 12 hours after the first shots were fired - some MPs were still being evacuated after a long lockdown, and one government source said Bibeau's body was still lying in the hallway.

Early Thursday morning, a government statement said Ottawa police and the RCMP had lifted the downtown Ottawa safety perimeter and that federal public servants could now return to their offices.

Police say they do not yet know Bibeau's motive, but Harper has already drawn a link between his brazen actions and international terrorism. In a televised address late Wednesday,

he said Canada would never be intimidated.

What exactly a redoubling of efforts means will be addressed in the coming days.

So many questions swirl around the attacks: How did Bibeau manage to get through the front doors of Parliament's Centre Block, and will security need to be permanently adjusted? Is he connected to any larger group that wishes Canada ill? Could someone have stopped Bibeau before he acted?

The fact that Bibeau struck only days after two Canadian soldiers in St-Jean-sur-Richelieu, Que. were hit by a car has only heightened the anxiety around the incident. The slain assailant, Martin Couture Rouleau, has been described as a radicalized Muslim.

Gen. Tom Lawson, the chief of the defence staff, issued a statement late Wednesday saying they are assessing the "current security environment and evaluating the need for additional security measures at Canadian Armed Forces installations..."

Members of the public are required to use a specific entrance on Parliament Hill where there is a security screening area, but Bibeau apparently forced his way through the doors MPs, ministers, staff members and reporters are permitted to use.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS



Kevin Michael Vickers was appointed Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Commons in 2006. A 29-year veteran of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Kevin Vickers first joined the House of Commons as Director of Security Operations in June, 2005.

He brought to the position a wealth of experience in and knowledge of safety and security matters. During his 29-year career with the RCMP, he held positions of increasing responsibility and scope, including District Commander, Acadian Peninsula and Director General, National Contract Policing Branch. Mr. Vickers also served as an Aide-de-Camp for the Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick.



ISSN 1704-3913

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Published weekly by *Blue Line Magazine, Inc.* as an executive news briefing service to Canada's top level law enforcement personnel.

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ADVERTISING: 1-888-640-3048 12A-4981 Hwy. 7 East, Ste. 254, Markham ON L3R 1N1 Phone: 905 640-3048 eMail: news@blueline.ca Vickers is the recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal, the Canada 125 Medal and the RCMP Long Service Medal, and has been recognized by the Community of Burnt Church for outstanding service to their community and by the United States Drug Enforcement Agency for his "Outstanding Contribution to Drug Enforcement".

The Sergeant-at-Arms is a position steeped in parliamentary tradition. The Sergeant-at-Arms, one of four positions reporting to the Clerk of the House of Commons, is responsible for safeguarding the authority of the House of Commons, the safety and security of the Parliament buildings and their occupants, ensuring and controlling access to the House of Commons, the preservation of order and the management of all Parliamentary buildings, assets and related services.

THURSDAY OCTOBER 16, 2014

Oct 16 2014

KAMLOOPS, B.C. - The first person to be offered a native sentencing circle in Kamloops, B.C., two years ago is back behind bars after racking up 15 charges.

Douglas Jensen is facing several charges - including break and enter, unauthorized possession of a firearm, obstructing a peace officer and possession of stolen property - dating back to July 10.

Jensen, 37, was released from jail in June after serving a 45-day sentence for breaching his probation.

In September 2012, Jensen was the first recipient of a sentencing circle offered by the Tk'emlups Indian Band, in conjunction with the Crown and B.C. Supreme Court.

That was after he drove a stolen pickup truck into a house on the reserve before leading police on a high-speed chase and driving at a constable.

Jensen was in custody for more than 18 months after the incident on Feb. 14, 2011.

He was granted bail prior to the sentencing circle and placed on a 22-month probation term. He was also ordered to enter into a four-year contract with the band and to abstain from drugs and alcohol.

In May, a Kamloops provincial court judge scolded Jensen for "taking advantage" of the sentencing circle in 2012.

He and his co-accused, Francis August, are slated to return to court next March for a five-day trial.

(Kamloops This Week)

Oct 16 2014

OTTAWA - The federal government plans to amend the law governing the Canadian Security Intelligence Service to give the spy agency more authority to track terrorists overseas.

Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney

said Thursday the extremist threat has become more complex since the law was passed 30 years ago, adding the dangers to Canada do not stop at the border.

As expected, Blaney said the government would also take steps to ensure CSIS can protect the identity of its sources - a plan that has already rankled lawyers who have experience defending terror suspects.

The bill, to be tabled next week when Parliament returns, would clarify CSIS's ability to act on threats abroad, he added.

"These tools will ultimately allow CSIS to conduct investigations into potential terrorists when they travel abroad, meaning that those individuals will be tracked, investigated, and ultimately prosecuted," Blaney said.

Under the CSIS Act, which took effect in 1984, the spy agency already has the authority to collect intelligence anywhere in the world about security threats to Canada.

Blaney offered no details on how exactly the government would change the CSIS Act, what the revisions would allow the spy service to do that it can't do now, or how sweeping the new source protections would be.

Oct 16 2014

PARLIAMENT HILL - A retired Mountie who is virtually guaranteed to win the federal byelection next month in Alberta will become the ninth former or serving police officer elected to Prime Minister Stephen Harper's caucus—nearly half of all the police officers elected to Parliament since Confederation in 1867.

Retired RCMP officer Jim Eglinsky last week defeated the former mayor of Yellowhead County, Alta., Gerald Soroka, to win the Conservative nomination for the Nov. 17 byelection in the Yellowhead electoral district.

The district has been Conservative territory since former prime minister Joe Clark first won it in 1979, and Mr. Merrifield garnered 77 per cent of the vote in the 2011 federal election.

Mr. Eglinsky, a 35-year veteran of the RCMP who resigned from the national police force in 2002 and went on to become mayor of Fort St. John, B.C., after serving there in the local Mountie detachment, will have plenty of company in the growing caucus of police officers in Mr. Harper's caucus.

Two of the former officers are members of Mr. Harper's Cabinet—Heritage Minister Shelley Glover (Saint Boniface, Man) and Veterans Affairs Minister Julian Fantino (Vaughan, Ont.).

Most of the other police officers in the Conservative caucus hold lower-profile roles.

Members of the Conservative police contingent in the Commons, who formed their own informal caucus, also include: MP Dave Mackenzie (Oxford, Ont.), a former police chief; MP Rick Norlock (Northumberland-Quinte West, Ont.), a former OPP officer; Daryl Kramp (Prince Edward-Hastings, Ont.), also once a member of the OPP; MP Rob Clarke (Desnethe-Missinippi-Churchill River, Sask.), an RCMP sergeant; Ryan Leef

(Yukon), also a former RCMP officer; and MP David Wilks (Kootenay-Columbia, B.C.) a former RCMP drug squad officer in B.C.

Conservative Senator Vern White, a former RCMP assistant commissioner who also once headed the Ottawa Police Service, and Conservative Senator Jean-Guy Dagenais, a former Surete du Quebec officer, round out the police caucus in the Conservative Party. (HIII Times)

Oct 16 2014

LEDUC, Alta. - An investigation into a man's death after a violent struggle with RCMP south of Edmonton has determined officers acted properly in trying to subdue him.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says Marc Andre Fontaine of Leduc was a considerable risk to the public, to police and to himself.

Acting executive director Susan Hughson says it was a reasonable use of force to use a Taser on Fontaine twice and to hold him around the neck because several tries to calm him had failed.

The medical examiner's office determined Fontaine died of excited delirium syndrome as a result of cocaine toxicity.

The medical examiner found the Taser and the control hold played no identifiable role in Fontaine's death in August 2013.

Fontaine, who was 27, had stolen two vehicles, crashed through a barrier, assaulted two people and caused disturbances at two convenience stores.

Oct 16 2014

VICTORIA - B.C.'s Criminal Justice Branch says no charges will be laid against three Mounties who were involved in a police pursuit in Kelowna, where a pedestrian was seriously hurt.

The chase happened last December after a driver allegedly sped from a police check stop for impaired drivers and ended when the vehicle being pursued swerved in front of a police cruiser and struck a man on the grass at 60 kilometres an hour.

The branch says the chase was called off, but an investigation found that not all officers heard the radio command and that more Mounties joined the pursuit.

The Independent Investigations Office looked into the incident and the agency's director concluded that an officer may have committed an offence, although he didn't make any recommendations on charges.

The Crown says that there isn't a substantial likelihood of conviction for any of the three officers involved in the chase, either under the Criminal Code or the Motor Vehicle Act.

The driver who allegedly led the pursuit faces a number charges that are still before the court.

Oct 17 2014

OAKVILLE, Ont. - The province's police watchdog has been called in after a man died following an altercation with officers at a hotel in Oakville.



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Confidence in Motion

The Special Investigations Unit says Halton Regional Police officers were called to a hotel around 5:30 a.m. on Friday where they had "an interaction" with a 41-year-old man.

The SIU says an officer discharged his firearm and the man was hit.

The man was taken to hospital where he was later pronounced dead.

The SIU has assigned seven investigators and three forensic investigators to probe the incident.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 17, 2014

Oct 17 2014

GLEICHEN, Alta. - An RCMP officer in southern Alberta is facing charges stemming from an arrest complaint.

Const. Todd Depagie is a member of the Gleichen detachment, southeast of Calgary.

He has been charged with assault causing bodily harm and unlawful confinement.

RCMP spokeswoman Cpl. Sharon Franks says an investigation began after a member of the public complained about an arrest in November 2013.

Depagie is to appear in provincial court on the Siksika reserve Nov. 6.

Franks says the constable remains on the job but his status is under review.

Oct 17 2014

WINNIPEG - Two police officers who saw a 15-year-old girl shortly before she disappeared and was killed may face charges following an internal investigation.

Winnipeg police Chief Devon Clunis said Friday he has received a report into the officers' actions on the day before Tina Fontaine vanished and it will be forwarded to a Crown attorney.

"That file was handed to me just this week and probably within a short period of time, the file itself will be forwarded to the Crown for an opinion," Clunis said.

He refused to elaborate on what kind of charges or other penalties the Crown might consider.

"I think it's better to have an objective view rather than myself trying to affect the outcome in any way, shape or form."

"In a case like this, if we did not move that forward to have an outside look at it ... we'd be scrutinized for not doing that, so we're taking every step to ensure there is open transparency related to any decision."

Police have already confirmed that two officers, who have not been identified, came across Fontaine when they pulled over a vehicle on Aug. 8.

Fontaine was in the care of family services and had run away. She had been reported missing more than a week earlier, but was not taken into custody at the traffic stop - an apparent contravention of police protocol for handling missing minors.

It's not clear whether the officers knew Fontaine's identity at the time or whether they were made aware she had been reported missing via the police database.

The officers were among the last people to see Fontaine alive. Her body was found in a bag in the Red River nine days later. No arrests have been made.

Oct 17 2014

SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont. - He says he doesn't want to sound paranoid, but Prime Minister Stephen Harper is concerned his own federal bureaucracy is trying to bring back the long gun registry "through the back door."

Harper courted gun owners and anglers Friday in northern Ontario with a carefully stage-managed question and answer session with invited representatives of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

Killing the long gun registry was a longstanding Conservative government promise - and fundraising cash cow. Now that it's dead and buried, a governing party in election mode is reviving alleged threats of its resurrection in repeated donation appeals to Conservative faithful.

The government introduced new legislation last month to simplify gun licensing, and also has loudly denounced and reversed an RCMP move to prohibit a couple of guns police say can too easily be converted into fully automatic weapons.

"I don't want to feed paranoia, but as prime minister I can tell you I share the frustrations of our caucus members," said Harper, before alluding to "bureaucratic initiatives that we think are effectively trying to put the long gun registry back in through the back door."

"This is not something we can tolerate."

He said the government would ensure, in future, that such measures "can't be done without some degree of political oversight."

However, documents obtained by the CBC through the Access to Information Act show the RCMP notified the public safety minister well in advance about - and sought input on



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- its decision to ban the Swiss Arms Classic Green and the CZ858 rifles last winter.

Harper himself was briefed in May 2013 on issues surrounding the reclassification of firearms, according to a heavily redacted document obtained by The Canadian Press.

Oct 17 2014

VICTORIA - Two Mounties involved in a late-night physical altercation with a man in Princeton, B.C., won't be charged, but the man who went to hospital still faces assault allegations.

A statement from the provincial Criminal Justice Branch says an altercation broke out between the unnamed driver and officers in a school parking lot early March 22, 2014.

When the driver was arrested and placed in the back of a police cruiser he lost consciousness and was taken to hospital, the statement said.

Crown counsel reviewed the file, including witness statements, police reports, photos and medical evidence, and determined there was no substantial likelihood of convicting the officers.

Oct 17 2014

EDMONTON - A Rimbey RCMP officer has sued his fellow Mounties and claims a criminal investigation against him that resulted in stayed charges was substandard.

Const. Jesse Charles Lambright, 54, has named seven RCMP officers and the Attorney General of Canada in his \$150,000 statement of claim.

In September 2011, Lambright claims, his fellow officers began a criminal investigation of him without receiving any complaint of criminal conduct. That investigation eventually led to Lambright being charged with two counts of assault, one charge of uttering threats and one charge of breaching a court order.

All those charges were eventually stayed before Lambright reached trial.

"The RCMP members failed to exercise reasonable care and skill in connection with the investigation and were biased against the plaintiff," the claim reads.

Lambright claims officers only focused on gathering evidence that might implicate him and "disregarded or otherwise failed to gather or preserve available" evidence that could exonerate him. The eventual arrest and detention of Lambright was "unnecessary and unreasonable" and lacked any reasonable grounds.

After his fellow RCMP members failed to provide prosecutors with all the relevant evidence, the suit states, the charges were stayed a week before Lambright was scheduled to go to trial.

Court records show the charges were stayed in Wetaskiwin provincial court in June 2013.

Lambright is claiming that the investigation left him with "mental anguish, humiliation, injury to his dignity and damage to his professional reputation."

Rimbey is 145 kilometres southwest of Edmonton. (Edmonton Journal)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 19, 2014

Oct 19 2014

OTTAWA - Members of the RCMP marked a milestone on Saturday.Dozens gathered for the ten-year anniversary of the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery, which is housed within Ottawa's Beechwood Cemetery.

"It's a sacred place for us as members of the RCMP and our families, who will eventually be entered here," said Retired RCMP Assistant Commissioner Bernie Corrigan.

The site was dedicated as the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery in 2004.

It is open to retired and current members of the RCMP, civilian members, special constables and members of their families, and civil servants who have at least 20 years of un-interrupted service with the RCMP.

"We do have I think this heartfelt belief as regiment as family, so this is an extension of that," said Retired RCMP Assistant Commissioner Graham Muir.

Muir and his father bother served with the RCMP for 36 years.

His father was buried at the RCMP Cemetery when he passed away three years ago.

Since it opened in 2004, about 175 people have been buried at the RCMP National Memorial Cemetery.

"We call ourselves a family, and we're a very close knit community," said Corrigan. "It's nice to know we have a place of rest, that final rest, when the time comes, and we can join our comrades again."

Oct 19 2014

Authorities are looking for an SUV after a hit and run early Sunday morning that struck an RCMP officer and a man who had just been arrested.

A disturbance complaint initially called White Butte RCMP to an event centre just west of Regina, when they became aware of threats made at a gathering that related the use of firearms, authorities said in a statement.

A 56-year-old Regina man was arrested

after the RCMP officers responded to the disturbance call.

Authorities say the three RCMP officers were standing on Sherwood Forest Road with the man in custody when an SUV drove towards them.

One RCMP officer was in the ditch off the roadway while the second officer grabbed the arrested man and tried to get out of the way. The third officer and the arrested man were struck by the SUV, which also sideswiped an unmarked police vehicle.

Shots were fired at the vehicle in an attempt to stop it, and though the vehicle slowed down, it managed to drive away from the scene.

The 42-year-old constable who was struck by the vehicle is in hospital with serious injuries. The arrested male sustained non-life-threatening injuries. A second White Butte RCMP constable also suffered minor injuries as a result of the incident. He has received medical treatment and been released.

(CTV News)

Oct 19 2014

MONTREAL - The Montreal police department is disciplining four high-ranking officers for failing to take action to stop the ransacking of city hall last August.

A police inspector was given notice of a suspension without pay for between 20 to 30 days. Three police commanders face suspensions of between 5 and 10 days, also without pay, for violating the police disciplinary code. The employees can appeal the suspensions.

The police brass came under heavy criticism on Aug. 18 for allowing demonstrating municipal employees to take over the council chamber during the city council meeting. Several rank and file police officers stood by while protesters damaged the council chamber, forcing Mayor Denis Coderre to retreat to his office.

The employees were protesting reforms to their municipal pension plans.

Coderre was furious with the lax police response and demanded a full investigation.

Last week, the Montreal Fire Department suspended union leader Ronald Martin for six months without pay after firefighters tried to break into Coderre's office the night of the riot.

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So far, 57 municipal workers, of whom 52 are firefighters, face criminal charges relating to the protest. In addition, six firefighters have been fired, and another 58 municipal employees suspended without pay for up to six months for their participation in protest.

Last week, Ronald Martin, president of the firefighters' union, was suspended without pay for six months. (Montreal Gazette)

Oct 19 2014

Beginning next year, the RCMP is aiming for the first time to enroll just as many women as men in its training academy in Regina.

Some observers are skeptical whether there's enough interest among women to reach the 50 per cent recruitment target especially when a "masculine culture" still pervades the force.

But officials say they are determined to get the makeup of the force to be more representative of the communities they serve.

"It absolutely is ambitious. But in my position as part of this national police force I think it's important that we're a leader in employment equity hiring," said Sgt. Marlene Bzdel, director of the national recruiting policy centre.

Currently, women represent about 21 per cent of sworn officers. Mounties want to increase that to 30 per cent by 2025.

In recent weeks, the RCMP has been highlighting on its website achievements of women over the past 40 years, such as the first female bomb technician and the first female emergency response team member.

The force — which is looking to send almost 1,000 cadets through the training academy during the 2014-15 fiscal year — is rolling out targeted advertising campaigns, women-only career presentations, assistance in preparing for the RCMP fitness test and an accelerated application process.

While the force should be pushing for more diversity, Karen Adams, a member of the RCMP's first all-female troop in 1974, worries about pushing it too far.

"I think there needs to be a push, but not to the point where it's unnatural — to where society doesn't want or demand it or where young Canadians say we don't want to be in that field."

She also worries that standards for women will be lowered.

The RCMP was unable to say what percentage of its applicants are men versus women. Officials have previously said that the labour market availability of women interested in policing is about 27 per cent.

Officials, however, insist that recruitment standards between women and men are the same and will remain so.

"Our target of 50 per cent women (enrolment in the training academy) is a benchmark and not a quota," Bzdel said. "Merit is important and the people we hire need to be qualified by our standards."

Even if the RCMP is able to attract a lot of new women, there's still the question of whether they'll stick around, said Bonnie Reilly Schmidt, a former Mountie who recently completed her PhD dissertation at SFU on the history of women in the RCMP.

"All of them love the work. But they do not like the police culture, which is very masculine. It has been historically and continues to be," she said.

"Face it. Police work is hard enough. You don't need to have extra stress and struggles from your peers added on top of the work."

Her research found that gender-based conflicts within the force can be attributed to different policing styles. Men tend to be more physical and confrontational, whereas women tend to focus on communication.

If there's a bar fight, male officers would "rather go in and knock heads together," whereas women look for alternatives, she said.

Historically, men "insisted that women react the same way they did — whether that be in a bar fight, joking in the office, making sexual comments."

But women had no intention of being like the men. "They wanted to be themselves."

The RCMP's recruitment materials now recognize these differences, telling prospective female applicants that "women provide a unique policing perspective" and "contribute to a balanced approach to resolving problems.' (Postmedia News)

MONDAY OCTOBER 20, 2014

Oct 20 2014

VICTORIA - A Vancouver-area police officer has been charged with second-degree murder in connection with a standoff outside a casino two years ago.

B.C.'s criminal justice branch says the charge was approved against Const. Jordan MacWilliams of the Delta Police Department.

Forty-eight-year-old Mehrdad Bayrami was shot in November 2012 after an hours-long standoff in the parking lot of the Starlight Casino, located in nearby New Westminster.

Bayrami, who was from Richmond, died several days later.

The province's Independent Investigations Office forwarded a report to Crown counsel in July of last year, though prosecutors subsequently requested more information.

The criminal justice branch says MacWilliams appeared in court today and was released on bail, with his next date set for Dec. 18.

Oct 20 2014

OTTAWA - It would be foolish to say the **Canadian Security Intelligence Service** has "all the bases covered" when it comes to monitoring radicalized Canadians who have returned home, a senior CSIS official acknowledges.

Jeff Yaworski, CSIS deputy director of operations, told the Senate national security and defence committee Monday that the spy

service must prioritize efforts to keep its eye on dozens of returnees.

CSIS says between 130 to 145 Canadians are overseas taking part in guerrilla-style battles waged by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant and other groups, as well as supporting extremists through fund-raising and propaganda.

Canada and other western nations fear that radicalized young people who travel abroad could come home with intent to do

"It is something that concerns us greatly and it is our No. 1 priority," Yaworski told the senators.

The RCMP recently said it has about 63 active investigations on 90 suspected extremists who intend to join fights abroad or who have returned to Canada.

Yaworski says while CSIS knows where the returnees are, the spy service must undertake monitoring in line with its budget.

"We have to prioritize these investigations. We have to dedicate our limited resources to those that we think are the greatest threat," he said.

"What does keep me up at nights is those who haven't come across our radar screen."

KRONAU, Sask. - A 17-year-old male was taken to hospital in Regina for injuries in a police shooting.

Mounties say they were called Monday afternoon to a home in Kronau, about 25 kilometres southeast of Regina, about a distraught male.

CTV Regina is reporting that a witness saw a youth standing on the lawn in front of the house when a police cruiser pulled up and two officers got out.

The TV station reported the witness saw what appeared to be an officer draw a weapon, then there was a bang, and the youth fell to the ground.

CTV Regina also reported that when its crew arrived, paramedics were working on a person on the ground, and then the person was whisked away by ambulance.

Mounties are giving no other details other than to say they have requested the Regina Police Service conduct the investigation into the shooting.
(CTV Regina, CJME, CKRM)

Oct 20 2014

VANCOUVER - A man who blew up a homemade pipe bomb in his own face in Vancouver's Olympic Village early Monday morning won't tell police why or how he made the explosive device.

Around 1 a.m. Monday, paramedics called police after they tended to the man at Columbia Street and West 1st Avenue and he admitted that the massive cut to his face was from a bomb, according to Sgt. Randy Fincham of the Vancouver Police Department.

The man, who is "well known to police," was sent to hospital with "significant, non life-threatening" injuries, Fincham said.

Fincham said police are still investigat-

ing the incident, but haven't recommended charges because officers would need to prove criminal intent, and "couldn't find where this thing was built or where it was lit off."

"Sometimes making poor choices in life isn't criminal," Fincham said.
(Postmedia News)

Oct 20 2014

EDMONTON - Year-end forecasts are predicting the Edmonton Police Service will be at least \$1 million over budget.

By the end of 2014, EPS is expected to be \$1.19 million - or 0.4 per cent - over budget, down from the original year-end projections which were calling for an overspend of \$2.475 million.

The reason for the overspend? A shortfall in Traffic Safety Act (TSA) fine revenue.

"This is partly due to an increase in the volume of calls for service and the increased focus on violent crimes," reads a summary report to the Edmonton Police Commission.

As of August 31, EPS generated over \$9.2 million in TSA fine revenue, compared to \$8.3 million generated at this time last year.

The 2014 year-end forecast predicts the total number of TSA fine revenue to come in at roughly \$13.7 million, down 14.9 per cent from the budgeted revenue total of \$16.1 million.

(Edmonton Sun)

TUESDAY OCTOBER 21, 2014

Oct 21 2014

SAINT-JEAN-SUR-RICHELIEU, Que. - Quebec provincial police are identifying the soldier killed in a hit-and-run incident as 53-year-old Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent.



Police say a car was driven deliberately into two soldiers yesterday in Saint-Jean-sur-Richelieu, in what Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney called an act of violence against Canada that was "clearly linked" to terrorist ideology.

Blaney says the government is taking terrorist threats seriously.

The second soldier is in stable condition.

Provincial police Lieutenant Guy
Lapointe says the act was deliberate and that
one of the two soldiers was in uniform.

Police and federal government officials say there is clear evidence the suspect had been radicalized, and police say the man sat in his car in the shopping centre parking lot for more than two hours before targeting the soldiers.

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson says they are investigating with Quebec provincial police to "get a full understanding of the breadth and the sort of reach this individual might have had into other areas."

But they think the man, who was later shot dead by police, acted alone.

Paulson confirms the man was one of 90 suspected extremists the RCMP believed were intending to join fights abroad or who have returned to Canada, and says the Mounties had seized his passport.

Oct 21 2014

REGINA - A car thief in Regina doesn't have much respect for the Crime Stoppers program.

Police say they are searching for a stolen Chrysler PT Cruiser covered in Crime Stoppers signs and logos.

The white vehicle also has a thin black and red stripe across the sides and a graphic of a person in a jail cell on its side and back windows.

The car, which was no longer being used by the program, has been missing for about a month.

Police say the person using the vehicle does not represent Crime Stoppers, a non-profit charity that works with police to fight crime.

Anyone who sees the car is asked to call Regina Police or Crime Stoppers.

Oct 21 2014

SASKATOON – A nine-year member of the Saskatoon Police Service is facing a charge of attempting to obstruct justice involving the disappearance of a victim's statement.

Const. Steven Nelson was charged following an internal investigation by the professional standards section.

Nelson is alleged to have attempted to obstruct justice between August 2012 and October 2013.

Results of the investigation were forwarded to Saskatchewan Justice and the prosecution branch recommended the charge be laid.

Nelson has been suspended with pay and is also subject to an investigation to determine if there have been any breaches of discipline under the Saskatchewan Police Act.

He is scheduled to appear in court on Nov. 20. (Global News)

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 22, 2014

Oct 22 2014

REGINA - The family of an RCMP officer that was hit by a vehicle outside of Regina thanks everyone for their support and well wishes.

Mounties are still looking for the driver of a Jeep Grand Cherokee that struck Const. Keith Bennett while he and other officers were arresting a 56-year-old man in the Rural Municipality of Sherwood early Sunday morning.

The arrested man was also hit and suffered minor injuries.

Bennett remains in intensive care in hospital in Regina with broken bones and damage to his internal organs.

His wife Heather said in a statement that they are hopeful he will be home soon.

She said she is happy to have her husband with her and his daughter is happy to have her dad

The family has asked for privacy and will not be doing any interviews.

Oct 22 2014

SAINT-JEAN-SUR-RICHELIEU, Que. -The man police say drove a car into two soldiers had been arrested by the RCMP this summer as he was getting ready to leave the country.

Superintendent Martine Fontaine says authorities met with 25-year-old Martin Couture-Rouleau as recently as October 9th.

But she says there wasn'thing to suggest any violent behaviour was in the offing, adding Couture-Rouleau seemed open to ideas on how to "change his ways."

Mounties began investigating Couture-Rouleau last June when they saw on his Face-book account he was "radicalizing" himself.

But Fontaine says they can't arrest someone for having radical thoughts.

Couture-Rouleau was eventually arrested and questioned in July as he was preparing to leave the country for Turkey.

Provincial police, meanwhile, identified the soldier who died in Monday's hit-and-run southeast of Montreal as 53-year-old warrant officer Patrice Vincent.

The second soldier's injuries as less serious and police say his life is not in danger.

Oct 22 2014

SYDNEY, N.S. - The Cape Breton Regional Police will receive a 13 per cent pay increase over the next five years.

Their last collective agreement expired on December 31st, 2013.

The officers are represented by Local 1995 of the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union.

The agreement was reached following lengthy conciliation talks with the Cape Breton Regional Municipality.

The wage increases break down as three per cent in the first year and 2.5 per cent in each of the next four years.

The new contract will expire on December 31st, 2018.

Council approved the deal yesterday, while regional police officers approved the contract in a vote last month.

(Cade Breton Post)

Oct 22 2014

WINNIPEG - Police say they have charged a woman who was renting a Winnipeg storage locker where the remains of six

babies were found.

Andrea Giesbrecht, who is 40, faces six charges of concealing a body.

Const. Eric Hofley says it could be months before police find out if the woman is related to the dead infants.

He says there are no homicide charges right now and police aren't interviewing any other suspects.

Hofley says the ages of the infants is still unknown but they are believed to have been newborns.

Workers were taking inventory of a delinquent storage locker on Monday when they found the remains of what police believed were three or four infants.

Oct 22 2014

CHATHAM - Chatham-Kent Police Chief Dennis Poole thought about quitting law enforcement early in his career. Instead, he persevered and ascended the ranks to reach the top spot with the local police service.



Poole will retire in April 2015, more than three decades after the time he considered quitting.

"It wasn't what I thought it would be," Poole told The Chatham Voice in a candid interview. "It was my second or third year. I'd seen enough human misery. It affects you. You don't know how other people live until you enter their lives."

Poole, who grew up in Chatham in a middle class neighbourhood, said he didn't realize the depths to Chatham's dark side when he signed up to the Chatham Police Force in 1980.

"I didn't really think bad things happened in Chatham," he said.

But Poole gutted it out, despite seeing a great deal of human heartache over the years.

"When I was an investigator, I did a lot of child abuse cases. You start to wonder what people are thinking," he said. "It's one thing to deal with the murder of an adult – it's terrible. But with a child, it's the exploitation of our most vulnerable that's disturbing."

Poole worked his way up the local policing ranks, reaching what he thought was his dream job as a detective with the Chatham service. He became deputy chief and then took over from Carl Herder as chief in 2009 after Herder retired.

Despite being only 54, Poole truly believes it is time for someone else to take over.

"In this type of position, your time expectancy is five to seven years," he said. "After seven years, your energy levels and ideals have probably been implemented."
(The Chatham Voice)

THURSDAY OCTOBER 23, 2014

Oct 23 2014

KITCHENER - A Waterloo regional police officer jumped up and over the hood of a stolen car when a man tried to run him down early Wednesday evening in a Kitchener, Ontario parking lot.

The officer wasn't seriously hurt. He joined the chase of the Cadillac CTS as it sped away and moments later arrested a suspect hiding in a nearby apartment.

The officer was checked over for minor injuries at hospital and sent home, said Staff Sgt. Mike Mercer.

The incident started when a female employee approached her car in the parking lot and found a man sleeping in the back seat. He jumped into the front seat and sped away, leaving her behind. The woman wasn't injured.

Police then started getting calls about a Cadillac being driven dangerously in Kitchener, Mercer said.

An officer spotted the car and saw a man in the driver's seat as he approached on foot. The Cadillac sped at the officer as it crashed into several police cars and a retaining wall in the confined parking lot.

"I'm told the officer positioned himself to jump up over the hood of the car as it came at him," Mercer said.

As the car raced away, the officer regained his footing and joined in the chase.

A Kitchener man, 40, faces charges of assault with a weapon (the car), dangerous driving, theft of a motor vehicle, possession of stolen property, and failing to remain at a collision.

(Waterloo Record)

Oct 23 2014

OTTAWA - Those familiar with the Parliament Hill gunman in his final days say he was angry about failing to get a passport and struggled with drug addiction.

Norman LeBlanc, a 60-year-old former truck driver who frequents the downtown Ottawa shelter where Michael Zehaf Bibeau was bunking, says he so angered some of the men at the facility that there was almost a fight in recent days.

LeBlanc says Zehaf Bibeau ranted at length about how much he hated Canada and was furious about having failed to get a passport in order to leave.

He says the griping almost prompted some of other men at the mission to take Zehaf Bibeau outside and beat him up.

Others at the mission say that following the shooting Wednesday, police descended upon the shelter and removed a duffel bag from Zehaf Bibeau's locker that was so heavy it required two men to haul it outside.

Zehaf Bibeau, who told people he had

come to Ottawa from Vancouver to secure a passport, often prayed with two Somali men in the shelter in an east-facing window in accordance with the Muslim faith.

One of them, Abdel Kareen Abubakrr, denies his new friend's actions had anything to do with his faith.

Abubakrr says Zehaf Bibeau was a drug addict who wanted to leave Canada to get treatment - but began doing drugs again in the days prior to the shooting.

Oct 23 2014

TORONTO - Security concerns remained high at the Ontario legislature Thursday, one day after a gunman attacked Parliament Hill, with talk of wider user of metal detectors but still no plan to arm security officers.

Interim Progressive Conservative Leader Jim Wilson said he "doesn't feel particularly safe" at Queen's Park, and hasn't since armed police were removed from the legislature in 1997.

Wilson said he talked to a half dozen legislative security officers during the height of lockdown in Ottawa Wednesday, and they told him they want guns.

"You know if somebody comes running up the steps with a gun, these guys have a baton and a set of handcuffs," he said. "I don't mean being armed to the nines, but a nine millimetre around here wouldn't be a bad idea."

NDP Leader Andrea Horwath said the government would have to strike "a delicate balance" between security concerns and keeping the legislature open for the public.

"We need to do everything we can to keep people safe, while at the same time recognizing that we have to function and we have to allow the people of Ontario access to their public Parliament building," said Horwath. "I don't believe that it's necessary to arm

"I don't believe that it's necessary to arm everybody to the nines, and to have a situation where people don't feel comfortable because there's such a level of security that the building becomes inaccessible."

Speaker Dave Levac said there was no talk about arming legislative security officers at the last review, and admitted he was disappointed they did not agree to make everyone entering the building go through a metal detector.

Currently, only people without passes who wish to enter the legislative chamber have to go through a metal detector before entering the public galleries.

"All of that will be taken into consideration during any reviews that we consistently do to ensure that this place is still the bed of freedom, and (ensure) accessibility for people in a way that security is still not compromised," Levac told reporters. "We have to make sure we don't shut democracy down for the sake of security."

Premier Kathleen Wynne said the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and the RCMP are sharing information with the Ontario Provincial Police and with local police forces about possible threats to government buildings.

"We want Ontarians to know that our police and our paramedics and firefighters are trained and are prepared for any eventuality," Wynne told the legislature.