

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

June 12, 2015 – Vol. 20 No. 24

Executive Digest

Jun 05 2015

TORONTO - There is "no justification" for the practice of police carding to continue, Toronto Police Services Board Chair Alok Mukherjee says in a new editorial, in which he calls the practice "deeply offensive."

Page 5

Jun 06 2015

WINNIPEG - Winnipeg's police chief says the new police headquarters would be vulnerable to a drive-up attack without security improvements planned for the coming months.

Page 5

Jun 08 2015

Canada's financial intelligence unit has reported a sharp increase in suspected terrorist financing cases to the government's three top national security agencies over the past two years, according to figures released by the office of Finance Minister Joe Oliver.

Page 6

Jun 09 2015

OTTAWA - The mayor of Edmonton is reacting to the latest deadly police shooting by suggesting the loss of the federal long-gun registry may be a factor - a position that federal Justice Minister Peter MacKay calls "ill-timed," "unhelpful" and "absurd."

Page 7

Jun 11 2015

OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada says medical marijuana can include products other than dried pot, such as cannabis-infused cookies brownies, oils and tea.

Page 11

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

EMAILED EVERY WEEK

52 WEEKS - ONLY \$100⁰⁰

www.BlueLine.ca/Shop

Edmonton police officer killed, another wounded



Jun 09 2015

EDMONTON - A west Edmonton neighbourhood erupted in chaos Monday night as one police officer was killed and another injured in a shooting that one witness said started out as a routine arrest.

Edmonton Police Chief Rod Knecht held a news conference at midnight to confirm the death of Const. Daniel Woodall, a 35-year-old, eight-year veteran of the force who was recruited from Great Britain and used to serve with the Greater Manchester Police.

Sgt. Jason Harley, 38, was shot in the lower back but was protected by his body armour.

Early Tuesday, Edmonton police said he had been released from hospital.

Knecht said Harley's body armour saved him. "He is doing well considering the magnitude of the event."

Woodall, who worked for the hate crimes unit, was also wearing body armour, "but it was not engaged in this event. Sadly, he died on scene due to a catastrophic wound."

Knecht said the other officers took cover and were pinned down by gunfire for the next 10 minutes. They came "very, very close to death."



RCMP
HERITAGE
CENTRE

LE CENTRE DU
PATRIMOINE
DE LA GRC

**Make it your destination
Make it your cause**

www.rcmpheritagecentre.com

5907 Dewdney Avenue, Regina, SK Canada S4T 0P4

866-567-7267

"We will forever be in his debt for his actions this evening," a sombre Knecht told reporters, calling it "a tragedy of unspeakable proportions."

Woodall leaves behind a wife, Claire, and two young children. She thanked people in a tweet Tuesday for the support she has already received.

"Your generous outpouring of love for myself and my boys fills my heart. He is my hero, our boys' hero & Edmonton's newest hero," she wrote.

Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson choked back tears and struggled to talk to reporters.

"I reflect the sadness that I feel in the community," he said, "but I feel this most deeply as a father of young children and I'm incredibly sad for them and for Mrs. Woodall."

Edmonton is still a safe city, he said. "By and large, good people live here ... we rely on our police to protect us from the few and the worst among us."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper also sent condolences to Woodall's family, friends and colleagues.

"It is a very difficult reminder that police officers across our country put their lives on the line every day to serve and protect our communities and keep us safe," Harper said in a statement.

The suspect had been the focus of a lengthy hate crimes investigation. Knecht says police had evidence going back to February of last year.

"The online hatred and bullying of an Edmonton family had become extreme and the family members were increasingly worried about their personal safety, at which time the Edmonton Police Service became involved," Knecht said at a Tuesday news conference.

Knecht identified the suspect as Norman Walter Raddatz, 42, who was known to police, although he did not have an extensive criminal record.

Officers had gone to the man's home in

west Edmonton on Monday night to arrest him on a warrant for criminal harassment and that's when gunfire broke out. Officers found 53 bullets in the house and garage across the street, said Knecht, who added the officers didn't fire any rounds.

"Some of the bullets passed right through the house, which speaks to the power of the weapon being used. We believe a large-bore rifle was being used."

The house the officers went to in order to arrest Raddatz burned to the ground Monday night. Police found a body in the basement they believe is Raddatz.

Knecht said an autopsy would be performed Tuesday.

It is the second death of an Edmonton-area police officer this year. RCMP Const. David Wynn, 42, died in January at a casino in St. Albert, north of the city, while trying to track down the driver of a stolen truck. Auxiliary Const. Derek Bond was seriously injured but survived.

The last officer to be killed on the job within Edmonton city limits was Const. Ezio Faraone, who was gunned down in June 1990 while trying to arrest a suspect who was fleeing from an armed robbery.

MacKay said Ottawa invests money in what he called "an aboriginal justice strategy" that includes money for youth programs aimed at keeping kids out of trouble with the law.

"Those efforts and those investments will continue but it will require a whole-of-government approach," he said.

Jun 04 2015

EDMONTON - An Edmonton police officer has been charged in the aggravated assault of a man who was seriously hurt during an encounter in a convenience store.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team was asked to investigate what happened on March 8, 2014, when an officer responded to a complaint of an intoxicated man.

The man was refusing to leave a Subway shop inside a Mac's convenience store.

ASIRT says the officer "had contact" with the 45-year-old man, who suffered a complex facial fracture needing hospitalization and surgery.

ASIRT says no weapon was involved.

Police say Const. Sean Briegel, a four-year veteran, has been placed on administrative duties.

Jun 04 2015

PETERBOROUGH - The Peterborough police service's board revolving door has swung once again.

Board chair Garth Wedlock has been removed as chair of the board, amidst an investigation by the Ontario Civilian Police Commission. According to his lawyer, Jeff Ayotte, Mr. Wedlock plans to comply with the Commission's investigation into his conduct on the board and is confident he'll the Commission will find him innocent of the allegations against him.

The commission hasn't responded to a request for clarification on the investigation and hasn't confirmed it's looking into anything suspicious. The news comes only months after former board chair Mary Smith was booted from the board at the end of 2014 when the amalgamated Peterborough-Lakefield police service disbanded.

Mr. Wedlock is the fourth board chair to leave the board in less than four years, although he is technically still a member during the investigation, he just can't participate. The board isn't commenting on the Commission's investigation.

In Mr. Wedlock's absence, vice-chair Andrea Maxie will fill in as chair.
(Peterborough This Week)

Jun 04 2015

MONTREAL - The federal justice minister says his government will uphold the country's drug laws in response to Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre's commitment to proceeding with safe injection sites with or without Ottawa's blessing.

The Conservative government is focused on treating drug addicts as opposed to making "more available access to often illegal

**THURSDAY
JUNE 4, 2015**

Jun 04 2015

VANCOUVER - Police, Crime Stoppers and the Canada Border Services Agency have joined forces to launch a "Cash for Guns" campaign in Metro Vancouver.

Linda Annis, head of Metro Vancouver Crime Stoppers, says the goal is to get at least 500 illegal guns off the streets in the next year with the help of anonymous tipsters.

Annis says anyone who provides information about illegal guns is eligible for a reward of up to \$2,000, depending on who owns it and whether police have intelligence on a particular weapon.

RCMP and the Vancouver Police Department are involved in the program, which is modelled after others in at least two Canadian cities, including Toronto and Winnipeg.

Jun 04 2015

MONTREAL - There is "no denying" aboriginals in Canada are overrepresented in the country's penal system, says Justice Minister Peter MacKay.

"This is a tragedy that we have to come to grips with," he said Thursday in response to the justice-related recommendations in the report by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Tuesday's report documents the history of the residential school system in Canada.

It lists 94 recommendations to address the legacy of residential schools, including calls on the federal government to "commit to eliminating the overrepresentation of aboriginal people in custody."

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK Celebrating 20 Years

ISSN 1704-3913
Copyright 2015
Blue Line Magazine Inc. & The Canadian Press
Permission to reprint may be obtained in advance from
Access Copyright
Phone 1-800-893-5777 Info@accesscopyright.ca

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

Most information supplied in this publication is from newswire services. As such Blue Line Magazine does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of articles as supplied.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in an electronic database or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers. One Year Subscriptions are \$105⁰⁰ (GST Included). Paid subscribers may make up to four (4) copies of this publication for distribution within their organization.

GROUP PUBLISHER: Morley S. Lymburner
PUBLISHER: Kathryn M. Lymburner B.A. - Kathryn@BlueLine.ca
NEWS EDITOR: Mark Reesor - News@BlueLine.ca
SUBSCRIPTIONS: Blue Line Store at www.BlueLine.ca
ADVERTISING: 1-888-640-3048

12A-4981 Hwy. 7 East, Ste. 254, Markham ON L3R 1N1
Phone: 905 640-3048 eMail: news@blueline.ca

drugs," Peter MacKay told reporters Thursday.

Earlier in the day, Coderre said the city will open supervised injection facilities -- where people can inject drugs without fear of arrest -- regardless of what Ottawa says about it.

Coderre said the project has been approved by city council and the provincial government. Montreal police have also been consulted.

The federal government must grant an exemption under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act in order for a safe injection site to operate.

Quebec officially asked for the exemption at the beginning of May, but Ottawa has been publicly and strongly opposed to granting licences for facilities where people can inject drugs legally.

The only supervised injection facility in Canada is in Vancouver.

Jun 04 2015

OTTAWA - Some RCMP officers guarding Parliament Hill against potential terrorist attacks should be armed with rifles similar to those carried by Canadian troops in Afghanistan, says Conservative senator Vern White, a former Mountie and ex-Ottawa police chief.



White said the Heckler & Koch MP5 9mm submachine-guns that reappeared recently in the hands of RCMP guards patrolling near Centre Block are useful in certain situations but don't have the range to hit attackers farther out on the grounds of Parliament Hill near Wellington Street.

Police should instead be primarily equipped with the more powerful Colt C8, he says.

RCMP officers were originally issued the MP5 in 1986 for duty on Parliament Hill and for guarding embassies in Ottawa. But they were later removed after a series of embarrassing misfires, in which officers were wounded. The RCMP noted at the time that 9mm handguns being issued to officers would be as effective as the MP5s.

Both guns "have utilization up here (on the Hill) but of the two, the MP5 is useless on the grounds," said White. The MP5 has an effective range of about 50 metres, he said.

"We're looking at about 175 metres from the top of the stairs (in front of Centre Block) to Wellington Street. You're not hitting anybody with an MP-5," if they're

entering the grounds at Wellington, as shooter Michael Zehaf-Bibeau did on Oct. 22, 2014.

"In that case, you have to hope they don't have (a gun) strong enough to engage you until they're close enough for you to engage them," said White, who co-chairs a joint Commons-Senate security committee.

The RCMP is issuing more than 2,200 C8 carbines to its officers but it's unclear at this point whether the weapons will be put in the hands of those guarding Parliament Hill.

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson told the House of Commons Public Safety committee last month that the force is in the process of issuing the high-powered weaponry.

"It's rolled out on a purposefully risk-assessed framework that is being cautious around putting these - effectively - assault rifles into the hands of our police officers, recognizing that there's a need for our officers to have that kind of arming, but with conditions, policies, and guidelines around the use of that," Paulson explained. "That is progressing on schedule."

The RCMP did not respond to questions Thursday about whether its officers on Parliament Hill will eventually be issued C8s. RCMP emergency response units already have the weapons. The force also was not able to provide details about the MP5 training Hill officers receive.

White first raised the issue that Parliament Hill was not properly protected when he arrived at the Senate in 2012.

MP5s were reissued to officers on Parliament Hill in 2010, after 19 Greenpeace activists climbed onto the roofs of the West Block and Centre Block and unfurled climate-change protest banners.

The firearms were reissued specifically to deal with any incident in which a gunman managed to get into Parliament Hill, the force said at the time. But the guns were kept out of sight in RCMP vehicles.

(Ottawa Citizen)

**FRIDAY
JUNE 5, 2015**

Jun 05 2015

MONCTON, N.B. - The senior officer with the RCMP in New Brunswick says the Moncton force is better equipped to handle a gunman like Justin Bourque.

The force has been criticized for not properly equipping its officers with adequate training and resources, such as patrol carbines.

But Assistant Commissioner Roger Brown says the force in Moncton has better equipment than it had a year ago.

However, he says he's cautious about saying the officers are fully where they want to be in terms of gear or training.

Brown says he doesn't want anyone to

become complacent.

The officer said there will be an opportunity to speak in more detail about the resources for the force, but yesterday -- the first anniversary of Bourque's June 4th rampage through the community -- was not the day for that.

Bourque was sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 75 years after pleading guilty to three counts of first-degree murder and two counts of attempted murder.

Jun 05 2015

HALIFAX - A Halifax RCMP officer was charged with sexual assault Friday.

Sgt. Kenneth James Taker, 47, was the subject of an investigation after two women came forward with allegations of assault against a female RCMP member and sex assault involving the inappropriate sexual touching of a female RCMP civilian employee.

Both incidents were alleged to have taken place March 25 during a three-day RCMP meeting at White Point Beach Lodge in Queens County.

The province's Serious Incident Response team investigated the complaints and laid the sex assault charge against the officer.

In a news release, team director said further details into the incidents will not be disclosed at this time to ensure a fair trial.

Taker is expected to appear in Liverpool provincial court July 7.

(Chronicle Herald)

Jun 05 2015

TORONTO - A Hamilton police officer is among dozens of people arrested during a police operation targeting gangs and guns in Toronto.



Toronto police say they have dismantled the Monstarz gang, which operated in the city's northwest and was allegedly involved in at least eight homicides.

Police say they have made 60 arrests and 45 people are currently facing 379 gun and drug-related charges.

Hamilton police officer Craig Ruthkowsky, 41, faces four charges, including breach of trust, conspiracy to traffic cocaine and two counts relating to organized crime.

More than 700 officers were involved in the police operation dubbed Project Pharaoh, which covered much of southwest Ontario.

Police say they have seized a significant amount of drugs, including cocaine, nearly \$200,000 in cash and 15 vehicles.

Jun 05 2015

VANCOUVER - The Crown has lost its bid to overturn the acquittal of an RCMP officer who was charged with lying at an inquiry into Robert Dziekanski's death.

Const. Bill Bentley was among four officers who confronted Dziekanski at Vancouver's airport in October 2007, when he was stunned with a Taser and died.

In a unanimous ruling, the B.C. Appeal Court upheld the not-guilty verdict for Bentley, saying there was no error in a judge's decision of reasonable doubt.

Justice Anne Mackenzie says in the written decision that the original judge's conclusions weren't tainted by legal mistakes.

Bentley was among four officers who were charged with perjury after the public inquiry when the Crown claimed they all colluded on a story to tell investigators and later the inquiry.

Bentley and Const Gerry Rundel were acquitted of perjury, while Const. Kwesi Millington and former officer Benjamin "Monty" Robinson were both convicted for their testimony.

Jun 05 2015

CALGARY - A former Calgary police officer has been found not guilty of sex charges involving a child.

Stephen Huggett, who is 61, was charged in 2013 with invitation to sexual touching and sexual interference with a child under 14 years that allegedly happened in the 1990s.

The judge hearing the case says the Crown failed to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incidents happened and there were problems with some of the alleged victim's testimony.

During the trial a 29-year-old woman testified that Huggett showered with her and asked her to do somersaults on his naked body beginning when she was seven-years-old.

Huggett retired from the Calgary police service in 2007 after 25 years with the force.

He spent nine months in jail in 2009 for possession of child pornography.
(CHQR.)

Jun 05 2015

TORONTO - A police sergeant who choked a compliant man he arrested illegally at the G20 summit five years ago and then lied about it was handed a two-month demotion to constable Friday.

In sentencing Sgt. Michael Ferry, retired justice Lee Ferrier was blunt in his assessment.

"The factual findings in this matter reflect particularly serious misconduct," Ferrier wrote.

"Sgt. Ferry was found to have given incredible testimony under oath that can only have been deliberately dishonest."

The officer's dishonesty was but one of several aggravating factors Ferrier said he found in the case.

Other factors included Ferrier's previous disciplinary findings involving "serious

dishonesty," the fact that he was a supervisor whose illegal retaliatory conduct had occurred in full public view, and that he had failed to respect a citizen's right to be left alone.

At the same time, Ferrier decided the financial consequences of a one-year demotion - as the prosecution had wanted - would be too severe.

"A 12-month demotion would potentially have extraordinary financial consequences, not only during the demotion period, but continuing for the rest of his life in his reduced pension entitlement," Ferrier said.

"I am also of the view that a reprimand as an additional penalty in this case adds little because of the severity of a demotion."

Ferry, a 26-year police veteran, arrested Ryan Mitchell on June 27, 2010, a day after vandals ran amok in the downtown core. Ferrier had previously found him guilty of misconduct under the Police Services Act for illegally arresting Mitchell and using excessive force against the PhD student.

Jun 05 2015

MONTREAL - Legislation has been introduced in Quebec that aims to punish people who are cruel to animals with heavy fines, and in some cases, with incarceration.

Even flushing live goldfish down the toilet would become a crime.

Quebec Agriculture Minister Pierre Paradis, who tabled the bill, warned, "Don't get a goldfish if you don't want to take care of it."

TAKE THE PATH OF MOST RESISTANCE.



2015 OUTLANDER

- ✓ WORLD'S MOST ADVANCED ALL-WHEEL CONTROL SYSTEM
- ✓ 5 YEAR / 100,000 KM NEW VEHICLE LIMITED WARRANTY*
- ✓ 10 YEAR / 160,000 KM POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY**
- ✓ AVAILABLE 6-CYLINDER 227 HP ENGINE



Available on Outlander GT*



Top Safety Pick Plus applies to Outlander GT only.



2015 RVR

- ✓ ALL-WHEEL CONTROL (AWC) WITH DRIVE MODE SELECTOR
- ✓ 10 YEAR / 160,000 KM POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY**
- ✓ 2.0 L DOHC MIVEC 4 CYLINDER ENGINE (148 HP, TORQUE 145 LB-FT)



Available on RVR SE 4WD and GT models*



2015 LANCER

- ✓ ALL-WHEEL CONTROL (AWC) WITH DRIVE MODE SELECTOR
- ✓ 10 YEAR / 160,000 KM POWERTRAIN LIMITED WARRANTY**
- ✓ 2.4 L DOHC MIVEC 4-CYLINDER ENGINE (168 HP)



Available on Lancer SE AWC and GT AWCs



Excludes Lancer Evolution, Ralliart and Sportback



* AWC standard on RVR SE AWC, Limited Edition and GT/Lancer SE AWC and GT. S-AWC standard on Outlander GT. ** Based on the Vincentric 2014 Best Fleet Value in Canada awards and the RVR SE, 4D Utility 2WD trim level. † Whichever comes first. Regular maintenance not included. New vehicle limited warranty covers most vehicle parts (excluding batteries, with entertainment systems and other items excluded under the warranty's terms and conditions) under normal use and maintenance. ** Whichever comes first. Regular maintenance not included. See dealer or mitsubishi-motors.ca for warranty terms, restrictions and details. Not all customers will qualify.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON OUR FLEET LINEUP, PLEASE VISIT MITSUBISHIFLEET.CA AND/OR CONTACT OUR CANADIAN FLEET TEAM BY EMAIL AT FLEET@MMCAN.CA. YOU CAN ALSO CALL OUR FLEET REPRESENTATIVES LUC GRENIER AT 1-905-214-9068, SHAWN BRYAN AT 1-905-214-9010 OR DAVID MURPHY AT 1-905-214-9048.

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

The bill states animals are “sentient beings and have biological needs.”

Paradis believes his bill will transform Quebec from a jurisdiction with some of the weakest animal-welfare rules in North America to one with some of the toughest.

The bill has separate rules for pet owners, farmers with livestock, owners of pet shops and people who sell animal-based products such as furs.

For instance, farmers must guarantee their animals are “treated with dignity as much as possible” from birth to slaughter.

But farm animals don’t get the same protection as pets.

Jun 05 2015

TORONTO - There is “no justification” for the practice of police carding to continue, Toronto Police Services Board Chair Alok Mukherjee says in a new editorial, in which he calls the practice “deeply offensive.”



Mukherjee’s comments appear in an opinion piece published in Friday’s *Toronto Star*. In it, he writes that he came to his conclusions about carding after two “random contacts” in less than 24 hours with people who said they had been stopped by police and carded several times.

“I believe the Toronto police services board must now declare unequivocally that information generated from informal contacts with members of the public, which are not related to any criminal investigation or likelihood of a criminal investigation, must not be recorded in any police database,” Mukherjee writes.

“I understand that such information will be recorded in the memo book of the officer who made the contact, but it should remain there.”

In his editorial, Mukherjee acknowledges that carding has been a part of police work in this city “for a very long time and continues to bedevil relations between racialized residents of this city and the police today.”

But the fact that information taken from residents who are not suspected of wrongdoing then sits in a database “to be used in ways that could jeopardize their safety and future is deeply offensive. There is no justification for this practice to continue.”

Mukherjee concludes by calling on officials to “get on with” the process of ensuring that information gleaned from residents in “non-arrest, non-detention

situations” doesn’t make its way into a permanent police database.

“At least here in Toronto, let us say clearly that we will not let this city turn into a surveillance society against those who live here because of their race, ethnicity, skin colour, age or socio-economic status,” Mukherjee writes. “That is not consistent with the values we cherish through our motto, ‘Diversity Our Strength.’”

SATURDAY JUNE 6 2015

Jun 06 2015

ST. JOHN’S, N.L. - Scientific studies increasingly suggest marijuana may not be the risk-free high that teens - and sometimes their parents - think it is, researchers say.

Yet pot is still widely perceived by young smokers as relatively harmless, said Dr. Romina Mizrahi, director of the Focus on Youth Psychosis Prevention clinic and research program at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

She cites a growing body of research that warns of significantly higher incidence of hallucinations, paranoia and the triggering of psychotic illness in adolescent users who are most predisposed.

“When you look at the studies in general, you can safely say that in those that are vulnerable, it doubles the risk.”

Such fallout is increasingly evident in the 19-bed crisis monitoring unit at the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario in Ottawa.

“I see more and more cases of substance-induced psychosis,” said Dr. Sinthu Suntharalingam, a child and adolescent psychiatrist. “The most common substance that’s abused is cannabis.”

One or two cases a week are now arriving on average.

“They will present with active hallucinations,” Suntharalingam said. “They’ll be seeing things, hearing things, sometimes they will try to self-harm or go after other people.”

She and Mizrahi, an associate professor in psychiatry at University of Toronto, are among other front-line professionals who say more must be done to help kids understand potential effects.

“They know the hard drugs, what they can do,” Suntharalingam said. “Acid, they’ll tell us it can cause all these things so they stay away from it. But marijuana? They’ll be: ‘Oh, everybody does it.’”

Amir Englund of King’s College London specializes in the effects of cannabis on the brain and behaviour. Pot with higher THC or tetrahydrocannabinol content, the ingredient that induces most psychological effects, can pack the punch of three shots of scotch versus a pint of beer, he said.

Studies of frequent adolescent users suggest those who start smoking earlier have a higher tendency to develop psychotic illness-

es, he said in an interview.

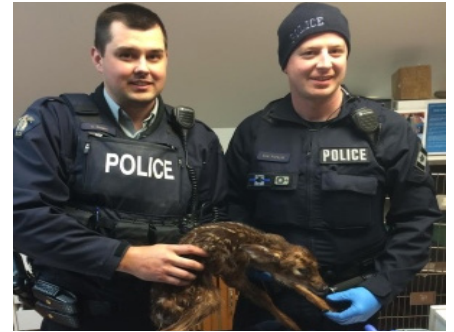
“People who get an illness much earlier, their likelihood of having a bad prognosis is higher.”

Mizrahi advises all young people to avoid pot until they’re at least in their early 20s.

“Certainly don’t do it when your brain is developing,” she said. “Don’t put yourself at risk.”

Jun 06 2015

Two RCMP officers saved the life of an unborn fawn early Saturday morning, just minutes after they accidentally hit the fawn’s mother with their vehicle and killed it.



Const. Derek Bigger and Aux. Const. Darren Forsyth were on patrol on Wyse Road in Meaghers Grant, N.S., 50 kilometres northeast of Halifax, at about 2:30 a.m. local time when the deer unexpectedly ran in front of their police car.

“It happened so fast, like I didn’t even have time to turn, hit the brakes, nothing,” said Bigger, noting the road was quite foggy at the time.

After the collision, the officers turned the vehicle around and went to check on the deer. While the deer was dead, they noticed it had expelled its amniotic sac.

“The fawn was inside of it and it was trying to kick and push and stuff,” said Bigger.

Forsyth held a flashlight and Bigger used a knife to slowly cut open the sac to ensure the fawn did not get cut.

“Its eyes popped open and it started breathing,” said Bigger.

From there, he cut the umbilical cord and then used a bottle of water to clean off the fawn and get dirt and gravel off of it.

(CBC News)

Jun 06 2015

WINNIPEG - Winnipeg’s police chief says the new police headquarters would be vulnerable to a drive-up attack without security improvements planned for the coming months.

Physical protection for the new home of the Winnipeg Police Service is part of \$1.7 million worth of work that must be conducted at the Smith Street facility before the police start moving in this October.

Earlier in the week, the city issued a search for a consulting firm to design high-speed doors for the building, protection for the parkade, ventilation for evidence rooms,

reduce the chance of critical failures throughout the building and improve the cooling, electrical, fire-suppression and smoke-protection systems. The design and construction of the additional work -- plus \$300,000 to replace a pair of transformers damaged in a 2014 rainstorm -- takes the total price tag for the police-HQ project up to \$211.8 million.

Police Chief Devon Clunis acknowledged the police service failed to take the new infrastructure into account, but insists the work is necessary.

"When we talk about, for example, security around the building and ensuring that it's safe, that somebody can't simply just maybe drive into the building," Clunis said Friday at city hall. "So we're talking about bollards, things along those lines, to ensure that those are in place before we take over that building."

The police were prepared to move into the new headquarters in August 2014, but a severe downpour flooded the building and critically damaged the electrical infrastructure.

City property officials say the police service came forward with requests for additional infrastructure after the storm. This suggests police were prepared to move in without the building safeguards now deemed compulsory. (Winnipeg Free Press)

MONDAY
JUNE 8 2015

Jun 08 2015

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - A York Regional Police officer has been charged with sexual assault.

Ontario's police watchdog says the incident occurred on Jan. 4 when a 21-year-old woman was pulled over for a traffic stop.

The Special Investigations Unit says they received a complaint of a sexual nature that same day.

Const. Young Min von Seefried has been charged with sexual assault and is scheduled to appear in a Newmarket court on July 21.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

Jun 08 2015

An Alberta MP has introduced a private member's bill named after a slain RCMP officer to ensure bail hearings have an accused's criminal history.

Const. David Wynn, who was 42, was shot and killed in January at a casino in St. Albert, north of Edmonton.

The shooter, Shawn Maxwell Rehn, was out on bail facing 15 charges, including escaping lawful custody, possession of a prohibited firearm and failure to show up to a previous bail hearing on the charges.

Rehn was found dead in an apparent suicide later on the day of the shooting.

The proposed law by Independent MP Brent Rathgeber would make it mandatory for prosecutors to present an accused's entire criminal history before a justice of the peace at a bail hearing.

Rathgeber says the public is put at risk by that information not being put before the court. (CHED, CP)

Jun 08 2015

TORONTO - Toronto's top cop says he's reluctant to talk about carding policy changes until Mayor John Tory formally brings his proposal to a board meeting later this month.

Police Chief Mark Saunders made the comment one day after Tory vowed to "seek the permanent cancellation of carding once and for all."

Carding -- which refers to the police practice that allows officers to randomly stop citizens on the street and record their personal information -- has been a controversial issue in Toronto for years.

Critics claim the policy is racial profiling and should be abolished - an opinion that seems to be gaining traction.

Saunders, who is Toronto's first black chief of police, previously said he would not end carding.

"Abolishing it is not the way in which we are going to say, 'Everything is going to be better,'" he said in April, soon after his appointment.

When asked about Tory's recent comments on carding, Saunders said Monday he was "not surprised" but said his own position is based on the safety of Torontonians.

"My responsibility is community safety and I have made it very clear that's my responsibility," Saunders said. "I'm always

looking at what's the best opportunity we have to add value to community safety."

He said he continues to work with the Toronto Police Services Board to find the best solution that will keep the city's streets safe.

The next TPS board meeting is set to take place on June 18. The meeting will be attended by Tory, who said Sunday he intends to raise issue of carding with board members.

"This issue has been among the most personally agonizing for me during my short tenure as mayor," Tory said.

Former RCMP commissioner Norman Inkster says while the policy "needs to be replaced," police still need an effective way to gather intelligence and information.

"In the absence of (carding), crime solution is going to be extraordinary difficult," Inkster said. "Crime solution is only partly a science. It's (also) people telling you what's going on."

Jun 08 2015

Canada's financial intelligence unit has reported a sharp increase in suspected terrorist financing cases to the government's three top national security agencies over the past two years, according to figures released by the office of Finance Minister Joe Oliver.

The previously unreleased data shows that FINTRAC disclosed the financial information most often to the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, followed by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and Canada

LifeRaft
NAVIGATING SOCIAL

Social Media Intelligence... Reinvented

Advanced Query Capabilities

Hybrid approach provides actual and inferred location data

POI Associates/Pods

Uncovers closest known associates/group relationships

Time Machine

Recreate an incident from social media archives back to 2011

Person of Interest

Tracking targets to gather intelligence



1.888.318.5105

www.SocialLifeRaft.com

Border Services Agency, which more than doubled its use of such intelligence.

Disclosures to CSIS rose to 193 from 136 two years ago. Reports sent to the RCMP climbed to 134 from 89 during that same period, while those made to the CBSA jumped to 30, from 14 in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. Overall, FINTRAC reporting on terror financing and national security almost doubled.

Such an agency-by-agency breakdown has never before been publicly released, but the finance minister's office provided the figures to the National Post to draw attention to what Oliver views as the hidden side of terrorism: the behind-the-scenes financing that supports violent extremist groups.

In total, FINTRAC made 298 disclosures about terrorism and security in the fiscal year that ended in March 2014 - up from 159, the minister's officer said. There was also a steep increase in the number of cases that were considered both terrorist financing and money laundering.

(National Post)

TUESDAY
JUNE 9, 2015

Jun 09 2015

OTTAWA - Statistics Canada says the number of hate crimes reported to police in 2013 dropped by 17 per cent from 2012.

The agency says police reported 1,167 hate crimes in 2013, 247 fewer than the year before.

It says the decline was mainly attributable to a 30-per-cent drop in non-violent hate crime incidents, primarily mischief.

The report says hate crimes motivated by hatred of race or ethnicity represented about 51 per cent of the total.

Religious hate crimes accounted for 28 per cent, while 16 per cent were crimes motivated by hatred of a sexual orientation.

Racial or ethnic hate crimes dropped 17 per cent between 2012 and 2013, with the largest declines coming in incidents targeting Arab, West Asian and black populations.

There were small increases in reported hate crimes against East and Southeast Asian populations as well as whites.

Black populations were still the most frequent target of hate crimes, with 22 per cent of all incidents.

Religion-motivated hate crime incidents were down 22 per cent from 2013, with drops in hate crimes targeting every religious group except Muslim populations. There were 20 more incidents reported against Muslims compared with 2012.

Still, hate crimes aimed at Jewish populations were the most common religiously motivated crimes, making up 16 per cent of all hate crimes.

There were 186 police-reported hate crime incidents in 2013 that were motivated by sexual orientation, one more than a year earlier.

The survey said 60 per cent of hate-mo-

tivated crimes reported by police involved non-violent offences, with mischief, including vandalism, graffiti and other forms of property destruction, the most commonly reported offence.

Almost three-quarters of religious hate crimes involved mischief.

While four in 10 hate crimes were violent, these were primarily incidents of common assault or uttering threats.

Two-thirds of hate crimes involving sexual orientation were violent, compared with 44 per cent of racial or ethnic hatred crimes and 18 per cent of religious hate crimes.

There were small increases in reported hate crimes against East and Southeast Asian populations as well as whites.

Black populations were still the most frequent target of hate crimes, with 22 per cent of all incidents.

Religion-motivated hate crime incidents were down 22 per cent from 2013, with drops in hate crimes targeting every religious group except Muslim populations. There were 20 more incidents reported against Muslims compared with 2012.

Still, hate crimes aimed at Jewish populations were the most common religiously motivated crimes, making up 16 per cent of all hate crimes.

Jun 09 2015

OTTAWA - The mayor of Edmonton is reacting to the latest deadly police shooting by suggesting the loss of the federal long-gun registry may be a factor - a position that federal Justice Minister Peter MacKay calls "ill-timed," "unhelpful" and "absurd."



Mayor Don Iveson told a news conference Tuesday in Edmonton that police always want to know whether firearms are on hand when they answer a call.

Const. Daniel Woodall, who worked on the hate crimes unit, was shot dead by a man wielding a large-bore rifle Monday night after going to a home to issue an arrest warrant. Sgt. Jason Harley was shot in the lower back.

Asked whether there is anything afoot to explain a recent spate of police interactions with armed assailants, Iveson waded in to explosive political territory.

"I do have a concern with gun violence and I will say that the loss of the gun registry may be related to this," said the mayor.

The justice minister, in Ottawa, strongly denounced what he described as speculation by Iveson.

"The comments by the mayor, quite frankly, are unhelpful, inappropriate and ill-timed," MacKay said.

"Making that declaration that somehow this might have been prevented by gun registry data, frankly, I find absurd."

Iveson subsequently took to social media to offer an apology for his remarks.

"Speculation about gun registry this morning was premature," Iveson wrote on Twitter. "Focus should remain our condolences & safety of EPS members & public. Apologies."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, who is currently in Poland wrapping up a five-day trip to Europe, issued a release of condolences for Woodall's death.

"On behalf of all Canadians, Laureen and I offer our deepest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues. We also pray for the full and speedy recovery of Sergeant Jason Harley who was shot in the same incident," Harper said in the release.

"It is a very difficult reminder that police officers across our country put their lives on the line every day to serve and protect our communities and keep us safe."

Jun 09 2015

VICTORIA - A homeless man says Victoria is Mecca because he can camp in city parks.

Dennis Palubeski has been sleeping under a tree for three weeks in the Mayor's Grove area of Beacon Hill Park.

City bylaws permit homeless people to sleep in parks at night if homeless shelters are full, but they must pack and leave by 7 a.m.

Mayor Lisa Helps says tourists shouldn't consider the parks a place for free camping.

She says council has plans to designate certain parks within the city as homeless zones and the city wants to build a homeless community with shelters the size of garden sheds.

She says the city can't continue spending \$600,000 a year on police and bylaw officers who make wake-up calls for homeless people and clean up the parks.

As for Palubeski, he says his hips hurt from sleeping outside but he'd rather be in the park than a crowded shelter.

Jun 09 2015

TORONTO - Canadians face a far more serious threat from lone-wolf terrorists than from large terrorist groups such as al-Qaida or the Islamic State, a disaster management conference heard Tuesday.

Speaking at one of the sessions, Andrew Majoran, general manager of the Mackenzie Institute, said detecting and foiling large-scale plots tends to be easier for the intelligence community than picking up on the radicalized, violent individual secretly plotting mayhem.

"A lot of the time when a lone-wolf attack occurs, nobody had any idea it was coming," Majoran said in an interview before his talk.

"It's so difficult to gather intelligence on them. You're talking about a lone wolf who

keeps to himself.”

A classic example of what Majoran calls the “pure” lone wolf is Anders Breivik, who went on a horrific killing rampage in Oslo last year. While Breivik kept a journal and had a manifesto, no one else had access to his plans.

Lone wolves, however, aren’t necessarily completely solitary individuals, Majoran said. Some, like Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh, might act with one or two others who share the same murderous sense of purpose.

One up-and-coming threat that is easily overlooked is the female lone wolf, he said. Examples include Islamist student Roshonara Choudhry, who stabbed a British MP in a 2010 assassination attempt, and “Colleen (Jihad Jane) LaRose, an American who tried to set up an Islamic extremist cell.

Majoran said community vigilance - citizens spotting and reporting something abnormal - is one of the best approaches to mitigating the lone-wolf threat.

Jun 09 2015

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. - Ontario's police watchdog has charged a Peterborough constable with sexual assault in an incident involving a 40-year-old woman.

The Special Investigations Unit says the alleged incident took place on January 24, while the officer was off duty.

The SIU says Const. Christopher Robertson was charged following a four-month investigation triggered by a complaint.

The agency says it cannot comment further because the matter is now before the courts.

The SIU is an arm’s-length agency that investigates reports of death, serious injury or sexual assault involving police.

Jun 09 2015

A Texas court has ordered the manufacturer of a highway guardrail system to pay just over US\$663 million in damages after a trial found the company had committed fraud.

The case had led to highway safety concerns across the U.S. and Canada.

In a final court order issued Tuesday, Trinity Industries was ordered to pay the damages to the U.S. government and a whistleblower, Joshua Harman, who is a Virginia guardrail installer.

Shortly after the order was delivered, a spokesman for the Dallas-based company said Trinity believed the trial court made “significant errors” which resulted in an “erroneous” judgment.

A Texas jury had found in October that the company had failed to tell regulators about design changes made to a guardrail system in 2005.

Guardrails are designed to crumple and absorb impact, but critics have said the cost-cutting design change made it more likely the guardrails would spear cars that crash into either end of the guardrail.

October’s jury verdict centred on the company’s failure to tell regulators about the changes, not whether the guardrails were safe.

In March, U.S. federal officials said the guardrail system met safety standards in crash tests, although Harman called their report a “whitewash.”

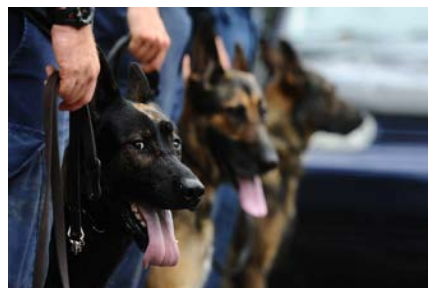
Harman will be recovering \$218 million from Trinity as a result of Tuesday’s court order, in which a judge found the company had made 16,771 false claims to the government.

In Canada, several provinces stopped installing Trinity’s ET Plus guardrail system last fall and have been awaiting final crash-test results before deciding on further action.

None of the provinces have reported any specific issues with the system, but said they stopped installing it as a safety precaution.

Jun 09 2015

A Toronto K-9 police dog savaged a neighbourhood pet cat after escaping from its handler last Thursday morning.



The dog was being trained at a vacant school when it broke free from its handler and chased after McGuire, the pet cat of local resident Aidan Moreau-MacLeod.

The family is so far out of pocket more than \$2,000, which the police say they will cover along with any ongoing veterinary bills.

The family, which insists the police have been co-operative, was informed by a local landscaping company that the cat’s injuries had been caused by a trainee K-9 dog, which the Police Dog Services confirmed to the Star.

Staff Sgt. James Hung vehemently denied that the dog could have attacked a child in the area, as opposed to an animal.

“It’s an unfortunate situation,” Hung said. “The first characteristic we look for in a dog is that it’s sociable with people. Our dogs are trained to apprehend, not to attack.

“Our dogs go out all the time to school events where millions of kids are petting them.

“Unfortunately, it’s like the saying goes, they will fight like cats and dogs with animals. They still have certain instincts where they see cats and raccoons as the enemy or prey.”

Hung said dogs are trained in the environment and area where they may end up working. “Dogs will potentially be searching residential areas for suspects or missing people,” he explained.

The dog is about halfway through its training with the Dog Services unit. Police say its training won’t be altered as a result of the attack.

(Toronto Star)

Jun 09 2015

Hundreds of officers from the United Kingdom have relocated to Canada in the past decade opting for what they perceive to be a higher standard of living, lower crime rates and better opportunities for their children.



One of them was Edmonton Const. Daniel Woodall, who was gunned down while serving a warrant. Woodall arrived in Canada in 2006 and was with Edmonton’s hate crimes unit. He had previously worked for the Greater Manchester Police.

Recently, officers like Woodall have been emigrating due to “austerity measures” amid the U.K.’s economic downturn, according to Michael Gendron of the Canadian Police Association.

“Due to the economic situation over there, many services got cut,” Gendron told CBC News. “Police had significant cuts to their pay rate and big changes to their pensions.”

Coupled with the booming oil economy of Alberta, officers overseas have been quick to sign up for jobs in places such as Edmonton and Calgary, where police services have been actively recruiting in the U.K. for more than a decade.

Const. Stewart O’Neill, a former London detective, went from a 900 square-foot, three-bedroom house, in nearby Woking, to a 2,500-square-foot, four-bed place overlooking the Rockies.

“My children can be kids - they play out on the street, which they never did back home. I guess [there is] less population, more wide open spaces, less crime [and] more affordable housing from a U.K. perspective,” he told CBC News shortly after moving to Calgary in 2009.

Steve Watt, who began his career in Belfast, Northern Ireland in the 1970s and then became an officer with the West Vancouver Police Department for 17 years, said U.K. recruits are a “good fit” for Canadian policing.

“U.K. officers are well-trained and U.K. policing is highly regarded globally,” Watt, who now runs a police training consultancy, told CBC News. Watt says U.K. recruits are well-versed in foot patrols and other community policing skills.

(CBC News)

Jun 09 2015

CALGARY - Calgary police will launch a counter-radicalization strategy this summer that targets at-risk youth, police Chief Paul Cook confirmed Tuesday.



Calgary became a focal point last year in the national discussion around homegrown extremism after it was revealed that five young men had left the city in 2012 to join various terror groups.

Police are developing the ReDirect Strategy in an attempt to prevent at-risk Calgarians from ages 12-24 from being radicalized, Cook explained.

Imam Syed Soharwardy, who has long been an outspoken advocate for countering radicalization in the city, called the ReDirect strategy a step in the right direction for police. He said the force needs to focus on prevention, instead of reacting.

"When something bad happens, police have to react, no doubt about it," he said. "But for radicalization, if we adopt the same policy, how long are we going to continue reacting?"

It's not clear yet what the strategy will look like when launched, but Cook said police are partnering with community groups as well as the RCMP to work on early intervention and prevention of radicalization.

According to documents presented to the city's community and protective services committee, the main goals of the ReDirect Strategy are to "challenge the ideology that supports terrorism and those who promote it, protect vulnerable individuals and provide support to sectors and institutions where there are risks of radicalization."

(Calgary Herald)

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 10, 2015

Jun 10 2015

OTTAWA - An Ottawa constable has been charged after Ontario's police watchdog found he was involved in a chase that led a vehicle to hit a city bus.

The Special Investigations Unit says the officer stopped a vehicle on Feb. 19, but the vehicle took off, triggering a chase.

The SIU says that shortly afterward, the vehicle collided with a City of Ottawa transit bus, injuring a passenger.

Const. William Randal Stockdale is charged with dangerous driving causing bodily harm.

The SIU says he is due in court July 21.

Jun 10 2015

MONCTON, N.B. - The officer in charge of the RCMP in Moncton says the detachment has received a sufficient number of carbine rifles over the past year to allow for a proper response to high risk calls for service.

However, in a written statement to the Codiac Regional Policing Authority on Wednesday, Supt. Paul Beauchesne says he won't say how many carbines are in service because he doesn't want to share the information with criminals in the community.

The force has been criticized for not properly equipping its officers with adequate training and resources, such as patrol carbines, following last June's shooting rampage by Justin Bourque that killed three officers and wounded two others.

Beauchesne says members have been identified for the next round of ongoing training courses on the semi-automatic weapons and know exactly when they are scheduled to attend.

He also says the installation of carbine racks in patrol cars is underway and the majority of the detachment's vehicles will have the piece of equipment by the end of this week.

In mid-May, the RCMP was charged with violating the Canada Labour Code with investigators alleging the police force didn't provide appropriate weapons and equipment for "active shooter" incidents.

Jun 10 2015

A Montreal couple have complained to Quebec's police ethics board after a Sûreté du Québec dispatcher was unable to speak English during an emergency phone call.

Frank Gaudio and his fiancée Tracy Engstrom, who is eight months pregnant, were involved in a car crash earlier this month.

The couple were unharmed, and Gaudio went to check on the driver of the other vehicle while Engstrom dialled 911.

When he returned, Engstrom was growing increasingly frustrated with the provincial police dispatcher to whom she had been transferred.

Engstrom, who is originally from the U.S. and does not speak French fluently, says the dispatcher was unable to speak English and was rude.

"I was saying, 'I'm pregnant, I've been in a car accident, I'm pregnant. Please come here,'" Engstrom recalled.

Gaudio took over the phone call and gave the couple's location, and the two were taken off in an ambulance.

But Engstrom is worried about what would have happened if Gaudio wasn't there.

"I felt degraded, as if I was doing something wrong, and I still feel that way. I feel like I'm going to be inadequate for my Quebec child. I'm haunted by it. What if Frank wasn't there, what if it was me and my baby? I'm feeling very vulnerable," said Engstrom.

Sûreté du Québec dispatchers aren't required to speak English, said spokesperson

Mélanie Dumaresq.

"At the SQ, all our employees, in their work, speak French, because it's the language of the province. When they hire dispatchers, it's not an obligation for them to speak English."

But Dumaresq said it's often possible to find a dispatcher on shift who does speak English, or to transfer the emergency call to another SQ call centre where an English-speaking dispatcher may be available.

(CBC News)

Jun 10 2015

QUEBEC CITY - Premier Philippe Couillard says his government will take measures to ensure Montreal police officers wear their uniforms after many donned camouflage pants to Jacques Parizeau's funeral on Tuesday.



Couillard is condemning the officers who chose to wear the colourful attire - part of an ongoing battle over pension reforms - saying it showed a lack of judgment.

The premier says the clothing demonstrated a lack of respect towards Parizeau as well as their own profession.

Couillard's comments followed those of Montreal Mayor Denis Coderre, who said Montreal's police brotherhood showed a lack of class.

The government intends to present measures this fall to ensure rules surrounding uniforms are respected.

Earlier this week, Public Security Minister Lise Thériault told Montreal's La Presse newspaper that pressure tactics used by police to protest pension reforms has lasted "long enough."

Jun 10 2015

WINDSOR, Ont. - Two Windsor police officers are facing assault charges after Ontario's police watchdog investigated the injury of a 24-year-old man in an incident last October.

The Special Investigations Unit says 24-year-old Matthew Jonsson was injured around the time of his arrest.

As a result of the SIU investigation, Const. Daniel Merlo and Const. Aaron Naklie face two charges each.

Merlo is charged with one count of assault with a weapon and one count of assault causing bodily harm.

Naklie is charged with one count of aiding and abetting an assault with a weapon and one count of assault causing bodily harm.

The SIU says it won't release further details on the incident as the matter is now before the courts.

TORONTO - A Hamilton police officer who was arrested in a gang raid last week has been denied bail.

Const. Craig Ruthowsky's lawyer Bernard Cummins says they will appeal the judge's bail decision that came down Tuesday in a Toronto courthouse.

Toronto police charged Ruthowsky and 44 others last week in a raid that they say took down the violent Monstarz gang that ran drugs and guns.

Cummins says Ruthowsky will plead not guilty to the charges.

Ruthowsky faces five charges - three criminal organization-related offences, breach of trust and conspiracy to traffic cocaine.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

Jun 10 2015

EDMONTON - As a member of the Royal Air Force during the Second World War, Paul Noble never feared death and made a habit of defying it.



The 91-year-old flew 54 missions in Lancaster bombers and returned safe and sound each time. He was issued a sidearm, but never carried it with him, thinking it wouldn't be much help if he were shot down behind enemy lines.

Noble never thought he would have to cheat harm again when he took a snooze on his couch after supper on a warm, sunny evening at home.

He and his wife Ollie, 83, live in a house across the street from Norman Raddatz.

When gunfire erupted, more than 50 bullets struck the Nobles' home, much to the surprise of the two seniors inside.

Noble said he had just finished dinner and was lying down for a rest when he heard what sounded like an aluminum ladder crashing to the ground in his garage. The sound lasted for about 10 seconds. He went to his wife who was in the other room.

There was smoke in the hallway and the fire alarm went off, adding to the confusion.

"I had not idea what was happening," he recalled.

They could see police officers at the house across the road, some with their weapons drawn.

"I said, 'That's gunfire' and I didn't know it until then," Noble said. "There were some awful loud bangs."

Soon officers pounded on the couple's back door and told them to take cover in the basement.

They stayed there for about an hour until it was safe to come up and survey the damage.

Bullets had turned their garage door to

Swiss cheese. Shots blasted through their house, ripped through pictures and lodged in walls. One had shattered the glass on a piece of hockey memorabilia. Noble's father had won a Stanley Cup with the old Montreal Maroons.

It was then that Noble realized how close he came to injury.

There were three bullet holes above the couch where he had been resting.

"Had I stood up when the ammunition was coming through, I would have got hit right in the face with shrapnel or bullets," he said. "I thought I was very lucky."

The couple isn't rattled, despite the close brush with harm.

"When you get to this age ..." Ollie Noble said. "I wasn't worried at all."

Jun 10 2015

EDMONTON - Edmonton police say a man suspected in the shooting death of one of their officers was being investigated for a hate crime that was anti-Semitic in nature.

Norman Raddatz, 42, allegedly mounted an online campaign of "extreme" bullying against another man in the city last year.

The harassment was specifically anti-Semitic, police spokesman Scott Pattison said Wednesday, and the target and his family became so concerned for their safety that they filed a complaint a few months ago.

Pattison wouldn't provide more details about the alleged harassment but police previously said evidence in the case dated back to February 2014.

Eight officers went to Raddatz's home Monday night to serve him with documents ordering him to appear in court on a charge of criminal harassment. They also had an arrest warrant stemming from a bylaw offence.

After the officers knocked, they got a battering ram to break in. That's when bullets started flying through the front door.

Const. Daniel Woodall, a 35-year-old officer in the hate-crimes unit, was killed at the scene. A second officer, Sgt. Jason Harley, 38, was shot in the back but was saved by his bullet-proof vest.

The other officers were pinned down by a barrage of bullets over the next 10 minutes, Chief Rod Knecht told reporters earlier this week.

Neighbours have described the refrigerator repairman as an unfriendly, divorced father who didn't mow his lawn or shovel the snow in front of his bungalow. He also put dog poop on the top of his fence to irritate those living next door.

Court documents show he was charged last year with seven bylaw offences, including parking an RV outside his home for longer than allowed.

Although he once ran a repair business called North Summit Mechanical out of his house, neighbours said he had stopped working. A bank had also foreclosed on the home and it was for sale.

Many people across Edmonton pinned blue ribbons to their chests and tied them around parking posts Wednesday to honour Woodall. A trust fund has also been set up for

his wife, Claire, and their two young sons.

Police said they are waiting for some of Woodall's relatives to arrive from the United Kingdom before they plan his funeral.

Woodall served four years with the Greater Manchester Police before joining the Edmonton force in 2007.

Jun 10 2015

VICTORIA - The Criminal Justice Branch says prosecutors are getting close to wrapping up cases against hundreds of people charged after Vancouver's Stanley Cup riot four years ago.

The riot broke out in the city's downtown core on June 15, 2011 after the Vancouver Canucks lost to the Boston Bruins in Game 7 of the Stanley Cup final.

Crown spokesman Gordon Comer says 285 of the 300 people charged pleaded guilty, seven were convicted, and one was acquitted.

He says charges were stayed against four others, a decision against two people will be announced in September and that a warrant remains outstanding against a woman who returned to Australia.

The branch has not received any reports since last October from police recommending charges, and Comer says he's not expecting any more.

The cost of the prosecutions remains unknown.

THURSDAY
JUNE 11, 2015

Jun 11 2015

CAMBRIDGE - A 30-year-old man is in custody on charges he tried to kill a woman and a local police officer during a violent domestic dispute in April.

Wesley Laforme faces two counts of attempted murder and a string of other charges in connection with an incident in Cambridge that led to a shooting by police.

Named as alleged victims in the formal charges against Laforme are Keira Stirling and Const. Elizabeth Skelding of Waterloo Regional Police.

Stirling was allegedly stabbed "multiple times" with a knife.

At the time of the incident on April 29, police said a woman and an officer suffered stab wounds, while a man was shot by police after a 911 call to a townhouse complex just before midnight.

The injured officer was released from hospital the next day, while the man and woman remained in a Hamilton hospital with significant injuries.

Police said charges were anticipated, but that they wouldn't be laid until the man had recovered further.

According to court documents, they were laid in early May.

Laforme is also accused of break, enter and attempted murder, assault, uttering death threats, possession of a knife and breaching court orders.

(The Record)

EDMONTON - A photo of a photo radar operator appearing to have been caught napping on the job has sparked a firestorm of criticism.

Earlier this week, photos were posted online showing a photo radar truck parked on a grassy median near the downtown and another showing the operator seemingly asleep.

City officials say the individual in the photo is not an employee of the city but was hired by the company contracted to run photo radar.

The operator has been suspended pending an investigation into the incident.

"That operator will be brought back from the field, which happened in this particular case, and an investigation was immediately conducted, or started," said Gerry Shimko with the Office of Traffic Safety.

Shimko said operators have a specific process to follow.

He added he was concerned that if the operator was asleep, it put his safety at risk but also said he understands people can make mistakes.

"It doesn't excuse behaviour, but at the end of the day we'll weigh that and apply, I think, the appropriate consideration and see where that goes," Shimko said.

As for the drivers who may have been caught speeding by that particular vehicle during the operator's shift, they won't be ticketed.

(CTV Edmonton)

Jun 11 2015

OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada says medical marijuana can include products other than dried pot, such as cannabis-infused cookies brownies, oils and tea.

The court has rejected an appeal by the federal government of a lower court ruling that medical marijuana users have a right to a range of products containing the drug.

In a 7-0 decision, the court ruled that limiting medical consumption to dried marijuana infringes on liberty protections under the Charter of Rights.

Current federal regulations stipulate that authorized users of physician-prescribed cannabis can only consume dried marijuana.

The case stems from the arrest in 2009 of Owen Smith, former head baker for the Cannabis Buyers Club of Canada, who was charged after police found more than 200 pot cookies and cannabis-infused olive oil and grapeseed oil in his Victoria apartment.

Smith was acquitted at trial and later won an appeal.

Jun 11 2015

TORONTO - Ontario's human rights commission is calling on Toronto police to scrap the practice of randomly stopping and questioning residents in the streets, known as carding.

In its annual report, the commission says it is looking at how to ensure bias-free policing in the province.

The report calls racial profiling "deeply corrosive."

In particular, it says profiling by Toronto police needs an effective solution.

But the city's new police Chief Mark Saunders says carding can enhance public safety when done properly.

The commission's report comes a day after a law student - who says he's been carded 30 times - launched a constitutional challenge.

Jun 11 2015

OTTAWA - The Conservative government wants to update Canada's Controlled Drugs and Substances Act, which carves out how drugs are managed.



Health Minister Rona Ambrose made the announcement today at Ottawa police headquarters, alongside Roxanne James, the junior minister for public safety.

Ambrose says police officers and Health Canada inspectors need updated legal powers to keep up with changes to the drug trade.

She says the proposed amendments include stronger tools to target illegal drug production and distribution.

The government says new designer drugs on the black market should be subject to the act, but are not regulated yet.

Ambrose also says increased powers are needed so the minister can quickly review new substances and target emerging issues around drug abuse.

Jun 11 2015

A woman from Mishkeegogamang First Nation, north of Thunder Bay, Ont., has been found not guilty of assaulting police in an altercation that resulted in her shoulder and ribs being broken.

Bonnie Muckuck was charged with assaulting her partner and then assaulting an Ontario Provincial Police officer during her arrest on October 16, 2013.

She was found not guilty on both charges, in a decision released last week by Justice Peter Bishop. He also ruled the injuries to Muckuck were caused by police at the time of her arrest.

"There is no other logical explanation for the causation of those injuries," Bishop wrote in his decision.

The officers involved in the arrest argued they were not the cause of Muckuck's broken shoulder and ribs. Const. Michael Vezina alleged that he was, in fact, the victim of an assault by Muckuck.

Vezina told the court that Muckuck resisted arrest, and when he was holding her at arm's length in front of the police car, she kicked him in the groin.

In his testimony Vezina said Muckuck screamed and kicked at the roof of the police cruiser once she was inside, actions he said he believed were inconsistent with someone being in pain.

Court documents show when Muckuck arrived at the police station she complained that she was in pain and had been hurt in the course of her arrest. Const. Brent Woolgar told her that she must have hurt herself earlier.

Paramedics were called and Muckuck was taken to hospital in Sioux Lookout, Ont. by ambulance where, according to court documents, doctors found her shoulder was broken, her arm was dislocated and her ribs were fractured.

"If the arrest happened the way Const. Vezina states, there would not be such serious injuries to her, namely a broken arm and broken ribs," Bishop wrote in his ruling. "Ms. Muckuck appeared as frail, almost bird-like when presenting her evidence in court."

As for Muckuck's screaming in the back of the police cruiser, Bishop said that was "consistent with being in extreme pain, being handcuffed to the rear and having her arm forcibly pushed up to affix handcuffs."

Justice Bishop also found the initial charge that brought Muckuck to the attention of police to be unfounded. Testimony in the case shows it's unclear whether Muckuck was ever told the reason for her contact with police.

The province's police watchdog conducted an investigation into the conduct of officers in this case. The Special Investigations Unit concluded in July 2014 that no criminal charges are warranted against the officers involved.

(CBC News)

Jun 11 2015

MONTREAL - Pants are causing a stir again in Quebec: today, it's at the province's busiest courthouse.

Some judges refused to sit in Montreal today because the 80 courthouse constables that provide security were donning jeans and camouflage-style pants.

The choice of attire is a pressure tactic related to an ongoing battle with the provincial government over pension reforms.

Activities resumed to normal after about 20 minutes when constables assigned to courtrooms changed back to their usual uniforms.

But their colleagues in the rest of the building remained in the colourful attire.

The controversy comes as Montreal police officers were criticized for wearing camouflage pants to former premier Jacques Parizeau's funeral on Tuesday.

That decision prompted condemnation from Montreal's mayor and Quebec Premier Philippe Couillard, who said the provincial government intends to introduce measures this fall to ensure peace officers wear their uniforms.