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| June 19, 2015 – Vol. 20 No. 25

Executive Digest

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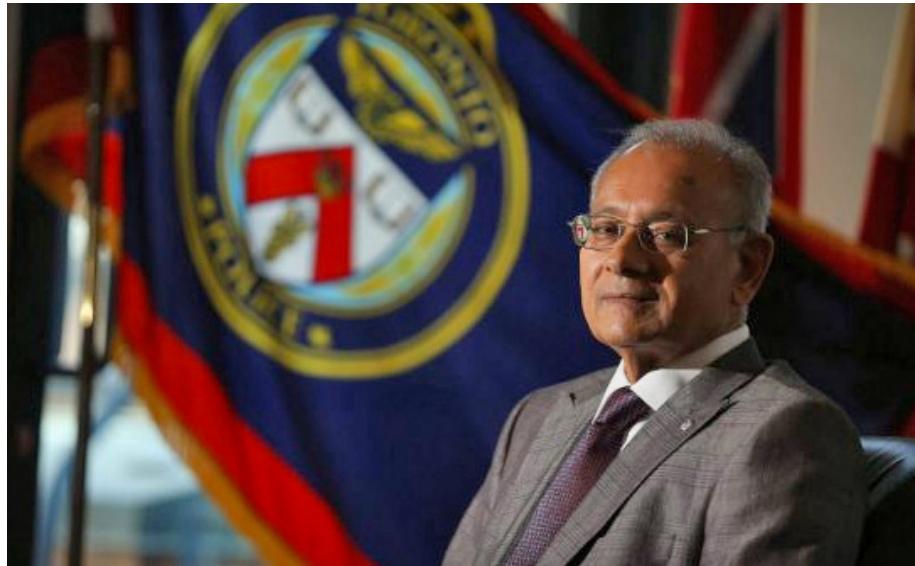
PEEL - Peel Regional Police Chief Jennifer Evans says she welcomes the province's announcement that it will introduce standardized procedures for "carding".

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Toronto police board head stepping down



Jun 18 2015

TORONTO - The long-serving chair of Toronto's police oversight board will step down at the end of July, partway through his term.

Alok Mukherjee, who joined the board in 2004 and steered it through controversies over the G20 conference, rising police costs and carding, announced his resignation at today's meeting of the Toronto Police Services Board.

As recently as last month, he told The Globe and Mail that he planned to serve the remaining year of his provincial appointment

to the board. But he decided "the time has come to move on," he said Thursday in a prepared speech.

According to a source, Mr. Mukherjee informed the mayor only on Wednesday evening that he planned to resign the next morning.

The source said that Andy Pringle, a friend and former chief of staff to Mayor John Tory, will step in as interim chair, as mandated under the Ontario Police Services Act, but has no plans to stay on in the role for the long-term.



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Still, Mr. Pringle - whose seat on the board has expired and is up for renewal - has applied for reappointment, the source said. That appointment must be confirmed by the city's civic appointments committee next week, and city council as early as next month.

Mr. Pringle, who joined the board in the fall of 2011, raised money for Mr. Tory's mayoral campaign and worked for the mayor when he was leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party.

The businessman came under fire in the fall of 2013 when Councillor Doug Ford revealed that Mr. Pringle had taken then-police chief Bill Blair on a road trip to New Brunswick the year before to go salmon fishing.

Councillor Shelley Carroll, also a member of the police board, told The Globe that she learned this morning of Mr. Mukherjee's resignation and the suggestions that Mr. Pringle would succeed him.

However, she said there are many people who will help make the decision about the new chair, and appointing Mr. Pringle would likely raise concerns among many on City Council, who would need to approve the choice.

"He has done some fine work on the board, yes, but council still makes their decision in a bigger, broader way, and they'll be looking at those bigger issues, such as is he too close to the mayor, or is he too much of the old order, having been a friend of the former chief, when we're trying to make a change with a new chief," Ms. Carroll said.

She said the \$90,963-a-year job will likely go to one of the citizen members of the board rather than a councillor.

"Toronto Police Service is now so large that it really is a full-time job to be chair of the board," she said. "... You'd very much be looking at a citizen appointee. But you know, council is 44 people and they have a few weeks to think about this."

After growing friction with the police union and former police chief Bill Blair, Mr. Mukherjee had told Mayor Tory last year he would step aside once a new chief was selected. Mark Saunders succeeded Mr. Blair as police chief in April.

In January, the new board voted 6-1 to give Mr. Mukherjee another one-year term, including a vote in his favour by Mr. Tory. At the same time, the board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Pringle to the role of vice-chair, though officially, his term had expired. Council's Civic Appointments Committee has been in the process this month of deciding whether to renew it.

Much of Mr. Mukherjee's final year heading the board was dominated by a war of attrition with then-chief Bill Blair after years of problems that began during preparation for the G20 in the summer of 2010.

Things nearly boiled over last December after Mr. Mukherjee posted a controversial note on his Facebook page about American police killings, leading the police union to demand his resignation. In the meantime, a long-time debate over the issue of carding - the widespread police practice of stopping and interviewing residents not suspected of a crime - was bringing Mr. Mukherjee into a confrontation with Mr. Blair.

Mr. Mukherjee said in his resignation announcement that carding is a "troubling" issue the board will need to confront.

"We have dedicated significant time and resources to this issue," he said. "And while we now await the direction that the province has promised to provide, we must set out in no uncertain terms our expectation of the kind of policing we want to see in this community."

(Globe and Mail)

practice," he said.

"Codiac is a desirable detachment and we get calls every week from members wanting to come here to live and work in our community."

He said carbine racks have arrived at the Codiac detachment and are being installed in police cars.

"A number are being installed now and by the end of this week a majority of our cars will have carbine racks. As the racks arrive they are being installed with the priority being our marked patrol cars," Beauchesne said.

"Training of our members on the carbines is ongoing and the members identified for the next round of training courses know exactly when they are scheduled to attend."

He refused to say how many carbines have arrived at the detachment so far.

"It's information that could jeopardize safety. Over the past year we have received a sufficient number of carbines at Codiac to allow us to properly respond to high risk calls for service."

(CBC News)

Jun 11 2015

CALGARY - Former NHL player Sheldon Kennedy says the sexual-abuse support centre that bears his name has been deluged with cases since opening more than two years ago.



Kennedy, who brought to light sex crimes by former junior hockey coach Graham James, says the Sheldon Kennedy Child Advocacy Centre has seen about 120 cases a month.

"We've really become a specialized service to really handle the worst of the worst cases, if you may," said Kennedy.

"The sexual assaults, the really bad child neglect cases, the physical abuse cases. Pretty much we take the 10 per cent of the really heavy-loaded cases, the cases that consume the systems."

The centre brings together police, social workers, medical staff, psychologists and prosecutors under one roof to try to avoid making child victims constantly relive incidents of abuse.

He said about 68 per cent of the children brought in have suffered some sort of sexual abuse and are between four and 12 years old.

"These kids are presenting three or more issues - suicidal ideation, sexualized behaviour, self-harm and violent behaviour," he said.

"We may be doing child abuse investigations and treatment but the reality is what we're dealing with is mental health issues."

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK Celebrating 20 Years

ISSN 1704-3913
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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
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12A-4981 Hwy. 7 East, Ste. 254, Markham ON L3R 1N1
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THURSDAY
JUNE 11, 2015

Jun 11 2015

Codiac RCMP Supt. Paul Beauchesne spoke out Wednesday night to deny reports that officers in his detachment are leaving in droves and it is taking a long time for carbines and the carbine racks to be available to members.

Beauchesne said in a statement to the Codiac Regional Police authority that 20 members have requested to be transferred out of the detachment because of what happened on June 4, 2014, when Justin Bourque shot and killed RCMP constables Douglas Larche, Dave Ross and Fabrice Gevaudan in Moncton.

"Given the scope of the tragedy, that is not unreasonable or even unexpected. Some of those requests have already been accommodated while others are being worked on," a statement from Beauchesne said.

He said media reports of higher numbers are not true.

"There are others seeking transfers but for other reasons, such as career opportunities or promotions as per normal

He said the amount of traffic at the Calgary facility will likely lead to some form of expansion.

"We're working closely with the RCMP and looking at satellite centres and building capacity by building expert pockets throughout our province."

The Zebra Child Protection Centre in Edmonton also offers assistance to victims.

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.

(The Record)

Jun 11 2015

PETERBOROUGH, Ont. - Ontario's police watchdog is investigating after a Peterborough inmate died in hospital overnight.

The Special Investigations Unit says a 39-year-old man was taken from the Central East Correctional Centre to hospital for undisclosed medical reasons.

The SIU says a Peterborough police officer and a provincial police officer were there to provide security.

The agency says that around 1 a.m., the man became agitated and hospital staff asked the officers to restrain him.

It says he was pronounced dead shortly afterward.

Jun 11 2015

EDMONTON - An autopsy shows a man who shot dozens of bullets at Edmonton police, killing an officer, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says the autopsy has also identified the shooter as Norman Raddatz.

The agency says Raddatz was already dead before fire engulfed his home earlier this week.

Police have said they were investigating the 42-year-old refrigerator repairman for anti-Semitic bullying of an Edmonton man and his family.

Several officers were at Raddatz's home with an arrest warrant when bullets started

flying through the front door.

Const. Daniel Woodall, a 35-year-old officer in the hate-crimes unit, died at the scene.

Jun 12 2015

HALIFAX - Nova Scotia's police watchdog is looking into an accident in the Halifax area that sent five people to hospital.

Halifax Regional Police say an officer was approaching a vehicle parked in Herring Cove Thursday night when the driver drove away from the scene and went off the road.

Police say the vehicle flipped onto its roof and the five occupants were sent to hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Investigators determined the vehicle had been stolen from Antigonish on June 8.

Two 18-year-old men who were in the vehicle at the time face charges in connection with the incident.

Halifax police have referred the matter to the Serious Incident Response Team.

Jun 12 2015

SASKATOON - A drunk driver who killed a Saskatchewan conservation officer has been sentenced to 9 1/2 years in prison.

Blaine Thomas Taypotat, who is 37, pleaded guilty in December to manslaughter and drunk driving causing death.

Justin Knackstedt, who was 23, was killed when he stopped to help direct traffic at a crash near Saskatoon in May 2013.

Officers at the scene said Taypotat was driving about 100 kilometres an hour when he hit Knackstedt, propelling him about 40 metres into the ditch.

The Crown had argued for a 10-year sentence because of Taypotat's extensive criminal record, which included previous drunk-driving convictions.

He was already prohibited from taking the wheel and had outstanding warrants for other drunk-driving charges.

(CKOM)

Jun 12 2015

VANCOUVER - The Crown will not appeal a decision granting escorted community outings to a mentally ill British Columbia man who murdered his three children.

The B.C. Criminal Justice Branch has decided against legally challenging a decision by the B.C. Review Board granting Allan Schoenborn supervised day trips.

The ruling was made late last month by a three-member panel that spent one month deliberating over a decision that usually takes less than a day.

The branch says in a statement its members understand the terrible impact the case has had on the victims and has issued a

lengthy explanation for making its legal conclusion.

Jun 12 2015

WHITECOURT, Alta. - Four Mounties have been rescued after their boat capsized on a river in northwestern Alberta.

RCMP spokeswoman Sgt. Josee Valiquette says the officers are all doing fine.

They had been on duty, patrolling the Athabasca River about 35 kilometres northwest of Whitecourt, when their jet boat overturned Friday afternoon.

They managed to swim to shore and phoned for help.

Workers with Alberta Environment later found the officers and got them home.

Valiquette says it's not clear what happened, but the boat did hit something before it overturned.

She added that there will be an internal review into the accident.

SATURDAY JUNE 13, 2015

Jun 13 2015

TORONTO - A former Toronto police chief will run for the Liberals in a Toronto riding in this year's federal election.



Bill Blair won the nomination for the riding of Scarborough Southwest on Saturday.

Blair ended his tenure as police chief earlier this year.

The riding is currently held by the New Democrats who snatched it from the Liberals in the 2011 election.

Blair tweeted that he is truly honoured to be nominated and is humbled by the outpouring of support.

Jun 13 2015

DRAYTON VALLEY, Alta. - The body of a man who tried to evade police by jumping in the North Saskatchewan River has been found.

RCMP say Duncan Laird, 27, of no fixed address, was wanted on several counts of possession of stolen property and also on arrest warrants from numerous charges out of Killam, Alta.

On June 2, while conducting a search on Crown land just south of Drayton Valley, Alta., officers located a variety of stolen items valued at thousands of dollars, including a jet boat, vehicles and trailers.

As RCMP officers approached one holi-

day trailer, two men ran out and fled toward the river and jumped in.

One made it across but Laird was swept down the river. His body was found earlier this week.

(CTV Edmonton)

Jun 13 2015

OTTAWA - A provincial police officer is facing charges along with 10 others after police say they raided an illegal gambling organization in an Ottawa residence.

Police allege that on Wednesday night, officers conducted a search warrant on an "organization keeping a common gaming house."

Police say they seized marijuana, cocaine, oxycodone, hash, morphine and an undisclosed amount of money.

Ontario Provincial Police Const. Dennis Hill, 38, a 14-year veteran who is currently on leave, has been charged with being found in a common gaming house and possession of cocaine.

The owner of the house, Darrin Cooper, 49, along with six other men and one woman from Ottawa, a man from Orleans, Ont., and another man from Gloucester, Ont., were all charged with various offences.

The charges range from either residing in or permitting a gaming house to operate, to various drug offences. All of the accused were released on a promise to appear in an Ottawa court next month.

Jun 13 2015

NORTH BATTLEFORD, Sask. - Three RCMP officers were hospitalized after a crash between two police vehicles in North Battleford, Sask. Saturday.

Officers were initially called to a break and enter at a residence at 5:15 a.m.

RCMP say the officers were responding to the "serious call" when the collision occurred at the intersection.

Two men and one woman were taken to hospital. RCMP say their injuries were described as serious and non-life threatening.

Two of the officers have been released from hospital in North Battleford while the third is being transferred to Saskatoon for further treatment.

An investigation into the crash is ongoing with the assistance from RCMP collision reconstructionists.

(Global News)

SUNDAY JUNE 14, 2015

Jun 14 2015

TORONTO - Ontario municipalities are keeping a close eye on provincial police contract negotiations to see if the province can whittle out years-of-service bonuses that communities say are becoming difficult to afford.

The benefit, known as retention pay, began in Toronto a little over a decade ago. The

Ontario Provincial Police followed suit soon after, and over the years it found its way into most police and firefighter contracts across Ontario as recognition or service pay.

It gives an extra three-per-cent pay after about eight years of service, six per cent after about 17 years and nine per cent after about 23 years. In Toronto, the base pay of a first-class constable is \$92,433.

Though the provincial government does not control the deals municipalities reach with their police services, it can set trends with the agreements it strikes with the Ontario Provincial Police.

As the Liberal government tries to eliminate a \$10.9-billion deficit it has said any public-sector contracts must have "net zero" increases, so any small compensation boosts would have to be offset.

Neither the government nor the Ontario Provincial Police Association would say if retention pay - also known as 3-6-9 - is on the table as they bargain a new deal.

But most police service boards are hoping it is, says their provincewide association.

"Today, 3-6-9 does not serve a practical purpose," says Fred Kaustinen, the executive director of the Ontario Association of Police Service Boards.

Kaustinen said police forces have not faced retention issues for some time now, and there are no performance-related benefits associated with 3-6-9.

"The only impact or relevance...is to increase the pay of long-serving police officers and increase the cost of the overall police

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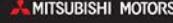


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wage envelope across Ontario by roughly 4.5 per cent."

The president of the Police Association of Ontario says the bonus pay may be the reason why retention issues no longer exist. It has now become part of the negotiated salary, says Bruce Chapman.

"It's a dangerous profession and it's part of their overall compensation package, which fairly reflects the duties and the work that they do," he says.

The mayor of Stratford says municipalities are finding it tougher than ever to fund emergency services - nearly 40 per cent of the tax levy in his small city goes toward them - and clauses such as 3-6-9 need to be taken into account.

"It's not affordable, nor is it sustainable," says Dan Mathieson.

In Stratford, the clause was first included in the negotiated settlement for police in 2009. The city could have gone to interest arbitration over 3-6-9, but since it was already in other comparable police forces across Ontario, there's no doubt the arbitrator would have awarded it anyway, Mathieson said.

The Association of Municipalities of Ontario has been pushing for years for changes to the system, arguing that arbitrators place greater priority on replicating agreements from similar communities over local fiscal circumstances. Private member's bills have made unsuccessful attempts at changing the system.

The municipalities want to see stronger fiscal criteria for determining capacity to pay as police and fire budgets are on the rise, says Jeff Lehman, the mayor of Barrie and chair of the Large Urban Mayors' Caucus of Ontario.

Jun 14 2015

It is "blindingly obvious" that Twitter is endangering national security by tipping off suspected terrorists or criminals that they are being monitored by security services, Sir Hugh Orde, former president of the Association of Chief Police Officers and Northern Ireland chief constable has said.



He made the comment after a report released by David Anderson, the Government's independent reviewer of terror laws, warned that some communications companies, including Twitter, have policy to notify users of requests to access their data unless ordered not to.

Orde said the behaviour of Twitter and other technology firms "needs to be addressed", according to the Telegraph, which

also reported that prime minister David Cameron warned social media companies that they have an "onus" to help keep British people safe from terrorist attacks.

Orde added: "It's a statement of the blindingly obvious that this is endangering national security."

"Anyone who thinks it's sensible to compromise investigations is acting in an extremely irresponsible way."

"It certainly needs to be looked at."

The report also found that Apple has provided encryption services for its users that are so advanced that the company itself would not be able to decode the messages even if ordered to.

The UK Government will lead attempts to create a new international framework to encourage companies to comply.

(The Drum)

Jun 14 2015

Investigators with the Montreal police have been called in to investigate a Quebec provincial police shooting during a 26-hour standoff with a 17-year-old youth in northern Quebec.

Const. Emran Abdullah of Montreal police said the youth was shot in the upper body by Sûreté du Québec officers late Saturday night. His life is not in danger.

The shooting was the culmination of a standoff that began around 9:30 p.m. on Friday, when the police arrived at a home in Umiujaq, Nunavik, responding to a domestic violence call.

When officers arrived, the youth shot at them and then barricaded himself in the house.

Abdullah said the standoff continued for more than 24 hours. A tactical team with the provincial police was also called in as backup.

(CBC News)

**MONDAY
JUNE 15, 2015**

Jun 15 2015

EDMONTON - Edmonton police haven't been able to write as many traffic fines this year due to an increase in calls for service.

According to a report to the Edmonton Police Commission, police have had to adjust their projections when it comes to traffic fines due to the massive call volume and an increased focus on violent crimes.

Jodie Graham, executive director of the police finance division, expects traffic fines to come in between 95% and 97% of what they were last year. This, said Graham, amounts to a decrease of about 19,000 traffic tickets and around \$1 million in revenue.

"They are having to go and deal with those call volumes which means they aren't able to write those traffic tickets," said Graham.

"It's fairly similar to where we were last year, but we had a higher budget, so we are

imagining we'll be able to correct it from operations where we have some vacancies we're using to manage it."

An increase in calls for service is a trend police have been dealing with for the last three years as the city's population continues to grow. In 2013, Chief Rod Knecht was wondering whether the service was going to have 5,000 more calls than the previous year. He soon got his answer when the service reached an additional 6,300 calls.

In 2014 that number continued to grow, reaching 154,854 calls for service by mid December. Police were dispatched to 145,533 of those calls.

As of last week, police had 4,922 more calls for service compared to the same time last year.

"Those numbers are very big and they require a lot of time," said Deputy Chief Tony Harder, adding the increase is primarily in priority five calls.

"We can't start writing tickets until we're done with those calls."

In April, city council approved 49 new police positions - 40 downtown and nine for transit - to help deal with growth pressures. Graham said the 35% increase in certain traffic fines - announced in the 2015 fiscal budget - will be used to support the costs of the additional officers.

(Edmonton Sun)

Jun 15 2015

CALGARY - Police in Calgary believe an attack on a man who was shot through the neck with an arrow from a crossbow was targeted.

But investigators don't yet have a motive.

Despite wounds to his neck and arm, the man in his 20s drove himself to an urgent care centre.

He told staff he had been randomly hit with an arrow in an underground parkade.

He was transported to hospital in life-threatening critical condition, but has since been upgraded to stable.

Jun 15 2015

TORONTO - Police in London, Ont., say an 18-year-old man has been shot and killed after tracking down his lost cellphone.

Investigators say Jeremy Cook left his cellphone in a taxi early Sunday morning, but was able to track its location to an address in the city's north end.

Police say Cook and a relative approached a car occupied by three men around 5:15 a.m.

When the vehicle began to drive away, police say Cook grabbed the driver's side door.

Police say shots were fired and say they found Cook dead nearby with multiple gunshot wounds.

Police are looking for three black men, aged 18 to 21 years old.

Jun 15 2015

VICTORIA - B.C.'s Criminal Justice Branch says no charges will be laid against two police officers for allegedly using excessive force in arresting a drunk passenger who walked away after a head-on crash.

The branch did not name the officers or the man and says that when a Mountie responded to a collision near Chilliwack in February 2014, two male passengers and a female driver in one of the vehicles had left the scene.

It says the trio was located a kilometre away but during an attempt to arrest them, the complainant became involved in a confrontation with two officers.

The branch says the man filed a complaint to the police complaint commissioner four months later, but didn't mention any allegations about facial injuries at the hands of a female officer.

It says he also complained to the Independent Investigations Office that the Mountie threw him face down to the ground, kicked him in the face and stomped on his head.

The branch also says that when the man received medical treatment for his facial injuries, he told medical staff that his face struck the seat in front of him during the crash and that he wasn't wearing a seatbelt.

Jun 15 2015

TORONTO - Some police forces appear to have trouble understanding when it is appropriate - to say nothing of legal - to hold people in custody pending a bail hearing, three judges have recently noted in strongly worded rulings, going so far as to call the problem "systemic."



In the span of just three months, three cases against alleged impaired drivers in Toronto and Mississauga were thrown out because the courts found police had violated the accused person's rights by erroneously asserting they had to be detained as they were not considered residents of Ontario.

"I infer that this practice is entrenched in the (Toronto Police Service) release process and likely has [been] for some time and will continue unless the court denounces that practice in the strongest terms available," Justice Howard Borenstein wrote on March 5, staying proceedings against Melanie Doyon, a Montrealer arrested while in Toronto for business.

Two months later, the issue was back before a different Toronto judge.

"There is actual evidence of a systemic

problem within the police force as it relates to understanding the longstanding laws relating to release," said Justice Mara Greene in May, putting a halt to proceedings against Cara Sabatini, an American citizen who had actually been living in Toronto for six years with a valid work permit at the time of her arrest.

And earlier this month, Justice Andras Schreck threw out Breathalyzer tests at the trial of Michigan resident Stephen Provo - killing the prosecution's case.

He wrote of Peel Regional Police conduct: "What occurred in this case seems to be a systemic problem in Ontario. Previous judicial condemnation of the practice appears to have gone unheeded. This also renders the breach more serious."

The Crown did not appeal the Doyon and Sabatini cases.

Residency is "not explicitly listed" among the criteria in the arrest procedure used by Toronto police for detaining individuals, said police spokesperson Meaghan Gray.

(Toronto Star)

Jun 15 2015

TORONTO - RCMP cadets will finally receive training in the use of carbine rifles and active shooter situations at the RCMP Training Academy "Depot" located in Regina, Global News has learned.



An email to high-ranking RCMP officers, obtained exclusively by Global News, lays out plans for nearly 700 new cadets to receive carbine training and active shooter training.

The training could begin as early as July 8. It will be an adjunct to the traditional RCMP training syllabus, that new officers will complete after graduation. Carbine training is a five-day course. The active shooter training could be between two to five days.

The ramped-up training also follows a detailed report into the Moncton shooting by retired RCMP Assistant Commissioner Alphonse MacNeil, which recommended additional carbine training and active shooter training for frontline officers.

According to the email obtained by Global News, the carbine training at Depot will "boost the percentages for some divisions over the 25 per cent trained front line members we are seeking for this fiscal."

Ottawa recently increased funding for the RCMP by \$150 million over the next five years. However, it is unclear how much of that will be spent on equipment and training for front line officers.

(Global News)

TUESDAY
JUNE 16, 2015

Jun 16 2015

OTTAWA - An Ottawa teen whose alleged crank tweets and 911 calls put law enforcement officials from across North America on his trail is also likely to face charges in Florida.

The youth was in an Ontario youth court for the start of his trial for "swatting," a practice where emergency services or police tactical units - also known as SWAT teams - are called out to bogus crises.

The youth originally faced 60 charges, including causing mischief and conveying false information with intent to alarm, but the Crown says it is only pursuing 34 counts as authorities in Florida are going to mount their own case.

Prosecutor Kerry McVey delivered a lengthy opening statement describing the Crown's case, which will include teen witnesses from California, Florida, Laval, Que., and Milton, Ont.

She says the boy used his computer skills to pose electronically as other teenagers as he made emergency calls and provided false tips, at one point allegedly telling police another boy's mother was laying on the floor bleeding.

The 17-year-old boy cannot be named under provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act.

Jun 16 2015

TORONTO - Ontario will regulate but not ban police street checks.

It's not acceptable for police to stop and question a member of a racialized community for no reason then to record that person's information in a database, Community Safety Minister Yasir Naqvi said Tuesday.

"It is clear that the status quo in these cases is not acceptable and cannot continue," he said.

But when asked why he wouldn't eliminate police street checks altogether, Naqvi said it's important both for police to be able to engage with the communities and that they're able to investigate any suspicious activity.

Naqvi acknowledged there is "ample" evidence of bias and discrimination in police street checks. Premier Kathleen Wynne, speaking at an unrelated announcement in Cambridge, Ont., said she wants to put safeguards in place to ensure people are not being discriminated against based on their skin colour or background.

Under the Police Services Act, officers already must respect and protect rights guaranteed under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the Ontario Human Rights Code. But Naqvi said he wants to ensure there is "no vagueness" around that principle.

Under Supreme Court of Canada case law, police officers already need an "articulable cause" to stop someone, Naqvi noted. And people are under no obligation to iden-

tify themselves to police who stop them in street checks, Naqvi said.

"You are free to walk away if you choose to do so, under the charter," he said.

Bruce Chapman, president of the Police Association of Ontario, said most members of the public want to help police protect their communities. The association also wants police check procedures that are consistent and free of bias, but won't impede an officer's ability to conduct investigations that can lead to an arrest, he said.

"We don't want to have a situation in the future whereby a police officer would have been able to obtain information that led to the arrest of a suspect and didn't, as a result of a flawed policy," Chapman said in a statement.

The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, meantime, said it wants to ensure an appropriate balance between public safety and personal rights.

The Ontario Human Rights Commission has said police services should limit officer discretion to stop and question people, and require officers to tell people they stop about their right to leave and not answer questions, collect race-based data to identify bias and provide transparency through receipts.

The provincial Liberal government had been hesitant to weigh in on police operations despite mounting controversy, particularly in Toronto. But Naqvi said Tuesday that the government will consult over the summer with community organizations, police, civil liberties groups and the public before bringing in regulations in the fall.

Jun 16 2015

OTTAWA - Prime Minister Stephen Harper acknowledges his government pressured the Mounties to swiftly destroy long-gun registry records, even though they'd been warned it was illegal.



For the first time, the government is asserting that it encouraged the RCMP to delete the data in 2012 - notwithstanding an ongoing investigation by the federal information commissioner and a written promise from the public safety minister to respect the law.

Information commissioner Suzanne Legault has recommended charges because the Mounties knowingly destroyed records that were protected under the Access to Information Act. The matter is being investigated by the Ontario Provincial Police.

Legault is also in Federal Court seeking to preserve a remaining copy of Quebec gun registry data while championing the right of

access to government records under an act of Parliament.

An affidavit filed in Federal Court by one of Legault's investigators presents evidence the RCMP was being pressured by the public safety minister's office and the Prime Minister's Office to swiftly destroy the records at the same time the government was assuring Legault they'd be preserved until her investigation was complete.

When asked about the allegation today in the House of Commons, Harper said his government had passed legislation explicitly calling for the record destruction and said it "obviously encouraged" the RCMP to do so.

Jun 16 2015

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. - Figures show a fired city police officer in Saskatchewan was paid well over \$400,000 over four-plus years while his case went through several appeals.

Patrick Robin of the Prince Albert Police Service was dismissed in 2010 for attempting to prosecute a traffic ticket on his own.

He appealed his firing to the Saskatchewan Police Commission and was reinstated, but the police service appealed and put Robin on leave.

The commission earlier this year upheld the original decision to fire him.

But Robin had continued to receive his regular pay and benefits while he was on leave.

Prince Albert Mayor Greg Dionne says the city is looking at how to get back the money.

(CKBII)

Jun 16 2015

EDMONTON - Alberta is reviewing its bail procedures following the murder of a Mountie in January.

The review is to determine who should conduct bail hearings and under what circumstances, Justice Minister Kathleen Ganley announced Tuesday.

"We need to know if an improved bail process can respect people's rights but at the same time better protect our communities and the police," Ganley told a news conference at the legislature.

It will be conducted by someone outside Alberta's justice system, she added.

Ganley ordered the review following the release of a report into the death of RCMP Const. David Wynn, who was shot at a casino in St. Albert just north of Edmonton on Jan. 17.

The killer, Shawn Rehn, was found dead hours later at a home east of St. Albert.

Rehn had a lengthy history of criminal and violent behaviour, but was free after a bail hearing where a police officer - and not a Crown prosecutor - was present.

The case raised the question of whether Crown prosecutors, with more courtroom experience, should attend all bail hearings.

Deputy Commissioner Marianne Ryan says the Mounties support the bail review.

"The RCMP in Alberta welcomes any

initiative that contributes to enhanced public safety," Ryan said in a statement. "We look forward to working with the government of Alberta in support of its review of existing policy and procedures related to bail hearings."

A survey by of justice and Crown officials from across Canada revealed a patchwork of policies, but Alberta is the only province that predominantly relies on police rather than Crowns at initial bail hearings.

Outside of Alberta, provinces use only Crowns or a combination of prosecutors and police.

The report on Rehn revealed that he had been a career criminal for two decades when he died. Between 1995 and 2015, he was convicted of 68 offences, most of them property crimes, but some involving violence and drug use.

He was charged with breaching his bail conditions on 10 different occasions, resulting in 21 charges.

He was last in custody in September 2014 on various charges. He was arrested after he was caught riding a stolen motorcycle and carrying a spring-loaded knife.

The officer who represented the Crown at the bail hearing in front of a justice of the peace noted that Rehn was wanted on outstanding warrants and was not allowed to carry weapons. But the officer didn't mention Rehn's past convictions or his two stints in federal prisons.

Rehn was released on bail.

The RCMP have questioned why Rehn was allowed on the streets.

Alberta Justice has said that police officers are used for initial bail hearings to help speed up the court process.

Jun 16 2015

WINNIPEG - A veteran Manitoba RCMP officer will have a clean criminal record and keep his job despite admitting he assaulted a man in a bar parking lot.

Cpl. Jeffrey Thomas Moyse, who is 46, was given an absolute discharge when he appeared in a Winnipeg court today.

The decision was based on a joint recommendation by the defence and an independent Crown prosecutor.

Moyse had previously been convicted and sent to jail for four months following a trial in 2011.

But the Manitoba Court of Appeal overturned the verdict and ordered a new trial.

Moyse then pleaded guilty in December to assaulting a man during a confrontation in October 2008 in Traverse Bay, about 120 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Jun 16 2015

SURREY, B.C. - A motorcycle used to evade police in a movie-like stunt through a suburban Vancouver mall - even hurtling down an escalator - has been seized by RCMP and its owner fined about \$13,000.

Mounties in Surrey, B.C., announced Tuesday that even though officers can't identify the driver in the Feb. 20 video of the escapade, they are holding onto the bike pending outcome of a civil forfeiture hearing.

RCMP Cpl. Scotty Schumann said the 58 traffic violations that led to the fine included speeding, disobeying a red light and driving without insurance.

"I've seen some crazy driving in my time but I've never seen anything where a vehicle tries to elude police by driving into a building," he said.

"It's absolutely amazing that this motorcyclist was able first to stay on the machine while riding down an escalator but also amazing that he didn't strike shoppers."

Jun 16 2015

HAMILTON - Hamilton police have charged five officers after an internal investigation into a discrepancy surrounding 32 tickets.

Chief Glenn De Caire says a nine-month investigation led to the arrest of seven members of the so-called ACTION team.

De Caire says the seven officers are suspended with pay and police act charges are also pending.

A police news release didn't say why two officers who were arrested and suspended have not been charged along with the other five.

Hamilton's police website says the ACTION teams consist of officers who are deployed to hotspots around the city on foot and bicycle patrol.

Police say last September, tickets were discovered in a shredder box and an internal investigation was immediately launched.

Investigators have interviewed some of the citizens named on the tickets.

The five constables facing criminal charges are Bhupesh Gulati, 31, Steve Travale, 40, Staci Tyldesley, 29, Dan Williams, 32 and Shawn Smith, 37.

The charges include multiple counts of fabricating evidence, conspiracy to commit an indictable offence and breach of trust.

The five officers suspected are to appear in court July 13th to face the allegations against them.

Jun 16 2015

PEEL - Peel Regional Police Chief Jennifer Evans says she welcomes the province's announcement that it will introduce standardized procedures for "carding".

Evans says her department's "street checks" aren't random, don't target individual groups, and already follow a directive that lists the six circumstances in which officers can conduct them. The directive has been in place for years, and is reviewed annually, she said.

But a provincial procedure will ensure consistency by all police services across Ontario, she said.

"I welcome the announcement by Minister (Yasir) Naqvi and look forward to having a voice in the consultation process," Evans said Tuesday.

"Public trust and community support are critical for the police to be successful within their communities. Interacting with the community is necessary for police to ensure public safety and security."

Evans said street checks have helped solve countless crimes in Brampton and Mississauga, and have also helped identify members of streets gangs living or frequenting the two cities.

(Brampton Guardian)

would be provided in due course.

However, a briefing note obtained under the Access to Information Act shows federal agencies were eyeing October of this year for completion of the project.

It now seems the government will almost certainly miss the revised implementation date, as the required legal and administrative changes remain to be done.

Jun 17 2015

Nine people will appear before a judge in Quebec Superior Court on June 17 after a series of drug bust in and around the Montreal area on June 16.

Police from Montreal, Laval and the Sûreté du Québec carried out raids on Tuesday, June 16, in connection with what they describe as a large cocaine-trafficking network with ties to organized crime.

The network, operating primarily in the western portion of the island, is considered one of the most important suppliers of cocaine in the Montreal area.

Nine search warrants were carried out. Police arrested 12 individuals: one in Laval, two in Vaudreuil-Dorion, one in Île-Bizard and eight in Dollard-des-Ormeaux.

The arrests are the culmination of months of investigation by the organized crime division of the Montreal police department.

Officers confiscated seven kilos of cocaine, \$70,000 in cash, body armour, seven weapons and ammunition.

(Montreal Gazette)

Jun 17 2015

EDMONTON - They came to honour a father, a husband, a son and a friend.



But Const. Daniel Woodall, Regimental Number 2829, was also recognized as a dedicated police officer who had only begun to tap his talents as protector of the abused and the bullied.

Woodall came into his own when he was assigned to the hate-crimes unit and his "tragic and senseless" death means a "life work cut short," Edmonton police Chief Rod Knecht told mourners at the slain policeman's funeral Wednesday.

"It was this last posting, more than any other, that brought out elements of his personality that made him such an effective police officer. He helped those that were abused or bullied and ... those who needed assistance," Knecht said.

"Dan invested time and effort in many, many Edmontonians. He served faithfully,

WEDNESDAY JUNE 17, 2015

Jun 17 2015

FREDERICTON - The New Brunswick Police Commission says it has received a complaint from the chief of the Fredericton police department about one of her officers.



The commission says in a news release published on its website that the allegations centre on the misappropriation of funds from the New Brunswick Police Association.

It says it's processing the complaint made by Chief Leanne Fitch.

The commission says the member of the police force has been suspended with pay.

It says the association has publicly stated that it intends to lodge a criminal complaint against the individual in the case.

The commission says at that point, it will suspend the processing of the complaint it has received until a criminal investigation is completed.

(CKHJ)

Jun 17 2015

OTTAWA - The federal government appears set to miss another target date for delivering a border tracking system that could stop homegrown terrorists from joining battles overseas.

And with just days left in the parliamentary calendar before a fall election, it's not clear when - or even if - the necessary legislative and regulatory changes will come.

Under the Canada-U.S. perimeter security pact, the federal government committed to begin collecting records of people leaving Canada on international flights as of June 30, 2014.

It missed that deadline and would not reveal a new date, saying only that information

modestly and proudly with an incredible depth of commitment."

Woodall was shot and killed last week as he was trying to arrest a man he'd been investigating. Norman Raddatz was believed to be behind vicious anti-Semitic bullying that had led an Edmonton family to fear for its safety.

Woodall's work spoke volumes, said Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson.

"Dan's work with the hate-crimes unit speaks to the kind of city that we are building. We will continue Dan's good work and build upon his exemplary leadership, reaching across communities to forge deep and lasting relationships with one another, human being to human being.

"We are truly grateful for the example that Dan has set for all of us."

Woodall's widow, Claire, and the couple's two- and four-year-old sons, watched from the front rows in a cavernous convention centre as colleagues and friends paid tribute to the 35-year-old officer, who came to Edmonton in 2007 after starting his policing career with the Greater Manchester Police in England.

"My first thoughts were that he looked like a 12-year-old in uniform," said friend and colleague Dave Ainsworth of the fresh-faced young man who walked into the police station in Manchester in 2002.

"He quickly offered to walk a beat with me where many wouldn't and I quickly found out that this was Dan," recalled Ainsworth, who stopped several times during his eulogy to compose himself.

"He was first to step up. He had my back and I had his. His biggest fear was letting you down. He had compassion when he needed to and strength when required."

Ainsworth also remembered Woodall's wicked sense of humour and how his friend laughed the loudest at his own jokes.

Michael Catlin, a New York Police Department officer who met Woodall at a policing conference in Calgary last year, said the two of them immediately hit it off. They liked to talk about everything from their tattoos to martial arts to snappy suits to their Jeeps.

Catlin said Woodall never pretended to be anybody but himself.

"Dan was the purest form of himself. He stood a gentleman among men. He stood a cop among police."

Knecht also acknowledged the strength and grace shown by Claire Woodall, who he said has herself become an inspiration. He promised her she would always have the support of the police force.

That composure wavered momentarily when Knecht presented the widow with her husband's cap, belt and the flag that had draped his coffin.

The thousands of service men and women, who a short time earlier had marched shoulder to shoulder in a procession through sombre streets lined with onlookers, then stood as his coffin was carried away and offered one final salute.

Jun 17 2015

ST. GEORGE, N.B. - Police in southwestern New Brunswick have charged a 27-year-old man after someone broke into the RCMP detachment in St. George and proceeded to trash the building.

RCMP Const. Jullie Rogers-Marsh says police received a 911 call around 3:40 a.m. Wednesday about a break-in and damage at the detachment.

She said there was extensive damage to most of the exterior windows as well some office equipment inside and the building itself.

A number of police and personal vehicles parked outside were also damaged.

The break-in happened just after officers had ended their shifts and left the building at 3:30 a.m.

Rogers-Marsh said it doesn't appear that any private or police information was accessed during the break-in.

Later in the day, Nolan Joseph LeBlanc of Saint John, N.B., appeared in Saint John provincial court to be formally charged with breaking and entering.

Jun 17 2015

OTTAWA - No personal information was compromised during a cyberattack that temporarily crippled some federal government websites, says Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney.



The Anonymous online collective claimed responsibility for the attack - which shut down several federal sites and played havoc with email - as a protest against the recent passage of the federal anti-terrorism bill.

Early Wednesday afternoon, Treasury Board President Tony Clement tweeted that until full service was restored, the public should use 1-800-OCanada.

Several hours of government silence on the incident, known as a denial of service attack, followed.

The federal Cyber Incident Response Centre, which routinely publishes alerts and advisories, posted nothing about the events.

"We are working on restoring services as soon as possible," said a brief, late-afternoon statement from Dave Adamson, the government's acting chief information officer.

"We continue to be vigilant in monitoring any potential vulnerabilities."

Denial-of-service attacks, which bombard a site with traffic, are a common means of shutting down a web server.

There was no immediate confirmation that the loosely knit coalition was actually

behind the assault on federal sites.

The government stresses it has since invested energy and millions of dollars in a national cybersecurity strategy.

"Cybersecurity is an issue that we take very seriously," Blaney said.

Jun 17 2015

WHITEHORSE - Yukon Mounties say they have charged a RCMP officer with assault and uttering threats arising from an incident with a prisoner.

Staff Sgt. Brad Kaeding says police responded on May 15 to a complaint in the community of Carcross, south of Whitehorse, and arrested a 34-year-old man.

He says after the arrest an RCMP member reported that he was involved in an incident while transporting the prisoner.

An investigation by the Yukon RCMP Major Crimes Unit and a review by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team concluded charges were appropriate.

Kaeding says Const. Jason Potter is scheduled to make his first court appearance in Carcross July 28 and also faces an internal code-of-conduct investigation directed by the force.

He says Potter has served with the RCMP for five years and is currently performing administrative duties at the Carcross detachment.

THURSDAY JUNE 18, 2015

Jun 18 2015

TORONTO - A new report finds that Canada is increasingly using provincial jails to imprison non-criminal migrants.

The University of Toronto study says thousands of foreigners are being held in maximum-security conditions, sometimes for years.

Renu Mandhane, with the school's International Human Rights Program, says the report reveals "shocking gaps" in the rule of law.

The research finds that the Canada Border Services Agency has almost unfettered discretion to have someone locked up.

The report makes several recommendations, including establishing an oversight body for the border agency.

As it stands, it says, treatment of migrants frequently amounts to arbitrary, cruel and inhumane treatment.

Jun 18 2015

CHARLESTON, S.C. - U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch says a suspect is in custody in the fatal shooting inside a historic black church in downtown Charleston, South Carolina.

"I can confirm that there is a suspect in custody," she said.

She gave no other details.

Nine people including the pastor were killed in the Wednesday night shooting. An

intense manhunt followed.

Police earlier identified the suspect as 21-year-old Dylann Roof of Lexington, South Carolina.

They released surveillance video photographs of the gunman and a dark colored sedan he may have used to get away.

Charleston police Chief Greg Mullen says Roof stayed at a prayer meeting for nearly an hour before he opened fire.

Among the dead was state Sen. Clementa Pinckney.

(Associated Press)

Jun 18 2015

TORONTO - The Toronto Police Services Board has voted unanimously to rescind the latest carding policy in favour of returning to a previous one until the province introduces regulations in the fall.

Carding had been on hold since January.

Mayor John Tory at first supported the practice, then vowed two weeks ago to abolish it completely and now is amending the practice.

The changes the board has approved include officers issuing receipts to those they stop and whose information they record and advising community members they have no legal obligation to stop and talk to police.

Chief Mark Saunders says he will implement the policy in the interim, but will also wait to see what the province wants to do over the long term.

Ontario's Liberal government has said it will regulate but not ban police street checks and will hold consultations over the summer before standardizing the practice province-wide.

Jun 18 2015

TORONTO - A man who killed a Toronto police officer with a snow plow four years ago is being moved from a high-security unit to a lower-security one at the mental health hospital where he's detained.



Richard Kachkar has been at the Ontario Shores mental health hospital in Whitby, Ont., since he was found not criminally responsible for killing Sgt. Ryan Russell.

The Ontario Review Board, which decides if and how NCR patients should be detained, held its second annual review of Kachkar's case earlier this month.

In a decision released this week, it ruled that Kachkar should be transferred from the secure forensic unit of the hospital to the general forensic unit, where patients have

more privileges.

The board also allowed Kachkar access to the hospital and grounds while "indirectly supervised," and maintained his access to the general community while accompanied by staff for necessary medical, legal and compassionate needs.

Kachkar has also been granted passes for up to 10 hours to enter the region of Durham while accompanied by staff.

Jun 18 2015

HALIFAX - Police in Halifax say an officer was injured Thursday after crashing his motorcycle on a highway ramp.

Halifax Regional Police say the accident happened at 10:40 a.m. on a ramp off Highway 101 in Bedford.

Police say the officer lost control of the motorcycle after running over some fluid on the road.

Sgt. Pierre Bourdages says police believe the liquid was transmission fluid, which made the road surface slick.

Bourdages says the officer remained in hospital Thursday afternoon with injuries that are not considered life threatening.

Jun 18 2015

KAMLOOPS, B.C. - A man accused of shooting a Mountie in Kamloops, B.C., has pleaded not guilty to charges that include attempted murder.

Ken Knutson, who is also facing an aggravated assault charge and two firearms-related charges, appeared in court by video link.

Cpl. Jean Rene Michaud was critically wounded during an early-morning traffic stop on Dec. 3 and is still recovering at home.

Michaud has since revealed that he was shot in his elbow and torso.

Knutson was arrested after a day-long manhunt and has remained in custody, but was recently transferred to a facility in Surrey.

His defence lawyer told a justice of the peace they are electing for trial by jury, and a four-day pre-trial conference has been set for July 13.

(CHNL)

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