

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

JULY 24, 2015 – Vol. 20 No. 30

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## BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## Violent crime rate down for 8th straight year



Jul 22 2015

**TORONTO** - Violent crime in Canada fell for the eighth straight year - despite a slight increase in homicides - with Saskatoon becoming the country's most crime-ridden city, Statistics Canada reported Wednesday.

The downward trend came as the agency reported serious crime in general fell to its lowest relative level since 1969 - marking 11 straight years of declines.

What accounts for the downward trend

is not easily explained, said criminologist Anthony Doob.

"People have been looking at this for a long time but haven't come up with completely adequate answers," said Doob, a professor at the University of Toronto.

"It may have to do with some changes in the demographic makeup of Canada but that's small - that certainly doesn't account for it."

According to StatsCan, police reported about 369,500 violent incidents in 2014 -



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15,000 fewer than in 2013 - representing a five per cent decrease. While homicides edged up to 516 from 512 a year earlier, the rate remained unchanged relative to Canada's population size.

Violent crime accounted for about one in five police-reported Criminal Code offences last year.

Among provinces and territories, only Yukon, Prince Edward Island and Alberta saw increases in violent crime - mostly because of more murders.

Doob said violent crime appears to have been decreasing across western countries for ages - with a still unexplained upward blip in the 1960s and 1970s. What's clear, he said, is that and government anti-crime legislation have little to do with it.

About one-third of urban areas saw crime rates rise last year, with Saskatoon showing the biggest jump at 10 per cent. Montreal had the biggest drop at nine per cent.

It was the first time that Saskatoon had the highest rate in the country - taking over from longtime leader Regina - mostly due to big increase in breaking and entering, StatsCan said. In contrast, Barrie, Ont., recorded the lowest crime rate among urban centres, despite a small rise.

Among the provinces, Saskatchewan had the highest crime rate last year while Quebec had the lowest rate.

When it comes to measuring the quantity of serious crime relative to Canada's population, the rate was down three per cent from 2013, StatsCan said.

Serious police-reported crime fell to its lowest level since 1998, when the agency started tracking what it calls its crime severity index.

In all, police services reported almost 1.8 million Criminal Code incidents in 2014 - excluding traffic offences - with lower numbers for most offences.

The agency attributed the lower numbers

mostly to fewer break-ins and robberies but said some offences, such as child pornography and terrorism, bucked the downward trend.

Statistics Canada said the increase in sex crimes against children reported last year was primarily the result of incidents of luring a child via computer and could be attributed to specialized police units targeting such offences.



Jul 16 2015

### WINNIPEG - A report from Manitoba's children's advocate says provincial child welfare has "deteriorated into a chronic state of emergency" and is failing kids with complex needs.

The report, released Thursday, says about one-third of 10,000 children in government care are high needs, because of childhood trauma including sexual abuse, mental health issues and addiction.

Many of the high-needs children are in government care, not because they need protection, but because their families can't manage them on their own.

The report suggests the province isn't capable of providing the necessary support.

"Manitoba does not have sufficient resources to meet the needs of this vulnerable population."

The report says Child and Family Services doesn't look to the future, but focuses primarily on keeping kids safe in the short term with expensive emergency placements.

Since there aren't enough spots for children with complex needs, they have ended up in emergency shelters and hotels under the supervision of poorly trained staff. The use of hotels is now banned in the province.

Despite recommendations by the children's advocate in 2012, very little has changed, the report says.

"What was described as an 'unfortunate and unhealthy cycle' in 2012 has deteriorated into a chronic state of emergency in 2015.

"The crisis has been building for years ... The constant uncertainty, extensive gaps in resources, and the system's inability to stabilize have had a profoundly detrimental impact on service delivery to children, youth and their families."

Jul 16 2015

### The Saskatchewan government has cleared regular officers in municipal police departments to use carbines after they complete a training course.

Cabinet approved a change to Municipal Police Equipment Amendment Regulations last month, setting the stage for regular police to use the short-barreled rifles, according to a June 26 order in council.

Carbines, such as the Colt C-8, are used by emergency response teams, but not patrol officers

Police associations have been calling for their wider use in the wake of police shootings and confrontations where suspects are better armed than they are.

One of those groups is the Saskatchewan Association Chiefs of Police, whose members have been advocating for 15 years for officers to be equipped with carbines.

Now, they're getting their wish.

The Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice says a carbine training course is being developed and training is expected to begin in the fall.

The rule change applies to municipal and First Nations police forces. The RCMP is already moving to distribute more carbines to its front-line members.

(CBC News)

Jul 16 2015

### VANCOUVER - A police officer who posed as a disabled man to catch thieves plaguing Vancouver's troubled Downtown Eastside was hit with unexpected kindness and compassion instead.



Police launched the undercover assignment last spring after a string of attacks and robberies against people in wheelchairs.

More than half of the crimes occurred in the city's Downtown Eastside, a neighbourhood known for its large homeless population, street drugs, crime and prostitution.

For five days, Staff Sgt. Mark Horsley wheeled through the neighbourhood in a wheelchair. He told people he had a brain injury and couldn't count and wore a waist wallet with money spilling out.

Expecting to encounter street thieves, Horsley, a 30-year police veteran, instead met men and women who looked out for him, gave him money and even prayed for him.

No one tried to rob him or short change him during transactions.

"Not one person took advantage of my vulnerability," Horsley told a news conference Thursday.

"This community has soul."

Police released a video of Horsley's interactions with people in the Downtown Eastside during his assignment.

During one filmed encounter, a young man bends over and closes the zipper of Horsley's money pouch, warning him to be careful. Another man asked permission to pray for him to heal.

"The generosity, the caring was inspiring," Horsley said.

In the end, the operation didn't net any arrests, but Insp. Howard Chow said the exercise wasn't a failure, because Horsley's experience provided a lesson police could share

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with residents.

Horsley agreed, saying he learned from the people he encountered on his assignment.

"The people of the downtown are watching. They care and they take care of their vulnerable people."

(CBC News)

Jul 16 2015

### **VANCOUVER - A Taser in every patrol car. That's what the Vancouver Police Department has committed to, according to plans contained in police board documents to triple the number of Tasers in its current capacity.**

The documents detail Vancouver's response to a review conducted in Toronto on police use of force, particularly when it comes to those suffering from mental illness.

The VPD listed nine recommendations, among them details of how \$400,000 in total - \$2,000 per device - will be spent on additional Tasers.

The new weapons are suggested to be a new model - it's unclear what that might be, though one of the latest models advertised by Taser, the X2, allows two loaded cartridges at a time, so officers can fire twice before reloading.

Officers currently use the X26 single-shot Taser, according to additional documents, which also showed Tasers were deployed against people 15 times in 2013 and 2014. In eight of those cases, the suspect was carrying some sort of weapon.

Police say the force will have 300 Taser units in total sometime in 2016.

"At the end of 2014, there were 100 CEWs (conducted energy weapons) deployed on patrol, plus additional weapons for members assigned to the Emergency Response Section," reads the report from Supt. Daryl Wiebe dated in June.

"The VPD also recognizes that the CEW provides front-line personnel with an additional tool to assist them when dealing with people in crisis. As such, at the end of 2014 a commitment was made to expand the deployment of CEWs in patrol to achieve 200 operators by the end of 2015...

"A further expansion next year will bring the total CEW deployment to 300 officers, and essentially puts a CEW force option into every patrol car."

Police did not respond to requests for comment on Thursday.

(24 Hours Vancouver)

Jul 16 2015

### **Innocent people have been accused of being paedophiles due to UK police and data firm blunders, a damning report found today.**

Mistakes in tracing people's internet use led to one individual being arrested despite being having no connection to a child sex probe, the surveillance commissioner Sir Anthony May said.

Further errors sparked five police searches at properties linked to people who had nothing to do with child abuse investigations.

And three cases against suspected paedophiles had to be dropped after key data was lost, the report found.

Sir Anthony - whose office oversees the conduct of covert surveillance and covert intelligence sources by UK police, government departments and councils - said errors related to wrongly tracing a computer's IP address can have a "devastating" impact on those affected.

"When errors occur in relation to the resolution of IP addresses, the consequences are particularly acute," his report said.

"Any police action taken erroneously in such cases, such as the search of an individual's house who is unconnected with the investigation, or a delayed welfare check on an individual whose life is believed to be at risk, can have a devastating impact on the individuals concerned".

Sir Anthony declined to name the organisations responsible for the errors.

(UK Mirror)

Jul 16 2015

### **Edmonton police are struggling to respond to a rising number of dispatch calls resulting in the police agency's lowest response-time performance on record.**

At an Edmonton Police Commission meeting at city hall Thursday, a report detailing police response times and dispatch call volumes revealed police response time performance has been steadily falling since 2012, resulting in the lowest year-to-date performance record at 69.6 per cent.

At the same time, dispatch call volume has grown by an historic 8.9 per cent — an additional 6,600 calls — over 2014 levels.

In previous years, annual dispatch call volume has never exceeded five per cent growth.

"We're paying attention to the numbers," said EPS deputy chief, Brian Simpson. "There is a definite increase in our call volume...so we are seeing an impact that way. We are paying attention to it, but it's a reality of our policing environment."

Simpson also pointed to the growth of the city, combined with a busy construction season, has impacted the way police respond to calls.

"We are a growing city and we're just trying to meet those needs," said Simpson, who would not say whether more officers are needed to combat the issue, but says the EPS has to stay in pace with the city of the growth.

(Edmonton Sun)



Jul 17 2015

### **DAWSON CREEK, B.C. - Mounties have shot and killed a man outside a BC Hydro public information session on the planned Site C hydroelectric**

### **dam in the province's Peace region.**

Dawson Creek RCMP said Thursday evening they were called about a man damaging property and disrupting the hearing.

Police said that when they arrived, they encountered a masked man outside the venue and believed he was connected to the complaint.

RCMP said despite attempts to de-escalate the situation, there was a confrontation and the unidentified man was shot and later died in hospital.

Mounties secured the scene pending the arrival of a team from the Independent Investigations Office on Friday morning.

Jul 17 2015

### **KAMLOOPS, B.C. - The Independent Investigations Office says it will be up to Crown counsel to decide if an incident involving a Kamloops, B.C., RCMP officer and a fleeing suspect will result in charges against the Mountie.**

Office spokeswoman Kellie Kilpatrick says the probe has been completed into the incident that occurred Sept. 14, 2014.

Kilpatrick says police were trying to arrest a man when he fled and jumped over a fence.

The man suffered severe spinal injuries.

Kilpatrick says the office does not recommend charges, but forwards its findings to the Criminal Justice Branch for a ruling.

(CHNL)

Jul 17 2015

### **OTTAWA - RCMP detachments across Canada have stopped naming the victims of fatal vehicle collisions, in an unannounced shift in their information-sharing practices.**

Greg Cox, a spokesperson for RCMP headquarters in Ottawa, told CTVNews.ca in a statement that the country-wide policy is in accordance with the federal Privacy Act.

"The Privacy Act is designed to protect personal information, such as the names of deceased victims, unless there is an applicable exemption under the act," Cox told CTVNews.ca via email.

Cox cited a number of possible exemptions from the privacy act, including instances when the information is already publicly available, when releasing the information could help a case or when the information could benefit the public.

"However, even when an exemption may apply it is discretionary and the RCMP will balance the interests in disclosing the information against the privacy interests involved," Cox said.

The policy appears to have been implemented across the country within the last year, though Cox did not specify when exactly it went into effect.

For instance, in June of 2014, New Brunswick RCMP issued news releases concerning three separate fatal crashes, with victims named in two of them. In June of 2015, they issued releases concerning six separate fatal collisions. No victims were named, but the ages and hometowns of the individuals were provided.

Nova Scotia RCMP also named fatal collision victims in June of 2014, but omitted their names in releases posted last month.

In Manitoba, RCMP news releases have not named victims in releases dating back to the beginning of 2014. However, the organization often provides the ages and hometowns of the victims.

"The RCMP is constantly reviewing and revising policies and procedures," Cox said. "The release of names is a very fact specific situation and the RCMP is simply ensuring consistency in the application of the Privacy Act."

Police are not required to consult with a victim's family before releasing their name to the public, Cox pointed out. "However, in some cases where a disclosure is permitted under the Privacy Act exemptions, the RCMP may choose to either consult or inform the family depending on the individual circumstances."

A spokesperson for the Office of the Privacy Commissioner said her department was not involved in the RCMP's change in policy. "The Privacy Act has not been amended, and we have not provided recommendations to the RCMP with respect to its policy," spokesperson Valerie Lawton said in an email.

She added that there is a "presumption" not to disclose personal information without consent, "unless there are compelling arguments to the contrary."

(CTV News)

## SATURDAY JULY 18, 2015

Jul 18 2015

**SURREY - B.C.'s police watchdog is investigating after police shot and killed a man Mounties described as apparently suicidal in South Surrey early Saturday.**

The Internal Investigations Office (IIO) is investigating the fatal shooting which took place outside an RCMP attachment Saturday morning.

Police said they received a complaint around 2:30 a.m. regarding a suicidal man, according to a release from the IIO.

Officers left the building and located the man, at which point a physical struggle ensued.

"The affected person was shot and did not survive his injuries," the release says.

"An RCMP officer sustained a non-life threatening gunshot wound - the circumstances of which are under investigation."

The officer was taken to hospital for treatment.

The IIO wouldn't share information about the number, gender or years of service of officers involved in the case.

It will be up to the B.C. Coroners Services to identify the deceased.

It was the fourth officer-involved shooting this month - and the third that resulted in death.

(The Province)

Jul 18 2015

**DAWSON CREEK, B.C. - The probe into a fatal RCMP shooting in northern BC grew more dramatic Friday when a video of the incident emerged and the province's police watchdog acknowledged that investigators initially misidentified the person shot.**



On Thursday evening Mounties in Dawson Creek responded to a report of a man creating a disturbance at a public hearing into a contentious dam project on BC's Peace River.

BC's Independent Investigations Office first said that a man who caused a disturbance had been shot by police outside the venue.

Now the IIO says the man who allegedly caused the disturbance had actually left the area before police got there.

Spokesperson Kellie Kilpatrick says when officers arrived, they confronted a man who had nothing to do with the original disturbance complaint.

She says the man was aggressive, ignored police commands, and was shot.

Kilpatrick says she doesn't know how the initial misidentification happened, but notes that a knife was seized at the scene.

In the apparent cell phone video posted on Facebook, two officers with their guns drawn are seen standing over a man in a grey hoodie who's slumped on the ground.

One officer appears to kick something away from the man although the object can't be seen.

Jul 18 2015

**AMHERST, N.S. - Nova Scotia's Serious Incident Response Team is investigating a vehicle pursuit that left the driver with serious injuries.**

Director Ron MacDonald says the pursuit began at around 2:30 a.m. Saturday when members of the Amherst Police Department saw a vehicle run a stop sign and drive onto the curb.

Thinking the driver might be impaired, MacDonald says the officers pursued the vehicle for some distance before eventually giving up the chase.

The suspect vehicle was found a short time later, off the road.

MacDonald says the driver was ejected from the vehicle and suffered serious injuries, including broken legs.

He was taken to the hospital and airlifted to Halifax.

Jul 18 2015

**Vancouver police say a man has been arrested after a volunteer crime prevention group spotted him fleeing a park after a murder.**

Sgt. Randy Fincham says just before 10 p.m. Friday witnesses called police after they found a body in Andy Livingstone Park near Expo Boulevard and Carrall Street.

The VPD's volunteer Citizens' Crime Watch saw a suspicious man running from the park minutes later and notified their police co-ordinator who detained the suspect.

Police say the suspect is a 26-year-old Vancouver man who has been charged with second-degree murder and remains in custody.

Homicide investigators and the VPD's Forensic Identification Unit were on the scene Friday night and well into Saturday.

"If it wasn't for the dedication and quick thinking of the volunteers in the VPD's Citizens' Crime Watch, we would not have been able to take this dangerous offender off the street so quickly," says Fincham in a statement.

## SUNDAY JULY 19, 2015

Jul 19 2015

**The RCMP's website was down for much of the day, but the cause is not clear.**



However, it came a day after the cyber group Anonymous vowed to target the force to raise awareness about an RCMP officer involved in a shooting incident in the small B.C. city of Dawson Creek.

Anonymous has no identifiable leadership and its members are known for wearing Guy Fawkes masks. Its members have claimed responsibility in the past for hacking incidents including the shutdown of the Cleveland city website last fall after the police shooting of 12-year-old Tamir Rice.

Public Safety Minister Stephen Blaney's office and the Mounties did not immediately respond to questions about the RCMP website.

But an alleged spokesperson with Anonymous told Global News they are planning to identify the RCMP officer who fatally shot a man on July 17.

Social media posts claim the victim was affiliated with Anonymous, and witnesses on site say he was wearing a mask when he was shot.

"He was an Anon. Specifically, he was a part of the idea known as Anonymous. We do not have "members" per-say," they wrote.

When asked if that would put an innocent man at risk, they wrote "there are no innocent police officers."

(Global News)



**MONDAY**  
JULY 20, 2015

Jul 20 2015

**CALGARY - Judges may lack the technical expertise to properly oversee and approve the use of hacking software that city police were looking to buy last year, says a technology expert.**

"I'm not sure how many tech-savvy judges there are," said Tom Keenan, a University of Calgary professor and writer on electronic privacy issues.

"They went to law school, not computer school."

Keenan's comments come in the wake of the release of leaked e-mails from an Italian company that reveal the Calgary Police Service looked seriously last fall at purchasing spyware that investigators could use to remotely hack cellphones and computers.

While the head of the force's electronic surveillance unit insists CPS decided not to purchase the technology from Hacking Team, he refused to say whether his officers are using a similar product acquired from another manufacturer.

"Even though they claim they can't tell us because of the need for operational secrecy," said Keenan, "they are spending public money and there needs to be some kind of accountability."

The remote control service (RCS) software developed by Hacking Team at its Milan headquarters is capable of intercepting phone calls, text messages and passwords

from compromised devices and can quietly turn on a target's webcam and microphone.

Emails and documents posted on WikiLeaks show CPS was one of four law enforcement agencies in Canada who expressed interest in or tested the spyware.

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi said Monday it would be inappropriate for politicians to comment on police operational matters, but he noted it was his understanding the force did not purchase the Hacking Team product.

However, when pressed that city police have not answered whether the department bought another, similar, program, Nenshi responded: "I noticed that myself."

Likewise, Coun. Ward Sutherland, one of two sitting council members on the Calgary Police Commission, said the oversight body is generally not made aware of police operations.

"We're not made aware of every operational thing police do," Sutherland said.

"If they purchase it and use it they're going to have to use it within the context of the law and if they don't they're in big trouble."

The Ward 1 councillor said he will raise the issue at next week's police commission meeting as to whether public officials should be notified of such purchases.

"Maybe we don't get the option to say, 'No you can't use it, or yes' but the fact that we should know whether they have it or not."

"I'd like to know whether they have it or not," he said. "But public knowledge, that's a fine line between catching people and not catching people if they don't know what we're capable of doing, especially in the current circumstance."

Staff Sgt. Ryan Jepson, who oversees CPS' surveillance unit, has said his officers would only use this type of product if it was

specifically authorized by the courts.

Jepson refused to say how often his team uses wiretaps in its criminal investigations, but a recently-released report shows that in 2013 police across Alberta applied for and received all 26 authorizations they sought from the courts to intercept electronic communications. (Calgary Herald)

Jul 20 2015

**The RCMP officer who suffered a gunshot wound during a confrontation in Surrey over the weekend was shot by an RCMP-issued gun.**

The officer and at least one other were responding to reports of a suicidal man screaming outside a police station early Saturday morning.

A struggle ensued and shots were fired. The civilian, who has been identified as 20-year-old Hudson Daryl Willis Brooks, was killed and one Mountie was taken to hospital with a non-life threatening gunshot wound.

B.C.'s police watchdog was called to probe the incident, and on Monday issued a statement suggesting Brooks was not carrying any weapons when police arrived.

"Other than police issued equipment, nothing of significance was recovered from the scene," the Independent Investigations Office said.

The IIO hasn't released any further details, but Mounties confirmed over the weekend that Brooks's wounds weren't self-inflicted.

"The male was shot by an officer," the RCMP said in a statement Saturday morning.

The circumstances of the gunshot that injured the other Mountie are under investigation, the force added.

(CTV Vancouver)

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Jul 21 2015

**OTTAWA - The RCMP is concerned that new anti-terrorism legislation might hurt - not help - its security efforts in overseas hotspots, internal notes say.**



The Mounties worry the Canadian Security Intelligence Service's new powers to disrupt threats "could inadvertently jeopardize existing relationships" the Mounties have fostered, if authorities discover what CSIS is doing, the RCMP briefing notes warn.

There will be additional pressure on the Mounties to co-ordinate with the spy service so that criminal investigations are not "negatively affected," add the notes, prepared for RCMP deputy commissioner Mike Cabana's appearance at a Senate committee.

The Canadian Press used the Access to Information Act to obtain the detailed documents, drafted in advance of Cabana's April 20 testimony on the government's sweeping security bill, known as C-51.

The bill, which has since become law, explicitly empowers CSIS to thwart security threats - going well beyond its traditional information-gathering role - by meddling with extremist websites, diverting illicit shipments or engaging in myriad other schemes.

The newly disclosed notes underscore the need for a federal security czar to oversee and direct the anti-terrorism activities of Canadian agencies that might otherwise trip over one another, said University of Ottawa law professor Craig Forcese.

"What we've done with C-51 is we've enhanced the prospect of traffic collisions and road carnage without putting in place the traffic-light system."

The RCMP had no immediate comment. The internal RCMP notes say CSIS's new mandate will mean revising the Mounties' national security-related training courses.

"For certain, there will be additional pressure on the RCMP to de-conflict with CSIS in a timely manner to ensure that criminal investigations are not negatively affected - for instance through inadvertent interference with the chain of evidence or preventing the ability to lay criminal charges."

The notes suggest that, in the end, the Mounties will chart their own course regardless of what the spies do.

The RCMP has a "robust range of disruption tools" and continues to develop its own ability to diminish threats in light of rapidly evolving changes, the notes say.

"Should there be any questions: The RCMP is entitled to investigative independence and no official may direct how RCMP investigations are conducted."

Jul 21 2015

**CHARLOTTETOWN - The RCMP in Prince Edward Island has a new commanding officer.**



Chief Supt. Joanne Crampton replaces Chief Supt. Craig Gibson who was transferred to Ottawa earlier this year.

Crampton takes her new position after serving as the RCMP's criminal operations officer on the Island.

She joined the force in October 1988 and has previously served in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

A change of command ceremony will be held at a later date.

Jul 21 2015

**MASKWACIS, Alta. - An investigation is underway into the death of a woman who was being held in a central Alberta RCMP cell.**

Mounties say the 35-year-old woman, who was involved in a domestic violence case, was taken into custody at the Maskwacis detachment late Sunday night.

She was found unresponsive around 3:30 a.m. Monday and attempts were made to resuscitate her, but she was pronounced dead at the hospital.

The woman's name has not been released and police have not disclosed any other details about how she died.

The RCMP's Major Crimes Unit is looking into the death, while the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team will review the Mounties' investigation.

ASIRT is the provincial watchdog agency that reviews incidents involving the death or injury of people that resulted from the actions of police, or other serious cases involving police.

Jul 21 2015

**WINNIPEG - Winnipeg police have charged a 24-year-old courier following a one-man rampage outside police headquarters that was, according to authorities, an angry reaction to a traffic ticket.**

Police allege the accused, Wayne Daniel

Rennie, was so upset Monday after being ticketed for using a cellphone, that he drove about 15 blocks to police headquarters, deliberately rammed five parked police cars with his truck, then sped off toward Portage La Prairie some 80 kilometres away.

"It boggles our mind," Const. Jason Michalysen said Tuesday.

"I think everyone in the community that observed this ... are all scratching their heads and going 'Wow. What an extreme thing for someone to do and put themselves and other people at risk because of a Highway Traffic Act ticket'."

Rennie, who remained in custody Tuesday, had not yet entered pleas to a dozen charges. A court date had not yet been set.

Police said Rennie was pulled over for using his cellphone and given a ticket at 8:45 a.m. At 11 a.m., witnesses reported seeing a truck stop on a busy street outside police headquarters and deliberately back up into a row of parked police cars three times.

Rennie's boss - Bill Murray, whose name is on the truck - said Monday that Rennie had called in, upset about getting the ticket.

Murray said Rennie made two more pickups for the courier company and then "went downtown and played smash-up derby." Murray continued to talk with Rennie over the two-way radio as the day progressed, he said.

Damage to the police vehicles included dented doors, broken windows and smashed mirrors.

The truck was seen heading out of the city, westward on the Trans-Canada Highway. Police allege that Rennie at one point swerved into oncoming traffic, aiming head-on at a police cruiser that was driving in the opposite direction.

The two officers in the vehicle "took immediate evasive action" to avoid a collision, Michalysen said.

Winnipeg police and RCMP cars pursued the truck, which was eventually stopped by a spike belt.

Rennie had not yet entered pleas to charges that include mischief, dangerous driving and assaulting a peace officer with a weapon. The last charge is the alleged swerve toward the oncoming police vehicle.

Jul 21 2015

**REGINA - The Estevan Police Service says it has fired one of its officers.**

Former constable Mohammed Khan is charged with assault.

Police Chief Paul Ladouceur says Khan's dismissal follows two investigations into an arrest back in May.

He declined further comment.

Khan, who is 29, joined the Estevan Police Service last August.

He graduated from the University of Regina with a degree in justice studies in 2011. (CJME)

Jul 21 2015

**VANCOUVER - A British Columbia judge is concerned that assistance from the United States in extraditing an accused Chinese spy has more to do with inadequate RCMP resources than**



## Canada's international obligations.

B.C. Supreme Court Justice Terence Schultes said on Tuesday he wouldn't accept that the Mounties don't have the ability to translate the equivalent of more than 300,000 pages of seized information from Canadian permanent resident Su Bin.

The United States wants to extradite Su to face trial over accusations he masterminded a plot to steal military trade secrets from several American defence contractors.

The Canadian government has asked the court to OK a team of U.S. investigators to help the RCMP extract and translate reams of data found on Su's seized electronics, written predominately in Chinese characters. That information would then be used by the courts to decide whether to extradite him.

The RCMP's inability to investigate this issue on its own suggests the department has a resource-allocation issue, said Schultes, describing the proposed American assistance a possible matter of "administrative convenience."

"I presume they either don't want to spend the money or whoever's in charge here can't authorize to spend the money," the judge said. "That's really the elephant in the room for me."

Stacey Repas, a lawyer for the Attorney General of Canada, told the court Canada has an international obligation to co-operate with its neighbour on issues of national security.

It would take the one Canadian Mountie available working full time more than 35 years to translate the documents, and outside help is the only immediate option to expedite processing the U.S.'s extradition application, he said.

"It is a reasonable and measured way of dealing with information that relates to serious offences that have impact on U.S. national security."

A Los Angeles grand jury indicted Su last August on five offences including conspiracy to steal trade secrets, conspiracy to export defence information and unauthorized computer access.

The Canadian government is attempting to revoke Su's permanent residency status but he is appealing the decision.

Jul 21 2015

## Surete du Quebec officer Guillaume St. Louis was formally charged Tuesday in connection with an arrest he made in 2014.

During the arrest in Joliette last December, the police officer allegedly used excessive force involving his telescopic baton and pepper spray.

An investigation began in January following a complaint from the victim.

He faces charges of assault with a weapon, assault with a weapon causing bodily harm and careless use of a firearm.

St. Louis is currently suspended with pay. He will be back in court Nov. 30.

Jul 21 2015

## A 27-year old Saint John man, accused of breaking into the St. George RCMP detachment last month and causing major damage, has been found fit to stand trial.

Nolan LeBlanc was previously ordered to undergo a 30-day psychiatric assessment at the Restigouche Hospital Centre in Campbellton.

He made a brief appearance in St. Stephen provincial court on Tuesday afternoon, when the results were presented.

LeBlanc is charged with breaking and entering with the intent to commit mischief, causing wilful damage to the outside of the detachment, damaging six RCMP vehicles, and damaging one personal vehicle parked on the property.

He did not speak in court and sat looking straight ahead.

The case has been adjourned for three weeks to allow LeBlanc time to find a lawyer. He has applied for legal aid, the courtroom heard.

Almost every window in the RCMP building was smashed, along with computers and other equipment inside, RCMP have said. The windows of several vehicles that were left parked outside overnight were also broken.

Crown prosecutor James McAvity has said the damage related to each charge exceeds \$5,000, but the total amount of damage was still being assessed.

The break-in at the detachment, located on Mount Pleasant Road, occurred on June 17, shortly after 3:30 a.m., RCMP have said.

The officers on duty had just left for the day when police received a 911 call saying someone was in the process of vandalizing the detachment.

A male suspect was arrested outside without incident.

(CBC News)

Jul 21 2015

## The Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada (RTDNA), a group of broadcast and other electronic journalists, is opposing a new policy by the RCMP to no longer release the names of victims of crime.

Although the RCMP used to regularly release the names of victims, the police force recently changed its policy. Now, it will only release names when the information is already publicly available or it believes that the disclosure would help to further an investigation or be in the individual's interest, according to news reports.

The RCMP says that its new policy follows the Privacy Act.

In a press release, RTDNA Canada president Ian Koenigsfest said, "We believe that the release of names of major crime and fatal accident victims is in the public interest and should not be unreasonably withheld."

The organization said that journalists frequently rely on the RCMP to release and verify names. Not having that verified sources could lead to confusion and misinformation, it said. "In the absence of such credible sources, erroneous information often shared in social media and neighbourhood gossip could remain unchecked in public discourse."

(Global News)

Jul 21 2015

## MONTREAL - Lucy Krasowski and Walter Filipas miraculously survived an attempt on their lives more than two decades ago.

On May 22, 1993, both were Montreal police constables riding in a patrol car when Claude Forget, a convict on the lam from a 10-year prison sentence he was serving for a series of armed robberies, opened fire on them near Place du Canada while they were looking for a suspect in an assault on a taxi driver.

From that moment, Krasowski and Filipas would be forever linked together as victims of one of the more notorious crimes committed in Montreal. They followed very different paths after they recovered from their physical wounds and lost touch somewhat after 2007. But the news still came as a shock to Filipas last week when he learned that Krasowski had died of cancer in Montana, very shortly after the disease was diagnosed.

Filipas, 54, said he and Krasowski were roughly the same age and had joined the Montreal police (then known as the Montreal Urban Community police) just months apart in 1983. Suddenly, the person Filipas had shared a bond with, by beating the odds of surviving having been shot at close range, was gone.

"It was a shock to hear," Filipas said Tuesday before reflecting on how differently both lived their lives after 1993.

With the benefit only hindsight can provide, Filipas spoke about how he was knocked unconscious by a bullet that travelled through his head while Krasowski remained conscious after suffering wounds to her face, neck and legs. Filipas said that while he suffered more physically, including permanent damage to his right eye, having been knocked out probably spared him the amount of emotional trauma that appeared to affect Krasowski for many years.

"She was not the same person she was before. After the (shooting), she changed from A to Z. She remembered everything that happened that night. Me, I remember zip-all. I was knocked out," Filipas said.

"I didn't feel any pain. But Lucy never lost consciousness. She remembered the pain. She had nightmares that would keep her up at night. I remember zippo."

Filipas said Krasowski retired from the Montreal police in 1995 and moved to Montana.

After going through years of physical therapy, Filipas returned to work for the Montreal police in 1997 and was assigned primarily to desk duties "and things like watering house plants." He retired in 1999 and became a very vocal opponent of Forget being released on parole while serving the 20-year sentence he received in 1994 for the attempted murders.

According to Parole Board of Canada records, Forget, 59, made very little effort toward rehabilitation and was denied any form of release eight times. The sentence expired in April 2014. Filipas said he was recently told Forget left Quebec and headed somewhere west of the province.

Jul 21 2015

Filipas said one of his more recent memories of Krasowski was when she returned to Quebec briefly, in 2007, so they could both give victim-impact statements during one of Forget's parole hearings. They had been advised to prepare their statement in writing and to not deviate from it as they read it aloud during the hearing.

"The statement you submit to the parole board is supposed to be what you say during the hearing. I gave my statement and then Lucy gave hers," Filipas said, adding that Krasowski stopped reading from her statement and, while fighting her emotions, brought up many more aspects of how she was still suffering emotionally.

"A liaison officer later told me it was the first time (parole board commissioners) had let someone go off-script like that. They didn't say a word. They were mesmerized."  
(Montreal Gazette)

Jul 21 2015

**TORONTO -- Ontario's police watchdog says it will not charge a Peel Regional Police officer who last year shot and killed a 33-year-old man after a traffic stop northwest of Toronto.**

The Special Investigations Unit's director, Tony Loparco, said in a lengthy news release that three Peel officers feared for their lives before one shot and killed a knife-wielding Carby in Brampton, Ont., last September.

"I am satisfied that the officer discharged his firearm at Mr. Carby for the purpose of protecting and defending himself as well as other officers," Loparco said.

The SIU investigation found that Carby was shot in the chest, forearm and back, with both the shots to the chest and back described as fatal hits by a pathologist.

Loparco cautioned, however, that there were two issues with the investigation.

First, he wrote, the scene wasn't secure because SIU officers couldn't find the knife witnesses said Carby was holding at the time he was shot. A kitchen knife was turned over several hours later by a Peel sergeant who said an officer had bagged it after removing it from Carby's hand as he lay on the ground after the shooting.

"It is highly regrettable that one officer removed the knife from the scene," Loparco wrote. "His ill-advised conduct has cast a pall over the integrity of the SIU's investigation ... the removal of the knife ensures that some members of the community will harbour concerns, legitimate concerns in my view, regarding the very existence of the knife."

The second issue that concerned Loparco was the officer's refusal to be interviewed or hand over his notes of the shooting, as is his legal right.

Loparco wrote that, despite his concerns, he was satisfied with the evidence from interviews with six officers and 12 civilian witnesses. He also said that Carby's DNA was present on the knife.

**MONTREAL - Two Montreal police officers are being blamed by the province's police ethics board for abusing their authority.**

In a statement released Tuesday, the board said it ruled earlier this month that Constables Alain Chauvette and Jean-François Lemay were out of line during an incident involving a black man.

The statement said that the two officers intercepted the man, who had stopped his car in a restricted zone.

The situation escalated, with one of the officers collaring the man so roughly that he spat out some blood.

The officers ultimately arrested him and gave him three tickets - including one for spitting.

"The Board finds that, given the circumstances, Const. Lemay should have judiciously exercised his discretion and not given the plaintiff a ticket for spitting on the floor."

The man was treated in hospital for his injuries.

The board also said the officers made insulting comments pertaining to the man's race.

A hearing to decide on the officers' punishment is scheduled for Nov. 24.  
(CBC News)



Jul 22 2015

**MONTREAL - The case of a Montreal man who is accused of violating the terms of a terrorism-related peace bond will return to court in November.**

A summons was issued in February for Merouane Ghalmi after the RCMP expressed fear he would commit a terrorism offence.

Because the contents of a sworn affidavit have been sealed, it is still not known why the Mounties are concerned about him.

Ghalmi signed off on the peace bond at the end of March, agreeing to several conditions including one that prohibited him from consulting or attempting to look up materials that promote violence or religious or political extremism.

He was arrested in May on suspicion of violating that specific condition but he was granted bail.

Ghalmi, who is in his early 20s, wasn't in court today but will have to be present Nov. 26.

Jul 22 2015

**PETERBOROUGH, Ont. - The two top cops in this central Ontario city sought - and reportedly received - termination payouts totalling as much as \$400,000.**

This was despite not actually being laid off. Now, Mayor Daryl Bennett and city councillors say residents are 'disgusted' at their 'greed.'

Chief Murray Rodd and Deputy Chief Tim Farquharson kept their jobs when the regional force was re-organized into a city

department. But because they technically were let go, however briefly, it appears they invoked a termination clause in their contracts.

"It's a hell of a lot of money," said Coun. Dianne Therrien, adding the cash could be used to fund many anti-poverty workers to help the community.

"I think a lot of people see it as a cash grab and that is unfortunate."

The chiefs' claim went to arbitration in May. This week, Rodd told a local TV station they had won their claim.

Details of the contracts have not been made public, but the mayor said the termination clause was likely added in case the force was taken over by the Ontario Provincial Police.

"It was never intended to be used in this fashion. It's a travesty," said Bennett, who has feuded with Rodd for several years.

Some public-sector contracts provide a minimum of 12 months of pay on termination without cause. A 12-month payout would give Rodd \$205,000 and Farquharson \$171,000.

The police force was de-amalgamated Jan. 1, becoming a city-only service.

Police officers were all sworn in again under the new name, Peterborough Police, funded by the city.

Bennett said he has not been told whether a decision has been reached on making the payout or when to expect one.

The payout is the latest chapter in a years-long conflict between Rodd and Bennett, who first butted heads in 2011 over the police budget while Bennett was on the police services board.

During that process, Bennett called Rodd unprofessional, and said it was "an embarrassment" the chief was on Ontario's Sunshine List of \$100,000-plus earners.

Those comments and others, including an allegation that Bennett had joked about Rodd's weight at a public event and called him a "Marshmallow Man," led to business owner Camille Parent formally complaining to the Ontario Civilian Police Commission.

Bennett was also accused of threatening fellow board members and sharing a confidential complaint about Rodd with councillors members.

This led to a hearing, over several months in 2013-14, during which time Bennett was suspended from the police board.

Rodd testified at the hearing Bennett had accused him of using "fear tactics" to sway public opinion to support police budget increases.

In December, the commission ruled Bennett had broken several rules and banned him from sitting on the board.

In its 80-page ruling, the OCPB concluded his intent was to "sabotage efforts, escalate conflict, undermine the efforts of the (police) service ... and create upset in the community."

Bennett is appealing the decision.  
(Peterborough Examiner)



## Questions are being raised about the RCMP's decision to use new recruits as guinea pigs in a study evaluating the effects of different concentrations of pepper spray.



The National Post learned about the experiment after receiving an anonymous email expressing concerns that cadets at the RCMP's central training academy in Regina were being treated like "lab rats" and could face adverse health effects.

The noxious substance can cause a burning sensation in the eyes and skin, severe coughing and temporary blindness.

An RCMP spokesman in Ottawa initially would not confirm that a study was underway. Sgt. Harold Pfeleiderer said in a statement that each cadet is exposed to Oleoresin Capsicum Spray (OCS) in a "controlled environment" during Week 7 of their training to make them "aware of the physiological/psychological responses that occur when exposed."

Only when pressed did the spokesman confirm the force had carried out tests of three different concentrations of pepper spray on four separate cadet troops during May and June. Each troop was exposed to one concentration.

Four additional cadet troops served as control groups and were exposed to the pepper spray currently used by the force.

"Each concentration was evaluated to determine what, if any, effect the OCS had on officer performance (judgment, decision-making, confidence, tactics and officer safety, operational skills performance, and physical effects) as well as for any officer safety concerns," Pfeleiderer said.

"This information was collected and will form part of the evaluation to determine if another OCS concentration should be approved for use."

David Calam, a spokesman at the RCMP Depot Division in Regina, said cadets were exposed to a one-second burst of spray to the face and then tasked with locating a radio to call for help. It typically took cadets about 70 seconds to complete the task, at which point they would get treatment. No one was left untreated.

While cadets were made aware they were participating in a study, they were not told what concentrations they were receiving, Calam said. Participation was mandatory.

The fact cadets couldn't opt out doesn't sit well with Rob Creasser, a retired Mountie and spokesman for the Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada. He said he

sees value in having new recruits experience what it's like to be sprayed, but he thinks it should be voluntary.

"I'm not so sure compelling them to do so is the way to go," he said.

A health services officer at the RCMP Depot was consulted before and during the study and "no reactions or adverse effects outside of the norm were noted," the force said. Further, each of the concentrations used in the study fell in line with concentrations used by other police agencies.

Concerns have been raised in the past about whether officers should be exposed to pepper spray at all during training. In the 1990s, the Workers' Compensation Board of B.C. (now WorkSafeBC) declared that the "intentional spray of officers is not acceptable." While there were no long-term effects, it can cause a "severe, short-term health effect."

As a result, the Justice Institute of B.C., which trains municipal police officers, stopped exposing recruits to the spray during training. The ban remains in effect, a spokeswoman at the institute said this week.

Canada Border Services Agency officers, who also carry pepper spray, are not exposed to it during their training, an official said.

A 2007 study out of Simon Fraser University found that a majority of police officers agreed that exposure to pepper spray during training enhanced their ability to defend against assailants, control a suspect and communicate with fellow officers when exposed in the field.

"Here is an opportunity to experience pain, discomfort, burning of the skin ... the worst experience of your life," one trainer was quoted as saying in the study. "Fighting through the worst experience of your life is empowering, it makes you feel as though you can survive anything."

(National Post)

Jul 22 2015

## TORONTO - A Toronto judge has decided to order a further mental health assessment for a man found guilty in a terror plot to derail a passenger train.

Justice Michael Code has made the order for Chiheb Esseghaier under Ontario's Mental Health Act in what he has called a very complicated matter.

In a long, detailed decision, Code emphasized that the issue before him was not whether Esseghaier had been mentally fit at the time of his trial, but rather whether he was fit now, as his sentencing hearing is underway.

One mental health assessment has already been conducted on Esseghaier at the request of a lawyer appointed by the court to assist the self-represented man through the legal process.

The psychiatrist conducting that analysis, Dr. Lisa Ramshaw, testified she believed Esseghaier is unable to participate in his sentencing hearing because he is likely schizophrenic.

That diagnosis, which Esseghaier called a bunch of "lies," led Crown lawyers to demand another assessment be ordered - an issue Code had to decide on.

Jul 22 2015

## VANCOUVER - A new study has revealed a disturbing amount of child pornography is being distributed online in British Columbia.

A Stats Canada crime report released Wednesday shows more than 1,200 individual cases of sexual-abuse images were exchanged over the Internet over a six-month period last year.

The police unit that investigates child exploitation in B.C. says this project was the first of its kind in the province and establishes a baseline.

Investigators say it's impossible to know at this point whether the issue is getting better or worse.

RCMP spokesman Ed Boettcher says a single case of child victimization is too many and that more than a thousand over that time is tragic.

He says police would ensure those responsible are held to account.

Jul 22 2015

## TORONTO - Toronto police say they believe a missing 22-year-old man has been murdered and his body might be entombed in concrete.



Shawn Kapadia, of Mississauga, Ont., went missing on July 5 and his body has yet to be found.

Their investigation has led them to several locations, first an apartment in Toronto where they believe he was killed and then to a house in Wainfleet, Ont., about 40 kilometres southwest of Niagara Falls, Ont., where they found Kapadia's car several days later.

Det. Dave Dickinson says a John Deere backhoe was seen at the southwestern Ontario home from July 10 to 12 when it left with a large chunk of concrete in its front bucket.

He says they want people in the area to report any freshly dug holes or if they've seen the backhoe.

Dickinson says the investigation is moving quickly and expects to make an arrest at some point, although he wouldn't elaborate.

Jul 22 2015

## OTTAWA - An RCMP investigative team to combat high-priority cyber-crime is among the initiatives that will

## benefit from more than \$142 million in federal cybersecurity spending.

Public Safety Canada says the Mounties' ability to detect and fight online crime will also get a boost through better training, technical support and intelligence capacity.

In addition, the department says the new money will go towards securing essential computer systems outside of the government.

The federally run Canadian Cyber Incident Response Centre will develop real-time automated feeds, providing the private sector with additional - and more prompt - threat information.

The latest money is in addition to more than \$94 million in cybersecurity funding announced in the April federal budget.

It comes as the government grapples with denial-of-service attacks that have taken the websites of several federal agencies temporarily offline.

**THURSDAY**  
**JULY 23, 2015**

Jul 23 2015

## Quebec's public security minister has asked the Quebec City police force to investigate a fatal shooting involving provincial police in the Gaspé region.

Provincial officers were called to rescue a man in trouble on Wednesday afternoon, but shots were fired during the operation.

The man later died in hospital.

His name and age have not yet been released, nor have any details about just what happened.

Quebec City investigators and forensic technicians have been sent to the Gaspé to try to determine exactly what happened.

Jul 23 2015

## HALIFAX - Nova Scotia's Serious Incident Response Team says no charges are warranted after a 66-year-old man was struck and killed by a police vehicle in April.

The independent watchdog agency says the police SUV was backing up to make room for an ambulance responding to a complaint of an injured child in North Sydney, when it ran over the man who was helping to direct traffic on the street, which had been narrowed by large snow banks.

A report says the officer driving the vehicle did not see the man standing behind in the street.

SIRT says the officer's actions were at most a mistake caused by momentary inattention and do not justify charges under the Motor Vehicle Act.

The report says the man's family have indicated that they consider the death to have been an accident.

Jul 23 2015

## OTTAWA - The United Nations Human Rights Committee is raising concerns about Canada's new anti-terror legislation, saying it could run afoul of the international covenant on civil and political rights.

The committee says it's concerned sweeping powers in the law, known as C-51, do not contain enough legal safeguards to protect people's rights.

The committee says while it appreciates Canada must take steps to protect against terrorism, the government should consider rewriting the law to ensure it complies with the international civil rights agreement.

Problems with C-51 are only part of a list of issues the committee is raising today in releasing a report on how well Canada is meeting its obligations under the civil and political human rights covenant.

The report follows hearings in Geneva earlier this month where the committee heard from a number of high-profile civil rights groups as well as the Canadian government.

On the subject of the anti-terror bill, the government delegation had said it was committed to protecting people's rights while combating terrorism.

Jul 23 2015

## MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - Ontario's police watchdog says criminal charges have been laid against three Ottawa officers after two emergency workers were injured during a training exercise.

Special Investigations Unit director Tony Loparco says in a release that Sgt. Martin Rukavina and constables Serge Clement and Carl Grimard are facing charges of criminal negligence causing bodily harm and breach of duty relating to an explosive substance.

The SIU says that in June 2014, Ottawa officers were conducting a training exercise when an incendiary device exploded,

seriously injuring two paramedics.

The officers who have been charged are due in court Sept. 8.

Jul 23 2015

## MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - The Special Investigations Unit says a retired Kingston, Ont., police officer is facing nine sex-related charges involving a young person.

SIU director Tony Loparco says the police watchdog agency was contacted by Kingston police regarding allegations of a sexual nature against an officer dating back to the 1980s.

As a result of the SIU investigation, Loparco says Bruce Lindsay is facing charges of gross indecency, sexual assault, invitation to sexual touching, indecent act, and sexual exploitation.

Lindsay is to appear in court in Kingston on Sept. 3.

The SIU says it will make no further comment pertaining to this investigation.

Jul 23 2015

## EDMONTON - Police in Edmonton have been cleared of any wrongdoing in the fatal shooting of a man who was wanted on a Canada-wide warrant.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says the use of force by officers who were pursuing the man was reasonable and justified.

David Sandaker, who was 24, was wanted for murder when he was spotted on a footpath in the city's southwest in May 2014.

ASIRT says tactical units moved in and Sandaker was pinned against a fence with a vehicle when he tried to flee.

One officer was wounded when Sandaker pulled out a handgun and began firing.

Four other police members returned fire and killed him.



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