

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

AUGUST 21, 2015 – Vol. 20 No. 34

## Executive Digest

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**QUEBEC** - Fighting extremism and radicalization in Canada is a job for all of society and not just for police, the president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police said Monday.

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**SURREY** - NDP Leader Tom Mulcair laid out his pledge to train 2,500 new ‘front-line’ police officers across the country during a campaign stop in Surrey, B.C., Wednesday afternoon.

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## BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## Ontario to rewrite police services act



Aug 14 2015

**The province is planning a revamp of Ontario's Police Service Act which could lead to changes on a number of fronts, including paid suspension for officers and interactions with vulnerable people.**

The province announced this week that it will be holding public consultations seeking input on the development of a new strategy to build safer, stronger communities, including updating the Police Services Act, which dates back to 1990.

“We have worked hard with police services to make Ontario one of the safest places in North America. Now it is time to take the next step and build a policing model for the 21st century by rewriting the Police Services

Act,” said Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, said in a release Thursday. “This represents the biggest transformation of policing in Ontario in 25 years, helping communities develop local solutions to improve public safety and overall community well-being.”

Dates and locations for the consultations are expected to be announced in the coming weeks. The proposed changes are expected to focus on issues such as advancements in technology, including the widespread use of the internet, the increasing frequency of police interactions with vulnerable individuals, such as those suffering with mental health or addiction issues, and enhanced expectations about oversight and accountability of law enforcement.



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North Bay Police Chief Paul Cook said work to modernize policing in Ontario and to bring in changes to the Police Services Act have been ongoing since 2012.

In fact, Cook as the former president Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and a member of the Future of Policing Advisory Committee played an integral role in helping to develop a host of recommendations on which the proposed changes are based.

Those recommendations include a call for legislative changes to allow police chiefs to suspend officers without pay under certain circumstances.

The current rules, which require that officers get paid while suspended from duty, has been a contentious issue throughout the province in recent years, with officers in a number of communities collecting pay-cheques - in some cases for years - pending court proceedings and other hearings.

Cook said that change alone could save taxpayers in Ontario millions of dollars annually.

He said there are, however, a number of considerations that are required as part of the proposed changes to the paid suspension rules, including the right for an officer or his association to appeal a chief's decision, as well as mechanism to make an officer suspended without pay "whole" should they be cleared of any wrongdoing at the end of the process.

Cook said one of the recommendations provided to the province called for mandatory training of police services board members.

In addition, the province is looking at clarifying police duties, modernizing training programs and delivering services using a range of public safety personnel, as well as a framework for First Nations policing to ensure equitable and culturally responsive policing for the province's First Nations communities.

(North Bay Nugget)

## THURSDAY AUGUST 13, 2015

Aug 13 2015

**VANCOUVER - Vancouver Police say a "substantial" organized crime group is linked to a marijuana store where officers executed a search warrant and arrested one employee.**

Sgt. Randy Fincham said officers raided the Limelife Society store in east Vancouver on Wednesday afternoon. He would not say which gang is believed to be involved.

"The group that we're talking about is a fairly substantial group," said Fincham. "Certainly not the entire group, but individuals connected to that one illegal marijuana store were allegedly connected to or part of a larger crime group."

A 25-year-old male employee was released without charges. Police raided a suite upstairs that they say is connected to the pot shop but did not make other arrests.

Fincham said evidence was seized from the store to assist with the ongoing investigation but he would not say what was confiscated.

Members of the Vancouver Police drug unit have watched the store for about a month following complaints that it was connected to organized crime.

Fincham said officers quickly determined the outlet was selling to youth and people without valid medical marijuana licenses.

He said police are not investigating the Limelife Society's three other stores in Vancouver.

"Certainly, there are other marijuana stores that we're monitoring," he said. "Every one of those stores is on a case-by-case basis. We wouldn't group (together) a particular name of a store and automatically target the other ones as well, unless we had evidence to suggest that was necessary."

Vancouver recently became the first city in Canada to regulate the illegal marijuana dispensaries, requiring operators to pay a \$30,000 licensing fee and locate at least 300 metres away from community centres, schools, and each other. There are more than 80 dispensaries operating in the city.

Fincham said the VPD remains focused on stopping violent drug traffickers and those who jeopardize the safety of young or vulnerable residents.

To date, he said 11 warrants have been served on marijuana stores across Vancouver and 20 people have been arrested with 29 charges recommended.

But he said police are strapped for resources when it comes to investigating pot shops. Since the spring, officers have been focused on stopping the importation and production of the dangerous opioid fentanyl.

"That appears to be the one that is the greatest public health concern right now," he said. "It's the biggest safety risk for our kids right now. So that's the one we're continuing to pursue."

Aug 13 2015

**STEINBACH - A Winnipeg man has been sentenced to 10 years in prison for a spate of crimes across the province that included dangerous high-speed chases with police.**

Provincial court Judge Ray Wyant called the crimes "horrific" and said it was lucky no one was hurt or killed.

Matthew Martens, who is 24, appeared in Steinbach court Thursday on eight charges, including multiple car thefts and a chase last summer in which an RCMP officer was nearly struck on the Trans-Canada Highway.

Martens began his crimes near Falcon Lake on June 7, 2014, by speeding away from a spot-check and ended with his arrest in Brandon nearly three weeks later.

Brittany Kehler, who is 25, pleaded guilty earlier this week to her role, which largely involved sitting in the passenger seat, and is to be sentenced in October.

In 2010, Martens was sentenced to three years in prison for a similar set of crimes across the Prairies.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Aug 13 2015

**RICHMOND - Richmond Mayor Malcolm Brodie said the city is opening up the floor to the public on whether they should eliminate the RCMP and move to a municipal police force.**

At the moment, the city is tied into a contract with the RCMP for 20 years, but the contract can be broken with two years notice and provincial approval of a new police force.

Mayor Brodie told Vancity Buzz the two issues he's concerned with are that of governance, since the RCMP is Ottawa-based, and finances.

"There are a lot of financial issues with the RCMP that don't get easier over time."

One of the major financial issues Mayor Brodie cited was the building of the Green Timbers RCMP headquarters in Surrey when they had a "perfectly good headquarters" that they left behind in Vancouver.

"The province and the federal government have been quarrelling and debating ever since who should be in there and the like and we've had virtually no input into the situation. It's a terribly dysfunctional situation," he said.

When asked what Mayor Brodie believes the cost of forming a municipal police force would be, he said they are fine-tuning those numbers.

"There will be significant transition costs if we make a change and there will be operating cost implications as well. So we're in the process of examining that."

Once those numbers are available, the public will be consulted on whether they believe staying with the RCMP would be beneficial for the city or if the costs associated with transitioning to a municipal police force would be worth it.

Mayor Brodie expects the public consultation will take place early in the Fall, and if all goes to plan, Richmond could have a new police force by 2018.

(Vancity Buzz)



**BLUE LINE NEWS WEEK** Celebrating 20 Years

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**FRIDAY**  
**AUGUST 14, 2015**

Aug 14 2015

**LAVAL - Laval, Que., police are calling 17-year-old Malyk Bonnet a hero after he went to extraordinary lengths to aid the escape of a woman who had been abducted by her ex-boyfriend earlier this month.**



In an interview with CBC Friday, Bonnet said that, at the time, he didn't think of himself as a hero.

"Now I realize what I did and wow ... it's really awesome. I mean, I saved a life!" Bonnet said with a laugh.

On Aug. 1, Bonnet was waiting for a bus to his home in the north end of Montreal after finishing his shift as a cook at a restaurant.

He noticed a couple on the street involved in an altercation.

"The guy was screaming at her, the girl. He wasn't really gentle with her, and I started watching, because I thought he would hit her, so I approached them a little bit," Bonnet said.

He said the couple asked him for money to take the bus to Laval, and he agreed to get some change at a convenience store and give them some money. Bonnet had a moment alone with the woman, who seemed terrified, he said.

Bonnet decided he had to help, and he was already formulating a plan. Even though he lived in Montreal, he told the couple he lived in Laval and would accompany them on the bus.

"My plan was to keep them in a public place, where there's a lot of people. I decided to make myself friendly with the man, so he would trust me. So I played my game," Bonnet said.

What Bonnet didn't know at the time was that police were already looking for the couple.

"We were looking for a 29-year-old woman who was kidnapped by her former boyfriend earlier that day, and we believed that man was very dangerous," said Laval police Lt. Daniel Guérin.

Guérin said the man had already been found guilty of assault and death threats against his ex-girlfriend last year, and he was under a court order to stay away from her.

Bonnet kept his cool, continuing to talk to the man as they took the bus and then the metro to Laval, waiting for an opportune moment when he could call police.

Once in Laval, he offered to take the couple to a Tim Hortons, and he even gave the man \$50 to buy food, he said.

Bonnet's cellphone battery had died, so he pretended to go to the washroom and borrowed a phone from someone in the restaurant and called police, who arrived within minutes.

Bonnet said even after police arrived, the kidnapper didn't realize it was Bonnet who had called 911.

"He was really surprised, he didn't know that it was me," said Bonnet. "So I played my game right."

He said the abducted woman didn't say anything, but he remembers the look on her face when police arrived.

"She was almost crying. She was so happy, so happy not to be with him."

Police arrested the man on the spot. He appeared in court Monday on charges of kidnapping, forcible confinement and assault.

Bonnet, who is burly for a 17-year-old, said he never feared for his safety.

"The guy was really tiny, so if he had something to do I would kick his ass," Bonnet said.

Guérin of the Laval police said that in 24 years of policing he's never seen anything quite like what Bonnet did.

"He managed the situation very well and took good decisions that probably saved the life of this woman," Guérin said.

Police officers were so impressed with Bonnet that they took up a collection to reimburse the money he had spent for bus fare and food that night. They came up with \$255.

"I spent like \$120, and I didn't think I would see this money again in my life," Bonnet said.

Police presented Bonnet with the money and gave him a tour of Laval police headquarters Thursday.

For Bonnet, who admitted he's had run-ins with the law before, it was a chance to see a different side of police officers.

Guérin said Laval police intend to nominate Bonnet for a provincial award for bravery.

Bonnet's picture was on the front page of the Journal de Montreal newspaper Friday, and during CBC's interview with him, five strangers interrupted to shake his hand or say "good job." One even wanted to take a selfie with him.

"My mom is so proud of me. She bought like eight Journals. She's like, 'I'm going to show them to your kids one day.'"

(CBC News)

Aug 14 2015

**SASKATOON - A Saskatoon police officer has been sentenced to 90 days in the community for obstructing justice.**

A judge has ordered Const. Steven Nelson obey a nightly curfew and complete 50 hours of community service.

The 32-year-old was charged last October after a victim's statement vanished in a domestic violence case he was investigating.

Court heard Nelson took the statement in 2012 from a woman who claimed she was assaulted but recanted her story.

In a recorded phone conversation played in court, Nelson and another officer discussed ripping up the statement.

Chief Clive Weighill says he will be

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seeking to have Nelson removed from the force at a police hearing.

Nelson had been suspended with pay but Weighill says he will now request the suspension continue without pay.

"I want to assure the public that the members of our service are committed to serving the citizens of Saskatoon honestly and fairly," Weighill said in a release.

During the trial, Judge Hugh Harradence questioned the Saskatoon police service's methods, but said there was no evidence of a systemic problem in the service.  
(CKOM, CP)

Aug 14 2015

### **CALGARY - A unique event north of Calgary is bringing together some of the best of the west with people who deal with the very worst on the front lines.**

Dozens of first responders are gathering for the 33rd Calgary Police Rodeo this weekend.

"Something between that connection between man and animal, I don't know what it is, but rodeo brings us back to nature and God's creation," said Calgary Police Service Det. Mike Cavilla.

Cavilla's job is a stressful one. He only deals with death and grieving families.

The 20-year-veteran cop is the lead investigator dealing with the Meika Jordan case. Six-year-old Meika was abused, and murdered.

"The child cases take a bit of an emotional toll on you as an investigator," he said.

Det. Matt Demarino is the primary investigator in the worst mass murder in Calgary's history.

"We call it Operation Butler, because of course it happened on Butler Crescent," he said. "It was a large file where five young people were taken. That was the biggest file in my career, absolutely."

Demarino said he heads to the country to unwind, calling it "such a beautiful experience being on a horse and being out here."

Cst. Clint Buhler is juggling both worlds, working for homicide, and making a run for the Canadian Finals Rodeo as a professional cowboy.

"I go grab my horse and I go rope. I forget about everything else," said Buhler. "It's good to have a getaway. It's good to have something else you can do to take your mind off it; you shut your mind off when you leave. If you dwell on it for a long time, that will weigh you down."

(Global News)

Aug 14 2015

### **CALGARY - A Calgary officer will not face criminal charges for ordering a police dog to take down a 72-year-old man.**

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says the senior called 911 in September 2013 to report suspicious people selling jewelry in his back alley.

When the operator said it might take awhile

for officers to arrive, the man said he had a shotgun and would keep the suspects there.

ASIRT says police were dispatched and told the senior was very upset and planned to deal with the suspects himself.

Police soon found the man in his vehicle and, when he refused to get out, the dog jumped through a window and bit him.

Police didn't find a gun and the man was taken to hospital for 10 stitches.

Aug 14 2015

### **VANCOUVER - One man is dead and six officers have been sent to hospital Thursday afternoon following a scuffle in southeast Vancouver.**

Officers responded to a call of a distraught man around 2:30 p.m., said Vancouver police in a release.

As the first officer on scene tried to detain him, he became agitated and more officers were called in.

The officers tried to subdue the man using pepper spray but were unsuccessful, said VPD spokesman Sgt. Randy Fincham in the release.

"A physical altercation ensued, resulting in injuries to the man and six officers."

Paramedics were called but the man died at the scene. Police have not said what caused the fatal injuries.

Two officers were taken to hospital with "significant injuries" and four others were taken to hospital with minor injuries, said

Fincham. All have since been released.

The Independent Investigations Office was called in by the Vancouver Police Department and have taken over the investigation into the circumstances surrounding the man's death.

(The Province)

Aug 14 2015

### **Ever wonder how and how much video surveillance data is stored by the police? A recent infographic from the Calgary Police Service may shed light into the practice.**

The force, which is piloting the use of body-worn-cameras, now generates some 2.3 GB per hour of video footage, or 18.4 GB per shift.

To reach 1 TB of video, it would only take 12 officers 14 days, or a single officer four hours a day for about a year.

What's also noteworthy is retention policy, which for the CPF can range from a minimum of 13 months for all video files up to 40 years if terrorism was involved.

To deal with storage needs, the force has deployed tiered storage solutions from Quantum Corporation, a San Jose, Calif.-based solution provider.

Its solution work by placing video data initially on disc primary storage, moving it automatically to archived tape storage and eventually to the cloud depending on client needs.  
(CDN)



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**LETHBRIDGE - Lethbridge regional police have new "eyes in the sky" when it comes to fighting crime. They recently added three Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) to THE fleet to help officers with investigations.**

The Tarot 680 Pro Hexacopter is a manually controlled aircraft equipped with an HD camera and searchlight and is capable of streaming live video through 3G/LTE networks. LRPS also has a Tarot Quad and DJI Phantom with similar functionality.

The UAV program was first launched in May following extensive research, testing and consultation with Transport Canada and Nav Canada. LRPS UAVs can operate at speeds of up to 32 miles per hour and an altitude of 300 feet in the city.

"To get the program to this point, is quite a large step for us," said Cst. Jonathan Blackwood, who operates the LRPS UAVs.

Blackwood has more than a year and a half experience with the devices and holds a UAV Ground School Certificate.

"Since (we started), we've deployed the UAV half a dozen times, and assisted in numerous investigations," he explained, including the triple homicide which occurred at a west Lethbridge townhome last April.

Blackwood said using the UAV allowed them to get a bigger picture of the entire crime scene area.

In addition to assisting with major crimes, they also help with motor vehicle collisions, searching for missing persons in challenging terrain, tactical calls and more.

"You can't put words to a birds-eye scene, to be able to add that to an investigation to show the area that the scene totally encompasses," said Blackwood. "The benefit is we can use this tool to not put anybody in harms way to gather information we need to assist us to do our job."

Right now, the UAVs are used for visual purposes, with the capability to add a spotlight. In the future, if budget allows, they may add features such as FLIR thermal cameras.

The use of UAVs by law enforcement is increasing across Canada. Other agencies, including the RCMP, Calgary Police and Edmonton Police, have also developed programs.

Blackwood said the LRPS was able to bring in the UAVs at a cost less than many other markets. He said they are an "invaluable tool" to help officers provide safe communities.

"Some of these UAVs on the market for police agencies are close to \$100,000. For us to be able to have a program in place to be able to gather the evidence we can to assist an investigation for close to \$5,000, I think that's amazing for our city, and it's very cost-effective."

(Lethbridge Herald)

## SATURDAY AUGUST 15, 2015

Aug 15 2015

**OTTAWA - An innovative program that had psychiatrists and Ottawa police officers teaming up to respond to mental health calls could be cancelled due to a lack of interest from doctors.**



Ottawa police respond to more than 4,000 mental health calls every year, including suicide threats and barricaded individuals.

In 2012, a first-of-its-kind pilot program linked officers in the mental health unit to psychiatrists, allowing patients to be treated on the scene.

It was spearheaded by Dr. Peter Boyles but now that he's no longer involved, there's no one willing to step in to take the lead, according to Chris Clement, the Ottawa Hospital's clinical director of mental health.

"We would want someone to do this who would be interested in doing it, and at this point in time, we don't have anyone who is indicating that kind of interest," she said.

Psychiatrists have not responded to calls with police since May. For now, social workers and nurses with access to medical records are doing ride-alongs with police for crisis support on calls, Clement said.

"They can do a complete mental status exam. They can look at additional history, they can do some on-the-spot de-escalation, they can do some triaging as to the next appropriate step," she said.

University of Ottawa psychology professor Tim Aubry said there's shortage of specialists, such as psychiatrists.

"The waiting lists are long to be able to see them, so it raises the question, is that the best use of their professional time?" he said.

But Staff-Sgt. Jim Elves of the mental health unit said police cannot respond to mental health calls as effectively without a doctor.

"With a doctor with us, they can, number one, prescribe medicine, they can also form somebody on the spot and they can also make a determination whether or not that person needs to go to the hospital to be formed," he said.

To "form" a patient means to take them into custody under the Mental Health Act for their own safety.

(CBC News)



## THE 5TH ANNUAL Fishing for Fallen Heroes Derby

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Aug 16 2015

**Orillia's OPP detachment has joined forces with local agencies to tackle a host of complex issues that have far-reaching implications for the community.**

"It's looking at root causes," Insp. Pat Morris says of the novel approach adopted by the Orillia Community Action Network.

Initiated by the OPP, the forum was born in August 2014 as a loose-knit collaboration of groups representing social, health and community services, as well as police.

"We are trying to deal with law enforcement issues - and social disorder issues, it could be addictions or it could be mental health - in a more proactive manner," Morris said.

One of the tools at its disposal is known as a 'situation table' - essentially a gathering of community agencies with the expertise to help police address issues ranging from domestic violence to mental health calls.

Police will bring individual cases to the group - a woman at risk of violence in the home, for example.

The victim's identity is not revealed to the participating agencies until later in the process, and only if the victim consents.

Pertinent details are laid out for the group to give a broader picture of the situation.

Perhaps "the father has issues with illicit substances or other substance abuse and has recently lost his job," Morris said by way of example. "We have had various instances of domestic violence and the situation is becoming aggravated."

Police and the participating agencies then pool their information to determine whether the situation presents an "acutely elevated risk."

A plan is developed.

"Ultimately, you may decide that a social worker, a crisis worker, the Children's Aid Society may take the lead and then they will stage an intervention," Morris says.

Working with the victim, the groups determine the best course of action.

"Is the issue financial insecurity? Let's use Ontario Works and try to get you a job," Morris says. "Is it a housing issue? We have entities that can help to find you a place to stay outside of a shelter."

The group comprises more than 50 organizations and meets monthly to brainstorm on a range of issues with a focus on community safety and wellbeing.

Individual working groups focus on specific topics that include domestic violence.

Morris notes that approximately one-third of the 1,000 'domestic' calls answered by police each year involve a criminal incident.

"This is a massive concern in the city of Orillia, and these numbers aren't declining," said Morris.

While police have yet to reduce the number of occurrences, the OPP is analyzing its calls for service in an attempt to better understand the factors that contribute to domestic violence.

Strides are also being made in the area of mental health.

"In Orillia we have a massive number of calls for service ... that come from mental health," said Morris.

A working group dedicated to the issue includes the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) and crisis workers at Soldiers' Memorial Hospital.

Members from both organizations are now accompanying police in ride-alongs.

"There is a degree of education by osmosis that occurs, but there is also some very practical outcomes in terms of calls for service, time spent and finances," Morris said.

When an individual who presents a threat to himself or others is apprehended under the Mental Health Act and taken to hospital, officers typically spend hours trying to determine "who will take custody and where it will go from there."

Working with mental health professionals, police are now better able to identify the most appropriate option, which may not be the hospital.

"We can make a referral ... we can put them in a bed, we can find out who they are a client of and deal specifically with the people who specialize in (these issues)," Morris said.

This new arrangement has led to "a massive decrease in our hours of service," Morris said.

The national mental health association is additionally providing training to two or three officers "so that we can respond better," he said.

Morris noted the group is still evolving and plans to formalize its structure, while seeking support from the city.

(Orillia Today)

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Aug 17 2015

**OTTAWA - The federal government is delaying implementation of regulations intended to help police trace crime guns - the seventh time it has put off the measures.**

Just days before the federal election call, the government quietly published a notice deferring the firearm marking regulations until June 1, 2017.

The measures would require specific, identifiable markings be stamped on firearms. They had been slated to take effect Dec. 1 of this year.

The July 29 notice from Public Safety Canada says the delay will allow the government to continue consultations "with a broad range of stakeholders" - despite six previous delays in enacting the regulations, first drafted in 2004.

Public Safety spokeswoman Zarah Malik did not make anyone available for an interview about the latest delay.

The regulations would require domestically manufactured firearms to bear the name of the manufacturer, serial number and "Canada" or "CA." Imported guns would have to carry the "Canada" or "CA" designation along with the last two digits of the year of import.

The measures would help Canada meet the requirements of the United Nations Firearms Protocol and a convention of the Organization of American States.

There is support among police for the marking scheme to expedite investigations into gun crimes and detect firearms trafficking, smuggling and stockpiling, the Public Safety notice says. The import markings can also help law enforcement determine whether to focus on a smuggling operation.

Some firearms advocates have argued the obligation to mark imported guns would mean acquiring marking technology or making arrangements for another company to apply markings, with an estimated cost of \$200 per gun, the notice says.

However, an independent study commissioned by the government said the cost to stamp or engrave markings for Canadian manufacturers and large importers would range from nothing at all to \$25 per firearm.

It was not possible to gauge the impact on individuals and small importers.

Public Safety hasn't dropped the plan entirely. The notice says the delay until mid-2017 could allow the government to seek the views of industry, police, victims' groups and the international tracing centres of Interpol and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

"During the deferral period, a marking scheme could be determined that will enable law enforcement to trace crime guns and permit Canada to assist international investigations, without imposing unnecessary burdens on firearms businesses."

Aug 17 2015

**TORONTO - With ongoing controversy about officers shooting unarmed people, the Toronto Police Service is exploring whether a new device, known as a "clown gun," could be a viable alternative to lethal force.**



This spring, a coroner's inquest jury in Toronto recommended that the police service "continue to explore new technologies in the area of less-than-lethal use-of-force options."

The technology slows the first - but not subsequent - bullet down to about 20 per cent of normal speed. It "affixes to an officers' firearm permitting the first bullet fired to be captured in the device such that it will simply strike the target rather than penetrate as a normal bullet would," according to a report by the city's legal department.

Called The Alternative, the device became known as the "clown gun" because the original component that captures the bullet was round and bright orange like a clown's nose, said Bert Rhine, director of operations with Alternative Ballistics.

"But now just the dock, the part that at-

taches to the police-force weapon, is orange, and the ball, the projectile, is actually silver," he explained Monday from the company's San Diego headquarters.

Staff-Sgt. John Stockfish, head of use-of-force training for the service, told the inquest in April he had scheduled a meeting with the manufacturers of the so-called "clown gun ... with a view to evaluating its merits," according to this week's police board agenda. The civilian oversight board meets Thursday.

"We don't talk about items before they are tabled at the board," TPS spokeswoman Meaghan Gray wrote in an email.

The device, carried in its own holster, is designed to be used by officers when they have a maximum of three seconds "to get the situation under control."

When the trigger is pulled, the bullet lands in the round silver projectile and is slowed down, Rhine said. "When it hits the assailant or the suspect, it generally knocks them to the ground," Rhine said. "Our human effect study has shown there's less than a two per cent chance of penetration."

The next shot would be lethal.

The police department in Ferguson, Mo., was the first U.S. department to test the device after one of its officers fatally shot an unarmed black teenager, sparking nationwide protests.

However, the department has no immediate plans to introduce The Alternative, which costs about \$45 U.S. each, Rhine said Monday.

The Granville, Ohio, police department

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will soon be the first department to deploy it. "They have 22 police officers, and the chief there is very excited about protecting citizens and their officers."

Rhine could not confirm whether a Toronto demonstration has been set up, but said company officials are going to Montreal next month.

Toronto Police Association president Mike McCormack wasn't familiar with the "clown gun" but doesn't see it as practical for officers, "fumbling for the end piece in the heat of the moment."

He does, however, support a plan by the service to introduce a shotgun shell that is "basically a mini beanbag that hits the person and incapacitates, so it gives our officers a less-than-lethal use-of-force option, rather than a firearm.

"The association supports any less-than-lethal option, whether it's Tasers or a beanbag round, as long as it doesn't compromise officer safety."

(Toronto Star)

Aug 17 2015

**TORONTO - Following a highly critical report and unprecedented legal action by Ontario's privacy commissioner, Toronto police have taken steps to keep U.S. border police from automatically accessing records about a Canadian's suicide attempts - sensitive personal information that could result in being denied entry.**



"This is a huge, huge achievement and a significant advancement in terms of mental health issues," said former Information and Privacy Commissioner Ann Cavoukian, who in her final year as privacy watchdog took on what she called the "perplexing" and "indiscriminant" disclosure of suicide attempt incidents by police.

"You don't have to be branded by a mental health mistake," she said.

In a report to the Toronto police board released Monday, Chief Mark Saunders outlined changes made in the wake of Cavoukian's 2014 report, Crossing the Line, which chronicled the experiences of Ontarians refused entry into the U.S. based on a past suicide attempt.

Cavoukian's report and a Star investigation probed how U.S. border guards were being alerted to prior suicide attempts through CPIC.

In his letter to the board, Saunders described new protocol that "balances public safety with the need to protect Canadians'

privacy" by setting stricter limits on what information can be viewable by U.S. Customs and Border Protection through CPIC.

It's a different solution than Cavoukian's, which suggested Toronto police halt the practice of automatically uploading or disclosing personal information through CPIC related to suicide threats or attempts.

Insistent that a record needs to be shared with other police forces - information about previous suicide attempts or threats "can be instrumental in managing potential risk to the public, the officer and, importantly, the person in crisis," Saunders writes - Toronto police instead worked with the RCMP to develop a new CPIC function that blocks U.S. border officials from accessing certain information.

Since November, U.S. border officials have been able to see suicide-attempt records only under certain specific circumstances, such as when the attempt involved serious violence or harm of others, or appeared to be intended to provoke a lethal response by police.

The length of time such records are held has also been reduced; Toronto police will now re-evaluate the record every two years, instead of every five.

Police also conducted an audit of all suicide attempt records and purged 9,766 of 15,180 - removing nearly 65 per cent. The large cull is due in part due to the creation of the two-year expiry date.

(Toronto Star)

Aug 17 2015

**PETERBOROUGH - The president of Peterborough's Police Association wants to ask the province to conduct an over-arching review of the city's entire police services organization - but he doesn't want to do it alone.**

Jeff Chartier is putting out a challenge to the police service employees, Police Chief Murray Rodd and board members, to stand together to request an upper level review of Peterborough's police service, which would include the operations of the Peterborough Police Services Board, which recently saw two of its members resign.

Acting board chair Andrea Maxie and Dr. Tom Phillips cited a dysfunctional atmosphere on the board that made it impossible for them to continue to conduct board business in good faith. Ms Maxie is the fifth board chair to leave the board in a four-year span.

While Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Yasir Naqvi says he's exploring all options under the Police Services Act to ensure there is effective local governance within the board, Mr. Chartier says it's time to investigate the entire service and board and close the book on years of uncertainty within the police service.

"We should be unified in asking the (Ontario Civilian Police Commission) or the Ministry (of Community Safety and Correctional Services) to do a review," he says. "It would put everyone's opinions and assump-

tions to rest."

The Ministry currently has police service advisors attending board meetings and providing support and advice to the board and police service. Those advisors began attending after Peterborough Mayor Daryl Bennett was investigated for misconduct and removed from the board. He was found guilty last spring.

Now, board chair Garth Wedlock is under investigation by the Ontario Civilian Police Commission. The details of that investigation haven't been made public.

Mr. Chartier says Peterborough's is the only police services board in the province to have advisors sit in, which should be cause for concern.

In Mr. Wedlock's absence, the City appointed an interim board member - former city councillor Bob Hall. As the community's representative on the board, Mr. Chartier says he would have liked to have seen an advertisement for the position to allow others to apply.

Instead, he says the candidate appeared to be hand-picked by Mayor Bennett.

"Where is the proper way of doing things?" Mr. Chartier says. "Those are the types of questions I'm getting."

He says it's time to put the issues behind the police service.

"If we could band together (to ask for a review) and let's just move on...because this is really distracting," he says, adding the service's focus needs to be on keeping the community safe.

(Peterborough This Week)

Aug 17 2015

**QUEBEC - Fighting extremism and radicalization in Canada is a job for all of society and not just for police, the president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police said Monday.**

The public needs to help police in detecting people who are becoming radicalized and officers need to be closer to schools and religious organizations in order to help prevent young people from joining extremist groups abroad or committing crimes at home, Clive Weighill said.

"We want to get the message out to the public that this is an issue we need their help on," he said on the first day of a three-day meeting in Quebec City.

"It's not just an enforcement issue."

He added that one of the ways police can fight extremism is to help young people feel as though they have a place in society. Weighill said young people who feel they don't fit in can be attracted to extremist groups.

"We have to work within the educational system so people feel welcome, we need to work within our social context and our police officers need to understand this whole context as well," he noted.

Association vice-president Mario Harel said officers need to become closer to leaders of religious communities in order to prevent more young people from becoming radicalized.

"This is not a police problem," Harel



said. "This is a community problem and we need police forces to assume a leadership role to engage the different partners in the community such as our imams, our schools and even the justice system."

Harel added that police officers need to become partners with leaders in the community and offer alternatives to people who are showing interest in extremist ideologies.

## TUESDAY AUGUST 18, 2015

Aug 18 2015

**TORONTO - Toronto police have issued a public warning about a potent drug they fear could invade the country's largest city.**

Fentanyl, a synthetic opioid used primarily to treat severe pain, is said to be about 50 to 100 times more powerful than morphine and about 40 times more potent than heroin.

It has been linked to a dozen deaths in Vancouver since July 27 and 145 overdose deaths in Alberta this year compared with 120 last year.

The Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse recently said as many as 655 Canadians may have died between 2009 and 2014 from fentanyl overdoses.

Toronto Police Insp. Howie Page acknowledged Monday that the "landscape of the problem differs between Vancouver and Toronto," but warned against being "naïve to the potential of shifting trends of a fluid drug culture."

While Toronto police are yet to see a saturation of fentanyl, imitation OxyContin tablets containing fentanyl have been seized in the city and police advised the public last week about a number of fentanyl patches stolen from a vehicle.

The RCMP has said it is working with the United Nations and China to keep fentanyl off Canada's streets, but one high-level investigator said the overdose problem is expected to increase.

British Columbia's deputy provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, has called for a national co-ordinated approach to better predict how the overdose situation will evolve.

Aug 18 2015

**WHITBY, Ont. - Police in Durham region, east of Toronto, have issued a public alert following four near-fatal drug overdoses last weekend.**

Over a 30-hour period, the police force says officers and paramedics were called to four locations in Whitby and Ajax-Pickering where a person had taken cocaine and became unresponsive.

In all four cases, the victims were revived, but are still in hospital.

Police say it is too early to determine what caused the reactions or if the incidents are related, but the regional force is warning the public that illegally-purchased narcotics can be mixed with dangerous additives that can have fatal consequences.

Aug 18 2015

**VAUGHAN, Ont. - A 19-year-old man is facing charges after a bright laser was pointed at a police helicopter during in an overnight search in Vaughan, Ont.**

Investigators say the Air2 craft was assisting officers who were looking for a suspect on the ground at about 1:30 a.m. Sunday when it was struck by flashes of light.

A tactical flight officer used a camera system to spot three men on the ground, one of whom could be seen pointing what investigators later found to be a pellet gun mounted with a laser scope.

Officers say they went after the man but he ran away, hopped a fence, threw the gun and attempted to hide in some trees, where he was found by police dogs.

Nicholas Caranci was arrested and charged with mischief endangering life and two other charges under the Aeronautics Act and Canadian Aviation Regulations.

Aug 18 2015

**LETHBRIDGE, Alta. - Paramedics say the quick actions of a police officer in southern Alberta saved the life of a 21-year-old man.**

It happened Sunday night in a park in Lethbridge, when acting Sgt. Chris Stock answered a call.

He found an unconscious man who had signs of a drug overdose.

The man did not have a pulse and wasn't breathing so Stock and another man started

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CPR and they were able to revive the victim.

After being placed in the recovery position the man stopped breathing again and Stock repeated CPR until the victim resumed breathing and regained consciousness.

EMS then arrived and transported the man to hospital for further treatment.

Police determined the man had taken half of a fentanyl pill and had been walking through the park with his friends when he went into medical distress.

Police are once again warning the community that fentanyl is deadly. There is no safe amount and a dosage equivalent to just two grains of salt can be fatal.

In the first six months of 2015 there have been 145 people die from taking fentanyl in Alberta.

Aug 18 2015

### **PETERBOROUGH - Peterborough CAO Allan Seabrooke said the police chief and deputy chief didn't get their payout by deadline Monday.**

Police Chief Murray Rodd and Deputy Chief Tim Farquharson were each awarded a year's pay after a reorganization of the police force.

That added up to \$460,000 in compensation - even though they kept their jobs.

An arbitrator awarded it in June, and imposed a payment deadline of Aug. 17.

Neither Rodd nor Farquharson would comment on Tuesday about whether they got paid on time, but Seabrooke said they didn't.

"They definitely didn't get paid," he said. "We know that for sure, because all the payroll runs through the city."

But it's likely to happen soon. The arbitration was binding, and Seabrooke is expecting a payment to be made through the city accounts sometime after the police services board meets next on Aug. 25.

The payouts were awarded in June, following the de-amalgamation of the local police force.

Once the payout is made, Seabrooke said, the board will be facing some budget decisions.

The board may find savings in its \$24-million budget to cover it, Seabrooke said. Otherwise it will have to cut services or ask city council for more money.

(Peterborough Examiner)

Aug 18 2015

### **OTTAWA - A year and a half after their union says they were disciplined for helping the RCMP, three Canadian Border Service Agency (CBSA) officers are still fighting their punishment and a fourth has left his job.**

In February 2014, a CBSA superintendent in Emerson, Manitoba received a call from the RCMP asking for help.

Police believed an armed and dangerous man was holding a kidnapped victim in a nearby hotel.

According to their union, the armed border officers and the superintendent secured the border then left their posts to help,

eventually apprehending the suspect with the RCMP.

But it turns out the border officers acted against a CBSA policy, which forbids providing assistance to "external law enforcement agencies" when it "falls outside" of the agency's mandate.

The union says all the CBSA employees were disciplined - in the case of the border officers, suspended up to 30 days without pay, while the superintendent's duties were downgraded.

The superintendent resigned as a result of the incident.

The union's president, Jean-Pierre Fortin, says getting punished for helping apprehend a suspect doesn't make sense.

"Something is wrong with the system," he said.

When the incident first came to light, the government agreed. Public safety minister Steven Blaney and Justice Minister Peter MacKay said the CBSA officers should have been congratulated, not condemned.

But the CBSA policy the officers contravened still exists.

"There have been no changes in CBSA policy regarding inter-agency assistance," CBSA spokesperson Charlene Kushniruk said in an email.

Fortin says he met with Blaney after the incident and was assured the issue would be dealt with - but in the year and a half since, nothing has happened.

"I thought the government was the one with the authority to run this country," he said. "It seems that CBSA is running this country right now."

Fortin says the policy puts CBSA officers' safety at risk, pointing to a recent incident near the border in Windsor, Ontario.

According to Fortin, a CBSA agent witnessing a robbery at a nearby Tim Horton's followed the suspect on foot until police arrived, afraid if he intervened he'd be punished.

"What if the person would have been armed and actually engaged into a gun fight with our officer," Fortin said.

A CBSA spokesperson declined our request for an interview, but says given the close working relationship between the CBSA and the RCMP, it's important to ensure clarity of each agency's roles and responsibilities.

"We do not perform each other's duties, but do work together in situations governed by formal processes and approvals, which reflect the major differences between police officer and border services officer training and authorities," Jacque Callin said in an email.

"It is fundamental that we act in compliance with these authorities at all times."

Clement says the government and leadership of the CBSA need to acknowledge law enforcement

Asked about the incident recently, Justice Minister Peter MacKay called it "troubling", insisting his government's new anti-terror laws will help foster inter-agency cooperation.

"It's new legislation so there's an implementation period that always occurs," MacKay said.

(Global News)

## **WEDNESDAY**

### **AUGUST 19, 2015**

Aug 19 2015

### **Two officers with Sûreté du Québec were injured after a suspect wriggled free and struggled with the officers, causing a crash in Grand-Remous, Que.**

The SQ said the crash happened at about 9:30 p.m. Tuesday. Police said the suspect was arrested and sitting in the cab of the police truck in handcuffs. After a time, the suspect managed to wiggle loose by removing the seatbelt and then struggled with the officers.

This led to the truck colliding with another truck carrying a trailer, police said.

The police officer driving the truck suffered serious injuries, but they were not considered life threatening. The officer in the passenger seat suffered minor injuries.

Both officers were taken to hospital. The suspect was not injured.

The SQ is investigating the crash and has closed the highway in both directions.

(CBC News)

Aug 19 2015

### **Nearly two dozen First Nations kids in Thunder Bay, Ont., are learning about their culture, history and traditions at the Meno Bimaadiziwin - Leading a Good Life summer camp at Lakehead University this week.**

Lakehead Public Schools partnered with the Ontario Provincial Police, Thunder Bay Police, the Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre and Lakehead University to bring the camp to the city for the first time this year.

It's modelled on an aboriginal youth camp designed by Nipissing First Nation member George Couchie when he was an officer with the provincial police.

"Once you loose your culture, there's a void inside of you and that void might be filled by alcohol and drugs," Couchie said.

The legacy of residential schools caused that void, but it can be filled by teaching a new generation about their language, traditions and history, he said.

Each day of the week-long camp begins with language lessons and cultural teachings around a drum and sacred items.

"It really builds a sense of community," said Nicole Walter Rowan, a program coordinator with Lakehead Public Schools.

On the second day of the camp, Sammi Cheechoo, 12, said she was already inspired by what she is learning.

"They're teaching us really cool stuff, like about residential school," Cheechoo said. "And I can take it to school with me and teach other people how to be a leader like how they're teaching us."

(CBC News)



**Over 600 federal government email addresses appear on a list of people who subscribed to the Canadian-owned Web site Ashley Madison, which caters to married people hoping to have an affair.**



A total of 163 subscribers appeared to have used the @forces.gc.ca domain assigned to the military. Sixteen came from the RCMP, and one address was registered to the secretive Communications Security Establishment, which guards government communications.

Some 222 Ontario government email addresses appear on the data, including 118 from the province's Ministry of the Attorney General, which administers the province's courts.

After eliminating duplicates, there are 273,320 '.ca' or Canadian-registered, email addresses in the data.

Fourteen addresses appear to belong to people working in the federal prison system, and ten from the foreign service.

In all, at least 62 addresses are assigned to Canadian police forces, with 11 from Ontario's Peel Regional Police and seven from the Toronto police.

On Tuesday, hackers apparently made good on threats to publish data on 32 million users of the service.

Experts said the data appeared to be authentic, in the sense of actually being from ashleymadison.com and not faked. However, the quality of the original data is questionable - users didn't have to verify their email addresses when they started an account.

However, the majority of the Canadian addresses seem to at least plausibly belong to real people.

Over 15,000 addresses in the Ashley Madison data are linked to U.S. federal, state or local government agencies. They include 6,788 U.S. Army addresses, and U.S. Navy addresses linked to specific warships - 18 sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge apparently used the service.

Email addresses are also linked to federal and state correctional officers.

Governments have long recognized that people hiding an affair from a spouse are vulnerable to blackmail.

(Global News)

Aug 19 2015

**A Quebec City police officer is facing criminal charges following a fatal collision with a cyclist last year.**

Officer Simon Beaulieu, 34, is charged with criminal negligence causing death and

dangerous driving causing death, Crown prosecutors said Wednesday.

On the afternoon of Sept. 3, 2014, Guy Blouin, a 48-year-old resident of Quebec, was biking in the St-Roch district when a police cruiser attempted to intercept him.

Blouin was struck by the cruiser and later died in hospital.

According to news reports, witnesses claimed the cyclist was run over twice.

(Montreal Gazette)

Aug 19 2015

**A police officer working at a federal laboratory has been charged with trying to make meth at the lab.**

Authorities learned of the police officer's activities after an explosion at a National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) lab in Maryland in July, the Washington Post reports.

The Post reports that the police supervisor, Christopher Bartley, has been charged with "knowingly and intentionally attempt[ing] to manufacture a mixture and substance containing a detectable amount of methamphetamine." He resigned after the explosion.

His lawyer has said Bartley wanted to learn more about the drug by making it. He was acting alone and had no intention of selling it, the lawyer said.

(Washington Post)

Aug 19 2015

**TORONTO - A 30-year veteran of the Peel Region police force is under arrest and facing charges related to child pornography.**

Detective Craig Wattier was arrested Wednesday morning by the force's Internal Affairs Bureau and charged with both accessing and possessing child porn, breach of trust and two counts of fraud over \$5,000.

Wattier - a supervisor with the force's technological crime unit - remains in custody pending a bail hearing Thursday in Brampton, Ont.

Police chief Jennifer Evans says an Internal Affairs investigation began in April after the force received an unspecified complaint.

Evans says Wattier has been suspended with pay in accordance with the Police Services Act.

Aug 19 2015

**WATERLOO REGION - Two police officers were hit by vehicles within 10 minutes of each other on Wednesday, one of them by a police vehicle.**

At 11:31 a.m., a tactical officer's foot was run over by a police vehicle during a training session at the training grounds.

At 11:39 a.m., an officer was knocked down when he approached a stopped car and it sped away in Cambridge.

The officer injured in training stepped into the front wheel of a car when he shouldn't have because of miscommunication, said Alana Holtom, spokesperson for Waterloo Regional Police.

The Ontario Labour Ministry was notified, but left the investigation in the hands of police, she said.

In Cambridge, two bicycle officers pulled over a car. When an officer approached the car to speak to the driver, the car accelerated and knocked the officer and his bike to the ground.

He received minor injuries but refused to go hospital.

Police have a good idea who was driving the car, Holtom said.

(Waterloo Region Record)

Aug 19 2015

**SURREY - NDP Leader Tom Mulcair laid out his pledge to train 2,500 new 'front-line' police officers across the country during a campaign stop in Surrey, B.C., Wednesday afternoon.**



Mulcair said, if elected, his government would reintroduce the Police Officer Recruitment Fund, a program first established by Conservative Leader Stephen Harper's government in 2008. Originally touted as part of Harper's law and order agenda, the original \$400-million fund expired in 2013 and was not renewed.

Mulcair promised to work with the provinces, territories and First Nations to inject \$250 million over the next four years into the renewed fund, followed by \$100 million annually. He said the new officers locations will be assigned based on policing needs and will be decided after consultations with leaders at various levels of government across the country.

The Harper government pledged earlier this year to provide funds for 100 new officers to help stem the gang war in Surrey after area MPs drew increasing attention to the violence with speeches in the House.

When pressed by a reporter on where his government would find the money for the fund, Mulcair said it would be "fully costed" and that the specific breakdown would be provided at a future announcement.

(CBC News)

Aug 19 2015

**SASKATOON - Saskatoon Police confirm that nearly 4,500 people were stopped and asked for identification in the city, an average that is higher than other Canadian cities such as Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.**

But the chief of the police, Clive Weighill, says the practice helps solve and prevent crimes.

"We want our officers out at night checking on people in suspicious circumstances.

That's why we have patrol," Weighill told CBC. "I think it deters crime and helps people be accountable for what they're doing in the evening."

The numbers come from a special report in the Globe and Mail that compiled data from police forces across the country on the practice of carding: where a police officer stops a member of the public and asks to see their ID.

Saskatoon police tell CBC that officers performed 4457 street checks last year. That's about 1.7% of the city's population, which police say is about the same rate as Halifax.

According to the Globe and Mail report, that puts Saskatoon near the top of the list in Canada.

Weighill said his officers are well versed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and aware that people do not have to stop and give their name if asked.

"I would hope citizens understand why we're doing our job and why we're asking those questions," he said. "There's nothing to fear by supplying their name."  
(CBC News)

Aug 19 2015

### **EDMONTON - A veteran Edmonton police officer has been found guilty of two counts of deceit after an Edmonton Police Service disciplinary hearing.**

Const. Elvin Toy's conduct has "high potential to contaminate the work environment of the Edmonton Police Service and to compromise its values," EPS Supt. Thomas Grue said in a written decision issued Monday.

"As for the reputation of the EPS, there is no doubt that the impugned behaviour is likely to significantly and negatively impact this organization's standing in the community and amongst its justice partners."

Toy will face a penalty hearing Sept. 29.

He had faced four Police Act charges relating to his involvement in an earlier EPS disciplinary hearing in 2012. The charges alleged he had "wilfully or negligently" provided a written statement and testimony that was "false, misleading or inaccurate."

Grue found Toy guilty on two counts of deceit and said that in both instances, the deceit was wilful rather than negligent.

Two counts of discreditable conduct were proven but stayed because they were based on the same evidence.

The charges stemmed from a Law Enforcement Review Board hearing in December 2009, when three people observed Toy looking at lawyer Tom Engel's materials during a break in proceedings.

Engel filed a complaint. Toy was charged after a Police Act investigation. The EPS held a disciplinary hearing in 2012, and a charge of discreditable conduct against Toy was proved.

In 2010, during the investigation into Engel's complaint, Toy had provided a written statement denying he had looked at or read Engel's notes at the LERB hearing. He maintained that assertion while testifying at the

2012 disciplinary hearing.

Toy's 2010 statement and his 2012 testimony then became the subject of further disciplinary charges.

Grue found that "the overwhelming weight of the evidence" led him to conclude that Toy "deliberately positioned himself very close to Mr. Engel's counsel table and purposefully looked down at and scanned or skimmed the materials Mr. Engel had on his counsel table and the floor beside it."

All prosecution witnesses were "truthful and reliable" in describing what they saw, Grue said.

In contrast, he said, Toy's testimony that he was only looking at the floor and not at Engel's materials was "self-serving, incoherent and implausible with respect to his actions at the time in question."

(Edmonton Journal)

Aug 19 2015

### **VANCOUVER - Vancouver is experiencing a crisis in mental-health care that continues unchecked. That's the conclusion Vision Vancouver councillor Kerry Jang draws from data covering 2009 to the end of June 2015, which show emergency mental-health and substance-misuse hospital visits have increased every year and are on track to hit a record high come December.**

"We clearly need more long-term mental-health care," Jang said in a phone interview. "We know that there are so many people in the Downtown Eastside who don't see or have any contact with mental-health professionals at all. So the emergency ward is very much becoming primary care. That is something that has to change."

Jang was responding to information provided at the Straight's request by Providence Health Care, which operates St. Paul's Hospital, and Vancouver Coastal Health, which runs Vancouver General Hospital. The statistics show that during the first six months of this year, the two hospitals together saw 5,110 people experiencing a mental-health crisis admitted and 3,703 visits for substance-misuse problems such as a drug overdose. The comparable numbers for 2014 are 4,895 mental-health emergencies and 2,830 cases of substance-misuse issues.

By the end of 2015, these numbers are projected to surpass 10,220 mental-health emergencies and 6,146 substance-misuse incidents. Taken together, that translates to an increase of 76 percent compared to 2009.

Over the last five years, the Vancouver Police Department has observed a similar rise in the number of apprehensions its officers make under the B.C. Mental Health Act. In 2014, officers detained 3,010 people under Section 28 of the act, which allows police to take into custody an individual deemed mentally unfit and a threat to themselves or others. That's up from 2,278 in 2009. During the first six months of 2015, the VPD made 1,510 Section 28 apprehensions.

Jang, who sits on the Mayor's Task

Force on Mental Health and Addictions, said what's needed to reverse these trends is greater involvement by the province. He reiterated a call for more long-term-care beds that Mayor Gregor Robertson has made repeatedly since declaring a "mental-health crisis" in September 2013.

In recent years, the province has allocated money for mental-health-care infrastructure. For example, in January 2015, it announced that an addition to VGH will open in 2017 as the largest facility for mental-health and addiction services in British Columbia. However, the city has said what's required to address the problem in Vancouver is 300 "long-term and secure mental health treatment beds" and, in September 2014, warned that the province was falling short of that number by 250.

(Georgia Straight)

**THURSDAY**  
**AUGUST 20, 2015**

Aug 20 2015

### **CHICAGO - The former chief executive of a red-light camera company that used to run Chicago's controversial traffic cameras pleaded guilty on Tuesday to federal bribery charges.**

Karen Finley, 55, entered her plea before U.S. District Judge Virginia Kendall who said the former CEO of Australian camera firm Redflex Traffic Systems will be sentenced in February - after a trial of a co-conspirator - to a maximum of five years in federal prison.

According to a federal indictment, Finley, former city worker John Bills, and Bills' friend Martin O'Malley, who worked as a contractor for Redflex, conspired for Bills to receive \$570,000 in cash, an Arizona condo and other kickbacks. In exchange, he made sure that Redflex maintained lucrative traffic-control camera contracts.

Finley pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to commit bribery. O'Malley has already pleaded guilty to the same charge in the case. The charges against Bills are pending trial.

Finley in June pleaded guilty to a similar charge in Ohio and federal prosecutors have agreed that she will serve prison sentences in both cases simultaneously. She will also pay restitution in an amount that has not been determined.

Redflex had contracts with Chicago for 11 years, making as much as \$25 million a year. The company was barred in 2013 from doing business with the city and a division of Xerox now runs Chicago's red-light cameras.

Finley left Redflex in 2013 amid a U.S. Justice Department investigation of the company's operations in Chicago, Ohio and elsewhere. Redflex said in a statement in June that the company has not been charged and has taken steps to improve compliance.