

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY | SEPTEMBER 18, 2015 – Vol. 20 No. 38

Executive Digest

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CALGARY - Alberta's provincial health agency says "fentanyl antidote" kits have saved at least four lives since they hit the streets of Calgary earlier this summer.

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PETERBOROUGH - Peterborough's Police Chief and Deputy Chief are asking the court to force the Peterborough Police Services Board to pay up roughly \$260,000 in severance payments.

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Sep 15 2015

VANCOUVER - The College of Pharmacists of B.C. on Tuesday announced that, effective immediately, all 1,200 pharmacies in the province are required to store their drugs in time-delay safes, making B.C. the first jurisdiction in North America to mandate such a security measure.

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Man charged with second degree murder in police death



Sep 17 2015

HALIFAX - Police have charged a 27-year-old Halifax man with second-degree murder in the death of an off-duty police officer who was reported missing earlier this week when she didn't show up for work.

Halifax police say Christopher Calvin Garnier is also charged with indecently interfering with a dead body.

Garnier appeared in provincial court today and his case was put over to Sept. 30.

They say Garnier was arrested during a traffic stop at 1:20 a.m. Wednesday.

The arrest came about an hour after the

body of 36-year-old Catherine Campbell was discovered in a wooded area near an overpass that leads to the Macdonald Bridge connecting Halifax and Dartmouth.

Campbell was reported missing on Monday when she didn't show up for work at the Truro Police Service.

Supt. Jim Perrin of Halifax Regional Police said today that Campbell was last seen at a bar in downtown Halifax early Friday morning and police do not believe her work as a police officer had anything to do with her death.

Perrin said the charge of indecently interfering with a dead body was laid "because of

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the cavalier way that Miss Campbell's body was disposed of."

Police allege that Campbell met the accused at a bar last Thursday night, but they don't know whether they knew each other before that meeting.

"Our evidence has led us to believe that they met in downtown Halifax," he added.

"Obviously ... how that meeting took place is something that's still under investigation. But we have confirmed that they were together in downtown Halifax. ... We're continuing to explore whether they knew each other before that."

Police are also asking for anyone who might have seen a man in shorts and a T-shirt pushing a green bin around 4:30 a.m. on Friday along Agricola Street and North Street to the underpass where Campbell's body was found to come forward.

When asked if the cart contained Campbell's body, Perrin would only say that it contained evidence.

Perrin said police believe Campbell was killed early on Friday at a residence on McCully Street.

Police are not looking for other suspects but more charges could be laid, Perrin said.

Earlier this week, Campbell's parents issued a public appeal for information to find their daughter.

Her mother said Campbell loved being a police officer.

"Catherine was a loving person, a dedicated police officer. ... She was conscientious," Susan Campbell said on Wednesday.

The young woman was also a volunteer member of the fire department in her hometown of Stellarton for a decade, and her mother said she'd held a variety of jobs in the community before deciding to train as a police officer, finding a job in Truro as soon as she graduated.

Campbell's brother-in-law, Calvin Garneau, described her as "an exceptional person."

"She was very friendly, very outgoing and very outspoken," he said from his home. "She'd give anything that she had to help anybody else."

Garneau, who is married to Campbell's older sister, said she had been with the force since 2009. She was not married and did not have children, he said.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 09, 2015

Sep 09 2015

WINNIPEG - Winnipeg police cars are getting their share of dents and dings every year.

Data CTV News obtained through freedom of information requests show city police cruisers were smashed up at a higher rate when compared to police vehicles in other Canadian cities.

In 2014, the Winnipeg Police Service had 391 vehicles on the road. Statistics show 251 police units were involved in a major or minor collision that year; a rate of 64.2 per cent, when comparing the number of crashes to cars.

When ranked against other major Canadian cities, Winnipeg's rate is the highest:

Winnipeg 64.2% Vancouver 62.1% Toronto 33.5% Calgary 32% Edmonton 25.8% Montreal 23.7%

Winnipeg police said the stats, however, don't tell the whole story. It said the city's numbers also include damage not caused from crashes or accidents.

Sgt. Nick Paulet said all types of damage are included in the City of Winnipeg stats, from stone chips to vandalism, which other cities may not include in their reporting.

"When you start to think about some of those other things that may show up as a collision, it may skew how people view those numbers," said Paulet.

Paulet said dozens of Winnipeg police cruisers are sitting targets. He pointed out many are now parked outside because of the Civic Parkade closure downtown.

"Anyone who kicks in a tail light or takes a marker and writes on a quarter panel of the car, and we've seen a lot of that kind of damage, will come up as a collision," said Paulet.

Paulet estimates, of the 251 incidents, 180 are crashes or minor accidents and the rest are due to vandalism and mischief. With that estimation factored in, Winnipeg would still place second on the list at a rate of 46 per cent.

Police said members go through extensive driver training and are re-certified every two years.

Winnipeg Police Board member Ross Eadie said he has faith police officers in Winnipeg are safe drivers. The city councillor still wants a breakdown of how cruisers are being damaged; however, Eadie has his own theory on the cause.

"I think a lot of it has to do with the condition of our roads in this city; it's bad," said

Eadie, adding he also blames potholes for further damage to vehicles.

CTV News gathered the statistics through freedom of information requests to each individual police force.

(CTV Winnipeg)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2015

Sep 10 2015

TORONTO - Toronto police committed "egregious wrongful conduct" after they planted loose heroin on the centre console of a drug suspect's car to create a pretext for searching the vehicle, a judge has found.

In January 2014, Toronto police arrested Nguyen Son Tran in the city's Chinatown after finding 11 grams of plastic-wrapped heroin tucked behind the steering column of his car. But Ontario Superior Court Judge Edward Morgan ruled last week that officers never had the right to search the car in the first place and the officers knew that, so they scattered a small amount of loose powder in a visible location next to the driver's seat.

"I conclude from all of this that the loose heroin was placed on the console of the Toyota by the police after their search, and was not left there by the defendant prior to the search," Morgan said as he stayed the charges against Tran.

Toronto police spokesman Mark Pugash said Thursday an internal investigation is underway by the Professional Standards Unit.

"We take all comments of this type very seriously," he said. "Whatever action is necessary will be taken."

It is unclear if criminal charges are being pursued into the alleged police misconduct.

(National Post)


Sep 10 2015

Ontario's provincial police force is finalizing a report on the unsolved murders and disappearances of aboriginal women - and men - that have occurred within its jurisdiction, raising the hopes of First Nations that some investigations will be reopened.

The RCMP have acknowledged more than 1,200 cases in Canada of murdered and missing aboriginal women between 1980 and 2014. Now other forces, including the Ontario Provincial Police, are assessing the scope of the problem in their own regions.

The trails of many of the perpetrators have gone cold and, in many instances, the killers are no longer being actively sought. But increased determination on the part of police agencies across the country to solve crimes against Canada's indigenous women and girls, along with improved investigative techniques, raises the possibility that some grieving families may finally get the answers they have been seeking.

Supt. Mark Pritchard, the commander of



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

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

the OPP's aboriginal policing bureau, said the work of compiling a list of the cases and the details surrounding them began three years ago and arose out of concerns expressed by the Native Women's Association of Canada and the Sisters in Spirit movement.

While those groups focused on the number of aboriginal woman being slain, Supt. Pritchard said the OPP decided to also look at the cases of missing and murdered aboriginal men. A final report has now been drafted and the force is consulting with stakeholders.

"The report names specific people and locations and dates," Supt. Pritchard said. "For every one of those, we want to touch base with the families and let them know that it's happening and also let them see it."

Once the report is made public, he said, "there is always a value in fresh eyes looking at old cases and technology changes, new approaches, new investigative techniques ..."

(Globe and Mail)

Sep 10 2015

Health Canada has sent out cease-and-desist letters to 13 illegal marijuana dispensaries and compassion clubs across the country, warning the RCMP could raid them if they do not shut down immediately, even those in cities where local police have mostly tolerated them.

The department sent the letters on Wednesday demanding the dispensaries stop "all activities with controlled substances" immediately and submit a written statement confirming this action by Sept. 21. The threat is the first indication the federal government is prepared to intervene directly to shut down

Canada's storefront dispensaries, most of which operate in Vancouver and Victoria.

In those two cities, local governments have allowed them to proliferate and either passed bylaws to regulate them or plan to do so. The municipal police forces have largely stood by while pot shops flourished.

A Health Canada spokesman confirmed late on Thursday that the letters are part of a campaign to monitor and prevent such stores from selling or advertising pot. It is overseen by a special department task force that was created at the beginning of August after Health Minister Rona Ambrose pledged a crackdown on dispensaries.

The letters said the dispensaries are advertising the sale of marijuana in contravention of two federal laws. The spokesman would not give further details of the alleged violations, but said the department will attempt to work with the offending parties to "encourage compliance."

Neither Vancouver police nor the B.C. RCMP would comment on the letter or the prospect of Mounties investigating shops outside their jurisdiction. VPD spokesman Constable Brian Montague said the two forces have a great relationship and "out of courtesy we would speak to one another" if investigations cross boundaries.

The Health Canada letter also says operators that refuse to close could face fines of up to \$5-million or two years in prison, or both, under Bill C-17, which passed into law last November.

The law introduced increased fines and penalties for regulatory offences under the Food and Drugs Act.

(Globe and Mail)

Sep 10 2015

CALGARY - Unmarked police cars make up just seven per cent of the Calgary Police fleet, but are responsible for 36 per cent of the vehicles involved in collisions, according to documents obtained through freedom of information requests.

In a statement, Calgary Police spokesperson Michael Nunn said that unmarked vehicles are often placed in higher-risk scenarios.

"This includes K9 and our Tactical Team who would generally be responsible for high risk vehicle stops and for boxing in vehicles to prevent harm to the public," said Nunn.

But statistics show that just nine per cent of unmarked police vehicles in collisions were making intentional contact, boxing or pinning a suspect vehicle or were rammed by a suspect.

Fifty-eight per cent of unmarked vehicles in collisions were preventable, according to CPS documents.

In total, 596 marked and unmarked Calgary Police vehicles were involved in collisions between January 1, 2014 and July 14, 2015. According to police documents, the cost to fix all of those vehicles was \$937,455. Of that, \$436,584 went to repair the unmarked patrol cars.

That includes 24 instances when cruisers collided with other police cars, sometimes in the CPS parking lot.

It does not include the cost of repairing private vehicles that police collide with, nor does it include the cost of cash settlements for injuries.

The Calgary Police could not provide the cost of those expenses.

(CTV News)

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Sep 11 2015

MONTREAL - Authorities say they have recovered about one-third of the \$10-million worth of silver stolen from the Port of Montreal last week.

Thieves made off with a truck in the city's west end, drove it to the port and loaded a shipping container onto it.

While the container was found empty on Saturday, the arrest of five men aged 35 to 53 as well as related raids allowed authorities to locate some of the booty.

Three of the five suspects were freed and will appear in court at a later date, while the two others were arraigned Thursday on charges of theft, conspiracy and trafficking in criminally obtained goods over \$5,000.

Both Norberto Cordeiro and Jaswinder Singh were held in custody pending a bail hearing scheduled for Friday morning.

The men were arrested during a series of police raids late Wednesday and early Thursday.

Sep 11 2015

PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. - A police officer in Prince Albert, Sask., who was accused of using pepper spray on a man in custody has been found not guilty of assault.

Const. Susan Snell told a judge that she used the spray in self-defence while trying to calm the prisoner down in July 2014.

The 20-year member of the city force testified that she believed he was going to spit at her.

The Crown prosecutor argued Snell used the spray to punish the man for his belligerent behaviour.

The judge ruled the officer's actions could be considered reasonable and acquitted her.

(CTV Saskatoon)

Sep 11 2015

REGINA - This fall, visitors at the RCMP Heritage Centre will get to virtually become a member of the force's famed Musical Ride.



The exhibit, which is set to open in November, will let visitors put on the Oculus Rift virtual reality (VR) headset and sit on a vibrating saddle to get the feel of being one of the riders.

"I grew up around horses, it literally feels like you are the rider in the saddle," said Bianca McGregor, director of strategic partnerships for the heritage centre.

The VR experience is being created by Regina company Talking Dog Studios, which sent its employees to Ottawa for three days in June to film the musical ride team practise its routines.

A device that carries six GoPro cameras, each facing a different direction, was mounted on one of the riders' heads to record a virtual video of different choreographies that the musical ride performs.

While wearing the headset, users can look in any direction as if they were actually sitting on the horse. They can even look up and see a plane that happened to be flying over the area during filming. The sound was also recorded directionally, which causes it to change when the user turns their head.

This is the first step in the heritage centre's efforts to create more interactive exhibits that appeal to a younger demographic.

"Our job is to share the story of the mounted police. This is just another way to share the story, in a way that seems to be the modus operandi today among young people and everybody," said Al Nicholson, CEO of the heritage centre, and a former member of the musical ride himself.

"This is as close as you can get to actually getting on a horse and doing it," added Nicholson, who took part in the 1968 and 1969 tours of the musical ride.

The heritage centre plans to eventually take the exhibit on the road.

(Regina Leader Post)

Sep 11 2015

QUEBEC CITY - A motorcyclist has died after colliding with a police cruiser in Quebec City late Thursday night.

The officer driving the car reportedly made a U-turn in a work zone on Highway 73 and was hit by the bike.

The motorcyclist died in hospital and the two police officers in the cruiser suffered minor injuries.

Quebec Public Safety Minister Lise Thériault says an investigation into the crash will be conducted by Quebec Provincial Police.

Sep 11 2015

TORONTO - The online comments that spurred increased security at all three University of Toronto campuses on Friday are not considered a credible threat, police said.

The comments targeting the school were posted by a user named "Kill Feminists" under an article that appeared on a Toronto blog, Const. Victor Kwong said.

The disturbing comments called for gun violence against Women's Studies faculty and students.

Kwong said police are trying to identify the person who posted the comments, and security remained high at the Mississauga, St. George and Scarborough campuses Friday as the city's Cyber-Crimes unit investigated.

The university's provost issued a warning to more than 80,000 university community members Thursday, including students, faculty and staff. The email cited threats made on a public blog, but didn't go into any more detail.

University spokesman David Estok said the school's administration chose not to detail the threats after consulting with experts, including police.

He added that the school has taken a number of measures to ensure students are safe, including making security more visible and calling for students to report anything suspicious or threatening to police.

Sep 11 2015

The province is foiling an attempt by Shelburne, N.S. municipal council to cut the complement of RCMP officers at the local detachment from four to three in order to curb the town's mounting policing costs.

In an unusual move, the provincial Department of Justice has inserted itself into the debate over police numbers in the south shore town, even though Shelburne's RCMP contract is with Ottawa.

In June, then justice minister Lena Diab wrote to Shelburne's mayor, telling her she was "unable to provide support" for the town's bid to cut its small contingent of officers.

The letter was brought to town council last week following the summer hiatus and Shelburne's chief administrative officer, Dylan Heide, says he's now preparing a response. But given Shelburne shoulders the bulk of policing costs in the town, he says it should be the one to decide whether it can cope with one less officer.

The town covers between 70 per cent and 75 per cent of RCMP costs for the town. But the expense has risen faster than inflation over the last decade, Heide says. This year, policing makes up nearly 18 per cent of the town's \$3.7 million budget.

According to the letter issued by Diab, who is no longer justice minister, the main concern of the Justice Department is that three officers would leave the Shelburne "district," which includes eastern Shelburne county and the Town of Lockeport, without adequate service.

It's rare for a Nova Scotia justice minister to formally step in to halt municipal plans to cut a police force, according to Fred Sanford, the province's director of policing services.

While he says he sympathizes with Shelburne's appetite to trim costs, a resource study prepared by RCMP found dropping an officer "would not allow for adequate police protection in the area." Shelburne, he says, does not stand alone, but is instead part of a district policing model where resources are "somewhat pooled."

And while the RCMP contract is between the federal government and Shelburne, Sanford says this does not override provincial responsibilities to maintain "adequate and effective levels of policing."

Before agreeing to a cut, he says federal

officials generally require support from the province's department of justice, which has a responsibility for policing in Nova Scotia.

"With that responsibility we would have to be involved and make sure that the decision made by the municipalities is appropriate and the best interest of public safety and not just made on a financial analysis," he says.

He says the town's best plan is to strike up talks with the Municipality of the District of Shelburne and Lockeport to see if there are ways of cutting costs together.

But Heide says although there may be occasional incidents that take officers out of town, Shelburne RCMP are not responsible for the county or for Lockeport.

"That really isn't something that we should be taking into account," he says.

If covering those areas is a problem, he says, that's for the province and those municipalities to sort out.

(CBC News)

Sep 11 2015

TORONTO - If Toronto police officers began switching on their body-worn cameras during informal interactions with the public, it would "completely disrupt" the force's nearly year-long trial of the popular policing technology, turning it into "something very different and problematic," according to Toronto police chief Mark Saunders.

Currently, rather than running at all times, the cameras are only activated by the officers under certain circumstances, including when making an arrest, answering to calls for service, responding to a crime in progress and more.

At his final Toronto Police Board meeting in July, former board chair Alok Mukherjee raised his concerns with the force's current pilot project, which began in May with just under 100 police officers from across the city wearing cameras on their lapel.

But Mukherjee said the current setup does did not adequately respond to recommendations from previous reports on police interactions with the public - including a recent review by retired Supreme Court Justice Frank Iacobucci - which called for body cameras to record more informal interaction, including non-arrest and non-detention situations.

The way the body camera activation works currently "will result in the exclusion of a very substantial proportion of police community interactions," Mukherjee said in a July letter to the board.

"My concern is that the scope of the pilot may not be consistent with the recommendations that are at the heart of the pilot as originally conceived or recommended. This is a significant lacuna," he wrote.

But in a report to the board in advance of its meeting next week, Saunders disagrees, saying there are no gaps between the goals for body-worn cameras as outlined in past reports and the current project.

While Iacobucci's report contains many recommendations supporting the use of body

cameras, none specifically state that officers should film non-arrest and non-detention situations, Saunders writes.

Further, if officers begin filming informal interactions with the public, it could negatively impact the project in several ways, ranging from cost to offsetting the balance between the needs of law enforcement and privacy rights, Saunders said.

It could also harm public trust, he said.

"Placing a requirement upon officers to record all non-arrest, non-detention, informal interactions with members of the community has the potential to erect barriers between police and the community," Saunders writes. (Toronto Star)

Sep 11 2015

Police and fire services in Britain are set to merge in a proposed radical overhaul of emergency services.

The controversial plans immediately fuelled concerns after it emerged chief fire officers could in future run police forces without any crime fighting experience.

Rank and file police leaders warned the move could see fire fighters take on some officer roles in what they said was more "policing on the cheap".

But a fire brigade union said mergers would damage the public trust in its members if they were associated with the police and law enforcement.

Under the Home Office proposals, police forces and fire services around the country could be brought together under one chief of-

ficer in each region.

The current Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) would take over oversight of fire services in their area and be responsible for both budgets.

The two emergency services would remain distinct but would share facilities, back room staff, IT systems, call centres and other common services.

The move is designed to improve efficiencies and save money as the Government's austerity drive continues.

But a consultation document revealed the Home Office is planning to remove a rule that currently bars a chief fire officer from applying to become a chief constable unless he or she has previously worked as a police officer.

It would mean there would be nothing to stop a fire chief being appointed the head of a merged police and fire service even if they had no experience of policing.

The Home Office insisted that under any changes no police officer would become a firefighter and no firefighter would be given the power of arrest.

The proposals come days after separate plans to expand the role of unpaid police volunteers.

Policing Minister Mike Penning said: "It simply doesn't make sense for emergency services to have different premises, different back offices and different IT systems when their work is so closely related and they often share the same boundaries."

Fire Minister Mark Francois said the number of fires is falling each year, adding:



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"We want to remove any bureaucratic barriers to joint working and allow local leaders to make the arrangements that work best for them."

David Lloyd, of the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners, said they supported the proposals while "recognising that for a range of reasons ... not every area will wish to pursue these new opportunities."

(UK Telegraph)

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2015

Sep 12 2015

MONTREAL - A youth court judge in Montreal has ruled that much of the material in a police interrogation of a teenager facing terrorism-related charges is inadmissible.

Judge Dominique Wilhelmy ruled the rights of the teen -- who cannot be named -- were not respected.

And because of that, many of the statements made by the youth last October cannot be entered into evidence.

The youngster, now 16, faces charges of committing a robbery for the benefit of an unspecified terrorist organization and planning to leave Canada to participate in the activities of a terrorist group abroad.

The judge said a provincial police officer told the teen during the three-hour interview that the boy's opinion could not be used against him.

His father alerted police after worrying that his son had been radicalized.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

Sep 13 2015

REGINA - The annual RCMP National Memorial Service has added two new names to a cenotaph in Regina that honours Mounties who died in the line of duty.

The additions of Const. David Wynn and Cpl. George Ronald Hawkins to the memorial, located at the RCMP Academy Depot Division, brings the total number of names to 256 since the creation of the North-West Mounted Police in 1873.

Wynn died from a gunshot wound he suffered while attempting to apprehend a suspect in a stolen vehicle investigation in St. Albert, Alta., in January.

Hawkins died in 1968 from encephalitis related to a tick bite he suffered while on duty.

He was tracking a suspect in the Turtle Mountains in southwestern Manitoba at the time.

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson told employees in a statement on Sunday that the jobs they do for Canadians honours the uniform and the country the fallen members died for.

Sep 13 2015

CALGARY - Alberta's provincial health agency says "fentanyl antidote" kits have saved at least four lives since they hit the streets of Calgary earlier this summer.

Alberta Health Services says that in the last 10 weeks, about 100 naloxone kits were given out by the Safeworks program.

An awareness campaign, partnering with the Calgary Police Service, was launched just over a month ago to try to curb abuse of the drug.

Naloxone works by competing with fentanyl for the same opiate receptors in the body, decreasing the potency of the drug. (CFFR)

Sep 13 2015

WINNIPEG - Winnipeg police are searching for a male suspect in a hit-and-run on a police officer at a check stop on Saturday night.

Police say that a driver in a silver Buick Century failed a breathalyzer test at the check stop at Waverley Street and Bison Drive, near Investors Group Field at approximately 8:25 p.m.

The suspect then allegedly fled the scene, hitting the officer and dragging him along the road.

The officer was taken to a local hospital, where he was treated for his injuries and later released.

Police say the driver continued along Lake Crest Road until his vehicle collided with a median.

The suspect abandoned his vehicle and fled on foot.

Police set up the check stop near Investors Group Field as the Winnipeg Blue Bombers played the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

The incident occurred as fans started to leave the stadium. (CTV News)

Sep 13 2015

It remains the most expansive serial murder investigation Canada has ever seen, its grisly details broadcast across the globe as killer Robert William Pickton sat emotionless in the prisoner's box.

Lori Shenher, the first detective assigned to investigate a rise in women reported missing in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, had Pickton in her crosshairs days into her probe in the summer of 1998, but it wasn't until early 2002 that investigators finally searched Pickton's pig farm in Port Coquitlam and found the remains and DNA of 33 women.

Now, 13 years later, Shenher's notes and reflections from the investigation have come to light in a memoir, *That Lonely Section of Hell: The Botched Investigation of a Serial Killer Who Almost Got Away*.

Her story, published by Vancouver's Greystone Books, tells of infighting and incompetence she experienced and witnessed as a member of the Vancouver Police Department and while working alongside the RCMP, which led to Pickton evading capture for several years.

"There's a culture in policing that's in

desperate, desperate need of reform because good people doing good work - it should make more of a difference than it does," Shenher said in an interview with The Province.

She described senior officers' bias toward the missing women, many of whom were impoverished, addicted sex workers, and who were dismissed as having gone off to party or with "a guy."

As her suspicion of Pickton's guilt mounted, she saw the investigation's resources dwindle and be diverted elsewhere.

Frustrated and burned out, Shenher asked to be transferred from the VPD missing persons department in July 2000.

"I think I was just so shattered by the institution itself, and the lack of institutional and systemic support for my investigation," she said.

"Disillusioned" is probably the mildest word you could use around how I feel."

Following a 2012 inquiry into the case by the B.C. Missing Women Commission, Shenher said she was pushed over the edge into depression and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"It was like walking around carrying a 1,000-pound bag on my back," she said.

"I was just very hopeless. I wasn't suicidal in the sense that I was actively planning anything, but I was having a very hard time imagining what my future was going to be - and that was dark enough for me to know that I really needed to try to get some help."

Counselling services provided by the force were ineffective, Shenher said.

She credits an expert in eye movement desensitization and reprocessing therapy with aiding her recovery, along with support from her partner and three children.

Last week, Shenher began studies for a Masters of Communication degree. She runs a health and fitness company. (The Province)

Sep 13 2015

A new online Bachelor of Arts in Policing program, to be offered by Wilfrid Laurier University to serving or retired law enforcement officers, is the first of its kind in Canada.

"We're charting new territory," said Lauren Eisler, acting dean of the faculty of human and social sciences at Laurier Brantford.

The program's curriculum was developed with the idea of being an international program, not bound by geographic, political or legal differences.

As such, "it has really strong potential" and is already generating considerable interest, she said.

Only one day after the program was announced, staff received an inquiry from a police officer in The Bahamas who wants to enrol, Eisler said.

The program, which begins in January, will be offered entirely online. Applicants must have at least one year of professional work experience in policing.

"The BA in policing was designed after

comprehensive consultations with senior members of police services across Canada on the types of courses needed to develop competencies required by police officers in increasingly diverse and complex societies,” Eisler said.

Input from consultations helped shape the topics covered in the program, including leadership, communication, diversity, ethics and building resilience.

Program offerings, including courses such as mental health, addiction and crime; media, social media and crime; and diversity and inclusion with the force will provide officers with content that is readily applicable in their daily lives, she said.

Traditional classroom learning is often not an option for officers, whose rotating shifts or geographic locations prevent them from attending classes regularly, she said. The online delivery will help eliminate those scheduling barriers and make learning accessible to officers from across the country and beyond.

Each course in the program is six weeks long, with six hours per week of course work.

Transfer credits will be offered for previous courses completed at community college, university or at police colleges or academies, allowing officers to enter the program having already earned up to half of their required 20 credits.

As a result, it would be possible for some to complete a four-year degree in two years, Eisler said.

The idea for the program was first planted about six years ago when then-Brantford police Chief Jeff Kellner and the current Chief Geoff Nelson approached Eisler to inquire about available programming for officers.

Nothing was then available but that started the ball rolling, Eisler said. The campus evolved and grew until “the time was right” to dive into development of this new program.

Laurier Brantford has a track record of developing unique programming, she said.

Policing is an evolving field and the advent of social media, other new technologies and increasingly diverse communities make it difficult for officers to stay on top of all the changes, Eisler said.

“The program has a volunteer advisory board comprised of members representing police services, the legal system and academics and trainers who offer input into course content,” Eisler said. “It was designed this way to ensure the offerings are relevant and meaningful to officers in the program.”

Applications open on Oct. 8 on the Ontario Universities’ Application Centre website for the first cohort of the program to begin in January.

To be sent a reminder email for the opening of applications, visit the Policing BA program website and click the “remind me to apply” box on the right-hand side.

(Brantford Expositor)

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Sep 14 2015

A Peel Regional Police officer who was found guilty on a combined 42 fraud-related charges after allegedly filing false accident reports for staged collisions has been sentenced to five years in jail.

Carlton Watson received his sentence in a Brampton courtroom on Monday morning, seven months after being convicted on 42 of the 45 counts he was facing.

In a press release, Peel Regional Police Chief Jennifer Evans noted that Watson has been suspended without pay and promised to seek his outright dismissal.

“I want to assure the community that I take allegations of misconduct very seriously and hold officers accountable for their actions. As a result of this conviction and custodial sentence, I will be seeking his dismissal from this police service,” Evans said.

Watson, who was previously suspended with pay, was first arrested in 2011 after a five-month investigation between the Internal Affairs Bureau and the Insurance Bureau Canada.

(CP24)

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

Sep 15 2015

CALGARY - In a first for Canada, Calgary police have launched a terrorism intervention program aimed at pulling youth away from radicalization.

“We really are trying to focus on the behaviours that cause someone to be involved in an extremist view,” Insp. Mike Bossley said in an exclusive interview.

The project, called ReDirect, will target young people who are vulnerable to radicalization with social services, in an effort to draw them away from the lure of terrorism.

Calgary police are the first Canadian force to roll out such a mentorship strategy, which British police have followed for a decade.

“You’re preventing violent behaviour from happening, before it occurs,” says Bossley, who’s in charge of the force’s 175 community and youth officers.

The voluntary program involves referrals from teachers, leaders and family members who are concerned a young person might pursue violence.

Police assess the person against a checklist of vulnerability factors, including intolerance of others, hardline world views, abandoning family or friends, “an obsessive use of violent websites” or using religion to justify violence.

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"They're not at that criminal threshold, but everybody's really worried that they might," Bossley says. "This is a program that allows us to work with those individuals before acts of violence are committed."

The officers will determine what programs can help dissuade people from violence, such as subsidized housing, family counselling or religious feedback.

A panel of police and trusted partners regularly reviews each case. Once someone is no longer showing the factors, their intervention is finished, though police will follow up in six and 12 months.

The program targets violent extremism, which includes issues like Islamist terrorism and far-right extremism. Bossley notes that white-supremacist groups still operate in Calgary, despite a steady decline in public visibility.

ReDirect is similar to an early-intervention strategy in the United Kingdom called Channel. Since 2005, British police have had 4,000 of these cases.

Five full-time staff are dedicated to the program, including a social worker. A core of 40 officers in similar programs will help.

Last summer, local police said they believed 30 Calgarians were working and fighting alongside terror groups abroad, including five who left between 2012 and 2014 to join the Islamic State group.

The RCMP is set to launch a national intervention strategy, dubbed the Terrorism Prevention Program, by the end of this year. Toronto police have informally run a pilot program, while Montreal is opening a storefront prevention centre this fall.

(Calgary Herald)

Sep 15 2015

PETERBOROUGH - Peterborough's Police Chief and Deputy Chief are asking the court to force the Peterborough Police Services Board to pay up roughly \$260,000 in severance payments.



According to documents filed in court on Tuesday (Sept. 15), Chief Murray Rodd and Deputy Chief Tim Farquharson haven't been paid the severance they're entitled to as part of the Peterborough-Lakefield Community Police Service's de-amalgamation into a city-only police service. The money is now nearly a month late of meeting arbitrator Richard McLaren's Aug. 17 deadline for the Board to pay.

A hearing has been scheduled for Sept. 25 in Superior court to deal with the issue.

The factum filed in the suit states the two top police staffers are looking to be paid what was originally awarded by Mr. McLaren, which amounts to \$248,920.96 for Chief Rodd and \$210,329.46 for Deputy Chief Farquharson.

The issue is laid out in past and current contracts for both Chief Rodd and Deputy Chief Farquharson, with contracts signed with the former Peterborough-Lakefield board stating the two would be entitled to their annual salary for a period of three years if the police service were dissolved.

The two are also entitled to one year's worth of vehicle allowance and one year's worth of contributions into their pension.

Court documents state the Peterborough-Lakefield board had attempted to get the money together to make the payments but it disbanded before a payment was made.

Updated contracts the Peterborough-only board signed with the two in December 2014 state the new board was aware of the agreements made under previous contracts and agreed to take on the responsibility to pay out any liabilities as a result of the police service disbanding.

But even after Mr. McLaren awarded the two their severance packages in a hearing earlier this year, court documents suggest the Board refused to pay the pre-determined amounts.

According to an email between lawyers, the Board had already decided not to obey the arbitration order in late July.

"Further to our discussion earlier this month, we understand that your client does not intend to comply with Professor McLaren's award," the email to the Board's lawyer states. "Accordingly, we will be taking steps to enforce Arbitrator McLaren's order."

Peterborough Mayor Daryl Bennett has spoken out publicly against the arbitrator's decision, saying the Chief and Deputy Chief didn't technically lose their jobs and shouldn't be entitled to any money as a result.

When asked about bringing the unpaid severance before a court, Deputy Chief Farquharson says it's important to point out he and the Chief aren't suing the board.

"It's a court date to enforce an order - and the next logical step when an arbitrator's award hasn't been honoured," he says, adding he and the Chief don't have much time to think about the issue. "We have a police service to run and that is the most important thing."

Newly-appointed Board chair Bob Hall isn't commenting on the details of the severance payments.

"The board understands it is a private and contractual matter," he says, adding board members will respect the confidentiality of the issue.

Board members will meet for a closed-session meeting on Thursday (Sept. 17).

Mr. Hall wouldn't say whether the arbitration order and severance payments are on the agenda.

(Peterborough This Week)

Sep 15 2015

WINNIPEG - An arrest has been made after a Winnipeg police officer was dragged when a driver allegedly fled from a roadside alcohol check on the weekend.

The officer needed treatment at hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

The suspect eventually slammed into a median and fled on foot.

Police say Gregory Blaine Martin, 42, was taken into custody without incident on Tuesday afternoon in Winnipeg.

(CJOB)

Sep 15 2015

VANCOUVER - The College of Pharmacists of B.C. on Tuesday announced that, effective immediately, all 1,200 pharmacies in the province are required to store their drugs in time-delay safes, making B.C. the first jurisdiction in North America to mandate such a security measure.

After an employee enters a code on a time-delay safe, a set amount of time has to elapse - typically a few minutes but sometimes up to an hour - before the safe can be opened. This eliminates the immediate availability of the items inside. Time-delay safes are commonly used in banks and jewellery stores.

At B.C. pharmacies, a small amount of drugs will be available for daily transactions, while the larger cache will be stored in the safe.

Walgreens, the largest retail pharmacy chain in the U.S., began installing time-delay safes in some of its locations in 2009, reportedly resulting in a 75- to 85-per-cent reduction in pharmacy robberies. Phil Caruso, a spokesman for the chain based in Deerfield, Ill., could not confirm the number but said there has been a "significant decline" in robberies at the stores that have the technology. Walgreens has time-delay safes installed in locations in 13 states, Mr. Caruso said.

Earlier this month, CVS/pharmacy announced it had installed the safes in more than 150 stores in Indiana, which leads the U.S. in pharmacy robberies, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. More than 130 pharmacies had reported robberies from January to September.

(Globe and Mail)

Sep 15 2015

EDMONTON - Edmonton police have launched a new program meant to target one of the most common crimes in the city: vehicle thefts.



Police said the program, called Car Curfew, is meant to prevent potential thieves from stealing vehicles, and to help patrol officers identify a vehicle that may have been stolen.

"Theft of vehicles is typically a crime of opportunity," EPS Const. Cameron Jones said. "Car Curfew gives vehicle owners a resource to help police identify a potentially stolen vehicle."

Under the free and voluntary program, drivers can obtain a reflective decal and place it on the back window of their vehicle - and if an officer sees a car with the decal being driven between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m., officers might stop the car and ensure it is being driven by the owner, or with the owner's consent.

Vehicle owners can get decals at their local police station - they're asked to place them on the back window of their vehicle.

(CTV News)

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2015

Sep 16 2015

BLAIRMORE, Alta. - Police have charged a man with murder in the deaths of a two-year-old southern Alberta girl and her father.

RCMP say Derek James Saretzky, 22, of Blairmore, Alta., faces two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Terry Blanchette, 27, and his daughter Hailey Dunbar-Blanchette, who was the subject of an Amber Alert earlier in the week.

"Mr. Saretzky also faces one count of indignity to a human body in relation to Hailey's death," Supt. Tony Hamori said Wednesday.

The body of the girl was found on Tuesday in a rural area near Blairmore, 220 km south of Calgary.

The tragedy began to unfold early Monday morning when Hailey's father was killed in his home and his daughter was taken away in a speeding white van.

Police said they have found a van that they believe is connected to the case.

Hamori said Saretzky and Blanchette knew each other, but wouldn't provide further details.

"The RCMP extends its deepest condolences to the Blanchette and Dunbar family with respect to Hailey and Terry's loss, and to all those who knew them and to the citizens of Blairmore," he said.

Saretzky is to appear in Lethbridge court on Sept. 23.

Sep 16 2015

GENEVA - A man police have described as Canada's most notorious bank robber - known for his technique of jumping over bank counters during his heists - has been arrested in Geneva.

The 53-year-old suspect - nicknamed "The Vaultor" - was intercepted by plainclothes police while he was driving a compact car on a Geneva street on Tuesday, and taken into custody without incident, Swiss police said Wednesday.

The French-American citizen, identified

by Canadian police as Jeffrey James Shuman, had been sought under an international arrest warrant issued by Canada in connection with 21 bank robberies over the last five years.

The Canadian Bankers Association had offered a \$100,000 reward for information leading to his arrest and conviction.

Geneva police spokesman Jean-Philippe Brandt said the man is being held pending extradition procedures.

Canadian police said the robber first struck in York Region north of Toronto in February 2010 and since then hit banks in Mississauga, Hamilton, Vaughan, Toronto and Ottawa, as well as some in Calgary.

A spokesman with York Regional Police said Shuman would only be formally charged once he was extradited to Canada. Those charges are expected to be robbery and firearms related, Const. Andy Pattenden said.

"We've described him as Canada's most notorious bank robber," said Pattenden. "It's been an ongoing very lengthy investigation involving numerous police services."

Pattenden said Shuman is believed to have been living in France before he was arrested in Switzerland.

Sep 16 2015

PENTICTON, B.C. - Students in Penticton, BC, are mourning the death of a five-year-old classmate who was struck and killed by a pickup truck driven by an off-duty police officer.

Holy Cross School has identified the victim as Grade 1 student James McIntosh.

Principal Shawn Campbell says the boy was a fantastic and lively child liked by everyone.

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McIntosh was struck around 5 p.m. yesterday while crossing an intersection at Highway 97 while riding his bike with his father and older brother.

Ralph Krenz of the Independent Investigations Office says the Mountie was making a right-hand turn when he hit the boy, who apparently was using the crosswalk correctly.

Krenz couldn't say what caused the crash.

Sep 16 2015

WINNIPEG - An RCMP officer who shot and wounded a man on a baseball field at a northern Manitoba First Nation last year will not be charged.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team, which conducted a review of the incident at the request of the Manitoba government, announced its findings on Wednesday.

Evan Cromarty, who was 21, was shot in the shoulder as he was chased by Mounties at the Norway House Cree Nation on July 20, 2014.

ASIRT executive director Sue Hughson says the person who called police about Cromarty said he always had a gun on him, and that the officer fired his service weapon fearing that Cromarty was reaching for a gun.

A search of Cromarty after the shooting found only a cellphone and wallet in his pocket.

Hughson says Manitoba's Crown reviewed all of the evidence and reports and concluded there was no reasonable likelihood of conviction.

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 17, 2015

Sep 17 2015

WINNIPEG - The new downtown Winnipeg police headquarters will be vacant until at least December.



The city has announced the building at 245 Smith Street will now see the police take possession on December 15. Officers were supposed to move in last year, but a late summer rainstorm flooded the basement and caused other damage.

The project has been plagued with delays and cost overruns to the tune of \$75 million. RCMP carried out search warrant on Caspian Construction last December - the contractor of the project

- seizing several boxes of data and computers. Results of the raid haven't been made public.

"I can't help but note that December 22 is the winter solstice, the official beginning of a new season," said Chief Devon Clunis. "It appropriately opens the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the Winnipeg Police Service."

The WPS will begin the physical move on Monday, December 21 when divisions and units from across the service begin migrating to the new site on a staggered basis.

The 630,925 square foot headquarters will house 14 divisions and has an estimated life of 50 years.

Sep 17 2015

MONTREAL - Toronto police have confirmed the arrest in Montreal of a man wanted in connection with a 2012 murder.

They say Max Tutiven was arrested Thursday morning by Montreal homicide investigators.

Earlier this week, police announced a \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of a suspect in a fatal "gas and dash" three years ago.

Tutiven was wanted on a charge of second-degree murder in the death of a gas station employee.

He was accused of striking 44-year-old Jayesh Prajapati with an SUV while leaving the station after failing to pay for gas.

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