

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY | NOVEMBER 27, 2015 – Vol. 20 No. 48

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Canada's homicide rate remains at lowest levels in almost five decades



Nov 25 2015

TORONTO - Canada's homicide rate remained at its lowest level in five decades last year but aboriginals accounted for a disproportionate number of the victims, Statistics Canada reported on Wednesday.

Overall, police services across the country reported 516 killings in 2014 - four more than in 2013. The tiny uptick, however, had no effect on the rate, which was the same as in 2013 and the lowest level since 1966.

Among provinces, Manitoba had the highest homicide rate for the eighth straight year while Thunder Bay, Ont., picked up the dubious distinction of becoming Canada's murder capital.

Guns were more frequently used - 156 times - but the overall rate of gun killings was at its second-lowest level in 40 years.

Aboriginals accounted for almost one quarter of the victims despite comprising just five per cent of the population.

"For the first time, complete aboriginal identity data have been reported," StatCan said.



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The new data show that aboriginal people were victims at a rate about six times higher than that of non-aboriginals, with First Nations men facing triple the risk faced by aboriginal females.

"Aboriginal males were seven times more likely to be homicide victims compared with non-aboriginal males," according to Statistics Canada. "The rate of homicide for aboriginal females was six times higher than for their non-aboriginal counterparts."

According to the data, the number of aboriginal female victims has remained relatively stable in recent decades, while the number of non-aboriginal female victims has declined. The result is that, proportionately, victim rates for aboriginal women have increased sharply.

Most homicides of aboriginals were solved. In fact, StatCan said, police were more likely to solve killings where aboriginals were victims than those involving non-aboriginal victims.

Overall, when the crimes were solved, most victims - 83 per cent - knew their killers, data show - a situation that has long been the case.

Acquaintances posed the biggest threat, followed by relatives. Current or ex-spouses were blamed in 83 cases or 16 per cent of all homicides, with women four times more likely than men to die at the hands of partners.

Among provinces, Manitoba had the highest homicide rate in 2014 despite seeing fewer of them, with Alberta and Saskatchewan well behind. At the other end, Newfoundland and Labrador had the fewest killings relative to population followed by Nova Scotia, which recorded its lowest rate since StatCan started collecting the relevant data in 1961.

In all, five provinces saw declines while seven jurisdictions had increases, with Alberta recording a significant jump - 22 more killings than in 2013 and British Columbia recording 12 more.

Thunder Bay, Ont., had the poorest record among major urban centres, reporting an "unusually high" number in 2014, StatCan reported. The 11 reported homicides catapulted the northern Ontario city to a rate almost three times that of second-place Winnipeg.

Regina, previously Canada's murder capital, saw its rate cut in half from a year earlier, dropping it to eighth place in 2014 among the country's 34 metropolitan areas.

Five of the larger centres - Saguenay and Sherbrooke in Quebec and Kingston, Oshawa and Brantford in Ontario - saw no homicides at all.

Statistics Canada did note that the territories historically have the highest homicide rates in Canada - with Nunavut leading the way last year.

"However, because of small numbers, there is large variability from year to year," the agency said.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2015

Nov 18 2015

VANCOUVER - The City of Vancouver and the Vancouver Police Department warn they may have to cut back on investigations due to changes in funding of DNA analysis.

In recent years, DNA analysis has become a cornerstone of police work, helping convict offenders of heinous crimes and helping save innocent parties from jail time.

But now its funding is in question and police in Vancouver and other municipalities may have to cut back on its use.

"Having that central DNA analysis is crucial to the investigations, and making sure the province is funding that is what we want to see," said Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson.

"We don't want to see downloaded costs onto cities like Vancouver and communities around the province who are going to have to pay extra because the B.C. government won't cover their costs."

Those costs are substantial. For example, Surrey will have to pay more than \$400,000 a year while Vancouver will take on an additional \$600,000 annually, an amount that Robertson said is "a big chunk of our policing budget that is very difficult for us to absorb locally when it's been a responsibility of the provincial and federal government."

"The province is actually still contributing to the DNA," said Minister of Justice Suzanne Anton. "In fact, we're going

to contribute \$3 million in this fiscal year, \$1.3 [million] next year."

DNA funding is a done deal, according to Anton, who says municipalities are welcome to lobby the federal government for money.

(Global News)

Nov 18 2015

A swearing-in ceremony for the Abbotsford Police Department's (APD) new deputy chief constable took place Tuesday.



Mike Serr will be responsible for the administration division of the APD. Serr shares the title of deputy chief with Dave Schmirler, who was appointed to the position over a year ago and is in charge of the APD's operations division.

The two replace former deputy chiefs Len Goerke, who was named chief of the West Vancouver Police Department, and Rick Lucy, who retired after 33 years with the APD.

(The News)

Nov 18 2015

The New Brunswick government and the Saint John Police Force have reached a tentative deal that will see sheriff's officers return to the city's detention centre in January.

Sheriffs stopped staffing the city lock-up on Oct. 1 after police and the provincial government failed to come to agreement on staffing.

Since that date, detainees in cells have been overseen by the Canadian Corps of Commissioners.

The city's detention cells are a temporary stopping place for people arrested by city police, RCMP and Kennebecasis Regional Police prior to appearances before judges at the Saint John Law Courts.

An underground tunnel links the police lockup to the courthouse across the street.

Saint John Police Chief John Bates calls the tentative deal "an absolute win-win."

"The proposed agreement is that in 2016, the sheriffs will be back in there and they will be handling their prisoners going to and from court and our prisoners that are in cells, basically during the daytime period," said Bates.

(CBC News)

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NEWSWEEK

Celebrating 20 Years

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SAINT JOHN - The Saint John Police Force held its official change of command ceremony on Tuesday evening to honour former chief Bill Reid, and formally welcome new chief John Bates.



Chief Bates has been on the job for seven weeks and came to the city just as the high profile Dennis Oland murder trial was getting underway.

"It's been somewhat eventful," Bates said speaking to Information Morning Saint John.

"There's been a lot going on in the city with regard to the police force itself, but I can tell you that my welcome here has been very heartening and the ceremony last night was exceptionally humbling."

Last month, Bates ordered an investigation into allegations that Deputy Chief Glen McCloskey suggested another officer lie under oath about the Richard Oland murder case.

Bates said he hasn't directed the force to implement any changes since he entered the new post.

"Deputy Chief McCloskey, and all senior staff and specialized units, assured me that since 2011, they have elevated their game, and I can tell you since coming here, I have seen nothing but absolute professionalism from the men and women I have encountered," he said.

Bates said one of his first orders of business is to see to the replacement of the force's outdated service revolvers.

It's estimated new handguns to replace the 25-year-old sidearms would cost about \$200,000.

"The firearm I'm carrying now is the same firearm my previous police service took out of service over 10 years ago," said Bates.

"I'm well assured our guns remain serviceable, but they're well beyond their best before date," he said.

The chief also wants to address staff vacancies in the force. Over the past five years, 20 positions have been lost.

Bates was previously the chief of police in Stratford, Ont.

(CBC News)

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2015

Nov 19 2015

Alberta police chiefs want Ottawa to take new steps to diminish domestic production of fentanyl, a deadly drug now as easy to buy on Calgary streets as marijuana.

"Right now it's very easy to access fentanyl or its analogues on the Internet," said Staff Sgt. Martin Schiavetta, of the Calgary police drug unit. "You don't need to manufacture or synthesize fentanyl right now because you can import it in the powder form already."

But the Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police expects that domestic manufacturing of illicit fentanyl in Canada will likely increase under the Chinese government's proposal to regulate fentanyl and its derivatives.

Police believe that China is a major source of fentanyl imported into Canada and sold on Alberta streets, but senior officers say this could change under China's proposed controls. Local police are worried that any cuts to international supplies may provoke domestic dealers to bring in precursor chemicals - currently unregulated in Canada - to manufacture fentanyl here.

Alberta police chiefs are also raising alarms that there are no federal laws or regulations governing the import, export, sale and possession of commercial pill presses in Canada. Dealers use this equipment to squeeze fentanyl powder into tablets, often using stamps to make the pills appear as oxycodone, a far less powerful painkiller.

The Alberta Association of Chiefs of Police recently adopted resolutions calling on Ottawa to regulate pill presses and the chemicals used to manufacture fentanyl.

"The regulations, we hope, will keep the precursor chemicals and pill presses out of the hands of organized criminals currently profiting from the sale of fentanyl," Schiavetta told the Herald Thursday.

Alberta Justice Minister Kathleen Ganley said she would work with federal officials to advance the proposed rule changes, and recently raised them with federal Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould.

(Calgary Herald)

Nov 19 2015

HAMILTON - Hamilton Police Chief Glenn De Caire will be chief through 2018, under a two-year contract extension granted Thursday by the Hamilton Police Services Board.

The vote was 7-0 in favour of extending the chief's contract. "The board has the utmost confidence in this chief," board chair Lloyd Ferguson said.

De Caire, 53, said he was "proud" to continue as chief and said one of his goals going forward is to build more partnerships with local organizations, nonprofit agencies and school boards.

"We always need to remember that the public trust is fragile, and those relationships are fragile," he said.

"We are but one radio call away from any incident at any time, but I've got great confidence in our people, I've got great confidence in our training, in our policies, in our supervisors and in our oversight mechanisms."

Ferguson said the board didn't want to place the burden of recruiting a new chief on a "brand-new board" in place after the next municipal election cycle in 2018, and so only granted the chief two more years rather than three.

De Caire was hired as chief of the Hamilton Police Service at the end of 2009.

(CBC News)

Nov 19 2015

MONTREAL - A jailed Hells Angels kingpin, a prominent criminal lawyer and the son of a deceased Mafia boss were among some 45 people arrested Thursday as police targeted the triumvirate of biker gangs, the Mob and street gangs.



Maurice (Mom) Boucher, imprisoned for life in the killings of two prison guards, was arrested and faces a charge of conspiracy to commit murder in an alleged plot to kill Raynald Desjardins, himself incarcerated for the slaying of a rival Mob boss.

The conspiracy, police said, involved Boucher, his daughter Alexandra Mongeau and Gregory Wooley, a longtime confidant of Boucher who was also nabbed Thursday.

Police allege that meetings between Boucher, 62, and Mongeau at the federal prison in Ste-Anne-des-Plaines were conducted in a coded language, with the messages then relayed to Wooley.

"There was an aspect of vengeance in the conspiracy, but it was mainly to keep (drug territory) and if there was competition, it was to eliminate it and if there was thought to be competition, it was to eliminate it," said provincial police Lt. Benoit Dube.

Authorities said the alliance of the Italian Mafia, criminal biker gangs and street gangs was set up to maintain control of drug trafficking and money laundering in Montreal.

Others arrested Thursday included Leonardo Rizzuto, 46, the son of deceased Mob boss Vito Rizzuto; Loris Cavaliere, 61, the longtime lawyer for the Rizzuto family; and Salvatore Cazzetta, 60, an influential biker gang member.

Provincial police Chief-Insp. Patrick Belanger said the various charges include gangsterism, conspiracy to commit drug trafficking, trafficking, trading in stolen goods, possession of prohibited arms as well as conspiracy to commit murder.

Police say they have seized \$1.2 million, seven kilograms of cocaine, 41 weapons, 122 cellphones and one Harley-Davidson motorcycle since the investigation began.

Nov 19 2015

WINDSOR - Windsor Police Chief Al Frederick is urging the provincial government to reverse course on its decision to end street checks.

In October, Community Safety Minister Yasir Naqvi said the province is drafting legislation to end the practice.

Frederick said officers used the tactic to seize a loaded handgun, ammunition and cocaine from a 21-year-old London man in Windsor.

Officers observed two men walking in a residential area in the early hours of Thursday. They noticed one was acting suspiciously, Frederick said.

So they stopped him and after speaking with the man, noticed a handgun in his pocket.

Frederick called this a case of a street check working.

Frederick said if officers aren't allowed to use the tactic, public safety would be compromised.

Windsor police officers carded 337 people

in 2014, with 116 people - or 35 per cent - being charged with an offence. Frederick said police data shows carding does not unfairly target "persons from diverse backgrounds."

"This is the anatomy of a street check, these are expectations that the community should have of the police. These two officers removed a firearm from the street," Frederick said.

(CBC News)

Nov 19 2015

EDMONTON - Edmonton police are reaching out to religious leaders through the creation of the EPS Interfaith Database.

By forming those connections with a variety of religious groups, Edmonton police say they can better deal with the diverse faith-based needs from officers, victims and criminals alike.

"This is about trying to be able to reach out through the EPS with people, and for those people to be able to reach out to us," said EPS chaplain Lawrence Peck.

By having a database with religious community leaders, officers have more resources in addressing crimes related to faith - either crimes tied to religion or hate crimes directed at faith groups - respond to the needs of victims in dealing with trauma, perform appropriate last rights in the event of sudden deaths or even address faith needs of members of the EPS.

"A lot of people are faith based people," said Peck, who added building a two-way

dialogue between these nearly two-dozen religious groups can make police interactions of all kinds more meaningful.

(Edmonton Sun)

Nov 19 2015

OTTAWA - There's no reason to raise Canada's threat level, even in the wake of the deadly attacks in Paris last week, says Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale.

The minister appeared at a news conference - flanked by key security officials - to assure Canadians that authorities are being especially vigilant and doing everything possible to keep the public safe.

The threat level has remained at "medium" since October 2014.

Canadian Security Intelligence Service director Michel Coulombe and RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson said they had found no Canadian links to the assaults in France by militants from the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant that killed some 129 people and wounded hundreds of others.

Officials also stressed that the thousands of refugees Canada has agreed to accept from strife-torn Syria would undergo thorough security checks.

Goodale urged people to be alert following the Paris attacks, but said Canada is basically safe and peaceful.

The minister said now is not the time for what he called "vigilante retribution" - a reference to a deliberately set fire at an Ontario mosque and an assault against a veiled woman in Toronto.

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The RCMP has been working with French authorities and partners around the world to help out “where we can,” said Paulson.

French authorities, through Interpol and the RCMP’s liaison officers in Paris, have provided fingerprints, DNA and biographical data linked to the attacks for checks against Canadian databases, he added.

“All checks to date have been negative.”

Coulombe said CSIS was also working to identify any potential Canadian nexus to the attacks. “So far we have not confirmed anything in this regard.”

If the attacks were planned in Syria, it would mark the first time ISIL had carried out such an assault on the West from afar, said Coulombe, but he cautioned: “It’s too early to draw firm conclusions.”

The intelligence director said CSIS was involved in planning the screening of Syrian refugees and “the measures in place are robust.”

Goodale promised the checks carried out by Canadian agencies would be thorough. “We want to ensure that the quality of the security work at the end of the day is strong and effective.”

(National Post)

Nov 19 2015

OTTAWA - Jody Wilson-Raybould, Canada's first aboriginal justice minister, says the only way to address the country's disproportionately high number of indigenous inmates is by putting the whole criminal justice system under the microscope.

“We’re committed to taking a complete review of the criminal justice system, and as a former prosecutor, I recognize the incredible representation of indigenous people in the system,” she told CTV’s Power Play on Thursday.

According to Statistics Canada, 24 per cent of inmates in provincial facilities in 2014 were aboriginal, despite only making up about three per cent of Canada’s population.

In 2010 and 2011, Canada’s overall incarceration rate was 140 per 100,000 adults. That means the incarceration rate for aboriginal people in Canada is approximately 10 times higher than the incarceration rate of non-aboriginal adults.

And the problem appears to have been growing steadily over the last few decades.

Wilson-Raybould, 44, is herself a descendant of the Musgamagw Tsawataineuk and Laich-Kwil-Tach peoples and a member of the We Wai Kai Nation.

But she said that, while the disproportionate number of First Nations inmates stands out as a problem in Canada’s prison system, the federal government has to look at the entire system in order to avoid any double-standards.

Over the next four years, she said the government will be “taking a comprehensive review, looking at mandatory minimum, looking at restorative justice measures that can be brought in, but ensuring

that we talk to people who are directly involved and engaged in the criminal justice system and learning from that.”

“It’s not going to happen overnight, but we are definitely committed to taking a comprehensive approach to addressing those issues,” she added.

In addition to look at problems within the justice system, Wilson-Raybould said the government also needs to address systemic issues that are responsible for high incarceration rates among indigenous people in the first place. The first step: an inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women.

“Societies will be defined by how they treat their most vulnerable. Ours is no different,” she said. “We have made a commitment to ensuring that we approach (the inquiry) in a way that’s respectful of the families, that is open and transparent and brings in all different perspectives on how we can put together this inquiry.”

“We only get one opportunity to do this and we want to do it right.”

Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett has said the inquiry will start before next summer.

(CTV News)

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FRIDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2015

Nov 20 2015

WINNIPEG - An attempted robbery of an armoured car in front of a Winnipeg bank has left two people in hospital.

Police say an armed man was shot by one of two GuardiaWorld Cash Services employees when he tried to rob them outside a TD Canada Trust branch early this morning.

He was taken to hospital in critical condition, but has since been upgraded to stable.

One of the guards was also injured during the robbery attempt and was stable in hospital.

Media reports say the would-be robber was armed with a machete.

Charges have not yet been laid.
(CJOB, CP)

Nov 20 2015

BRIGHTON, Ont. - The Special Investigations Unit says it's looking into the circumstances surrounding the death of a 55-year-old woman following a traffic stop in Brighton, Ont.

Provincial police say an officer stopped a vehicle in Brighton for an alleged traffic offence on Thursday night.

The SIU says the woman who was driving the vehicle experienced medical distress and she was taken to Trenton Memorial Hospital.

The police watchdog agency says the woman was pronounced dead in hospital early Friday, about 2 1/2 hours after being stopped.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21, 2015

Nov 21 2015

MONTREAL - Less than 10 months after the launch of what is believed to be North America's first anti-radicalization centre, its leader is considering expanding its reach with a parole system for inmates who fit certain extremist profiles.

Herman Deparice Okomba says while the current threat of radicalization in Canadian prisons isn't serious, it has the potential to be.

"I don't think we have a problem right now, with regards to radicalization in prisons," he told. "But I think we need to be proactive and be at the avant-garde. The more we implement strategies to prevent radicalization, the better we are to rapidly detect the problem."

There have been numerous examples around the world of terrorists becoming radicalized in prisons as well as reports the accused ringleader of the cell that attacked Paris on Nov. 13 was influenced by Islamic fundamentalist violence during his time in a Belgian penitentiary.

Okomba said he's in talks with members

of Canada's correctional and justice authorities to create a parole system that would supervise recently released people who are extremists or vulnerable to extremism.

The plan would be similar to how the country monitors released pedophiles and other convicted criminals deemed potential threats to society.

"We want to ensure that when a person enters a jail and they fit the profile of someone who is violently radical or vulnerable to becoming radical, that when they get out, one of their conditions is to come visit us and we'll take care of the follow-up," he said.

The anti-radicalization centre's 12 employees include researchers, psychologists and others trained to detect and work with

people who show signs of extremism.

The Montreal centre is already getting attention from inside and outside the country.

Okomba said he hosted a delegation from France's correctional services department, days after the Paris attacks, and says he regularly gets calls from people around the country interested in the project.

While he didn't give details on the kinds of interventions his team has had to make since opening last March, his responses about radicalism provided some insight into how his office approaches the issue.

"Let's be clear, becoming radicalized is not necessarily a bad thing," he said. "On the contrary. It's a good thing to be radical."

"Mandela, Martin Luther King, Gandhi




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- these people were radicals. It's the violent factor that's the problem. We fight against violent radicalism."

Nov 21 2015

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - Police in Peel Region are holding a "community consultation" to discuss the force's use of street checks.

Street checks have come under fire in recent months after allegations the practice is largely driven by racial profiling.

Last month, the province proposed new regulations that would ban street checks and carding in Ontario.

In a release, Peel police say that street checks are a valuable tool in investigations, and that they are helpful in keeping the community safe.

Police say Saturday's consultation in Mississauga, Ont., is in accordance with a resolution tabled by the city in June, which mandated a review of street check practices in Peel.

Nov 21 2015

THOMPSON, Man. - A man is dead and a woman is in hospital after RCMP in northern Manitoba say an officer opened fire following a brief car chase.

Police say in a news release that the officer noticed a vehicle driving erratically in Thompson early Saturday and tried to pull it over.

After a brief pursuit, the vehicle stopped.

But RCMP say as the officer approached, the vehicle accelerated and struck him, and that's when he fired his weapon.

The man who was driving the vehicle was pronounced dead at the scene, while a woman who was a passenger suffered serious injuries.

The officer suffered minor injuries and has been released from hospital.

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 2015

Nov 22 2015

TORONTO - Calling Ontario's new street check regulations a "very bold move," the association representing the province's police boards is nonetheless seeking changes to ensure they have the explicit authority to enforce the rules with police they oversee.

Fred Kaustinen, executive director of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB), wants to make sure any force-specific policies developed by civilian boards to implement the province's carding regulations are not met with pushback from the police themselves - a problem some boards say is far too common.

Simply put, the province needs to make sure police can't opt out of any carding policies because of a lack of clarity over what police boards can and cannot demand.

"I'll tell you right now, here's what the boards need - they need clear roles," Kaustinen said. "And the chiefs need to understand those roles as much as the board members."

Kaustinen said some Ontario police services, including Peel and Toronto, are "basically telling their employers, i.e. their police boards, that operations are none of their business."

Last month, Ontario's Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services unveiled draft regulations that set strict new limits on carding, also known as street checks - the controversial police practice of stopping, questioning and documenting people who are not suspected of a crime.

The regulations, now under a 45-day public review period, ban arbitrary and random stops

and set limits on why and how police question and document members of the public.

Some police leaders and unions have argued the regulations will handcuff officers and ultimately keep them from interacting with members of the public.

In a letter addressed to Community Safety Minister Yasir Naqvi, OAPSB president Russ Bain urges the province to use stronger wording, to emphasize that carding policies developed by a police board are "binding on the applicable chief of police or commissioner."

That addition to the regulations is necessary, Kaustinen said, because of resistance some police boards have encountered from chiefs on this issue. That's partly because, according to law, civilian boards are not sup-

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--Deuteronomy 31:6

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posed to interfere with the day-to-day operations of a police service.

Kaustinen and others have said this has led to confusion about a police board's authority. He says it's "baloney" to suggest boards should not have a say in operations. Otherwise, "why have a board?" he said.

(Toronto Star)

Nov 22 2015

A man in his 60s, who is suspected of stabbing two family members, is in critical condition after an incident involving police early Sunday morning in LaSalle.

At 3:30 a.m., police were sent to follow up on a 911 call from a residence on Beauport St. They found the suspect outside the residence, and when they approached him, he began to self-mutilate with a knife, police said.

The man was hit with "an incapacitating weapon" by officers, police said.

Inside the residence, police found a woman in her 50s and a man in his 20s who both had stab wounds to their upper bodies. The suspect came into the residence, police said, where officers fired rubber bullets at him. He was struck in the lower body and was transported to hospital, where he was in stable condition Sunday morning.

The victims were also transported to a hospital; their lives are not in danger. Police suspect the incident began as a domestic dispute.

Investigators established a crime scene at the residence to determine exactly what happened.

(Montreal Gazette)

MONDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2015

Nov 23 2015

TORONTO - Police in Toronto make far more checks with immigration authorities about whether people have proper residency or work documentation than their counterparts in other major Canadian cities, according to a new report by activist and legal groups.

Government data, obtained by the groups under access to information laws, show 83 per cent of Toronto police calls to Canada Border Services Agency are based on "officer suspicion" and were made to perform a "status check." In fewer than one in 10 cases - about seven per cent - those reported had outstanding immigration warrants.

Study co-author Karl Gardner, with No One Is Illegal, said the data suggest officers are racially profiling individuals and are choosing to contact the border agency without cause.

As a result, he said, police are creating a climate of fear among the estimated 200,000 undocumented migrants in the community.

"They're afraid to call the police in times of need, they're afraid to walk on the streets or take the subway because they fear being targeted by the police based on the colour of

their skin," Gardner said in interview. "Police should not be doing the dirty work of CBSA."

Toronto police denied any racial profiling or proactive reporting to the border agency. However, they have long said they have a legal obligation to report illegal immigrants if they become aware of issues.

"Don't ask, don't tell was not an option for police. Don't ask was," police spokesman Mark Pugash said Monday. "Do we actively target? No we don't."

Government data show that officers in Toronto reported 3,278 people to immigration enforcement between Nov. 4, 2014 and June 28, 2015 - a rate of about 14 people each day. During the same period, police services in Montreal, Quebec City, Ottawa, Calgary, Edmonton, and Vancouver made a combined 2,729 calls.

Nov 23 2015

OTTAWA - A House of Commons security officer who was shot in the leg when a gunman stormed Parliament Hill says he thought he would die that day.

Const. Samearn Son was one of 20 parliamentary security officers and Mounties honoured Monday at RCMP headquarters for their bravery on Oct. 22 of last year.

In his first public account of the dramatic events, Son said he caught sight of rifle-toting Michael Zehaf Bibeau - who had just shot and killed a sentry at the National War Memorial - through the glass of the Centre Block doors.

Son instinctively reached for his pistol, which he only wore as a concealed weapon when working plainclothes duty. But that day he was in uniform inside Parliament's main building and did not have a sidearm.

Son decided to "square up" and try to block Zehaf Bibeau from shooting fellow officers.

"I could die running or I could die buying my partners some time," he said Monday following the emotional ceremony.

Son believes his life may have been saved by the heavy west door under the Peace Tower that Zehaf Bibeau had to pull open, which meant the attacker's rifle was facing down.

The officer says he yelled "Gun! Gun! Gun!" before lunging and hearing a bang as Zehaf Bibeau fired his Winchester.

"I thought it was lights out," said Son, 38, who was born in a refugee camp in Thailand and came to Canada as a young boy. "I was super-grateful that I was still standing on my two feet."

The gunman continued up the stairs toward the Hall of Honour and only later did Son roll up his pant leg and notice a hole in his sock.

"I saw blood on my boots," said Son, who recovered after two months of rehabilitation.

A visibly moved RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson told a hushed audience it's "difficult to understand what happened" on Oct. 22, but one thing is clear: officers worked together to stop a man "with murder in his heart."

House of Commons security officer Const. Charles Thom was at the top of the Centre

Block stairs, working plainclothes protective duty for Stephen Harper, prime minister at the time, who was attending party caucus.

Thom says he heard Son's shouts, turned to his left and shot Zehaf Bibeau once in the chest, only to see him continue running down the hall, much to the officer's amazement.

"I was very surprised," said Thom, 49.

He subsequently heard reports - which turned out to be false - of 13 more attackers on the roof of the Centre Block, a terrorist at the parliamentary visitors' centre and a sniper atop the Langevin Block across the street.

"So we had to be prepared for everything."

Thom has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder and has not returned to his job, nor does he expect to.

"I have zero interest in going back to work," he said. "It's not very fun. You get these fog-like episodes, a lot of anger."

The attack on Parliament Hill actually lasted only 90 seconds for Thom, but he says it seemed like a lifetime.

"It was a day from hell, Oct. 22."

Several of those honoured, including RCMP Const. Curtis Barrett - believed to have fired many of the final shots that took Zehaf Bibeau down - did not wish to be interviewed.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 2015

Nov 24 2015

WINNIPEG - Charges have been laid against the survivor of a crash that occurred during a police chase of a suspect vehicle in Winnipeg.

Police have also identified Brandi Melissa Manningway, who was 27, as the driver who died in the crash.

Officers were pursuing a vehicle early Monday morning that they believed had been involved in a commercial robbery.

Investigators say the SUV's driver lost control during the high-speed chase and struck a building at a downtown intersection.

Manningway was taken to hospital, where she died, and her male passenger fled on foot but was arrested nearby.

Matthew Alexander Bartlett, who is 30 and from Winnipeg, faces more than a dozen charges, including four counts of robbery with a weapon.

The province's independent investigation unit has been brought in to review what happened.

Nov 24 2015

KING TOWNSHIP, Ont. - A 27-year-old man learned the hard way that calling police to help start your car while impaired isn't a great idea.

York Regional Police say they got a call early Tuesday morning from a man requesting assistance to get his vehicle moving.

They say he was able to give police his exact location while the sound of his car engine could be heard in the background.

Officers soon found him on the shoulder

of the road with headlights on and windshield wipers running.

Police took the driver into custody where he failed a breathalyzer test.

Nov 24 2015

MONTREAL - The stench of collusion and corruption that permeated Quebec's construction industry and spread to bureaucrats, political parties and organized crime was far more rife than originally thought, says the judge who headed the Charbonneau Commission.

"This investigation confirmed there was a real problem in Quebec and that it was broader and more deeply rooted than we believed," France Charbonneau said in a statement Tuesday as she delivered her long-awaited report.

Charbonneau's report contains some 60 recommendations she called "concrete solutions" designed to help clean up the system of handing out contracts.

Among them is better protection for whistle-blowers; public consultations on the number of mandates a mayor can serve; and the creation of an independent public procurement authority to oversee the awarding of public contracts.

She also called for tightening rules on the acceptance of gifts by public officials; identifying the employer of political party donors; and establishing a single ethics and lobbying commissioner to oversee the province and municipalities.

Nov 24 2015

Canada is lagging behind the U.S., Britain and other countries in defending citizens and businesses against malicious hackers and cyber-criminals, say numerous groups involved in trying to police the internet.



"We're failing, we're falling behind," warns Katherine Thompson of the Canadian Advanced Technology Alliance, one of Canada's largest private-sector high-tech advocacy groups.

"We cannot continue down the path that we're on right now," she told CBC News. "We just went through a very long federal election where not one of the major party leaders discussed cyber-security."

Since 2010, Public Safety Canada has spent \$245 million on defending government computer networks, safeguarding critical infrastructure and educating the public.

It has also earmarked \$142 million over

the next five years to tackle cyber-threats - particularly against critical infrastructure. But leaders in Canada's policing, IT and cyber-security sectors say the federal strategy is focused primarily on national security threats and does little to combat the dramatic growth in email scams, online extortion and breaches at corporate computer networks.

Canadians are also largely in the dark about the scope of cybercrimes given the country has no central agency to track online scams and malicious electronic attacks.

What's more, there are no federal laws to force companies to disclose hacks, security breaches, thefts of data or money so the general public has incomplete knowledge of which companies have been compromised.

"People having their identity threatened, or having their computers infected, files locked down for ransom, those types of things, the average police station doesn't know how to respond to that," says Norm Taylor who leads an executive training program for the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

"The result is, it's not being documented. And the public is neither reporting, nor are the police really doing much in the way of outreach to quantify those types of incidents," he says.

Canada does have a Spam Reporting Centre and a government run Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, but Taylor says neither is equipped to handle the exploding array of cyber-scams and malware that are targeting home and business computers.

This spring, the CACP sent 17 police executives on an international study mission to learn how governments in the U.S., Europe, India, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand are grappling with cybercrime.

The group identified "the urgent need to increase reporting of cybercrimes to police," and pointed to Australia's ACORN program (Australian Cybercrime Online Reporting Network) as a model for collecting citizen complaints so that police and industry can monitor trends, thwart organized criminal groups and arrange incidents for further investigation.

The FBI in the U.S. runs a similar program called "IC3", referring to its Internet Crime Complaint Centre, which last year alone received 269,000 complaints about frauds, email scams and online extortion. That included some 4,000 complaints from Canada.

But in Canada, "most of the reporting, and almost all of the resolution is happening behind the closed doors of the private sector," says Taylor.

"So if my credit card is compromised, I'm going to call my bank. My bank is going to take the report, they are going to resolve the issue, and they are going to reimburse me."

"At no point does the criminal justice system even know that this happened. Whereas now in Australia, you can't get the bank to reimburse you unless you have an ACORN filing number."

Those Canadian police chiefs involved in the 2015 CACP global cyber-study made six

recommendations are calling for a "paradigm shift" in how police and the public treat cybercrime.

"Right now, if you ask most people 'Why didn't you call police?' they'd say, 'Well, why would we? What will the police do about it?'" Calgary Police Chief Roger Chaffin told CBC News.

Chaffin helped write the CACP report, which calls for more coordination and information sharing between police and industry.

Right now, Public Safety Canada advises the public to contact local police if they are a victim of cybercrime. But "Canadian policing in its current format is ill-suited to address crime on a global basis," Chaffin concedes, acknowledging that Canada's police system is fragmented between federal, provincial and local authorities.

"Nothing really brings it to light more than cybercrime, because your threat actor could be next door to you, or across the world from you. And the ability and the agility to respond to that is going to challenge our model," he says.

Chaffin would like to see a national cyber-security centre set up by government, industry and all major police forces to help investigate and warn the public about new and emerging cyber-threats.

The RCMP has been provided funding to set up a dedicated cybercrime unit. However, it is unclear whether that will help local forces given the RCMP's mandate to probe crimes that are national in scope.

CBC News has learned the Canadian government is trying to work with industry leaders to develop a new "threat-sharing" network to try to help spread intelligence about emerging cyber-threats.

Currently, much of the IT security industry operates in silos. The federal government protects its own networks, while large industries protect theirs.

John Proctor, vice-president of CGI, a global cyber-security firm based in Ottawa, says that, unlike the U.S. and Europe, Canada lacks co-operation within the private sector.

His firm employs 1,400 cyber-security specialists around the globe, monitoring cyber-networks for clients in the financial, manufacturing, retail, and oil and gas industries, as well as governments.

"We're not sharing the threats we see on a daily basis, and that includes us," Proctor told CBC News during a recent tour of CGI's 24/7 security operations centre.

He says Canada desperately needs a "threat-sharing" hub where companies can overcome proprietary and competitive concerns to help defend one another's collective security.

"So think of the banks in Toronto. They're all doing their own security, they're all very, very capable. So how do we make sure that continues? How do we make sure that a small credit union in Manitoba can benefit from the knowledge that's being gained by one of the big five banks in Toronto?"

(CBC News)

BELLEVILLE - Belleville Police Service is getting a new chief in 2017.

Current Chief Cory MacKay announced Monday morning she will retire as of Jan. 1, 2017 and Ron Gignac, who was hired this June as the deputy chief, will assume her role.

MacKay, the former Cory McMullan, became chief of police in Belleville in 2009 after 22 years with Peterborough Police, where she rose to the inspector rank in 2007.

Further, the local force has hired Michael Callaghan, of the Ottawa Police Service, to join BPS as an inspector in January and will take over the deputy chief role in 2017.

(Belleville Intelligencer)

Nov 24 2015

WASHINGTON - US police chiefs and prosecutors launched a renewed campaign for legislation that would give investigators access to encrypted communications.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) said in a release they were joining forces to "press for immediate action to address this critical threat."

Encryption has been thrust in the spotlight following the Nov. 13 terror attacks in Paris, which killed 130 people and wounded hundreds more.

Officials and lawmakers have said they believe the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) members behind assault likely conducted their planning over encrypted communication platforms, shielding them from intelligence agencies.

Although no evidence has been presented to back up these claims, the belief has given new momentum to law enforcement agencies' long-standing argument that they should have guaranteed "backdoor" access to encrypted data when armed with a warrant.

"The proliferation of sophisticated encryption technology and other technological barriers have increasingly hindered law enforcement's ability to lawfully access criminal and terrorist-related communications," the two organizations said in the release.

Security experts and tech companies have fought back, arguing that any such guarantee would be ruinous for digital privacy and expose all secured data to hackers.

The Information Technology Industry Council, one of the country's leading tech sector groups, last week rejected calls from those seeking access to secure data.

"Weakening encryption or creating backdoors to encrypted devices and data for use by the good guys would actually create vulnerabilities to be exploited by the bad guys, which would almost certainly cause serious physical and financial harm across our society and our economy," the council's CEO, Dean Garfield, said in a statement.

But the chiefs and prosecutors on Tuesday said they would push for legislative action to change the laws that govern access to digital data, including the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act and the

Electronic Communications Privacy Act.

"IACP and NDAA are committed to finding a solution to this critical issue, which balances the needs of the law enforcement community with protecting the public's right to privacy," the groups said.

(The Hill)

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 25, 2015

Nov 25 2015

SASKATOON - Three 911 operators in Saskatoon have been found to have been in neglect of duty after officers didn't arrive at a fatal crash for more than an hour.

Saskatoon police Chief Clive Weighill says they have been reprimanded and the department will follow up with more training for its communications staff.

The collision took place in August around 5:20 a.m. and the police service received a call from the driver of the vehicle that was hit, saying the driver of the other vehicle appeared to be passed out.

The operator classified the call as a level four priority, meaning police would respond once a unit was available.

Four more calls came in over the next 40 minutes, with the final one reporting that the driver, George Buxton, appeared to be dead.

It was later determined that Buxton had suffered a medical emergency before the crash.

(CJWW)

Nov 25 2015

PETERBOROUGH - Mayor Daryl Bennett says he's not seeing a payout for the two top police officers in the force's proposed budget - and he's wondering why not.

At City Hall on Tuesday night, the Peterborough Police Services Board made its pitch to councillors for money to run the force, in 2016.

The board asked for \$24.3 million, an increase of 1.5% over last year's budget.

Meanwhile, the board is on the hook for a large compensation payment for Police Chief Murray Rodd and Deputy Chief Tim Farquharson.

A judge has ruled the two top police officers are owed a year's pay apiece, for a total of \$460,000.

Yet the mayor couldn't see how the 2016 police budget would cover that.

During budget talks at City Hall on Tuesday night, Bennett asked police board chairman Bob Hall whether the payout was included anywhere in the money the board was asking for.

Hall wouldn't say anything about it.

"That's a private, contractual matter," he said. "It's a dispute between two parties. There will be a resolution, and it will be dealt with."

That wasn't a good enough answer for Bennett.

He said that although the dissolution of the police service was proposed in 2012, police budgets since then haven't included

money for an eventual payout.

And he cannot find money for a payout in the 2016 budget request either.

"The bottom line is - it's not in there," he said.

He said he would ask councillors to consider removing any payout money, if it were included in the budget request.

"That's just something for you to be aware of," Bennett said.

(Peterborough Examiner)

Nov 25 2015

HALIFAX - Drivers who supervise learners or newly licensed drivers in Nova Scotia will now be required to maintain a blood alcohol content level below .05 under proposed legislative amendments.

Transportation Minister Geoff MacLellan says the move is to address concerns that were raised when changes were made to the province's graduated drivers licensing program in the fall of 2014.

Under the original changes there were no rules requiring supervisory drivers to be sober.

MacLellan says the supervisory parties will immediately lose their licence for at least seven days under the new amendments if their blood alcohol content exceeds the .05 limit.

Nov 25 2015

TORONTO - For the first time since he shot down a teen on an empty streetcar two years ago, a Toronto police officer charged in the youth's death provided a public explanation for his actions, saying he never intended to kill anyone.

Testifying in his own defence Wednesday, Const. James Forcillo said he feared an attack from the knife-toting Sammy Yatim, which was why - in accordance with all his police training - he fired his gun.

"I never wanted to kill anybody," Forcillo told the court.

Forcillo has pleaded not guilty to second-degree murder and attempted murder in the death of 18-year-old Yatim, who was hit by eight out of nine bullets the officer fired one night in July 2013.

"The first sets of shots were fired because I believed Mr. Yatim was armed with a knife and was in the process of coming off the streetcar at me," Forcillo said.

"The second shots were fired because I believed Mr. Yatim was in the process of getting off the streetcar to continue his attack."

Crown prosecutors have said they plan to prove that Forcillo's actions during the incident weren't necessary or reasonable. Forcillo's lawyer has said his client's actions were justified and carried out in self-defence.

The jury has heard that Yatim had taken the drug ecstasy at some point before boarding the streetcar on which he eventually pulled out a small knife, causing panicked passengers to rush off.

Surveillance videos have shown Forcillo arriving at the scene, pointing his gun at the teen and yelling repeatedly at Yatim to "drop

the knife.” After a standoff that lasts about 50 seconds, Forcillo fires and Yatim is seen crumpling to the floor.

While on the witness stand, Forcillo explained that he had been trained to treat a person with a knife or any other “edged weapon” as a serious threat.

“The saying among police officers is that at close range a knife can be more dangerous than a gun,” he said. “It’s silent, it doesn’t need to be reloaded and it can cause significant damage.”

Forcillo explained that when facing a person with an edged weapon, he had been trained to draw his gun, try to create distance and watch the person’s hands.

“At some point you’re going to have to draw what they call a line of consent. If the person advances beyond that line you’re going to have to make a decision on whether to fire your weapon,” he said.

Nov 25 2015

VICTORIA - B.C.’s Criminal Justice Branch says no charges will be laid against Vancouver police officers after a running gun battle resulted in numerous shots hitting businesses, a tourist attraction and a suspect.

The gunfight began in the city’s Yale-town district in June last year when police were called to a report of one man shooting another in front of a coffee shop.

The suspect got away on a bicycle and was followed by several officers who exchanged numerous rounds until they arrived at the Science World building and the suspect ended up with seven bullet wounds.

An assessment of the case by a senior prosecutor focused on the potential for charges of careless use of a firearm and the potential for collateral injury from gunfire in an urban setting.

But the branch announced Wednesday that based on the available evidence, there is no foundation to prove that any officers were unjustified in using such force.

Gerald Battersby faces several charges including attempted murder over allegations he shot his former employer and then led police on a chase through part of the city.

Nov 25 2015

OTTAWA - Police need warrantless access to Internet subscriber information to keep pace with child predators and other online criminals, says RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson.

The top Mountie said Wednesday that a Supreme Court of Canada ruling curtailing the flow of basic data about customers - such as name and address - has “put a chill on our ability to initiate investigations.”

“I’m all for warrantless access to subscriber info,” Paulson told a security conference, comparing the process to his beat-cop days of entering licence-plate data into a computer and coming up with a vehicle owner’s name.

“If I had to get a judge on the phone every time I wanted to run a licence plate when I was doing my policing, there wouldn’t have been much policing getting done.”

In June last year, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled police must have a judge’s authorization to obtain customer data linked to online activities.

The high court rejected the notion the federal privacy law governing companies allowed them to hand over subscriber identities voluntarily.

Police say telecommunications companies and other service providers - such as banks and rental companies - now demand court approval for nearly all types of requests from authorities for basic identifying information.

The Supreme Court judgment came amid mounting public concern about authorities quietly gaining access to customer data with little oversight or independent scrutiny.

Paulson said after his speech that he advocates giving police ready access to basic subscriber information while respecting the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

“I think we’ve been consistent in recognizing that we are very respectful of the charter and people’s charter rights and nobody is recommending that we go any further,” he said. “But there needs to be some sort of administrative access to basic subscriber information.”

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police revealed in August that government officials were mulling just such a scheme - though it’s not clear exactly how it would square with the court ruling. The chiefs said a discussion paper spearheaded by the Department of Justice was presented to the federal, provincial and territorial cybercrime working group of senior officials.

The paper outlined three legislative options for allowing access to basic subscriber information:

- An administrative scheme that would not involve court approval;
- A new judicial order process or a tweak to the existing regime;
- A judicial order process for subscriber information with a greater expectation of privacy and an administrative, non-judicial one for less sensitive subscriber data.

Nov 25 2015

What’s a police department to do when the roads get icy and the drivin’ gets dicey?

Why, they get down with their funky selves and launch a rap battle!

That’s what happened this week when staff at the Kindersley RCMP detachment posted a reworked version of Vanilla Ice’s “Ice Ice Baby” to their Facebook page.

The witty ditty warned drivers to take extra caution on the slick highways with lyrics like: “I rock winter tires like a toboggan; Put your seatbelt on so you don’t hit your noggin’.”

Not to be outdone, the Edmonton police department posted its own take on “Fresh Prince of Bel-Air.”

“Now this is a story all about how
My car got flipped - turned upside down
And I’d like to take a minute
Just sit right there

I’ll tell you how my car spun out of control in mid-air...”

Awright, awright, awright, thought the officers of the Calgary police department, who turned to Sir Mix-A-Lot’s classic “Baby Got Back” for rebuttal.

“I hate winter and I cannot lie

You other drivers can’t deny

When a storm blows in with an icy, snowy glaze

And a snow pile in your way ...”

And lest the battle be confined to police, the fire department in the tiny community of Millet, Alta., chimed in with their own version of B.G.B.

“I like big trucks and I cannot lie

You highway drivers can’t deny

That when you only leave an itty bitty space

Things could blow up in your face...”

But back to the police and the Regina city department, which went the route of Bruno Mars’ “Uptown Funk.”

“This weather, that ice cold

Chief Hagen, that white gold

This city got slipp’ry streets

And speedy drivers

Crashin’ cars to pieces...”

With the battle in full gear, the Kindersley detachment pulled out all the stops and decided to tell the public what it really, really wants in a second entry, to the tune of the Spice Girls’ “Wannabe.”

“I wanna, I wanna, I wanna, I wanna, I wanna really, really, really wanna put my seatbelt on...”

And with that, the mic was dropped.

Nov 25 2015

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - Ontario’s police watchdog says there are “no reasonable grounds” to charge three Peel Region police officers in the fatal shooting of a Mississauga man on March 20.

Just after 4 p.m. that day, a resident of a townhouse complex called police to report that a neighbour had made a death threat and threw a knife at her.

When officers tried to arrest the female neighbour, her 22-year-old son appeared with a large kitchen knife.

The Special Investigations Unit says the man resisted arrest, a struggle ensued, and two officers were wounded with the knife and the man’s mother struck an officer on the back of the head with a metal pot.

The man slipped free and ran away, but returned with the knife and screamed at the officers to release his mother.

When he refused orders to stop, officers fired 19 shots and struck the man 11 times.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 26, 2015

Nov 26 2015

KAMLOOPS, B.C. - The Crown has abandoned its trial against a British Columbia man accused of operating a "chop shop" for firearms after a judge ruled RCMP made too many mistakes in its investigation.

B.C. Supreme Court Justice Hope Hyslop said police breaches of the charter were too numerous and serious to allow evidence against Charles Patrick to be admitted after guns and ammunition were seized during a raid.

Patrick was charged with eight weapons-related offences, and a trial began in September. The end of proceedings means the charges have been dropped.

Mounties pulled over Patrick's pickup in December 2013 and found a loaded sawed-off shotgun inside his jacket.

The Crown said police seized a number of other modified weapons from his home the same day.

Crown lawyer Frank Caputo said police found another sawed-off shotgun, a shortened rifle, tools to modify guns and "ammo all over the place."

At a news conference following the raid, RCMP displayed the guns and said the operation was gang-related.

While Hyslop acknowledged unlawful firearms are a major concern, she said police errors were too serious to allow the evidence.

Breaches included initially questioning Patrick when he was pulled over and failing to allow him adequate time to call a lawyer after arrest.

Police also did not have a complete copy of a search warrant for the raid while Patrick was not home and provided contradictory facts to a judge to obtain the search warrant, Hyslop said.

(Kamloops This Week)

Nov 26 2015

VANCOUVER - Vancouver police say alcohol and bravado appear to be fuelling a disturbing - and sometimes deadly trend - of one-punch attacks.

Const. Brian Montague says there have been at least 10 incidents this year where people were hit once in the head and have fallen to the ground unconscious.

Three people have died from their injuries.

Montague says in a case last month a 34-year-old man and his wife were heading home from a night out at a comedy club when he was attacked.

The man was walking past two groups of men who were arguing when he was sucker punched and Montague says the man was seriously injured after falling and hitting his head.

Montague says it appears the man had no interaction with either of the groups before the attack and that many victims of these "one-punch" incidents are innocent bystanders.

Nov 26 2015

CALGARY - Calgary police say it's expanding the use of body cameras to all uniform members.

Since August, the service has been testing a phased roll-out of the cameras to District 1 and Traffic to determine how well they function and how the operating procedures work in different circumstances.

It says it will pause the roll-out to other areas of the service to go over what information has been captured and lessons learned can be adopted.

The police department says all uniform members on the front line will be wearing body cameras by the end of 2016

or the beginning of 2017.

Police say body cameras are activated when officers are responding to a call or come across an incident requiring investigation, but it won't record an officer's entire shift due to privacy issues, storage capacity and because every situation does not merit the collection of video.

The service says it will have a public education and awareness campaign to ensure Calgarians are aware that when they are interacting with a Calgary police officer in uniform that it's possible the interaction will be captured on the body worn camera.

2016 POLICE LEADERSHIP AWARD



The Police Leadership Award recognizes and encourages a standard of excellence that exemplifies "Leadership as an Activity not a Position," and pride in service to the public. Its goal is to increase effectiveness, influence, and quality of police situational leadership from both an organizational and community perspective.

This award is open to active Canadian police officers below the rank of senior officer who have demonstrated exemplary leadership and commitment to service through deeds resulting in a measurable benefit to their peers, service and community.

The 2016 award recipient will be recognized in the April 2016 issue of Blue Line Magazine and will receive the award at a presentation held in conjunction with Blue Line Awards Gala, April 27, 2016.



Applications for 2016 must be received by February 10, 2016 at:
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