

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

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Executive Digest

Jan 29 2016

The head of the Toronto Police Association is demanding a public apology from the former head of the Toronto Police Services Board over comments he made after four police officers were charged with allegedly planting drugs on a suspect.

Page 2

Jan 31 2016

OTTAWA - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a culture is needed within Canadian police forces to ensure indigenous people are treated the same as everyone else.

Page 5

Jan 31 2016

TORONTO - The head of Toronto's police union said putting a stop to carding is having an impact on the level of violence in the city.

Page 6

Feb 03 2016

HALIFAX - The RCMP is taking a close look at its fleet of Ford Taurus Police Interceptors because of the increased risk of fire in the vehicles due to incorrectly placed wiring harnesses in the passenger compartment.

Page 9

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Police fear new potent W-18 fentanyl mix



Feb 03 2016

Police in Alberta are warning residents about W-18, a powerful opioid 100 times stronger than fentanyl, discovered during a drug bust last summer.

Calgary police said 110 fentanyl pills were seized from a home in Rocky View County in southern Alberta in August.

In December, tests from Health Canada confirmed three pills contained W-18.

"It's an ongoing concern based on the fact W-18 is 100 times more toxic than fentanyl,"

Martin Schiavetta, a staff sergeant with the Calgary Police Service Drug Unit, told Global News. "And we already know the deadly consequences fentanyl has."

The drug comes from a "W-series" of opioid compounds first discovered at the University of Alberta in 1982, according to the B.C. Centre for Disease Control. There are 32 compounds, W-1 to W-32, with W-18 being the most toxic.

W-18 is not currently regulated under the Controlled Drug and Substances Act and can be manufactured and bought freely, according

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to the B.C. Centre for Disease Control.

Mike Turner, with the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams, says while other cities haven't come across the drug it's a concern for the whole province.

"If it's surfaced in Calgary in fentanyl then it's something all our police agencies have to be cautious of," said Turner.

Staff Sgt. Schiavetta says W-18, like Fentanyl, is being produced in China with a majority of the drugs coming through ports in B.C.

"There is no way to really reduce the supply side because it's being produced in a foreign country," he said. "We really have to focus on the demand side, through awareness education and prevention."

Warnings about W-18 come in the wake of a spike in fentanyl deaths that raised alarms from law enforcement and health agencies across country.

Alberta Health said there were 213 fatal fentanyl overdoses in 2015 up from 120 fentanyl-related deaths in 2014. In 2011 there just six deaths reported.

The BC Corner Services says fentanyl killed about 90 people in British Columbia between January and August this year.

In response to the rapid increased in fentanyl related deaths Alberta Health Services announced Tuesday there will be expanded access to naloxone, a medication that aids in reversing the symptoms of an opioid overdose.

Health Canada is also proposing amendments to its prescription drug list that could make naloxone available without a prescription by the spring.

However, due to the strength of W-18 there is little evidence to suggest naloxone would have an effect in treating an overdose, the BC Centre for Disease Control says.

In Ontario, clusters of heroin overdoses in several cities have led to increased warnings from police about bootleg fentanyl.

The Waterloo Region say there were six overdoses between Jan. 23 and Jan. 26, with one of them being fatal. Heroin was a factor in five of the cases and fentanyl is suspected in at least one case. The Kingston Community Health Centres said there were four non-fatal overdoses and one fatal overdose reported between Jan. 23 and Jan. 28 in the Kingston area, with 3 cases possibly involving fentanyl.

Michael Parkinson, a spokesperson for Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council, says it's hard to say if W-18 has reached Ontario because of a lack of timely toxicology reports.

"When it comes to prescription opioid consumption Canada leads all nations in the world. The U.S. is number two," he said. "There should be no surprise that we are now at crisis levels of opioid addiction and death."
(Global News)

THURSDAY JANUARY 28, 2016

Jan 28 2016

SASKATOON - The Saskatoon Health Region says a special unit made up of police officers and crisis workers has saved \$200,000 and helped people who were homeless, mentally ill and drunk.



In the first 12 months of operation, the unit responded to 875 calls.

The unit was able to keep 97 people from going to a hospital emergency room, 192 required assistance to help prevent suicide and 31 people were kept out of the court system.

Police Inspector Mitch Yuzdepski says before the unit began a year ago, police were not equipped to deal with non-criminal calls.

He says the focus now is on the person rather than the call.

Yuzdepski said the unit can mean the difference between putting someone in a jail cell or finding them a solution.

"When you have a crisis worker stabilize that person, maybe it's something as simple as someone has run out of their prescription. We can get him back on and when he's on his medication he's as good as gold," he said.

There's an unintended consequence as well, Yuzdepski said - other officers see how the unit handles certain calls and learn from it. (CKOM)

FRIDAY JANUARY 29, 2016

Jan 29 2016

Private files belonging to America's biggest police union, including the names and addresses of officers, forum posts critical of Barack Obama, and controversial contracts made with city authorities, were posted online on Thursday after a hacker breached its website.

The Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), which says it represents about 330,000 law enforcement officers across the US, said the FBI was investigating after 2.5GB of data taken from its servers was dumped online and swiftly shared on social media. The union's national site, fop.net, remains offline.

"We have contacted the office of the assistant attorney general in charge of cyber crime, and officials from FBI field offices have already made contact with our staff," Chuck Canterbury, the FOP's national president, said in an interview.

The FBI did not respond to a request to confirm that it was investigating.

Canterbury said he was confident that no sensitive personal information or financial details of their members had been obtained. "Some names and addresses were taken," he said. "It concerns us. We're taking steps to try to notify our members but that is going to take some time."

Threads from the FOP's members-only online forum were also leaked, including some in which officers expressed anger at Obama, supreme court justice Sonia Sotomayor and "illegals" who were in the US without documentation.

Canterbury, the FOP president, said the union had called in security contractors to investigate and the hack had been traced to an IP address in the UK. "They were able to feed our system a pseudo-encryption key that the system should not have accepted but did because of software errors," he said. FOP servers in Tennessee and Ohio were being examined.

In an online posting, a person using the screen name Cthulhu said he or she had released the files after receiving them from a source who wished to remain anonymous and wanted them made public "in light of an ever increasing divide between the police groups and the citizens of the US".

In a statement to the Guardian, Cthulhu added: "Our role is simply to present the material in an unadulterated form for the public to analyse."

Canterbury blamed "anti-police rhetoric" for the hack. "This is just a group that is negative towards law enforcement," he said. In the posting, Cthulhu denied being "anti-police". Cthulhu also claimed to be holding back a total of 18 terabytes of police data, yet Canterbury insisted that nowhere near that amount of information was in the FOP systems.

Hundreds of contracts between regional authorities and local fraternal order of police lodges across the country were posted online

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as part of the hack. Some such deals have been sharply criticised as shielding police officers from prosecution or disciplinary action following the excessive use of force.
(The Guardian)

Jan 29 2016

SAINT JOHN, N.B. - The New Brunswick Police Commission has suspended its inquiry into the Saint John Police Force's investigation of Richard Oland's murder in 2011.

The commission issued a statement Friday saying the probe had to be put on hold pending the outcome of an appeal of Dennis Oland's murder conviction, which could include a call for a new trial.

The statement says the commission wants to avoid having an impact on the ongoing criminal proceedings.

A jury found Dennis Oland guilty in December of second-degree murder in death of his father, a well-known New Brunswick businessman.

Jan 29 2016

TORONTO - A fifth Toronto police officer has been implicated in the investigation into a controversial drug bust and alleged attempts to mislead a judge that led to criminal charges against four other officers earlier this week, CBC News has learned.

The four officers were charged Thursday with 17 counts of obstructing justice and per-

jury in relation to a case that ended with an Ontario Superior Court judge dismissing charges against a man accused of possessing heroin.

Numerous sources have told CBC News the fifth officer implicated is being investigated under the Police Services Act but will not be facing criminal charges. But there is no word yet on what charges that officer might face under the Police Services Act.

Charges against the four officers and the investigation of the fifth arise from the arrest of Nguyen Son Tran on January 13, 2014.

Last September, Justice Edward Morgan dismissed charges against Tran, who was accused on Jan. 13, 2014 of possessing heroin.

The judge concluded the officers concocted a false story about why they stopped the man and searched his car.

Morgan also ruled the officers falsely testified they found loose heroin powder on the dashboard, which led to a search that uncovered 11 more grams of the drug wrapped and hidden behind the car's steering column.
(CBC News)

Jan 29 2016

TORONTO - Toronto police 55 Division says 86 per cent of the suspects whose profiles were released to the public last year as part of the "Wanted Wednesday" program were apprehended.

As part of an initiative started in 2012, police released the names and images of 44 suspects wanted on outstanding warrants on Wednesdays throughout 2015. The information

for each suspect is sent to media organizations and shared with the public on social media.

Of those suspects, 38 are now in custody, police said.

Suspects described in the releases last year were accused of a wide variety of offences ranging from mischief and criminal harassment to attempted murder.

"I want to extend my appreciation and gratitude to the residents of 55 Division and the media who are responsible for so much of the success of 'Wanted Wednesday,'" Det. Sgt. Warren Wilson said in a news release. "This shows what our community, working together, can achieve"

Other police forces in Ontario, including Halton and Waterloo Regional Police, as well as numerous law enforcement agencies in the United States have launched similar "Wanted Wednesday" programs in recent years.
(CP24)

Jan 29 2016

INGONISH BEACH - The RCMP is planning to demolish the old detachment building in Ingonish Beach.

The land will be restored as a community space with road access to the beach and electricity to the property.

In early December, the new RCMP Ingonish Detachment officially opened, replacing the oldest detachment in Atlantic Canada

"The old RCMP detachment building is owned by the RCMP, but is located on Parks

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THE CANADIAN PRESS

3

BLUE LINE NEWS WEEK

Canada land,” said Coady Slaunwhite, Parks Canada spokesperson.

“In consultation with Parks Canada, as the RCMP no longer needs the building and Parks Canada is not in a position to acquire this asset, the RCMP is planning to demolish it in the near future.”

Features of the new RCMP Ingonish Detachment include a state-of-the-art thermal design, automated lighting and plumbing fixtures, and a flexible design concept that will allow for future additions and renovations.

(Cape Breton Post)

Jan 29 2016

ST. JOHN'S - More than two years after a Gull Island man was charged as part of a Canada-wide child pornography case, the defence still has not received disclosure from the RCMP, resulting in the charges against him to be dismissed.

In provincial court in St. John's Friday, the prosecution said it would be calling no evidence in the case against Kyle Clarke.

Clarke was charged with two counts of possession of child pornography and one count of distributing child pornography in June 2013.

Clarke's lawyer Rosellen Sullivan had filed a Charter of Rights application because of a delay in getting disclosure from the RCMP.

However, the Crown indicated no evidence would be called because not all the disclosure had been made available.

He was one of nine men from Newfoundland and Labrador arrested as part of a multi-province police investigation called Operation Snapshot II.

The RCMP said the investigation targeted online predators who were exploiting children in Atlantic Canada. It took several months and culminated in multiple arrests, two rescued children and a mountain of evidence, police said.

(CBC News)

Jan 29 2016

The Peel Regional Police Services Board this morning unanimously elected a new chair after tensions over the controversial practice of street checks divided the membership.

Amrik Singh Ahluwalia has been a member of the Board since 2011. He replaces Laurie Williamson, who's been the Board chair since 2010.

The election of a new chair comes as the issue of street checks/carding reaches a boiling point for the Board, with Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie and Brampton Mayor Linda Jeffrey, both Board members, calling on police to suspend street checks last fall while Williamson voted to keep the controversial practice in place.

Ahluwalia supported the two mayors' position and the motion passed, but Police Chief Jennifer Evans ignored the request and said street checks would continue.

Both mayors called for change at the top of the Board, arguing a new approach was needed to reflect the Region's diversity.

(Mississauga News)

Jan 29 2016

VANCOUVER - The Vancouver Police Department unanimously passed a motion at a board meeting on Thursday to install cameras in all wagons.

It was recommended the VPD to install cameras into the back of the wagons by a jury from the coroner's inquest following the death of two people while they were being transported by police.

Other recommendations that were made include CPR training and recording information for at-risk people.

Constable Brian Montague told Vancity Buzz in an email they can't provide a specific date for when this will occur, as there are many factors to consider.

“The implementation of cameras is not as simple as sticking a go-pro in the back of the wagon,” said Montague.

“There are still hurdles to overcome with installing cameras such as determining how the cameras are monitored, how information is downloaded, how to deal with storage of the hundreds of thousands of hours in footage that would be recorded, how and who can access the video and policies and procedures for the use of video if it is needed by police for evidence of an offence committed by the prisoner being transported.”

He adds the cameras will be installed as the old wagons are replaced.

(Vancity Buzz)

Jan 29 2016

The head of the Toronto Police Association is demanding a public apology from the former head of the Toronto Police Services Board over comments he made after four police officers were charged with allegedly planting drugs on a suspect.

In a letter obtained by CP24 Friday afternoon, Toronto Police Association President Mike McCormack calls comments made by Alok Mukherjee “completely and wholly inaccurate.”

The letter follows comments made by Mukherjee on CP24 Thursday.

According to the letter, Mukherjee made comments “indicating that these officers were previously investigated and cleared of similar allegations in respect to the same case.”

“None of these officers have ever been previously investigated for disciplinary offences of this nature,” McCormack said.

He warns Mukherjee that further comments to the contrary would leave him “liable to a civil suit.”

On Thursday, four Toronto police officers were charged in connection with allegations they planted drugs on a suspect, and then lied about it in court.

The officers are facing a combined 17 charges.

(CP24)

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SATURDAY
JANUARY 30, 2016

Jan 30 2016

TORONTO - Ontario's Special Investigations Unit has cleared a Toronto police officer of any wrongdoing after he shot a fleeing suspect in the North York last spring.

The investigation concluded that the officer "did not exceed the bounds of legally justifiable force" upon confronting the suspect, SIU director Tony Loparco said in a released statement.

The officer was part of a team responding to a spate of shootings in front of a Toronto community housing complex on the evening of April 16.

In the incident, four men approached a group of people and opened fire at them around 6 p.m. before fleeing in a dark-coloured car. The officers managed to track and box the vehicle in a short while later.

Three of the vehicle's occupants were arrested without incident after running from the trapped car. However, a fourth man who also fled the vehicle encountered the subject officer on the front lawn of a nearby house, where he was then shot twice by the officer.

The man was transported in non-life-threatening condition to hospital for gunshot injuries to his right elbow, chest and back.

"The officer would have had every reason to believe that the man had just been involved in a shooting and was armed with a firearm and prepared to use it," said Loparco.

"I am satisfied he would have been fearful for his life at the time of his firearm discharges."

(Toronto Star)

Jan 30 2016

MONTREAL - Montreal's anti-radicalization centre has seen a rise in calls from private businesses concerned about employees' behaviour in the last three months.

The Centre for the Prevention of Radicalization Leading to Violence helps families, teachers, social workers and companies who are worried about individuals that may be turning towards extremism.

"Of the five cases, there is one case that I will probably transfer to police," Herman Debarice-Okomba, director of the centre, told Radio-Canada.

Private companies have reached out to the centre, seeking help for individual employees in the workplace.

"There were cases where we did direct intervention, where we meet the person concerned and in some cases we even provide coaching," Debarice-Okomba said.

Created in March 2015 by the City of Montreal, the centre has received about 600 calls flagging possible radical behaviour.

The centre has transferred a total of 10 cases to police - four of which came after the Nov. 12 Paris attacks.

The centre treats all information confidentially. It will transfer files to the police if the case is alarming or if the individual represents a danger to him or herself or the community.

(CBC News)

SUNDAY
JANUARY 31, 2016

Jan 31 2016

ST. JOHN'S, N.L. - The Newfoundland and Labrador government says a police watchdog from Alberta will conduct an independent review of the RCMP investigation into the fatal police shooting of a Newfoundland man.

Justice Minister Andrew Parsons says he asked the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team to conduct the review after being notified the RCMP had concluded its investigation into the shooting of Donald Dunphy.

Parsons added that his Liberal government is also committed to a public inquiry of the incident "at the appropriate time."

Fifty-nine-year-old Dunphy, of Mitchells Brook, was killed last April by a member of the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary who has not been named.

The officer was investigating perceived threats against provincial politicians on Twitter.

Jan 31 2016

OTTAWA - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says a culture is needed within Canadian police forces to ensure indigenous people are treated the same as everyone else.



Trudeau told a CBC forum Sunday night that a "pervasive culture" in police forces, governments and religious communities has led to indigenous people being less valued.

He said that culture must be changed and he predicted the push for change will come from the Canadian people.

Trudeau said "indigenous lives matter" and he promised major changes will be made in Canada's relationship with indigenous people.

He said some of those changes will take years, and in some case decades, but he vowed that life will get better for aboriginal people.

Trudeau said the first order of business will be to fulfil his promise of an inquiry into murdered and missing aboriginal women that will hear from everybody involved, especially the victims' families.

Jan 31 2016

THUNDER BAY - A pamphlet under glass on the wall of the Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service headquarters entrance reads, "NAPS officers do more."

That may be so but if they do, they do it for less. Their leadership says that goes beyond dollars and cents.

NAPS' collective bargaining conflict ended in July when an arbitrator ruled in favour of the officers' PSAC Local 401, increasing pay by 11.8 per cent. That would bring a NAPS first class constable's salary to \$86,905, while their OPP counterparts clear \$90,000.

The First Nations police service estimated its 2016 budget faced a \$1-million deficit. NAPS Chief Terry Armstrong cut his projection to falling \$850,000 in the red by April. But to break even without eating into operating expenses, he feels he'd have to lay off 20 officers.

Doing NAPS' job right, he says, needs 52 more officers than its current complement of 147.

The federal government's rejected a July request for \$3.45-million to meet the new labour contract.

If NAPS was a police service like most others, it could appeal to the Ontario Civilian Police Commission to balance government funding with public safety. But like all First Nations police forces, it was created as a program rather than a service.

Over its 21 years, Armstrong says NAPS has outgrown that definition.

"The program is considered an enhancement but we're not enhancing anything anymore," he says.

"We're autonomous, other than major crime. We're funded to enhance the OPP but we've moved the yardstick from what was intended as an enhancement to a full-fledged police force — but we're not funded as a full-fledged police force."

Moreover, Armstrong argues the OPP is not structured to respond to immediate need when NAPS calls for assistance. Unlike the road-connected communities in Treaty Three, where Armstrong served as deputy chief, NAPS polices 23 fly-in communities.

"I can't call up the (OPP) regional commander and say our officer in Fort Severn called in sick tonight. They won't go up there without at least two guys and it will take them days to organize it. By then, we'll have our next guy up there. We don't have the same benefits that even other First Nations police services in the province have."

The OPP polices four Nishnawbe-Aski Nation communities exclusively. It stations 17 officers in Kichenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation and the Pikangikum First Nation OPP detachment deploys 37.

Comparatively, NAPS supports Kashechewan First Nation with a force of seven, a disparity of five times as many civilians to officers.

The Nishnawbe-Aski Nation Chiefs Assembly passed a resolution last year to lobby for NAPS to be brought under the Ontario Police Services Act, which would change its status to an essential service.

(tbnewswatch.com)

TORONTO - The head of Toronto's police union said putting a stop to carding is having an impact on the level of violence in the city.

"Anecdotally ... we had a broad public policy change around street checks and I think that this is having an impact on our ability to proactively investigate intelligence-led policing," Mike McCormack, the president of the Toronto Police Association, said Sunday.

"I believe that this having an impact now on the amount of violence now and people carrying firearms," he added.

McCormack was speaking after two people were killed and three others were wounded in a shooting in Chinatown. There has been an increase in gun violence this January compared to last year and McCormack said he feared shootings were becoming "more brazen."

"We need to have properly deployed police officers," the union president said.

"Until we can get out there and figure out the intelligence we need, the investigations that we need, I think [the violence] will continue."

(680 News)

MONDAY
FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Feb 01 2016

TORONTO - Ontario's labour minister announced plans Monday to help first responders deal with post traumatic stress disorder, and suggested it would be recognized as a work-related illness for police, firefighters and paramedics.



The stress and danger faced by first responders can have a lasting and serious effect not only on their physical health, but their mental health as well, said Kevin Flynn.

"Research shows first responders are at least twice as likely as the general population to suffer from PTSD, and that PTSD results in more suicide attempts than all other anxiety disorders," he said.

The Liberal government is taking action "to do what we can to address this issue," Flynn said in a speech to the Ontario Firefighters Association.

"This includes looking at your coverage under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, because right now, in order to be covered, you need to be able to demonstrate you were injured on the job," he said.

Flynn vowed Ontario will become a leader in helping first responders with PTSD, with an approach that he said will include "both preventative and legislative measures," as well as grants to better understand triggers and optimal prevention techniques.

"I have worked extensively with my colleagues over the past year to determine what legislative options are available to provide immediate identification, intervention and treatment to those first responders with work-related PTSD injuries," he said.

"I hope to announce those legislative measures in the very near future."

The province will also hold an annual summit on PTSD, create online resources for employers and first responders, and launch a public awareness campaign on radio and online

to better inform people about this "serious and debilitating injury," said Flynn.

Reducing the stigma associated with PTSD is one of the biggest challenges in hindering effective treatment, he added.

Feb 01 2016

WINNIPEG - Winnipeg police officers will be riding on transit buses.

Police Chief Devon Clunis says he won't be assigning officers to work their whole shift on buses.

He says officers in downtown areas and some cadets will use buses to get to and from their beats.

It comes after a request from the union representing transit drivers.

There were 60 assaults on bus drivers in

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Winnipeg in 2015, up more than 50 per cent than the previous year.

The plan will be discussed at a meeting of the Winnipeg Police Board on Friday. (CJOB)

Feb 01 2016

WETASKIWIN, Alta. - The agency that reviews officer-involved shootings in Alberta has ruled Mounties were justified in shooting and wounding a man who fired arrows at them from a cross-bow, narrowly missing one officer.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says RCMP were called to an apartment in Wetaskiwin, Alta., just before 4 a.m. on March 24, 2015, after receiving reports of a fight between a woman and a man.

The woman fled the apartment and called police, advising them the man had a cross-bow and was looking for a fight.

At the same time, the man sent a text to an associate saying that police were coming and that he would be "fighting till I die."

After a brief standoff, the man left the suite, using the bow - also known as a compound bow - to fire at officers and taunting them, inviting them to fire back.

RCMP yelled at the man to drop his weapons but he wouldn't comply and two officers fired, striking him once in the upper body.

Feb 01 2016

TORONTO - The Ontario Human Rights Commission announced Monday it will join a high-profile Human Rights Tribunal case involving a Toronto man allegedly arrested and beaten by Toronto Police, and had his charges dropped later.

Rohan Roberts, who put forward these allegations in his application to the Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario, is central to the case, which is raising bigger questions over carding, racial profiling, and discriminatory use of force by police.

On Dec. 16, 2014, Roberts, who is black, was walking to a friend's Christmas party when, according to a statement from his lawyer, Selwyn Pieters, two Toronto police officers approached him, demanded his identification and asked whether he'd been smoking marijuana.

He was then let go, but after a verbal altercation between Roberts and an officer, Roberts was handcuffed, arrested and dragged to a spot nearby, where he was allegedly beaten, according to the statement. He was charged with assault and intent to resist arrest as well as uttering a threat. The charges were dropped in April 2015.

None of the allegations have been proven in court.

Roberts filed a complaint with the Human Rights Tribunal in June of 2015, saying the officers targeted him because he was black.

At the time, Roberts asked for \$100,000 in damages, as well as systemic changes at the Toronto Police Service.

But because Roberts was filing as one person, he was told he couldn't ask for systemic

changes, said Renu Mandhane, chief commissioner of the OHRC. That's why the OHRC decided to intervene, because as a party to the complaint the commission is able to raise more systemic concerns, Mandhane said.

"An individual can only ask for a remedy for what happened to them, a personal remedy. They can't ask for a systemic remedy. That's where the commission is different," she said.

OHRC intervening also allows the commission to pursue the systemic complaints even if Toronto police and Roberts come to a settlement agreement, Mandhane said.

"It wouldn't mean necessarily that we would have to abandon our claim ... if there is a sufficient public interest we could proceed with our litigation," she said.

The commission is asking the Toronto Police Service to record race-based data and to develop a policy and procedure on racial profiling, neither of which exist right now, Mandhane said. The commission has attempted to enact these changes for "almost a decade" by working with the police service, but didn't see enough results, Mandhane said. Intervening in Roberts' case is a more forceful step in getting the police to adopt those changes, she said.

"We would never use a sledgehammer to swat the fly," she said. "We're always going to use the portions of our mandate that are more collaborative first before we start using our legal powers." (Toronto Star)

TUESDAY
FEBRUARY 2, 2016

Feb 02 2016

HALIFAX - Nova Scotia's police watchdog has cleared a pair of Halifax Regional Police officers of wrongdoing after a woman fractured her back, pelvis and wrist after falling from a window while trying to evade arrest.

The Serious Incident Response Team says the 25-year-old woman admitted she was trying to escape police at an apartment building last July 10 when she was injured.

The woman told the team she either jumped or fell from the apartment window as a result of her own actions.

The independent agency says the officers were attempting to arrest the woman for a breach of a court order, but she ran to an apartment and locked herself inside.

When one of the officers ran to the back of the building, he found the injured woman on the ground.

The agency says the two officers acted quickly to ensure the woman received medical care, adding there are no grounds to consider charges against either officer.

Feb 02 2016 A high-ranking B.C. Mountie is leaving the force to join the Delta Police Department.

Norm Lipinski is Delta's new deputy chief in charge of administration.

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Lipinski has been an assistant commissioner with the RCMP for the past five years.

Before that, he was deputy chief with the Edmonton Police Service.

He starts his new role on March 14th. (CKNW)

Feb 02 2016

WINNIPEG - A plan to have police officers and cadets aboard Winnipeg Transit buses is not sitting well with the city's police union.

The Winnipeg Police Association says it would be a mistake to include cadets in the transit patrol plan, which is aimed at ensuring the safety of Winnipeg Transit drivers and riders.

Association president Maurice Sabourin says its collective agreement with the police service prevents cadets from being used for "special enforcement projects," which he believes the bus patrols would be.

He added that the agreement prevents cadets from being put at risk of incidents such as the ones that Winnipeg Transit drivers have reported in the past year.

"The Amalgamated Transit Union came forward to the police service because their drivers are being violently attacked," he said Monday.

"Cadets are not as well-equipped as police officers. They only have intermediate weapons which doesn't allow them to deal with, say, a knife attack or a lethal force encounter. So safety is a huge issue because on a moving bus, there's no escape route for them if they get into a situation where they'd have to turn and run."

The Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1505, which represents Winnipeg Transit drivers, reported last month that violence against drivers went up by 54 per cent between 2014 and 2015. (CBC News)

Feb 02 2016

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS - It may sound like a flight of fancy, but Dutch police are considering using birds of prey to swoop down and pluck rogue drones out of the sky.



Police are working with a Hague-based company that trains eagles and other birds to catch drones to investigate whether the birds can be used above large events or near airports, where the small flying machines are banned.

Dennis Janus, of the national police, said

Tuesday that trainers exploit the birds' natural instincts to tackle the high-tech problem of drones flying in restricted areas.

Janus says the birds are trained "to think drones are their prey" and get a reward if they catch one.

Video released by police showed a small white drone with four propellers rising into the air and a bird of prey grabbing it from above with its talons in one fluid motion.

Dutch police will likely make a decision later this year whether to use the birds. (AP)

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 3, 2016

Feb 03 2016

WINNIPEG - An internal disciplinary review is underway for a Winnipeg police K9 officer who billed nearly \$100,000 in overtime using a dog that may not have been cleared to do airport searches.

The officer worked security at the Richardson International Airport and MTS Centre between 2011 and 2014 searching and clearing the bags of the NHL Winnipeg Jets and visiting hockey teams.

It was revealed in late 2014 that the security sweeps were being done without a validated bomb-sniffing dog.

Sources say the police service was led to believe that all training standards had been met, which allowed the overtime to be approved.

The dog that was used may have been previously validated, but K9 officers must renew that clearance each year to ensure training standards are being met.

Moe Sabourin, president of the Winnipeg Police Association, says the Crown recently concluded no criminal charges would be laid against the officer.

Barry Rempel, president of the Winnipeg Airports Authority, said a lot of money was paid for the security and the authority would like it back.

"Bluntly speaking, our costs, as we compare to other airports in the country, are simply the highest in the country," he said.

The authority has dropped its contract with Winnipeg police for security and is now using the RCMP. (CJOB, Winnipeg Free Press)

Feb 03 2016

TORONTO - A retired York Regional Police officer is facing a slew of charges for alleged sex assaults involving minors.

York cops announced Wednesday that additional charges have been laid against a retired officer by the service's special victims unit - crimes against children section.

The officer was charged with sexual assault and sexual interference last fall after cops received a report that a young child had



been allegedly sexually assaulted on Oct. 30.

Police revealed Wednesday that three alleged victims have since contacted investigators to report two sexual assaults - that occurred between 1967 and 1970 - and a third in 1996.

"The victims were all under the age of 16 at the time of the offences," police stated. "The accused interacted with victims prior to becoming a police officer, during his career and following his retirement as an officer."

Donald Clark, 65, has been charged with sexual intercourse with a female under 14, two counts of gross indecency, sexual exploitation and sexual assault.

Police confirmed Clark was a York Regional Police officer between 1974 and 2006 and has been a part-time fleet assistant with the service since 2007. His employment contract was terminated last November after his initial arrest.

(Toronto Sun)

Feb 03 2016

Police on Vancouver Island may have found the "worst excuse ever" given by an alleged drunk driver.



Either that or they've met a sandwich with an incredibly low alcohol tolerance.

Just after 9:30 a.m. on Jan. 25, Nanaimo RCMP received a complaint of a possible drunk driver.

Cpl. Norm Smith pulled over the vehicle that had prompted the complaint and spoke with the woman behind the wheel.

When Smith asked her if she had been drinking, she said she had not and that she hadn't touched alcohol in two months.

The woman told Smith it "must be due to the sandwich she was eating," according to a media release shared Wednesday by police.

"Without missing a beat," the release said, "Smith asked her, 'Well, how much did the sandwich have to drink?'"

Police said that the woman likely realized "how ridiculous" her explanation was and the conversation ended.

The driver was then asked to provide a breath sample, which registered as a fail. Her vehicle was impounded for 30 days and she was suspended from driving for 90 days.

(The Province)

Feb 03 2016

BATHURST, N.B. - Two police officers charged in the shooting death of a New Brunswick businessman have elected to be tried by judge and jury.

Michel Vienneau, 51, of Tracadie-Sheila was shot in his vehicle near the Bathurst train station in January 2015 during what police said was a drug investigation.

Constables Patrick Bulger, 38, and Mathieu Boudreau, 26, of the Bathurst City Police were each charged in November with manslaughter with a weapon, two counts of assault with a weapon and two counts of unlawfully pointing a firearm.

No pleas have been entered, and the two officers are due back in court March 22 to set a date for a preliminary hearing.

The RCMP in Nova Scotia were asked to investigate, and concluded their probe in July before handing it over to New Brunswick's Public Prosecution Service.

The RCMP said in November its investigation revealed that Vienneau, who owned an electronics store, was not involved in criminal activity.

Feb 03 2016

GARDEN HILL, Man. - The RCMP have asked males between the ages of 15 and 50 on a remote northern Manitoba First Nation to provide DNA samples as part of the investigation into the slaying of an 11-year-old girl.

Garden Hill First Nation is located about 650 kilometres northeast of Winnipeg.

Sgt. Bert Paquet says the request was made in the case of Teresa Robinson, whose remains were found last May during a

search of the area.

She had left a birthday party several days earlier and did not return home.

Initially, it was believed she was the victim of a bear attack but RCMP later determined that although animals had likely disturbed her remains, there was no evidence to suggest they played a role in her death.

They determined the case was a homicide. (CTV Winnipeg)

Feb 03 2016

HALIFAX - The RCMP is taking a close look at its fleet of Ford Taurus Police Interceptors because of the increased risk of fire in the vehicles due to incorrectly placed wiring harnesses in the passenger compartment.

The checks affect all model years for the police cars from 2013 to the current model year - but only affects the Taurus Police Package Sedans.

A technical bulletin was issued to all RCMP fleet offices instructing mechanics how to inspect wiring harness, along with instructions on how to address the issue.

It's not clear if any police vehicle caught fire as a result of the wiring issue.

"The RCMP is working with Ford Canada as well as Transport Canada to ensure these cars are inspected and, if required, repaired in a timely fashion," said RCMP Sgt. Harold Pfeleiderer in an email statement to Global News.

A promotional poster for the Blue Line Awards Gala. The background is dark blue with white and yellow text. At the top, it says "AWARDS Gala" in a mix of serif and script fonts. Below that, a yellow ribbon banner contains the text "Come celebrate and honour your colleagues at our Awards Gala." The date and time are "TUESDAY, APRIL 26TH 5:30PM". It says "TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW" and "Learn more at: BlueLine.ca/Expo". At the bottom, it lists sponsors: Humber and OMVIC. The footer includes the "BLUE LINE expo 2016" logo, the dates "APRIL 26 & 27, 2016 9AM - 4PM", and the event types: "CONFERENCE • AWARDS GALA • TRADE SHOW".

The Mounties are now in the process of rotating their Taurus Police Interceptors through their garages for inspection. In the meantime, they are using other police vehicles to ensure that patrols aren't interrupted.

The cost of the inspections and repairs has not been finalized. The RCMP says that will depend on how many vehicles are found with the defect and the level of repair required for each one.
(Global News)

Feb 03 2016

The public and RCMP will now be able to update traffic information to Alberta's 511 app, the first of its kind in Canada.

People interested in submitting traffic tips can register and take an online course. They will have a two-hour window to report traffic conditions to ensure they're in a spot that's safe to do so.

RCMP across the province will also update the app when there are safety concerns for the public.

Road maintenance contractors are only required to report conditions once a day, typically before 7 a.m.

The 511 website also has an updated snowplow tracker, following the path of hundreds of snowplows on Alberta roads.

RCMP Supt. Ian Lawson with K Division traffic services in Edmonton, said officers will pass on information through the app when its important for safety.
(Edmonton Sun)

Feb 03 2016

EDMONTON - Edmonton's photo radar revenue continues to increase.

According to internal revenue tracking figures provided by the city's Transportation Operations branch, net revenues increased by seven percent in 2015.

Total net revenue from the program was \$36,955,000.

The majority of the 498,235 tickets issued last year went to people who were caught driving between 11 and 20 kilometres per hour over the posted speed limit.

Many lambast photo radar as a cash grab that doesn't necessarily make streets safer. A petition calling for the city to scrap the program drew more than 20,000 signatures last year.

Some city councillors have argued that the program helps raise millions of dollars for traffic safety and other initiatives.

Drivers have complained that too many tickets go to people exceeding posted speed limits by small amounts. Between 2012 and 2014, the number of tickets issued to people going between six and 10 over the posted speed limit jumped from 3,252 to 66,847.

This year, the number of tickets issued to drivers in that speed range went down slightly, but revenue from those tickets still provided the city with 12% of the program's total revenue.

According to Gary Dyck, a spokesperson for the city's office of traffic safety, this data

does not reflect final end-of-year adjustments by the Department of Finance. Final numbers should be available in the next few weeks.

Edmonton police used to operate the photo radar program, but the city took it over in 2012.

(Edmonton Examiner)

**THURSDAY
FEBRUARY 4, 2016**

Feb 04 2016

NEWMARKET, Ont. - A man who pleaded guilty in a horrific drunk-driving crash that killed three young children and their grandfather has been released on bail until his sentencing later this month.

Marco Muzzo, 29, pleaded guilty to four counts of impaired driving causing death and

two of impaired driving causing bodily harm related to the Sept. 27 crash.

He had faced a dozen counts of impaired driving and six more charges of dangerous operation of a motor vehicle related to the fatal collision.

Nine-year-old Daniel Neville-Lake, his five-year-old brother Harrison, their two-year-old sister Milly, and the children's 65-year-old grandfather, Gary Neville, died after the van they were in was T-boned by an SUV in Vaughan, Ont.

The children's grandmother and great-grandmother were also seriously injured in the crash.

The conditions of Muzzo's \$1 million bail include a curfew, a driving ban, a ban on drinking, and no contact with Neville-Lake family.

Muzzo's sentencing hearing is set for Feb. 23



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