

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY |

April 7, 2016 – Vol. 21 No. 15

## Executive Digest

Mar 31 2016

**CALGARY** - Calgary police Chief Roger Chaffin says officers who act as confidential sources to reporters undermine the integrity of the service and he's working to root them out.

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**TORONTO** - Some Canadian cities and police forces already wrestling with cash-flow shortages are moving toward outfitting officers with body cameras despite privacy concerns and scant consensus on the technology's cost-effectiveness.

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Apr 05 2016

**Quebec** is giving aboriginal women an alternative way to report complaints against police, in the hope of encouraging anyone with allegations to come forward, Quebec Public Security Minister Martin Coiteux said Tuesday.

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**CHARLOTTETOWN** - The Atlantic Police Academy at Holland College is launching a six-month training program for young people considering a career in policing in aboriginal communities.

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## BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## Mountie killed in BC crash



Apr 06 2016

**The RCMP has confirmed that a police officer with West Shore RCMP was killed in a crash Tuesday morning in Langford on Vancouver Island.**

Federal public safety minister Ralph Goodale relayed his condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of RCMP Const. Sarah Beckett.

"The death of a police officer is a stark reminder of the sacrifices and bravery of our police women and men who put themselves

in harm's way each and every day to keep our communities safe," Goodale said in a statement Tuesday.

In the statement, RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson extended the department's full support to Beckett's family and to personnel of the force as they grieve the loss of their colleague.

B.C. Solicitor General Mike Morris announced in the Legislature that a female member of the RCMP had been killed.

"The member was on duty at a traffic



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stop and was unfortunately struck and killed on duty," he said. "She's a mother of two young children and my condolences go out to her, her family, her workmates in the RCMP and the police in general."

The Times Colonist reports Beckett, an 11-year member of the force, had recently returned to work after being off on maternity leave.

The crash happened at around 3:30 a.m. between a police cruiser and a pickup truck. B.C. Ambulance said two people were transported to hospital in serious condition after the crash. The pickup driver was taken into custody early Tuesday but released Wednesday morning without charges.

RCMP Cpl. Janelle Shoihet says a criminal investigation is active and ongoing.

Shoihet said in a statement that investigators and analysts have completed their scene examination and are continuing to gather evidence.

She says investigators will take the time necessary to gather all information and evidence and consult with Crown counsel with respect to applicable charges.

"Right now, Sarah's RCMP family of police officers and employees are beginning to realize the impact of Sarah's loss," Chief Supt. Ray Bernoties, district commander for the RCMP on Vancouver Island, told a news conference. "There are tough days ahead."

Bernoties said Beckett was pronounced dead just after 4 a.m.

Media photos taken at the site show a pickup truck and a badly damaged RCMP cruiser.

Bernoties said Beckett was working on general duty in a marked police car that was travelling on Goldstream Avenue when the collision happened.

Esquimalt-Royal Roads MLA Maurine Karagianis, her voice breaking with emotion, also expressed her condolences in the Legislature on behalf of the NDP.

"Our thoughts are with her family and with the other officers at the scene and the detachment during this very difficult time," she said. "I think we all know and appreciate the dangerous nature of this work and the dedication and courage of the men and women who provide protective services in our communities."

Meanwhile, police departments across B.C. took to social media to offer messages of support to friends and family of the officer. Vancouver police chief police Adam Palmer wrote on Twitter that the VPD offers its "deepest condolences" to its brothers and sisters at the West Shore RCMP detachment.

Saanich police tweeted: "Our thoughts and prayers go out to @WestshoreRCMP. Thank you 4 serving your community so well ... Especially during this time."

Oak Bay police tweeted: "Our thoughts are with you and the family of the member who died today."

As well, three local car clubs have raised \$9,065 in a gofundme campaign toward helping Beckett's family.

The clubs will also host a barbeque to fundraise for more donations at the Fountain Tire in Langford on April 17.

(National Post, CP)

Wilby says corrections officers do not carry guns in Saskatchewan.

Wilby says corrections officers can carry pepper spray or batons, but he would not reveal if that was the case in this situation.

Wilby also says the investigation will review recordings of inmate phone calls to determine what level of planning went into the escape.

Neither officer from the Prince Albert Provincial Correctional Centre was seriously hurt before Vermette and the attackers drove away in a dark-coloured SUV.

MAR 31 2016

**PETERBOROUGH - Peterborough Police issued a lighthearted special news release in response to numerous calls about a misspelling on one of its police cars.**



Peterborough Police Service  
MEDIA RELEASE

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Special Media Release for Thursday March 31, 2016

Missing "I" located:

We are pleased to report that the missing "I" off the side of our police vehicle has been located and put back in its proper place between the letters "L" and "C" once again completing the word "Police."

Public safety was never compromised during the time the "I" was missing.

Thank-you to the public for the many messages alerting us to the missing "I" off our police cruiser.

In the spirit of the Disney movie "Frozen" we kindly ask everyone to now "Let it go."

"Missing "I" located," the release was headlined.

"We are pleased to report that the missing "I" off the side of our police vehicle has been located and put back in its proper place between the letters "L" and "C" once again completing the word "Police." Public safety was never compromised during the time the "I" was missing."

Communications Coordinator Lauren Gilchrist thanked residents for the many messages alerting the service to the missing letter, concluding with "In the spirit of the Disney movie "Frozen" we kindly ask everyone to now "Let it go.""

Gilchrist said feedback on how the service handled the incident on news and social media has been "extremely positive," with comments such as "well played" and "Too funny. Glad our police service has a great sense of humour."

"In the end," said Gilchrist, "we took what might initially appear as a negative story and turned it into positive press and a community engagement opportunity that allowed us to connect with our community over a spelling error."

(Blue Line Magazine)

Mar 31 2016

**CALGARY - Calgary police are investigating after one of its dogs chased and bit a child.**

The off-duty canine unit member and his handler were in the backyard of their home in Aspen Hills around 6 p.m. Wednesday when the dog, a Belgian shepherd, escaped from the yard and encountered three children playing.

A 12-year-old boy ran away from the dog,



Mar 31 2016

**WINNIPEG - Manitoba RCMP have charged a man with impersonating a police officer online.**

Police say they received multiple complaints from across North America about a police officer inappropriately using social media and other online forums.

An investigation revealed that someone had created social media accounts using the name of an active police officer in Manitoba.

Thomas Hanaway, who is 58, was arrested at his Winnipeg home.

Hanaway is charged with three counts of impersonating a peace officer and three counts of failing to comply with a probation order.

The RCMP are reminding the public that officers never use their personal social media accounts to conduct any police investigations.

Mar 31 2016

**PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. - Saskatchewan's Ministry of Justice says a prisoner escape was premeditated and an investigation is underway into how it was planned.**

A man facing a first-degree murder charge escaped custody while being taken to a hospital for a self-inflicted arm injury last night in Prince Albert.

It happened outside the hospital when two masked attackers used a gun and bear spray to ambush two corrections officers escorting Braidy Vermette.

Ministry of Justice spokesman Drew

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and the dog gave chase, following him into his house and biting him on the lower leg.

The dog's handler went into the boy's house and removed the dog, then gave the boy first aid.

The boy was taken to hospital where he was treated for puncture wounds and released.

Police chief Roger Chaffin says he met with the boy's family on Thursday to apologize and offer support.

"The dog has been transported to the secure kennelling facilities at the CPS canine unit," said Chaffin. "We are now working with the family to offer any assistance we can as they deal with what must have been a terrifying incident."

Officials with the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team and Alberta's Solicitor General's Office have been notified.

"This is the first time I've heard of such an incident of this nature in Calgary and I want everyone to know that I'll be doing everything possible to make sure this does not happen again," Chaffin said.

The policies and procedures of the canine unit will undergo a full review, the chief added.

The dog, named Marco, was a recent graduate of canine unit training and had been working for police for about a year.

(CTV Calgary)

Mar 31 2016

### OTTAWA - Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale says the department providing tech support to the federal government must provide the RCMP with secure and reliable service.

On CBC News Network's Power & Thursday, host Rosemary Barton asked Goodale to respond to a CBC News report about how serious problems at Shared Services Canada jeopardized the safety of RCMP officers, the public and compromised investigations as well as court cases.

Correspondence obtained through ATIP showed RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson refused to give the department any more control over its information technologies.

"I think Commissioner Paulson makes a very strong point. The police and security services of the government of Canada need to have absolutely foolproof methods of communication and they need to have the technology and the resources to do the very critical job of keeping Canadians safe," Goodale told Barton.

"The bottom line objective is to maintain public safety and do everything that is necessary and appropriate to keep Canadians safe and that includes a reliable communications system that doesn't get snarled up in technological glitches," said Goodale.

Shared Services is the federal department created in 2012 to take over the delivery of email, data centre and network services for 43 government agencies, including the RCMP.

Internal RCMP emails and reports described Shared Services as a disorganized department that, among other things, neglected

repeated pleas from the Mounties to upgrade or repair telephone and computer systems, didn't renew warranties for equipment and software, was late paying bills, and lost or corrupted essential data in computer crashes.

The department responded to the original report by saying its relationship with the RCMP is on the mend and it is prioritizing the needs of the police force.

(CBC News)

Mar 31 2016

### QUEBEC CITY - Quebec Public Security Minister Martin Coiteux has vowed the government will take action following another report by Radio-Canada's investigative program, Enquête, where aboriginal women across Quebec reported suffering physical and sexual abuse at the hands of provincial police.



Coiteux called the nature of the women's allegations "extremely serious, very troubling and unacceptable."

"These allegations will for sure bring with them a government response. We won't sit around with our arms crossed," he said.

The women - who hail from places in the province such as Schefferville and Maniwaki - say they wanted to share their own experiences after Radio-Canada's investigative program Enquête aired a story in November about aboriginal women in Val-d'Or alleging they were sexually assaulted by Sûreté du Québec officers over a period of two decades.

One woman, Lise Jourdain, said she experienced abuse at the hands of SQ officers over 25 years ago.

"I was raped by police officers in Schefferville," she told Enquête.

Another woman, Kristen Wawatie, originally from Lac Barrière in the Abitibi region of Quebec, said she was violated by an officer in Val-d'Or in August 2012.

"He said, 'Who are they going to believe, the police or a drunkard?'"

On Thursday, Coiteux told Radio-Canada he did not know other cases similar to those reported in Val-d'Or may have occurred in other parts of the province. He said he only first heard about this when Enquête's report aired.

In the case of the aboriginal women in Val-d'Or who broke their silence - along with the women from Maniwaki, Sept-Îles and Schefferville - they say it's difficult to file a complaint against police.

The women who agreed to speak out said they worried no one would believe them, especially when it comes to sexual assault allegations.

In Val-d'Or, Enquête journalists heard from women who said they were victims of

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the “geographic therapy”, a practice whereby police leave people, specifically aboriginal people, in the middle of nowhere for them to sober up.

In Maniwaki, a woman who claims to have suffered this kind of treatment said she had to go to the Sûreté du Québec four times. The SQ said it did not receive the first three complaints filed by the woman on the police website.

Coiteux said he has asked for verifications to be made regarding these “troubling” allegations.

“We will move quite quickly, believe me,” he said.

There are also claims that cases of alleged abuse are subject to a sort of omerta, or code of silence -- be it within the police force or within the public security ministry.

A former employee of the ministry, Isabelle Parent, worked under the junior minister for 12 years inspecting police forces.

“There was no interest. At the top, there was really no interest in the security of aboriginals, aboriginal women,” she said.

“That shocked me.”

Parent said prosecutors often said they didn’t have enough information to move forward with charges.

Coiteux said he will try to get answers.

“We will never allow such serious matters, or any matters whatsoever, be stifled.”

(CBC News)

Mar 31 2016

**CALGARY - Calgary police Chief Roger Chaffin says officers who act as confidential sources to reporters undermine the integrity of the service and he’s working to root them out.**

“That’s part of my quest,” he said in an interview Thursday. “I want to find out who.”

Chaffin said that includes the person or persons who revealed to CBC News on a confidential basis that the officer involved in a fatal shooting in January was still being investigated for a previous fatal shooting last year.

But family of Anthony Heffernan - who was shot dead by that officer in March 2015 — say they are “very thankful” to whoever leaked that information.

Anthony Heffernan was shot dead after officers broke into a northeast hotel room where he had been holed up and found him holding a syringe in what police described as a “high-risk situation.”

The case was investigated by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) and is currently before the Crown.

Paul Wozney, a director with the police union and editor of its members’ magazine, titled 10-4, said in a recently published article that the chief was right to send a “strongly worded” memo warning officers about the consequences of leaking information to the media.

“Don’t you think that the member you blabbed about, who responded to two extremely high risk calls and had to make split second decisions in the interests of their own personal safety and the safety of the commu-

nity, has a right to feel safe with their own organization?” Wozney writes.

“It disgusts me that one of our own members (sworn or civilian) would choose to make such a selfish decision,” he adds.

Wozney questions what motivation an officer would even have for acting as a confidential source, since “the media sure doesn’t pay for this information.”

“If you are some sort of unhappy employee, then I suggest you leave the organization or join the fire department,” he writes.

As the newly appointed editor of the magazine, Wozney also explains in the article that he won’t allow the publication to be used for members to “throw stones” at one another.

“To be blunt, we have enough butt-holes

in the media, the community, and on the defence-side of the bar taking shots at us. We don’t need our own members taking shots at each other in our own magazine.”

Calgary police have adopted a much more open policy when it comes to speaking with reporters than in the recent past, Chaffin added, but there is a process to follow in order to ensure the information is communicated with the proper “rigour.”

“We do have a very open policy and a very transparent way to talk to media around here, generally speaking,” he said.

“But when it involves operational issues or personnel discipline issues that are within the organization, there are things that we want to have some controls over.”

(CBC News)

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## VANCOUVER - RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson says Canada's national security threat remains at a medium level and it's a challenge to keep pace in a "zero-fail environment."

The commissioner was the keynote speaker at a Greater Vancouver Board of Trade event on Thursday. Commissioner Paulson, who served in B.C. for about two decades, told the business crowd that while there is no evidence of an imminent attack on Canada there is "ample evidence of people being inspired by the sort of jihadist message and seeking to join that movement abroad."

"... It is a challenge to keep pace with that in a zero-fail environment. In other words, we can't have a successful attack," he said during a 23-minute speech at a downtown Vancouver hotel.

The commissioner said people who have successfully made it abroad "who may come back unrealized in their ambitions and apply some of the training that they have received abroad domestically" are a particular concern.

"We can't arrest everybody and we can't surveil everybody 24/7," he said. "... We need to be able to intervene with people that are presenting as a threat and that's where communities, obviously, and particularly local police, have tremendous potential in value to help intervene with family members, with friends, with professionals in communities."

Commissioner Paulson's prepared remarks touched on a number of areas, including harassment within the force.

He said there is an expectation in any police department that officers will be held to a higher standard than the average citizen, and that's reasonable. But doing that in a rapidly changing society where notions of fairness and justice have to be respected can be a challenge, he said.

The commissioner said the stress, hours and collegiality in law enforcement, as well as the nature of the work, can leave it "a ripe area for behaviours that are less than professional." Nonetheless, he said he believes the force is making progress when it comes to harassment, including enhancement of its harassment-management policy.

The RCMP is currently facing two potential class-action lawsuits involving harassment.

The Globe and Mail earlier this week reported on a criminal case in Quebec in which six accused mobsters were acquitted of first-degree murder and agreed to plead guilty to a lesser charge of murder conspiracy. The pleas scuttled a separate hearing that risked revealing sensitive information about the RCMP's potential use of a cellphone surveillance technology, commonly known as an IMSI-catcher.

When asked by a reporter Thursday about the force's use of the technology, Commissioner Paulson said: "I'm just not in a position to be able to speak to that."

During a question-and-answer session with event attendees, the commissioner was at one point asked when he last issued a traffic ticket. He instead replied that last year, while driving down B.C.'s Coquihalla Highway af-

ter a friend's wedding, he was pulled over.

"Then the officer walks up and goes, 'Do you know how fast you were going?' I kept my mouth shut," the commissioner said.

He added that when the officer saw the commissioner's driver's licence, he said, "Seriously?"

When asked by a reporter after the event if he was issued a ticket, the commissioner initially said he had made up the story. He was then asked if he was sure he had made up the story. He said "no" and then added, "I don't want to talk about that."

When asked again if the incident did happen, he said yes. He said he received a warning.

(Globe and Mail)

**FRIDAY**  
**APRIL 1, 2016**

Apr 01 2016

## TORONTO - A pilot project that required some Toronto Police officers to wear small cameras on their vests ended on Thursday.

Since May 2015, approximately 100 officers in the GTA were equipped with three different models of body-worn cameras.

While on duty, the cameras captured interactions between officers and the public. Members of the public were allowed to obtain specific footage of officers interacting with them by filing an access to information request.

Officers from Toronto Police Service 43 Division, 55 Division, Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy and traffic services took part in the project.

Police will now draft a report evaluating the effectiveness of the technology and the cameras' performance, taking feedback from the general public into account.

The report will be studied by the Toronto Police Services Board in the summer.

The pilot project cost the Toronto Police \$500,000.

(CTV News)

Apr 01 2016

## The Atikamekw First Nation of Obedjiwan in the Mauricie region has dismantled its police force, blaming Quebec for what the band council says is the government's failure to honour an agreement to help pay for it.

The band-run police force, which employed 22 officers to patrol the reserve 200 kilometres west of Roberval, Que., has been replaced by the Sûreté du Québec.

The chief of the Obedjiwan band council, Christian Awashish, said the government failed to fulfill an agreement made last year to pay an extra \$600,000 to help keep the police force afloat.

"Negotiators from the Ministry of Public Security have once again undermined our confidence with broken promises," he said in a statement.

A spokesperson for Awashish said that the ministry offered the Obedjiwan council about a third of the promised funds, citing budget cuts as one of the reasons it could not offer the level of funding that had been promised.

"It seems that our community is not entitled, in the same way as other citizens of Quebec, to adequate and permanent police service to meet the real needs of people in the community," said Awashish.

He said the community had no choice but to dismantle the police force or face having to dig into the budget for other essential services such as housing, welfare and fire services.

Obedjiwan's police force receives \$2.2 million annually through the 1991 federal First Nations policing program, a trilateral agreement which mandates that the cost of aboriginal policing be split between the provincial and federal governments.

The program was criticized by the auditor general in 2014, who said it lacked of transparency and led to a poor allocation of funds.

A 2015 study conducted by the Sûreté du Québec concluded the Obedjiwan police force required between \$2.6 million and \$3.2 million to operate.

(CBC News)

Apr 01 2016

## WINNIPEG - The Winnipeg Police Service will be purchasing semi-automatic carbine rifles for some of its general patrol officers, to be used only in dangerous situations.

The body that oversees the police force, the Winnipeg Police Board, approved a plan to purchase the rifles and related equipment at an estimated total cost of \$200,000. Police officials would not specify how many rifles will be ordered.

Tactical unit officers already have this type of weapon, but the rifles will now be provided to general patrol officers who receive training to use them. That training could start this summer.

"We'd be using [them] for dangerous gun calls or for active shooters, so every day could be different, every week could be different," deputy police chief Art Stannard told reporters on Friday.

Stannard said general patrols are often first on the scene, so it's important to arm them. The rifles will allow officers to engage with active shooters from a safer distance, he said.

Supt. Bruce Ormiston said members who want to use the new rifles must undergo extensive training before taking them into the field. As well, they have to re-qualify to use the rifles on a yearly basis.

The police board approved the purchase of the guns without putting the contract out to tender.

The contract for the Daniel Defense Patrol Rifles was awarded to a company called Wolverine Supplies.

Meanwhile, the police board is gearing up to find a successor to police Chief Devon



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Wednesday, April 27, 2016



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The challenge for police services is to manage PTSD cases lawfully, honouring the obligations placed on services under, police legislation and human rights codes.



### Automotive Investigations

**Bob Lucas (OMVIC)**  
It is well known among the police community that auto thefts are linked to organized crime and terrorist groups. This session will introduce attendees to basic auto theft investigation techniques.



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### Police Ethics

**Dr. Ruthie Williams & Dr. Elsie Smalls**  
Explore the connection between individual ethics in the framework of the criminal justice system, with an emphasis on leadership roles in the organization and the role of values in public policy and management.



### Breaking the Stigma: Compassion Fatigue

**Lambia Karitsiotis & Peggy Campbell-MacLean**  
This session focuses on assisting workers to identify different forms of work-related trauma, learn proper debriefing techniques and learn how to build resiliency before taking time off work.



### Basic Note-taking

**Michael Souliere**  
Notes continue to come under scrutiny in legal processes both criminally and civilly. This presentation will explore both the shortfalls and successes of officers notes and will engage the learners with some 'food for thought' with respect to recording events.



### Leadership Strategies in VUCA Situation

**Dr. Mitch Javid**  
Learn how volatility, uncertainty, complexity and ambiguity (VUCA) applies to community policing strategies and what deliberate leadership strategies are most effective.



### Interactions with Mental Health Issues

**Dr. Terry Coleman & Dr. Dorothy Cotton**  
Presenters will be able to share emerging promising practices that have been adopted by agencies with regard to mental health issues.



### Interac Fraud

**Rachel Jolicoeur**  
This presentation will provide an overview of a recent attempt to outwit chip fraud and an overview of current fraud trends and investigative methods on the INTERAC network regarding debit card transactions.



### Deploying a Video Library System on a network

**Rob Poretti & Claude Turcotte**  
Learn the various approaches for deploying a network-based media library system that collects audio, video, and metadata from numerous sources for re-distribution.



### Police Professionalism

**Geoff Gruson**  
Explore opportunities to advance a Canadian policing profession in light of the changing societal and economic realities and recent events for policing management and governance.



### The Ethical Use of Force

**Al Arsenault & Toby Hinton**  
Issues regarding the ethical applications of effective and practical uses of force will be addressed. Tried and true methods of physically taking people into custody will be shown and discussed.



### Effective and Innovative Community Engagement

**Randall Arsenault**  
This training course will take the attendees through real life scenarios outlining the benefits of proper community engagement, and who should be representing their service.

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Ajax Convention Centre, 550 Beck Crescent, Ajax, ON



Clunis, who is retiring after 29 years on the force.

Coun. Scott Gillingham, who chairs the board, said finding a replacement for Clunis is their top priority.

"We have a diverse board, diverse backgrounds, diverse experiences, and so it will be good to have all board members as part of the committee," he said Friday.

"The board will meet as a recruitment committee starting next week to really begin to lay out the process."

Gillingham said there is not a timeline in place yet, but he does not expect the search to be a long process. He would not say if the board already has its eye on someone to become chief.

(CBC News)

Apr 01 2016

### **TORONTO - The recent furor over comments by Toronto's outgoing deputy chief of police about cutting officers to save money focused the spotlight anew on policing costs that keep rising even as Canada's crime rate plunges and its economy sputters.**

While communities across the country grapple with police budgets that in some cases are eating up to 50 per cent of their operating budgets, solutions to what's become a perennial headache have proven elusive.

"It's been a very frustrating discussion or dialogue that's occurred in this country over the last couple of years," says Tom Stamatakis, head of the national association that advocates for frontline officers.

"You've got a lot of people wading in with lots of opinions and personal views or biases around the whole cost-of-policing issue, but most of that dialogue is not informed by good research and evaluation."

One area of broad agreement is the lack of consensus on what constitutes cost-effective policing and how best to measure whether Canadian taxpayers are getting a solid bang for the more than 13 billion bucks they spend each year on what some see as an ever-thickening thin blue line.

Using falling crime rates to bludgeon budgets is unfair, some observers argue, because, among other things, it does little to capture how officers' roles have changed over the years, or how much of an impact policing has made on the decline in crime. The lack of hard data on how police jobs have changed has left older yardsticks, such as crime rates or the number of officers per capita, as commonly used measures.

"It's difficult to suggest what needs to be done if we can't even agree on what indicators need to be used," economist Livio Di Matteo said from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Di Matteo says not much has changed since his September 2014 study for the Fraser Institute found a key cost driver to be the rising number of officers in Canada per 100,000 population.

According to his analysis, per capita police expenditures rose more than 45 per cent between 1986 and 2012, while Criminal

Code incidents per officer declined by almost 37 per cent.

Similarly, a report for the Macdonald-Laurier Institute in March 2014 by Christian Leuprecht, a professor at the Royal Military College of Canada, found call volumes to police remained stable between 2002 and 2012, but provincial expenditures on security grew at an average annual rate almost double the GDP growth.

While it should come as no surprise that unions would seek the best deals for their members, Leuprecht questioned why officers making upwards of \$100,000 a year were performing administrative and other tasks that weren't related to core policing duties.

"Let's figure out what effects we want to achieve in terms of the community and how we're going to achieve those effects," Leuprecht said from Berlin. "We're not by and large having those conversations."

The Ontario Association of Municipalities agrees those key questions need answering. The association has been pushing for changes it says could be made immediately. Among them are fixing an arbitration system some feel consistently awards salary increases to police without regard to a community's ability to pay, and scrapping legislative barriers to "civilianizing" officer functions.

"We need to look at how we police our communities," association president Gary McNamara said.

Police, too, say they want that discussion. If taxpayers are ultimately their bosses, they say, those same taxpayers have to decide what they want from their police forces.

"It's a question of choices," Stamatakis said from Vancouver.

"When you're talking about public policing, it is a service that is very much driven by the demand that exists in the community."

The cost issue bubbled up again earlier this year when Toronto's former deputy chief, Peter Sloly, said his police service, with its eye-popping \$1 billion budget, could cut hundreds of front-line jobs.

"We run around all over the city in the most unfocused way, reacting to what you call us for, as opposed to trying to understand what's going on and ... putting our most important resources in the best place," the Toronto Star quoted him as saying in January.

Outrage was swift from the police union and brass alike. Sloly resigned soon after.

Stamatakis said he's not surprised by the backlash. He did, however, agree with the need for a "consistent and rigorous" review of internal police operations to ensure services are efficient and are deploying officers appropriately.

"That really hasn't happened that frequently in Canada and that's what we need to move to. But in order to get there, you have to get away from this uninformed, singular focus just on costs without knowing the context," he said.

Although Statistics Canada has reported the number of officers across the country has fallen slightly in the past few years, Leuprecht said most attempts at cost-cutting to date

have amounted to tinkering around the edges.

Despite criticism many communities are over-policed, laying off officers is not the best way to save money, he said. Instead, forces should strictly curtail hiring.

"Basically, we cap authorized troop strength," he said.

Apr 01 2016

### **SURREY, B.C. - Mounties in Surrey, B.C., say they're investigating more than two dozen shooting complaints that have left one person dead and five injured so far this year.**

Officers have responded to 28 complaints since Jan. 1, nine involving shots being fired into a building or residence and two empty cartridges being found.

Mounties say the incidents are not believed to be linked to groups involved in last year's drug violence, though the complaints are tied to the drug trade.

Gunfire on Surrey streets made headlines in early 2015, when police said a group of South Asians and those of Somali descent were involved in a low-level drug conflict.

Mounties say four people have been arrested and that the March 16 seizure of \$4.5 million in drugs was one of the largest in the city's history.

"We are attacking this situation now and we are attacking it aggressively," RCMP Supt. Shawn Gill says in a news release. "With the intelligence we are receiving, our proactive enforcement teams are making it very difficult for these people to conduct their illegal business in our city."

**SUNDAY**  
**APRIL 3, 2016**

Apr 03 2016

### **TORONTO - Smaller communities across the country have been grappling with what they view as an ever-increasing tax bite for policing they can barely afford.**

Some say they have had to raise property taxes by as much as 20 to 30 per cent to pay for increases in police costs.

Christian Leuprecht, a professor at the Royal Military College of Canada who has studied the issue, said rising security costs are hurting communities across Canada.

"The real problem is in the rural areas - it's in the contract-policing areas," Leuprecht said.

"It is completely unsustainable. Their tax base is stagnant. They're cannibalizing all other aspects of their budget to pay for policing."

Some communities, with their limited tax bases, are seeing upwards of 25 or 30 per cent of their total budgets go toward policing.

One hard-hit area is in rural eastern Ontario, where communities were surprised to discover they're paying tens of thousands of dollars for police service to wind turbines and cellphone towers.

The issue is especially galling, said one mayor, given his municipality's embrace of

green energy in part as a supposed revenue stream.

"We've got 86 of them here so it's big numbers," said Denis Doyle, mayor of Frontenac Islands, population 2,000.

"We went out of our way to support the windmill rollout and now we feel like we've been kicked in the teeth when you find out they charge us back any money we might get from taxes just to pay (police)."

The problem arose as Ontario sought to come up with a more equitable formula for those towns and communities that contract out police services to Ontario provincial police.

The revised formula relies on municipal assessment data that essentially counts the number of residences and commercial buildings in a community.

One problem, the mayors say, is that a wind turbine or cell tower is considered a unit on a par with other commercial buildings, such as a shopping mall or multi-unit apartment tower.

Adding insult to injury is that municipalities are not allowed to charge normal tax rates for green-energy projects, Doyle said.

"Basically, they downloaded the (provincial police) costs to us and take all the money we get in taxes for supporting their wind-turbine promotion and developments across the province."

One southwestern Ontario member of the provincial legislature expressed frustration over the turbine issue.

"My warning for any municipality who was thinking about getting into (wind farm contracts) - willingly or not - is to make sure you have an escalator clause that you can recover these costs from these wind-turbine companies," Bob Bailey recently told the Sarnia Observer.

For Doyle, the revised formula, being phased in over four years starting last year, is "massive" and unreasonable.

"In the rural communities, there's very little policing required; we're pretty much a law-abiding bunch," he said.

**MONDAY**  
**APRIL 4, 2016**

Apr 04 2016

**TORONTO - Some Canadian cities and police forces already wrestling with cash-flow shortages are moving toward outfitting officers with body cameras despite privacy concerns and scant consensus on the technology's cost-effectiveness.**

Body camera programs aren't cheap, according to multiple forces across the country, and would require hiring more personnel to deal with the hundreds and thousands of hours of footage. Storage costs alone can run in the millions of dollars.

Nonetheless, proponents say the cameras provide better evidence, lead to more convictions, improve officers' interactions with the public and reduce police use-of-force incidents.

Others, however, argue the videos invade the privacy of citizens, and worry that administrative duties related to body cameras will keep officers away from policing.

Edmonton police conducted a comprehensive three-year pilot program that involved the use of 55 body cameras in a variety of areas from downtown patrol beats to the entertainment district and impaired driving investigations.

The project ended in 2014. Police concluded the cameras had no effect on police use-of-force incidents and said there was no statistical difference in resolving police complaints.

Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson says there isn't a good business case for the program.

"We're already at our wit's end trying to fund basic policing and all the social work our officers are doing," Iveson said in an interview.

"I'm not really interested in picking up the freight for a lot of cameras and hard drives on top of that."

Video storage fees are often overlooked by body camera supporters.

It would cost Toronto police about \$18 million a year to store videos on a server if they were to outfit all front-line officers - numbering more than 3,000 - according to Insp. Michael Barsky, who is the operational lead for the force's year-long pilot project that wrapped up late last week.

Hamilton police have said a complete body camera program would range in cost from \$6.9 million to \$14.8 million over a five-year period.

"The most significant and incremental cost relates to data storage and management," Supt. Paul Morrison said last year.

Police forces have two general options for data storage: a cloud-based server hosted by a third party, or local storage - essentially giant hard drives that police forces own and operate themselves.

Police in Canada are loathe to hand over videos to a third party, particularly one based in the U.S.

"It was a non-starter for us," said Barsky of the Toronto police.

The force, he said, opted for in-house storage because it wanted complete control over data for security reasons. There were also concerns that the U.S. Patriot Act allows American authorities to access data that is stored in their country.

But in-house data storage comes at a steep cost, and companies such as Taser are hoping to grab a slice of the body camera pie in Canada.

Last summer, the company launched Axon Public Safety Canada - a subsidiary of Taser International Inc. that offers body cameras and video management products to police forces across Canada - with servers now physically located in the country.

"We've recommitted ourselves to Canada," said Taser spokesman Steve Tuttle.

"It is a tremendous opportunity for us."

The company offers Evidence.com, a service, Tuttle explained, that allows police to

save videos and use custom tools to blur faces in an effort to to diminish privacy worries.

Tuttle said business has boomed south of the border after riots broke out in Ferguson, Missouri, after a black man was fatally shot by a white police officer. There is no known video of the event.

"It's not a panacea, but I think we would have had a different outcome had we had video," Tuttle said. "I think Ferguson woke up every chief of police."

President Barack Obama wants to outfit police forces across America with 50,000 police body cameras, and U.S. Congress recently approved a \$75 million three-year funding program to help buy them.

In Toronto, there is political will to give body cameras to frontline officers. Mayor John Tory has urged police chief Mark Saunders to act swiftly upon completion of the pilot program. The chair of the Toronto police board echoed Tory's sentiments.

What happens in Toronto could determine the situation in the rest of the province.

Ontario's police forces - save for a small force in Amherstburg that has already outfitted all 16 of its frontline officers with cameras - are watching Toronto following a directive from The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, which is supported by the Ministry of the Attorney General, Barsky said.

"We have to be very aware that bad policy in Toronto creates bad case law in Canada," Barsky said.

Barsky said storage is the most significant cost of the program, but a close second would be the personnel required to manage and deal with all the video.

He said the 85 officers involved in the pilot project could spend up to three hours of 10-hour shifts off the street tending to tedious administrative duties related to the videos: from uploading and tagging the videos to going through each video and noting who and what needs to be redacted.

And they have to keep some of those videos for upwards of 11 years if it involves a criminal case, compounding the storage issue over time.

In Vancouver, police have opted out of the body camera game for now.

"The cost of retention, storage and use of the massive amounts of data that will be generated remains a significant hurdle," said Vancouver Const. Brian Montague.

Meanwhile, the Calgary police force is rolling out the devices over the next year after purchasing 1,100 cameras from a Utah-based company.

And they've figured out a cheap and old-school way to store all the videos from their \$1.3 million program: storage tapes.

"It sounds archaic, but it's not," said Staff Sgt. Todd Robertson.

"It's like a large robot attached to a server. As that server is about to fill up it dumps that data onto the tapes and the videos can remain on those tapes uncorrupted for 60 to 70 years. And those tapes are cheap, so storage cost wasn't a deciding factor for us."

Apr 04 2016

**PIKANGIKUM, Ont. - Ontario Provincial Police say foul play is not suspected in a fire on a First Nation Reserve that killed nine people, including a five-month-old baby and two other children under five years old.**

Police say autopsies determined the victims, all from Pikangikum in northern Ontario, died of smoke inhalation.

Their bodies were all found inside the house.

The cause of the fire in the remote community last Tuesday remains under investigation.

Regional Chief Isadore Day with the Chiefs of Ontario has said the deaths should spur the federal government to improve what he says are third-world conditions on dozens of reserves across the country.

Apr 04 2016

**EDMONTON - Edmonton police say some of the calls they get for 911 are so ridiculous, they are launching a campaign reminding citizens of when NOT to phone the emergency line.**

They say one of the worst ones was a call from a driver at West Edmonton Mall who had nosed his vehicle part-way into a parking stall and was annoyed another woman wouldn't give up challenging him for the spot.

Christine Lyseng, the supervisor of Edmonton's 911 call centre, says people have actually called about late or non-existent pizza delivery.

Then there was the woman who wanted a police officer to check out the noise her fire-pole was making, and the woman who asked police to send someone to help her move because she didn't have a car.

Lyseng says Edmonton police get roughly one million calls a year.

Of those, 40 per cent are through 911 and 40 per cent of those are bogus.

"It never fails, Murphy's Law," she says. "When operators are just finishing up from one of these non-emergent calls then they get the one where someone's having a heart attack or there's been a serious car accident, a roll over, or a condo fire something like that." (CHED)

Apr 04 2016

**Jean-Pierre Bony, 46, has died of his injuries after he was shot by police during a drug raid in Montreal North last Thursday.**

The Sûreté du Québec confirmed the man had been struck by a projectile from an "intermediate weapon."

Police were unable to provide more details, however, this suggests Bony was struck by a rubber or plastic bullet.

A total of 11 people were arrested in the drug bust on March 31. Two suspects, including Bony, tried to flee the scene.

Police could not say at what range Bony was shot nor could they provide other details.

The SQ has been in charge of the investi-

gation since the shooting.

Among those arrested in that raid was Dany Villanueva, whose brother Fredy was shot and killed by a police officer in a Montreal North park in 2008.

Villanueva was released on Monday with strict conditions. Among those conditions he's not allowed to associate with his co-accused or be found in a certain area in Montreal North.

(CBC News)

Apr 04 2016

**TORONTO - Within a few minutes of strapping into the mock Chevrolet being used to test the effects of driving stoned at Toronto's Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH), I had swerved violently twice and nearly killed a jaywalker. And I wasn't even high.**

Called the Virage VS500M, the sophisticated driving simulator includes a cabin with a driver's seat, steering wheel, brakes, and acceleration, and three 52-inch LCD displays to provide a view of the road and surroundings. It's been used to train student drivers and people in rehabilitation, but participants in the CAMH study are trying it out "medicated" to see how well they perform.

So far, about 100 people aged 19-25 have had their driving abilities recorded before and after smoking a joint containing either THC or a placebo. Blood samples taken at the time let scientists know how high they are.

"We can measure how well you respond to challenges, like what do you do when somebody jumps out in front of the road," lead researcher Dr. Robert Mann told VICE. (I, apparently, scream and clip them.)

The study is double blinded, meaning nobody, including researchers, know who is high and who isn't.

But early findings show test subjects who've smoked cannabis have trouble under "divided attention conditions," e.g. when they're asked to count backward by threes while driving, something that's arguably a lot simpler than remembering to check your blind spots or how to parallel park.

"It makes the driving task more complex," said Mann.

While there's tons of research on the impacts of drinking and driving, much less has been said about driving stoned, and for many people, the latter isn't taboo.

Almost without exception, every friend who learned I was doing this story responded with, "I've done that. It's not that bad," or, "I just drive slower." Mann said because of people's tendencies to drive slower when baked, there's a misconception that they're being safer than usual.

But with legalization in Canada pending, there's been a push from substance abuse experts and law enforcement to get more information on the potential dangers of cannabis impairment, including slower reaction times, shortened attention spans, and a hindered ability to accurately judge time and distances. Colorado and Washington, both of which

have legalized recreational weed, have seen increases in both the number of fatal car accidents and the percentage of drivers involved in those crashes who tested positive for cannabis, though a definitive link has not been made.

While just five percent of Ontario students reported drinking and driving in 2015, according to a CAMH survey, 10 percent said they drive under the influence of cannabis. A survey by the Partnership for a Drug-Free Canada revealed 32 percent of teens didn't consider driving stoned to be as bad as driving drunk, and about 25 percent of parents of teenagers agreed.

Data looking at the impact of cannabis on collisions, however, indicates there's a real risk. One meta-analysis published by Dalhousie University in 2012 said stoned drivers nearly double their chances of being in a crash.

But cannabis impairment in drivers is harder to detect than alcohol, and therefore more difficult to set restrictions around. In Canada, if cops suspect you're driving stoned, a drug recognition expert, of which there are currently 600 in the country, might be called in to issue a standardized field sobriety test. The tests are comprised of simple tasks, like asking someone to walk a short distance and turn around.

Those who are stoned sometimes "forget what the instructions were - they can't concentrate," said Superintendent Paul Johnston, an Ottawa police officer who is on the drug abuse committee of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

Johnston told VICE police are expecting a spike in cannabis-impaired driving once legalization kicks in. He's adamant that it's just as bad as drinking and driving ("it's not only physical, it's cognitive"), and says a strong education-based framework needs to be in place before the laws change.

As of this minute, there's no breathalyzer equivalent police can use to tell how high a driver might be. But Johnston said police are testing out three different oral fluid testers, which use saliva to answer that question. Canada is also lacking a per se law-a THC-blood level (similar to a blood-alcohol limit) over which it would be illegal to drive. In Washington, the limit is five nanograms per milliliter of blood.

Part of the problem with weed is people don't know how much THC they're consuming in any given product, Johnston said, adding we need to study how long it takes for cannabis to dissolve in the system-i.e. how long after consumption before it's safe to drive.

"If you've smoked marijuana you could get anywhere from three to seventeen percent [THC]. If you smoke dabs, the concentration could be eighty, ninety percent."

Due to (unfortunate) "ethical reasons," I wasn't allowed to drive the mock Chevy high. While I found it to be pretty realistic-the seat actually vibrates-I also felt nauseous while driving and afterward, apparently a common side-effect.

Asked how that might impact the results, Mann said "at first it seems different or per-

haps more difficult, but after a while, you get used to it. There is a lot of research now that validates simulator measures as strong predictors of driving performance.”

The testing phase of the study will be wrapping up shortly, Mann said, with findings to be published thereafter.

Johnston told VICE that Canadians are well aware of the dangers of drinking and driving, but when it comes to cannabis impairment, “we haven’t done as good a job of explaining the risks.”

Research, training of police officers, technology, and awareness campaigns should make up a part of the government’s plan for legalization, he said.

(Vice)

**TUESDAY**  
**APRIL 5, 2016**

Apr 05 2016

**MONCTON - Two years to the day after three RCMP officers were murdered in Moncton, the commanding officer of the force in New Brunswick will unveil a monument to the fallen.**

Roger Brown will then retire, ending an RCMP career of almost 36 years.

The choice of June 4 as his retirement date was deliberate, he said.

“June 4 for me will never be the same, no matter where I am, no matter what I do,” Brown told CBC’s Information Morning Fredericton on Tuesday.

On June 4, 2014, 24-year-old Justin Bourque wandered through a Moncton neighbourhood with high-powered weapons, gunning down Mounties responding to the call.

Const. Douglas James Larche, 40, Const. Dave Joseph Ross, 32, and Const. Fabrice Georges Gevaudan, 45, were killed. Two other Mounties were wounded.

“Very significant day,” said Brown. “That will be my last official duty, I guess, as the commanding officer.

“For me, it’s a time to turn the page and move forward, so that was the date.”

Brown’s three-year tenure in New Brunswick began shortly before a violent clash between RCMP and anti-shale gas protesters in Rexton in the fall of 2013.

On the heels of the Moncton shootings, Brown had to deal with Cpl. Ron Francis, who drew national attention in his campaign for improved services for Mounties suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) by smoking medical marijuana in his RCMP uniform. Francis was ordered to turn in his uniform. He later committed suicide.

All of it has taken a toll on Brown.

“There’s a part of me missing,” said Brown. “I’m not going to hide behind that.

“There’s a lot of hurt, a lot of pain.

“As a CO, as a commanding officer, you never want to lose ... one of your own. To lose three, you can imagine,” he said. “To have five shot?”

“To lose Cpl. Francis was rough. To see what he went through. To watch his parents

go through what they are going through.

“None of that is easy” said Brown. “But you can’t run from it. You can’t hide from it. You have to keep going forward.”

(CBC News)

Apr 05 2016

**Quebec is giving aboriginal women an alternative way to report complaints against police, in the hope of encouraging anyone with allegations to come forward, Quebec Public Security Minister Martin Coiteux said Tuesday.**

The province has set up a new hotline for aboriginal people to call to make a complaint if they don’t want to deal directly with police.

“Calls to this hotline will be directed to the existing parajudicial counselling service for aboriginal people - Services parajudiciaires autochtones du Quebec - which will guide complainants and refer them to victim services.

Coiteux said the Montreal police force will investigate all complaints from now on, unless the allegation is against a Montreal police officer.

The government’s latest initiatives come in the wake of new allegations from aboriginal women across Quebec claiming physical and sexual abuse at the hands of Surete officers.

“The public confidence in police forces has been shaken, and we want to make sure that every complaint is taken seriously,” said Geoffrey Kelley, the minister responsible for aboriginal affairs, who accompanied Coiteux in making the announcement.

Coiteux also announced the establishment of a new working group to study how to provide better training for police officers working with people in indigenous communities.

He said the group will work with the the provincial police academy at Nicolet.

(CBC News)

Apr 05 2016

**OTTAWA - The federal anti-money laundering agency has levied a \$1.1-million penalty against an unnamed Canadian bank for failing to report a suspicious transaction and various money transfers.**

It is the first time the Ottawa-based Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada, known as Fintrac, has penalized a bank.

The centre identifies cash linked to terrorism, money laundering and other crimes by sifting through millions of pieces of data annually from banks, insurance companies, securities dealers, money service businesses, real estate brokers, casinos and others.

Fintrac spokesman Darren Gibb says he cannot legally discuss details of the bank’s infraction, and the agency is exercising its discretion to withhold the financial institution’s identity.

But Fintrac wants to send a strong message that it will take whatever measures are needed to encourage compliance with the law.

The announcement comes amid heightened scrutiny of Canadian financial institutions due to leaked files, known as the Panama Papers, about dubious global dealings.

Apr 05 2016

**ROGERSVILLE, N.B. - New Brunswick RCMP say a 23-year-old man from Alberta is dead following a single vehicle crash.**

Police say the crash occurred Monday in Rogersville after police attempted to pull over the vehicle.

They say the driver attempted to flee and police broke off the chase after excessive speeds were reached.

A few minutes later police say they received a report that a vehicle had collided with a power pole and then crashed into a house.

The driver died at the scene.

Police say no one inside the house was injured.

Apr 05 2016

**VANCOUVER - Vancouver police introduced the force’s latest recruit to the public on Tuesday, a four-legged, wet-nosed newcomer meant to provide support to the victims of crime.**

Lucca, a three-year-old yellow Labrador retriever, is the newest member of Vancouver’s Victim Services Unit.

The dog was trained by the Pacific Assistance Dog Society to be quiet and gentle, so that he can help calm those experiencing crisis, trauma or grief. He was purchased by the VPD for \$35,000.

“The presence of a dog like Lucca can help calm the nervous system, reduce anxiety, decrease heart rate and lower blood pressure,” his handler Sue Baker said.

Baker said trauma dogs can help diffuse “extreme emotion,” by providing a distraction. They can also serve as an icebreaker for difficult conversations, and provide physical comfort to those in need.

On the job, Lucca will meet with victims of crime, witnesses and family members.

He will work in a variety of situations ranging from helping witnesses testify in court to calming assault victims in hospital.

(CTV Vancouver)

Apr 05 2016

**VANCOUVER - Violent robberies of cellphones appear to be on the rise again in Vancouver after years of decline, warn police.**

So far this year, there have been 40 such robberies, up from 31 over the same period last year, according to Const. Brian Montague.

“There are individuals out there willing to commit robberies and sometimes violent robberies in order to get them.”

Police say the perpetrators use everything from mere physical intimidation, to pushing the victim to the ground, to threatening with knives or guns.

Some phones are resold in Vancouver or elsewhere in Canada, while others are

shipped overseas, said Montague.

"If they can sell it, they'll steal it."

In recent years, Vancouver police had been seeing a decline in cellphone robberies, credited in part to the launch in 2013 of a "blacklist" for stolen phones, said Montague.

The year-to-date numbers for 2016 have increased so much though since last year that investigators wanted to warn the public, said Montague.

These numbers are all robberies - which indicate some level of violence - as opposed to a much larger number of thefts, where someone might leave their phone unattended and find it snatched.

(CBC News)

Apr 04 2016

**WhatsApp, the world's most popular instant-message app with more than 1 billion users, is now fully encrypted on all platforms: Android, iPhone, BlackBerry and others.**



That's good news for users who care about security and privacy but represents the intensification of a trend toward ubiquitous encryption that has posed challenges for law enforcement.

"The idea is simple: when you send a message, the only person who can read it is the person or group chat that you send that message to. No one can see inside that message. Not cybercriminals. Not hackers. Not oppressive regimes. Not even us," WhatsApp co-founders Jan Koum and Brian Acton wrote in a blog post Tuesday.

Such encryption, in which only the sender and receiver can decrypt messages, makes it virtually impossible to intercept instant messages and voice calls, even with a warrant.

WhatsApp, which is owned by Facebook, has frustrated federal investigators in criminal investigations, but the US Justice Department has not taken the matter to court publicly in the way it did recently with Apple.

WhatsApp and Facebook are "great American companies," FBI General Counsel James A. Baker said Tuesday in a moderated discussion at a conference of the International Association of Privacy Professionals. But "this presents us with a significant problem."

If the trend continues, he said, "encryption like that will continue to roll out in a variety of different ways across the technological landscape," adding that the "genie's out of the bottle."

Some of it is good, Baker said, noting that his own data has been stolen by hackers a number of times and he wished that the data

had been encrypted. "But the key thing is that it has costs."

His boss, FBI Director James B. Comey, has often said that the Islamic State is using encrypted apps to direct people to kill "innocent people" in the United States. And it is hindering investigations of murder, child pornography, organized crime and a range of other crimes, law enforcement officials said.

Still, Comey said at a congressional hearing last month: "It is not our job to tell the American people how to resolve that problem... Our job is simply to tell people there is a problem."

(Washington Post)

## WEDNESDAY APRIL 6, 2016

Apr 06 2016

**MONTREAL - A Montreal teen convicted on two terrorism-related charges has been handed a three-year sentence.**

He was found guilty in December on two charges: committing a robbery in association with a terror organization and planning to leave Canada to participate in the activities of a terrorist group abroad - the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

Despite some concerns, youth court Judge Dominique Wilhelmy agreed to a joint suggestion of 24 months of supervised detention, comprised of 16 months behind bars and eight months in the community.

That is to be followed by 12 months probation.

The case stems from an October 2014 convenience store robbery linked to the accused's plan to go to Syria to take part in the conflict there.

Reports filed by experts suggest the teen, who cannot be named, has made strides to break free of radical thought.

Apr 06 2016

**TORONTO - More than 1,000 people detained during the chaotic G20 summit almost six years ago won the right Wednesday to go the class-action route in lawsuits against police and others.**

In approving the class-action process, Ontario's top court said various reports on the events to date had made only non-binding recommendations.

"The remedies sought by the plaintiffs, which include a declaration that class members' charter rights have been violated and an award of damages, would be stronger instruments of behaviour modification," the Court of Appeal said in its decision.

The G20 summit over a weekend in June 2010 - marred by vandalism from several dozen protesters - saw more than 1,000 people arrested or detained in what was later described as one of the worst violations of civil liberties in Canadian history. Many were kept in appalling conditions at a makeshift deten-

tion centre. Almost all were released without charge within 24 hours.

In response to the court decision, lawyer Eric Gillespie said a class action could "help protect the basic freedoms of all Canadians" while co-counsel Kent Elson said it could lead to the disclosure of confidential police documents and tapes about what really happened as well as "positive reforms about policing."

It was not immediately clear when the class-action suits might be heard on their merits but a trial is likely months away.

Police authorities in Toronto had wanted the Appeal Court to quash the class proceedings, which had already been subject to two lower court rulings. The courts had originally ruled against certifying a class action, but Divisional Court overturned the ruling on initial appeal and instead split the action in two.

"It is important to remember that the police cannot sweep up scores of people just in the hope that one of the persons captured is a person who they believe is engaged in criminal activity," the Appeal Court noted.

"There was some basis in fact for finding that the individual officer or officers who are alleged to have given orders for mass detentions and arrests did so without regard to whether all of the individuals detained, or detained and then arrested, were implicated in the criminal activity with which the police were concerned."

The lead plaintiffs in the actions are Sherry Good, who was among scores of people police "kettled" in torrential rain at a downtown intersection, and Thomas Taylor, who represents those sent to the east-end detention centre.

Both want damages for false arrest or imprisonment, and violations of their constitutional rights. They maintain a senior officer gave orders for the indiscriminate roundup of anyone present at various downtown locations - including peaceful protesters, bystanders and journalists.

"We were illegally arrested, thrown into overcrowded wire cages, and treated worse than animals in a zoo," Taylor said after the ruling. "We want justice to be served. We don't want this to happen to any other Canadian, ever again."

Good said she was delighted with the decision.

"Now, the police need to make changes and prove to us that this will never happen again," Good said.

There was no immediate reaction from the police services board.

Among other things, the board had argued Divisional Court overstepped its boundaries in stating the mass arrests could be seen as "one of the hallmarks of a police state" and therefore needed a thorough airing as class actions. The board also argued the different behaviour of various summit protesters precluded their being considered a class.

The Appeal Court rejected that argument, noting only 16 individuals had brought claims for their detentions.

"It remains apparent that most of the af-

affected individuals are unwilling to devote the time and expense necessary to seek individual relief," the Appeal Court found. "A class proceeding is the preferable procedure for the resolution of the common issues."

In addition, the court awarded the plaintiffs \$315,000 in costs for the certification motion and another \$65,000 for the appeal.

Apr 06 2016

### **TORONTO - A traffic officer who routinely searched vehicles he stopped was out of line and should have known better, Ontario's top court ruled Wednesday.**

In throwing out a drug conviction, the court found a car search by Const. Robert Sinclair violated the rights of the accused, Alexander Harflett.

"I do not doubt that Const. Sinclair believes that he is doing the right thing," the Court of Appeal said.

"(But) as an instructor of other police officers, he ought to be fully conversant with his legal authority - but the evidence shows either that he was not or that he was prepared to search regardless."

Sinclair, with the Ontario Provincial Police highway enforcement team, was at a service centre on Highway 401 when he spotted a vehicle with Quebec plates. As a demonstration for a colleague, the officer ran a search on the plates and found Harflett's driver's licence had been suspended for unpaid fines.

The officer pulled him over down the highway, where Harflett, of Oshawa, Ont., produced a valid Quebec licence.

Sinclair arrested him for using another licence while his Ontario one was suspended. He also called a tow truck to move the car from the highway to a nearby hotel to allow Harflett to pay his fines and get his licence back.

Sinclair then took what he called an "inventory" of the vehicle - something he testified he always did - an approach that didn't sit well with the Appeal Court.

"He resisted the notion that what he did was a 'search;' this was plainly a search," the Appeal Court said.

"A check stop does not and cannot constitute a general search warrant for searching every vehicle, driver and passenger that is pulled over."

During the search, Sinclair discovered marijuana in the trunk. He arrested Harflett for possessing the drug for trafficking purposes.

At trial, Sinclair admitted he had been conducting a traffic investigation when he detained the accused and had no reason to suspect any criminality. However, he argued he needed to verify if the car had any valuables or dangerous items inside.

In March 2014, Ontario court Judge Catherine Kehoe found his actions reasonable, decided any violation of the accused's rights was technical or minor, admitted the drug evidence, and convicted him.

In throwing out the case, the Appeal

Court found Sinclair had no authority for the search.

"The inventory search cannot be justified on the basis of officer safety or any suspicion that the appellant was involved in criminal conduct," the Appeal Court said. "Sinclair had no public safety concerns, since he was going to release the car to the appellant."

The court also noted two other cases where Sinclair had been found to have abused his search powers leading to the exclusion of evidence.

"The impact of an unjustified search is magnified where there is a total absence of justification for it," the court said.

Without the drugs as evidence, the prosecution had no case, so the Appeal Court entered an acquittal.

Apr 06 2016

### **CALGARY - Most people struggle to get motivated for even a single hour of exercise. But one Edmonton man was willing to risk jail time, just to spend a night alone inside a gym - according to the facility's owner.**

"The police had never heard of anyone breaking into a gym just to work out for the evening," said Cheryl Schneider, the owner of No More Excuses Fitness, during an interview on CBC Radio's Edmonton AM Wednesday morning.

Schneider walked into the studio for her Monday morning class to find traces of an intruder.

The main breaker had been tripped, and the security alarms deactivated. Someone had picked the lock on the back door, and made their way inside overnight, Schneider said.

But it soon became clear, this wasn't a typical break-and-enter.

Pricey gym equipment and office computers were untouched. The only items missing: a T-shirt branded with the gym's logo, an agility ladder and a step counter.

Mud-caked construction boots had been placed carefully outside the front door, men's work overalls were folded in the foyer.

Equipment had been moved around, and a huge cardboard cutout of Bon Jovi, which the gym displays as a mascot of sorts, had been moved across the room -- and turned to face a wall.

After his work-out, the bandit appears to have used one of the gym's signature mint-scented towels to wipe down, placed it in the laundry basket, and refuelled with a chicken wrap from Tim Horton's, carefully dusting the crumbs and wrapper into the wastebasket.

"It was very strange," said Schneider. "I think it was drug-induced."

Within two hours, as Schneider was showing a police officer around, she turned around to find her uninvited guest had returned.

The intruder was wearing ladies gym wear that he appeared to have rummaged out of the gym's lost and found bin. Schneider thinks he came back to retrieve his work clothes.

She said the intruder was calm and coop-

erative as police handcuffed him and escorted him through the gym, to a police car waiting outside. But wouldn't leave before wiping his feet on the mat, so he wouldn't sully the studio floor.

"Maybe he just wanted to come work for us, and needed some practice time. I wish all of our instructors did that once in awhile." (CBC News)

Apr 06 2016

### **SAINT JOHN, N.B. - Saint John's deputy police chief is under criminal investigation for alleged wrongdoing during the probe of millionaire businessman Richard Oland's murder.**

Halifax Regional Police are investigating Glen McCloskey at the request of Saint John Police Chief John Bates.

"The investigation into this matter, which is being conducted by investigators in the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division, is ongoing," Const. Dianne Woodworth of Halifax police said Wednesday. "Our investigators did travel to Saint John as part of their investigation."

During last year's trial of Dennis Oland for his father's murder, one witness testified that McCloskey, then an inspector, asked him not to testify that McCloskey had been in the crime scene.

McCloskey himself denied the allegation when he took the stand.

Evidence presented during the trial suggested a number of problems with the investigation, including a failure to properly secure the crime scene, prompting the Saint John Board of Police Commissioners to ask the provincial police commission to conduct an inquiry.

Although Woodworth would not confirm on Wednesday "the name of the subject or subjects of the investigation," Bates told the Telegraph-Journal Tuesday he asked Halifax police to investigate the allegations involving McCloskey.

"These are very serious allegations that were levelled against the deputy, and I think we owe it to him to have a thorough review and investigation into the matter," Bates told the Saint John-based newspaper.

Oland's body was discovered face down in a pool of blood in his Saint John office on July 7, 2011. He had suffered 45 blunt and sharp force blows to his head, neck and hands.

Dennis Oland was convicted of second-degree murder in December and has begun serving a life sentence with no chance of parole for 10 years.

Apr 06 2016

### **MONTREAL - Several Quebec police officers violated United Nations regulations by engaging in sexual activities with Haitian women and at least two had children, the CBC's French-language network reported Wednesday.**

Radio-Canada said one Montreal police officer had a child with his housekeeper in 2013 and that he was suspended for nine days.

He has since retired and is helping the woman, the network said.

Regulations prohibit people on official UN business from having sexual relations with locals.

Radio-Canada reported that another Montreal officer had a child with a Haitian woman in 2012 and that she complained when he stopped giving her money for the infant. He was subsequently suspended for five days.

The network also said two Quebec provincial police officers had sexual relations with Haitian women.

Apr 06 2016

**CHARLOTTETOWN - The Atlantic Police Academy at Holland College is launching a six-month training program for young people considering a career in policing in aboriginal communities.**



The Canadian Centre of Public Safety Excellence and Holland College are working with the Cree First Nation and Kiamauga Corporation in Summerside to develop the program.

"It's a great opportunity for us across the country to be able to develop a curriculum that works and the people that actually live on the challenges and issues and concerns that are within the First Nations and culture is a great thing that's missing," said Ron D. Spence with the Nisichawayasihk Cree Nation.

The curriculum is still under development, but is being done in close consultation with members and elders of Nelson House First Nation in Manitoba to ensure it is culturally sensitive and geared towards the realities of law enforcement of aboriginal communities.

Graduates won't actually be police officers, but will work with law enforcement in First Nations communities who may not already have a connection to cultural traditions.

"It's way overdue if you think about it, where the involvement of First Nation people are a part of the academic part of our society," said Susan Kobliski with the Nelson House First Nation.

The program, to be offered at the academy in Slemmon Park, includes studies of cultural issues, community leadership and communication.

"It feels awesome, it really does, because we know we're going to make a difference," said Edgar MacLeod, the executive director of the Atlantic Police Academy.

About 20 to 30 students are expected to enroll when the program launches in the fall.

The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency is providing \$206,205 in funding. (CBC News)

Apr 06 2016

**TORONTO - Ontario Premier Kathleen Wynne says the head of the union that represents Toronto Police officers "misinterpreted" her comments to Black Lives Matter demonstrators on Monday.**

"All I can say is that in his reaction to my comments he misinterpreted what I said," Wynne said.

Wynne says that when she agreed with demonstrators who said there is anti-black racism in the province, she did not aim her

remarks in any way towards police.

"I wasn't talking about the police service, I was talking about a societal reality that we all have to grapple with," Wynne told reporters on Wednesday morning.

Wynne said that one only has to look at the overrepresentation of indigenous and racial minorities in provincial jails or child welfare to accept that racism is alive and well in the province.

She also pointed to the disparity in high school graduation rates, with the rate of graduation for some minority groups coming in at 30-40 per cent below Ontario's 84 per cent overall average.

Toronto Police Association president Mike McCormack said Tuesday that by

**IALEP CONFERENCE 2016**  
Thinking Forward.  
International Association of Law Enforcement Planners  
September 19 - 23, 2016  
WATERLOO, ONTARIO CANADA

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LAW ENFORCEMENT PLANNERS

**OALEP**  
Ontario Association of  
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The Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS), in cooperation with the Ontario Association of Law Enforcement Planners (OALEP), is proud to be hosting the 2016 annual International Association of Law Enforcement Planners (IALEP) conference in Waterloo, Ontario, on **September 19-23, 2016**.

The theme of the conference is "**Thinking Forward**" and embraces a focus on skills and insight needed for police planning in the future, including strategic foresight, community safety, and the many challenges to anticipate along the planning continuum. This conference has only been in Canada three times in the past 25 years, and offers a great opportunity for you and your members to attend, network with an international group of sworn and civilian police planners and academia, and showcase some of our Canadian talent.

The conference begins in Waterloo, Ontario, on Monday, September 19th with an evening reception at the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), and runs all week, wrapping up with a Friday morning Roundtable breakfast. A special conference registration fee is being offered this year in celebration of the 25th anniversary of this annual training conference.

The agenda features topics on community engagement, learning through evaluation, socio-economic and policing impacts of autonomous vehicles, strategic foresight tools to help make robust long term decisions, visioning future law enforcement technologies, career passion by a renowned TED Talk presenter, arguments for evidence-based policing, a panel discussion on the future of community safety and well-being through collaborative partnerships, and much more! After hours, enjoy a curling bonspiel, a morning trip to St. Jacob's Farmers Market, and an evening banquet infused with the local Oktoberfest spirit.

Law enforcement planning and research is an integral component to police organizations and leaders, as we strive to **Think Forward** and stay ahead of this rapidly changing business of policing. We invite you and your members to join this international conference available in Waterloo, Ontario, this September.

**The preliminary agenda is now available and registration is open.**  
**Details can be found under the "Conference" menu at**  
**[www.ialep.org](http://www.ialep.org)**

agreeing with the Black Lives Matter protesters that there is systemic racism in the province, "you could reasonably draw the conclusion that (Wynne) was talking about policing," and that notion, especially the idea that police as an institution actively discriminate against racial minorities, was "troubling."

"I would hope (McCormack) looks back and I hope that he will, like I do, recognize that there are challenges across society," Wynne said. "I'm not saying anything about police in Toronto or anywhere else."

Since last month, the Black Lives Matter Toronto movement has asked for police officers who shoot and kill individuals while on duty to be named publicly -regardless of whether the killing was deemed to be justified by the provincial Special Investigations Unit (SIU).

The movement has also asked the province to reform the structure of the SIU.

Wynne said she hasn't commented specifically on the demands made by demonstrators, but has encouraged several of her cabinet ministers to meet with the protestors privately and discuss next steps.

(CP24)

**THURSDAY**  
**APRIL 7, 2016**

Apr 07 2016

**A suspect who was seriously injured during a police operation in Lac-Simon, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, died early Thursday.**

Police were alerted at 7:30 p.m. to the presence of a man walking in the streets with what appeared to be a knife. Officers arrived on the scene, shots were fired, and the suspect was hit by a police car. The exact circumstances of the event remain unclear.

The man, who is in his 20s, was taken by ambulance to a hospital, where staff were not certain whether he would live.

In the wake of this event, police were attacked by a group of people, and officers called Sûreté du Québec for reinforcements.

The SQ will be responsible for maintaining peace in Lac-Simon until further notice. The SQ will conduct an investigation into the injury of the suspect and other events leading up to the battle with police.

Lac-Simon is about 170 kilometres northwest of Montreal.

In February, a police officer was shot dead in Lac-Simon and the alleged gunman took his own life.

(Montreal Gazette)

Apr 07 2016

**PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. - Police in Saskatchewan have arrested a murder suspect who escaped last week after two correctional officers were ambushed as they escorted him to hospital.**

Prince Albert police say Brady Vermette, who is 27, was arrested overnight just north of the city.

Vermette is charged with first-degree murder in the death of Troy Napope and new charges related to the escape are pending.

Sgt. Brandon Mudry says RCMP and city police arrested Vermette along with his girlfriend, Tristen Smith.

Police say Vermette escaped custody March 30 when two masked attackers hit the correctional officers with blasts of bear spray.

Vermette was being held at the Prince Albert Provincial Correctional Centre.

Apr 07 2016

**HALIFAX - On November 8, 2008, Jean-Michel Blais stood in front of a collapsed primary school in Haiti, watching as 93 bodies, most of them children, stacked up in front of him.**



The United Nations police team bore through the rubble in search of survivors, and found a girl trapped between the bodies of two other children. As deputy commissioner of the UN mission, it was Blais who gave the order to cut one of the bodies in half to pull the surviving girl out safely.

More than to serve and protect, Blais says police work is about confronting the problems that people would not, should not and could not deal with.

But sometimes, he can't either.

Blais, who became Halifax Regional Police Chief in 2012, recently revealed he has post-traumatic stress disorder.

It has become a hallmark of his leadership atop the Halifax force, where he has made officers' mental health a priority. By next month, every Halifax cop will complete a half-day Road to Mental Readiness workshop.

"Day in, day out, these officers have to show up at the doors and deal with the challenges that are there," Blais said in a recent talk at Mount Saint Vincent University, "Spat upon. Shot at. Cut. Yelled at. You think that doesn't leave them with a lasting stress?"

Blais wants to start a discussion about mental illness within the force. He says in a "suck-it-up" police culture, officers have been more likely to grab a 40-ouncer than reach for help.

He's trying to change that. "(Officers) have to realize that they have to take care of themselves before they can take care of others," Blais said in an interview.

When he talks publicly about his PTSD, Blais makes a point of wearing his uniform, to show that mental illness can happen to anyone. The symbolism of this is not without its controversy.

"There have been some questions, I

think fair questions, about (my) ability to lead," Blais said. "I don't know a good leader who hasn't gone through particular challenges and hasn't come out better for it."

About eight per cent of police officers have PTSD, according to Tema Center Memorial Trust, which supports first responders. Since 2014, the organization reports that 31 Canadian police officers have committed suicide, including a member of Calgary's service last week.

"Most people experience trauma once in their lives," trust director Vince Savoia said. "Police experience it multiple times a day."

In his 25 years in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Blais served three tours in Haiti. In 2008, he became second-in-command of the UN police mission to stabilize the region, leading 1,700 officers of all nationalities.

That fall, four successive tropical storms battered the country, killing 800 people in two weeks.

When he returned to Ottawa in 2009, he found that something was off. He lived in a state of constant discomfort, sleeping fitfully, struggling to find normal.

"I'd look at my son very closely and make sure he was well at all times," Blais said.

In 2010, a catastrophic earthquake devastated Haiti, killing hundreds of thousands of people including 96 UN peacekeepers. Blais was sent to recover the bodies of two fellow RCMP officers, one of them Chief Superintendent Doug Coates, who had taken over his position months before.

A friend asked him if he had had a life changing experience. "I have," he said. "And I need to get out of Ottawa."

He thought it was just work, but things weren't getting any better. He woke four or five times a night, his sheets drenched in sweat. He says his wife learned "nocturnal self-defence" to calm him down when he thrashed in bed.

He accepted a job heading the Halifax RCMP. Not long after, in 2012, he got the top job at Halifax Regional Police, and he sought the medical attention that led to his PTSD diagnosis.

"What was most difficult was going through the actual therapy," he said. "These things bring you back."

As he describes these experiences, Blais focuses on his breathing to slow his heart rate. Talking about PTSD can be therapeutic but also can recall the stress of the traumatic incident.

Sometimes, all it takes is a crack in the sidewalk, and Blais is back in Haiti digging for his friend's dogtags in the debris of the quake-flattened UN headquarters.

There are days he doesn't want to go to work. Then he thinks about the police officers under his command, and he puts on his uniform. It's their problems he's dealing with now.

"They're just police employees for a certain amount of time," Blais said. "We enjoy life through the help and community of others, and when you're injured with a traumatic stress injury, you tend to forget that."