

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

May 26, 2016 – Vol. 21 No. 22

## Executive Digest

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TORONTO - Ontario's human rights watchdog has laid out a bold blueprint for policing during the "critical moment" when the province's rule book is being rewritten.

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## BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## Pot plan to deter 'drug-driving'



May 23 2016

**OTTAWA - The man tasked with coming up with Canada's marijuana law has a proposal for dealing with one of the biggest issues facing legalization: prevention of driving under the influence of pot.**

While police can conduct field sobriety tests if they suspect a driver is impaired by any substance, there is no established breathalyzer equivalent in roadside policing to easily detect and measure impairment when it

comes to driving while high.

Liberal MP Bill Blair says oral fluids testing could be the roadside measure used by Canadian authorities to detect marijuana in a person's system.

"The kits are currently used in Europe," Blair told CBC News in an exclusive interview.

The oral fluids drug test is conducted with a small plastic stick. When the police officer suspects a driver has smoked marijuana, the officer would take the stick and swipe it over the driver's tongue. The saliva



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would then be mixed with the enzymes in the device. If a red line appears three minutes later it indicates there are drugs in the driver's system. The officer would then have the right to take the driver to the station for a full evidence test.

"If a jurisdiction was to put in place a strict prohibition on using marijuana for example in driving, that could result, if there is the presence of marijuana metabolites, in the suspension of licence and seizing of a car. (That's) an immediate consequence which can have a very effective deterrent impact," said Blair.

The RCMP is in the midst of testing three different roadside devices and is about to expand the project.

"The RCMP and our other partners in this project are now looking into conducting additional testing of these devices in an operational setting to better determine whether these devices could be used by Canadian law enforcement to detect drug-impaired drivers," Sgt Harold Pfeleiderer told CBC News in an email.

At least one advocate for the device argues it can be implemented immediately. Gregg Thomson's son, Stan, was killed along with four other young men in a horrific 1999 car crash east of Ottawa, in which the driver was under the influence of marijuana.

"We have an opportunity here, it's coming, we know it's part of the Liberal platform," Thomson told CBC. "Europe, Australia, already have roadside testing for drugs. We can learn from them, we don't have to

reinvent the wheel, we can fast-track this."

Blair concedes the test does not measure the level of intoxication, it only detects the presence of THC, the main mind-altering ingredient found in the cannabis plant.

"In Canada we have not established a baseline of impairment. So we need to speak to the scientists and we need to look at the example in other jurisdictions," Blair said.

Marc Paris, executive director of the Partnership for a Drug Free Canada, said the science around what constitutes impairment from marijuana isn't robust enough to withstand criminal trials.

"I think we're in for a rough ride," Paris said.

He said limits on intoxication must be set, similar to those with alcohol. But science can't predict what the level should be for marijuana, and U.S. states that have tried to impose limits have set levels that Paris calls arbitrary.

"A .08 (blood-alcohol) limit in alcohol is ... well-known and recognized and science-based evidence. That does not exist (for marijuana)."

The 24 U.S. states that have legalized recreational or medicinal pot use have set limits ranging from zero nanograms of THC per millilitre of blood to five.

In the U.S., the American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety is concerned about using random legal limits for drug driving to determine whether a driver is impaired.

According to the foundation, "Limits for marijuana and driving are arbitrary and unsupported by science, which could result in unsafe motorists going free and others being wrongfully convicted for impaired driving."

The association reports seeing an increase in fatal crashes among drivers in Washington since the state legalized the drug in 2012.

"The percentage of drivers involved in fatal crashes who recently used marijuana more than doubled from eight to 17 per cent between 2013 and 2014," AAA research shows.

The Liberal government has promised to bring legislation forward for the legalization of marijuana by spring 2017.

(CBC News)

or was turned on and off during an interaction.

If police had cameras on for their entire shift, use-of-force against civilians decreased. But if officers switched the cameras on and off at their own discretion, use-of-force increased.

Sutherland said his team doesn't know the exact reason for the increase, but offered some theories. One reason is that starting to film in the middle of a heated exchange may cause further distress to the parties involved. As per the study's protocol, officers had to warn the public they were recording.

"If the police officer suddenly says, 'excuse me I am going to turn my camera on now and record what you're saying,' you can imagine that it might aggravate you and the officer in response to you," he explained.

Sutherland also noted that an increase of assaults towards police officers wearing cameras could be due to an increase in reporting of such incidents. "With a camera running, officers may be more willing to report assaults against them."

The findings were published on Wednesday in the European Journal of Criminology and the Journal of Experimental Criminology. The study, conducted by the University of Cambridge and the not-for-profit research institute RAND Europe, looked at eight police forces across the U.S. and the U.K. They conducted 10 randomized-controlled trials with forces including those in West Midlands and Cambridgeshire in the U.K., and Ventura, California.

Researchers are studying the shift patterns of 2,122 participating officers across the various international forces. The police are split at random between those allocated a camera and those without a camera. The study covered a total of 2.2 million officer-hours policing a total population of more than 2 million citizens.

While the research studies operated under the same design protocol, "differences in how the police defined use-of-force might account for the variation observed between forces," Sutherland said.

(National Post)

## BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

Celebrating 20 Years

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## WEDNESDAY

### MAY 18, 2016

May 18 2016

**Police wearing body cameras experienced an increased number of assaults by civilians, a new U.S. and U.K. research study found.**

"Assaults against police officers were higher when police cameras were worn, versus when they weren't," said the study's co-author and RAND Europe researcher Alex Sutherland. The rates of assault against officers wearing cameras on their shift were an average of 15 per cent higher.

The study also found that the rate of use-of-force by police on citizens was unchanged by body cameras, but this finding depended on whether the camera was on consistently,

## THURSDAY

### MAY 19, 2016

May 19 2016

**PRINCE ALBERT, Sask. - A former aboriginal RCMP officer says the national police force is not doing a good job for indigenous people.**

Cory Lerat, who started his career at the Kamsack Detachment in Saskatchewan and retired in RCMP F Division's employee and management relations, spoke at the Northern Justice Symposium in Prince Albert.

He says the RCMP hasn't "effectively engaged" First Nations communities.

Lerat also says the people and resources to deliver police service to those communities are not there.

The First Nations Policing Program in



1991 and Lerat says the goal was to provide culturally appropriate policing for First Nation communities while providing the same level of service that larger cities such as Prince Albert or Saskatoon would receive.

Lerat says there wasn't enough funding for the program, leading to RCMP officers working in cramped buildings without a proper detachment and not enough manpower to accomplish anything meaningful. (CKBI)

May 19 2016

### **PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, Man. - Manitoba RCMP say an officer shot a suspect after pursuing an erratic driver west of Winnipeg.**

Sgt. Bert Paquet says the officer got a report of a potentially dangerous driver and quickly spotted the vehicle near Portage la Prairie.

Paquet says the driver — a 30-year-old Winnipeg man — refused to pull over and had to be stopped by the RCMP vehicle.

He says shortly after the Mountie shot the driver, who suffered non-life threatening injuries and was taken to hospital.

The officer wasn't hurt.

Paquet wouldn't say what prompted the shooting but says a firearm was found in the suspect's car.

The shooting is being reviewed by the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba.

May 19 2016

### **EDMONTON - A drunk man taken into custody by Edmonton police on charges of theft and bail breaches has died.**

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says the 47-year-old man was arrested early Thursday and placed in a cell block.

About three hours later, he was found on the floor unresponsive.

Officers provided emergency medical aid until EMS arrived.

The man was pronounced dead on arrival at hospital.

ASIRT says at the time of his death there were no visible signs of traumatic injury.

An autopsy has been conducted but the cause of death has not been determined pending toxicology results.

May 19 2016

### **SURREY, B.C. - An organization representing many rank-and-file RCMP members is alleging officers deployed to the wildfires in Fort McMurray, Alta., were not provided with adequate masks to protect them from toxic fumes.**

The Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada says at least one member has complained of being left on his or her own to find a mask and ending up wearing a "paper dust mask" while exposed to smoke for five days.

Association president Rae Banwarie says in a news release that officers should have been issued with military-style masks but instead were provided with a limited quantity of 3M Model 2097 masks.

The association also complains its members were not given medical examinations following their deployment, "which should have been a mandatory protocol by RCMP management."

Its members are being asked to submit a hazardous occurrence report and undergo a thorough medical examination in order to "create a base line test by providing blood and urine samples to physicians to document any future health issues that may occur."

RCMP officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

May 19 2016

### **Attention online scam artists: the mark responding to your "great investment offer" may be the chief of police.**



Like a fisherman with time on his hands and a bite on the hook, West Vancouver Police Department Chief Len Goerke played with an online scam artist recently over a series of increasingly preposterous emails.

After a would-be fraudster purporting to represent a Russian investor willing to sink \$50 million into Goerke's company recently emailed him, the police chief decided clicking the spam button would be too easy.

"I get lots of these kind of emails," Goerke said, explaining their abundance is evidence they're likely working.

Writing under the name William T.F. Amor Decosmos, Goerke replied that after years of watching others have all the luck raising money, he was "overjoyed that it is FINALLY my turn."

The second email assured Goerke — who hadn't asked — that "we are not involved in the terrorist act," before requesting his name, address and investment plan, along with a "police clearance letter."

By the fourth email Goerke was masquerading as a retiree with a dream to build a combination curling rink/donut shop. "Nobody sells donuts around here and many people love them," he wrote.

"There's a certain amount of satisfaction from just wasting a scammer's time," he said. "If a person is spending time trying to figure out how to get money out of me, they're not spending time trying to figure out how to get money out of someone else."

Canadians reported being cheated out of more than \$37 million in 2014, according to the Canadian anti-fraud centre. The report recorded 7,334 Canadians who were defrauded through scam websites or emails.

Those are just "the tip of the iceberg," Goerke said. "The vast majority of people who are victimized in this way don't report it for a number of reasons including embarrassment."

While he wanted to bring awareness to online fraud, Goerke had two words of advice for people who receive suspicious emails: "Just delete."

Goerke borrowed his online handle from Amor De Cosmos, a former B.C. Premier who championed confederation. (North Shore News)

May 19 2016

### **OTTAWA - Rogers Communications saw a marked decrease in police requests for Canadians' data in 2015, a year after the Supreme Court put serious restrictions on law enforcements' ability to access personal information without a warrant.**

The company reported 86,328 requests for their customers' information in 2015, a more than 50 per cent drop since Rogers' first started publicly reporting law enforcement requests in 2013.

Dave Watt, Rogers' chief privacy officer, said he thinks the main reason for the decline is the company no longer hands over customer information without a warrant - except in emergency circumstances.

The Star reported in 2014 that law enforcement agencies had asked nine of Canada's largest telecommunications and Internet providers to hand over their customers' data 1.2 million times in 2011.

Police routinely asked for what is known as "basic subscriber information" - name, address, Internet protocol address, telephone number - without a warrant. (Toronto Star)



### **The Sûreté du Québec's distinctive olive green colour scheme could soon be a thing of the past, according to a report.**

La Presse reports that the provincial police force, which has stood out with its colours for 54 years, is set to announce a change that will make the force appear more modern - and also fall in line with other police forces in Quebec.

The SQ would be leaning toward black or a dark marine blue, according to the report, which cites unnamed sources. Designs are already ready, but are being kept secret by police brass.

The changes would affect the uniforms worn by the officers, but also the vehicles that patrol the province.

It's been 30 years since the SQ last modified its uniforms, but the colour scheme was not touched at the time.

The report says an announcement about

the new colour scheme and the timeframe for the changeover is coming shortly.

Cost is obviously a factor given the budget restraints faced by the SQ. The report says a police officer's uniform costs about \$300.

However, the olive green uniforms are sometimes more expensive and complicated to purchase, one former SQ boss told the newspaper.

Serge Barbeau said the task of purchasing the uniforms was "complex and onerous," with the police force having refused entire orders because the colour wasn't right. (Montreal Gazette)

May 20 2016

## WINNIPEG - The Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) leadership wasn't short handed for long.



Chief Devon Clunis announced Friday that Supt. Gord Perrier has been named as the Deputy Chief of Operations.

When outgoing Deputy Chief Dave Thorne announced his retirement May 9, the police service faced both his and Chief Clunis' impending exits-representing half of the senior leadership team.

Perrier — who joined the WPS forensics unit in 1992 and uniform operations in 1994 — was promoted to the superintendent rank in 2013. He has since been responsible for human resources, training and behaviour health services units.

Perrier was also the founding director of the Winnipeg Child Advocacy Centre and was project lead on the review of homicide operations.

Perrier holds a Masters' degree in leadership and management, graduated from the Canadian Police College's executive development program, and is a recipient of the Governor General's Law Enforcement Medal of Excellence. (Metro)

May 20 2016

## EDMONTON - Police recruits who would rather tweet than talk are struggling during training, contributing to a dropout rate higher than surrounding jurisdictions, Edmonton police say.

Since February 2013, EPS has lost 10 per cent of its recruits, either through resignation, termination or injury. In some cases, some of the promising recruits are fumbling when it comes to communicating when it's not through an electronic screen.

Edmonton deputy chief Brian Simpson

said policing requires good listening and speaking skills. He said some recruits are great at Facebook, but struggle with in-person communication.

"They are communicating, they are doing it very effectively. But the nature of our job isn't social connection. It's one-on-one, face-to-face with people," Simpson said.

He said the inability to engage people during high-pressure situations is problematic for someone going forward with a career in policing.

"When you're talking on social media, you don't have that emotion component," Simpson said. "So how do you de-escalate it? How do you bring that situation down then have the ability to have a conversation?"

Simpson's comments followed a report that was prepared at the request of the Edmonton Police Commission to provide information about attrition rates among recruits being trained by EPS, compared with other communities.

At 10 per cent, Edmonton's attrition is higher than Winnipeg's, which has a one-per-cent rate, and the Saskatchewan Police College, which loses an average of one recruit per class. Since February 2013 EPS has lost 33 recruits out of 334. The Calgary police department had four resignations out of 150 recruits from the past six classes.

In the report, Edmonton police determined that the reason the capital's attrition rate is higher is because "EPS is holding recruits to a higher standard" and that it trains more recruits than neighbouring police agencies.

In response to the findings, the commission requested EPS do further investigation and present more details on the issue at a meeting scheduled for July.

The rate of attrition needs to get lower if police are going to meet their goal of training 140 new recruits this year, an increase of 18.6 per cent from 2015. Helping things along is the number of applicants. In the first quarter of 2016, police received 199 applications, up nearly 30 per cent compared to the same time in 2015. (Edmonton Journal)

May 20 2016

## The RCMP is facing more allegations of workplace harassment, this time in the unit that oversees the federal witness protection program at the force's national headquarters in Ottawa.

An internal report about the unit recommends an immediate investigation into longstanding allegations of bullying and harassment.

CBC News obtained the document through the Access to Information Act after learning three female psychologists complained to Assistant Commissioner Todd Shean about the behaviour of the RCMP officer in charge of the unit.

Among the allegations are that over a period of months last year, the superintendent subjected employees to demeaning and belittling comments in front of other staff, that he interfered in people's work, questioned their professional abilities, and contributed to a rude, abusive and poisoned work atmosphere.

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The psychologists worked on the intake and assessment of people who could be eligible for witness protection. One of them has since been seconded to another government department, while another was assigned to prolonged language training.

CBC News cannot identify any of the employees as doing so could put those in the witness protection program at risk.

The RCMP refused to answer questions about how the program is currently serving clients without its full complement of psychologists.

No one from the RCMP would comment on anything that had been redacted from the report or answer specific questions. The report didn't state whether Shean had launched a code of conduct harassment investigation.

All the RCMP would say in an email is that over the last year, the witness protection program unit has undergone change and that work is underway to implement an action plan. (CBC News)

May 20 2016

### **CALGARY - It's the fear of the unknown that's a major concern for police in Calgary about the powerful street drug W-18 and whether it was responsible for a recent death.**

A toxicology report was ordered for a 35-year-old Calgary man found dead of a drug overdose at a hotel in March.

The Office of the Medical Examiner concluded that W-18 was present in his system, along with heroin and 3-methyl fentanyl - another more toxic form of fentanyl.

But it's not clear whether W-18, a powerful opioid 100 times stronger than fentanyl, caused the death.

"As far as which one resulted in the person's death, we cannot say," Calgary police Staff Sgt. Martin Schiavetta said Friday.

"W-18, 3-methyl fentanyl could result in a person's death independent of each other."

He said there is no easy way of determining if W-18 is present in other street drugs and what affect it can have on an individual.

"There's a lot of research going on both in Canada and the United States looking at what W-18 does to the person's brain. Does it react the same as an opioid? Does it react differently? I think the message is unclear at this time," Schiavetta said.

He also said it's frustrating for police because there is no easy way of determining if street drugs contain W-18, which represents an even more significant threat than other opioids such as fentanyl.

Those who are taking drugs are playing "Russian roulette" every time they take a pill, Schiavetta said.

"It does not allow for drug experimentation. Your first tablet could be your last."

Schiavetta said the medical examiner's office will be going through past overdose autopsies to determine if W-18 may have been present.

The drug is difficult to detect, said Dr. Graham Jones, chief toxicologist in the medical examiner's office.

"A preliminary screening test for W-18 does not exist at present and therefore it is not possible to detect in blood unless its presence is suspected," Jones said..

May 20 2016

### **VICTORIA - Victoria police will receive a \$113,000 budget increase to cover the costs of monitoring the tent city set up on the courthouse lawn.**



City council held a special meeting Friday and voted unanimously to take money from the city's contingency fund to pay for police patrols of the camp.

Mayor Lisa Helps says the decision was unprecedented, but that it's the city's duty to protect the neighbourhood.

Insp. Scott McGregor says police requested more money after a spike in calls about the camp over the last three weeks.

Police say requests have come from residents living at the tent city and in the surrounding neighbourhood.

The B.C. Supreme Court refused last month to grant an injunction to dismantle the camp, but Housing Minister Rich Coleman has warned another injunction could be filed if fire and safety regulations at the camp are not followed. (CFAX)



May 21 2016

### **A Sûreté du Québec police officer who has previously found himself in legal trouble has been arrested once again.**

Nicolas Landry, 40, was arrested Thursday and appeared in court in Saint-Hyacinthe Friday.

Landry was charged with assault with a weapon, confinement, mischief, harassment and robbery.

He was released with conditions, including not being able to contact any of the alleged victims.

His next court date is set for Aug. 8. Prior run-ins with the law

Last August, Landry was charged with fraud over \$5,000 after he allegedly submitted false information to his employer in order to extend a sick leave.

The SQ said it began investigating Landry in July, 2014.

In December, he was charged with impersonating a peace officer and obstructing a peace officer.

It's unclear when his next court dates in connection with those incidents will take place.

Landry has been a member of the SQ for nearly 15 years. He's been off on sick leave since 2009. (CBC News)

Mar 21 2016

### **TORONTO - On Wednesday morning, 81-year-old Ruth Burritt donned a police vest, climbed into a cruiser and went on patrol for the first time in almost 50 years.**



With her white hair in a neat, no-nonsense cut and wearing purple banded bifocals, Ruth cut an unusual figure next to her partner for the day - Toronto police Sgt. Stephanie Burritt, who happens to be her daughter-in-law.

Decades ago, Ruth left her job as a kindergarten teacher to try her hand at law enforcement, a career in which women were still a novelty.

"It sounded like an exciting thing to do," she said. "I was doing something that pretty much nobody else was doing."

Ruth said in those days being a female officer meant wearing a uniform that included a skirt, a "silly little hat" and no gun.

Sitting next to her mother-in-law and wearing her full uniform equipped with vest, radio, flashlight and firearm, Stephanie laughed at the idea of chasing down suspects while wearing a skirt, but Ruth insists it wasn't an issue.

"I don't recall it being a problem," she said. "I was used to wearing them."

Instead of a sidearm, Ruth was equipped with a special brass key to unlock call boxes that would connect her to police headquarters. In the six years she served on the force she never used it, but keeps it to this day.

The crimes were different, too. Ruth said in the 1960s she mostly dealt with things like juvenile delinquency and worked with the "Morality Squad" that battled abortion.

Her other duties included helping old ladies cross the street and handing out parking tickets, where she proved no vehicle was above the law, not even fire trucks.

"I was tagging other cars, it was parked there and somebody challenged me to do it," she said. "I thought, 'OK, I'll show you I've got balls.'"

On the weekends Stephanie and her team of 16 constables patrol the same streets Ruth used to protect as a young woman.

After visiting the TPS Operations Centre and spending a morning in a modern police vehicle, Ruth said she doesn't have any old school policing tips for her daughter-in-law.

"God help us, no," she said, gesturing at the dashboard of the cruiser that was cluttered with a laptop, camera and radio. "My life compared to hers was so simple."  
(Toronto Star)

## SUNDAY MAY 22, 2016

May 22 2016

### VANCOUVER - People who use illicit drugs in Vancouver say heroin has virtually disappeared from the streets of the Downtown Eastside.

Longtime advocate Hugh Lampkin of the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users says he believes the market has been all but taken over by fentanyl.

This comes as British Columbia's coroners' service recently revealed a staggering spike in overdose deaths linked to the potent opioid, which is cheaper and far more concentrated than heroin.

That makes it easier to smuggle and gives it a higher profit margin.

Martin Steward of the Western Aboriginal Harm Reduction Society says it's evident that what's being sold isn't heroin, because of how little it takes to overdose, its rainbow colouring and the behaviour it induces in those who use it.

The first four months of this year have seen more than 250 overdose fatalities from illicit drugs, with nearly half of those linked to fentanyl.

That's compared to 480 deaths for all of 2015, only a third of which were fentanyl related.

## MONDAY MAY 23, 2016

May 23 2016

### MONTREAL - Some retired cops from across the country are warning Quebec against setting up a registry they say isn't worth the money and just serves to make citizens feel safer.

John, who didn't want to use his last name, retired from the Montreal police in 2007 after more than 30 years service, many of them spent patrolling downtown.

He said it "boggles the mind" that so many millions were spent on the federal registry - with what he called so few results.

When the Liberals introduced the registry in 1995, they said it would cost roughly \$110 million to create. Instead, the figure ballooned to hundreds of millions of dollars before the Conservatives abolished it in 2012.

Quebec says setting up its proper registry will cost \$17 million and another \$5 million, annually, to maintain. The controversial plan has fuelled reports of dissent within all major parties on the issue.

John said smart officers never relied on

gun data when answering calls because even if they were told a suspect had no registered firearms, "you still didn't know if anyone in that home has a gun."

"If (the screen) says there is no gun registered to anyone in the house are you going to put your hand in your pocket and your mind on neutral?" he asked rhetorically. "That's when you're going to get shot. You go on every call like it's armed."

Quebec's police leaders and union bosses argue the registry is essential because officers checked the old database hundreds of times a day.

Critics, however, say that while everyone wants safe streets and less violence, there is little evidence a registry makes cities safer. They also argue the millions dedicated to



maintaining a gun database can be used more efficiently on crime prevention or increased access to mental-health services.

Homicide rates in Canada have been decreasing for years and have fallen in Quebec since the registry was abolished in 2012.

A retired officer who worked in Vancouver's police department for 28 years said he would "never rely on the federal government to tell me if there were guns in a house."

"That is useless information because guns move," he said. "Any policeman who doesn't assume there are guns in the house is a fool and has a very, very good chance of getting badly hurt."



He added that when the registry came online in the 1990s, "it had absolutely no effect on the street. And I think you'll find that



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CANADA



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)**



most policemen will tell you that if they ran a house address and the operator came back and said there are no guns - they would take that as a total waste of air."

The Vancouver officer said police bosses and unions support the registry for political reasons.

"A lot of decisions that come down the pipe in police departments are a result of police departments getting funding from politicians," he said.

May 23 2016

**OTTAWA - The federal government is set to launch a social media campaign to shine a light on the ongoing problem of people pointing lasers at planes.**



Transport Minister Marc Garneau is expected to unveil the details of the campaign on Tuesday in Toronto as the government tries to address what is fast becoming a serious danger for pilots and air travellers.

The number of laser incidents reported to Transport Canada has increased in the last few years: In 2014, there 502 so-called laser strike incidents on planes, a 43 per cent increase since 2012.

In 2015, there 600 incidents. And through to April of this year, there have been 148 incidents.

The concern is that one of those laser strikes distracts a pilot too much or affects their vision enough to jeopardize the safety of passengers and people on the ground.

The punishments for anyone caught are steep: A fine of up to \$100,000, five years in prison, or both.

May 23 2016

**Last month, B.C.'s top doctor declared a public health emergency following another surge in fentanyl-related deaths.**

Now Global News has learned about how easy access to pill presses makes the problem worse and what police say about those selling them in this province.

The pill presses can be used to produce thousands of pills an hour, including fentanyl, W18 and other potentially deadly illegal drugs.

The presses are illegal in the United States, unless they are approved by the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Even pharmacies and vitamin companies must register with the Drug Enforcement Administration, but the situation is much different in Canada because pill presses are legal.

"These presses are being used to help make pills that are killing a lot of people,"

said Deputy Chief Mike Serr with the CACP.

"We really don't have a lot enforcement power at this point as far as the importation of pill presses or their purchase."

Dozens of pill presses are available on eBay.

Another website, "The Tablet Press Club," lets people buy a \$3,000 pill presser, which makes almost 5,000 pills an hour. The site says the deluxe version, which sells for \$10,000, can produce more than 16,000 pills an hour.

The website's business address is a home in Coquitlam.

In Alberta, pill presses will soon be regulated. It will be the first province to take this action. The government there is moving quickly to deal with the crisis of hundreds of overdose deaths from fentanyl.

Health Canada is working on a framework for pill presses, but time is running out. Health officials are worried B.C.'s overdose death toll could top 800 this year alone.

(Global News)

**TUESDAY  
MAY 24, 2016**

May 24 2016

**OTTAWA - Mounties wearing tiny video cameras must hit the record button when there is "a high likelihood" they'll use force against someone, says an interim RCMP policy on use of the devices.**

In general, officers have discretion as to when to turn on the body-worn cameras that on a uniform, or may be embedded in glasses or a helmet.

But RCMP members should not record every public encounter or conversation, according to the interim policy. And when "tactically feasible," officers are supposed to inform citizens when they are being recorded.

The national police force recently published a summary of the policy, which was provided to a small number of RCMP officers who were involved in a video camera feasibility study last year.

If the body-worn video program is adopted force-wide, the policy will be finalized and a full version released publicly, said Sgt. Harold Pfeleiderer, an RCMP spokesman.

RCMP detachments in Wood Buffalo, Alta., and Windsor and Indian Head, N.S., took part in the 2015 tests. In addition, the Mounties have advised the federal privacy commissioner of ad-hoc evaluations of the technology.

"For example, they have used the cameras at protests in New Brunswick and in Burnaby, B.C.," said Tobi Cohen, a spokeswoman for the privacy commissioner.

Evaluations of the cameras were also carried out at the RCMP training facility in Regina, involving scenarios ranging from everyday interactions to use of lethal force.

The RCMP continues to assess the video technology, but no additional field trials are

taking place and no cameras have been approved for operational use, Pfeleiderer said.

It is too early to speculate on future use of the cameras due to the complex privacy, legal and policy issues that "must be carefully considered before moving forward," he added.

The interim policy says the RCMP has taken steps to address privacy risks by:

- Telling the public when officers are wearing the cameras;
- Informing RCMP members of video policy and best practices;
- Ensuring that recordings are uploaded for secure storage, retained and routinely purged;
- Providing citizens with copies of recordings through the Access to Information and Privacy acts.

The RCMP has told the privacy commissioner another assessment of the technology would be undertaken and provided to the watchdog for comment in advance of any national roll-out of body-worn cameras, Cohen said.

May 24 2016

**CALGARY - Calgary police say a suspect in the death of a woman shot at officers this morning before he was arrested.**

Just after midnight police were called to a home after receiving multiple reports of shots being fired.

Officers found a woman who appeared to have been shot and an injured 15-year-old girl who was taken to hospital in non-life threatening condition.

Police say a man in a car shot at officers before he was pulled over and arrested.

Two other children, an 11-year-old girl and a three-year-old boy, were found in the car and taken into police custody for their safety.

The suspect and the dead woman were not identified.  
(CTV Calgary, CHQR)

May 24 2016

**HALIFAX - A judge has agreed to postpone a Halifax murderer's sentencing pending an assessment of whether his African-Nova Scotian background "played a role" in the crime.**

Kale Leonard Gabriel's defence team told a Nova Scotia Supreme Court judge Tuesday it is preparing a "cultural assessment" on his racial background.

The 27-year-old Gabriel was convicted in February of second-degree murder for the 2010 shooting of Ryan White, who was himself black, in the Mulgrave Park housing project.

Defence lawyers say the assessment will examine whether Gabriel's racial and cultural heritage had a role.

Brandon Rolle of Nova Scotia Legal Aid, who devised the legal strategy, said he believes cultural assessments are the way of the future for sentencing African-Nova Scotians.

But Theresa White, mother of Gabriel's

victim, said she doesn't believe race should be a considered in his sentencing.

"I think that a crime is a crime, and colour shouldn't matter whatsoever," White told CTV.

"It's very difficult to try to forward your life when you're being called back to the same sadness over and over."

The defence team says social worker Lana MacLean will write the report, which should be prepared by mid-June.

May 24 2016

**SURREY, B.C. - British Columbia's police watchdog has determined charges could be laid against RCMP officers after a woman's jaw was broken in a Langford jail.**

The Independent Investigations Office has forwarded a report to the Crown saying an officer may have committed an offence.

The IIO says a woman suffered serious injuries including a broken jaw during an altercation with officers at the West Shore RCMP detachment in March 2014.

The police watchdog says it was not informed of the incident until 14 months later and has filed a complaint with the RCMP regarding the delay.

The Criminal Justice Branch will now look at the case and decide whether charges should be laid.

May 24 2016

**VANCOUVER - The Vancouver Police Department's major crimes unit is investigating after a strange set of circumstances led to a police shooting Tuesday.**

Police say officers on an unrelated call were summoned to a nearby car fire in a fast food restaurant's parking lot.

The department says officers were confronted by a knife-wielding man that they fired their weapons when he allegedly came at them.

The 28-year-old man was transported to hospital for gunshot and stab wounds and is in stable condition.

Police say the man is connected to the burning car, but they're still talking to witnesses to get the rest of the story.

Members of the Independent Investigations Office were also on the scene in an effort to determine if police may have committed an offence.

May 24 2016

**WINNIPEG - Winnipeg police have charged two male youths in a crash during a police pursuit that sent six people to hospital.**

Police said they were pursuing about 2:45 a.m. on Monday when the suspect vehicle crashed into the side of a car at an intersection.

The driver of the suspect vehicle fled on foot.

Paramedics took two adults in the second vehicle and four youths in the suspect vehicle to hospital, all with non-life-threatening injuries.

One 16-year-old is charged with fleeing from a peace officer, dangerous operation of

a motor vehicle and three counts of causing bodily harm.

The other 16-year-old is charged with possessing property obtained by crime and three counts of failing to comply with undertaking.

(CTV Winnipeg)

May 24 2016

**One of two people injured in a weekend crash in Greater Victoria is the same man linked to the death of a West Shore Mountie last month, fire officials say.**

Malahat Fire Chief Rob Patterson says police at the scene told him one of two people injured is the same man linked to a crash that killed Const. Sarah Beckett.

Last month, sources identified Jake Fenton as the driver of a pickup truck that fatally struck Beckett, a 31-year-old wife and mother of two, at a Langford intersection on April 5.

The weekend crash happened at around 12:50 a.m. Sunday, when officers responded to a request for assistance at an apparent bush party in Goldstream Heights.

As soon as they arrived, a vehicle left the area. Police tried to perform a road check but said the vehicle failed to stop.

Officers then found the vehicle rolled over with two injured people trapped inside.

B.C.'s Independent Investigations Office was notified of the crash and deployed investigators to the scene.

The watchdog's aim will be to determine



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if there's a connection between the actions or inactions of police and the pair's injuries.

The IIO and Mounties have yet to confirm if Fenton was involved in the crash, and haven't named him as a suspect in the crash that killed Beckett. He has not been charged. (CTV News)

May 24 2016

**A couple found with two sawed-off guns and a small amount of drugs walked away Tuesday after a B.C. Supreme Court justice ruled an RCMP member who illegally searched them was "deceptive and manipulative" in his motivations.**

Eric Noble was charged with possession of prohibited weapons and possession of drugs following a search of a van in Valleyview, while Rox-Ann Haines was charged with possession of a martial-arts weapon.

Justice Hope Hyslop - who earlier found the couple's rights under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms were breached by police when they were arrested and searched - ruled that admitting the guns and drugs as evidence after the illegal search of the van would bring the administration of justice into disrepute. She dismissed the charges after the Crown indicated it had no other evidence to proceed to trial.

Noble has been in custody for almost a year since the arrest, but was released after the decision.

The arrest at the motel on July 8, 2015, was preceded three hours earlier by an incident in which Mounties were in pursuit of a man fleeing a reported domestic incident in Savona, which is about 30 minutes west of Kamloops on Highway 1.

The suspect was driving a tan Chevy Venture minivan without licence plates.

The van searched by police at the Tournament Inn on the east end of Kamloops was a blue Ford minivan with plates. The arresting officer testified he believed the blue Ford could be the same tan Chevy sought by police in the Savona incident.

"Const. [Kris] Reinburg ignored all known facts of the Savona investigation, pushed aside evidence of fellow officers and deliberately breached Mr. Noble's and Ms. Haines' rights," Hyslop said in her ruling.

Hyslop said she was "regretful to conclude" that police neglected to photograph the exterior of the blue Ford minivan for use as evidence in court because they knew it did not resemble the tan Chevy without a licence plate that was the subject of a high-speed chase hours earlier.

Defence lawyers Jay Michi and Erin Rines arranged for the van to be brought to the courthouse so it could be photographed and admitted as evidence.

"Const. Reinburg's evidence is not capable of belief," Hyslop concluded.

While Reinburg testified he believed RCMP dispatch reported the licence-plate number was unknown, dispatch in fact told pursuing Mounties the van had no plate.

(Kamloops This Week)

## WEDNESDAY MAY 25, 2016

May 25 2016

**TIMMINS - A multi-jurisdiction drug investigation, dubbed Project COAST, has dismantled a drug trafficking network that leaders in the James Bay Coast say has been "destroying their communities."**



The Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service (NAPS), in partnership with the Ontario Provincial Police Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau, made 55 arrests earlier this month in connection with the trafficking and selling of prescription medications and other illicit drugs to communities in the North.

Thirteen individuals from Timmins have been arrested and charged as well as more than 20 individuals from the coastal communities. Other individuals from outside the region, including Ottawa and Toronto, have also been charged.

As a result of a six-month investigation that began in November, the police seized \$252,000 in cash, 57,792 methamphetamine tablets, 7,229 oxycodone pills, 706 grams of cocaine, more than 476 grams of marijuana and more than 154 grams of fentanyl patches.

The estimated street value of these drugs in Northern Ontario is approximately \$2.1 million, police say, as the going rate for some is four times that of similar drugs in southern Ontario.

Police also recovered one shotgun and body armour in their investigation.

NAPS Chief Terry Armstrong said the drugs originated from southern Ontario, mainly Ottawa, and were transported to the coastal communities through connections in Timmins.

He said Aboriginal communities are often targeted by drug traffickers because narcotic-based prescription medication sells for a much higher rate in the North than in other urban centres.

A single fentanyl patch sells for approximately \$1,600 in the North compared to \$400 in the South, for example, while a methamphetamine tablet goes for between \$20 and \$25 per pill in Northern Ontario versus \$10 in other parts of the province.

"The Ottawa connection was absolutely targeting vulnerable communities because it is where they can make the most profit," Armstrong explained.

"Without them, the seizures wouldn't be as large as they are and it proves the point

that these communities are under attack by all angles."

Everyone on Tuesday's panel also agreed that the quantity of drugs seized highlights the crucial need for the NAPS to have a dedicated drug enforcement unit in order to keep the residents in its communities safe.

In fact, according to a Postmedia report last month, the NAPS has only one drug sergeant and one drug constable on the entire force, which Armstrong said must be changed.

"A project of this magnitude paints a clear picture of what is happening in our communities," Armstrong said. "The quantity of drugs being trafficked is shocking and yet we should note, that NAPS is not funded by the province or Canada for drug enforcement units... This clearly shows the need for fully funded drug enforcement units in our catchment areas and to serve our communities."

As a result of this investigation, police have laid 341 charges on 55 individuals under the Controlled Drug and Substances Act and Criminal Code of Canada.

(Timmins Press)

May 25 2016

**WINNIPEG - For the second time this month, a judge has thrown a speeding ticket out of a Winnipeg courtroom because of the time it took for the matter to go to trial.**

Provincial court Judge Susan Devine ruled Tuesday that forcing Justin Segodnia to wait 19 months before he could fight the ticket is a violation of his constitutional rights.

Segodnia was tagged on Oct. 18, 2014, but he had to wait until 2016 to have his day in court after pleading not guilty.

Last week, another provincial court judge threw out a Winnipeg woman's speeding ticket because she was forced to wait 18 months for a hearing.

In that decision, Judge Mary Kate Harvie ruled the delay was "unreasonable" and the case should have gone to court within four to six months after the plea was entered.

Both rulings are being reviewed.

(Winnipeg Free Press, Online Out)

May 25 2016

**CALGARY - A Calgary man has been found not criminally responsible for killing five people in a stabbing rampage.**

A judge delivered the verdict today in the first-degree murder trial of Matthew de Grood.

The 24-year-old son of a police officer admits he killed five people at a Calgary house party on April 15, 2014 but both the defence and the Crown agree he was suffering from a mental disorder at the time.

The trial heard de Grood became withdrawn about a month before the attack and started posting about the end of the world, religion, vampires and Darth Vader on Facebook.

Killed in the attack were Kaitlin Perras, Lawrence Hong, Josh Hunter, Zackariah Rathwell and Jordan Segura.

May 25 2016

**MONTREAL - Montreal police say so far, 19 people have been arrested in connection with an investigation into a network of alleged fraudsters who specialize in "grandparent scams."**

Officers from Laval, Longueuil, Montreal and the Sûreté du Québec are involved in the operation in Montreal and surrounding cities.

The people targeted by the network at the centre of the police operation are located in Montreal, but also across Quebec and Canada.

"It was a operation very, very specialized with numerous branches," said Montreal police spokesperson Manuel Couture.

"They attempt to extract money by inventing very, very credible stories. The elderly people can easily fall into the trap."

Typically as part of the scam, victims will receive a call or email from a supposed grandchild who is in some kind of trouble and needs money to be wired to them in a hurry.

Sometimes the call or email will purportedly come from the police officer or a doctor who has detained or is treating the "grandchild."

With the advent of social media, the fraudsters sometimes collect information about their victims to make their story more believable.

(CBC News)

May 25 2016

**REGINA - Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall says his government will study how legalizing marijuana would affect driver safety.**

Wall says the federal government hasn't made it clear how its plan to legalize pot would deal with preventing impaired driving due to marijuana use.

He has asked three cabinet ministers, including Justice Minister Gordon Wyant, to review how legalized pot would affect the law, enforcement and regulatory issues.

Wall says their findings will be forwarded to a federal task force that is reviewing marijuana legalization.

May 25 2016

**RICHMOND HILL, Ont. - Police north of Toronto say a man pointed a laser at one of their helicopters just hours after the launch of a federal campaign meant to highlight the dangers of pointing lasers at planes.**

York Regional Police say the Air2 helicopter was flying over Richmond Hill, Ont., just after midnight Wednesday when the pilot and tactical flight officer were struck by a bright light source.

Police say the crew was able to direct officers to the location of the suspect, who was then arrested and charged.

Valeri Korakhashvili, 22, of Toronto, is charged with endangering persons on an aircraft in flight and obstructing a peace officer. He is due in court on June 29.

Police say the pilot and tactical flight officer were taken to hospital as a precaution.

A government campaign meant to highlight the issue was unveiled Tuesday as the government tries to address what is fast becoming a serious danger for pilots and air travellers.

May 25 2016

**TORONTO - Two capybaras who escaped from the High Park Zoo Tuesday are continuing to evade authorities as the search resumes for the missing rodents today.**



Officials say the capybaras were reported missing Tuesday after they escaped from their pen.

It was initially thought that two female capybaras escaped but Parks department spokesperson Megan Price told CP24 Wednesday morning that it was actually a male and a female that are on the loose.

"It's more of a Bonnie and Clyde situation," Price said.

Price said the two animals are likely frightened and hiding in the park.

"We are getting reports that they've been seen as far away as Scarborough, Toronto Mayor John Tory told reporters.

"It would be quite a feat for these small, relatively young animals in 24 hours to have made their way from Scarborough unless they took the TTC," the mayor said with a laugh. "We know that raccoons have been on the TTC before so it wouldn't be a first."

The missing rodents have caused quite a stir on social media and the two fugitives even have their own Twitter account.

York Regional Police joined in on the social media chatter, tweeting out a photo of two capybaras with the caption, "WANTED — With a top speed of 35 km/h this illusive pair from Toronto may have made it north to York Region."

(CP24)

May 25 2016

**EDMONTON - A police watchdog group says officers did not do anything wrong in the case of a man who killed himself in northeastern Alberta.**

The Alberta Serious Incident Response Team says RCMP in Cold Lake got a call on Sept. 28, 2015 from a woman concerned for a friend's well-being.

RCMP found the 48-year-old man crouched down in the bush with a long-barreled firearm pointed towards himself.

The two officers drew their police service pistols, called for backup, and tried to persuade the man not to shoot and to drop the gun.

One of the officers drew his Taser, hop-

ing to use it to get the gun away from the man, but ASIRT says the man shot himself before the officer could deploy it.

May 25 2016

**WINNIPEG - A new pilot project is being launched in Manitoba aimed at preventing missing and abducted children from crossing the United States border.**

The Canada Border Services Agency is teaming up with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection to train its officers how to intercept missing children.

Since 1986, there have been 1,800 missing children that have been rescued at Canada's borders.

The two agencies are already partners and border officers are already taught to recognize red flags.

This project aims to hone their tactics.

Jessica Huzyk with the child protection centre says they deal with cases where children have run away, or where they've been abducted by a parent.

(CTV Winnipeg)

May 25 2016

**The Wood Buffalo RMCP detachment is back and fully operational, Superintendent Rob McCloy said in a presentation to council Wednesday afternoon.**

Morale is "extremely high" as local detachment members have returned to Wood Buffalo after a forced break following hectic days after the evacuation, McCloy said. In a media release on Tuesday, the detachment announced they were back to working out of their Timberlea headquarters.

"The main thing I want to say is, we're back," McCloy said.

Local officers have been eager to return to duty since they were relieved from their duties by officers across the country for an enforced break, he said.

During the days of the evacuation many police officers slept in their cars in between shifts, McCloy said.

Several councillors praised the RCMP for their role in helping residents evacuate and providing security.

Previously police had said they were investigating about 100 potential cases of break-and-enter in Fort McMurray.

After the meeting McCloy said all of those residences have been secured, and police have been contacting the owners.

Police are waiting for the homeowners to return and assess if anything is missing before treating it as a crime, McCloy said. He added some residents may have had pets, and neighbours might have broken into the homes to rescue them.

"We're not treating it as a crime per se until people come in," he said.

McCloy stressed that the rumours of "mass looting" on social media were untrue.

"It's locked down," he said.

(Fort McMurray Today)



**"Listen. Believe. And don't judge."**

That's the lesson Staff Sgt. Angela McDade will be teaching to front-line officers in Ottawa's police force in a new training program starting Wednesday about how to deal with victims of sexual assault at the beginning of cases.

"There are a number of things we can improve on, and one would be our service to victims right from the beginning, just to know what they're thinking, maybe having a little more education on how trauma impacts a victim and how to communicate with that victim," McDade, head of the Ottawa Police Service's sexual assault and child abuse unit, told CBC Radio's Ottawa Morning on Wednesday.

While the sexual assault unit has always shared its expertise in dealing with victims of this sort of crime with front-line officers who are usually the first to be at the scene, or taking a victim's complaint, the force is simply too large to communicate effectively on an ad hoc basis. That's why a formal program was created.

McDade, who will be delivering the police's new sexual assault response training, said one of the key lessons for officers to learn in a sexual assault investigation is that the victim is at the centre of the entire case.

"I've really come to realize it's really the victim that leads the investigation," McDade told Ottawa Morning host Robyn Bresnahan.

"They're the ones that decide whether we move forward or not. And that was one of the toughest things to understand when I first came into the unit because that's not normally the case with aggravated assaults. That was difficult, letting go. It's the victim that really has control over how the investigation will proceed or not proceed."

According to police data, less than half of sexual assault complaints resulted in a charge from 2008 to 2014.

McDade said the new training might help improve those statistics, but likely only a little. (CBC News)

**THURSDAY**  
**MAY 26, 2016**

May 26 2016

**TORONTO - Ontario's human rights watchdog has laid out a bold blueprint for policing during the "critical moment" when the province's rule book is being rewritten.**

The recommendations are contained in the Ontario Human Rights Commission's

recent submissions to the province on its Strategy for a Safer Ontario, essentially a rewriting of the Police Services Act, the law governing policing in the province.

Last revisited more than 25 years ago, the law is being rewritten at a time of unprecedented scrutiny of policing throughout North America, enhanced technology, and shifting ideas about who and what a modern police force should be.

"The moment is ripe to have a broad-ranging discussion about policing," Renu Mandhane, Ontario's chief human rights commissioner. "This is a vision for policing into the future."

The commission's proposed changes deal with racial profiling, mandated race-based data collection and body-worn cameras, disparities in the use of force on people with mental illness and addiction, over-policing of indigenous peoples, and a lack of human-rights accountability.

Community Safety and Correctional Services Minister Yasir Naqvi says he hopes to have legislation tabled by the end of this year.

The commission wants the province to require all police services to collect human rights-based data on stops of civilians, use-of-force incidents and police inquiries about immigration status.

Echoing the calls of criminologists and some progressive police figures, the commission says the data "should be standardized, disaggregated, tabulated and publicly reported by each police service."

Once publicly available, the data could be closely monitored by civilian police boards, which could then demand change if necessary. "It would be very hard for police boards not to hold their police accountable," said Mandhane.

This kind of data collection was something the commission, in a past partnership with the Toronto Police Service, had pushed for. It never came to be. This time, the commission wants the province to write it into law.

Although it expressed concerns about privacy in regard to body-worn cameras, the commission is calling for an independent study into the feasibility of equipping every officer in the province with one.

It also wants the province to ensure that officers are disciplined, up to and including dismissal, when their behaviour is consistent with racial profiling or discriminatory use of force on people with mental health disabilities and/or addictions.

And it calls for the addition of interveners in police disciplinary tribunals.

Police boards should be required to "address systemic discrimination by directing chiefs of police with respect to policy or practices informed by policy governing the carrying out of duties and responsibilities of the police," it says.

The province has attempted to entrench policing in charter rights by trying to curb racially skewed arbitrary stops with new regulations on "carding" or "street checks."

But the commission says systemic racial profiling extends beyond carding to all kinds of police interactions, including arrests, use of force and DNA sampling.

It wants Ontario to adopt strict directives to "address and end racial profiling" and give officers "clear guidelines" on when and how they may stop people.

It is also calling for a ban on checking the immigration status of "victims, witnesses or individuals under investigation, unless there are credible, non-discriminatory" reasons for the check.

The commission recommends providing detailed human rights training at least every three years, with everyone from new recruits to supervisors required to participate.

That training should address racial profiling, mental health, de-escalation techniques and unconscious bias - and be developed in conjunction with affected parties, such as "local racialized and marginalized communities."

"We think that that would mean that the training would be responsive to the local needs in the community," said Mandhane.

Besides teaching officers that racial profiling violates the law - including the charter and the Police Services Act - they should be told that engaging in it could result in discipline, including dismissal.

"Training on bias and stereotyping may better equip officers to distinguish 'real' threats based on objective evidence or criteria from assumptions about dangerousness based on bias and stereotypes," the commission writes.

People with mental health issues and addictions are more likely to come into contact with police and are "more likely to be subject to officer use of force because of behaviours and responses to police instructions that are interpreted as unusual, unpredictable or inappropriate," the report says.

"As well, some officers rely on stereotypical assumptions about dangerousness or violence when deciding whether to use force. Both can have disastrous results, including serious injury and death."

The province, says the commission, should require officers to use de-escalation techniques and effective communication, and avoid force for as long as possible. It should also be a rule that a mobile crisis intervention team or officers with special training and skills are "available at all times."

(Toronto Star)

May 26 2016

**VANCOUVER - A notorious character with prior run-ins with Vancouver Police briefly snatched a knife from a crime scene, but the cops aren't recommending charges.**

That's because the knife thief is believed to be Canuck the Crow, an infamous bird with a dedicated social media following and more than 12,000 Facebook fans.

The incident unfolded after police shot and wounded a man in East Vancouver on

Tuesday, prompting media including Vancouver Courier reporter Mike Howell to race to the scene.

Howell says he saw a crow swoop into an area taped off by police and pick up something, and then he watched an officer chase the bird for several metres before it dropped the object.

He says the crow had a red tag on its leg, as does Canuck, and Vancouver Const. Brian Montague confirms it's not the first time the department has encountered the feathered foe.

Montague says an officer took a photo of the crow when it flew into a police cruiser and stole a button from the keyboard of an on-board computer.

May 26 2016

**Canada's ambassador to Ireland, the man who was hailed as a hero for shooting Ottawa gunman Michael Zehaf-Bibeau after he stormed Parliament Hill in 2014, tackled a protester at a ceremony in Dublin this morning.**



The former House of Commons sergeant-at-arms was at the event commemorating the 100 British soldiers who died during the Easter Rising, also called the Easter Rebellion, when Irish republicans tried to overthrow British control of the country by force.

A male protester, wearing an Easter Rising T-shirt, stood up during the invitation-only event, and could be heard yelling, "This is an insult."

Vickers was the first to respond to the disturbance, tackling the man and leading him away from the ceremony, according to the Irish Independent. Police later arrested the protester.

"This man just ran forward and started screaming, 'It's a disgrace.' He was tackled by somebody and it was only after that I realized it was the Canadian ambassador," an unnamed eyewitness told the Irish paper.

"The whole thing lasted about a minute. The Canadian ambassador grabbed him. There was a struggle and gardai [the police] wrestled him to the ground. Without hesitation [Mr Vickers] jumped out from the middle of dignitaries," the eyewitness said.

Thursday's ceremony was being held at a time of heightened security, in the centennial year of the uprising that sought to establish an Irish republic. The British MI-5 recently raised the threat level for Northern Ireland-related terrorism from moderate to substantial, adding there is a "strong possibility" of an attack from "dissident" Irish republicans.

A spokesperson for Global Affairs Canada said in a statement that Vickers intervened to intercept the protester from running up to the speakers' podium. He was not injured during the incident, the department confirmed.

Vickers was appointed ambassador to Ireland early last year, just months after he played a key role in ending the shooting attack on Parliament Hill.

(CBC News)

May 26 2016

**TORONTO - Toronto police have raided several shops they allege are trafficking marijuana.**

Const. Caroline de Kloet says the drug squad executed numerous search warrants at

12 p.m. Thursday alongside members from the city's municipal and licensing standards investigative service.

She says the raids are part of Project Claudia, an investigation into stores they say operate outside the country's medical marijuana regulations.

De Kloet says Chief Mark Saunders will hold a news conference Friday with details of the raids, including charges laid and amount of marijuana seized.

Mayor John Tory had promised a crack-down on the proliferating marijuana dispensary scene in the city.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says marijuana will be decriminalized, but the laws won't change until next year.



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