

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

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June 9, 2016 – Vol. 21 No. 24

## Executive Digest

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**TORONTO** - Toronto police Chief Mark Saunders says his force has “eradicated” a street gang called Heart of a King with links to Montreal and Nova Scotia following a series of raids Thursday.

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**MONCTON** - Police officers in the Codiac Regional RCMP detachment are under “much greater stress” since the June 4, 2014 shootings, with many people refusing to work overtime, according to the professional association that represents Mounties across Canada.

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**WINNIPEG** - While marijuana dispensaries proliferate and engage in a game of legally-grey chicken with authorities in some Canadian cities, Winnipeg police say the same simply isn't happening locally.

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**Here's another reason you should get enough shut-eye: new research suggests that insufficient sleep, particularly for shift workers, may increase a person's risk for cardiovascular diseases.**

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**OTTAWA** - Federal officials used photo-matching technology to identify 15 high-risk people — all wanted on immigration warrants — who used false identities to apply for travel documents.

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BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## Former Niagara police chief dies



Jun 02 2016

**During her time as chief, she was often a lightning rod for controversy.**

Wendy Southall was the first female police chief and first civilian to lead the Niagara Regional Police Service.

Southall was chief for seven years before retiring in 2012.

She died Wednesday after battling cancer.

“There won't be another Wendy Southall for a long time,” said Shirley Cordiner, a former chair of the police services board. “She

was one of a kind.

“Being the chief of police isn't an easy job. You can't please everyone, but she always did what was best for the service and the community of Niagara. She cared about what her officers thought and felt.

“For me, it's a great loss. She was a friend. I wish she had more time to enjoy her retirement.”

Before becoming chief, Southall served as administrator of the police board as well as the service's chief administrative officer for finances and human resources.



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She was 53 when she was sworn in as chief in late 2004.

Controversy ensued.

Former St. Catharines mayor Brian McMullan and Southall crossed swords over the decision to move the NRP's headquarters out of St. Catharines to Niagara Falls.

At the end of her tenure as chief, some thought comments she made at a Niagara Women in Business Awards banquet were directed at McMullan when she invited those who doubted her to "kiss my royal chief's ASS."

"We both had jobs to do," McMullan said. "As mayor of the city, I felt I had to defend the need for a strong police presence in the downtown core. In her capacity as chief, she had a different vision.

"I fought for what I thought was best for the city. She, in turn, fought for what she believed was in the best interest of the Niagara Regional Police Service. History put us on opposite sides of the issue. We both believed passionately in our positions, and you have to respect that."

Southall started as an officer for the Toronto Metropolitan Police Service in 1970 and spent eight years with the department.

She ran a small business with her husband before finding a job as a Niagara bylaw enforcement officer in 1982.

Seven years later, she was hired as administrator of the Niagara police board.

During Southall's time on the board, Grant Waddell was hired as chief. His administration was marked by conflict with the police union and the board itself.

During Waddell's final year as chief in 2000, the conflicts came to a head.

The board wanted to make Southall an acting deputy, but Waddell and then-deputy chief Gary Nicholls interceded to prevent her from gaining operational command authority.

The board made her the service's chief administrative officer responsible for finances

and human resources.

She was appointed as chief at the end of 2004. Southall said she was keenly aware her unorthodox background made some uncomfortable.

Cliff Priest, president of the Niagara Region Police Association, which represents the NRP's rank and file officers, said he had philosophical differences with Southall about the service, however, he added her door was always open.

"She was always forthright and frank with us," Priest said. "She made changes to the service that were not always popular with our members, but I got along with her personally. We often had to agree to disagree."

Deputy Chief Joe Matthews said Southall was the right chief at the right time for the NRP.

"I was proud to serve as her deputy," he said. "Regarding legacy, her political astuteness and financial acumen brought everything together for our new headquarters. I feel bad she didn't live to see her vision completed, but I am happy to tell you that I took her through the building several months ago.

"She was also the driving force behind the increase of civilian professionals within the police service in areas of finance and human resources. Her vision was to bring in civilian expertise as policing became more complex.

"I think it is something that is benefiting the service, and will benefit the service for years to come."

Larry Iggulden, a local chartered accountant, was chairman of the police services board when Southall was appointed.

"There is no question that some people wanted to see her fail, but she turned out to be a great chief," he said. "I think she knew she had the board's support and believed she could weather any storm when people questioned her credentials to lead the service.

"When she became chief, a lot of organizations were starting to look away from having a chief with a deep operational background as the be all and end all. Managing the service needed someone who understood the business and financial end of things — and she had that.

"She was tough when she had to be, and compromising when she had to be. No matter what shots people took at her, she always had a smile on her face and was upbeat. I'm sure it got to her sometimes, but she never showed it.

"She proved the naysayers wrong."

Niagara Regional Police Chief Jeff McGuire said Southall was highly regarded by her peers in policing right across the province.

"Rising through the ranks of the civilian side of policing and then being selected as chief of police was an incredible accomplishment," he said.

Southall was predeceased by her husband Robert (Bob) Southall in 2011 and is survived by her children, Erin MacQueen and Brent Southall.

(St. Catharines Standard)

**THURSDAY**  
**JUNE 2, 2016**

Jun 02 2016

**VANCOUVER - British Columbia's highest court has overturned a ruling that found nearly decade-old changes to the federal dangerous-offender laws violate the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.**

The decision involves 47-year-old Donald Boutilier, who pleaded guilty in May 2012 to six offences including robbery and assault with a weapon, but challenged a Crown request seeking dangerous-offender status.

Boutilier's lawyer argued successfully that 2008 revisions in an omnibus crime bill passed by the then-Conservative government were too broad and violated the charter, in part because they removed judicial discretion over dangerous-offender designations.

Changes to classification and sentencing of dangerous offenders generally made it easier to apply the law to anyone with multiple convictions.

A panel of B.C. Court of Appeal judges has now ruled that the lower court was wrong to find dangerous-offender provisions remove a judge's sentencing discretion or are too broad.

The unanimous decision upholds the Crown appeal, saying that when all the evidence is considered, it is reasonable to conclude that an indeterminate sentence is the best way to manage the risks posed by Boutilier.

Jun 02 2016

**REGINA - More than \$100,000: That's the cost of a single incident of domestic violence in Saskatchewan, according to a new study.**

The report, put together by Regina's Circle Project Association, calculates the initial costs of responding to a particular case scenario, like police, health care, courts and social services.

"This is costing lot of money, and this is an issue in our community," said Circle Project executive director Ann Perry.

To put the cost into perspective, the organization's budget for its family violence prevention work is \$135,000 annually. Last year, it supported 224 people. Perry noted if each of those clients committed a violent act instead of getting help, that could amount to \$22.4 million in related costs.

"That's a pretty compelling figure. The scenario that they use is very realistic," said Regina Police Service Supt. Corey Zaharuk.

Regina police respond to about 15 domestic-related calls - not all of which are violent - per day. Zaharuk ran down the resources needed for those incidents, from the communications staff who take the calls to the attending officers to investigators and family services personnel.

"We're not going to arrest our way out of



**ISSN 1704-3913**  
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domestic violence," he said, noting how once police get involved, the family is already in a crisis situation.

"Policing is often the default sector for a lack of capacity in other areas, and we want to encourage our other community safety partners, stand beside them and support their efforts in preventing those crises in the first place."

(Regina Leader-Post)

## FRIDAY JUNE 3, 2016

Jun 03 2016

**FREDERICTON - The last three years of New Brunswick RCMP Assistant Commissioner Roger Brown's career have been more challenging and emotionally draining than anyone could have predicted.**

After 36 years in the force, Brown will retire Saturday, on the second anniversary of an event he describes as the low-point in his career.

On June 4, 2014, a gunman in Moncton shot and killed three RCMP constables, wounded two others, and led police on a tense, 30-hour manhunt.

Brown was often seen wiping back tears in the days following that event, but says that's who he is, and believes it gave other officers the licence to grieve the same way.

Also during his three years in New Brunswick, Brown had to deal with two boys killed by a python in Campbellton, violent riots that saw police cars burned in Rexton, and Corporal Ron Francis who took his own life after a long struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder.

While he says those events were difficult, the 57-year-old has no regrets from a career that has allowed a guy from Joe Batt's Arm, Newfoundland to work across the country and travel the world.

However Brown says he's tired, and looks forward to boating and spending time with his grandchildren.

Jun 03 2016

**TORONTO - Toronto police Chief Mark Saunders says his force has "eradicated" a street gang called Heart of a King with links to Montreal and Nova Scotia following a series of raids Thursday.**

"We kicked in 43 doors," Saunders told a news conference at police headquarters on Friday morning.

Fifty-three people have been arrested and more arrests are anticipated in what police call Project Sizzle, Saunders said.

"This investigation had many tentacles to it," Saunders said. "When we work together, we have amazing conclusions like we have today."

Search warrants were executed early Thursday morning by tactical units from police forces in Toronto, Peel, Halton, Durham,

and Montreal early Thursday morning, Saunders said.

The Heart of a King group - also known as "HOK" - is involved in murder, weapons and gun trafficking and prostitution, Saunders said.

It originated in Halifax, growing out of the gang called North Preston's Finest, Saunders said.

He made his comments at police headquarters on College St., surrounded by evidence that included 19 handguns, a rifle and bags containing \$45,000 in cash.

There was also a photo of a man on a Bentley luxury car and a luxury Mercedes SUV.

He said the probe involved more than 600 officers, led by the Integrated Gun and Gang Task Force.

Montreal Police conducted raids the same day as part of the same operation. Four of the arrests were in Montreal.

(Toronto Star)

Jun 03 2016

**WINNIPEG - The Winnipeg Police Board has asked the police service to keep track of problems in its new headquarters.**

Coun. Scott Gillingham, board chairman, said they want police to keep separate lists of what are believed to be construction problems and which are changes made to the original plan.

"We want a list of what they are encountering from construction, including a leaky

roof," Gillingham said after Friday's board meeting.

"These are the kind of ones which would be addressed by the contractor or subcontractor."

Gillingham said other changes which have been made due to police requirements, including moving a wall, would have to be budgeted by police.

Gillingham said he doesn't want to see construction repairs paid for out of the police budget.

"The board's role is to allocate the police budget. We want to know what shouldn't be in the budget."

Police Chief Devon Clunis said the list will be compiled and they will report back to the police board.

Earlier this year, the total project costs had reached more than \$214 million, including the cost to buy the Canada Post complex in 2009, have Caspian Construction renovate it, fix it after a rainstorm caused a flood inside, and put security barriers outside the building.

City council was told in 2009 it would only cost \$135 million to buy the building and renovate it.

RCMP have been investigating the project since 2014, when it raided Caspian Construction's offices but no charges have been laid and any allegations have not been proven in court.

George Van Mackelbergh, vice president of the Winnipeg Police Association, said he can't understand why the city bought a build-

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ing that was being vacated by Canada Post.

"I've been around long enough to know that when the federal government leaves a building it either has to be demolished or there is asbestos there," Van Mackelbergh said.

"The police shouldn't be stuck with the cost. The landlord which bought the piece of crap should be."

Van Mackelbergh said he worries that ultimately it will be reduced police services, including layoffs of officers, that ultimately pay the full costs of the overruns in the new building.

Deputy chief Art Stannard said the move into the new police headquarters should be completed by the end of the month.

Meanwhile, according to the first quarter financial report presented to the police board, the new headquarters is also costing the city extra money because of financing charges.

The report says the overall debt and finance costs for the city is predicted to be \$7.8 million higher than last year. For the first quarter alone, the line item for debt and finance charges has jumped from \$95,000 last year to \$4 million this year, a 4,255 per cent increase.

The report says of the work in the building that still needs to be done, the police service is focusing first on the ones needed for "workplace, health and safety reasons".

Clunis said a report outlining problems will soon come to the board and he doesn't want to say much before then.

"It is a very safe building at this point," he said, adding that many of the changes being made by police are similar to what someone would do when moving into a new home.

The financial report also says the provincial government has agreed to pay in perpetuity the eight members who operate AIR1 - subject to the results of an audit of the helicopter by the province - and the 13 officers who work in local schools. The helicopter cost the province \$1.7 million in operational expenses in 2014.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Jun 03 2016

### **West Vancouver cyclists worried about thieves snatching their bikes can now register their bikes in the safety of an online database.**

The West Vancouver Police Department recently joined 529 Garage, an app, website and registration system intended to align police, cyclists, universities and bike shops in an effort to weed out theft and recover stolen bikes.

The news comes on the heels of the launch of the RCMP's Get Your Bike Back database, a similar system which allows cyclists to sign up at [nvgetyourbikeback@rcmp-grc.ca](mailto:nvgetyourbikeback@rcmp-grc.ca).

While there are currently no plans to work together, there could be future collaboration, according to Project 529 founder J Allard.

"We haven't been approached by North Vancouver about their system or integration

at this point, but we would absolutely work together with them," he wrote in an email.

Garage 529 will likely reach out to North Vancouver RCMP in late summer or early fall, according to Allard.

"In any event, (North) Vancouver riders would be well served to register with us as stolen bikes often jump postal codes."

North Van RCMP recovered 228 stolen bikes in 2015, but many weren't returned because there was no way for police to determine ownership.

The 529 Garage program includes a unique decal for each bike intended to ward off thieves.

The system also allows bike shop proprietors to do a quick search to find out if a bike's been reported stolen.

The registry includes 5,000 bikes in Vancouver and approximately 50 shops that sell or repair cycles.

Registration with the 529 Garage is free across Canada at [529garage.ca](http://529garage.ca).

(North Shore News)

Jun 03 2016

### **Variable speed signs are now active in three locations throughout the province of British Columbia as part of a project to help reduce the frequency and severity of weather-related crashes.**

B.C. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Todd Stone said on Thursday that the variable speed limit signs are now activated in the Coquihalla, Sea to Sky and the Trans-Canada Highway near Revelstoke. "It is important drivers understand that along these corridors, these signs aren't 'speed readers', they are the law," Stone said in a statement. "These electronic signs will adjust the speed limit according to conditions and will require drivers to slow down and reduce their speed in bad weather."

Whether it is extreme cold, freezing rain or heavy snowfall, an extensive system of traffic, pavement and visibility sensors are calibrated to detect the conditions and provide a recommended speed to operations staff located in the Regional Traffic Management Centre in Coquitlam, the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure explained in the statement. The recommended speed will be used to update the speed shown on digital signs, to help drivers know a safe driving speed during adverse weather conditions.

The variable speed limit program is also supported by recent changes in the B.C. Motor Vehicle Act regulations that allow police to enforce these posted speeds, the transportation and infrastructure ministry reported. Drivers are encouraged to be aware when they enter a variable speed limit zone that posted limits are the maximum speeds allowed.

The ministry has invested \$12.5 million to install and run the pilot systems that were largely made and manufactured in B.C. The pilot program is part of the ministry's \$25-million per-year Road Safety Improvement Program.

(Canadian Underwriter)

**SATURDAY**  
**JUNE 4, 2016**

Jun 04 2016

### **CALGARY - Calgary police officers will be taking a skateboarding 101 course from two teenagers and two professional skaters this summer.**



The four-day course - which covers the basics of balance, pushing, stopping, turning, ollie and ramp riding - is meant to build bridges between "two cultures [that] seem to clash historically," said Eric Moschopedis, one of the people behind the program.

"I think it's a really great opportunity to bring together two groups of people," said Moschopedis, who was commissioned by the city to create this public art project to address cultural gaps in the community.

"By the end of the course, they'll have truly the skills to hit the parks in a meaningful way."

Nine participants, primarily community and school resource officers, will be outfitted with skateboards, helmets and protective gear that's theirs to keep.

"The hope is that they'll keep them in their offices and in their cruisers, and when they're out and about and they see some skaters at parks, that they'll jump out with them and skate with them," Moschopedis said.

Moschopedis said officers are excited to take the course, and he hopes to expand the program in the future.

(CBC News)

Jun 04 2016

### **VICTORIA - Victoria police have teamed up with actors from the around the world for a series of theatre workshops aimed at exploring dialogue between police and immigrants.**

The goal of the "Police and Community" workshops is to build trust and reduce discrimination.

The workshops first began in Saanich where local police officers teamed up with the Inter-Cultural Association in 2013 and 2014.

In a release police said the interactive performances build an understanding between the communities.

"It helps these new Canadians understand policing in Canada and how different it may be from their past experiences or how different it may be from their home country," said Acting Chief Constable Del Manak. "The interactive nature of this Transformational Theatre approach requires our people who

are participating to step out of their comfort zones a little bit, which in itself is a powerful tool towards building new understandings.”

Actors and VicPD perform short scenes based on real life events of conflict and “cultural sensitivity.” Audience members are encouraged to help with solutions to the problems.

Police noted that incidents of prejudice and discrimination still happen and theatre can be a powerful bridging tool.

“Transformational theatre in particular, encourages community dialogue and initiative, one of the truest ways we can start to build a relationship of trust and close the gaps related to racial and cultural misunderstandings,” Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria Arts & Outreach Coordinator Paulina Grainger said.

(CTV News)

Jun 04 2016

**MONCTON, N.B. - Nadine Larche appeared to choke back tears as she spoke of how her husband used to run along the riverfront in Moncton, steps away from where the slain RCMP officer has been immortalized in a bronze statue.**

The monument of Doug Larche and two other officers, who died after being targeted by a gunman, was unveiled on Saturday in a small park next to the Petitcodiac River on the second anniversary of the tragedy.

It features life-size statues of Larche and officers Dave Ross and Fabrice Gevaudan. There are also personal touches to honour the three constables, their families and the Moncton community.

There are imprints of Larche’s sneakers and running medals at the base of his statue. His section also features ballet slippers for his daughters, who love to dance.

“There could be no better place to bring Doug home than to right here ... He loved to run and he ran on these very trails that we see here, ” Nadine Larche told the dozens of people who attended the memorial event under cloudy skies.

“When the girls and I come to visit and to reflect, we will know that Doug is close and watching over us. I truly hope that others will get peace and healing visiting this honour garden.”

The wives of the fallen Mounties — Larche, Rachel Ross and Angela Gevaudan — all spoke at the ceremony, as well as New Brunswick Premier Brian Gallant and George LeBlanc, who was the mayor of Moncton at the time of the shootings.

The families of the three Mounties smiled and clapped as they pulled black sheets from the statues. Eleven Mounties wearing the red serge created a semi-circle around the monument and bowed their heads as it was blessed.

Morgan MacDonald, the Newfoundland-based artist who created the monument, said he wanted to respect the legacy and memory of the three men.

MacDonald involved the families in the entire process, bringing some family members to his foundry in Logy Bay, N.L., to discuss

the project and to have them work with clay.

“In this place on honour, what we have created will endure. It will last for centuries. Generations will come and go, but these sculptures will remain,” said MacDonald.

The monument features the three men wearing different uniforms - Larche in the red serge, Gevaudan in the working patrol uniform, and Ross in the uniform of a dog master.

The details of each uniform are intricate. One can clearly see boot laces, belt buckles and bulging pockets.

Gevaudan mastered a range of skills during his career, and there are imprints of challenge coins he earned for such things as becoming a member of the underwater recovery team.

Around the statues is a maple leaf element, with leaves for each family, the area

communities, and for local schools. Earlier this year, 1,500 people turned out to provide impressions of their thumb prints that were later cast into the bronze leaves.

Fredericton-based retired police Const. Scott Dixon trained with Dave Ross in a canine unit. He said the monument offers a space for him to come and reflect.

“Dave and I were very close. The canine unit is very closely bonded unit, so it means a lot to come here and reflect. It’s very special for me,” said the 47-year-old Dixon just after the ceremony.

“This is a fantastic place for the people of Moncton, as well as New Brunswick and certainly the rest of Canada to come and walk the river and reflect on what happened and move forward.”

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**SUNDAY**  
**JUNE 5, 2016**

Jun 05 2016

**NEW YORK CITY - The New York Police Department is putting the final touches on a \$160 million "mobility initiative" aimed at arming all 36,000 officers with a smartphone and equipping patrol cars with tablet computers. It is looking to buy body cameras, sharpening its crime-predicting statistical models, installing gunshot sensors and connecting to more surveillance cameras in the city.**

NYPD commissioner Bill Bratton and his team hailed the results at a gathering of US police chiefs last month in New York. They said the NYPD's better-connected officers were responding to crimes in progress more quickly - and called on others to follow their lead. Mr Bratton even offered to share New York's software and statistical models with less well-financed police departments.

The NYPD has deep pockets - stuffed with funds that New York authorities have collected from foreign banks accused of violating US sanctions.

"What we have engaged in the last couple of years is almost revolutionary in our embrace of, in our acquisition of, and in our creativity and use of technology," Mr Bratton told the Financial Times. "I think it is one of the reasons why, at this point in time, in this city, unlike many other cities, we have the momentum of 25 straight years of reducing crime."

Smartphones and statistical algorithms, of course, will hardly solve all of Mr Bratton's problems. He believes police work alone is insufficient to deal with a surge of heroin use in the city. Mr Bratton also is wrestling with a corruption scandal in the NYPD involving allegations that senior members of the department accepted gifts in return for favours.

Technology, for Mr Bratton, enables more targeted therapies. With smartphones and tablet computers, for example, officers can arrive at a crime scene better prepared than in the days when all their information came from a radio dispatch. Now, they have access to transcriptions of telephone complaints, the phone numbers of complainants and data streaming in from gunshot sensors and 10,000 city surveillance cameras, he says. Eventually, the NYPD hopes to be able to provide police on patrol with social media feeds from crime scene areas.

Another boost, he believes, could come from body cameras. The NYPD has been testing the devices and Mr Bratton predicted they would prove "very helpful" to police by enabling the public to see incidents in their entirety.

Finding the right body camera has been a challenge. The NYPD's search has been slowed down in part by the sheer number of potential purveyors. It had expected eight to 10 bidders. It wound up with more than 50.

Mr Bratton, in other words, is hardly the only one excited about the possibilities of high-tech policing. He has plenty of company in the private sector.

(Financial Times)

**MONDAY**  
**JUNE 6, 2016**

Jun 06 2016

**TORONTO - Toronto police are in the midst of overhauling its cold case unit — bringing dusty old evidence into the new digital millennium.**

Cold case squad leader Stacy Gallant says his team of seven detectives is digitizing documents from stacks of unsolved homicide case boxes.

They're also hunting for evidence in those boxes that may have been missed — evidence such as DNA that could crack an old case wide open.

Their digging led to success last fall when the unit charged a man with first-degree murder in a case dating back 25 years.

And Gallant says his team is close to solving about a dozen other cold cases.

Jun 06 2016

**OTTAWA - As of today there is no law in place governing medically assisted dying in Canada.**

A deadline the Supreme Court gave the federal government to draft a new law expired at midnight.

The High Court struck down the ban on medically assisted dying last year and gave Parliament a year to come up with a new law.

The court allowed the ban to remain in place for a year until the governing Liberals could pass new legislation.

The grace period has now run out, and the Liberal's Bill C-14 is still before the Senate with a vote not expected before Friday.

The High Court directed that assisted dying should be available to consenting adults with "grievous and irremediable" medical conditions who are enduring intolerable suffering.

However the government's legislation is more restrictive, and hasn't received smooth sailing through Parliament.

Jun 06 2016

**MONTREAL - For 28 years as a public security officer in the affluent town of Hampstead, Que., Michael Huculak says he has never had to use his weapon.**

That weapon isn't a gun, however, because Huculak isn't technically a police officer, but his baton is deadly and he and his colleagues need to be certified to use one.

Possessing a retractable, steel baton is not prohibited in Canada - unless it's concealed - but if public security officers such as Huculak aren't properly certified, they risk exposing themselves and the cities that employ them to massive lawsuits if they ever injure anyone with it in the line of duty.

Every year, Huculak and his fellow Hampstead officers take part in a one-day training course on how to use the 55-centimetre, steel baton as well as learning about hand-to-hand combat techniques and the use of handcuffs.

Huculak needing a weapon at all is due to Montreal's particular decentralized governing structure, where the city's official police force works in tandem with public security officers.

The City of Montreal is located on the island of Montreal, which is home to about another 15 other mini-cities that each have their own mayor and town council. Many of them also raise taxes to pay for their own public security forces.

Other large Canadian cities such as Toronto or Vancouver do not have public security officers and laws are enforced by police.

Security officers in the greater Montreal area do not have guns, but Quebec law gives them the right to make arrests - and use force - to prevent or stop crime as well as to enforce municipal bylaws.

Huculak said public security officers are closer to residents because regular police are often transferred from station to station across the city and don't have the opportunity to build a rapport with citizens.

"We very much represent what Hampstead is about," Huculak said. "Citizens come to us for everything imaginable. We're like a small town police force."

Jun 06 2016

**MONCTON - Police officers in the Codiac Regional RCMP detachment are under "much greater stress" since the June 4, 2014 shootings, with many people refusing to work overtime, according to the professional association that represents Mounties across Canada.**

Documents obtained by CBC News under the Access to Information Act show that more than 60 officers have left the Moncton-area detachment since 2014, when a gunman killed three Moncton Mounties and wounded two others.

"They're just burnt out," said Rob Creasser, a spokesman with the Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada.

Sixty-four officers have retired, resigned or transferred out of the Codiac detachment between January 2014 and May 2016.

During that same period, 44 officers transferred into Codiac.

About 145 members are posted at the Codiac detachment, according to figures provided by the New Brunswick RCMP.

Three Codiac RCMP officers — Constables Douglas James Larche, Dave Joseph Ross and Fabrice Gevaudan - were shot and killed by Justin Bourque during his June 4, 2014 rampage through Moncton, an attack that ground the city to a halt for 28 hours.

Two other Codiac officers — Const. Éric Stéphane J. Dubois and Const. Marie Darlene Goguen - were wounded in the shootings.

Roger Brown retired as the commanding

officer for New Brunswick RCMP on Saturday, the second anniversary of the Moncton shootings.

In an interview with CBC News in April, Brown said the Moncton shootings, among other events, had taken a toll on him.

"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."

(CBC News)

Jun 06 2016

### **EDMONTON - The widow of an Edmonton police officer killed one year ago says she's thankful people continue to support her.**

Claire Woodall says she won't be moving back to England to be with family.

She says Edmonton has become even more of a home for her and her two young sons since the death of her husband.

Const. Daniel Woodall, who was 35, was shot while trying to serve an arrest warrant on June 8.

Norman Raddatz, a 42-year-old refrigerator repairman, was being investigated for anti-Semitic bullying when officers showed up at his home and he started shooting through the front door.

The shooting remains under investigation and Claire Woodall says she still has questions about what happened.

Jun 06 2016

### **OTTAWA - Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale says he will present some ideas within the next couple of days to reassure critics who say a government bill entrenches too much power in the RCMP commissioner's office.**

Goodale told senators on the national defence and security committee Monday he wants to address fears the labour-relations legislation will hobble rank-and-file RCMP members in their dealings with top brass.

Sen. Larry Campbell, a former Mountie, is among those expressing concerns the bill would deny RCMP members the right to negotiate how the force handles key issues such as discipline, harassment and equipment requirements.

"The members need some kind of reassurance that these exemptions will be dealt with," Campbell said Monday. "As far as I can see right now, this table is tilted toward the commissioner."

Goodale said he wanted time to think through "some kind of mechanism" - he did not elaborate - that will satisfy those concerns in a constructive way.

But on the whole he defended the legislation as a strong effort to balance the rights of RCMP members with the safety of Canadians.

Last year, the Supreme Court of Canada affirmed the right of RCMP officers to collective bargaining and gave the government time to create a new labour-relations regime.

The Liberals tabled legislation that would make independent, binding arbitration the dispute-resolution process for bargaining impasses, with no right to strike.

A steady stream of witnesses told the committee the regime would exclude too many important issues from the bargaining table - unlike many other collective agreements for police services across Canada.

Critics say festering sores that have plagued the national police force for decades will persist unless members have meaningful input into equipment purchases, staffing levels, grievance processes and the promotion system.

The government legislation is a positive step forward in terms of bargaining rights, but a "highly flawed bill" that fails to respect the Supreme Court's ruling, said Tom Stamatakis, president of the Canadian Police Association, which speaks for many officers.

The RCMP remains an "inherently autocratic institution" riddled with favouritism, grudges and vindictiveness, said lawyer Paul Champ, who has represented several Mounties in legal cases.

Inadequate staffing, equipment and training have been responsible for injuries or deaths to members, said Rae Banwarie, president of the Mounted Police Professional Association of Canada. "We know that police work is inherently dangerous, but we must put processes in place to reduce these risks."

The RCMP has been rocked by complaints from members - both women and men - about harassment and bullying within the force. New procedures have streamlined the process for addressing conflict, giving supervisors more power to deal with disputes promptly, but some critics fear that has

opened the door to abuses.

Banwarie predicted the new system of dealing with harassment will fail just as badly as the previous one. "It is controlled by management, it is not independent and it is not impartial."

Goodale said he takes the harassment issue seriously and stressed ongoing steps to tackle the problem, including the new measures within the police force, efforts to settle lawsuits and a review to ensure recommendations of the RCMP watchdog have been implemented.

The minister revealed Monday he also plans to appoint a "distinguished Canadian" - or perhaps a panel - to advise him as to whether members truly feel they have effective avenues to express complaints.

Jun 06 2016

### **CALGARY - A police officer in Calgary is facing several charges in relation to a marijuana seizure.**

The Calgary Police Service alleges he seized the pot during the course of his duties last November and kept it.

The anti-corruption unit investigated and the officer was arrested on Friday.

Robert Cumming, who is 43, is charged with breach of trust, theft and possession of a controlled substance.

He has been relieved from duty and the service is considering whether to suspend his pay.

His next court appearance is set for July 15. (CTV Calgary)

## **BLUE LINE**

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Jun 06 2016

**TORONTO - Toronto police will deploy officers at busy intersections starting next week as part of a pilot project intended to ease traffic congestion.**

The use of traffic assistant personnel (TAP) will cost \$250,000.

Officers will be deployed at the following eight intersections for four weeks starting June 13 with another four-week trial set for the fall:

Mayor John Tory said although police officers will oversee the intersections during the pilot project, he'd like to see the work eventually handed over to civilians as a way to save money and keep police focused on more important work.

"I am determined to use every tool at our disposal ... in order to get traffic moving better," he said.

In evaluating the project, city officials will look at overall traffic flow, illegal turns and pedestrian and cyclist compliance with traffic rules.

(CBC News)

Jun 06 2016

**RCMP made a drug seizure and arrests in the parking lot of the Montague detachment on Friday, June 3.**

Staff Sgt. Kevin Baillie said an officer decided to do a check of a license plate on a vehicle parked at the Montague RCMP office.

The check revealed that the license plate was registered to a different vehicle than the one it was on.

The officer then approached the vehicle and asked the woman sitting inside to produce a driver's license and registration.

The woman attempted to locate the documents and the officer observed a clear bag containing a large quantity of pills, said Baillie.

The officer said the 36-year-old woman tried to hide the pills and she was arrested.

The search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of 239 pills believed to be methamphetamine, according to police.

In addition, a 34-year-old man, who had gone into the detachment to make an unrelated complaint was also arrested.

"It's very unusual," said Baillie. "Certainly from time to time we make drug seizures as a result of vehicle stops for different infractions. But very unusual to make a drug seizure right in our own parking lot and 239 methamphetamine pills is a significant seizure certainly for Prince Edward Island."

Both the accused are from the Charlottetown area and face charges of possession of methamphetamine for the purpose of trafficking.

(CBC News)

Jun 06 2016

**MONTREAL - The SPVM is overhauling its communications division.**

Ian Lafreniere will no longer serve as commander of the communications division of the Montreal police.

Police chief Philippe Pichet made the announcement Monday afternoon, saying Lafreniere would be reassigned after 20

years with the police.

Pichet called Lafreniere's role as the face of the police "very demanding" and said it was a difficult decision to move the commander into a new role. He would not specify what that role would be or whether he would be promoted to a new rank.

A civilian will serve as the new head of the SPVM's communications division, reporting directly to Pichet. Communications expert Marie-Claude Dandenaault will take on the role and oversee two sections, one headed up by a police officer and another headed up by a civilian.

The police officer will handle media requests and the civilian will handle general communications and image.

While approved by the city of Montreal's

director general, the decision to remove Lafreniere and overhaul the department was made by the SPVM in order to streamline communications.

Last year, the SPVM received upwards of 25,000 media requests for information.

(CTV Montreal)

Jun 06 2016

**VANCOUVER - A Vancouver police officer who was convicted of assault after punching a cyclist in the head has won an appeal for a new trial.**

Const. Ismail Bhabha delivered the blow during a traffic stop in March 2013, and was sentenced to a conditional discharge with six months' probation last November.

The cyclist, Andishae Akhavan-Kharazi,



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testified he was left with a chipped tooth, cut lip and injuries to his neck and jaw.

Bhabha argued the punch was necessary because Akhavan-Kharazi resisted being put in handcuffs, but the Surrey provincial court judge overseeing his case ruled there was no legal reason to use handcuffs in the first place.

“Even if the complainant was resisting being handcuffed, as the cuffing was unlawful, his resistance to it would not excuse the defendant’s assault of punch, which was said to be intended to end that resistance,” the judge wrote.

The officer disagreed and appealed the decision, and a B.C. Supreme Court justice agreed to order a new trial on Friday.

The justice said the original judge didn’t clearly lay out his reasoning, leaving it difficult to understand or properly assess the judgment.

(CTV Vancouver)

Jun 06 2016

### **WINNIPEG - While marijuana dispensaries proliferate and engage in a game of legally-grey chicken with authorities in some Canadian cities, Winnipeg police say the same simply isn’t happening locally.**

“There are a few people that have tried to open up and we enforced the laws as we know them right away,” said Winnipeg Police Service Grow Operations Unit member, Sgt. Carrol MacDonald.

“To my knowledge there has only been a handful, it’s not as bad as Toronto or Vancouver.”

MacDonald said police saw one officially open, but shut it down right away.

The city’s first above-ground dispensary, ‘Your Medical Cannabis Headquarters,’ sold cannabis medicine for under two weeks before it was raided on August 4, 2015.

MacDonald said police have learned “there may be one more (dispensary) surfacing,” but it’s under investigation and would not provide further comment.

“Other than that, if there are any, we’re unaware of them,” she said.

MacDonald said police don’t go into store operating legal businesses unless they are informed of illegal activity.

In May, city council decided to wait until the federal legalization plan is rolled out before exploring how dispensaries could be regulated in Winnipeg.

(Metro)

**TUESDAY**  
**JUNE 7, 2016**

Jun 07 2016

### **DELTA, Canada - Police in Delta, B.C., say a drug seized in a bust has tested positive as W-18.**

An investigation initiated by the Delta Police Department involved three separate search warrants being issued in Burnaby, Surrey and Richmond, leading to the discovery of what was thought to be a fentanyl processing lab.

Chief Const. Neil Dubord says the drug was actually W-18 and that most users seem to be unaware of its presence in the drugs they are taking.

He says investigators believe W-18 was being manufactured to appear like heroin or oxycodone, but users face a much higher risk of overdose because they don’t have a tolerance for it.

Two of five people who are facing multiple drug charges remain in custody.

Jun 07 2016

### **Assistant Commissioner Larry Tremblay has been named as the 30th Commanding Officer for the RCMP in New Brunswick. A/Commr.**



Tremblay replaces A/Commr. Roger Brown who is retiring after more than 35 years of service with the RCMP, the last three years as the Commanding Officer in New Brunswick.

A/Commr. Tremblay brings a wealth of leadership experience to the role following more than 30 years of policing service in various provincial, federal and inter-departmental postings (see link to biography below for further details).

“The solid work done by the people working for the RCMP in New Brunswick is known across the country. It’s a proud legacy that I look forward to continuing,” said A/Commr. Tremblay. “The solid relationships with partners and the public that A/Commr. Brown has cultivated over his tenure is critical to ensuring our province is a safe place to live and work and I look forward to building on this foundation.”

The RCMP employs close to 1,200 people in New Brunswick and provides policing services to more than 70% of the province’s population, throughout more than 98% of the province’s land area.

An official change of command ceremony will take place at a future date.

(RCMP News Release)

Jun 07 2016

### **Here’s another reason you should get enough shut-eye: new research suggests that insufficient sleep, particularly for shift workers, may increase a person’s risk for cardiovascular diseases.**

All biological and physiological processes in humans and animals follow a “circadian” rhythm regulated by an internal clock, says Daniela Grimaldi, lead author of the new study.

But when the sleep cycle and feeding cycle are not in sync with the internal clock, Grimaldi says circadian misalignment occurs.

Grimaldi, who is an assistant professor at Chicago’s Northwestern University, says people who experience circadian misalignment may not fully benefit from effects of nighttime sleep to the heart.

Past studies have shown that long-term sleep deprivation can contribute to heart disease.

People who experience insufficient sleep the most are shift workers, who represent 15 to 30 percent of the working population.

With that, researchers investigated 26 healthy participants aged 20 to 39 whose sleep were restricted to five hours for eight days. Their bedtimes were either fixed or delayed by 8.5 hours on four of the eight nights.

In the end, Grimaldi and her colleagues discovered that a higher heart rate during daytime was seen for both groups. But the heart rate reached a greater extent when sleep deprivation was combined with late bedtimes.

Additionally, for the sleep-deprived and delayed-bedtime group, there was an increase in the levels of a stress hormone called norepinephrine. This hormone is capable of narrowing blood vessels, raising blood pressure and expanding a person’s windpipe, scientists say.

Grimaldi says sleep deprivation and late bedtime are also linked to weakened heart rate variability at night, as well as to reduced vagal activity during deep sleep.

The latter normally has a restorative effect on the function of the heart. Indeed, the main effect of the vagal nerve on the heart is the lowering of the heart rate.

Since night shift work cannot be avoided, Grimaldi says workers are encouraged to follow a healthy diet, exercise regularly and get a decent amount of sleep to protect their heart health.

Details of the study are published in the journal Hypertension. In the meantime, Grimaldi and her team will investigate further whether people who experience sleep loss or circadian misalignment can recover once they get consecutive days of proper sleep.

(Tech Times)

Jul 07 2016

### **MONTREAL - The City of Montreal spent more than \$170,000 in legal fees to defend former police officer Stéfanie Trudeau.**

Trudeau, who was often referred to as Officer 728 because of her badge number, was recently given a suspended 12-month sentence and ordered to do 60 hours of community service after being found guilty of assaulting a man during his arrest.

Under their collective agreement, Montreal police officers facing charges incurred in the line of duty have all reasonable legal fees covered by the city.

Her lawyer, Jean-Pierre Rancourt submitted a bill for \$170,141.41.

That amount was confirmed by Mayor Denis Coderre’s administration.

In his decision, Quebec Court Judge Daniel Bédard said Trudeau was the instigator in the illegal arrest, and the situation escalated because of her conduct.

He added that the man she was arresting did not pose a threat to officers, and referred to Trudeau's actions as "brutal."

Rancourt, later said Trudeau feels it is an "unjust trial for her, an unjust result and unjust sentence for her."

(CBC News)

Jun 07 2016

### **WOODSTOCK - The chief of the Woodstock Police Force is retiring after 38 years with the department.**



John Foster says he's enjoyed his time with the New Brunswick force, but it's time for him to step aside and spend time with family.

Foster, who has been chief for just over two years, says the decision wasn't an easy one to make.

"Policing is more than a job, it's really a way of life, especially in a small town," Foster says. "Everybody knows who you are, so it's really as much who I am as what I've done for those many years."

Foster says some of the highlights of his career include working with young people in schools and creating the force's crime scene unit.

While the idea of retirement is a bit scary for Foster, he says he's looking forward to some personal time.

"I'm going to travel a lot, one of my brothers lives in Ontario and another one lives in Europe," Foster says. "I'm still in the reserve. I've been working with army Cadets for quite a few years and I'll have an opportunity to spend some more time doing that. (Also) a lot of mountain biking and a lot of kayaking."

Deputy chief Brent Blackmore, a former member of the Fredericton Police Force, will take over once Foster retires on June 30.

(Fox 105.3)

Jun 07 2016

### **Montreal police say the force will pour over 10 years' worth of complaints against Sûreté du Québec officers from aboriginal people across the province.**

Through a series of YouTube videos and other media produced in four aboriginal languages, Montreal's police department has asked anyone who may have been abused

by an SQ officer over that period to come forward. Investigators will look at any complaint that hasn't already been placed before a Crown prosecutor.

These were some of the updates Montreal police provided Tuesday as they met with community members in Val-d'Or to discuss their criminal probe into allegations that eight SQ officers abused aboriginal women in the city.

In an investigative report broadcast by Radio-Canada last year, 12 aboriginal women spoke about being beaten and harassed by police in Val-d'Or. In the most extreme example, one woman spoke about being given money and cocaine by police officers in exchange for sexual favours.

After the Radio-Canada report hit the airwaves last October, Quebec's public security minister called upon Montreal police to investigate the claims. To appease concerns that one police department investigating another might produce biased results, the minister appointed an independent civilian observer to oversee the probe.

Université Laval law professor Fannie Lafontaine took the job on the condition that she have the ability to blow the whistle on any police misconduct. Lafontaine was also in Val-d'Or Tuesday for the meeting.

Police handed their investigation over to Crown prosecutors last week.

Quebec's provincial prosecutor's office said last Friday that it will painstakingly review the police report and determine whether or not to press charges against the SQ officers.

The mandate given to Montreal police last fall also included previous complaints made by aboriginals to the SQ, which were handled internally by the provincial force.

(Montreal Gazette)

**WEDNESDAY**  
**JUNE 8, 2016**

Jun 08 2016

### **EDMONTON - Alberta says it will not prosecute any physician or member of a health care team involved in a physician assisted death that falls within the scope of the Supreme Court of Canada's 2015 ruling on the issue.**

The policy is spelled out in a directive from Alberta's Justice Department to police services in the province.

The directive says there is no reasonable likelihood of a conviction for charges under the Criminal Code for physicians or any other member of a health care team, including pharmacists.

A link to the directive is posted on the College of Licensed Practical Nurses of Alberta website.

The directive says the provision for an assisted death must include the consent of a competent adult who has a grievous and irremedial medical condition that causes enduring intolerable suffering.

The province says the directive was drafted because Parliament did not replace

legislation struck down by the Supreme Court by Monday's deadline.

Jun 08 2016

### **OTTAWA - Federal officials used photo-matching technology to identify 15 high-risk people — all wanted on immigration warrants — who used false identities to apply for travel documents.**



The Liberal government might make the facial-recognition scheme permanent to help find and arrest people ineligible to remain in Canada due to involvement with terrorism, organized crime or human rights violations.

It's just the latest example of federal efforts to zero in on lawbreakers using biometrics — physical identifiers such as images, fingerprints or iris scans.

The photo-matching idea emerged from concerns that people wanted by the Canada Border Services Agency might use fake names to obtain genuine Canadian travel documents from the Immigration Department's passport program, say internal memos released under the Access to Information Act.

"Genuine Canadian passports and other travel documents are of high value to persons who seek to establish false identities," says a memorandum of understanding between the border and immigration agencies.

"Individuals who have outstanding immigration arrest warrants can evade detection by law enforcement by using false identities to travel, or to live within communities while retaining access to benefits and services."

Moreover, fraudulently obtained travel documents can allow someone to slip across the border undetected, the memorandum says.

Initial encouraging tests led to a 2014 pilot project in which the border agency shared the photos and biographic information of 1,000 wanted individuals with a high-risk flag on their files to see if they had applied for - or even obtained - a Canadian travel document under a false identity.

Fifteen matches turned up, prompting the border agency to pursue "appropriate enforcement action," said Esme Bailey, an agency spokeswoman. That could include referral of a case for possible criminal charges or citizenship revocation, further investigation by the border agency in an attempt to locate the wanted individuals, or issuance of a border "lookout" for those whose whereabouts are unknown.

A second phase of the pilot project was approved and wrapped up at the end of March, she added. Information from the latest phase is still being analyzed and no additional statistics are yet available.

**BRAMPTON, Ont. - The province's police watchdog has been called in to investigate a police-involved shooting in Brampton, Ont., that sent one man to hospital.**

Peel Region police were initially called about a disturbance at about 1 a.m. and say a confrontation resulted in shots being fired.

The male was taken to a trauma centre with serious injuries. He remains in critical condition following surgery.

The Special Investigations Unit was on scene to investigate the incident. It said police were responding to a disturbance call in one of the buildings when they confronted the armed man. There was a foot chase and an exchange of gunfire between him and police, which resulted in the man being shot.

(CTV News)

Jun 08 2016

**TORONTO - A man stalked the streets of Toronto, a 45-year-old mother of four in his sights.**

He mapped her movements through her downtown neighbourhood, plotted his attack, then savagely struck one August night in 1983. When he was done, Susan Tice lay sexually assaulted, stabbed and breathing her last in her own bedroom.

Four months later, the scene played out again, this time during the Christmas rush in the heart of Yorkville - one of the city's most posh neighbourhoods. The victim, 22-year-old aspiring fashion designer Erin Gilmour, suffered the same horrific fate.

That's what detectives at the Toronto cold case unit believe happened. In both cases, they say the assailants left behind traces of his DNA, captured by police.

Seventeen years later in 2000, DNA technology enabled investigators to confirm what they suspected all along - both women were killed by the same man. It seemed a resolution was imminent now that a central DNA databank was taking shape in Canada.

But 16 years after that key clue, the cases remain cold.

For police, the lack of closure on the Tice and Gilmour murders stands as a striking example of why Canada is a particularly difficult place in which to solve cold cases.

Former Toronto police officer Dave Perry said Canadian laws governing DNA collection forbid police from entering a suspect's sample in the databank at the time of arrest, in marked contrast to countries like the United States and the United Kingdom.

This omission, he fears, has allowed a killer to walk free for decades.

"He's probably done something in his life that, had we been doing this, we'd have his DNA and those two murders would be solved," Perry said.

Criminologists and police officers feel there are several factors conspiring to make Canada an inhospitable environment for cold case detectives. Aside from stringent DNA privacy laws, they cite rigorous documentation standards that add layers of red tape to complex

investigations, lack of financial and laboratory resources, and even a policing culture that doesn't always prioritize historic cases.

"Canada's cold case investigative protocols are unclear, even opaque, in part because there is no standardized system for defining a cold case much less on how to investigate them," said Western University criminologist and former police officer Michael Arntfield.

This stands in stark contrast to other western countries, he said, which have established protocols, loosened regulations and provided the resources necessary to solve historic murders.

Arntfield believes police forces across Canada could learn much from the Toronto cold case unit.

Describing the force as "the best of its kind" in Canada, Arntfield said it set itself apart from its counterparts by establishing a dedicated unit with a stable core of experienced detectives.

The consistent presence of seasoned investigators means information about the case is less likely to fall through the cracks, either for the officers themselves or the families at the heart of the cases, he said.

Det. Sgt. Brian Borg, who once led Toronto's cold case unit, was one of the investigators who maintained the management of individual cases for years at a time.

That focus, he said, has helped the squad solve a number of cases. But some of the ones that remain on the books are likely to haunt him well after his retirement later this year.

Borg specifically cites the 2008 death of Shawn McLean, who was gunned down seemingly at random while walking home from the shopping mall he frequented nearly every day.

Investigative efforts in that case were stymied by traditional challenges such as lack of witnesses and physical evidence, but Borg said cases are often thwarted by more systemic obstacles.

One barrier is lack of resources to accomplish forensic testing. Only Ontario and Quebec have dedicated crime labs, he said, adding the RCMP runs a handful of other facilities across the country.

Major American police services, by contrast, can occasionally afford to set up their own labs thanks to lucrative grants available to them through the U.S. Department of Justice.

"Essentially, for Canadian law enforcement to do this kind of work, the resources and the money to do this basically come out of their own pockets," he said.

Borg said the DNA databank is an invaluable resource, but it falls short of its full potential due to Canadian privacy laws that dictate DNA samples are only mandatory for offenders convicted of a specific list of crimes.

A deeper pool of profiles in the databank, he said, would lead to more cold case closures and may have helped police solve the Tice and Gilmour murders among many others.

The DNA that turned up at those crime scenes has never surfaced in the national databank, leaving police unable to put a name to the profile.

Borg said taking samples at the time of arrest could eliminate the problem.

"There's no correlation between what an offender is convicted of and what they may have been found to have committed," he said, adding someone could be found guilty of a domestic assault and only then be implicated in a stranger-on-stranger sex assault."

Perry, who is now a private investigator, sides with Borg, saying not only privacy laws but case management protocols make life harder for cold case investigators. He cites the example of affidavits required to get a judge to issue a search warrant on a suspect.

While a two or three-page document prepared by a single investigator suffices for a U.S. judge, Perry said an entire team of Canadian officers is often required to compile enough documents to fill multiple four-inch binders.

He called Canada's approach "ridiculous," lamenting that adhering to such bureaucratic processes leaves suspects with ample time to destroy evidence or even reoffend.

The Canadian system needs to find a way to strike a balance between the privacy of those who don't commit crimes and the needs of those who work to solve them, he said.

"Every time you add an hour, let alone a day, to an investigation, that's multiplied by a hundred times because you've got so many people working on it and everybody's hitting the same dead ends," Perry said. "There's got to be a simpler way."

Jun 08 2016

**VICTORIA - Four officers with the Victoria Police Department have been cleared of involvement in the fatal shooting of a 20-year-old man.**

The Independent Investigations Office says it has wrapped up an investigation into a November 2014 shooting.

The IIO says in a report that the officers used reasonably necessary force and the case will not be forwarded to the Crown.

Rhett Mutch was identified by the BC Coroners Service four days after he was shot.

The IIO says officers were responding to a 911 call from Mutch's mother saying he'd broken into her house and was threatening to harm himself with a knife.

The agency says Mutch ran toward the officers with the weapon as they tried to arrest him and was shot once in the neck after a projectile from a bean bag gun could not slow him down.

Jun 08 2016

**VANCOUVER - A British Columbia man wrongfully imprisoned for sexual assault has been awarded \$8 million by a court after spending 27 years behind bars.**

Ivan Henry sued the City of Vancouver, the province and the federal government after he was acquitted in 2010 of 10 sexual-assault convictions.

In a ruling released today, B.C. Supreme Court Justice Christopher Hinkson said Henry would likely have been acquitted during the

1983 trial had he received the disclosure to which he was entitled.

Hinkson writes that Crown's decision to intentionally withhold information demonstrated a "shocking disregard" for his rights and "seriously infringed" on his right to a fair trial.

Henry's lawyer, John Laxton, had argued that his client deserved as much as \$43 million in compensation.

The City of Vancouver and the federal government settled earlier with Henry in 2015 for undisclosed amounts.

Jun 08 2016

### **PETERBOROUGH, Ont. - An Ontario police officer has been found not guilty of sexual assault after a trial which heard graphic testimony from a woman who claimed he raped her.**

Const. Christopher Robertson had pleaded not guilty to sexually assaulting the woman during an alleged incident that took place in Peterborough, Ont., January 2015, while he was off-duty. The charge was laid after an investigation by Ontario's police watchdog.

The woman at the centre of the case, who cannot be identified, testified that Robertson pinned her down on his bed during sexual intercourse and wouldn't stop when she begged him to.

Robertson, however, testified he only had consensual sex with the woman and didn't sexually assault anyone.

The judge who heard the trial said he was faced with two different versions of what occurred and it was impossible for him to determine where the actual truth lay.

Justice Stuart Konyer says Robertson is entitled to the benefit of the reasonable doubt that was raised in the case and was therefore found not guilty.

Jun 08 2016

### **Ransomware attacks, such as one that recently saw the University of Calgary pay cyber criminals \$20,000 to unlock its computer systems, are on the rise around the globe.**

Government and industry experts say small businesses, hospitals and even home users are suddenly finding their computer systems locked with screens displaying a demand for money to free them up.

University of Calgary vice-president Linda Dalgetty said this week that the school paid its \$20,000 ransom demand because it wanted to ensure research and other important work was not wiped out.

Such a potential pay day, and the fact ransomware attacks are hard to trace, are behind the growing popularity of the crimes.

According to an Internet security report by Symantec in April, the number of ransomware attacks around the world increased by 35 per cent last year from 2014. The trend has spread to a variety of operating systems and mobile devices.

The attacks often stem from an infected email attachment or app that seizes control of a computer. Victims can face demands for hundreds or thousands of dollars to unlock

their computers and retrieve documents, photos or other items.

The Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre, a joint project of police forces and the federal government, says the attacks originate across the globe and involve a wide variety of operations.

"It can be one, two or three (people) or they can have a bigger setup, which we call boiler rooms," said RCMP Cpl. Josee Forest, manager of the organization's call centre.

The centre advises victims not to pay ransoms. The money helps fund criminal operations, there is no guarantee the criminals will free up locked computers and there may be more demands for more.

Cyber-security experts and victims such as Van Duyvendyk say there are key preventative measures: keep security software updated and don't open strange attachments and programs.

And backup computers regularly to a drive that is not kept plugged into the system, thereby protecting it from infection.

Jun 08 2016

### **VICTORIA - Suspended Victoria police Chief Frank Elsner is asking a judge to declare sections of B.C.'s Police Act unconstitutional in response to an investigation into allegations that he exchanged "inappropriate" Twitter messages with a subordinate officer's wife.**

The act allows external investigators with the Office of the B.C. Police Complaint Commissioner to search police premises, equipment and records, without having to obtain a warrant when investigating alleged misconduct at municipal departments.

Elsner says those provisions violate Charter protections against unreasonable search and seizure.

He also claims investigators went beyond the Police Act provisions by searching his personal email, Twitter account and devices without proper authorization.

Elsner is seeking to have his devices returned and any records obtained from the searches destroyed.

He expressed his request as an amendment to a B.C. Supreme Court action he launched in March asking to have the court quash the B.C. police complaints commissioner investigation into the allegations.

Deputy Police Complaints Commissioner Rollie Woods says his office's lawyers are preparing a response to Elsner's request and will likely be joined by the attorney general.

Woods says the sections of the Act being challenged are necessary.

"When a complaint comes in, for example, when we're trying to assess whether it's admissible or not, we have to get documents from the police department for context to determine if the information provided in the complaint is accurate," Woods said.

"If we couldn't get access to those records, I think it would make our job impossible."

In a separate application, Elsner is also requesting a publication ban on information that could come to light as a result of the case, including the contents of the Twitter messages,

the identity of the woman and her husband and details of his employment contract.

Elsner's original petition claims B.C.'s police complaint commissioner lacked the legal authority to order the RCMP-led probe.

His lawyer didn't respond to a request for comment.

(CBC News)

Jun 08 2016

### **TORONTO - Toronto Mayor John Tory is asking his federal and provincial governments for help curb violence.**

In the letter to federal Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale and his Ontario counterpart Yasir Naqvi, Tory linked the rise in shootings to firearms from the United States, saying about half of illegal guns seized by police have been smuggled across the border.

"Americans can set whatever gun policies they want, but that doesn't mean we have to suffer as a result," Tory said. "We must act now to strengthen enforcement at the border, as the numbers suggest such action would have the greatest and most immediate impact."

Tory also asked the federal and provincial governments to discuss how they can partner with the city to provide more resources for community-engagement programs.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday, Goodale said he had reached out to Tory's office and expected to hear back from him shortly.

"We're prepared to work with all communities and all provincial governments on issues related to public safety and safety in the community, combating gangs and violence," Goodale said.

"That's a cause that we would all share in common and be prepared to work very hard on together."

Goodale also said Canada Border Services Agency seized more than 7,400 prohibited weapons and firearms last year.

Jun 08 2016

### **OTTAWA - After more than a dozen years of stagnant funding, Ottawa plans to give the provinces more money for legal aid programs to help improve access to the criminal justice system.**

"All Canadians - no matter their means — should have the right to a fair trial and access to a modern, efficient justice system," Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould said in a statement issued Wednesday.

The Liberal government committed \$88 million over five years in the federal budget, beginning with \$9 million this fiscal year.

The Justice Department has now committed to maintaining the level of additional funding at \$30 million a year to further boost legal aid services for people who cannot afford to pay for defence lawyers.

That level of additional funding will not be reached until 2021 - two years after the next election.

Since 2003, the federal contribution to provincially run criminal legal aid programs has remained around \$112 million per year,

which has become a shrinking fraction of the nearly \$800 million in total government investment for all kinds of legal aid, including family law.

Jun 08 2016

**EDMONTON - Edmonton has honoured a city police officer killed in the line of duty by naming a new park after him.**



Const. Dan Woodall was shot one year ago on June 8, while trying to serve an arrest warrant on a man being investigated for anti-Semitic bullying.

Woodall, 35, joined the Edmonton force in 2007 after starting his policing career in Manchester, England.

The officer's widow and other relatives attended a dedication ceremony at Daniel Woodall Park, located in the South Terwil- leburgh neighbourhood.

Claire Woodall says her two young sons have called it "daddy's park."

Seven-year-old Gabe and five-year-old Callen kicked a soccer ball around with members of the police soccer team after the ceremony Wednesday. Woodall loved soccer and the park includes a soccer field.

People also planted a memorial tree at the site using compost from flowers given to the Edmonton force after Woodall's death.

"How can you be sad when this is happening?" Claire Woodall told reporters.

"My day will be tomorrow, that I'll quietly reflect on it."

(CHED)

Jun 08 2016

**EDMONTON - Police in Alberta say they have arrested 10 people, seized guns and recovered more than \$1 million in stolen property in an organized crime bust involving members of the Hells Angels.**

RCMP and Edmonton police worked together on the case that has resulted in more than 300 weapons and stolen property charges.

Officers conducted searches in 11 Alberta communities and Langley, B.C.

Police say the stolen property recovered includes 17 travel trailers, three pickup trucks, six ATVs, a snowmobile, two dirt bikes, eighteen rifles, two shotguns and a handgun.

Investigators believe the vehicles were stolen from homes and businesses, registered fraudulently and then sold at a discount to Hells Angels members and their associates.

The Hells Angels arrested include Julie Roussel and Christopher Escott, who are both from Edmonton.

(CTV Edmonton)

Jun 08 2016

**OTTAWA - Documents filed at federal court accuse RCMP brass of overstepping their authority by trying to discipline a civilian employee a second time for the same incidents of misbehaviour at the Canadian Police College in Ottawa.**

Marco Calandrini used to teach forced explosive techniques at the RCMP-run school before he was disciplined and moved to another section of the police force.

He and Staff Sgt. Bruno Solesme are at the centre of allegations of bullying, harassment and nudity at the office during work hours.

In a notice of application filed this week at Federal Court, Calandrini's lawyer, Louise Morel, alleges senior managers at the RCMP retroactively granted themselves the power to extend the timeframe for the dismissal process, even though the deadline had long passed.

Morel said the police force has broken its own rules of discipline in trying to punish Calandrini a second time. She calls it double jeopardy.

"Personally, I think it's unconscionable for an employer to exercise such Draconian powers against its employees," she told CBC News.

The RCMP first suspended Calandrini for workplace misconduct in 2014. Four men who used to work at the college told CBC News that Calandrini and Solesme regularly engaged in profane office high-jinks. Calandrini was docked five days' pay.

But not long after, the force notified Calandrini he was facing additional allegations of bad behaviour at the office.

Last fall, the force held a conduct meeting and docked Calandrini an additional 15 days' pay.

CBC News reported on misconduct at the police college in February.

Within two weeks, Assistant Commissioner Craig MacMillan asked for a retroactive extension of the period where Calandrini could be dismissed. Morel said Commissioner Bob Paulson granted the request.

"He's been found guilty by the employer. He's had a sanction imposed by an assistant commissioner, a commanding officer of a division and now we've decided because there's too much media attention and criticism, 'Oh geez, he didn't get enough! We're going after him again,'" Morel said.

The RCMP has not responded to CBC's request for comment.

While the RCMP's own rules allow it to alter punishment at any time, managers have only one year to decide whether to fire an employee.

As the force's opportunity to fire Calandrini had expired, Morel is asking the federal court to review the RCMP's procedural manoeuvres. She said the RCMP did not provide any rationale or evidence to justify a retroactive extension of the limitation period.

Her application adds the force has yet to explain its decision not to take a second look

at its initial disciplinary decision when it legitimately had the chance.

(CBC News)

Jun 08 2016

**OTTAWA - In an extraordinary move, the Senate committee studying a bill to give Mounties the right to collective bargaining today abandoned plans to give the bill clause-by-clause consideration.**

The public meeting, which convened an hour later than scheduled, went in camera for another hour before adjourning abruptly.

The bill's sponsor in the Red Chamber, independent Senator Larry Campbell, said the committee would reconvene on Monday to hear from new witnesses.

"We want to get this right and I'm not in any rush to get it done," said Campbell.

CBC News has learned the committee wants to hear from RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson.

Senators have expressed many concerns with the bill, such as the sheer number of issues the legislation excludes from the collective bargaining process. As it stands now, the bill would give Mounties the right to negotiate pay and benefits - and that's about it.

Earlier this week, senators repeatedly questioned senior RCMP managers why members should not be allowed to negotiate everything - from discipline and staffing levels to harassment and equipment.

On Monday, Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale asked committee members for two days to come up with a compromise.

His proposal, obtained by CBC News, is for his department to "strike an independent committee of eminent Canadians with the necessary experience and stature to review the exclusions currently in Bill C-7 and to report to us on their appropriateness and justification."

The committee would be formed after the bill is passed, but Goodale said it would be considered before the start of any collective bargaining.

Goodale also pledged to work on strengthening an RCMP workplace service program, which was created by Paulson after he abolished the existing staff relations program. The minister said the program "needs to be a useful service to members and reservists individually during any initial, pre-un-ionization period."

While the committee may welcome that initiative, it is doubtful senators will accept Goodale's offer to have experts examine the exemptions after the bill is passed.

Senators have been clear that they want to get this right the first time.

"We continue to hear what the RCMP needs. We continue to hear what the executive of the RCMP needs. We continue to hear what the government needs. It's only the Supreme Court of Canada that talks about what the members need, and we haven't heard that," said Conservative Senator Vern White, a former police chief and assistant commissioner of the RCMP.

CBC News has also learned that senators want to hear from prominent Montreal labour lawyer and workplace consultant A. Edward Aust.

In 2012, the RCMP hired him on a sole-source contract to review the mandate, structure and operations of the force's now disbanded pay council, which permitted the now disbanded staff relations representative program to have a voice when negotiating pay and benefits.

The report, tabled with the Senate committee this week, is revealing. Aust recommended far more co-operation between senior brass of the RCMP and front-line members.

"The recommended mandate, in addition to providing for exchanges with respect to compensation, would include providing for exchanges concerning all workplace goals including hiring, promotion and discipline," his report said.

It is unclear whether the force shared its \$98,500 report with the Treasury Board, which drafted Bill C-7.

"I think the Aust report identifies some serious concerns when it comes to labour relations at the RCMP that actually show up again in the Supreme Court of Canada decision, and I don't hear a response to either of those in this legislation," said White.

(CBC News)

Jun 08 2016

**MONTREAL - Police Chief Philippe Pichet is refusing to confirm that there is an ongoing investigation into ethical breaches within the force, but did say his department looks into ethical breaches, such as officers leaking information to the media.**

A note sent via email from the Montreal Police Brotherhood to its members Wednesday and obtained by Radio-Canada says the force is undertaking an internal investigation that some have called a witch hunt - a term the union takes care not to use directly but doesn't refute.

The memo says the union has taken note of Mayor Denis Coderre's "increasing presence" in police affairs, an issue that the brotherhood says will be revisited in the future.

When asked whether reports that officers are leaking information to the media are true, Pichet would not confirm, saying only that there have been breaches, and they are being investigated.

Pichet said officers who are unhappy with their work conditions can go to him or to their superiors to air their grievances.

Pichet said Mayor Coderre has no influence on police operations.

Coderre also dismissed the claims, saying it amounts to a conspiracy theory on the part of the union and that Pichet has his full support.

The Police Brotherhood's note directs members to contact the union if they are asked to meet with anyone from the force's internal investigation team, and to refuse requests to undergo polygraph tests.

Pichet would not say whether polygraphs are being used as part of the investigation.

Projet Montréal Leader Luc Ferrandez wants an independent investigation into the union's allegations.

Ferrandez said he is worried there's no separation of powers between city hall and the police force, and says his demand is tied to several issues, including a lack of arrests following the protest in Montreal North in April and the restructuring of media relations at police headquarters.

The memo was issued two days after the top brass at the Montreal police force (SPVM) announced Cmdr. Ian Lafrenière would no longer head the SPVM's media relations team.

Members of the SPVM's communications department now report directly to Pichet, while the police force looks to hire a civilian head for the department.

The change was touted as an attempt to "support the evolution of the strategic communications culture and brand management within the SPVM," according to a news release issued at the time.

Ferrandez wants the province to appoint an independent investigator to lead the probe.

(CBC News)

Jun 08 2016

**LAVAL - A new police operation in Laval is using a unique approach to discourage drivers from speeding.**



On Wednesday afternoon, Laval police were stopping people who were travelling over the speed limit and holding them at the site of a fake accident.

It's all part of Opération Nationale Concertée, a campaign to promote road safety.

Firefighters recreated a very realistic scene of an accident, rescuing the victims trapped in cars.

It is a scene they say speeders could easily find themselves in.

"They could become like me or like others injured in a flash, in the blink of an eye," said Nicolas Steresco, one of several car crash victims who volunteered to speak to offenders on site.

Steresco told his story in an effort to sensitize them to the consequences of speeding.

Steresco was speeding and lost control in a curve when he was 25-years-old.

The crash left him unable to work and once again depending on his parents.

He said Operation "Speed turns lives around" was the perfect occasion to try to prevent others from going through what he did.

"I had a big day and was late for supper,"

Annie Bélanger, a speeding driver who was held at the site, said.

"It will make me think about it for next time."

"This is more realistic but I don't feel this is the best way to reach the biggest public," Nicolas Tremblay said, while waiting for police to check his documents.

Tremblay said he thinks a Facebook campaign could reach a bigger audience.

While police checked to ensure all the drivers' documents were in order, they did not issue any fines.

This campaign is taking place on the heels of the Laval police's annual account report in 2015, which showed crime had dropped but road accidents - especially fatal ones - were at record highs.

In 2014, there were zero fatal accidents in Laval, while in 2015, there were nine.

The annual average is five.

Boudreau said police are trying to determine the cause of the accidents to be able to take specific action, but added that initiatives like Opération Nationale Concertée are of great help.

(Global News)



Jun 09 2016

**OTTAWA - An Ottawa police officer has pleaded guilty to charges of discreditable conduct and insubordination after an investigation into fake traffic tickets.**

In exchange, a charge of deceit against Const. Bernard Covic has been dropped.

According to an agreed statement of facts, on two occasions, Covic physically issued one warning to a driver, but then entered two more bogus ones into the system.

The incidents took place in January and June last year.

Covic also admitted he did not take any notes for traffic stops and charges/warnings he issued between January 1 and October 30 of last year.

Covic does not have any previous disciplinary action on his record and is expected to receive his sentence from the Ottawa Police Professional Standards Section on June 17.

(CFRA)

Jun 09 2016

**Moncton, Riverview and Dieppe have budgeted about \$2 million to get the Codiac RCMP up and running on the New Brunswick Trunk Mobile Radio system, but there's still no firm date as to when the police force will start using it.**

At the Codiac Regional Policing Authority meeting on Wednesday night, board treasurer Paul Van Iderstine said the expense was presented to the three city councils.

"The breakdown of the capital costs was roughly \$500,000 ... for the mobile units,

roughly \$700,000 for the console in the call centre and roughly \$800,000 for the other vehicle repeaters and other infrastructure.”

Van Iderstine added there will be annual fees as well.

“There was an additional operating cost on an annual basis for air time and infrastructure of roughly \$325,000 a year,” said Van Iderstine.

“Those numbers will vary a little bit because they are estimates.”

Like the Fredericton police force, the Codiak RCMP plans to encrypt its radio signal so people won't be able to pick up police communications on radio scanners.

The McNeil report on the line-of-duty shooting deaths of three Moncton Mounties in 2014 recommended Codiak RCMP move to a system using encrypted radio communication.

(CBC News)

Jun 09 2016

### **VANCOUVER - The BC Coroners Service is offering a sliver of hope in otherwise horrific statistics of drug overdose deaths in the province.**

A new report identifies 42 apparent illicit drug overdose deaths in May, fewer than each of the previous four months.

The number is also consistent with drug deaths recorded in May 2014 and May 2015, before the recent spike in fatalities.

However, the coroner says 308 people died in B.C. from accidental illicit drug overdoses between January and May, a 75 per cent increase over the 176 deaths in the same period last year.

The coroner's report shows fentanyl was involved in 56 per cent of deaths in the first four months of this year but just five per cent of deaths were linked to the drug in 2012.

B.C.'s public health officer declared a health emergency in April due to the soaring numbers of drug-related deaths in the province.

Jun 09 2016

### **OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada has upheld the acquittal of a British Columbia man in a decision that defines the crime of bestiality as penetration involving a person and animal.**

The B.C. man was found guilty three years ago of 13 counts arising from years of sexual molestation of his two step-daughters.

The charges included one count of bestiality under the Criminal Code, stemming from sexual activity involving the older girl and the family dog.

The man successfully challenged the bestiality conviction in the B.C. Court of Appeal based on the fact the activity did not involve penetration. (The man cannot be named to protect the identities of the step-daughters.)

In a 6-1 decision Thursday, the Supreme Court affirmed that ruling, rejecting the notion bestiality is an offence encompassing sexual activity of any kind between a person and an animal.

At issue was whether updates to the Criminal Code in 1955 and 1988 altered the meaning of the crime.

“The term ‘bestiality’ has a well-established legal meaning and refers to sexual intercourse between a human and an animal. Penetration has always been understood to be an essential element of bestiality,” wrote Justice Thomas Cromwell on behalf of the court.

“Parliament may wish to consider whether the present provisions adequately protect children and animals. But it is for Parliament, not the courts, to expand the scope of criminal liability for this ancient offence.”

In a dissenting opinion, Justice Rosalie Abella said she had a great deal of difficulty accepting that in modernizing amendments to the Criminal Code, “Parliament forgot to bring the offence out of the Middle Ages.”

A good case can be made that by 1988, Parliament intended, or at the very least assumed, that penetration was irrelevant, she wrote.

(Toronto Star)

Jun 09 2016

### **A specialized unit inside mobile firm BlackBerry has for years enthusiastically helped intercept user data — including BBM messages — to help in hundreds of police investigations in dozens of countries, a CBC News investigation reveals.**

CBC News has gained a rare glimpse inside the struggling smartphone maker's Public Safety Operations team, which at one point numbered 15 people, and has long kept its handling of warrants and police requests for taps on user information confidential.

A number of insiders, none of whom were authorized to speak, say that behind the scenes the company has been actively assisting police in a wide range of high profile investigations

But unlike many other technology companies, which regularly publish transparency reports, it is not clear how many requests BlackBerry receives each year, nor the number of requests it has fulfilled.

Insiders say, for example, that BlackBerry intercepted messages to aid investigators probing the political scandals in Brazil that are dogging suspended President Dilma Rousseff. The company also helped authenticate BBM messages in Major League Baseball's drug investigation that saw New York Yankees star Alex Rodriguez suspended in 2014.

One document obtained by CBC News reveals how the Waterloo, Ont.-based company handles requests for information and co-operates with foreign law enforcement and government agencies, in stark contrast with many other tech companies.

“We were helping law enforcement kick ass,” said one of a number of sources who told CBC News that the company is swamped by requests that come directly from police in dozens of countries.

“Narco trafficking, human trafficking, money laundering, kidnapping, crime against children, knowing you are stopping those things ... how do you not love doing something like that?” said the insider.

“BlackBerry's guiding principle has been to do what is right within legal and ethical boundaries when called upon to provide aid in the apprehension of criminals, or preventing government abuse of invading citizen's privacy,” the company said in a statement.

“We have long been clear in our stance that tech companies, as good corporate citizens, should comply with reasonable lawful access requests.”

(CBC News)

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