

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

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## BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## Charges stayed for entrapment



July 29 2016

**VANCOUVER** - A British Columbia couple convicted of terrorism charges have had their verdicts tossed out in a scathing court decision that flays the RCMP for its "egregious" conduct in manipulating naive suspects into carrying out a police-manufactured crime.

B.C. Supreme Court Justice Catherine Bruce said the Mounties used trickery, deceit and veiled threats to engineer the terrorist acts

for which John Nuttall and Amanda Korody were arrested on Canada Day three years ago.

The couple believed they were planting pressure-cooker bombs to kill and maim crowds gathered to celebrate at the B.C. legislature.

"The world has enough terrorists. We do not need the police to create more," Bruce said in a landmark ruling Friday as she characterized the RCMP's methods as "multi-faceted and systematic manipulation."

"There is clearly a need to curtail the actions of police ... to ensure that future



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undercover investigations do not follow the same path.”

Bruce said Mounties involved in a months-long sting launched in early 2013 knowingly exploited Nuttall and Korody’s vulnerabilities to induce them to commit an offence.

She described the pair as marginalized, socially isolated, former heroin addicts dependent on methadone and welfare to subsist and said they were “all talk and no action.”

Nuttall and Korody were recent converts to Islam. Their trial heard Nuttall say in a recording that he wanted to kill and maim countless people during Canada Day festivities in retaliation for Canada’s role in the mistreatment of Muslims in Afghanistan and other countries.

Without the heavy-handed involvement of undercover officers, it would have been impossible for Nuttall and Korody to articulate, craft and execute a terrorist bomb plot, Bruce said.

“Ultimately, their role in carrying out the plan was minuscule compared to what the police had to do,” Bruce said. “It was the police who were the leaders of the plot.”

She also condemned the behaviour of the primary undercover officer who, at the direction of the operation’s overseers, discouraged Nuttall and Korody from seeking outside spiritual guidance and convinced them he was a member of a powerful international terrorist group that would likely kill them if they failed to follow through.

“He was their leader and they were his disciples,” said Bruce, who stayed the proceedings, which threw out the convictions and allowed the couple to walk free after more than three years behind bars.

They embraced outside B.C. Supreme Court before being temporarily re-arrested and later released from provincial court under a peace bond, which places them under strict conditions for up to a year.

A jury found the pair guilty in June 2015 of terrorism-related charges but Bruce delayed registering the convictions at the request of

defence lawyers, who wanted to argue the Mounties had entrapped their clients.

The stay of proceedings means the charges won’t appear on any criminal record and can’t be used against the couple in the future. Had they been convicted, Nuttall and Korody could have faced a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Outside court, Crown lawyer Peter Eccles said he was disappointed by the decision and emphasized that the couple still pose a threat to the public.

“Let’s face it, they did do it,” Eccles said about Nuttall and Korody planting the inert explosives. “And they meant it.”

The Crown has filed an appeal of the ruling issued Friday.

This is the first time in Canada that the legal defence of entrapment has been successfully argued in a terrorism case. Three previous attempts failed.

## THURSDAY JULY 28, 2016

Jul 28 2016

**VANCOUVER - Rainbow-coloured decals shaped like police badges have gone up in more than 100 storefronts throughout Vancouver as the city’s police department launched a hate-crime victim support program that was originally developed in Seattle.**



Police announced the “Safe Place” program this week as Vancouver braced for some 100,000 celebrants to line West End streets for Sunday’s annual Pride Parade. Restaurants, stores and other businesses showing the rainbow Safe Place decal pledge to offer help to those who come to them fleeing or seeking to report a hate-motivated attack.

Officer James Ritter, the Seattle Police Department’s LGBT community liaison, said he developed the program after hearing that many hate crimes against gay, lesbian and transgender people in his city went unreported.

“The victims of these crimes for years had not been heard and were afraid to come forward,” Ritter told reporters at the Vancouver launch.

“We as a police force found this alarming - if we didn’t know this was happening we cannot devote any resources to them and hold the people to account that do these heinous crimes.”

He said the decals have served to educate the public and police about hate crimes and how to respond to them.

“This symbol also lets the criminals

know that this business is an extra set of eyes and ears for the police department to report their behaviour,” Ritter said.

The program has been adopted by other U.S. police agencies, while Vancouver is the first city in Canada to implement it.

(Vancouver Sun)

Jul 28 2016

**Researchers are preparing to measure the scope among Canadian public safety workers of post-traumatic stress disorder and other occupational stress injuries that destroy lives and prompt suicides.**

The pan-Canadian study is being led by the Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research, a new organization being developed at the University of Regina, and will support efforts to address a public-health problem that has only recently been recognized by governments.

“We will commence the data collection in September so we can provide better information for everybody,” said Nick Carleton, a clinical psychologist and professor at the University of Regina who is leading the study. “And that better information,” he said, “can hopefully lead to more evidence-based actions to support the mental health of all our public safety personnel.”

The federal Liberal government has said it will work with the provinces and territories to develop a national action plan on PTSD among public safety officers.

While there has been significant attention drawn to the many Canadian military personnel who returned from Afghanistan suffering from PTSD, and to the large number of those who killed themselves after taking part in that war, there has been less focus on the traumas suffered by those who do the risky and anxiety-filled jobs in this country.

It is widely known that the police officers who view bodies mangled in car crashes, the firefighters who rush into burning buildings, the paramedics who treat catastrophic injuries, and the corrections officers who work on tense and unpredictable prison ranges run elevated risks of mental injury. But there is not much hard evidence to indicate the depth of the problem.

The new study will look at PTSD rates in those occupations, as well as among border guards, Canadian Security Intelligence Service officers and emergency dispatchers.

The Tema Conter Memorial Trust, which provides support to public safety and military personnel dealing with occupational stress injuries, counts 30 first responders - police, fire, ambulance and prison workers - who have taken their own lives so far this year. The trust cannot say for sure that all of the suicides were related to occupational stress. But it also acknowledges that some suicides of first responders are not included in its count and the actual toll is much higher.

Lori MacDonald, an assistant deputy minister in the Department of Public Safety, told a House of Commons committee in May that there has been a lack of data collection,

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and that getting numbers of first responders with PTSD is difficult because of the stigma associated with the disorder. "People know it's personal, private information and they don't want it known," she said.

Even so, she said, her department has done surveys that found 7 per cent of police officers suffer from PTSD and an astounding 36 per cent of male corrections officers also identify as being affected by the disorder.

Those officers - some of whom say they have had difficulty getting approved for workers' compensation when they can no longer do their jobs because of illness - spend their professional lives in an environment where violence can break out at any time.

(Globe and Mail)

## FRIDAY JULY 29, 2016

Jul 29 2016

**Changing the culture of policing, as well as improving training for officers, could help prevent the deaths of people dealing with mental illness during altercations with police in Canada, experts say.**

"The whole culture is a bit of an issue," said Dorothy Cotton, a psychologist who co-authored a Mental Health Commission of Canada (MHCC) report in 2014 on interactions between police and people living with mental health problems.

Police officers tend to get recognition for work perceived as "action", Cotton said, such as saving "a drowning child, or for that matter if you wrestle a gang-banger to the ground."

"But ... how much reward does a police officer get ... for talking someone down?"

Strategies that police normally use for stopping or arresting people - like repeatedly shouting or chasing them - "often backfire" if someone has a mental health issue, Cotton said.

"If you are so mixed up in your head that you're actually not even understanding what they're saying ... then saying it louder and repeating it over and over makes people more agitated."

Terry Coleman, who worked as a police officer in Calgary for almost 25 years, then became chief of the police service in Moose Jaw, Sask., for another decade, said more emphasis on non-physical intervention and teaching a calmer approach is critical in police education and training.

"Not every situation lends itself to having the opportunity to start some sort of conversation and try to de-escalate, but conversely, we shouldn't be doing anything that escalates the situation," said Coleman, who co-authored the mental health and policing report with Cotton.

British Columbia's crisis intervention and de-escalation (CID) training should be viewed as a model for police academies and police services across the country, Coleman said, largely because it trains officers to "slow down" and establish rapport with the

people they encounter.

The B.C. government made the program mandatory for all police officers working in the province as a result of the Braidwood inquiry into the death of Robert Dziekanski, who died after RCMP officers stunned him repeatedly with a Taser at Vancouver International Airport in 2007.

The course initially includes an online component, as well as an in-person session with people who have mental health issues and dealt with police, or their family members, said Steve Schnitzer, director of the police academy at the Justice Institute of British Columbia.

"It's basically having empathy ... treating people with respect," Schnitzer said

CID education is then "interwoven" into the next nine months of basic training for new recruits, including during firearms and use of force instruction, he added.

Practicing de-escalation until it becomes a "habit" is critical, Coleman said, so that police officers "can apply it when bad things happen" and they're in a "stressful situation."

"The attitude of the police officer and even the first words out of the police officer's mouth sets the tone for how this [situation] might and might not go," he said.

And, although officers need to be cautious, Coleman recommends against pulling out a gun when approaching someone who might be agitated.

"I never suggest that we jeopardize officer safety. Never. But if you walk up carefully, I mean, your partner can cover your back ... and just start to talk calmly to this person,

even though they might be shouting and screaming ... try and engage them," he said.

"We don't expect police officers to be able to say, 'well, this person is schizophrenic' or 'this person is bipolar' or whatever. We want ... police officers to understand that there is a problem."

Both Coleman and Cotton, the psychologist, said policing has changed over the years and they disagree with the notion that a police officer shouldn't have to play a role in people's mental well being.

"You hear this, sometimes from the public, but certainly from some police officers that 'we're not bloody social workers,'" Coleman said. "Well, get over it my friends. You are."

"If you've got a police officer with an attitude that we're not 'social workers,' then I'm afraid you don't belong in 21st century policing," he added.

(CBC News)

Jul 29 2016

**BRANDON - Both police and a judge in Brandon, Man., have apologized to two teens wrongfully put behind bars for the weekend.**

The two teens were "incarcerated for breaching a court order that had already been resolved by the courts the previous day," said a statement issued Friday by the Brandon Police Service.

The mix-up happened because the Canadian Police Data Centre - a database used by law enforcement agencies across the country to access information about wanted persons,



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judicial orders and other details - wasn't updated in a timely fashion, said police.

Brandon police said they've taken "procedural steps" to make sure this doesn't happen again.

The snafu of the two wrongfully jailed teens - a boy and girl, in separate cases - played out in a Brandon courtroom on Monday morning.

Meanwhile, the teen girl was also charged with breach of recognizance under similar circumstances Friday night. Fawcett told court that her order also came to an end Thursday when her charges were dealt with in court.

She was arrested Friday evening and also sat in jail all weekend. Fawcett said he wasn't aware the teens were in custody until Monday morning.

"The Crown finds this quite alarming," Crown attorney Kaley Tschetter told court. "We're looking into it to make sure this doesn't happen again."

Both teens had charges related to the mix-up dropped on Monday.

(CBC News)

Jul 29 2016

### **RCMP in The Pas have been cleared of wrongdoing after being accused of assaulting a female suspect.**

The woman was arrested May 16 and held in custody at the RCMP detachment in the northern Manitoba community. That's when she says she was assaulted.

Although she was not seriously injured, the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba (IIU) got involved to determine whether officers used excessive and unnecessary force.

After reviewing the findings of IIU investigators, including interviews with numerous witnesses and RCMP video of the The Pas detachment cell block, IIU civilian director Zane Tessler has determined that no officer used excessive or unnecessary force in any dealings with the complainant.

The woman who brought the complaint remains before the court on charges. The IIU's complete investigative report won't be posted until the matter is resolved.

(Winnipeg Sun)

Jul 29 2016

### **A former police officer who lost part of his leg after being hit by an SUV is recovering from his extensive injuries and believes what happened to him was no accident.**

Ron Broda, who worked as a police officer for 28 years in Vancouver and Victoria, is suing the driver who hit him in July 2013.

Eric Gosse was charged with criminal negligence, assault using a weapon, and aggravated assault, but was acquitted of all three charges connected to the crash, which was captured on video at Ogden Point in Victoria.

Gosse was only found guilty of the lesser, included offence of dangerous driving causing bodily harm. The judge was not persuaded Gosse intended to drive his vehicle into Broda's motorcycle, though they did find the

vehicle accelerated in the seconds before the crash, did not brake, and was driving at least 50 kilometres per hour.

"I'm rather cynical about how our criminal system works. I hesitate to call it a justice system," Broda said, adding, "When seeing isn't believing, you kind of wonder what sentence is likely to be imposed."

Broda now works for the Canada Border Services Agency and launched a civil case against the driver, who did not testify in the criminal case.

"To me it was clearly intentional," Broda said. "Everybody I know who's seen the video thinks it was intentional... In my mind the real justice will happen in the civil case when Mr. Gosse has to testify and can't hide anymore," he said.

Gosse's sentencing date is being set Aug. 10. He could face up to 10 years in jail, though the Crown is asking for a six to nine-month sentence.

"I died and was saved by the health care system. What would it take to get anywhere close to the maximum penalty? How much is a life worth?" Broda asked.

Now working hard to recover, Broda never intended to let his injuries limit his life. He is working to build strength and range of motion through physiotherapy and is back on his new motorcycle, purchased while he was still bed-ridden in the hospital.

Broda said is determined to live his life with an optimistic outlook despite the crash.

"He took my leg. He didn't take my spirit," Broda said. "There's that cliché 'Don't let bad things define you. Well they do define you, but the good news is you get to choose how they define you. You can let it defeat you and you can get bitter, or you can get better and continue.'"

(CTV News)

Jul 29 2016

### **TORONTO - A Toronto police officer sentenced to six years for gunning down a troubled teen on an empty streetcar three years ago has been granted bail while he appeals the conviction.**

The appeal judge, Justice Eileen Gillese, said in her decision that Const. James Forcillo poses no risk to the public "as there is no risk that he would commit further offences."

Gillese noted that until Thursday, the Crown consented to bail being granted every time the issue arose, including after Forcillo, 33, was convicted of attempted murder in January in the death of Sammy Yatim, 18.

A condition of Forcillo's bail is that he surrender himself on Nov. 9. Gillese said that before that date, the Crown and defence lawyers should update the presiding judge on the status of the appeal. If the appeal isn't ready to be heard, Gillese said the surrender date can be modified.

At sentencing on Thursday, Justice Edward Then said Forcillo abused his authority in a way that undermines public trust in law enforcement and the justice system.

Then said that in letting loose a second volley of shots on Yatim, Forcillo committed an "egregious breach of trust" and his sentence must serve as notice to other police officers.

Forcillo's lawyer, Peter Brauti, said an appeal had already been filed on the conviction and sentencing.

Jul 29 2016

### **OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada has restored the conviction of an Alberta man for possession of child pornography in a case about the burden of proof for circumstantial evidence.**

Oswald Villaroman took his laptop to a Calgary computer shop for repairs in December 2009, and a service technician contacted the police after discovering child pornography downloaded through a file-sharing program.

A judge convicted Villaroman of child pornography possession following a prosecution based on circumstantial evidence such as the fact that he owned the computer, which had only one user account labelled with his name.

The Alberta Court of Appeal overturned the conviction last year, ruling the trial judge had erred by excluding other possibilities as to how the pornography ended up on his computer.

The Supreme Court disagreed with the appeal judgment Friday, saying the trial judge did not make a mistake in how to apply the law.

The Crown had argued that requiring prosecutors to disprove all other possible conclusions concerning the presence of pornography would increase the burden of proof to an impossible degree.

The Crown said this could have a devastating impact on the ability to prosecute child pornography cases and others that rely on circumstantial evidence.

The lawyers representing Villaroman, however, said the trial judge had simply erred in finding the defendant guilty beyond reasonable doubt when the prosecution had brought virtually no evidence of possession.

Jul 29 2016

### **WINNIPEG - An investigation by the Manitoba police watchdog has cleared Winnipeg officers of wrongdoing in a fatal high-speed pursuit.**

The Independent Investigation Unit says officers acted appropriately last November when they chased a Ford Explorer that was allegedly involved in two armed robberies.

The investigation report says the SUV was driving at speeds up to 160 km/h.

It says the officers temporarily lost sight of the vehicle, but saw it a minute later after it crashed.

The woman driver was pronounced dead in hospital, while a male passenger who fled on foot was arrested nearby.

The report says that a pathologist concluded the driver was intoxicated by cocaine and methamphetamine.



## EDMONTON - Traffic ticket revenues in Edmonton are off target by more than \$2 million this year despite an increase in both the number of tickets and the fines they bring.

A monthly financial report brought to this month's Edmonton Police Commission showed a revenue shortfall of almost \$2.3 million this year from the forecast total. That includes nearly \$1.9 million less than expected funds from Traffic Safety Act fines, including speeding, distracted or impaired driving, and traffic-light violations, given out by traffic section officers.

The report said the deficit is a result of "a decrease in the volume of tickets paid and collected despite an estimated six-per-cent increase of tickets issued by police members and the provincial decision to increase rates."

The province increased fines for Traffic Safety Act violations by 35 per cent in May 2015, with 25 per cent of the collections earmarked for cities. With the expected number of fines to increase following new distracted driving legislation, Edmonton police expected an increase in fine revenue of 23.5 per cent.

The actual increase when the fines were collected, though, was closer to four per cent. If the trend continues, the report forecasts a deficit of more than \$5 million in traffic fines revenue by the end of the year.

Reasons for the discrepancy aren't clear. Jodie Graham, executive director of the police service's finance division, said it could be anything from a lag in collections as drivers wait to settle outstanding fines until they renew vehicle registrations, to the tough economy, prompting drivers to believe that fighting tickets in court is worth their time.

The unpredictable nature of fine revenue can prove to be a discouraging situation when budgets are debated and passed.

"The commission wants the police to do more traffic safety. Generally, that's the No. 1 issue we heard at the last election when I was running," said Coun. Michael Oshry, who sits on the police commission.

He said he is regularly approached by residents who want more traffic enforcement. "The fact that the police then goes ahead and does more of this, but then the penalties aren't collected, is frustrating."

## SATURDAY JULY 30, 2016

Jul 30 2016

It's a problem that's been steadily on the rise in Fort Saskatchewan, and now RCMP are getting creative when it comes to car theft.

RCMP are warning thieves that the next car they choose to break into or steal might be a 'bait vehicle.' Thieves attempting to steal the vehicle or its contents will be arrested and charged accordingly.

The initiative is a partnership between the Fort Saskatchewan RCMP and the General

Investigation Section in conjunction with the "K" Division Auto Theft Unit.

(Global News)

Jul 30 2016

## KAMLOOPS - There has been a shuffling of RCMP aircraft this month.

According to a news release from E Division Air Services an RCMP helicopter from the Southeast District has shipped out to the North District.

One of two RCMP air service helicopters was previously stationed in Kamloops.

In April, Superintendent Brad Mueller confirmed that the Air Four chopper based in Kamloops would be moved to Kelowna at the beginning of July, while Kelowna's chopper would be moved to Prince George.

The move was made in order to provide faster police services to BC's largest geographical region in the north.

Kelowna also gained an airplane in the shuffle.  
(CFJC)

## MONDAY AUGUST 1, 2016

Aug 01 2016

OTTAWA - Until Canadians own cars that truly drive themselves, they can forget getting off the legal hook if they're in an accident with a vehicle that still has a steering wheel, suggests a report from Canada's biggest law firm.

Under Canada's common-law legal system, driving in semi-autonomous mode isn't much different than operating a vehicle with cruise control, says the brief issued by Borden Ladner Gervais.

"As long as a driver with some ability to assume or resume control of the vehicle is present, there would seem to be a continuing basis for driver negligence and liability as they presently exist," said the report entitled Autonomous Vehicles, Revolutionizing Our World, published this week on the firm's website.

The report comes as the federal government contemplates developing regulations for automated vehicles. Ottawa set aside \$7.3 million over two years in the spring budget to improve motor vehicle safety, with part of that money earmarked for developing new rules for self-driving cars.

But until fully autonomous vehicles hit the consumer market, there's not much need to enact new laws, says BLG partner and report author Kevin LaRoche.

"With regards to driver liability, common law, coupled with the current legislation, may be sufficient to address liability involving all levels of autonomous vehicles, short of fully autonomous vehicles which do not require any level of human control," LaRoche wrote.

"For fully autonomous vehicles, it would seem that legislative amendments would be required to clarify whether the owner would be vicariously liable and under what circumstances."



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Aug 02 2016

### **A Sûreté du Québec officer has been dismissed after 24 years on the job because of his aggressive behaviour toward a driver in September 2011.**

Patrick Delsame was found guilty of a criminal charge of reckless driving and various offences under the Quebec police ethics code.

Driving a police van on Highway 132 in St-Lambert, Delsame, becoming impatient, tailgated the car in front of him at high speed, undertaking dangerous maneuvers before striking the vehicle, which then hit a concrete wall.

The driver, a 17-year-old, was injured and his car was destroyed. The police officer then reportedly lashed out and assaulted the driver. Some of what happened was seen by witnesses.

In December 2014, an SQ committee recommended that the officer be fired. Lise Thériault, the public security minister at that time approved his dismissal.

Delsame worked in the technical unit of the SQ's specialized investigation service. At the time of the incident, he was not answering a call but was headed to a training session in Montreal.

The ethics committee said Delsame suffered from attention deficit disorder that made him vulnerable to impulsivity and rapid mood changes. The committee said he had decided on his own to discontinue a medication and to cut another in half.

Aug 02 2016

### **The police chief of a northern Ontario city says he's going to meet with the province's Attorney General's office to discuss a controversial plea deal made in secret in a gruesome murder, decapitation and dismemberment case in Sault Ste. Marie.**



Chief Robert Keetch says Crown attorneys agreed to the deal without input from the investigators in charge of the first-degree murder case against Ronald Mitchell, Dylan Jocko and Eric Mearow in the death of 29-year-old Wesley Hallam at a drug-fuelled house party in 2011.

He says his force only found out about the plea deal for manslaughter that the accused and Crown agreed to after officers overheard comments made by some of the accused in jail recently - which the Crown initially denied to police.

Keetch says the Crown eventually

admitted to the deal just two weeks before last week's court appearance during which Mitchell, Jocko and Mearow pleaded guilty to manslaughter and indignity to a human body in Hallam's death that will see all three men walk free within two years.

The chief says while nothing can be done with the case now, he hopes to prevent a similar outcome in the future and says the ministry is keen to meet to figure out a better way forward in future cases.

The Ministry of the Attorney General did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Aug 02 2016

### **TORONTO - Drug-trafficking charges against two people in Whitby, Ont., have been dismissed after a judge ruled that a Durham Regional police officer stopped them based on racial profiling.**

Beverly Ann O'Grady and Jeffrey Ferguson-Cadore were jointly charged with four counts of possessing controlled substances for the purposes of trafficking in September 2014 after police searched the car O'Grady was driving and said they found found marijuana, crack cocaine, powder cocaine and Oxycocet tabs.

O'Grady and Ferguson-Cadore's lawyers applied to have the evidence excluded because they said stopping and searching the vehicle represented several violations of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

According to the background facts laid out in Justice Robert Charney's written decision, the officer started following the car after he saw a "young looking white female" in the driver's seat with a black man in the passenger seat leaving a motel parking lot, and became suspicious that the woman was a prostitute accompanied by a pimp.

Charney ruled the officer had no lawful authority to stop the vehicle. He wrote that the officer "took advantage of the arbitrary detention to unlawfully search the vehicle" and ruled that the stop represented "very serious" violations of the charter.

The officer, who is identified by only one name in the decision, said he saw the car leaving a motel that was known as a hotbed of prostitution and drug activity, and he was concerned for the woman's safety. He pulled the car over after running the licence plate, noting that neither person in the car appeared to match the description of the vehicle's listed owner, who was born in 1965.

"The police officer's initial suspicions and concerns for the safety of the young white female were based on the fact that she was seen in the company of a black male," Charney said in his written decision. "There was really nothing more to it than that."

When the officer pulled over the car, O'Grady asked why she had been stopped and the officer told her she didn't look like she was born in 1965.

The officer said he smelled a strong odor of marijuana in the car, and noticed ash on the console and gearshift. He then called for backup and searched the car, finding marijuana, the ruling said. The couple was then arrested, and when the officers continued to search the car, the decision said they found other drugs as well.

The officer's arrest report stated that his primary reason for stopping the car was the fact that the driver and passenger didn't match the registered owner.

Charney ruled that this was a pretext for the stop, and there was no road safety justification behind it.

"In the first place, there is nothing illegal, unusual or suspicious about a driver not matching the description of the registered owner. Family members frequently share the same car. The registered owner may be a different gender or a different age than the driver. This is commonplace and innocent conduct," his decision reads.

He added that the constable "was aware that this was not a sufficient basis to stop the vehicle at 3:30 p.m. on a Sunday afternoon. That is why he ran the plate through the PARIS system - to see if he could find some legitimate basis to stop the car."

O'Grady's lawyer, Jonathan Pyzer, said the Crown called no evidence in the case after Charney ruled the evidence obtained from the search should be excluded, and the charges were dismissed.

Aug 02 2016

### **KINGSVILLE, Ont. - Police say the newest vessel in the provincial police fleet was called in to rescue a dozen people on Lake Erie during the long weekend.**



OPP say the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre got a distress call from the occupants of a jet boat on Saturday night near Cedar Beach at Kingsville, Ont.

The vessel, occupied by 12 people, was returning from a bay between two weather systems, when they reportedly had mechanical issues and began to take on water.

The OPP vessel Chris D. Lewis located the pleasure craft just prior to it sinking, took all 12 people aboard and towed the jet boat to the Canadian Coast Guard base in Amherstburg, Ont.

Police say those who were rescued were cold and wet but uninjured.

OPP Const. James Lyman assisted in the rescue and says he'll "remember this one for a while."



Aug 02 2016

**NEW YORK CITY - New York City Police Commissioner Bill Bratton will retire in September to "pursue other opportunities," he said today.**

Bratton did not elaborate on his plans at today's news conference, but global CEO advisory firm Teneo said Bratton will join the firm in September as senior managing director and executive chairman of Teneo Risk, a new division that advises major companies on risk identification, prevention and response.

Bratton's retirement came as a surprise, as he had been expected to stay on through next year's mayoral election, city officials told ABC News. Mayor Bill De Blasio said Bratton told him his decision on July 8.

The next police commissioner - a position once held by Teddy Roosevelt - will be James O'Neill, who is currently the chief of department and the NYPD's top-ranking uniformed member.

De Blasio called O'Neill "the perfect person to succeed" Bratton and cited O'Neill - the architect of the neighborhood policing program - as the leader who can sustain the "deep and consistent bond between police and community" that the city is working toward.

Bratton is retiring after twice serving as New York City's police commissioner. He has also been the Los Angeles police chief and the Boston police commissioner.

(ABC News)

Aug 02 2016

**VANCOUVER - Alarming information uncovered in an internal Vancouver Police union report has revealed that as many as one in three officers are dealing with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) while on the job.**

A survey of more than 700 Vancouver officers shows nearly 32 per cent of officers fall in the range of diagnosable PTSD.

The results show a high number of officers are suffering from anxiety, depression, exhaustion and cynicism.

"They come from our members, and so we have to take those numbers very seriously," Vancouver Police Deputy Chief Warren Lemcke said.

Psychologist Dr. Gregory Passey said PTSD can take a toll on officers.

"It can have a huge impact," Passey said. "It disrupts their sleep, often have nightmares, difficulty concentrating, multitasking."

He says officers may also act in a more aggressive manner.

"You can see an increased aggressive behaviour occurring, much quicker than one would expect with someone without PTSD," Passey said.

Lemcke says the department screens and monitors officers very carefully.

"We look at things like the amount of overtime someone works, the amount of sick time that person is taking, if they have been in multiple car accidents, do they have complaints against them that are being investigated by

the professional standards section, and several other things."

Lemcke said Vancouver police offers peer to peer counseling, psychologists, critical incident stress management, among other things, to help officers.

(Global News)

Aug 02 2016

**CALGARY - Calgary police are shopping around for a new armoured rescue vehicle.**

With a ballpark cost of roughly \$300,000, it's one of the more expensive tools city police have at their disposal, but it's one they see as critical and irreplaceable.

"Our current one is approaching a 10-year life cycle and it has been used extensively," said Insp. Blair White, in charge of the local service's support section.

White says the tank-like vehicle responds to around 50 barricade calls, 300 high risk calls and 200 warrant services calls per year, and call volume is steadily increasing.

"We don't consider it a luxury item," he said.

"Items that we can put off, we will put off, for efficiency and to save some money in these tight times - this vehicle is critical for what we do."

Chief Roger Chaffin said he's aware an ARV comes with a perhaps eyebrow-raising price-tag.

"We're not expecting anyone to give them away," said Chaffin.

"In this market we want to find the best value - it's not always the cheapest one, but the one that provides the best value.

"We want to do due diligence and make sure that what we purchase isn't just the shiniest one - it's the most effective and cost is a part of that."



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## WEDNESDAY AUGUST 3, 2016

Aug 03 2016

**GATINEAU, Que. - The federal government has outlined the terms of an inquiry into the phenomenon of missing and murdered aboriginal women - along with a price tag nearly \$14 million higher than expected.**



Commissioners will provide concrete recommendations to federal, provincial and territorial governments about how to deal with the disproportionate rates of violence and crime against Canada's indigenous women and girls.

By digging for root causes, including past and present systemic and institutional barriers, the commission will play a key role in defining actions needed to protect the human rights of indigenous women and girls, said Justice Minister Jody Wilson-Raybould.

"We know that the inquiry cannot undo the injustices that indigenous peoples have suffered over decades, but we can review what's happened in the past, reflect on our present circumstances, and chart a path moving forward."

Nor will the federal government wait until the end of the inquiry to take action to help curb the violence, said Indigenous Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett.

The process - designed to be arm's length from government once it is up and running on Sept. 1 - is expected to last at least two years and cost at least \$53.8 million - \$13.8 million than was originally expected.

Bennett said the inquiry will reflect what the government heard during pre-inquiry consultations: that policing and child welfare policies will be put under the microscope, that it will not take a one-size-fits-all approach and will take into account regional differences when crafting recommendations.

The five commissioners responsible for carrying out the inquiry are:

- Chief commissioner Marion Buller, B.C.'s first female First Nations judge;
- Michele Audette, a former president of the Native Women's Association of Canada;
- Qajaq Robinson, an Ottawa-based, Nunavut-born lawyer who practices civil litigation with an emphasis on aboriginal law;
- Marilyn Poitras, a professor at the University of Saskatchewan professor with a

focus on indigenous law;

- Brian Eyolfson, a First Nations lawyer based in Ontario.

Under the Inquiries Act, the commissioners will have the same powers as any court in a civil case to enforce the attendance of witnesses and compel them to give evidence. They can also examine all papers, documents, vouchers, records and books belonging a public office or institution.

Aug 03 2016

**WASHINGTON - A police officer with the Washington transit system has become the first American law enforcement officer to be charged with supporting the Islamic State, accused of trying to send financial help to the group after advising a friend on how to travel to Syria to join it.**

In court papers filed on Tuesday and made public on Wednesday, federal law enforcement officials charged the officer, Nicholas Young, with attempting to provide material support to a terrorist organization.

The charge is based on the allegation that Mr. Young bought gift cards worth \$245 and sent their code numbers to someone he believed had joined ISIS in Syria, to help the group pay for mobile phone messaging with its supporters in the West.

The documents state that agents had been shadowing Mr. Young for almost six years, that he went to Libya twice in 2011 to aid a rebel group fighting Muammar el-Qaddafi, and that he had associated with two people convicted in 2012 on terrorism charges.

Mr. Young, a United States citizen who lives in Fairfax, Va., joined the Washington Metropolitan Transportation Authority's police force in 2003. The authority, which said he was dismissed after his arrest on Wednesday, would not say where he was assigned or what kind of work he did.

(New York Times)

Aug 03 2016

**TORONTO - A letter written by Toronto's police chief says there has been a large effort to improve relationships between officers and the LGBTQ community, despite issues raised by Black Lives Matter protestors during and after this year's Pride Parade.**

The letter, which was released to the public on Wednesday, was addressed to the Pride Toronto Board of Directors.

Police Chief Mark Saunders penned the letter a month after Black Lives Matter protestors disrupted the parade by holding a sit-in and refusing to move until Pride organizers agreed to a list of demands. One of those demands was to exclude police from Pride activities.

The reaction to the protest was mixed, with some saying police have often let down the LGBTQ community and are seen as a symbol of oppression rather than an ally. Others said all should be welcome as there are officers who are also members of the LGBTQ community.

Saunders said in his letter that he wanted to "make sure there is no confusion about the

position of the Toronto Police Service" because it was "too important an issue."

"Too much has been written and spoken that bears no relation to the truth," Saunders wrote.

"My Service has made enormous strides in recent years to enhance and develop our relationship with the LGBTQ communities in Toronto. We have, internally and externally, demonstrated a willingness to learn, to develop, to work together, to support each other," the letter says. "There is much to be done, but we have come a long way."

In a note released to the media, Saunders said he felt he had to release the letter to help ease the tensions.

"We have also had concerned feedback from members of the LGBTQ communities who feel marginalized. They are worried that the confusion created by the post-Parade uncertainty might have an impact on our continuing outreach efforts," he said. "I wanted to get some facts out and reassure all members of the LGBTQ communities that our outreach efforts will continue. That's why I felt I had to release my letter."

Saunders also included a list of steps Toronto police are taking to improve their relationship with the LGBTQ community. Police headquarters now include a gender-neutral washroom and Saunders said that going forward, gender-neutral facilities will be included in all new buildings designated for the police service. There are events such as Coffee with Cops, a speaker series and the International Day of Pink event, dedicated to anti-bullying.

"We will continue to build on the progress

# BLUE LINE

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we have made, while also acknowledging there is much more to be done. We value our relationship with Pride and it is important to us to continue playing an active role in the parade," the letter continued to say. "We will continue to push forward, continue to reach out to the most vulnerable and marginalized. We will continue to work to make this city a more inclusive city, for all people."

(CTV News)

Aug 03 2016

### EDMONTON - Edmonton police say it has laid its first charge under a law that tries to deter attacks on police and service dogs.

Police say the canine unit tried to stop a speeding vehicle on Tuesday, but it took off, so the police helicopter tracked the vehicle from air for more than an hour driving erratically in Edmonton, Beaumont and Strathcona County.

When the vehicle was stopped by a spike belt, the driver fled on foot, but police service dog Jagger caught the driver, who allegedly assaulted the dog.

Police say the dog has non life-threatening injuries.

Ryan James Prystay, who is 33, is facing several drug, theft and weapons charges as well as a charge of injure or endanger a law enforcement animal.

The Justice for Animals in Service Act, or Quanto's Law, came into force last July, named after Edmonton police dog Quanto, who was killed in the line of duty in 2013.

## THURSDAY AUGUST 4, 2016

Aug 04 2016

### LETHBRIDGE, Alta. - The Lethbridge police service says it is investigating an allegation of police misconduct circulating on Facebook.

The probe comes after a young man posted photos and videos on his own Facebook page alleging he was assaulted by several officers while out for a run on a road in the middle of the night.

The police service says it will be seeking out the young man "so the matter can be fully investigated."

The police news release says it doesn't usually initiate internal investigations based

on comments posted on social media.

But it says this case is considered unique "as the comments allege misconduct by numerous officers" and an investigation would be in the public interest.

Aug 04 2016

### HALIFAX - An RCMP staff sergeant is facing several charges including drug trafficking following an 11-month investigation involving Mounties from five provinces.

Nova Scotia's Serious Incident Response Team says Craig Robert Burnett has been charged with theft of cocaine, trafficking cocaine, breach of trust and laundering proceeds of crime.

Burnett is an RCMP member with the operational communications centre in Truro.

A news release says an investigation was launched last September after RCMP received information that in 2011, 10 kilograms of cocaine was stolen from an exhibit locker and replaced with another substance.

The team says early on in the investigation, it was determined that significant resources were required and Mounties from Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Alberta, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador were brought in to assist.

Aug 04 2016

### TORONTO - The director of the province's Special Investigation Unit has had a third charge laid against a Toronto police officer in relation to the death of a suicidal teen earlier this year.

The police watchdog agency says a man sought the assistance of a police officer on Feb. 2, 2016, regarding a suicide attempt by another man in Toronto's High Park.

The SIU says the suicidal 19-year-old man was pronounced dead an hour and a half later.

Const. Kyle Upjohn was charged in June with criminal negligence causing death and failing to provide the necessities of life.

Upjohn appeared in court Thursday to face those charges and an additional charge of breach of trust by a public officer.

Aug 04 2016

### CALGARY - A police watchdog group says a Calgary officer who shot and killed an intoxicated man armed with what turned out to be a broken pellet gun will not face charges.

The Alberta Serious Incident Response

Team says four officers responded to a report of a man with a gun threatening another man in an apartment building on Oct. 31, 2014.

Officers tried to contact the man by phone, then knocked on the door of a suite.

The agency says a man came out holding what appeared to be a handgun across his chest and, after one officer yelled "gun," the man turned with the weapon angled towards the officers.

One officer fired two shots, striking the man in the torso and a wall.

The 30-year-old man was later found dead inside the suite.

Investigators determined the man was armed with a black pellet pistol that resembled a semi-automatic gun. It was not in operating condition.

An autopsy report also concluded that the man had been drinking.

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