

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK *Celebrating 20 Years*

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

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Executive Digest

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STRATHROY, Ont. - Police say a terrorist sympathizer killed in a high-stakes standoff in south-western Ontario last week died from a gunshot wound.

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OTTAWA - The Ottawa Police Service is about to embark on a six-year, \$42-million overhaul of its information technology systems, making it the first police force in Canada to modernize its police service since Facebook, smartphones and data analytics have taken hold.

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WINNIPEG - RCMP dogs in Manitoba are getting high-tech vests with money from the sale of property that's been seized from criminals.

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Goodale urges debate on cybersecurity



Aug 18 2016

OTTAWA - Canadians need to think about how far police should be allowed to go in accessing their electronic devices and communications, the federal public safety minister says.

A federal review of cybersecurity will provide a chance to discuss a proposal from Canada's police chiefs for a new law that would compel people to hand over passwords with a judge's consent, Ralph Goodale said Wednesday.

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police says the measure is needed to fight criminals in cyberspace who increasingly use tools to hide their identities and communications.

In the United States, there are literally thousands of smartphones and other digital devices "sitting on shelves" because authorities can't get into them, said Terrence Cunningham, a police chief in Massachusetts and president of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

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"And we know that those devices hold the answers to the questions that we need so that we can hold people accountable and prosecute some of these cases," Cunningham said during the Canadian chiefs' annual conference this week.

After a speech Wednesday to the gathering, Goodale acknowledged that smartphones contain a wealth of personal data and can reveal much more about a person than an ordinary physical search might.

But he added that while Canadians value their privacy, they also want police to have the necessary tools to investigate crimes. "I think Canadians recognize the imperatives on both sides."

Civil libertarians and privacy advocates cried foul when the previous Conservative government introduced legislation that would have allowed police access to Internet subscriber information — including name, address, telephone number, email address and Internet Protocol address — without a warrant.

OpenMedia, a group that advocates online freedom, says the chiefs' new password proposal is likely unconstitutional.

But Goodale suggested Wednesday that the issue of police access to digital communications hasn't sparked the same kind of national debate that has taken place in the U.S.

"This is a critically important subject area, and one that — for one reason or another — has not been subject to adequate public

discussion. I think over the course of the fall, it will. And that will help us as a government and it will also help police forces and security agencies to define the parameters."

The federal cybersecurity consultation launched this week runs through mid-October.

The overall aim is to identify gaps and opportunities, bring forward new ideas to shape a renewed approach and capitalize on the advantages of new technology, the government says.

In his address to the chiefs, Goodale said major companies in telecommunications, utilities and finance are investing huge amounts in cybersecurity, but smaller enterprises with limited time and resources cannot do as much.

"This represents real risk and missed opportunity," he said.

"The hackers and scammers who are constantly trying to break into our information systems are a motley but potent combination of foreign states, militaries, terror groups, organized crime, petty thieves and vandals, and even that lonely computer geek in his underwear in the basement."

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10, 2016

Aug 10 2016

CALGARY - Calgary police say there were a number of factors that led to the decision to change the colour scheme of its fleet, including a chance to rebrand and go 'retro'.

"[We're] going back to the roots of Calgary, where at one time police cars were, back in the fifties, black and white. So it was going back to that retro look," said Insp. Ken Thrower.

Within the next year, the CPS will phase out its old white and blue cars and finish rolling out its sportier, black and white cruisers.

"I heard a lot from the public and I drove around the test cars and I got the thumbs up from the old guy in the Buick and the young guy over there on the Harley looking at it going 'Hey, that's cool, I like the look of that car.'"

Thrower said the change was also necessary because Ford ended the production of its Crown Victoria model that the force had been using for many years.

The CPS has been gradually replacing its fleet with Dodge Enforcers and Ford Interceptors, both of which are about \$3,000 to \$4,000 less than the "Crown Vic's," Thrower says.

It also only costs \$500 to decal each black and white cruiser, whereas before, it was \$1,000 per vehicle.

Thrower said that's because the old cars had more stripes to install on the outside.

According to Coun. Gian-Carlo Carra, the new colour scheme has sparked "an interesting conversation on social media" about how the police cars had gone from "big, white, sort of non-threatening boats" to "sort-of paramilitary-looking tricked-out black things."

(CBC News)

THURSDAY AUGUST 11, 2016

Aug 11 2016

LONDON - Andrew Boff, Conservative London-wide assembly member, said that since 2015, the Met has only upgraded 8,000 desktops to a new operating system, with another 6,000 due to be upgraded by September.

Windows XP has not received official security updates for more than two years, with the Met forced to pay for security patches instead of receiving free updates.

Boff said: "Operating systems age more like milk than wine, and Windows XP is well past its sell-by date."

"The Met should have stopped using Windows XP in 2014 when extended support ended, and to hear that 27,000 computers are still using it is worrying."

Boff said that the Dutch government has recently paid £1.4m to Microsoft to continue security patches for Windows XP.

He also questioned the Met's choice to upgrade to Windows 8.1, which he said was neither the newest nor best used version of the OS.

Boff is urging the mayor to reevaluate the Met's upgrade schedule and have a better plan for future updates.

(PublicTechnology.net)

Aug 11 2016

OTTAWA - Canadian medical marijuana patients can grow their own cannabis or get someone to grow it for them under new, expanded rules that come into effect later this month, Health Canada announced Thursday.

Patients approved for medical marijuana will be able to register with Health Canada to grow a "limited" amount of cannabis for their own medical purposes.

"If an individual wants to produce a limited amount of cannabis for his/her own medical purposes, he/she must submit an application to register with Health Canada," said a department background document.

"An original medical document from the health-care practitioner must be provided and the application must include information such as the location of where cannabis will be produced and stored."

They can also designate someone else to grow it for them, for instance if they're not healthy enough to grow their own, granted the other person passes a background check showing they haven't been convicted of a drug offence in the last 10 years and aren't growing for more than two people, themselves included.

The third option is getting it from one of 34 Health Canada-approved producers - the only legal source under the current laws.

Health Canada officials said in a technical briefing Thursday afternoon this "limited amount" people can grow at their home will be linked to the daily amount of

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Celebrating 20 Years

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cannabis a patient is prescribed.

For example, someone prescribed a gram a day could grow two plants outdoors or five plants indoors to be able to supply themselves, Health Canada said, since plants grown outdoors yield more supply than indoor plants.

The seeds and plants would come from these licensed producers, who could sell an interim supply of cannabis to people as they wait for their homegrown supply to be ready.

The new rules come into effect on Aug. 24. (CBC News)

Aug 11 2016

VANCOUVER - No charges will be laid against a Vancouver police officer who fired his weapon three times, hitting a suspect and the body of woman who was already dead.

The British Columbia Criminal Justice Branch says it considered several possible charges against the officer, including careless use of a firearm, assault with a weapon and assault causing bodily harm.

The justice branch says in a news release that in April 2014, two officers came upon the suspect in the blood-covered hallway of a Vancouver apartment building with a woman and child lying motionless at his feet.

Police told the man to put down his weapon and when he refused, an officer fired, shooting the suspect in the hand and hitting the woman, who had already been stabbed to death, with another bullet.

The Independent Investigations office looked into the shooting and passed its report on to the justice branch, which says its charge standard for proceeding with a prosecution has not been met.

Shortly after the confrontation, a man was charged with the second-degree murder of his mother and the attempted murder of his 19-month old niece.

The justice branch says he was found not criminally responsible on account of a mental disorder.

The IIO investigation results were delivered to the Crown on March 31, 2016 — almost two years after the initial investigation.

He said the office has suffered from internal problems, it relies on third-party reports that often aren't timely, and it doesn't have access to its own labs for ballistics and other testing.

"We're having a serious look at our internal processes and improving those," Youssef said.

"We're working with the third-party labs, the external labs that we rely on to expedite the reports. And, of course, we are working with the police agencies across the province to ensure more cooperation and ongoing co-operation with our cases."

He said delays are also sometimes caused by unpredictable spikes in incidents requiring investigation.

Youssef did not say whether timeliness is improving at the IIO but said new staff are being hired and timeliness requires "long-term solutions" and the number of cases the office gets are impossible to predict.

FRIDAY AUGUST 12, 2016

Aug 12 2016

OTTAWA - The delays plaguing the justice system have become a crisis that could result in the release of thousands of criminals, say the senators behind a new report that explores how long it takes for cases to wind their way through the courts.

"It needs to be remedied immediately," Sen. George Baker said Friday in Ottawa as the standing Senate committee on legal and constitutional affairs released its interim report on a problem they say is eroding public confidence in the criminal justice system.

"We now have a crisis situation in this country in which you are going to see tens of thousands of persons who are guilty of serious crimes in this country released," said Baker, a Senate Liberal.

"They will not go to jail for what they're convicted of, simply because we have not made the proper changes in procedures relating to court operations."

The Supreme Court of Canada issued a potentially groundbreaking decision last month when it set out a new framework for determining whether a criminal trial has been unreasonably delayed, citing a "culture of complacency" for contributing to the problem.

The Charter of Rights and Freedoms says someone charged with an offence has the right to have their case tried within a reasonable amount of time. In a 5-4 decision, the high court defined that period as 18 months for provincial courts and 30 months for superior courts.

The ruling came with a transitional measure for cases already in the system, although a dissenting minority opinion argued the new time limits could lead to thousands of prosecutions being tossed out.

The 15-page report describes the complex factors behind delays, which it notes persist despite overall crime rates having been on the decline since the early 1990s.

"The innocent are left in limbo. The persons who committed crimes are left unprosecuted and Canadians are left frustrated. They are so frustrated that they condemn our court process," Baker said.

And the senators say a shortage of judges — including 44 federally appointed positions that remain empty — is an important factor in the delays.

They called on the Liberal government to fill the vacancies immediately and develop a more effective judicial appointments system.

The report also recommends the use of restorative justice and therapeutic or alternative courts, citing the value of police discretion in whether people dealing with mental health issues and addictions needs to be arrested instead of referred to programs where they can get help.

The final report is expected next spring.

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Aug 12 2016

EDMONTON - It looks like a cross between a Doctor Who robotic villain, a filing cabinet and a recycling bin, but it's actually the latest tool Edmonton is using to battle speeders.



Starting this week, the city will deploy a container radar in hopes of reducing speeding. The beige container, about the size of a newspaper box with a few windows on the front, wheels on the back and a light on top, will be placed in areas photo radar vans can't safely access.

An operator will be stationed within sight of the box to monitor it.

A similar tool was last used in 2009 when the Edmonton Police Service contracted its photo radar work to a private company.

Since then, the city has taken over the responsibility for photo radar. Similar devices have been used in a handful of other municipalities, including St. Albert.

Last year, the city fielded 651 complaints from people about speeding drivers. In the first half of 2016, nearly 400 people have called asking for more enforcement and traffic-calming measures.

(Edmonton Journal)

Aug 12 2016

OTTAWA - The federal government is appealing a judge's decision to strike down a national security certificate against Mahmoud Jaballah, saying she made mistakes in concluding there was no credible evidence he posed a threat to Canada.

It is the latest twist in a saga that stretches back 17 years.

The government alleges the Egyptian-born Jaballah, 54, is a member of terrorist group al-Jihad, an accusation he denies.

It has been trying to deport him through a national security certificate - a tool for removing suspected terrorists and spies from abroad - but the case has meandered through the legal system for years.

Jaballah arrived with his family in Canada in 1996 using a false Saudi passport. He sought refugee status on the basis he was wanted by Egyptian authorities on charges of inciting violence, and that he would be killed if sent back.

A Canadian Security Intelligence Service investigation led to the first of three security certificates being issued against him, the most recent dating from early 2008.

In May, Federal Court Justice Dolores Hansen ruled the government had not established reasonable grounds to believe

that Jaballah is a danger to Canadian security.

She also rejected the assertion he was ever a member of al-Jihad or provided support to the group, which advocates violence against the Egyptian government.

In a notice filed with the Federal Court of Appeal, the government asks that the ruling be overturned and the certificate be upheld. Failing that, the notice says, the case should be sent back to the Federal Court for another look.

Federal lawyers contend Hansen made several errors, including reliance on a higher standard of proof than necessary in weighing the evidence. They also say she undermined the rule of law by failing to provide reasons for her April 2014 decision to disallow introduction of additional evidence.

Aug 12 2016

WINNIPEG - Two veteran Brandon Police Service officers are accused of obstructing an investigation into an alleged assault.

Brandon police say the case involves a bar fight in November 2014 that involved the two officers and civilians.

Manitoba Justice officials directed Winnipeg police to investigate.

Sgt. Dallas Lockhart has been charged with one count of attempting to obstruct justice and one count of obstructing police.

Const. Shane Stephenson faces one count of obstruction of justice.

No one has been charged with assault

and both officers have been placed on paid administrative leave pending the outcome of the case.

"The Brandon Police Service takes allegations of this nature very seriously," said a release approved by Brandon Police Chief Ian Grant on Friday.

"The public can be assured that the Brandon Police Service has taken and will continue to take the necessary steps to maintain confidence in the police service."

Winnipeg police said Friday the charges stem from two incidents.

Police said Lockhart was off-duty in November 2014 and intervened in a matter involving Stephenson and two civilians.

In July 2015, Winnipeg police said Lockhart botched an investigation into what happened.

(CTV Winnipeg)

Aug 12 2016

CALGARY - An innovative soccer program is giving children new to Canada a chance to play a friendly game of soccer against Calgary police and organizers say the match helps build trust between the kids and law enforcement.

Soccer without Boundaries welcomes children of all ages and abilities to its program and caters to new Canadians, refugees, and low-income families.

"Soccer is well-known all over the world.

Any child that played soccer at some point, especially immigrant children, I knew that I would get cooperation from parents because



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the parents they love soccer and they used to play soccer when they were kids,” said founder Jean-Claude Munyezamu.

On Friday, the kids in the program challenged the Calgary police to play against them and then with them on mixed teams at a field in the city’s southwest.

For police, it was a chance to meet with the new arrivals and to show them that they can have a good relationship with police.

For the players, it was an opportunity to improve their soccer skills and to build friendships with officers.

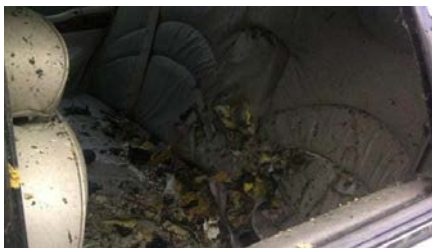
Officials with the organization say there are 118 children from at least 22 countries playing in their program.

(CTV News)

SATURDAY AUGUST 13, 2016

Aug 13 2016

OTTAWA - Following the Aaron Driver case in Strathroy, Ont., this week, investigators presumably have two important pieces of evidence in their hands: an unexploded bomb of some kind; and the remnants of a device that detonated in a taxi.



Both will offer clues about where Driver learned his bomb-making techniques. Those clues could potentially point to links with other jihadis, or even criminal charges against those who disseminate bomb-making information.

A bomb-maker’s “signature” could be the way he tapes his batteries, solders his wires, or selects a particular brand of watch or cellphone.

Tracking the signatures of bomb-makers, and maintaining a database of them, was just one of the roles of the Canadian Bomb Data Centre, which closed in April due to budgetary constraints. The centre had operated since 1974, when it was set up in response to the bombing campaign of the FLQ.

RCMP Cpl. Annie Delisle says, “As part of its review of the CBDC, the RCMP took into consideration that an external panel of law enforcement advisers from across Canada ranked it of lower importance to police operations. Some of the core services formerly provided by the CBDC will be absorbed into other areas of the RCMP.”

But not all Canadian police services agree there’s no need for a national forensic centre specializing in bombs and explosives.

This weekend, at the annual meeting of

the Canadian Association for Police Governance, the Calgary Police Commission is tabling a resolution asking for the centre to reopen.

“Closure of the centre means police agencies no longer have access to co-ordinated information, resources and expertise at a time when it’s becoming increasingly important to have a centralized source for information about the criminal use of explosives,” says the resolution.

Governments should “amplify, rather than diminish, efforts in combating terrorism globally.”

Calgary Police Commission chair Howie Shikaze told CBC News he hopes to persuade other cities to back his campaign to bring the centre back.

“The Calgary Police Service believes it’s an important institution to keep intact. It acts as a place to combine technical expertise, and by combining all of the resources into that one place, what you end up with are resident experts.”

“It’s difficult to imagine that each metropolitan area would be able to afford the resident expert that’s required,” says Shikaze.

The RCMP’s Delisle says the force will try to maintain some of the services of the bomb data centre.

“The community of explosives disposal units (EDU) in Canada is relatively small and its members maintain regular contact. The RCMP continues to share best practices, officer safety bulletins and emerging trends to the Canadian EDU community.”

But Calgary’s Shikaze says local forces like the one he oversees will never be able to replace the lost expertise on their own.

“What I would hope is that we have a national bomb centre somewhere, and whether that’s the RCMP, or whether other people take note and say we have to put this together somehow and combine the resources across the country to get it accomplished, I think that’s the key thing - just getting it done.”

(CBC News)

Aug 13 2016

BIGGAR, Sask. - Saskatchewan RCMP say they’re concerned about being criticized as biased following the fatal shooting of a young aboriginal man on a farm.

Twenty-two year old Colten Boushie was shot Tuesday after a car he was in went onto the rural property.

A cousin of Boushie’s says they were headed home to the Red Pheasant First Nation near North Battleford when they got a flat tire and needed help.

He says a man on the farm smashed their window and fired shots as they tried to drive away.

Fifty-four year old Gerald Stanley has been charged with second-degree murder.

First Nations leaders have called for an RCMP review, saying a police news release about the shooting was biased.

An initial news release said people in the car had been taken into custody as part of a

theft investigation.

Superintendent Rob Cameron in Regina wouldn’t comment on the specifics of the case but says officers handled the investigation fairly and competently.

He says the force hopes to work with the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations to address the issue.

(CKRM)

SUNDAY AUGUST 14, 2016

Aug 14 2016

An RCMP officer has been sent to hospital with serious injuries after being rear-ended on BC’s Highway 1.

The incident happened near Langley, while the officer was parked on the side of the highway, awaiting the arrival of a tow truck after a vehicle rolled over.

The other car was occupied by three people, who were also sent to hospital with non-life threatening injuries.

Police are looking for a witness to the collision, who is believed to have stopped briefly at the scene.

Local RCMP said they have received information that a witness may have been following the pick-up truck that rear-ended the police vehicle.

The person apparently briefly stopped at the scene, but left before investigators were able to speak to him or her.

(Castanet)

MONDAY AUGUST 15, 2016

Aug 15 2016

OTTAWA - Immigration holding facilities in Vancouver and Laval, Que., will be replaced as part of a \$138-million overhaul intended to improve detention conditions for newcomers to Canada.

The federal government will also move ahead with plans to expand the range of alternatives to locking up immigrants, with the aim of making detention a last resort, said Public Safety Minister Ralph Goodale.

In addition, a community supervision program will be developed for released detainees.

Goodale announced the details Monday during a visit to the aging Laval facility.

The Canada Border Services Agency holds people who are considered a flight risk or a danger to the public and those whose identities cannot be confirmed.

The Canadian Red Cross Society has found numerous shortcomings at facilities for immigrant detainees, including overcrowding and lack of mental health care.

Newcomers are often held in provincial jails or police facilities alongside suspected gang members and violent offenders.

There are three federal immigration

holding centres and the government has flagged the Vancouver and Laval facilities as most in need of attention. One in Toronto is considered to be in better shape.

The planned improvements are designed to reduce reliance on provincial facilities. Some of the new money will go to mental health and medical services for detainees in federal holding centres.

Beginning this summer, the government will hold consultations on increasing the alternatives to detention — such as electronic monitoring - and reducing the number of minors behind bars.

Aug 15 2016

VANCOUVER - A man in his 50s was forced to call for help after getting stuck during an attempted break-in on Vancouver's west side, police say.

The man was trying to break into a home near Matthews Avenue and Cypress Street through the skylight at around 1 a.m. on Sunday.

But the 51-year-old started to slide down the roof and got stuck, police said. About 25 feet above the ground, the would-be thief had to call 911 for help.

Police and fire-and-rescue crews arrived, and were able to get the alleged burglar off the roof.

The man, who police say has a history of break-ins, was taken into custody and will face break-and-enter charges.

"Even a skylight can be an attractive invitation to an agile cat burglar," Vancouver Police Staff Sgt. Randy Fincham said in a news release.

"This cat wisely chose to save one of his nine lives and called 9-1-1 for help."
(CTV News)

Aug 15 2016

EDMONTON - Edmonton police are backtracking after admitting to using a StingRay, a controversial surveillance device that can indiscriminately eavesdrop on any cellphone within its range.

In an article published last week by Motherboard, a subsidiary of Vice Media, EPS police spokesperson Anna Batchelor was quoted as saying, "I'm able to confirm the Edmonton Police Service owns a Sting-Ray device and has used the device in the past during investigations."

However, EPS has since issued a statement to CBC News calling that initial statement a "miscommunication."

"There was some miscommunication/misunderstanding internally surrounding the information obtained on whether the EPS owns a StingRay, and in fact, the EPS does not own a Stingray device," the statement read.

"Police agencies do not comment on equipment used in electronic surveillance or on investigative techniques, therefore the EPS cannot provide any further information on this topic." Silent surveillance

Initially developed for the military and intelligence communities, StingRay is the commercial name for devices known as IMSI

(International Mobile Subscriber Identity) catchers.

Casting a wide net, the surveillance devices intercept cellphone signals by acting as a mobile tower.

"It impersonates a cellphone tower," said University of Calgary professor Tom Keenan, a research fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute and author of Techno Creep.

"Your phone has to identify itself. But it turns out there is kind of a design problem, because the network doesn't have to authenticate back."

The surveillance tools can tap phone signals within any given cellular network, and cull information from kilometres away without being detected by the targeted users or their service providers.

When a phone is intercepted by a StingRay, police gain access to the phone, its SIM card IDs, its location and service carrier. Some devices are also capable of intercepting phone calls and text messages.

"Someone who uses a StingRay can put it somewhere physically, or there is even one you can wear in a vest and it picks up the traffic that's going by," said Keenan.

"And police like it because they can find bad guys' cellphones. That's what they say they are using it for."

Though use of the devices is now more widely acknowledged in the United States, their implementation across Canada is more opaque, as many police agencies refuse to confirm or deny they use them.
(CBC News)



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TUESDAY
AUGUST 16, 2016

Aug 16 2016

OTTAWA - Gatineau Police Service
Directeur Mario Harel has been elected to serve as the new president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP).



Harel is a highly-decorated officer with 32 years of policing experience and an impressive history of contribution to the CACP, having served on the board of directors and as vice-president.

Harel takes over from Saskatoon Police Service Chief Clive Weighill, who completed his two year term.
(CACP)

Aug 15 2016

OTTAWA - Driving impaired is driving impaired - it doesn't matter what substance a person's on, but Calgary police and their overseeing commission want to be ready when one in particular is legalized.

This weekend in Ottawa, at a Canadian Association of Police Governance Conference, the Calgary Police Commission put forward a resolution to continue pressure on the federal government to identify and approve a roadside drug screening device, in light of the feds' commitment to legalize and regulate marijuana by 2017.

"Currently, when police suspect a driver of being impaired by drugs, a drug recognition expert is called to the scene to administer a field sobriety test. A roadside drug screening device would greatly improve the ability of police officers to detect drug impaired driving and provide objective and efficient means of enforcing drug impaired driving laws," the commission's resolution read, in part.

"A roadside drug testing regime would be similar to roadside breath testing for alcohol.

"This capability would simplify the current investigative process for drug-impaired driving, including potentially reducing the time a motorist is detained."

"Given the imminent legalization of marijuana and its proven negative effect on drivers, there is now urgency around acquiring appropriate tools in Canada to enable police to detect drug-impaired drivers roadside so they can effectively enforce road safety laws, especially the stricter punishments for marijuana-impaired drivers that government intends to introduce," the resolution read.

Insp. Ken Thrower of the Calgary Police Service traffic unit told Postmedia Monday there is a fear among law enforcement the laws might be in place before officers on the streets have the device available to them.

But he also said it's a complicated thing to tackle and likely will not be as simple as suspected impaired drivers providing a breath sample and passing or failing.

Thrower said equally key will be the training of more drug recognition experts (DRE) — people trained to recognize the substance a person is on from certain cues.

(Calgary Herald)

Aug 16 2016

OTTAWA - Five positions taken Tuesday by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police:

- **National security** - Early intervention, education and public help is vital to prevent radicalization and extremism. "We cannot ensure public safety on our own. Public participation is vital."
- **Cybercrime** - Chiefs want a new law that would compel a person to turn over the password to an electronic device, as long as a judge approves. They say criminals operating in cyberspace are increasingly using tools to mask their identities, effectively "going dark."
- **Legalization of marijuana** - Chiefs favour a regulatory framework to control the growth, cultivation and sale of marijuana and its derivatives. They also support licensed, government-approved producers as suppliers to ensure a safe product with known THC levels, free from pesticides or other drugs. Ensuring the ability to fight impaired driving will involve defining it, ensuring there are roadside testing tools and training more drug-recognition experts.
- **Missing and murdered indigenous women** - Chiefs are committed to working with the national inquiry and helping provide closure to families. They say procedures involving missing persons, cultural awareness among officers, community outreach and education have become priorities of Canadian policing services. "We need to focus on examining the root causes of why these women and girls are the targets of violence."
- **Mental illness and street encounters** - Policing alone cannot ensure the safety and well-being of communities. "We need collaboration," said Mario Harel, chief of the Gatineau police service and new president of the chiefs of police.

Aug 16 2016

STRATHROY, Ont. - Police say a terrorist sympathizer killed in a high-stakes standoff in southwestern Ontario last week died from a gunshot wound.

Aaron Driver, 24, died during a confrontation with RCMP in Strathroy, Ont., Wednesday after making a martyrdom video that suggested he was planning to detonate a homemade bomb in an urban centre.

Driver had been under a court order not to associate with any terrorist organizations

or to use a computer or cellphone.

But he wasn't under continuous surveillance despite concern he might participate or contribute to the activity of a terrorist group.

Provincial police took over the investigation into Driver's death. The investigation into the incident is also ongoing.

A funeral service is expected later this week.

The alleged attack plot has raised questions about why Canada's national security apparatus learned of the suspected terrorist threat through an American law enforcement agency. Police have also been asked how someone who was arrested last year on suspicion of connections with members of ISIS and placed under a special peace bond restricting his travel and Internet use, could allegedly get so close to pulling off a terrorist attack.

Aug 16 2016

OTTAWA - Canada's police chiefs want a new law that would force people to hand over their electronic passwords with a judge's consent.

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police has passed a resolution calling for the legal measure to unlock digital evidence, saying criminals increasingly use encryption to hide illicit activities.

There is nothing currently in Canadian law that would compel someone to provide a password to police during an investigation, RCMP Assistant Commissioner Joe Oliver told a news conference Tuesday.

Oliver said criminals - from child abusers to mobsters — are operating online in almost complete anonymity with the help of tools that mask identities and messages, a phenomenon police call "going dark."

"The victims in the digital space are real," Oliver said. "Canada's law and policing capabilities must keep pace with the evolution of technology."

The police chiefs' resolution comes as the federal government begins a consultation on cybersecurity that will look at issues including the best way to balance online freedoms with the needs of police. The consultation runs until Oct. 15.

Police demands for access to online communications and the concerns of civil libertarians about privacy rights have created tensions around the globe in recent years.

The issue came to fore last year when the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation went to court in a bid to crack the password of a terror suspect's iPhone following a mass shooting in San Bernardino, Calif.

Oliver said Canadian police also continue to seek a means of more easily obtaining basic information about telecommunication subscribers, such as name and address, to help advance investigations beyond an early stage.

In June 2014, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled police must have a judge's authorization to obtain customer data linked to online activities.

The high court rejected the notion the federal privacy law governing companies

allowed them to hand over subscriber identities voluntarily.

Police say telecommunication companies and other service providers - such as banks and rental firms - now demand court approval for nearly all types of requests from authorities for basic identifying information.

Aug 16 2016

WASHINGTON - Washington police chief Cathy Lanier, the first woman to lead the department and one of the nation's longest-serving and most popular big-city police chiefs, announced Tuesday that she is stepping down to become head of security for the National Football League.

Lanier, 49, started her career with the Metropolitan Police Department as a patrol officer and rose through the ranks. She served as chief for nine-and-a-half years, under three mayoral administrations, overseeing reductions in crime as the nation's capital experienced an influx of wealth that transformed once-troubled neighbourhoods.

In her new job, Lanier will oversee the security of all 32 NFL teams and their venues, working with federal, state and local law enforcement and handling security for the Super Bowl.

WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 17, 2016

Aug 17 2016

STRATHROY, Ont. - The whole drive down Park Street, cab driver Terry Duffield says, he saw no police officers.



No officer tried to stop him heading to the home of suspected terrorist Aaron Driver, seen on a video threatening to kill Canadians that very day, Duffield said.

For the five minutes he sat in the driveway waiting for Driver, no officer stepped out to signal him or warn him.

As Driver walked out of the house, across the front of the cab and down its passenger side to the back seat, no police officer took a shot or apparently shouted at the man to stop.

Only when he started backing out the driveway did police swoop in, Duffield said.

"As I leaned over to grab the cigarettes, Boom!, there goes the bomb," Duffield said.

"If I hadn't leaned over to grab that pack of cigarettes, I probably wouldn't be talking to you today. It was that seat and those cigarettes that saved my ass, no cop."

Wednesday, a week after the explosion in the cab and a terrorism scare that caused little

physical damage but rattled Canadians, a shaken Duffield, 47, gave The London Free Press the first detailed account of the role he unwillingly played in the dramatics.

In the exclusive interview, Duffield expressed his frustration with police and provided harrowing details about how Driver, a known ISIL sympathizer who brought explosives into the cab, died.

"As I'm laying on the ground, I hear an officer say, loud, 'He's still twitching.' Then I hear pop, pop, pop, pop, like four or five shots, and then it was complete silence."

In a news conference after the explosion, the RCMP said the taxi driver involved suffered minor injuries.

But Duffield said besides leaving him with minor cuts on his arm and torso, the explosion has forced him on painkillers for a sore and stiff back and medication for anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder.

"I can't get back in a cab. I tried getting back in cab two days after it happened. Just by turning the key, I just started sweating, I just started shaking like a leaf in the wind, got out, started getting sick in the driveway. I haven't been back in the cab since."

A friend is setting up a GofundMe account to help Duffield pay his bills while he can't work, and to pay for the medications he can't afford. He may also need counselling at some point.

"I don't have savings on \$70 a day (from driving a cab). Before this, I was on one Baby Aspirin a day (for blood clots.) I've picked up one prescription but there's still two sitting there I can't afford to pick up," Duffield said.

"Why did the police put my life jeopardy? They did absolutely nothing to help me at any time. They did absolutely nothing at any time to prevent me from getting in that situation," he charged.

RCMP were tipped off earlier that day by the U.S. FBI about threats from an ISIL supporter made on a martyrdom video, and by 11 a.m. had identified the man as Driver. He was living with his sister in Strathroy on a peace bond imposed by a judge because of his support and online contact with ISIL.

The cab company has said it received a call from the sister's address and that Driver wanted to go to a downtown London mall, although it's not clear if that was his intended final destination.

It's also not clear when snipers, canine officers, bomb squad members and other tactical officers from the RCMP, the OPP and Strathroy-Caradoc police arrived and set up their operation outside Driver's home.

Duffield said he pulled into Driver's driveway about 4:15 p.m. and sat for close to five minutes waiting, filling out receipts from previous fares.

"Even in the five minutes that I was there, no cop approached the car. Nobody tried to signal me, like get the hell out of the area - nothing. They did absolutely nothing to get me out of the car."

He could see Driver in a side door of the house. After five minutes, Driver came out, taking about five to seven steps to the car and across the front of it, and another five steps

into the back seat.

"They (police) got sharpshooters, people on roofs, they could have taken him out."

Driver told him he wanted to go to the Galleria London mall, now known as CitiPlaza in downtown London, and after a short chat, handed him the \$55 fare, Duffield said.

Driver said nothing about why he wanted to go to London or what he was going to do there, Duffield said.

"He just got in the car like it was just another day and I was treating him like it was just another day." On previous rides, Driver had spoken little and said nothing about his beliefs, Duffield said.

That afternoon, as soon he put the car in reverse, he said he heard someone shouting, Stop!

Duffield said he was worried he was about to hit someone walking his dog, stopped and checked his rear-view mirror.

"I see like a SWAT team coming up behind my car. As I turn to look at this gentleman (Driver), I see my cigarettes on the front seat which had slid over to the passenger door."

He told Driver, "I think they're here to talk to you."

At that point, he said, "I'm thinking I'm grabbing the cigarettes and get . . . out of this cab and let them do what they got to do and I'm going to be on my way."

Then the explosive detonated.

"There was a big explosion. I'm laying on the front seat, just terrified. All I'm seeing is white smoke and . . . it looked like ashes in the cab. I could hear people screaming and yelling. I'm yelling, 'I'm just the driver, I'm just the driver.'"

As he sat up, an officer shouted at him, "hands out, hands out!"

Duffield opened the door, abandoned the thought of grabbing his cigarettes, put his hands out of the car, crawled out the driver's side, opposite from Driver, and, spread-eagle, put his face in the gravel.

"Not breathing, because I didn't want to get shot."

He heard several shots, "and then it was complete silence."

Police told him to stay low and come to them. His arm was covered in blood. "It looked like somebody had taken a razor blade and did a number on my forearm. I had small abrasions on my side."

A victim of a terrorism attack, Duffield said he had to find his own way from the scene.

Later that evening, two police officers came to his door and told him the bomb squad advised he go to the hospital to check for internal injuries because of the explosion.

Police took him to hospital, stayed with him and brought him back home with no apparent internal injuries.

Two days later, investigators interviewed him.

"I answered all their questions and then I said to them, 'You've asked me all your questions, I have a question for you. Why did the police put my life in jeopardy? Who was watching out for me?'"

The officers told him that part of the case was under investigation.

"In my eyes, the cops didn't do their job. If they had've, I wouldn't be in this situation," Duffield said.

No police officer has apologized or asked if he is OK, Duffield said.

He has many questions about the police actions.

A cab ride was the only way Driver could leave Strathroy, so why didn't police call the two cab companies in town like they did the Toronto Transit Commission, Via and other agencies they believed might be in danger? Duffield asks.

"They never called our cab company once to say, 'Do not send any cabs into this area in this time frame. There is something going on I can't tell you (about).' Nobody called the cab company except the terrorist who called for a ride."

The RCMP officer who is Duffield's contact couldn't be reached for comment Thursday. (London Free Press)

Aug 17 2016

OTTAWA - The Ottawa Police Service is about to embark on a six-year, \$42-million overhaul of its information technology systems, making it the first police force in Canada to modernize its police service since Facebook, smartphones and data analytics have taken hold.

Members showed off the plan to police chiefs from across the country at a conference this week in Ottawa.

Debra Frazer, director general of corporate services for the Ottawa Police Service, said the rebuild includes upgrading everything from "wires and the bytes" to how officers interpret data.

"We're the first to try it from an end-to-end perspective and look at all aspects at the same time... [Police chiefs] are very impressed with the courage we have," she said. "It's a game-changer."

The new infrastructure will allow officers to gather more resources and information out in the field instead of returning to the station. Frazer said the system will become more sophisticated at analyzing the vast amounts of data now inundating the service.

"That's the crime analysis that you see is so favoured on television these days... We can get ahead of situations. We can predict where crime will be and make the deployment of our resources much more effective," said Frazer.

Police are even looking at revamping how — and from where — it collects data.

"I think that's a step we'll take forward as a community. To look at how comfortable we are with collecting data that is in CCTV cameras posted around the city, or within dwellings and buildings that might help solve crime. Which is the goal of all of this work," said Frazer.

Like most police departments in Canada, the Ottawa Police Service's current system dates back to 2000, with a few upgrades along the way.

"When you look at how quickly technology is changing and disrupting, we knew we had to change our program and the rate at

which we invested in technology," said Fraser.

She said the system will take pressure off personnel. For example, people in Ottawa could soon apply for a criminal background check online, and receive it in 48 hours versus six weeks.

"Transactions that took two hours will take two minutes," said Frazer.

But that also means potential civilian job losses. Frazer said the \$42-million price tag will be offset by savings and by eliminating jobs once done by people.

Matt Skof, head of the Ottawa Police Association, said he has questions about that.

"Is it truly efficient on the front line, and how does it impact our investigations? Our dispatch? Our special constables?" he asked. "If there are fewer positions, how is it occurring? Is it occurring from the temp positions or are they actually trying to incur this in the dismantling of specific positions, like making them disappear?"

Skof applauds the move to modernize, but said he'll be watching for the bumps along the way. (CBC News)

Aug 17 2016

OTTAWA - The Liberal government is looking at making counter-radicalization counselling mandatory for people under anti-terrorism peace bonds, the public safety minister says.

Ralph Goodale floated the idea one week after jihadi sympathizer Aaron Driver was killed by police in Strathroy, Ont.

Driver, 24, was under a court-ordered peace bond intended to limit his activities but he was able to obtain explosives, plan an apparent attack and film a martyrdom video.

Police got wind of his plans through a tip from the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and intercepted him as he was leaving his southwestern Ontario home in a taxi.

Driver's death has prompted questions about the effectiveness of peace bonds and whether more could have been done to steer him onto a better path.

There were some ad hoc interventions aimed at helping deradicalize Driver but nothing deliberate and well-organized, Goodale said Wednesday after a speech to the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

The government is looking for ways to make peace bonds more effective — perhaps involving community outreach organizations — or to find alternatives to the judicial tool, which is not a panacea, he said.

"It's not a perfect solution to every situation."

Goodale declined to discuss Driver's actions, saying the details are still under police investigation. Nor would he comment on whether surveillance had been stepped up on the dozen or so people currently under anti-terrorism peace bonds.

The RCMP has acknowledged that Driver was not under constant surveillance.

"That is obviously a lesson that one needs to look at very carefully, as a result of the incident in Strathroy," Goodale said. "And we are examining very carefully what

we need to do to make our police and security activity more effective."

Goodale said the government would move as rapidly as possible, but he stressed that good laws are not developed "in a panic."

A federal consultation on national security, to conclude by the end of the year, must happen first, he said.

"We want to do this right. Some of the problem with our laws in the past is they've been developed in a haphazard manner and have not had the intense scrutiny and consideration that they need in order to get it right," Goodale said.

"I've obviously got to do this in a coherent and sensible way, not scribbled down on the back of an envelope."

As a first step, the Liberals plan to open a federal office of counter-radicalization to serve as a national focal point for research, counselling and intervention services.

"We are in the process of recruiting the person that will lead the effort. And we are determined to get this office up and running toward the end of the summer, the beginning of the fall," Goodale said.

"The incident in Strathroy demonstrates how very important this priority is."

In his address to the chiefs, Goodale said one of government's biggest security concerns are the "lone wolves" who are drawn into perverse and extreme ideologies that promote death and destruction.

"We need to understand what positive messages can counteract the insidious poison that draws people in, especially young people."

Aug 17 2016

EDMONTON - Edmonton's police union is backing officers involved in the arrests of two men with epilepsy within one week.

The men say they lashed out at officers as they were coming out of seizures. Confusion, hallucinations, defensiveness and violence are symptoms associated with some of the 44 known types of epileptic seizures.

They were separate cases with the same result: criminal charges for assaulting a police officer.

"It's unfortunate that this individual happened to have that seizure at that time and caused those injuries to our members," Bob Walsh, vice president of the Edmonton Police Association, said Tuesday.

"But he's got to be held accountable as well."

Walsh was talking about the circumstances of the second arrest, on June 30. Neil Ryley claims as many as six police officers entered his bedroom after his family called 911 for an ambulance after he had a seizure. Ryley said the officers beat him.

"Our members are going to use as much force as necessary to restrain and arrest," Walsh said about the photos Ryley took of bruises on his arms, legs, abdomen and face.

"I really can't say much on the photos. I see there's some bruising," the union representative said. "When you get five or six guys around, who knows what's going to happen?"

Police say Ryley head-butted one officer,

breaking his nose. They also say he bit another officer.

In the other case, on June 24, police say a man with epilepsy put his hands around an officer's neck. Police Tasered him before arresting him.

Walsh said he does not believe officers should be expected to have the expertise of a doctor and the ability of identifying a medical condition in every case.

"Our members are often going in there blind so they don't know what they're really encountering," he said.

The head of the Edmonton Epilepsy Association said he thinks the two men's actions were unconscious and related to their medical conditions. The group is advocating that the charges in both cases be dropped.

(CBC News)

THURSDAY AUGUST 18, 2016

Aug 18 2016

WINNIPEG - RCMP dogs in Manitoba are getting high-tech vests with money from the sale of property that's been seized from criminals.

Each of the six protective ballistic vests will be outfitted with two cameras and a communication system.

They will allow officers to send a bomb-sniffing dog into an area and communicate with it to tell it where to go.

They were designed by Winnipeg-based company K9 Storm which specializes in the creation of tactical dog armour and gear.

Over \$1.8 million in funds from the proceeds of confiscated property was funnelled to the RCMP, Winnipeg police and the province's victims services programs through Manitoba's criminal forfeiture grant program.

RCMP D Division will receive more than \$390,000, the Winnipeg Police Service will receive more than \$534,000 and Manitoba's victims services programs will receive \$450,000.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

Aug 18 2016

OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada will not hear a Regina police officer's appeal against an assault conviction.

Const. Robert Power was convicted of kicking a homeless man while trying to arrest him in 2012.

He said he acted in self-defence, but was found guilty of assault causing bodily harm and sentenced to probation.

Another court overturned the conviction but it was restored by the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal.

Power was initially fired, but was ordered reinstated after a review.

Aug 18 2016

WHITBY, Ont. - A 31-year-old man has been charged after leading police on a chase going the wrong way on a major highway east of Toronto.

Durham Regional police said they received

a call from provincial police about a possible drunk driver in a van on Highway 401 around 10 p.m. Wednesday in Whitby, Ont.

Officers found the van, which was reported stolen in York region, in a Tim Hortons parking lot, according to Sgt. Bill Calder.

The driver got on the highway as police cruisers followed, Calder alleged, but turned around on an off ramp and began driving the wrong way as he spotted police.

"Then the van struck the cruiser pursuing it, but no one was injured in that crash."

The van finally stopped in a swampy area after it hit a guard rail, but the man allegedly took off before being arrested nearby.

Jesse Teel, of Aurora, Ont. was charged with dangerous operation of a vehicle, possession of stolen property, failing to stop for police and driving without a licence.

Aug 18 2016

NORTH BATTLEFORD, Sask. - Hundreds of people rallied peacefully this morning outside a Saskatchewan courthouse where a farmer accused of fatally shooting a First Nations man pleaded not guilty.

Gerald Stanley is charged with second-degree murder in the death of 22-year-old Colten Boushie.

Supporters held up signs and chanted "Justice for Colten" as lawyers left after Stanley's appearance in a packed North Battleford provincial courtroom.

Colten Boushie was killed on Aug. 9 after the vehicle he was in drove onto a farm in the rural municipality of Glenside, west of Saskatoon.

A cousin, who was also in the car along with several others, said they were heading home to the Red Pheasant reserve after an afternoon of swimming when they got a flat tire and were looking for help.

Racial tensions have flared since Boushie was killed.

First Nations leaders have said the first RCMP news release about the shooting was biased. It said that people in the car had been taken into custody as part of a theft investigation. They were released without charges.

Chief Bobby Cameron of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations said the RCMP statement "provided just enough prejudicial information" for people to draw the conclusion that the shooting was somehow justified.

RCMP Supt. Rob Cameron said police handled the investigation fairly and competently. He also said he welcomed the opportunity to discuss the FSIN's concerns.

Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall took to Facebook on the weekend to condemn what he called "racist and hate-filled" comments after the shooting.

Aug 18 2016

EDMONTON - Edmonton Police Association president Maurice Brodeur has been removed from his position pending an internal investigation.

Vice-president and acting-president Bob Walsh confirmed Thursday morning that

Brodeur had been removed. He said he had been instructed not to comment further.

"These are allegations related to internal bylaw matters and there is nothing criminal," Walsh said.

Walsh has been appointed interim president until the investigation is concluded.

Brodeur made waves in recent weeks as an outspoken critic of Edmonton Police Service Chief Rod Knecht's leadership style. Brodeur cited a union survey calling for an independent review of the service, and said officers were working in a "culture of fear".

Walsh said the investigation is related to Brodeur's statements, but wouldn't say more.

Brodeur will have one month to appeal the investigation.

(Edmonton Journal)

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