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Executive Digest

Aug 29 2016

Ontario police and community groups are raising the alarm that a fentanyl crisis could be looming as synthetic versions of the drug appear across the province.

Page 5

Aug 29 2016

British Columbia's Police Complaint Commissioner says he is concerned about the Vancouver Police Department's use of street checks, but the department says instances of the practice are rare.

Page 6

Aug 30 2016

REGINA - A new paper from the University of Regina says more research needs to be done on whether intervention programs directed at first responders actually help the people involved.

Page 7

Aug 31 2016

EDMONTON - The City of Edmonton will pay police officers about \$18 million in retroactive wage increases after an arbitration award was announced this week.

Page 9

Aug 31 2016

MONTREAL - Montreal police have launched a campaign to recruit aboriginals and members of visible and ethnic minorities to better reflect the city's cultural diversity. The SPVM wants to recruit 15 candidates for its employment equity program.

Page 9

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Police 'old boys' club alive and well



Aug 29 2016

Despite unprecedented numbers of women, the "old boys' club is still alive and well" in Canadian policing, says a former London officer studying the conditions women face on the thin blue line.

Across Canada, police forces still espouse a hyper-masculine culture that plays out in policy, promotions, sexual jokes and innuendo, and leads to a dog-eat-dog

mentality among women officers, says PhD candidate Lesley Bikos.

Bikos interviewed 15 women from five Southwestern Ontario police services as part of her just-published research on women in policing. The paramilitary-like environment demands loyalty and discourages dissent, creating a "toxic environment" that can affect on-the-ground policing, she says.

"Not all officers fit the model of the

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bulging muscle hero running down criminals in the street. We need to shift the way we see policing in our culture. We need officers of all skills, who are high in empathy and low on ego, who are educated before they join and continue that education as society evolves,” said Bikos, who’s doing her doctoral work in sociology at Western University.

“I truly believe if we can improve the culture and the environment police officers are working in, it’s going to trickle down to the public.”

In recent years, police forces across Canada have made efforts to diversify. London police have acknowledged the lack of diversity in their service and launched ambitious campaigns to recruit women.

Strength will come in numbers, said one of the force’s two highest-ranking women.

“It’s getting better. Your voice is heard (as a woman), you are listened to, but there is something to be said about numbers. We need more women to join. The reality is that change isn’t made unless we are present,” said Insp. Lynn Sutherland.

She said the policing culture has changed dramatically, even in the last decade.

“Now, there are enough of us around that young police officers, male and female, come to me seeking a guide and I can offer that to them. Our presence is permitting a culture where they can find like-minded mentors. Even five years ago, my mentor was a gentleman,” she said.

Women account for about 20 per cent of all uniformed officers in Canada, more than ever before still a minority despite their growing numbers - especially in top ranks, where they hold only 12 per cent of the jobs.

Women officers also often feel a need to prove themselves equal to their male peers.

Bikos said she’s heard similar stories even from those happy in their environment, regardless of the police force or its size.

“There are barriers that have been there since the ‘70s,” said Bikos. “I was definitely taken off guard by how deep those barriers go in the culture.”

She said women spoke of being punished or seeing others punished by social and professional isolation for speaking out against accepted policies and administration. Those who found their environment positive and supportive often also considered themselves “one of the boys,” she said.

Despite the barriers, Bikos said the women are passionate about their work.

“For the most part, they loved their jobs,” she said. “They wanted to serve in the best way possible.”

Bikos worked as a London officer for four and a half years, but left eight years ago. She declined to talk about her own experience or comment on London police, saying she wants to keep the focus on participants’ experiences.

“I heard stories about corruption, sexual harassment, abuse, sexual assault, racism, homophobia and still very big stigma toward mental health. Almost all of my participants talked about the fact that they would be uncomfortable admitting they had a mental health issue of any kind,” said Bikos, who is working on a follow-up study and seeking more officers, male and female.

Several participants described women-on-women bullying and a “dog-eat-dog” environment fuelled by competition to be the woman chosen for a few token spots in some departments, she said.

Women also said they went above and beyond to prove they were as capable as their male counterparts.

“Many of the police women interviewed admitted that they hesitated to call for back-up, worried that they would be perceived as ‘weak’ by their male co-workers,” Bikos wrote in her master’s degree research paper, titled *I Took the Blue Pill: The Effect of Hegemonic Masculine Police Culture on Canadian Policewomen’s Identities*.

Diversification is one of the keys to equity in policing, said Jo-Ann Savoie, a former president of the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement.

“I believe throughout time women have had to justify their career choice and fight for career development and promotional opportunities. I believe in some smaller police services, the old boys’ network remains, however, in the larger police services across the province, I do not think that is still the case,” Savoie said in an email.

But Bikos’ findings came as no surprise to Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police spokesperson Joe Couto, who published a thesis paper in 2014 on the struggles faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered police officers in Ontario.

“Even though we’ve made significant strides in terms of the number of women in policing and in leadership positions, the culture has traditionally encouraged that hyper-masculinity,” he said. “For those who don’t fit in with the macho culture, it becomes very

difficult to belong and to negotiate through the experience with your career.”

“They won’t get into (a female officer’s) face and say, ‘You don’t belong here.’ They find sexist jokes, pranks in the locker room, ostracization of females from social gatherings. They send out a signal.”

He heard similar anecdotes as Bikos did during his interviews with 21 LGBT officers for his paper and said research like his and Bikos’ is essential as police forces try to become more inclusive.

“We know for a fact that when we employ community policing, it’s less about fighting crime and more about preventing crime, and it makes a whole lot of sense to have people who reflect the community,” he said.

With 58 municipal police services in Ontario and thousands of officers, Bikos wants to broaden her research beyond the 15 women and hopes to hear from other women and male officers for her next study in her PhD research. She said she won’t go through administration to meet officers, wanting to avoid “hand-picked” candidates. She wants to hear both the positive and negative, what works and what doesn’t. Interested in talking?

Officers who’d like to take part in Lesley Bikos’s research can contact her at lbikosresearch@gmail.com. Read the research paper: http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/sociology_masrp/7/

(London Free Press)

THURSDAY
AUGUST 25, 2016

Aug 25 2016

OTTAWA - A federal report says women account for about one-fifth of extremists from Canada who head overseas.

The government’s latest public report on the terrorist threat to Canada says in some cases women have taken their children to conflict zones.

The report issued today says the participation of women in terrorist organizations is not new.

However, there has been an increase in the number of women who have travelled or attempted to travel abroad to join ISIS.

The report says it is often unclear what roles are performed by women who travel to join extremist groups.

It notes the most common assumption is women travel abroad to marry terrorists, but some may occupy secondary roles within extremist groups, while in other cases appear to be training and taking part in combat.

Aug 25 2016

CALGARY - Calgary is the latest police service to develop a hijab for female officers, as forces across the country prepare to recruit more Muslim women to law enforcement.

The Western city’s police force joins Edmonton and Toronto in offering the hijab as part of the police uniform. Calgary Police Service approved the hijab in principle a year-and-a-half ago, and is evaluating “prototypes”

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to come up with the best version for female officers, Regimental Sergeant-Major Rob Patterson said.

"We haven't had a Muslim female member apply and be successful within the service, but it's going to happen and it's just a matter of time," he said in an interview.

Sgt.-Maj. Patterson, who is in charge of Calgary police's uniform standards, said there are some safety concerns around the hijab and the force is developing the safest design.

"It's a solid piece of fabric worn around a person's neck and head which could be used against them as a weapon," he said.

"What we are currently still doing, is just doing evaluations on what form that hijab needs to take to be safest for the member to wear." He added that a female member could still wear a prototype version if she wanted to, but there have been no requests.

The RCMP also recently updated its uniform policy in January to include the hijab, in a bid to encourage more Muslim women to consider policing as a career option. Of the forces that offer the head scarf as a uniform option, only one auxiliary female officer, who volunteers with the Toronto Police Service, currently wears one.

Other police services will consider the hijab on a case-by-case basis or are revamping current policies to allow it.

(Globe and Mail)

Aug 25 2016

For months, William Evertz Jr. saved up his allowance, hoping to eventually have enough to buy a Power Wheels police car.



Instead, the 5-year-old used his hard-earned cash to purchase lunch Wednesday for the Winslow Police Department to show his appreciation to local law enforcement.

Dressed in a police shirt and badge, William proudly walked into the station, flanked by family members carrying balloons. He was given a special key to unlock the police entrance.

"Happy kindness day," he told about a dozen beaming police officers and staff gathered in the processing room. "I want to be a police officer. They keep us safe."

He was greeted by Police Chief George Smith, who presented William with police memorabilia and emblems, including a backpack, pens, and magnets.

"We need good police officers like you," the chief said. "I can't wait until you're old enough so we can hire you."

Like many police departments around the country, Winslow, which has about 72 officers, has seen an outpouring of support

recently after police shootings in Dallas and Louisiana.

Residents have dropped off sandwiches and baked goods and sent letters of appreciation, which are on display on a hallway bulletin board. But few gestures have been as heartwarming as the one from William, Smith said.

"It's one of those things that restores confidence in humanity. It makes you tear up," said Detective Sgt. Ray Cogan, an 18-year veteran and father of two. "It's nice to see that you're still the good guy."

Said Officer Justin Valentino, 28, a seven-year veteran: "The world definitely needs more people like him. It definitely goes a long way."

In addition to thanking police, William planned a day of kindness that included donating toys and school supplies to a Philadelphia domestic shelter and food and toys to an animal shelter.

"I got so much toys, I'm taking them to the kids," he said.

He got the idea to help others after watching a YouTube video that showed someone helping another person in need by donating money, said his mother, Tara, 29. From there, "he just went with it," she said.

(The Inquirer)

Aug 25 2016

CALGARY - Despite having more than a million registered vehicles in Calgary, police are seeing fewer impaired drivers.

Since 2014, officers in the traffic section have seen a 31 per cent reduction in impaired charges.

"For example, the new .05 law that came in in 2012 from the provincial government, I think that's had some impact," said Traffic Unit Staff Sgt. Paul Stacey. "I think socially there's been some impact in that it's just not acceptable any more. I mean, it's never been acceptable but 20 or 25 years ago it was much more common than it is now."

(CTV Calgary)

**FRIDAY
AUGUST 26, 2016**

Aug 26 2016

RUSSELL, Man. - Manitoba RCMP are looking for a thirsty goalie.

Mounties say a man wearing hockey gear and carrying a goalie stick was one of two culprits who broke into a beer store in Russell on Aug. 15.

Video surveillance police posted on YouTube shows the pair lumbering off with a few cases of suds.

The nefarious netminder is seen sporting a trapper mitt, a blocker pad and a jersey with the number 17.

The video is titled: "#17 in your program but #1 on the Russell Manitoba RCMP wanted list."

RCMP say they need an assist from anyone who has information about the theft or who "has played against a goalie matching this description."

Aug 26 2016

The Canadian League Against Epilepsy is adding its support to two epilepsy patients who face charges for behaviour they say occurred under medical distress.

"The charges, they don't apply anymore," said Dr. José Téllez, a professor at the University of Saskatchewan in the division of neurology.

His comments come after CBC broke the news that two men with epilepsy in two separate incidents were arrested and charged for things they say they did during or after seizures.

In one case, Neil Ryley reported having several seizures through the night and in the morning, and was showing aggressive and violent symptoms. His family called 911 for help and they say police came and beat him, then arrested him. In the second case, police say they responded to a report of a naked man in public. They Tasered him, then arrested him.

"There are some types of epilepsy that are related with aggressiveness, especially after seizures," Téllez said. "Usually what we see is patients have a seizure, or more commonly they have a cluster of seizures — more than one — and after that they become aggressive."

"They are not aware of the situation or the behaviour, and sometimes it can finish very badly."

Police spokesperson Cheryl Sheppard would not talk about the alleged beating, but said Ryley head-butted an officer, breaking his nose. In the second case, she said the man put his hands around an officer's neck. Each was charged with "assault a police officer."

The most common type of the condition related to aggressiveness is called temporal epilepsy, Téllez said, but the behaviour can also be seen in patients with frontal epilepsy.

Ryley provided CBC with a doctor's letter that describes his epilepsy diagnosis, calling his condition "bi-temporal."

There are several training materials designed for police to help them prepare to deal with epilepsy patients. One is a pamphlet called "criminal justice: arrest for seizure-related behaviours," by the Epilepsy Foundation.

In a section about complex partial seizures, the pamphlet describes how people to go on "automatic pilot" and are unaware of what's happening.

"Sometimes people wander around and in rare cases, a person might try to undress during a seizure, or become very agitated, screaming, running or making flailing movements," the booklet said.

"A cardinal rule in the handling of any seizure is that the person should not be restrained in any way ... restraint of persons during or soon after a seizure may exacerbate or precipitate combativeness — the opposite of the intended result."

Téllez said roughly 30 to 40 per cent of

people with epilepsy can become “intractable,” which means medication doesn’t control the seizures or their symptoms.
(CBC News)

Aug 26 2016

VANCOUVER - Three municipalities in British Columbia want a stake in any tax revenue that the federal government collects from the legalization of marijuana.

Nelson, Duncan and Prince George put forward resolutions to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities asking it to put pressure on higher levels of government to ensure tax sharing with municipalities is considered by the federal task force investigating marijuana legalization and regulation.

With eight dispensaries open in Nelson, Mayor Deb Kozak said determining how to regulate and monitor the technically illicit businesses has required considerable city and police resources.

“There is a real cost attached to that and we are not realizing any revenues from (the marijuana) industry at this time,” Kozak said.

The federal government established a task force to create new legislation and regulation on marijuana that is expected to be announced next spring.

Aug 26 2016

NORTH BAY - A sexual assault support centre in North Bay has started a petition to prevent a North Bay police officer, convicted of assaulting a woman, from keeping his job.

Police officer Barry MacIntosh was found guilty on Thursday of one count of assault.

He will not serve jail time. Instead he has been handed less than two years probation.

MacIntosh was previously charged and acquitted on multiple counts of assault and criminal harassment.

It will now be up to the North Bay Police Services Board to make a decision on whether MacIntosh will be able to keep his badge.

MacIntosh has been on paid leave since he was first charged in November 2012, according to North Bay Police. Since then he has been paid approximately \$447,000 in salary.
(CBC News)

SATURDAY
AUGUST 27, 2016

Aug 27 2016

CALGARY - Two Calgary police officers are on desk duty and two others have been sent home while the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team (ASIRT) investigates an arrest turned violent.

On the evening of July 30, 2016, an officer followed a car into a parking lot and turned on the lights to indicate a traffic stop. The driver of the vehicle instead ran, and the officer gave chase on foot. The man was taken into custody a short distance away but

sustained serious injuries in the arrest.

As part of the follow-up to the incident, the in-car camera from one of the police cruisers was reviewed and concerns were raised over the conduct of the officers involved in the arrest.

When asked why it took a month to notify the public of the investigation, the Calgary Police Service said it did so as soon as possible after reviewing the in-car video.

The status of the two members who have been relieved from duty with pay will be reviewed in the next seven days. No charges have been laid at this time.
(CTV News)

Aug 27 2016

A man was killed during a provincial police operation in Saint-Cyrille-de-Wendover, about 115 kilometres northeast of Montreal. Quebec’s independent investigation bureau is looking into the incident.

Around 9:45 p.m. Friday night two officers responded to a call about a domestic dispute.

When they arrived they found a 41-year-old man armed with a knife.

Police say after a brief discussion he came at them with the weapon.

They shot the man at least once and he later died from his injuries.

Six independent investigators are now looking into the events and Montreal police are helping with the investigation.
(CBC News)

Aug 27 2016

TORONTO - Police say a naked tomato thief is on the loose in Toronto’s west end.

They say at about 8 p.m., officers received a call about a naked man who was seen in a residential backyard “soaping himself up” and washing off with a hose.

The garden intruder then took off with tomatoes from the backyard.

Toronto police say officers arrived at the home near Indian Grove and Dundas Street West, but the man had fled the scene.

A search was conducted in the neighbourhood, but police say the man or the tomatoes could not be found.

Aug 27 2016

CALGARY - Two Calgary police officers have been relieved of their duties and two others have been shifted to administrative work after a video of an arrest last month raised concerns.

Police say officers stopped a vehicle on July 30, but the driver allegedly ran and was chased by officers on foot.

They say he was found, but suffered serious injuries during the arrest.

Police say in-car camera footage from one of the police cruisers was reviewed and concerns were raised about the conduct of the officers.

The investigation has been taken over by the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team.

No charges laid, and police say the status of the two members who have been relieved from duty with pay will be reviewed.

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SUNDAY AUGUST 28, 2016

Aug 28 2016

A Peel police officer is in serious condition after being struck by a police cruiser in Mississauga on Sunday.

The incident occurred just before 10 a.m. The male victim was working there as a paid duty officer, according to the SIU's Jason Gennaro.

Police received a call to a break and enter in progress at a nearby store on Sunday mornings. Police cruisers were heading northbound on Mississauga Road when one of them struck the officer, Gennaro said.

SIU investigators are trying to determine the speed the police cruiser was going.

"There is the basis to lay criminal charges against person driving," Gennaro said, but would not give details on the officer who was behind the wheel.

The extent of the officer's injuries are unknown.
(CTV Toronto)

MONDAY AUGUST 29, 2016

Aug 29 2016

Ontario police and community groups are raising the alarm that a fentanyl crisis could be looming as synthetic versions of the drug appear across the province.

An advisory released Monday by the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council and other groups says 2016 has been a record year for overdose alerts and seizures of "bootleg" fentanyls by law enforcement officers.

Synthetic versions of the drug include carefentanil, which is often used as an elephant tranquilizer, and W-18, a drug that has prompted warnings from police in several Canadian cities.

Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police spokesman Joe Couto says provincial law enforcement officials have seen an increase in the synthetic drugs in recent seizures, suggesting it is becoming more prevalent.

British Columbia's chief medical officer declared a state of emergency earlier this year following an increase in drug overdose deaths, many of which were linked to the dangerous opioid.

Couto says police officers are constantly talking to their colleagues in other provinces and states, because they don't want to relearn lessons other jurisdictions have already gleaned from the crisis.

He says Ontario has taken B.C.'s lead in public education, advising drug users to be extra cautious because there may be unexpectedly powerful substances mixed into their usual doses.

Aug 29 2016

TORONTO - Police have released the cause of death of three people killed in a bloody attack involving a crossbow in east Toronto last week.

Toronto police Det. Sgt. Mike Carbone says a woman found in a garage on Thursday died from strangulation, a man found in the same garage died from a crossbow bolt to the neck and a man found in the driveway died from an arrowhead stab wound to the neck.

Brett Ryan, 35, of Toronto is charged with three counts of first-degree murder in the slaying.

Officers called to a home on reports of a stabbing found the lifeless bodies of two men and a woman in the garage and driveway with a crossbow lying nearby. The three were later pronounced dead.

Police say a witness was also taken to hospital and treated, though no charges have been laid in connection with that person at this time.

Investigators have released few details about the killings or what might have motivated them.

Ryan is due in court Friday.

The three victims were a mother and her two adult sons, according to a neighbour.

Court records name the victims as Susan, Alexander and Christopher Ryan.

Aug 29 2016

After a 43-year career as a Canadian diplomat and head of a nuclear safety organization, Lorne Green seemed set for retirement with his wife at their home in a picturesque English village. But retirement didn't last long.



At the age of 70, Mr. Green has been elected the police and crime commissioner in Norfolk, a rural county in eastern England. Now, instead of embassy dinners and diplomatic exchanges with world leaders, he's handling complaints about traffic and dog dirt while managing a police force that covers two cities, dozens of villages, several military bases, countless farms, the Queen's Sandringham Estate and the home of the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

"I love this job, I really love it," Mr. Green said as he sipped tea at a coffee shop he owns called The Old Bank in Snettisham, a village in western Norfolk. "I get calls and approaches at all manner of the day and night, everything from a dog fouling on [a] doorstep to some really serious things."

Mr. Green is part of a new approach by

the British government to make policing more accountable. In 2011, the government created 40 police and crime commissioners (PCC), one for each county in England and Wales (The mayors of London and Manchester run their own police forces). Each was to be elected to a four-year term and the first PCC elections were in 2012.

It was a controversial move. The PCCs replaced local police authorities and the government handed the new commissioners sweeping powers. PCCs can hire or fire the county police chief.

They also manage the police force's budget, allocate resources and can raise local taxes to pay for services. They are also accountable to virtually no one, outside of the electorate once every four years.

"It's a big job," conceded Mr. Green who has been holding regular public consultations and meetings with police officials to get up to speed on the pressing issues in Norfolk. He'd never run for public office before and had to keep his political views private for decades as a diplomat.

He's also much more used to serving politicians and civil servants, not the public.

In 1998, he left External Affairs to launch the World Nuclear Transport Institute. He retired in 2011 to Snettisham.

Last year, the local Conservative Party association asked him to run for PCC. He agreed but worried that his Canadian accent might be an issue.

"I was mindful of my accent and whether I would be seen as what would be normal for Norfolk," he said. "We think we're embedded in the community but we weren't widely known. So I was up against the Canadian factor, the unknown factor."

He overcame that and won handily in the election last May, pointing out to anyone who asked that the Governor of the Bank of England, Mark Carney, had the same accent.

He also got a lot of questions about his name. Mr. Green's parents named him after the Canadian actor, Lorne Greene, who starred in the television show Bonanza. "It actually became a plus after a certain point," he said of the name. "Bonanza was a big show here, too."

Now, he's embedding himself in local crime issues. And they include everything from people stealing tractors to domestic violence, drug trafficking and even potential terrorism.

In total, Mr. Green manages a force that includes 1,500 uniformed officers and 1,000 civilian staff; and a budget of £150-million (\$255-million).

He's already developed a safe driving campaign and is studying a plan to bring dogs into a local prison. And he is working on a four-year police and crime plan.

For now, anyway, Mr. Green has no plans to retire, again. "Retirement is really hard work," he said with a laugh. "I think it was Noel Coward who said 'work is more fun than fun.' And that's been my experience."

(Globe and Mail)

VICTORIA - British Columbia's police complaint commissioner says 2015-16 was the busiest year ever for the body that provides impartial civilian oversight of complaints by the public involving municipal police.



The organization's annual report shows 1,230 files were opened over the year, just slightly ahead of the 1,210 files started in 2012-13.

Only 50 files eventually resulted in disciplinary measures, ranging from reprimands to suspensions.

Commissioner Stan Lowe says in the report that the increase is mainly due to a jump in the number of so-called monitor files, often high-profile cases that can involve reportable injuries but where a decision hasn't been made on a formal investigation.

It says between April 1, 2015, and March 31, 2016, the commissioner concluded investigations on 777 allegations.

The commissioner says more than half the allegations were unsubstantiated, seven per cent were substantiated, 17 per cent were informally resolved, and the remaining cases were either discontinued or the allegations withdrawn.

Aug 29 2016

Three Canadian cruise ship passengers were charged with drug smuggling Monday after Sydney police allegedly found 95 kilograms of cocaine in their cabin luggage.

The haul valued at nearly \$30 million was the largest seizure in Australia of narcotics carried by passengers of a cruise ship or airliner, Australian Border Force commander Tim Fitzgerald said.

Andre Tamine, 63, Isabelle Lagace, 28, and Melina Roberce, 22, were arrested Sunday after the MS Sea Princess, operated by California-based Princess Cruises, berthed in Sydney.

The three did not enter pleas when they were charged in the Sydney Central Local Court with importing a commercial quantity of cocaine.

They face potential life sentences if convicted and will remain in custody until their next court appearance on Oct. 26.

The trio had boarded the ship at the British port city of Southampton. Police are investigating whether they boarded with the drugs or sourced them from one of several South American ports the ship visited on its way to Australia.

Fitzgerald thanked the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Canada Bor-

der Services Agency for helping identify the three as "high-risk passengers" among the 1,800 on board.

Fitzgerald alleged 35 kilograms of cocaine were found in suitcases in a cabin the women shared and 60 kilograms of the drug were found in the man's luggage in a separate cabin.

Australia has among the highest prices in the world for cocaine, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. (AP)

Aug 29 2016

British Columbia's Police Complaint Commissioner says he is concerned about the Vancouver Police Department's use of street checks, but the department says instances of the practice are rare.

The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner, which oversees complaints involving municipal police, released its annual report on Monday. The 74-page document summarizes complaints against individuals — such as a New Westminster officer who failed to reasonably follow-up on a sex assault allegation and a transit officer who arrested a man without sufficient grounds — as well as departments.

Commissioner Stan Lowe said the Vancouver Police Board has not yet delivered on recommendations regarding a street-check policy that he made after investigating a complaint.

The Commissioner cited "an increasing trend in complaint allegations involving the

police practice of conducting street checks," but the report did not provide a total.

An office spokesperson said the number of complaints has gone up, but not to the extent seen in Ontario, where the provincial government announced final regulations restricting carding in March.

Mr. Lowe's report said a complainant alleged Vancouver police detained him and his friends on private property. The report said officers searched them and looked them up in a police database. The complainant and his friends were then released.

The Commissioner said the officers' actions approached misconduct, but did not cross the threshold.

But in reviewing the matter, the Commissioner said he "recognized a trend in complaint allegations involving the police practice of conducting street checks which were similar in nature to this case."

The Commissioner said in the report that he contacted the Vancouver Police Department and requested a copy of its policy on street checks.

He said he was told the department did not have one but "a draft policy was potentially under development."

"...Having reviewed the available evidence, it was apparent that the lack of policy, training and resources relating to the investigative detention of the complainant were factors in the conduct that was the subject of this investigation. Due to the frequency the members of the Vancouver Police come in contact with individuals of interest to them,



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all members should be well trained and proficient in the lawful application of current statute and case law with respect to the detention of individuals for investigative purposes," the report said.

Constable Brian Montague, a Vancouver Police Department spokesperson, said in an e-mail that the department is working on a policy for street checks. He did not indicate when it would be released.

"Of note is that each of our front-line officers write, on average, less than one street check each month," he wrote. "They are not random or arbitrary and are written when officers encounter an individual or are called to a situation that is suspicious in nature, but there is a lack of evidence at that time to prove a crime has been committed."

(Globe and Mail)

Aug 29 2016

BRIDGEWATER, N.S. - A veteran police chief in Bridgewater, N.S., has been placed on leave while investigators look into allegations of sexual assault and obstruction of justice made against him in relation to a teenaged girl.

Nova Scotia's Serious Incident Response Team, or SIRT, announced earlier this month it was investigating information from an outside police force about the incidents involving the teen.

David Walker, the mayor of Bridgewater, confirmed Monday that Chief John Collyer is the person being investigated and that he was placed on administrative leave by the community's police commission several weeks ago.

Walker says he was caught off guard by the allegations.

"We're shocked and surprised," he said. "We're concerned for victims and Chief Collyer and his family."

"We hope that the SIRT team does a thorough investigation and makes a determination at some point, hopefully quickly and once all the facts are received."

The mayor said he's hoping that the investigation by the SIRT team will help clarify what has occurred and the information will be forwarded rapidly to the police commission.

"I think everybody in the community is going to be shocked with the allegations and everybody is going to be anxious to have the report and find out what is accurate and what is not," said Walker.

No charges have been laid in the case.

Collyer also confirmed in an email that he was the individual under investigation.

"I have been placed on administrative leave until these allegations can be fully investigated," he wrote. "I await the results of the SIRT investigation. At this time I will not be making further comments on the advice of my lawyer."

The deputy chief of police, Scott Feener, has taken over leadership of the Bridgewater police while Collyer is on leave.

Ron MacDonald, the director of SIRT, said the investigation will proceed at the usual pace and a report will be filed upon its completion.

TUESDAY
AUGUST 30, 2016

Aug 30 2016

Canadian law enforcement agencies are calling on a group of vigilante pedophile hunters to let police investigate potential criminal cases, after Okanagan-area group "Creep Hunters" publicly identified a B.C. sheriff who arranged to meet with someone posing as a 14-year-old girl.

Creep Hunters — which has been operating in the Okanagan area over the last few months — aims to lure men who are looking for sexual relationships with underage girls.

One member of the group pretends to be the underage girl and waits for older men to engage in online conversations. Once a meeting is arranged, two male members of the group approach the suspect, accusing him of trying to lure a minor, and record the exchange. They then upload the footage online.

However, the group's latest catch attracted a lot of attention due to allegations the man they were talking to was a B.C. sheriff.

"The man that we caught is a sheriff. He sent pictures, two pictures of himself in his uniform," said "Stef," who played the role of a 14-year-old girl for Creep Hunters.

The Ministry of Justice confirmed Tuesday it is aware of the allegations regarding the sheriff and confirmed that the employee is on leave pending further investigation.

According to Cpl. Dan Moskaluk, the RCMP was also made aware of the incident and is currently investigating.

Moskaluk stressed that this type of investigation should be left to police officers.

(Global News)

Aug 30 2016

QUEBEC CITY - A provincial police officer who spied on guests in Quebec City's Hilton Hotel via a security camera at the nearby National Assembly has been dismissed.

Quebec's police ethics committee ruled that Stéphane Demers, a high-ranking officer with the Sûreté du Québec, abused his authority and didn't respect the law.

Between April 1, 2010 and Feb. 4, 2012, Demers diverted a surveillance camera mounted on the tower of the National Assembly to peep in on the intimate antics of couples who were staying at the hotel, located across the road from the legislative building.

In April, Demers admitted to allegations of voyeurism before the committee.

The decision was made public by the committee on Tuesday.

The complaint against Demers was brought to the police ethics commission by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Jacques Chagnon.

Demers had worked as an officer for the SQ since 1989.

(CBC News)

Aug 30 2016

REGINA - A new paper from the University of Regina says more research needs to be done on whether intervention programs directed at first responders actually help the people involved.

"We found there's a drastic need for more research assessing the impact of the programs that are currently offered," said Nick Carleton, an associate professor of psychology at the University of Regina.

"Currently, there is very little, if any evidence available proving the effectiveness of any specific program. This is harmful to well-being of our first responders."

Carleton already has the support of several organizations representing first responders. Now with the paper released, the group's next step is to hear from 250,000 Canadian first responders about how their job affects their mental health and their families.

"I think we need to recognize that the evidence is not there to tell us how to best support first responders," said Carleton. "We're exposing many people to extraordinary trauma. My hope is more research will help us better understand the impacts this work can have and move forward in finding how best to recognize, prevent, intervene and treat them."

According to the CACP, there have been 26 Canadian first responders who've committed suicide this year.

Fourty first responders took their lives last year.

"At the current rate, this may be the worst year for suicides," said CACP president Mario Harel. "The mental health of our people is at risk. This has to change."

(CBC News)

Aug 30 2016

The number of road deaths in Ontario from distracted driving are on track to double the number of fatalities related to impaired driving this year for the first time since the laws were introduced in 2009, according to the OPP.

The OPP has investigated 38 road deaths in which an inattentive driver was involved as of mid-August, compared to 19 deaths involving an impaired driver.

"Don't be a passenger of a distracted driver. Recognize that they are endangering your life. Speak up and insist that they focus on the road and on safe driving," said OPP Deputy Commissioner Brad Blair in a media release Tuesday. "By not doing so, you are contributing to the problem."

The OPP says distracted drivers pose a similar threat to those impaired by alcohol, and is calling on the public to treat those who engage in the practice with a similar level of disdain.

The Ontario government banned distracted driving in 2009, and recently upped the fines for those caught using mobile devices, eating or typing a destination into a GPS system to between \$490 and \$1,000. Offenders lose three demerit points if convicted.

(CTV News)

Aug 30 2016

WABASCA, Alta. - There are fears personal information for thousands could have been compromised in a computer hack at a municipality in northern Alberta.

Officials with the Municipal District of Opportunity Number 17 are concerned someone may have gained access to sensitive information such as social insurance numbers, credit card numbers and bank account information.

It's estimated about 3,400 people live in the seven hamlets that make up the municipality, which is now completely unplugged.

RCMP and the Privacy Commissioner are investigating.

According to a news release issued by the municipality, it's believed that "sensitive personal and financial information" of employees, utility account holders and ratepayers may have been accessed.
(CTV Edmonton)

Aug 30 2016

ABBOTSFORD - An Abbotsford Police officer lost his or her job last year after lying to try to receive a new jacket and then damaging a colleague's coat in an effort to conceal the misconduct.

The officer was one of five in Abbotsford disciplined for misconduct over the past year, according to the Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner (OPCC), which released its 2015/16 annual report this week.

The incidents were among more than 1,000 investigations across British Columbia conducted or monitored by the OPCC.

According to the report, an APD officer facing dismissal resigned earlier this year following a disciplinary investigation into attempts to obtain new department-issued rain and winter jackets.

Two other incidents resulted in discipline administered between April 2015 and March 2016.

Last spring, a police officer accessed a database "for purposes unrelated to his/her duties." That warranted a written reprimand.

The officer then failed to obey a "cease contact order" issued by the chief constable. That resulted in a 12-day suspension, along with a demotion that resulted in the removal of the officer's "senior" rank.

The third incident occurred in November of 2013, when three police officers and the jail supervisor, who is not an APD officer, "failed to properly document the authorization and strip search" of three people, one of whom complained. A finding of "neglect of duty" was recorded, with the members and jail supervisor issued "advice to future conduct."

The OPCC also made two separate recommendations for the Abbotsford Police Boards. The APD has subsequently updated its policies regarding the disposal of property, along with members' use of PRIME, a police database.

In total, the OPCC opened 81 files related to the Abbotsford Police Department. That number was the fifth highest among the

14 departments overseen by the organization. The Vancouver Police Department had the most files opened, with 600.

(Abbotsford News)

**WEDNESDAY
AUGUST 31, 2016**

Aug 31 2016

HALIFAX - Experts in privacy and civil rights are raising questions about a police news conference that identified 27 men caught in a Cape Breton prostitution sting, saying the move amounted to unnecessary "public shaming."

"Public shaming is not something that

our justice system should promote ... (and) when you release names to try to deter others, that sounds like public shaming to me," said Abby Deshman, spokeswoman for the Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

Last week, a provincial court judge rejected a legal challenge from one of the accused, saying police have the discretion to release personal information to the media, so long as it does not jeopardize a fair trial.

However, the lawyer for John Russell Mercer, 73, argued in court that the news conference last September was akin to "locking someone in the stocks" - a form of public humiliation that violated his client's rights under Section 7 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

But the judge disagreed, saying the information released at the news conference was "limited to what was already accessible to the



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media and the public.”

Deshman said that line of reasoning doesn't recognize the impact of holding a news conference to draw attention to the accused.

“It's a nuanced difference, but in practical effect it's very important to distinguish between open court proceedings and publishing something on the Internet,” she said.

“Absent some risk to public safety, just putting people's names out there who haven't been convicted of any crime yet really has an enormous impact on these individual's lives and livelihood.”

As well, Deshman said the damage to reputations can't be repaired if charges were withdrawn or not guilty verdicts are recorded.

A spokesman for the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police said the organization does not comment on the operational issues of individual police services.

Aug 31 2016

ST. CATHARINES, Ont. - Police say eight people are facing charges following a six-month investigation into an alleged drug ring in Niagara Region that investigators say has ties to the Greater Toronto Area.

They say the investigation — dubbed Project Icarus — began in March and uncovered evidence of a large cocaine trafficking ring based in the Niagara Region.

Approximately 110 officers executed 13 search and arrest warrants early Wednesday in Welland, Port Colborne, Fort Erie, Oakville and Niagara Falls.

Police agencies involved in the operation included Niagara Regional Police, Canada Border Services Agency, provincial police, RCMP and Halton police.

Those arrested range in age from 33 to 41 and were to appear Wednesday in court in St. Catharines, Ont., facing drug-related charges.

Aug 31 2016

VANCOUVER - The civilian body that investigates police-involved injuries and deaths in British Columbia says it will not seek charges against a Vancouver officer involved in a fatal shooting.

An Independent Investigations Officer-report says the shooting happened April 9, 2015, as police tried to arrest a knife-wielding man suspected of stabbing several people.

During the arrest, the 26-year-old Edmonton man was shot and died at the scene in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

The chief civilian director for the police watchdog has ruled the matter should not be referred to the Crown because an offence was not committed.

However, the director is forwarding a complaint to the Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner over the time it took two officers involved in the case to write duty-to-account reports describing the shooting.

The Independent Investigations Office says the case appears to be an example of a pattern where Vancouver officers, RCMP

members and two municipal police agencies haven't provided the necessary reports or notes outlining their part in a critical incident.

It says the reports can form vital evidence during an investigation and cites a Supreme Court of Canada decision that “police officers do have a duty to prepare accurate, detailed and comprehensive notes as soon as practicable.”

Aug 31 2016

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - The Special Investigations Unit says there are no reasonable grounds to lay criminal charges against a Barrie, Ont., officer after a man was seriously injured fleeing from police.

The police watchdog agency says the Nov. 11, 2015, incident began when officers received a call about a domestic assault.

Realizing the police had been called, the SIU says a 20-year-old man fled a home and encountered the officer, who turned his cruiser around in order to follow the vehicle.

Seconds later, the vehicle ran a stop sign and was t-boned by an SUV. The man ran into a wooded area, and jumped a retaining wall bordering a playground and fell eight metres.

He was taken to hospital and diagnosed with bleeding to his brain.

Acting SIU director Joseph Martino says civilian video of incident shows the pursuit was over before it began and it appears the man was not even aware that he was being followed.

“There is nothing to indicate, for example, that the officer made contact with the man at any time during what was a very brief foot pursuit in a wooded area,” Martino said Wednesday in a release.

“In fact, the evidence from the video recording has the officer some three seconds behind the man as they disappear from the camera's lens into the field.”

Aug 31 2016

EDMONTON - The City of Edmonton will pay police officers about \$18 million in retroactive wage increases after an arbitration award was announced this week.

Officers will get increases of 2.4 per cent in 2014, 2.5 per cent in 2015 and 2.75 per cent for 2016, the city said Wednesday.

The budget implications of the retroactive payment “won't be massive” because the city budgets for these types of contingencies, said Mayor Don Iveson.

The last collective agreement expired in December 2013. By June 2016, when the Edmonton Police Association and city had still failed to find common ground on wages for the current collective agreement period, compulsory arbitration was ordered.

Aug 31 2016

WINNIPEG - Manitoba's acting chief medical examiner has called an inquest into two deaths involving police.

John Younes has ruled the deaths meet the criteria for a mandatory review.

Haki Sefa died during an altercation with the RCMP last September near Bird's

Hill Park just outside Winnipeg after a police pursuit.

In November, Steven Campbell died from multiple gunshot wounds after allegedly trying to run over a Mountie who pulled him over for drunk driving in Thompson.

The Sefa case was the first major one for the Independent Investigation Unit of Manitoba, the province's police watchdog.

But its civilian director Zane Tessler had to recuse himself because he was involved in the prosecution of Sefa in 2011.

(CJOB,)

Aug 31 2016

MONTREAL - Thirty-five Hells Angels members who pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of conspiracy to commit murder have had their sentences reduced by between six and eight years.

A Quebec Superior Court justice ordered a stay of proceedings last October in the case of five other accused because the Crown had failed to communicate certain evidence it possessed. That led to their release.

As a result, the 35 who avoided going to trial by pleading guilty sought to withdraw their pleas by asking for a stay of proceedings.

Discussions among the various lawyers led to an agreement which the Quebec Court of Appeal has endorsed.

The 35 accused were sentenced to prison terms of between 12 and 25 years, but with time already served they had between less than three years and 20 years left to serve.

Three of the accused have had their sentence reduced by eight years, five by eight years and the other 27 by six years. For eight, the term is reduced to one day because they had only about six years left to serve.

The accused were arrested in 2009 as part of Operation SharQc.

Aug 31 2016

MONTREAL - Montreal police have launched a campaign to recruit aboriginals and members of visible and ethnic minorities to better reflect the city's cultural diversity. The SPVM wants to recruit 15 candidates for its employment equity program.



Eligible candidates must have a three-year CEGEP diploma, other than in police technology, have completed a technical training program or have 30 university credits. All candidates must be Canadian citizens.

Candidates will complete 30 weeks of training starting in September 2017, followed by 15 weeks of training at the police academy. The SPVM will hire successful grads.

Montreal police chief Philippe Pichet

said he hopes the recruitment program will help the SPVM become more culturally diverse and improve relations with the different cultural communities, including aboriginals.

For years, Montreal police have talked about wanting to increase the force's diversity. In 2014, only 317 of the force's 4,601 officers were members of a visible minority — about 6.8 per cent. Another 193 were ethnic minorities and 17 were First Nations. (Montreal Gazette)

Aug 31 2016

PENTICTON, B.C. - Mounties in Penticton, B.C., say they got quite an eyeful last week after a man peeled off his clothes and began washing himself with milk after inadvertently spraying bear spray down his pants.

RCMP spokesman Cpl. Don Wrigglesworth said officers were called to a local gas station shortly before 2 a.m. on Aug. 24 to find the victim completely naked.

"He was in excruciating pain and vigorously using his shirt to scrub his genitals with homogenized milk in an attempt to relieve the pain," said Wrigglesworth.

The man said he had been attacked by three unknown men, but an investigation revealed the spray pattern "was consistent with the alleged victim carrying his own can of bear spray and it went off unintentionally."

He said the victim became uncooperative.

Later, police were called to a home and found five people outside rolling on the ground after being hit with bear spray.

Wrigglesworth said they were uncooperative, but said they were attacked over a debt.

**THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 1, 2016**

Sep 01 2016

WINNIPEG - The City of Winnipeg is stepping in to help its police service cover the cost of a new infrared camera for the department's helicopter.

The Manitoba government had rejected a police request for an extra \$100,000 to help pay for the thermal imaging equipment, which costs \$560,000.

The province had previously approved \$180,000 through its criminal forfeiture fund.

The city's police board decided Wednesday to cover the shortfall.

A provincial review is already underway to determine whether the airborne unit should be disbanded.

"This camera is a critical piece of the helicopter. The helicopter can't do its job, ultimately, unless that unit is working," said board chairman Scott Gillingham.

He is looking forward to the results of the provincial study of the helicopter service.

"The board's position is that the review needs to be completed in order to make an informed decision about the future" of Air-1." (CJOB)

Sep 01 2016

It's already a pricey time of year if you're a student starting college or university, so you probably don't want to fork out more money for hunting a Blastoise on the GO train tracks.

YORK REGIONAL POLICE FROSH WEEK EXPENSE LIST 2016	
Frosh Week places fresh-faced first-years into unfamiliar, exciting territory. But this rite of passage often comes with a cost that makes tuition fees seem paltry by comparison. Following extensive research in the labs of YRP, we can conclude that many of the poor decisions made by students are avoidable. Do avoid them. And, as always: Party with caution.	
IF YOU ARE CAUGHT	IT MAY COST YOU:
<input type="checkbox"/> HUNTING FOR A BLASTOISE ON THE GO TRAIN TRACKS	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> CUTTING OFF A STRANGER'S MAN BUN	JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> SARAN-WRAPPING YOUR R.A.'S CAR	12 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> SNAPCHATting PICS OF YOUR ROOMMATE IN THE SHOWER	5 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> REPLACING YOUR ENEMY'S SHAMPOO WITH NAIR	5 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> LYING TO AUTHORITIES	JAIL AND/OR YOUR SPEEDO SPONSORSHIP
<input type="checkbox"/> HOVERBOARD RACING ON CAMPUS	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> VAPING ON A SUBWAY	AT LEAST \$10
<input type="checkbox"/> STALKING KEVIN PILLAR FOR A SELFIE	10 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000 & A BAN FROM ROGERS CENTRE
<input type="checkbox"/> DOING A LINE OF COKE IN THE BATHROOM	2 YEARS IN JAIL \$1,000 & YOUR SEPTUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STREAKING AT THE HOMECOMING GAME	\$5,000 AND ANY POTENTIAL DATES
<input type="checkbox"/> HACKING @YORK'S TWITTER ACCOUNT	2 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> HIRING AN ESCORT FROM TINDER	5 YEARS IN JAIL \$1,000
<input type="checkbox"/> RELEASING A RACCOON IN YOUR FRIEND'S DORM	30 DAYS IN JAIL \$1,000 AND/OR A BARKS SHOT
<input type="checkbox"/> DOING DONUTS ON THE STREET	9 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> GOING ON A BOOZE RUN FOR UNDERAGE FRESHMEN	2 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000
<input type="checkbox"/> JAMMING 11 PEOPLE INTO YOUR KIA RIO	\$240 AND/OR YOUR NEAR SUSPENSION
<input type="checkbox"/> FILLING YOUR APARTMENT WITH SAND	\$5,000 JAIL AND/OR YOUR SECURITY DEPOSIT
<input type="checkbox"/> KEYING YOUR UBER DRIVER'S CAR FOR TRASHING YOUR RATING	2 YEARS IN JAIL \$5,000

That little Pokestunt would cost you \$425. It's just one of a laundry list worth of "poor decisions" that York Regional Police are warning students against on its annual Frosh Week expense list.

The list ranges from the plausible - going on a booze run for an underage classmate - to the absurd, but the costs for many is hundreds in fines or serious jail time.

"Following extensive research in the labs of YRP, we can conclude that many of the poor decisions made by students are avoidable," the force says.

"This rite of passage often comes with a cost that makes tuition fees seem paltry by comparison."

The force also includes a few pop culture nods.

"Lying to the authorities," for example, may cost you "jail and/or your Speedo sponsorship." Ryan Lochte dopplegangers beware.

So froshers, police say, have fun but "party with caution."

(CBC News)

Sep 01 2016

CALGARY - All's not well with Calgary police sworn members as job satisfaction indicators have dropped, according to an internal survey obtained by Metro.

Results from the 2015 annual employee survey conducted by the Calgary Police Commission (CPC) into Calgary Police Service (CPS) member satisfaction shows 58 per cent of those who took the survey registered negative comments, including feeling overworked and that they dealt with too heavy a workload, were understaffed and stressed. In comparison, 42 per cent registered negative comments in 2014.

Seventy-four per cent of respondents registered positive comments, down from 80 per cent in 2014.

Twenty-three per cent strongly agreed they were satisfied with available training in their job and only 14 per cent strongly agreed they were satisfied with effectiveness of communication within the CPS, while 54 per cent overall agreed to some extent. Forty-six per cent disagreed.

Only 12 per cent of respondents strongly agreed morale was good at CPS, the lowest in seven years. Overall, roughly 50 per cent agreed to some extent that morale was good.

(Metro Calgary)

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