

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

Sept 20, 2013 – Vol. 18 No. 38

Executive Digest

Sep 13 2013

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - A veteran Crown attorney has been appointed the new director of Ontario's police watchdog agency.

Page 3

Sep 13 2013

WATERLOO REGION - The Waterloo police services board has appointed Supt. Kevin Chalk to serve as the new deputy chief of police.

Page 4

Sep 17 2013

The Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service has a new chief of police.

Page 6

Sep 18 2013

MONTREAL - The Montreal police force is launching a new service on September 23rd, 2013 that will give citizens the ability to file police reports through their website.

Page 7

Sep 18 2013

VANCOUVER - Vancouver police are calling for automatic federal prison time for chronic offenders who have been convicted more than 30 times.

Page 7

Sep 19 2013

TORONTO - A panel that will oversee implementation of recommendations aimed at tackling deep-rooted issues facing First Nations in Ontario's jury system will have a majority of aboriginal members, the province announced Thursday.

Page 9

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

EMAILED EVERY WEEK
52 WEEKS - ONLY \$100⁰⁰

www.BlueLine.ca/Shop

Shakeup on Victoria police board delays new chief decision



Sep 17 2013

VICTORIA - Victoria's police board has selected a successor to retiring chief Jamie Graham, but the decision remains in limbo because of an unexpected shakeup in the board.

Greater Sudbury police chief Frank Elsner had been selected Friday as the next Victoria police chief, sources tell the Times Colonist.

Elsner, 50, who has three decades of policing experience in Ontario, joined the Greater Sudbury police force as deputy chief in 2007 and rose to top cop in 2009.

Just two days after agreeing on the preferred

candidate for chief, the four provincially appointed board members were told to turn in their security cards because their terms would not be renewed.

The departures leave the board short of the five-member quorum required to finalize the selection of the new chief.

No reason has been given for the board shakeup or why it comes at such a critical time.

Roy Cullen, one of the provincial appointees, said "it's crazy" to let go four members right near the end of the months-long chief selection process.



MISSING CHILDREN
SOCIETY OF CANADA

Reuniting families since 1986

www.mcsc.ca



If you have any information about a missing child, call toll-free

1.800.661.6160

or email us at

tips@mcsc.ca

"We had a lot of things we were working on, not the least of which was an appointment of a new chief," Cullen said. "The biggest job that the police board has is the hiring of a chief constable. Now [four members] are just gone, so we've lost that continuity," he said. "I'm baffled by it."

University of Victoria labour relations expert Ken Thornicroft says it's rare to have four police board members leave at once.

Until the board ratifies the decision on the new police chief, there is no binding contract of employment, he said.

"It will be up to the new board to ratify that candidate or perhaps they'll select another candidate or start fresh from a new crop of candidates," Thornicroft said.

Esquimalt Mayor Barb Desjardins, who is vice-chairwoman of the police board, said interviews with the final two candidates for chief took place in Victoria on Friday, but she would not confirm Elsner was the top choice.

"We have notified the [preferred] candidate but there's still a number of things that need to be done," such as negotiating the exact terms of the contract, Desjardins said Tuesday.

Desjardins said she was also surprised to learn the four provincial appointees — Karen Kesteloo, Lindalee Brougham, Gordy Dodd, and Roy Cullen — have not been renewed.

In a statement Tuesday, Attorney General Suzanne Anton said, "With the mayors and two council-nominated municipal board members in place, I do recognize the board is currently one member short of a quorum. I can assure you that finalizing our provincial appointments is a priority for government."

Anton also said interviews have been done and the province is about to select the candidates.

"This process will [be] complete in the

near future and I don't expect it to hinder the hiring of a new police chief for Victoria," the statement said.

(Victoria Times Colonist)



Sep 12 2013

HOLDFAST, Sask. - RCMP say a Mountie shot and killed a man in central Saskatchewan following a fight.

Police say the officer was at a house in Holdfast Wednesday night as part of a criminal investigation when he fought with a 42-year-old man.

The Mountie then fired his gun and hit the man, who died on the scene.

RCMP say the Regina Police Service will conduct an independent investigation into the circumstances surrounding the fatal shooting.

The Regina police are to report the results to Saskatchewan's Ministry of Justice and Attorney General.

RCMP have also requested the Ministry of Justice appoint an independent observer for the investigation.

Sep 12 2013

VANCOUVER - The B.C. Court of Appeal has added two years to the drug conspiracy sentence of one of three notorious brothers with links to the province's violent gang world.

Jarrold Bacon now has a 14-year jail term, after originally being sentenced to 12 years earlier this year for conspiring to import cocaine into Canada from Mexico in a sting involving a police informant.

His co-accused, Wayne Scott, who is the grandfather of Bacon's child, was also convicted and sentenced to three-and-a-half years in prison.

The Crown appealed both of those sentences, asking that Bacon's be increased to 20 years and Scott's be increased to 15 years, before credit for time served is taken into account.

The Appeal Court released a split 2-1 decision increasing Bacon's sentence by two years, saying the judge wrongly took into account the fact there was never any actual cocaine that could have been bought or sold in the sting.

The three-member panel was unanimous upholding Scott's sentencing, leaving it at three-and-a-half years.

Bacon is one of three brothers linked to B.C.'s violent gang war, along with Jonathan Bacon, who was killed in a shootout in Kelowna in 2011, and Jamie Bacon, who is currently awaiting trial for the murders of six people, including two innocent bystanders, in Surrey in 2007.

Sep 12 2013

TORONTO - A Toronto police officer who had been charged with second-degree murder after he shot and killed a man during a raid three years ago has been cleared of criminal charges.

Cst. David Cavanagh was originally charged with manslaughter in the death of 26-year-old Eric Osawe but it was later upgraded to the murder charge.

The Emergency Task Force and guns and gangs unit were searching an apartment in Toronto's west end on Sept. 29, 2010, when Cavanagh shot Osawe in the back - something two judges have now found was an accident.

After a preliminary inquiry earlier this year, a judge decided there was wasn't enough evidence to commit Cavanagh to trial and dismissed the case.

The Crown appealed, asking another judge to overturn that decision and instead send Cavanagh to trial on the original manslaughter charge.

But today an Ontario Superior Court judge dismissed the Crown's appeal, saying Cavanagh's gun accidentally discharged, shooting Osawe during a struggle.

Sep 12 2013

NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C. - The police chief of New Westminster, B.C., says a 13-year veteran of Vancouver's department should be fired for deceit.

The unidentified officer was placed on administrative leave in 2011 after allegations arose that he lied during a homicide probe into the 2001 death of an Oak Bay, B.C., man.

Disciplinary proceedings were conducted, and in July, Vancouver police said allegations of deceit, neglect of duty, corrupt practice and improper disclosure of information had been substantiated.

Vancouver's Chief Constable Jim Chu asked Chief Constable Dave Jones of the New Westminster Police Department to act as the discipline authority.

Jones says the officer should be dismissed on two counts of deceit and suspended from duty without pay for 10 to 20 days on the other offences.

The member who was the focus of the investigation remains suspended without pay.

Sep 12 2013

EDMONTON - Edmonton police believe they have seized the largest amount of stolen goods in the service's history.

After receiving a tip, police arrested and charged a 34-year-old man in connection with hundreds of break and enters over a five-year period.

On Aug. 29, police raided a home in the Cumberland neighbourhood in northwest Edmonton filled with items believed to be stolen from homes, businesses and vehicles.

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK
A COMPANION OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

ISSN 1704-3913
Copyright 2013
Blue Line Magazine Inc. & The Canadian Press
Permission to reprint may be obtained in advance from
Access Copyright
Phone 1-800-893-5777 Info@accesscopyright.ca

Published weekly by Blue Line Magazine, Inc. as an executive news briefing service to Canada's top level law enforcement personnel.

Most information supplied in this publication is from news-wire services. As such Blue Line Magazine does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of articles as supplied.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in an electronic database or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers. One Year Subscriptions are \$10500 (GST Included). Paid subscribers may make up to four (4) copies of this publication for distribution within their organization.

Group Publisher: Morley S. Lymburner
PUBLISHER: Kathryn M. Lymburner - Kathryn@BlueLine.ca
NEWS EDITOR: Mark Reesor - News@BlueLine.ca
Subscriptions: Blue Line Store at www.BlueLine.ca
ADVERTISING: 1-888-640-3048
12A-4981 Hwy. 7 East, Ste. 254, Markham ON L3R 1N1
Phone: 905 640-3048 eMail: news@blueline.ca

Today they displayed to the media thousands of stolen items ranging from bear skin rugs to motorcycles to golf clubs and even a kitchen sink — enough items to fill two shipping containers.

Other items include 24 men's watches valued at about \$11,000; 13 sets of tires and rims valued at \$15,000; 46 motorcycle helmets valued at \$8,850; hundreds of home improvement store gift certificates valued at \$13,000; 19 sets of golf clubs and five pallets of assorted liquor valued at \$35,000.

Investigators say the home where these stolen items were found was laid out like a department store with its own electronics and houseware sections.

"This project took an incredible amount of resources," said Sgt. Joe Lewis. "Police have put more than 1,100 hours of time into this project and more than 28 officers and civilian EPS exhibit technicians were involved in just the seizure portion of this operation."

(CBC News)



Sep 13 2013

TORONTO - Ontario ombudsman Andre Marin says he's received a personal apology from the police officer he says sent him offensive tweets last month.

Marin issued a statement today saying he met with the detective at his office Thursday and accepted his "heartfelt and sincere apology" for sending the tweets from an account set up in another officer's name.

Durham regional police say they won't identify the detective, who faces a discreditable conduct charge following an investigation into tweets sent Aug. 8, until a public hearing begins on Oct. 1.

But Marin identified him in the statement as Det. Jeff Caplan of the Durham Region force's major fraud unit.

He says Caplan understood his name should be made public in the interest of transparency.

While praising the officer in a series of tweets this morning, Marin was critical of the force's investigation of the matter, saying "they bungled the case, no doubt. He wasn't the one pulling the strings."

Sep 13 2013

MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - A veteran Crown attorney has been appointed the new director of Ontario's police watchdog agency.

Tony Loparco takes over as the head of the Special Investigations Unit on Oct. 16.

He replaces Ian Scott, who after five years at the helm of the SIU is stepping down.

The independent agency conducts criminal investigations into serious injuries and deaths that arise during incidents where police are involved.

Loparco currently heads the Scarborough Crown Attorney's Office and has more than 23 years of experience in the justice system.

The Ministry of the Attorney General says Loparco has prosecuted many serious cases on behalf of the province, including high-profile murder charges and gang-related cases.

It also credits him with playing a key role in several initiatives aimed at reducing the number of youth in the criminal justice system.

Ontario Attorney General John Gerretsen thanked Scott for his service in what he called "one of the toughest public sector posts there is."

"Today, the SIU is a model of civilian oversight of police, both here in Canada and around the world," Gerretsen said Friday, adding he's looking forward to working with Loparco to build on that success.

Scott is calling for sweeping reforms to the police watchdog to free it from government interference.

In a paper to be published in the Criminal Law Quarterly, he recommends that the agency be made an independent office of the legislature. Currently, the SIU is a branch of the Ministry of the Attorney-General, which has allowed officials to muzzle its director when he criticizes police.

"It is clear from my experience that this working relationship can be the subject of interference and can undermine the independence necessary to [assure] the public that the Unit effectively operates at an arm's length from government," Scott, whose five-year term as director ends next month, writes in the article.

(CP, Globe and Mail)

Sep 13 2013

VANCOUVER - A Vancouver police officer has been charged with assault in connection to an arrest where a man was punched.

West Vancouver Police conducted the investigation involving Cst. Ismail Bhabha after a video of the incident surfaced on the Internet.

The footage shows Bhabha punching a cyclist he was attempting to handcuff during an arrest in March.

The officers involved said they were trying to arrest a man because he rode his bicycle through a red light and wasn't wearing a helmet.

The Office of the Police Complaints Commission ordered the West Vancouver police to investigate the allegations.

The Crown approved the recommendation of the single charge of assault this week and the charge was sworn against Bhabha in Vancouver provincial court on Friday.

Sep 13 2013

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Senate confirmation hearings for President Barack Obama's pick to head the powerful U.S. Customs and Border Protection will soon be held with blessings for the choice from Canadian and American officials who praise the nominee's familiarity with America's northern border.

Since 2009, Gil Kerlikowske, 63, a one-time police chief in Buffalo and Seattle, has been serving as the White House's so-called drug czar - the director of its Office of National Drug Control Policy.

He's argued in favour of the need to provide treatment to those facing drug charges rather than incarcerate them. Perhaps most famously, he signalled that the Obama administration would no longer use the term "war on drugs," calling it counter-productive.

If he successfully ascends to the helm of Customs and Border Protection - a critical federal agency in an era of supposed Canada-U.S. harmony under the bilateral Beyond the Border initiatives - he'll bring an intimate knowledge of the issues at play at the boundary.

Sep 13 2013

VANCOUVER - Cops with guns won't solve the growing trouble with the mentally ill in Vancouver, said the city's police Chief Jim Chu as he and the mayor implored the provincial government for more help.

Chu and Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson called a news conference Friday to lay out what they said is a crisis situation on city streets with those who are severely mentally ill.

"The answer for someone suffering a mental-health crisis is not a cop with a gun. When a crime is committed, often our only option is to arrest, prosecute and jail that offender," said Chu.

"We need a shift from dealing with the crisis to preventing the crisis from occurring in the first place."

St. Paul's Hospital in Vancouver has seen during the past three years a 43 per cent increase in people with severe mental-health trouble or addiction, and about 21 per cent of the Vancouver police's call volume involves someone who is mentally ill, Chu said.

Robertson, who is also the police board chairman, said police have identified 96 serious incidents, ranging from suicides to violent attacks, involving those with mental illness.

"Let's be clear, these are entirely preventable incidents. They involve people who have serious mental illnesses who are not getting the health care, support and treatment that they need."

Earlier this year, 33-year-old Jerome Bonneric was charged with 12 counts of assault

after stabbing numerous people in a Vancouver condominium building.

His lawyer told the media outside the court after the man was remanded for a psychiatric assessment that his client had mental health issues.

In December, a man was arrested in nothing but his underwear for what appeared to be random attacks on three elderly women in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.

Robertson said he has lobbied the provincial government on the issue but had yet to hear back.

Health Minister Terry Lake was unavailable for comment on the issue.

Chu said a few issues exacerbate the problem, including those who self-medicate with legal drugs.

"We do have a lot of people from elsewhere in Canada who realize it's a warm climate and we do have the opportunities in Vancouver for services and that attracts people from elsewhere, as well," he added.

The mayor and chief have suggested a five-point plan to address the situation, including adding 300 long-term, mental-health treatment beds and more BC Housing facilities staff to help the mentally ill.

They are also calling for an enhanced crisis centre to ensure consistent and expert care and the creation of an outreach team, staffed by police and the members of the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, for mentally ill people.

The mayor said police can't continue to be the first point of contact for the mentally ill.

"Mental health is the responsibility of the B.C. government, and there have been many calls around the closure of Riverview and the lack of new facilities since that time to ensure that there is an adequate supply of treatment beds," Robertson said.

Riverview, once a home for mentally ill in Port Coquitlam, B.C., was first opened in 1913 but began taking fewer patients in the 1990s.

The facility was closed last year, and the last patients were moved to other facilities around the Lower Mainland.

Sep 13 2013

WATERLOO REGION – The Waterloo police services board has appointed Supt. Kevin Chalk to serve as the new deputy chief of police.



Chalk will take over officially on Oct. 3, replacing Brent Thomlison, who retired in June.

In his 31 years with the local force, the deputy chief designate said he's seen many changes, not the least of which has been evolving technology that has helped with policing, but also handed it new issues to deal with.

"But you're always dealing with people," he said, describing the one constant.

Chalk said one of the biggest changes has been a shift in focus to deal with roots of community issues, instead of just crimes that are symptomatic.

He said he plans to continue using that approach in his new role, in partnership with the community.

Chalk joined the Waterloo Regional Police Service in 1982 as a front line patrol officer. He served on the emergency response unit and drug branch before being promoted to sgt. in 1994 and was assigned supervisory duties in divisional patrol, where he was instrumental in developing the Citizens on Patrol program.

Chalk was promoted to staff sgt. in 1997, serving as media officer and the officer in charge of community resources. He became the chief's executive officer in 1998 and the following year was promoted to inspector in charge of the investigative services division, where he oversaw investigations in homicide, drugs, fraud, traffic and emergency response.

Promoted to superintendent in 2001, he oversaw the implementation of Community Mobilization - a guiding principle to reduce crime and build safe communities in an approach that partners police with the community.

Between 2002 and 2013, Chalk commanded community and corporate services and later Central and North Divisions. He is a past president and the current vice-president of the Waterloo Regional Police Senior Officers' Association.

(Cambridge Times)



Sep 14 2013

MADRID, Spain - Four members of the Hells Angels have been arrested in northwest Spain for allegedly smuggling 500 kilograms (1,100 pounds) of cocaine into the county with the aim of distributing it, the Interior Ministry said in a statement Saturday.

The statement said the men, all Canadians, were arrested near the coastal city of Pontevedra, where one had arrived by yacht, allegedly having sailed from Colombia with the drugs.

One of the three men who met the yacht

was "a known member" of the San Diego chapter of the Hells Angels and another had been under investigation for suspected drug smuggling by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the statement said.

The smuggling operation had been under police surveillance since July 30 and culminated when officers raided two vans loaded with cocaine and arrested the Canadians.

In a separate operation, police arrested two other persons whose nationality was not disclosed but who were "responsible for the delivery of the drug" to Spain, the statement said.

The arrests were the result of collaboration between Spanish police and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency, Canada's mounted police, EUROPOL and France's tax authority, the statement said.

The statement did not say when the arrests took place.



Sep 15 2013

CHETWYND, B.C. - A driver known to the British Columbia RCMP is facing several Criminal Code charges after allegedly fleeing from the police during a traffic stop, and then ramming his car into a police vehicle.

Mounties say they saw a grey car speeding down Highway 29 near the district of Chetwynd, in northeastern B.C., on Saturday evening.

Police say they saw the male driver toss a beer can out of the window, and they were detaining him for a drunk driving investigation when the man fled on foot.

Police say the man then jumped back into his car, and an officer tried to stop him, but the officer ended up being dragged alongside the car because the suspect held on to the officer's arm for some distance.

The officer, who sustained minor injuries, managed to break free and other police members then pursued the fleeing car.

Mounties say the suspect was finally captured and arrested after allegedly ramming head-on into a police vehicle during the pursuit.



Sep 16 2013

VANCOUVER - Prime Minister Stephen Harper says his government will require notification from convicted sex offenders who plan to travel outside Canada.

Harper says the proposed legislation to be

*4-cylinder automatic engine also available. A. Fuel consumption figure shown only for use for vehicle comparison purposes. Actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving conditions, crew, cargo and vehicle load. "Pick-up of 'Good'" are the highest rating awarded for performance in the safety tests (occupant protection, front, side, rollover and rear) conducted by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) www.iihs.org. To earn a 2013 Top Safety Pick+, a vehicle must receive a "Good" rating in at least four of the five tests and a "Good" or "Acceptable" rating in the fifth test. Technical specifications are subject to change without any prior notice. Vehicles shown for illustrative purposes only.



DISCRETION: "10-4"

Equipped with a 2.5L 173 hp BOXER engine, 6-speed* manual transmission or available 5 Speed Lineartronic® Continuously Variable Transmission for greater performance and a more direct connection between driver and vehicle, 4-wheel 4-channel 4-sensor anti-lock brake system (ABS), voice-activated Bluetooth® and Subaru's legendary symmetrical full-time AWD system, it's not easy for the 2014 Legacy to remain inconspicuous. And yet the Legacy manages to do just that.



2014 SUBARU LEGACY



LEGACY
 Fuel economy (L/100 km)¹
 Lineartronic® CVT | City 8.4 / Hwy 4.9
 6MT | City 9.8 / Hwy 7.0
Recommended minimum octane: 87
 Estimated Data



subaru-pzev.ca



To consult our Fleet ordering guide or for more information, please visit www.fleet.subaru.ca or call 1-877-293-7272 for the National Fleet Sales department.

2014 LEGACY



Confidence in Motion

introduced this fall will also put better information sharing in place between police and border officials to keep track of sex offenders.

Harper promised a national database accessible to the public of high-risk child sex offenders who have been the subject of public notifications.

The announcement is part of the government's proposed measures to get tough on crime, these aimed at fighting child sexual exploitation in Canada and abroad.

Harper made the announcement in Vancouver as Ottawa prepares for a federal review panel report on the Northern Gateway pipeline.

The panel will report to the federal minister by the end of the year.

Sep 16 2013

OTTAWA - The federal public safety minister has ordered a security review following a murderer's escape from a Quebec prison.

Steven Blaney is directing the Correctional Service to review security classification for violent and dangerous inmates to ensure they're appropriately imprisoned.

Rene Charlebois, 48, was discovered missing Saturday night during a head count by staff at a minimum-security prison in Laval, Que.

Charlebois was convicted on murder charges during the 2003 megatrial against the Hells Angels biker gang.

Charlebois is five feet, eight inches tall with brown eyes and brown hair and has his first name tattooed on his left arm.

Sep 16 2013

WINNIPEG - Manitoba has banned booby traps of the type set up to protect illegal activity such as marijuana grow operations.

A new rule took effect under the Fortified Buildings Act targeting traps intended to cause serious injury or death which are triggered by the presence or movement of a person.

The new rule makes it an offence to set such a trap on a property or to allow a trap to remain there.

The new regulations also give the province the power to close buildings if owners do not remove traps or fortifications located on their property.

The new regulations also define other types of fortifications which are prohibited under the act, such as razor or barbed wire, certain door and window barriers, and dangerous obstacles.

Landowners are responsible for the cost of removing illegal building fortifications under existing legislation and will also have to pay to remove any illegal traps.

(Winnipeg Free Press)

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2013

Sep 17 2013

The Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service has a new chief of police.



Terry Armstrong took over command of the largest First Nation police service in Canada on Monday at a change of command ceremony at NAPS headquarters in Thunder Bay.

He replaces Robert Herman who has been at the helm of NAPS on an interim basis since Jan. 23.

Armstrong's appointment was announced last month by the police services board, and he has been designate chief of police since Sept. 3.

Armstrong spent most of his policing career with the Ontario Provincial Police in Northwestern Ontario, and served as a First Nation constable in Pikangikum for three years prior to becoming an OPP officer. He served on the Northwest Patrol and served secondments to First Nation policing, including acting chief of the Lac Seul Police Service. After retiring from the OPP in 2010, Armstrong served as deputy chief of operations for the Treaty Three Police Service, a position he held until Aug. 31.

"Terry has extensive experience in a wide variety of operational and administrative areas, including several years as a command officer, and has an in-depth knowledge of the issues and challenges facing First Nations policing in Northern and remote communities," NAPS board chairman Frank McKay said when the appointment was first announced.

"I am confident that his expertise, leadership and dedication to First Nations policing will be a tremendous asset to NAPS and the communities we serve."

NAPS employs more than 130 uniform officers and 30 civilians in 35 communities across Northern Ontario.

(Chronicle Journal)

Sep 17 2013

OTTAWA - A newly declassified RCMP report says criminals are using the Canadian postal system to transport illicit goods including guns, grenades,

dangerous chemicals and, in one case, even a rocket launcher.

The criminal intelligence report says counterfeit items - from fake Olympic hockey sweaters to bogus passports - as well as drugs such as cocaine and heroin are also coming into the country through Canada Post.

The report calls for greater collaboration between police and postal officials to detect the contraband, noting legislation limits the ability of police to search and seize mail.

The Canadian Press obtained a copy of the document under the Access to Information Act, though several sensitive passages were deleted.

The November 2012 report draws on information from more than a dozen police forces and Canada's border agency.

It says handguns, ammunition, brass knuckles, body armour, hand grenades, stun guns and signal jamming devices are being shipped to Canada from abroad.

Sep 17 2013

REGINA - Saskatchewan's children's advocate says kids in care are being lost in the system when they move between provinces.

Bob Pringle also says there isn't enough followup when children in care are placed with persons of sufficient interest, such as relatives.

The comments follow a report into the case of a British Columbia toddler who was nearly starved to death after being placed in the custody of her grandfather in Saskatchewan.

She was kept on a cement floor in a windowless room and also had a broken collarbone but didn't see a doctor.

The report by British Columbia's children's representative says three child welfare agencies failed to protect the girl.

Pringle says there were many red flags, including the fact that social workers never saw the child during visits.

The grandfather and his wife were sentenced to three years in prison in 2012 for failing to provide the necessities of life for the child, who is currently living in foster care in Saskatchewan.

Sep 17 2013

HAMILTON - After a year fraught with disagreements over money and management, Hamilton police are asking city hall for nearly \$1 million to train more officers to use Tasers.

Hamilton Police Service wants to spend \$992,462 to start and \$635,433 each year after to train 579 more officers to use the stun guns.

The police services board voted Monday to approach city council with the idea. It will also canvass the community.

The money would also purchase 150 more Taser guns and

hire two full-time trainers responsible for providing officers with mandatory annual training, Police Chief Glenn De Caire told the police services board Monday.

"It is a less lethal user of force option," he said of Tasers. "It gives us another tool."

Hamilton police have carried Tasers since 2004. Currently, 236 officers use them. Tasers were involved in 49 incidents in 2012, up from 22 incidents the year before.

The expansion would see another 579 officers trained to use Tasers. It would require a 12-hour training course. Then they require four hours of training each year after, said Staff Sgt. Will Mason. Part of the cost includes \$226,449 to hire two full-time training officers in permanent positions.

If approved, the training would be completed by June 2014.

Hamilton police currently have 66 Tasers. Supervisors collect them at the end of shifts and redeploy them to the next officers on duty.

(CBC News)

Sep 17 2013

SAULT STE. MARIE - The Sault Ste. Marie Police Service has received \$82,319 to create a plan to fight downtown crime.

The money is coming from Ontario's Proceeds of Front-Line Policing Grant Program.

A strategic action plan to address crime downtown will be developed.

"I am very pleased that the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services has supported the grant application of the Sault Ste. Marie Police Service," says Chief Robert Davies.

**WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2013**

Sep 18 2013

WASHINGTON - A month before he went on the shooting rampage that killed 12 people, Washington Navy Yard gunman Aaron Alexis complained to police in Rhode Island that people were talking to him through the walls and ceilings of his hotel rooms and sending microwave vibrations into his body to deprive him of sleep.

The account, contained in an Aug. 7 report from Newport, Rhode Island, police, adds to the picture that has emerged of an agitated and erratic figure whose behaviour and mental state had repeatedly come to authorities' attention but didn't seem to affect his security clearance.

Alexis also apparently managed to exploit seams in the nation's patchwork of complicated gun laws designed to keep weapons out of the hands of dangerous people. He was

able to buy a shotgun in Virginia with out-of-state identification, even though that would have prevented him from buying a handgun.

Alexis, a 34-year-old information technology employee at a defence-related computer company, used a valid pass Monday to get into the Navy Yard and then killed 12 people before he was slain by police in a shootout that lasted more than a half-hour.

A day after the assault, the motive was still a mystery. U.S. law enforcement officials told The Associated Press that investigators had found no manifesto or other writings suggesting a political or religious motivation.

Alexis, a former Navy reservist, had been undergoing mental health treatment from the Department of Veterans Affairs since August but was not stripped of his security clearance, according to the law enforcement officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the criminal investigation was still going on.

He had been suffering from a host of serious mental problems, including paranoia and a sleep disorder, and had been hearing voices in his head, the officials said.

The assault is raising more questions about the adequacy of the background checks done on contract employees who hold security clearances.

In the Newport, Rhode Island incident, Alexis told police he got into an argument with someone as he was getting on a flight from Virginia to Rhode Island, where he was working as a naval contractor, and he said the person sent three people to follow and harass him.

He said he heard voices talking to him through a wall while at one hotel, so he changed hotels twice, but the voices followed him, according to the report. He said he feared they might harm him.

He also "stated that the individuals are using 'some sort of microwave machine' to send vibrations through the ceiling, penetrating his body so he cannot fall asleep."

Later that day, Newport police alerted the Rhode Island naval station and sent a copy of the police report, Newport police Lt. William Fitzgerald said Tuesday.

The FBI said during Monday's attack Alexis was armed with a shotgun. Officials said he also took a handgun from a law officer.

In addition to those killed at the Navy Yard attack, eight people were hurt, including three who were shot and wounded, authorities said. Those three were a police officer and two female civilians.

They were all expected to survive.

(AP)

Sep 18 2013

REGINA - The Regina police service has re-launched its Facebook page six months after a shooting involving a dog led to an online backlash.

The force says it has made changes to the

administrative permissions and adjustments to its social media policy.

It says the most important change is a new social media management tool that will help moderate the site without having to maintain constant staffing.

The force has also changed its terms of use to say that uncivil behaviour and language will not be tolerated.

Hundreds of comments were posted on the service's Facebook page in March after a police officer shot and killed a dog while chasing an assault suspect.

Some of the comments threatened officers.

Sep 18 2013

MONTREAL - The Montreal police force is launching a new service on September 23rd, 2013 that will give citizens the ability to file police reports through their website.

"It's an option for the citizens, so they can report a theft or something that has been lost without going to a neighbourhood police station or calling 9-1-1," said Inspector Simonetta Barth with Montreal police.

She said citizens will be more inclined to let cops know about minor crimes, which would have otherwise gone unreported.

"If we have just one event that is reported because everyone else couldn't bother, we're not going to bother because it's not going to show up on our map," Barth said.

Police hope this will help them identify criminal patterns, which could lead to more arrests.

She said it's also about making the force more efficient.

"I know from experience working in a neighbourhood police station, that at certain times during the week, there are times you have 10, 15, even more people waiting to be serviced by one person," she said. "We had to pull [officers] off the road to come and help that desk officer."

"We are better using our resources where we know there is a problem," she said.

The system does not replace 9-1-1, however the force does have a team reading the incoming reports regularly.

"Let's say [someone] reported a theft in their car, and they don't have a serial number," Barth explained. "Police will be able to reply by email asking for further information. Once we get all the information and it's validated, it gets pushed through and treated like everything else."

The new platform, available through www.spvm.qc.ca, will be smart phone and tablet (iPad) friendly.

(CJAD)

Sep 18 2013

VANCOUVER - Vancouver police are calling for automatic federal prison time for chronic offenders who have

been convicted more than 30 times.

Eighty-seven per cent of repeat offenders in the city received sentences ranging from one day to six months in a provincial institution even after a 10th conviction, police Chief Jim Chu said on Wednesday.

Only four per cent of the offenders were given terms of more than two years, he said, citing findings in a new VPD study. Convicts sentenced to two years or more are sent to federal prisons.

"The situation has reached ludicrous proportions," Chu said. "I'm talking about the plague of career criminals who infect our city, commit hundreds of crimes literally every day.

"Despite the fact that many have more than 100 criminal convictions, the average length of their jail sentences is actually going down, not up."

In most Canadian cities, police classify a person as a chronic offender after he or she has committed five to 10 crimes in a calendar year, Vancouver police have said.

In Vancouver, police have raised the bar to 12 offences, leaving them with a current list of 371 of what they call "super chronic" offenders.

At the top of the Vancouver police list is a drug addict who has more than 80 convictions but has spent very little time in jail, Chu said.

B.C.'s chief provincial court judge said he has read the Vancouver police report but the fact is judges can only enforce the law as it stands.

"I can understand their wanting those things, but it's not currently the law of Canada," Hugh Stansfield told CBC News Wednesday.

Chu said he wants those laws changed and he's appealing to Parliament and higher courts to get tough on repeat offenders.

(CBC News)

Sep 18 2013

MONTREAL - A Quebec provincial police officer has been suspended with pay after being arrested by Montreal police for alleged intimidation and assault.

The officer was one of four people detained Wednesday for the alleged incidents in the Montreal-area community of Beaconsfield in 2012.

Beaconsfield issued a statement after being informed of the arrests and said the accused targeted city personnel.

Montreal police Lt. Ian Laffreniere confirmed the four people were released after they promised to appear in court at a later date.

Sep 18 2013

HIGH RIVER, Alta. - Residents of a flood-ravaged Alberta town will be compensated for having their doors and windows busted in during the crisis.

The town council in High River, Alta., says it will be in charge of a process to reimburse people for the damage caused by RCMP and first responders as they went door to door during the evacuation of the town in June.

The town issued a news release Wednesday saying the process will be carried out with the collaboration of provincial officials and the RCMP.

Many residents had complained of delays in getting compensation and expressed anger about the RCMP's seizure of weapons from homes during the flood.

The issue of whether the RCMP had the right to take the guns, most of which were later returned, has been a political football in Alberta.

Wildrose MLA Joe Anglin has called for a public inquiry into the matter, saying he can't understand why doors had to be kicked in if the army was flying over the community with infrared cameras.

Sep 18 2013

MONTREAL - A Quebec provincial police officer has been suspended following his reported arrest by Montreal police.

Surete du Quebec (SQ) spokesperson Sergeant Benoit Richard confirmed Wednesday that the constable had been suspended without pay.

Beaconsfield officials confirmed Wednesday afternoon that Montreal police had informed them of the arrest.

"The City of Beaconsfield was informed this morning by the SPVM of the arrest of those involved in the incidents with City staff and City Councillors," it noted in a prepared statement.

"To allow for the proper investigation of this matter, the City will continue to cooperate with law enforcement authorities and will not issue comments on the file."

The as-of-yet unconfirmed charges reportedly involve corruption and intimidation.

According to French Newspaper La Presse, the officer was arrested with three other men after an investigation conducted by Montreal police into a land deal in the city of Beaconsfield.

The property was apparently purchased by the suspended SQ officer in 2011 for \$500,000, and then sold in August for nearly \$1.4 million.

The officer was supposedly having some difficulties obtaining the necessary permits to build a luxurious home on the land.

The charges seem to revolve around a decisive city council meeting held in 2012, where councillors voted in favour of allowing a modification related to the property.

A few days before the meeting, Beaconsfield's director of urban planning, Denis Chabot, was assaulted.

He was attacked by two men with baseball

bats while at the Summerlea Golf Club in Vaudreuil-Dorion on October 5, 2012.

Investigators noted at the time that the incident was being treated as a possible case of intimidation.

(Global News)

Sep 18 2013

VANCOUVER - Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson on Tuesday dismissed a complaint by Downtown Eastside residents that they're being unfairly targeted by police for jaywalking, illegal vending and panhandling.



The board, of whom Robertson is the chairman, accepted the force's recommendation to dismiss the complaint that alleged 95 per cent of tickets for illegal street vendors and 75 per cent for jaywalking are issued in the Downtown Eastside.

The complaint, filed in the spring by the Pivot Legal Society and the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users, said police data obtained through an access to information request alleged police issue more tickets for the minor offences in Vancouver's poorest neighbourhood because officers want to randomly detain residents to check their criminal history.

Vancouver Police Chief Jim Chu said jaywalking tickets are issued for public safety in a 10-block area, where the number of pedestrian deaths are highest in the city. Police noted in the report the number of tickets has dropped since 2008 and now there's only about one a day, and the number of pedestrian deaths dropped 39 per cent over the same period.

The report also noted police stepped up patrols in the area because extra resources were needed to restore order. It said drug dealers use street vendors as a cover for dealing drugs.

But street-vendor Louise Lagimodiere, 70, told the board she's received two tickets for illegal vending at Hastings Street and Gore, a business she needs to supplement her income.

VANDU and Pivot said the next step is to file a complaint with the police complaints commission.

(The Province)

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 2013

Sep 19 2013

TORONTO - A panel that will oversee implementation of recommendations aimed at tackling deep-rooted issues facing First Nations in Ontario's jury system will have a majority of aboriginal members, the province announced Thursday.

The 11-member panel, co-chaired by Alvin Fiddler, deputy grand chief of the Nishnawbe Aski Nation and Irwin Glasberg, an assistant deputy attorney general, includes aboriginal leaders, current and former judges, lawyers and policy makers.

The committee was the first of 17 recommendations made by former Supreme Court of Canada justice Frank Iacobucci in February.

"A tragically disproportionate number of our First Nation and Metis members are being jailed while entire communities have been excluded from participation in the justice system," Fiddler said.

"I am hopeful that, with the Iacobucci report and the formation of the implementation committee, we can finally create fundamental change that will address this crisis."

The provincial government initially asked Iacobucci to look into the lack of First Nations representation on juries but uncovered a problem went well beyond that issue.

Sep 19 2013

OTTAWA - Cuba, Iran, Belarus and Russia used a United Nations body Thursday to criticize Canada's human-rights record, as the Canadian envoy rejected calls to develop a comprehensive national review to end violence against aboriginal women.

Canada was responding Thursday to the UN Human Rights Council, which is conducting its Universal Period Review of Canada's rights record, on a wide range of issues from poverty, immigration, prostitution and the criminal justice system.

Countries have their rights records reviewed every four years by the Geneva-based UN forum, but the Harper government has been skeptical in part because it allows countries with dubious rights records to criticize Canada.

Canada's ambassador to the UN in Geneva, Elissa Golberg, offered a brief rebuttal to Belarus, but did not engage directly with the other countries that criticized Canada.

"Canada is proud of its human-rights record, and our peaceful and diverse society," Golberg told the one-hour session.

While no society is entirely free of

discrimination, she noted, Canada has "a strong legal and policy framework for the promotion and protection of human rights, and an independent court system."

Recommendations from those countries were among the 40 of 162 that Canada chose to reject.

That also included a rejection of a series of resolutions calling on Canada to undertake sweeping national reviews of violence against aboriginal women.

Golberg said Canada takes the issue seriously and that provincial and local governments are better suited to getting results on those issues.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of Canada's Assembly of First Nations, said there is deep concern among aboriginals over the

government's refusal to conduct a national review of the problem.

"There is strong support for this action domestically among provincial and territorial leaders and the Canadian public and strong international support, not to mention a multitude of reports and investigations that urge Canada to act," Atleo said in a statement.

He said talk is not enough.

In a response to be formally tabled Thursday in Geneva, Canada says it is "strongly committed to taking action with aboriginal and non-aboriginal groups to prevent and stop violence against aboriginal women" through a series of federal and provincial initiatives.

"Please join me for a very special evening with entertainment and fabulous food in support of Victim Services Toronto."
— Chief William Blair

CHIEF'S GALA
In support of
victim services toronto

Chief of Police Gala

NOVEMBER 6, 2013

Liberty Grand Entertainment Complex

Liberty Grand Entertainment Complex | 25 British Columbia Drive (Exhibition Place) | The Governor's Room
Reception - 6:00 p.m. Dinner - 7:00 p.m.
Entertainment | Silent Auction
www.chiefsgala.com

GALA CO-HOSTS
Roger Petersen CityTV
Ken Shaw CTV News

TO ORDER TICKETS:
call: (416) 808-7933 fax: (416) 981-7191
email: chiefsgala@torontopolice.on.ca
online: www.chiefsgala.com

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE! CALL (416) 808-7933