

# BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

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BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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## RCMP says force not ill-equipped



Jun 18 2014

**The RCMP rebuffed criticism Wednesday that it has failed to properly equip and train its officers, two weeks after three of its members were fatally gunned down and two others injured in Moncton, N.B.**

In a lengthy statement, the force said the investigation into the June 4 shootings is in its early stages and investigators are still trying to determine what happened. The RCMP said it also cannot release sensitive information that might jeopardize court proceedings.

But it dismissed as “personal views”

and “speculation” that officers in New Brunswick did not have access to hard body armour or C8 patrol carbines, a type of assault rifle used by military personnel and many police forces.

“Hard body armour has been available in Codiac since 2011,” the one-page statement said, referencing the detachment that responded to the Moncton shootings.

“There have also been suggestions regarding the new C8 patrol carbines. While it is true that all officers do not have training on these yet, it is an ongoing process, and the



training and rollout of the C8s is continuing, and that includes in Codiac.”

The statement comes after retired and serving members say the force has been slow to equip officers with weapons, like the carbines, to properly defend themselves.

Rob Creasser of the Mounted Police Professional Association said many detachments still don't have the high-powered rifles or specialized armour that is better able to protect against rifle fire.

Creasser, a retired member of the RCMP who now works with the professional association representing Mounties, said when he heard about the shootings and subsequent manhunt in Moncton it took him back to the deaths of four RCMP officers near May-erthorpe, Alta., in 2005.

The officers in Alberta were guarding a marijuana grow-op when the owner opened fire on them with a rifle, leaving them to defend themselves with 9-mm handguns.

The shooting deaths led to recommendations seven years ago that police be equipped with proper protective vests and the C8 carbines, something Creasser says has been woefully slow to be acted upon by senior RCMP brass.

“The rollout of these recommendations has been an absolute debacle,” he said in an interview.

“Members have said they're dragging their feet on this and we're dying out here. So the fact remains that four members were killed in 2005, there were recommendations made to equip and train people with better body armour and new weaponry, and here we are seven years after those recommendations and very little has changed.”

Creasser said after looking at photos from the night of the Moncton shootings, it appeared RCMP officers were wearing soft protective vests and using 9-mm handguns against a gunman who allegedly was carrying two rifles.

Supt. Troy Lightfoot said he couldn't discuss any specifics in the Moncton case since it is still under investigation and before the courts.

But he said the force has distributed 1,330 patrol carbines to divisions across the country since 2012 and plans to provide another 219 by September. He said almost 5,000 sets of hard body armour have been dispersed, with one in every police vehicle.

“Within two years we've accomplished a considerable amount of work in terms of the distribution of arms,” he said.

“This is a work in progress forever because threats change. All we can do is adapt.”

He said not everyone has been trained on the carbines, but he didn't know how many remained to be trained. Lightfoot would not say whether the Moncton officers had been trained on the carbine.

A serving member of the RCMP who did not want his name used for fear of reprisal from the department said he was dismayed to see the gear being used in the Moncton incident, years after upgraded weaponry was recommended.

He conceded that it's not clear the hard body armour or carbines could have changed the outcome in Moncton.

“The thing that irks me the most is that yes, it may not have saved the three but to see members out there with equipment that rivals the 1950s type of technology and exposed to continued threat and harm is not acceptable,” he said.

“You've purchased 5,000 sets of hard armour, but when you've got 18,000 people on the frontline, I don't think that number is particularly astounding.”

## THURSDAY JUNE 12, 2014

Jun 12 2014

**MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - A York Regional Police officer is charged following a Special Investigations Unit probe of a pedestrian fatality earlier this year in east Toronto.**

Natasha Abogado, 18, died in Feb. 12 when she was struck while crossing St. Clair Avenue East by an unmarked vehicle driven by an on-duty police officer.

The SIU says Det. Const. Remo Romano is facing one charge of dangerous driving causing death and is to appear in court on July 24.

York police Chief Eric Jolliffe issued a statement Thursday calling the incident a “terrible tragedy” and extended condolences Abogado's family.

Jolliffe says Romano has been with the force since 2003 and will be assigned to administrative duties until the conclusion of the criminal proceedings.

## FRIDAY JUNE 13, 2014

Jun 13 2014

**OTTAWA - Police need a search warrant to get information from Internet service providers about their subscribers' identities when they are under investigation, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled Friday.**

The high court's landmark 8-0 ruling on online privacy issues came in the appeal of a Saskatchewan man facing child pornography charges.

The case has implications for the federal government's current cyber-bullying bill, setting the stage for another political clash between the Harper government and the Supreme Court.

The ruling deals with a 19-year-old Saskatchewan man who was charged with possessing and distributing child pornography after police used his Internet address to get further details from his online service provider, all without first obtaining a search warrant.

Lawyers for the man argued that violated his constitutional right to be protected from unlawful search and seizure.

But in this specific case, the court ruled that the evidence gathered should not be excluded as evidence from the man's trial, saying police acted in good faith.

“A warrantless search, such as the one that occurred in this case, is presumptively unreasonable,” Justice Thomas Cromwell wrote for the majority.

“The Crown bears the burden of rebutting this presumption.”

The ruling also addressed the broader constitutional issues raised Section 8 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which protects Canadians' privacy rights from unlawful search and seizure.

“In my view, in the totality of the circumstances of this case, there is a reasonable expectation of privacy in the subscriber information,” Cromwell wrote.

“The disclosure of this information will often amount to the identification of a user with intimate or sensitive activities being carried out online, usually on the understanding that these activities would be anonymous.”

Friday's ruling would appear to render unconstitutional a portion of the Tories' cyber-bullying bill, which critics say will encourage companies to give police more information about customers' online activities without a warrant.

In 2007, Matthew David Spencer was charged with downloading child pornography using peer-to-peer file sharing software. The police found the files after Spencer stored them in a shared public folder.

The police approached Shaw Communications without a search warrant, and asked for the information behind Spencer's Internet Protocol address.

Shaw obliged, giving police information that pointed to Spencer's sister.

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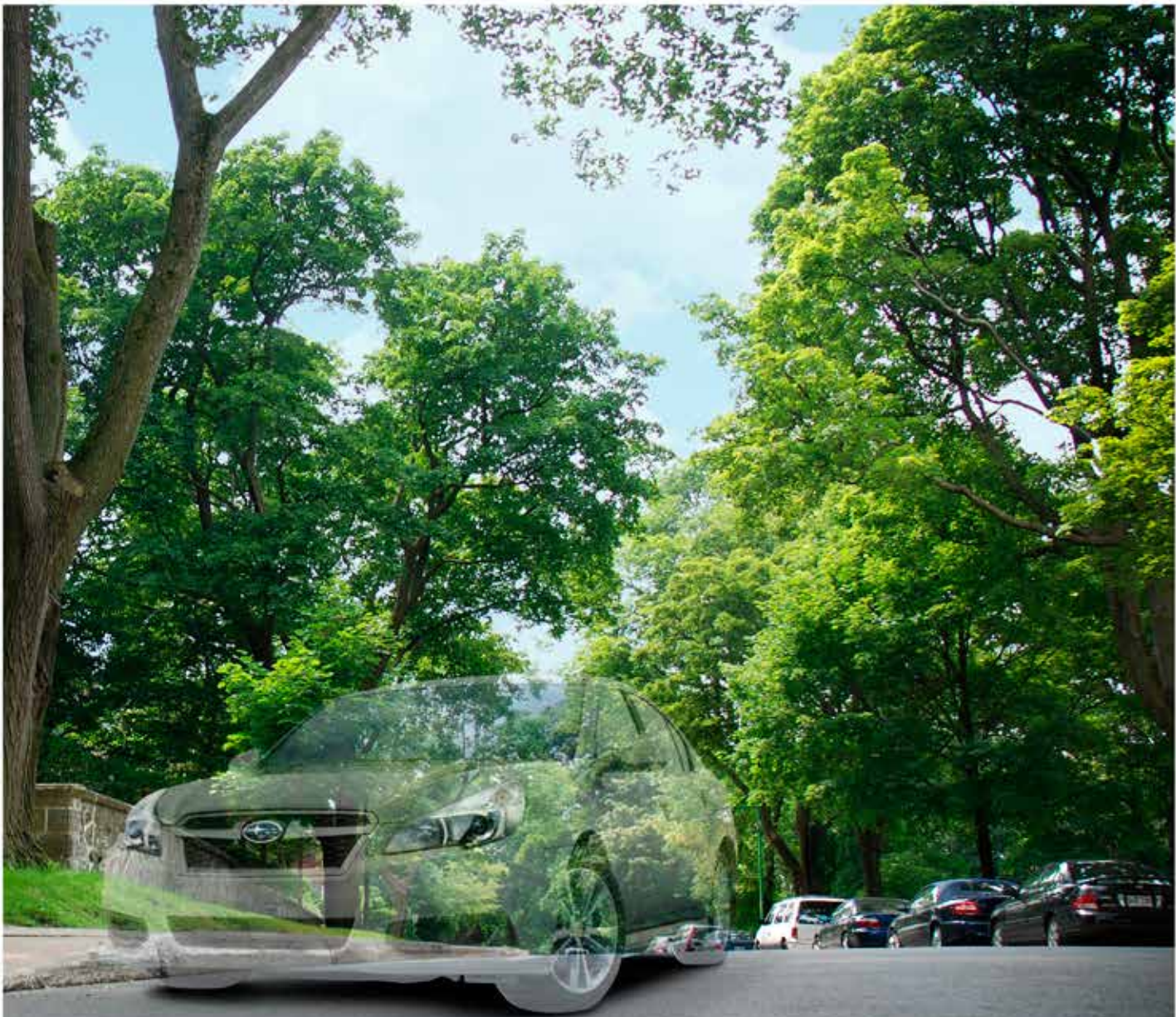
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Police then got a search warrant for the woman's residence and seized her brother's computer, leading to his arrest.

The Supreme Court ruled that the information gathered on Spencer without a warrant was nonetheless admissible, but should not "be understood to be encouraging the police to act without warrants in 'grey areas.'"

"In short, the police were acting by what they reasonably thought were lawful means to pursue an important law enforcement purpose. There is no challenge to any other aspect of the information to obtain the search warrant," the court ruled.

"The nature of the police conduct in this case would not tend to bring the administration of justice into disrepute."

Privacy commissioner Daniel Therrien and the Canadian Bar Association have recommended that the cyber-bullying bill be split in two, with one bill covering cyber-bullying and another focusing on lawful-access provisions.

Jun 13 2014

### **REGINA - Saskatchewan Party MLA Darryl Hickie says he will not do any more work for the Prince Albert Police Service and will complete his term in office.**

Hickie says he has finished the most intensive part of requalification as a police officer and will now commit to serving as the legislature member for Prince Albert Carlton.

Hickie said in April that he wouldn't run again in the next provincial election, expected in 2016, and that he planned to return to the force.

He has been under scrutiny since it came to light that he has already been training for his return to active police duty.

The Opposition NDP said some Prince Albert residents have indicated their discomfort with a politician conducting police investigations involving his own constituents.

Premier Brad Wall said he was OK with the temporary situation, but added that Hickie would have to quit his political post if he wanted to return to active duty before his term was up.

Jun 13 2014

### **TORONTO - Four men are facing numerous charges in connection with an armoured car robbery in a Toronto mall parking lot in January.**

Toronto police say the four men were among eleven people arrested during police raids Thursday across the Greater Toronto Area.

The four face a total of 52 charges including armed robbery, conspiracy to commit armed robbery and various weapons-related charges.

The other seven arrests were said to be related to a May 23 street robbery and to criminal and narcotics offences that are unrelated to the armoured car robbery at Fairview Mall on Jan. 20.

It's alleged that two men wearing balaclavas held up two security guards at gunpoint while they were making a delivery, and that shots were exchanged between one of the

guards and one of the armed men.

Police say a quantity of cash was taken before both of the armed robbers fled in a silver vehicle but no one was hurt in the shootout and the vehicle was located a short distance away.

Jun 13 2014

### **NORTH VANCOUVER, B.C. - The BC government has signed an agreement with First Nations groups pledging to end violence against aboriginal women and girls.**



Premier Christy Clark signed a memorandum of understanding with groups including the First Nations Summit, the BC Assembly of First Nations, the Union of BC Indian Chiefs and Metis Nation BC.

The agreement does not include any specific policies or programs, but the province is pledging to work with First Nations groups to set goals and then create policies to reach them.

The memorandum acknowledges the causes of violence against aboriginal females are rooted in a history of colonial policies that have traumatized generations of indigenous people.

Clark says the memorandum is a public acknowledgment that will ignite what she calls a spark that will push policymakers toward change.

The government has faced criticism that it is not doing enough to protect aboriginal women, particularly in light of the public inquiry into the Robert Pickton case, which resulted in an extensive report in December 2012.

Jun 13 2014

### **EDMONTON - An RCMP officer has pleaded guilty to assault with a weapon and careless use of a firearm in connection to the shooting of a driver near Boyle in September 2011.**

Const. Jason Clace, 35, pleaded guilty in Court of Queen's Bench on Friday, but the facts of the case were not heard by the court. Instead, a presentence evaluation was ordered and the case will return to court on Aug. 5 for sentencing.

Clace was charged in November 2012 after the independent Alberta Serious Incident Response Team investigated the shooting of Leonard Luke Huppie.

The investigation found Clace allegedly fired repeatedly while in pursuit of a suspect vehicle near Boyle, hitting Huppie, who was the driver, in the shoulder.

In a \$540,000 lawsuit against the officer, Huppie alleged that Clace fired his gun three times during the attempted vehicle stop, hitting Huppie in the back and shoulder and leaving him in "constant pain."

Immediately after the incident, the officer was placed on administrative duties. On Friday, his lawyer said Clace has now returned to full duties with the Mounties.

Huppie faced charges of failure to stop for a police officer, dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and possession of stolen property in connection to the incident. Those charges have all since been stayed.

Boyle is about 160 kilometres north of Edmonton.

(Edmonton Journal)

Jun 13 2014

### **Montreal police have opened an investigation following the death of a 69-year-old motorist who perished Friday following a high speed crash involving provincial police north of Shawinigan.**

The chase began on Highway 155 when SQ police attempted to apprehend the motorist, who was wanted on an arrest warrant.

The fleeing motorist swerved into a truck to avoid a line of nails that had been laid down to stop his progress. The motorist was transported to hospital where he died of his injuries.

Saint Roch de Mekinac is a town of under 500 that sits about 200 km northeast of Montreal.

(CTV Montreal)



Jun 14 2014

### **UK police have spent more than £50,000 on cardboard cut-outs of themselves - despite most forces admitting they do not know if they stop crime.**



The two-dimensional crime fighters are supposed to deter shoplifters and petrol thieves who think they are real PCs from a distance.

But some have become victims of crime themselves after being stolen by pranksters or vandalised.

Now MailOnline can reveal forces have bought more than 750 of the replicas - at the same time as axing more than 10,000 frontline officers.

Obtained under the Freedom of Information Act, the figures show almost half of Britain's police forces have invested in the cut-outs since 2008, when they first made headlines.

A total of 21 forces said £53,940 had been spent on 782 cardboard cut-outs.

Most were used for crime prevention along with a small number used as promotional materials.

(Mail Online)

Jun 14 2014

### **ABBOTSFORD, B.C. - A 20-year member of the Abbotsford Police Department has been charged with fraud and obstructing justice.**

Const. Rob Thandi is accused of using his extended health benefits fraudulently and of attempting to interfere with investigations into the matter.

Thandi was suspended with pay on May 23.

Officers have initiated both criminal and Police Act investigations.

The Office of the Police Complaint Commissioner was notified on April 25.

The Abbotsford Police Board will determine if the officer will have his pay discontinued.

No word on when Thandi is due in court to face the allegation against him.

**SUNDAY**  
**JUNE 15, 2014**

Jun 15 2014

### **TORONTO - Ontario's Special Investigations Unit has been called in following a fatal crash involving a motorcycle and a York Regional Police cruiser.**

Police say the head-on collision happened shortly after 11 o'clock Saturday night on the Queensville Side Road between Woodbine and Leslie.

The driver of the motorcycle was killed.

No other details have been released.

The SIU says it has assigned two forensic investigators and a collision reconstructionist to look into the crash.

Jun 15 2014

### **MONCTON, N.B. - Thousands of people running for three fallen Mounties put their race on hold to shake the hands of officers as a makeshift memorial in front of an RCMP detachment was dismantled, a police spokesman said Sunday.**

Sgt. Alain LeBlanc said the memorial race was held to honour the three officers gunned down in Moncton on June 4. He said as people ran past the Codiac detachment, every runner stopped to shake the hands of Mounties dressed in their red serge, who were dismantling the memorial.

"What happened was quite amazing. It was very unique," said LeBlanc, who is based in Nova Scotia but came to New Brunswick over the weekend to help out. "I think the members needed this. It was very impromptu, unexpected."

LeBlanc described it as a final salute and said the roughly 40 officers were moved by the outpouring of appreciation from the runners, many of whom were dressed in red.

"I think it was the final chapter for them to thank our members," said LeBlanc. "The support from the public was exception. It was very moving, very touching."

Run organizer Armand Doucet said he used to run with Const. Douglas Larche and wanted to do something to help the families of the officers.

"When we found out (Larche) had passed away, we decided we were going to honour him," said Doucet of the walk and run dubbed 3KM For 3 Fathers, which also raised money for the families.

LeBlanc said the memorial on the steps of the detachment - which included flowers, gifts and notes - took about an hour to take down and dozens of people watched.

LeBlanc said some of the items will go to the families of Larche, and fellow constables Fabrice Gevaudan and Dave Ross.

In the days following the shootings and manhunt, the detachment in Moncton became a place for the public to mourn the Mounties and offer their condolences.

Moncton Mayor George LeBlanc said on the city's Facebook page that a permanent memorial will be erected at some point. (CKHJ, The Canadian Press)

Jun 15 2014

### **CALGARY - As Islamic religious leaders in Calgary revealed they've had to dissuade some young Muslims from joining radical militants in the Middle East, the city's police chief warns conflict in the region will spur an increase in local extremism.**



Muslim Council of Calgary chairman Mohammed Sabbah said imams at several of the group's centres have fielded questions

from young men about joining rebel forces, many linked to terrorist group al-Qaeda, fighting the Syrian government.

"To my understanding it did happen and imams did act right on the spot," said Sabbah.

"Usually the question is ... 'What about if I go and fight in Syria? What do you think?' They talk with the individual and explain (to) him this is not the right thing to do."

Such incidents were not reported to authorities, Sabbah said, as an inquiry did not demonstrate radical intent.

"I could ask the question, it doesn't mean I have the intention to go there. Sometimes people are just curious when they ask this question. Some people just want to know the answer from the religious point of view."

The council worked with the Calgary Police and the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) to identify and monitor any local extremists, Sabbah said.

"(CSIS) talk to us from time to time. Sometimes there's some concern and they want us to be wary (if) something might happen."

Calgary has been shaken by the violent deaths of two former residents in the Middle East. Damian Clairmont, 22, was killed in Syria, likely in December or January, while reportedly fighting alongside a group of al-Qaeda-affiliated rebels in the country's civil war. This month it emerged Pakistani-born Salman Ashrafi, who grew up in Calgary, was part of a suicide bomb attack in Iraq in November 2013 which killed 46 people.

Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson said fresh violence abroad meant Islamic extremism in Calgary and Canada would become a bigger problem.

"This is an issue that's not going away and in the near future will continue to grow. You look at what's happening in the Middle East right now, the latest events in Iraq, and (militant Islamic group Boko Haram) in Nigeria. That's going to have an impact in Canada without a doubt."

Hanson said Calgary police were working with a Muslim group in the city to identify possible extremists by encouraging members of the Islamic community to report concerns.

Carleton University professor and member of the Canadian Network for Research on Terrorism, Security and Society Jez Littlewood said the Syrian conflict had been a

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“magnet” for western Islamic radicals.

“What’s interesting in the Syrian case is the narrative is it’s going to defend the Muslims against (Syrian president Bashar al Assad’s) regime and it’s in the defence of women and children. An important part of that narrative, which appears to be galvanizing western foreign fighters, is that western democracies have not intervened.”

Potential militants were often radicalized in groups, rather than individually, he said.

“Certainly in 2010 the propaganda call ... to individuals from western democracies was ‘bring a friend.’ You’re going to a country where the living is hard, you probably don’t speak the language, you certainly won’t be used to what’s expected of you, so having somebody you know there and you can reinforce and support each other, (it) was considered to be more likely that people would stay.”

Clairmont, Ashrafi and several other radicals have been revealed to have been living in the same Calgary apartment building and praying at the mosque before heading to the Middle East. The Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) estimates about 30 Canadian nationals are fighting in Syria, with about 100 others connected to radical causes in other Muslim countries.

Apprehending radicals before they left Canada was tricky, Littlewood said.

“We’re trying to pre-empt an act of violence. What’s the scale of evidence where this person actively intended to and was planning to conduct this act of violence? You need some solid evidence for that. It makes the task more difficult for the authorities in some cases.”

(Calgary Herald)

Jun 15 2014

**A former RCMP officer has co-invented a new device that could be used to detect roadside marijuana use.**



Kal Malhi, worked in marijuana enforcement for four of his 10 years with the RCMP. He said the fact that the drug is becoming more mainstream contributes to the fact that fewer people are concerned about the repercussions.

“People are becoming very afraid to drink and drive nowadays because they feel that they will get caught and charged, but they’re not afraid to drug and drive because they don’t feel that law enforcement will do anything about it,” Malhi said.

Along with Dr. Raj Attariwala, a Vancouver radiologist who has a background in biomedical engineering, Malhi has come up with a plan for the Cannabix Breathalyzer.

Currently police rely on sobriety tests to catch those who drug and drive. Blood tests and often inaccurate mouth swabs are

required for criminal prosecution. Few drivers suspected of smoking marijuana are faced with a penalty tougher than a 24-hour roadside suspension.

The Cannabix Breathalyzer, which is pending patent, will be able to tell if a person has ingested marijuana in the last two hours.

“As engineers we’re always trying to make the world a little bit better,” Attariwala said. “So when we look and see that there’s something there’s a need for ... that’s what gets us up in the morning.”

Attariwala said he often sees the horrific results of impaired driving in his work.

“In the emergency [room] you see what’s going on,” he said. “Particularly with the impaired driving, you see the biggest wrecks that come through the hospital.”

Malhi said he would like to have the device in front of the Minister of Justice and the National Highway Traffic Safety Authority within 18 months and even have the product used in workplaces that use drug testing.

Until then, it will undergo further engineering, scientific reviews and field trials as investor funding is raised for the product.

(CTV Vancouver)

Jun 15 2014

**SURREY - Surrey Mounties have got their hands on a new \$350,000 fingerprint detector far more sensitive than traditional techniques — it can even find prints on clothing and fabric — that holds the potential to solve cold cases.**

According to a report from Surrey police Chief Supt. Bill Fordy, the new technology can also detect prints on “exhibits that have been submerged in water, even if they have been submerged for many years.”

It’s called vacuum metal deposition and works by using tiny metal filings to stick to residue found on fingerprints.

The process, according to the RCMP, is quick — just 15 minutes, typically — and can be photographed immediately.

“This technology is far more sensitive than traditional methods of fingerprint development and as a result has been extremely successful in recovering fingerprints in a number of cold cases where traditional development techniques have failed,” Fordy said in his report.

The equipment needs a dedicated room for housing and it’s being proposed by Fordy to be placed at the main Surrey detachment. He used one example where a 17-year-old Alberta homicide was recently solved using an older model of the new system.

“This new fingerprint detection technology will assist RCMP and other law enforcement agencies from across the country with identifying suspects in criminal investigations,” Fordy said.

(24 Hours Vancouver)

Jun 15 2014

**Members of the Calgary Police Service and Edmonton Police Service have joined forces to help children in Central America.**

The officers are in Costa Rica assisting the Samaritan’s Purse’s Operation Christmas Child with the distribution of shoeboxes of donated stationery supplies, toiletries and small toys, to young people.

The members of the group consider themselves to be on a ‘working holiday’. The crew raised the funds for the trip and their visit was scheduled for a time when they are on vacation from the force.

In addition to their time working with Operation Christmas Child, the officers are helping local law enforcement agencies modernize ramshackle police stations.

“We saw that on Monday when we helped to make some improvements to a local police station with beds and concrete and painting,” said CPS Cst. Gary Woods. “The place really was run down and this is where police officers were working from.”

Officers in Costa Rica face overwhelming challenges with the rampant drug trade and child exploitation.

“They are fighting that battle as well, on a much larger scale than we are in Canada, with much less resources,” said Woods.

Cst. Woods says the Canadians officers have been humbled by their experiences in Costa Rica and the group plans to continue with the project in 2015.

(CTV Calgary)

Jun 15 2014

**MONCTON - A Moncton nurse was able to return a favour 52 years later to a former police officer from Edmonton in a twist of fate.**

Gordon Cameron helped deliver Terri Ward in 1962 and last week, Ward was able to be with Cameron at a time of need.

Cameron, 81, ran into medical trouble while attending the funeral for the three RCMP officers in Moncton, N.B. last week.

When he was wheeled into the hospital, Ward — now a nurse in Moncton — was there to greet the man who helped bring her into the world 52 years earlier.

“It was neat how this went full circle, like it was meant to be,” said Ward.

“He met me at the hospital and helped me, because apparently he helped deliver me... and I was able to be here for him when his family was so far away. It was kind of like karma.”

Cameron remembers the day he met Ward. It’s one of his fondest memories from his long career as an Edmonton police officer.

It was his first time on patrol car duty and he ended up chasing down a speeding car that was flying in the direction of the hospital. When the vehicle finally screeched to a halt, a man leaped out saying his wife was in the back seat having a baby.

While the man ran to the hospital to get help, Cameron stayed with the woman.

“I opened up the back door and I heard this lady, laying on her back and saying, ‘don’t just stand there, hand me my baby,’” recalls Cameron.

Eventually, the woman and her baby were brought into the hospital and Cameron returned to work. He spent the next five

decades wondering about that baby.

"The years went by and I often wondered how the baby was," Cameron said. He admits he wasn't sure whether it was a boy or girl.

"I never really knew and I wanted to know where it was, what it was, who it was."

The mystery was solved two years ago, but the pair had never met in person — until last week.

Cameron travelled to Moncton, N.B. to attend the funeral of the three RCMP officers shot by a lone gunman on June 4.

While he was there to honour his fallen comrades, he hoped to finally meet Ward.

"It was an opportunity to put two and two together," said Cameron.

The long march and frequent standing during the funeral proved to be too much for the 81-year-old and he had to be rushed to hospital.

Ward met Cameron at the hospital and stuck around his bedside while he recovered.

"First thing she got to me said, 'don't worry. I'll be checking on you making sure everything is okay,'" said Cameron.

"I was able to be with him as he was with me 52 years ago," said Ward. "It gave us extra time to really get to know each other, it was quite nice."

Cameron has since recovered and returned home to Edmonton.

"It's full circle," said Cameron. "To think, 52 years later, here we are now. From that little incident [the decision I made] to chase the car I caught speeding and never give them a ticket. There's no doubt about that, we're family."

(CBC News)

**MONDAY**  
**JUNE 16, 2014**

Jun 16 2014

**KAMLOOPS, B.C. - The Independent Investigations Office has been called to Kamloops, B.C., after a man was seriously hurt when he jumped from a parkade at Royal Inland Hospital while police were dealing with him.**

RCMP Cpl. Cheryl Bush says security staff at the hospital called officers just after 7 p.m. on Sunday because there was concern the man intended to jump from the building.

Members had arrived and were trying to coax the man to safety when he jumped.

Bush says the man is now being treated at the hospital.

(CFJC)

Jun 16 2014

**MISSISSAUGA, Ont. - Ontario's police watchdog says it has found no grounds to charge a Peel regional police officer in the death of a 61-year-old man in a collision at a Brampton intersection.**

The Special Investigations Unit says the man died after his vehicle was hit by a pickup truck that was being pursued by police on Sept. 16.

But SIU director Tony Loparco says there's no evidence the officer contributed to

the way the pickup truck was being driven, and the officer is not responsible for the crash that resulted in the "tragic death of an uninvolved driver."

The incident began when an officer in an unmarked cruiser at the Bramalea City Centre noticed a Ford F150 pickup truck and began following it, suspecting the driver might be impaired.

The first officer lost sight of the truck but a second officer in a marked cruiser saw the truck speeding and turned around to follow it and initiate a traffic stop.

The SIU says that officer ended his brief pursuit before the truck entered an intersection and collided with five other vehicles - including one driven by the 61-year-old man, who died of his injuries in hospital.

Jun 16 2014

**LONDON, Ont. - The mayor of London, Ont., who was convicted last week on three fraud-related charges from his time as a federal Liberal cabinet minister, is stepping down.**

Joe Fontana's city hall office released a statement today saying he is resigning as the mayor of London.

Fontana says he is "taking this step out of respect for the office of the mayor, the people of London and our judicial system."

He will hold a press conference on Thursday.

Fontana was convicted Friday of fraud, forgery and breach of trust after a judge found he forged an expenses document submitted to the House of Commons in 2005 that resulted in a \$1,700 government fraud.

Sentencing arguments are scheduled for July 15.

(AM980)

Jun 16 2014

**Three police officers were hurt in an overnight low-speed chase from Laval to Montreal.**

The incident began around 1 a.m. Monday in Laval when someone called 9-1-1 to report a woman driving erratically.

Police tracked her down but the woman refused to stop, going through stop signs and red lights.

Laval police called the Sureté du Quebec and Montreal police for help and as those officers joined the low-speed pursuit, two squad cars from Laval collided.

Three officers suffered minor aches and bruises but did not require hospitalization.

The chase finally ended when a tire exploded and the driver lost control and hit a fire hydrant.

Police arrested a 49-year-old woman and are recommending charges of drunk driving, refusing to stop for police, and car theft.

Police say the suspect's license had already been suspended and that she took the car without the owner's permission.

(CTV Montreal)

Jun 16 2014

**QUEBEC - Officials at a Quebec jail where three prisoners made a daring escape by helicopter were warned**

**about a possible breakout attempt.**

Newly released court documents suggest that Quebec provincial police gave jail officials intelligence on a possible jail break conspiracy involving the three men.

Yves Denis, Denis Lefebvre and Serge Pomerleau escaped from the Orsainville Detention Centre in suburban Quebec City on June 7.

Acknowledgement of the existence of a possible conspiracy is contained in Justice Louis Dionne's judgment dated March 24.

The trio fled after a chopper landed in a courtyard, scooped them up and quickly took off.

The three men are now the subject of an Interpol alert list, which places the Quebec escapees among the world's most wanted fugitives.

Jun 16 2014

**EAST GWILLIMBURY, Ont. - The Special Investigations Unit is probing the circumstances of a fatal collision involving a motorcycle and a police car north of Toronto.**

York regional police say the collision occurred late Saturday when the marked police vehicle responding to a call collided with the motorcycle in East Gwillimbury.

The driver of the motorcycle died in the crash and the officer sustained minor injuries.

Jun 16 2014

**VANCOUVER - British Columbia's police watchdog has appointed its own watchdog to review the agency's handling of its very first case - the probe into the RCMP shooting death of former soldier Greg Matters.**

Richard Rosenthal, the chief civilian director of the Independent Investigations Office, announced Monday that Vancouver lawyer Mark Jette will conduct an administrative review of the agency investigation.

The announcement follows the release last week of a supplemental report into the death of Matters, who was being treated for post-traumatic stress disorder in September 2012 when he was shot at the home he shared with his mother near Prince George, B.C.

The watchdog's first report in April 2013 cleared the officers of criminal wrongdoing. That report said Matters was shot in the chest but a pathologist testified later at a coroner's inquest that Matters was shot in the back.

The revelation sparked anger for Matters' family members and raised questions about the investigation that cleared RCMP.

The supplemental report released by the agency on Friday blamed the discrepancy on an unclear use of language in the original agency report but upheld the earlier finding that the officers committed no criminal wrongdoing.

The agency declined an interview but Rosenthal said in a news release that he received a complaint, forwarded to him by the deputy attorney general.

"After my review of this complaint, I made the decision to appoint Mr. Mark Jette as a civilian monitor," he said. "The

appointment of a civilian monitor is a step contemplated by the Police Act to provide an extra measure of accountability where it is in the public interest to do so.”

Rosenthal said the appointment is not a reopening of the investigation into Matters’ death. Jette will review the investigation, not the original shooting, and submit his report to the province’s deputy attorney general and director of police services.

**TUESDAY**  
**JUNE 17, 2014**

Jun 17 2014

**HAMILTON - Hamilton’s police chief will keep his job for at least two more years in a controversial process one board member likened to the 1950s when deals were done by men on golf courses.**

Just nine months after Glenn De Caire announced he would retire, the Hamilton Police Services Board voted 4 to 3 Monday night to rescind an earlier decision to accept his resignation and instead extend his contract for two years with the option of three more after that.

The deciding vote fell to board chair and city councillor Lloyd Ferguson, who admitted afterward he changed his mind from last September when he voted to accept the chief’s resignation.

“It never works to hire someone back who resigned,” he said previously.

Three board members — Walt Juchniwicz and councillors Chad Collins and Terry Whitehead — say they voted against the motion to extend De Caire’s contract, preferring he reapply for his job and be considered along with other internal and external candidates.

That means the three provincially appointed board members, Irene Stayshyn, Madeleine Levy and Nancy DiGregorio voted along with Ferguson in favour of extending the contract. Those three did not make themselves available to the media following the meeting.

De Caire was supposed to leave on Dec. 31, 2014, when his original five-year contract ended. The board was in the process of working with a Toronto recruitment firm to begin searching for a replacement.

Less than a week ago De Caire publicly announced he’d changed his mind and wanted to remain as the city’s top cop. His reversal came after weeks of controversial lobbying on his behalf by Charles Juravinski, one of Hamilton’s wealthiest citizens.

Collins describes it this way: “The whole intense lobbying process over the last several weeks has called into question the integrity of our hiring processes at the board and it almost harkens back to the 1950s when these decisions were made by guys over a couple of beers on the golf course rather than through the normal process that we have in place.”

In a news conference following the board’s 90-minute, in camera session, De Caire was asked about the optics of Juravin-

ski’s lobbying. He responded with: “The office of the chief will remain independent in terms of the fair and unbiased application of the law.”

He went on to say “thousands” of people asked him to stay and he is proud “that people are so in tune with public safety.”

Neither the Hamilton Police Association nor the Senior Officers Association was ever asked for their thoughts on De Caire.

Ferguson said the lobbying had no effect. The reconsideration was prompted because many factors have changed since the chief resigned.

First, he said, Deputy Chief Ken Leendertse has retired. And if remaining deputy Eric Girt were to take the chief’s job, there would be an inexperienced chief and two inexperienced deputies running the service.

That could be a problem given the large soccer crowds expected here for the Pan Am Games, he continued, saying soccer fans “may not behave the best.”

“We thought we needed an experienced senior command to get through that period,” said Ferguson.

He also cites De Caire’s leadership on building a new \$15-million forensic building and calling for amendments to existing legislation that makes it mandatory for all officers to be suspended with pay.

Also, under De Caire, the rate of violent crime in the city has dropped, said Ferguson.

The chief previously told The Spectator he had resigned for personal reasons. Now he says he resigned because he had fulfilled the mandate the board had given him when he was initially hired.

The \$20,000 already paid to the recruitment firm will now be put toward recruiting a new deputy, he said.

Ferguson also wanted to set the record straight on the lobbying. He says Juravinski called him looking for support for the chief, but says Ron Foxcroft — also rumoured to be lobbying — never did.

Not even when they were on the golf course together.

(Hamilton Spectator)

Jun 17 2014

**The Quebec human rights commission has awarded \$33,000 to a LaSalle man, who says he was racially profiled and roughed up by two Montreal police officers four years ago.**

The incident dates back to April 8, 2010.

Farid Charles, a high school teacher at the time, was waiting for take-out food in his friend’s car outside a LaSalle restaurant, when he alleges he was approached by two Montreal police officers, yanked outside of the car, punched and arrested for loitering.

The commission concluded that Charles was a victim of racial profiling. It also recommended that the Montreal police department implement training to help prevent future incidents.

In February 2013, the Montreal police ethics committee found Sgt. Christopher Brault and Sgt. Mathieu Boucher-Bacon

guilty of four breaches of the Quebec Code of Ethics for Police Officers.

The officers were suspended, but the ethics committee refused to acknowledge that they were guilty of racial profiling.

(CBC News)

Jun 17 2014

**TORONTO - A Toronto police officer has been committed to stand trial on a charge of second-degree murder in the shooting death of a teenager on a Toronto streetcar last summer.**

Const. James Forcillo is expected to go to trial next year in the death of 18-year-old Sammy Yatim.

Forcillo’s preliminary inquiry, which is held to determine if there is enough evidence to go to trial, concluded today, though all of the evidence heard by Judge Richard LeDres-say is under publication ban.

The standard for committing someone to trial after a preliminary inquiry is whether there is evidence by which a reasonable, properly instructed jury could convict them - different than the guilty beyond a reasonable doubt standard at trial.

Yatim was shot and killed on an empty streetcar on July 27, 2013 - an incident captured on surveillance and cellphone video, on which nine shots can be heard following shouted commands to drop a knife.

Forcillo, who is free on \$510,000 bail, was suspended with pay, but quietly returned to active duty at Toronto Crimestoppers in an administrative role in February.

Jun 17 2014

**SYDNEY, N.S. - The Cape Breton Regional Police Service has named its headquarters in honour of a former police chief who died three years ago.**



The official dedication of the Myles F. Burke Police Headquarters was held Tuesday in Sydney.

Burke was chief of the Cape Breton police when he died in 2011 of natural causes.

The Louisbourg native was 49.

His widow, Jayne Burke, told those gathered Tuesday that her husband aspired to be the best police officer he could be.

She said he’d be humbled by the dedication.

(Cape Breton Post)

Jun 17 2014

**HALIFAX - A suspended Halifax police officer will stand trial next year on a charge of sexually assaulting a woman.**

Const. Christopher James Mosher is also charged with administering a stupefying drug to the woman, whose identity is protected by



a publication ban.

The alleged incident occurred in Eastern Passage in November 2012.

Mosher has pleaded not guilty to the charges.

The trial is set for three days beginning April 13 in provincial court.

Mosher remains suspended from the force without pay or benefits.

(Halifax Chronicle Herald)

Jun 17 2014

**WOLLASTON LAKE, Sask. - RCMP say they are investigating why a member of the Wollaston Lake Detachment was using a departmental all-terrain vehicle when he rolled it while off duty.**

The crash happened shortly after 1:30 a.m. on June 10.

An on-duty member of the detachment was on patrol when he saw his colleague driving the ATV just outside Wollaston Lake.

The on-duty member also saw the ATV roll as it was going around a curve.

The off-duty member was taken to hospital in Saskatoon with a serious head injury.

Investigators believe the member was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

Jun 17 2014

**MONTREAL - After more than a decade of delays and a ballooning costs, Montreal auditor general Jacques Bergeron says he has found "significant and worrisome weaknesses" in a software package and database that has been developed for the Montreal police department that will process everything related to police work.**

However, the auditor's findings and recommendations, referred to in his latest annual report released on Monday, are only available to the police and the city's computer-technology division, which has overseen the project with the police force.

Bergeron's audit of the new system, called M-IRIS, is confidential "due to the sensitive nature of the information it contains," his report reads.

The police and the computer-technology division have indicated they agree with his conclusions and recommendations, it adds.

M-IRIS, which stands for Montréal — Inscription et recherche de l'information sur la sécurité, is the software component of the police department's long drawn-out project to upgrade and integrate its disparate computer systems into a single system. The new system will process everything from incident reports produced by officers on laptops in their patrol cars to court summons to investigation reports.

Bergeron's audit team set out strictly to test the quality of the new system's components to ensure the project has been properly managed, he told a news conference on Tuesday.

"The mandate of the audit wasn't necessarily to look at the cost," Bergeron said. "Maybe, if we do a second phase. The objective was to look at the governance of the project (and) quality of the software package."

The police department's plan to modernize

its computer systems has had a costly and troubled history, The Gazette discovered in 2010.

The project, which was launched in 2001, was supposed to cost \$1.65 million and take three to five years to complete.

But it dragged on for more than a decade, and by 2010 had already cost more than \$20 million, The Gazette's investigation found.

The police department had no dedicated budget, no timeline and, until 2009, no project office to co-ordinate the work.

A search of city records using key words related to the project turned up contracts that had been awarded without a bidding process and calls for tender that had been scrapped and redone. The contracts had gone to the city executive committee for approval.

The Gazette also found three consulting contracts related to the project that were issued in 2005 and 2007 by Gilles Parent, the former Montreal civil servant and manager in the city's computer-technology division who pleaded guilty in 2012 to fraud and breach of trust in a false-billing scheme involving city contracts with computer firms. The Quebec Court of Appeal upheld Parent's six-year sentence last year for defrauding taxpayers of \$4.6 million.

Moreover, the software component of the police department's project had carried two different names over the years, making it difficult to track. Prior to 2009, city records identified the project as IDP2, standing for Intégration des données policières. In 2009, the documents began referring to the project as M-IRIS.

In 2004, the administration of former mayor Gérald Tremblay cancelled a \$721,000 contract that been awarded in 2001 to develop and manage the software package, citing the financial difficulties of the company that had won the contract.

The executive committee awarded a new contract for the software package — for \$10.97 million — to Niche Technology in 2007.

The police department's director of information resources told The Gazette in 2010 that the implementation of the new software package was to be completed in 2013.

However, Bergeron's report this week says the completion date is slated for 2016.

(Montreal Gazette)



Jun 18 2014

**MONCTON, N.B. - A man pleaded guilty Wednesday to uttering a threat to cause death to peace officers and was released from jail on conditions, including one that prohibits him from having any contact with a man charged with first-degree murder in the shooting deaths of three RCMP officers in Moncton, N.B.**

Jasper John Stam, 24, was charged June 9 for an incident that occurred between May 10

and 18. Stam will be sentenced in Moncton provincial court on Sept. 9.

The RCMP have said the charge against Stam is not linked to their investigation into the fatal shootings of constables Fabrice Georges Gevaudan, Douglas James Larche and Dave Joseph Ross on June 4.

No agreed statement of facts was presented and no details of the threat were discussed in court.

Jun 18 2014

**VANCOUVER - The B.C. Court of Appeal says police violated the rights of a man later convicted in a kidnapping when they searched two of his BlackBerry smartphones without a warrant.**

But the court has nonetheless dismissed the man's appeal, concluding the evidence should still be allowed into the case.

Rajan Singh Mann was convicted for his role in a 2006 kidnapping in the Vancouver area, in part due to evidence the RCMP retrieved from two BlackBerrys after his arrest.

Mann's lawyers argued the RCMP should have obtained a warrant before searching the phones, because such devices can hold vast amounts of highly personal information.

The B.C. Appeal Court says a series of judgments in recent years have made it clear smartphones cannot be searched without a warrant, which means the search violated Mann's charter rights.

However, the court says those rulings weren't in place when police conducted the searches in 2008, so the evidence is admissible.

Jun 18 2014

**OTTAWA - Two paramedics suffered serious burns while another medic and two Ottawa police officers sustained minor injuries Wednesday during a training exercise that involved the use of explosives.**

The exercise involved forced-entry techniques, said Anthony Di Monte, chief of the Ottawa paramedics.

"They were using concussive explosive devices to do breach entries with the tactical team," Di Monte said.

"Their injuries were as a result of that. There was a blast and flame, so they have burn injuries; they don't seem to have traumatic injuries."

Di Monte said the two men are in intensive care.

"They have second-degree burns in the hands, behind their legs and some of their body," he said. "They are not life-threatening. They are stable at this time."

The two men, described as being in their mid-30s, are very experienced in their jobs, he added.

"These are elite paramedics that are highly skilled and highly trained to work in these types of situations."

Ottawa Police Chief Charles Bordeleau said the team was practising how to force an entry to a home.

The exercise - part of a regular training routine that involves Ottawa police working closely with the RCMP and other emergency

services - was held in Kanata, a suburb west of Ottawa.

Bordeleau would provide only scant details of exactly what happened.

"The training exercise revolved around forced-entry explosives, which involves the use of small charges of explosives to open up doorways and windows," he said.

"They were in proximity of the detonation and the ensuing gases that would have been released."

Bordeleau said because the paramedics are considered civilians, the Special Investigations Unit is involved in the investigation.

"Explosives are used in training exercises and real live operations to assist officers to forcibly enter into residences or businesses to assist them in getting access to those buildings," he said.

"What type of explosives, how it was detonated I can't comment on because that will be part of the Special Investigations Unit investigation."

Jun 18 2014

**MONTREAL - Quebec city politicians are questioning the Montreal police force's decision not to crack down on a union protest held in front of city hall yesterday, where some participants set fire to garbage in the middle of the street and sprayed the city hall with water.**

The Montreal police brotherhood and Montreal firefighters were part of the demonstration against a provincial bill that deals with their pension plans.

"If me or you set a fire in the middle of the street, I think we would have gotten a fine, if not handcuffs to spend the night in prison" says CAQ MNA François Bonnardel.

"Are there two types of police in Quebec? Police to arrest students, and police who don't arrest police officers?"

Bonnardel is referring to the multiple arrests that took place during the student crisis. Other protestors have since been arrested under city bylaw P-6 for failing to disclose the trajectory of their marches.

Premier Philippe Couillard says the message should be clear that there is no double standard when it comes to the law.

"It's not acceptable for anyone to go against the law, endanger people's security and violate property. Even the perception of a double standard can not work."

The public security minister, Lise Thériault, says she can not comment because she expects complaints to be launched with the police ethics board.

(CJAD)

Jun 18 2014

**EDMONTON - Adding five peace officers to truck enforcement could save the city \$10 million per year, a city committee heard Tuesday.**

A report to Edmonton's Transportation Committee said overloaded vehicles driving on arterial and industrial roads add up to \$10 million in loss of serviceable life.

The cost of the five officers would be

\$600,000, which would be brought down to \$350,000 once fines are calculated into the equation.

The city's transportation department says damage to unpaved roads in outlying areas is an estimated \$400,000 to \$500,000 per year.

Coun. Bryan Anderson wonders why it hadn't been brought forward sooner.

"We're talking about \$350,000, which is I imagine a pittance given the total of your budget," Anderson said.

The strong wording in the report convinced Anderson.

"If funding for this initiative is not approved, continued degradation to roadway infrastructure will occur resulting in millions of dollars in damage, response times will be negatively affected, enhancements to service delivery will not be realized, limited support will be available to the Edmonton Police Service and Transportation Department, and citizens will not enjoy world class roadways to travel on," the report states.

The approval of the additional peace officers will come to council at budget later this year.

(Sun Media)

Jun 18 2014

**CALGARY - New mobile devices, a briefing area where hundreds of officers can gather in one place, and new flood wear for members are just a few changes the Calgary Police Service has introduced following last year's flood, in preparation for "the next major event."**

But Police Chief Rick Hanson said citizens also have a role to play in ensuring they are ready when the next disaster, whatever it may be, hits the city.

"It may be a complete power outage for a few days that occurs in the middle of January when it's minus 40. So people really have to look at their emergency preparedness. Do they have water? Do they have food? Do they have blankets? Do they know what to do if an event of that magnitude hits and suddenly, there's no electricity?" Hanson said in an interview.

"If there's something we learned as individuals and want to share with the community, it's 'Don't get complacent.'"

Hanson said that since the flood, the police service has improved emergency response procedures, processes and policies. That includes equipping officers with Android devices so they can receive information faster and be easier to track down, designating a briefing area at police headquarters where entire shifts of 150 to 200 officers can gather, and other minor things such as providing members with hip-waders and boots.

"You're foolish if you go through an event of this magnitude and when you're finished, pat yourself on the back and say, wow, didn't we do great? You don't get better if you do that," he said. "We really learned a great deal and I can tell you, we will be better next time."

Overall, the chief says he's proud of the way his officers and community members responded as Calgary and surrounding areas were struck by the historic deluge.

(Calgary Herald)

Jun 18 2014

**MONTREAL — The blunders continue to pile up in the helicopter jailbreak at Orsainville jail near Quebec City.**

QMI Agency has learned that none of the jail's surveillance cameras captured the aerial escape by three alleged murderers.

The revelation by jail and law-enforcement sources is just the latest of several snafus that have come to light since a helicopter landed in the jail yard on June 7.

Serge Pomerleau, Yves Denis and Denis Lefebvre, who were on trial for drug dealing and murder, boarded the chopper and flew away. They're still at large.

Only a portion of the helicopter's tail was caught on camera, sources told QMI. The faces of the escapees and their pilot accomplice can't be seen.

Police were able to determine the helicopter was a green Robinson R-44, but the registration number isn't known.

Sources say the surveillance gap doesn't appear to be technical in nature.

QMI has learned that the guard on duty on June 7 was an inexperienced recent hire.

Provincial police wouldn't comment on the latest revelations.

(QMI Agency)



Jun 19 2014

**NEWMARKET - A charge of dangerous driving against a Grey County OPP officer has been dismissed by a judge in a Newmarket court.**

Constable James Hunter was charged after the province's Special Investigations Unit looked into a crash involving a snowmobile in March of 2013.

That crash happened on West Back Line in West Grey when an OPP cruiser collided with a snowmobile.

OPP say the collision happened when the snowmobiler did not stop at a RIDE check.

A 26 year old Chatsworth man sustained a fracture to his upper sternum and suffered partially collapsed lungs after the crash.

Although SIU Director Ian Scott said there was reasonable grounds for a charge to be laid against Hunter, the judge hearing the case decided to dismiss the charge.

His trial took place in a Walkerton court in May, and the decision was handed down in Newmarket court on Wednesday.

(Baysore Broadcasting)

Jun 19 2014

**HALIFAX - Five children in four provinces have been rescued after a national investigation that targeted alleged child sex offenders, the RCMP said Thursday.**

More than 150 people have been arrested or are under investigation as part of the operation that began in February, and more than a million images have



been seized, some involving infants, the Mounties said.

"I cannot stress enough what these images are and what they are not," RCMP Sgt. Michael Petrilli told a news conference in Halifax.

"These images are not simply children having a bubble bath. They are clearly children that are in a situation where they are being sexually assaulted."

Investigators say two of the children who have been rescued are from British Columbia, and the other three are from Ontario, Quebec and New Brunswick.

More than 40 police agencies were involved in the investigation.

Jun 19 2014

**TORONTO - Police say an armoured car guard is in critical condition after being shot several times during a robbery attempt this morning in Toronto and that the same guards were targeted earlier this month.**



Toronto police say three men have been arrested and are facing attempted murder charges and are to appear in court this afternoon.

Staff Insp. Mike Earl says the guard was "ambushed" by three males as the Garda World security company truck pulled up to service a TD Bank branch.

Earl says the guard took four rounds to the body and was undergoing surgery.

He says the guard returned fire but a second guard never got out of the truck - which went into lockdown - and the suspects fled on foot.

Earl says the three men charged are all 18 years old and are also facing robbery-related charges and conspiracy charges in connection to a previous robbery attempt involving the same guards on June 5 in Toronto.

"It happens to be that it's the same victims in this case that were targeted," said Earl.

"These individuals no doubt planned this and attempted this on an earlier date," he alleged. "And today they tried and made a similar attempt which resulted in a shootout."

Earl says a handgun was seized during the arrests and no other suspects are being sought. He says none of the three suspects have been dealt with before by police.

"There were numerous shots fired in this incident that lasted approximately less than a minute - 40 seconds, 45 seconds," said Earl.

He said the number of shots fired was "in the double digits."

Jun 18 2014

**OTTAWA - An Ottawa paramedic superintendent critically injured during a police training exercise Wednesday morning was honoured as a hero for his role helping to arrest the man who stabbed and killed Const. Eric Czapnik outside the Ottawa Hospital's Civic campus in 2009.**

Craig MacInnes, then an advanced care paramedic, was inside the hospital early in the morning on Dec. 29, 2009 when Czapnik was attacked in his cruiser by a knife-wielding man.

MacInnes was one of four paramedics who saw Czapnik in a desperate struggle with former RCMP officer Kevin Gregson and sprinted to help.

"It was purely instinct," MacInnes told the Citizen in an interview 10 months after the incident. "You don't think about that until after the fact."

MacInnes grabbed the knife-wielding Gregson from behind and wrestled him into a headlock and pulled him away from the injured Ottawa officer.

(Ottawa Citizen)

Jun 19 2014

**WEST VANCOUVER, B.C. - A new chief constable has been appointed in West Vancouver, B.C.**

Len Goerke, the current deputy chief constable of the Abbotsford Police Department, will officially begin his duties on Aug. 5.

Goerke is the fourth person in the job since former chief Scott Armstrong was fired in 2007.

Former chief Kash Heed held the job for about two years before leaving to pursue a political career.

After five years at the post, Peter Lepine announced his retirement earlier this year amid allegations of rampant racism, sexism and bullying within the department.

Goerke, who is also president of the BC Association of Chiefs of Police, says he is excited to begin work with his new colleagues and build on the many strengths of the West Vancouver Police Department.

Jun 19 2014

**ALBANY, N.Y. - New crime data show Apple's addition of a "kill switch" to its iPhones last September has sharply reduced robberies and thefts, authorities said Thursday.**



The report by state attorneys general, prosecutors, police and other officials from a year-old initiative called "Secure Our Smartphones" said Google and Microsoft will incorporate a kill

switch into the next version of their operating systems on smartphones. The three systems - Android, iOS, and Windows Phone - are used in 97 per cent of smartphones in the U.S.

New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, part of the initiative, said the data show crimes meanwhile surged against people carrying phones without switches intended to make them useless to thieves.

"The statistics released today illustrate the stunning effectiveness of kill switches, and the commitments of Google and Microsoft are giant steps toward consumer safety," he said. The report noted a Consumer Reports estimate that 3.1 million mobile devices were stolen nationally in 2013, double a year earlier.

In New York City, robberies of Apple products fell 19 per cent while grand larcenies dropped 29 per cent in the first five months of 2014 compared with a year earlier, according to the report.

Robberies and grand larcenies involving a Samsung smartphone, which didn't have a kill switch during much of that time, rose more than 40 per cent. Samsung introduced a kill switch in April.

Crime data from police in San Francisco and London, comparing the six months before Apple's switch to the six months following, showed similar trends, according to the report.

Google spokesman Christopher Katsaros said Thursday the next version of Android will include "a factory reset protection solution to help deter smartphone theft." The company plans to release more details shortly, he said.

Microsoft plans to offer "theft-deterrent features" as an update for all phones running Windows Phone 8.0 and newer, subject to mobile operator and phone manufacturer approvals by July 2015, vice-president Fred Humphries posted online Thursday. It will update the Find My Phone feature, making it capable of remotely erasing personal data, rendering phones inoperable by unauthorized users except to call 911 and prevent reactivation without the authorized user's permission. It will allow reactivating phones recovered by authorized users and restore erased data stored in the cloud, he wrote.

Apple did not immediately reply to requests for comment.

The iPhone switch is an opt-in feature, requiring users to enable it by touching a series of buttons: settings, iCloud, Find My iPhone. It allows the user to locate the phone on a map and remotely lock or erase it.

The IPA strives to enhance the image of police in its member countries and to facilitate international cooperation through friendly contacts between police officers of all continents.

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