

BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

A CHRONICLE OF NEWS FOR THE CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY

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Executive Digest

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BLUE LINE NEWSWEEK

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Police need flexibility to succeed in future

Nov 25 2014

OTTAWA - A federally commissioned study says police must be more flexible and seek out partnerships to succeed in the 21st century.

The report by the Ottawa-based Council of Canadian Academies says the one-size-fits-all model of today's municipal police service is a thing of the past.

Officials say the cost of policing is steadily rising - hitting almost \$13 billion in 2011 - even though the rate of reported crime is falling.

Among the reasons: increases in police officer salaries, higher costs for equipment and fuel, and new challenges such as cybercrime and dealing with people who have mental health issues.

As a result, Public Safety Canada - with support from Justice Canada and the RCMP - asked the council, an independent research body, to have an expert panel look at available evidence on ways to improve policing.

The panel found police now operate as part of a "safety and security web" - comprising private security, health professionals, community and municipal groups and other government organizations.

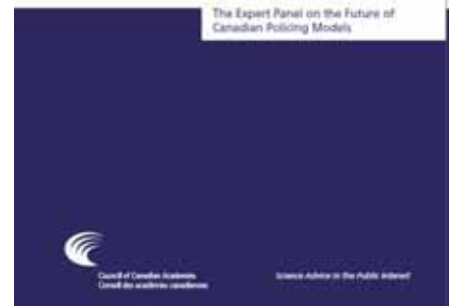
"This web presents both the central challenge and the central opportunity for today's police," a council summary of the 212-page study says.

"Working effectively within and through this web - rather than as isolated entities - will allow policing organizations to better respond to existing and emerging issues."



POLICING CANADA IN THE 21ST CENTURY:
NEW POLICING FOR NEW CHALLENGES

The Expert Panel on the Future of
Canadian Policing Models



Operating within the "safety and security web" means police can decide when to draw on the assets of other players, the summary says.

"This means that, in some instances, police are leaders, while in others they are supporting partners."

The panel points to the Community Mobilization Prince Albert Initiative in Saskatchewan that brings together police and more than a dozen other community agencies twice a



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week to discuss high-risk situations and discuss responses.

Since beginning the project three years ago, Prince Albert has seen a notable drop in its violent crime severity index, the study summary says.

The panel wants to tear down the illusion that police alone can solve vexing societal problems, said participant Benoit Dupont, director of the International Centre for Comparative Criminology at the University of Montreal.

However, the panel says police must remain the central, co-ordinating agency in the security web.

"The police has this unique mandate to act on behalf of the common good, and that's something that we certainly don't advocate changing," Dupont said.

When police break the law or breach public confidence, they are accountable under the law or through oversight bodies, the summary notes. But similar accountability measures are not in place to the same degree for private security firms and other players.

"As these non-police actors come to play more extensive roles and engage in more sophisticated partnerships, the need to develop accountability structures for all actors in the web is expected to grow," the summary adds.

The panel suggests more research be done. "We are not suggesting a model per se, we are just highlighting a number of challenges and a number of potential solutions," Dupont said.

"It's going to be for the politicians and communities in Canada to decide for themselves what they really want."

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WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 19, 2014

Nov 19 2014

EDMONTON - Edmonton's top cop is looking to beef up the city's downtown police presence in anticipation of the massive development to open in 2016.



Speaking with media Wednesday, Edmonton Police Service Chief Rod Knecht said he plans on asking city council for just shy of 100 new police officers in next year's budget, including a special team for downtown.

"That's a big ask, but we have a five year plan in place," he said.

According to Knecht, the city needs to be prepared for 2016 when the new arena, along with other planned downtown buildings, are set to open.

"We've got to ready for 2016. I don't have a policeman tree or a policewoman tree I can pull policeman off in the summer of 2016," he said.

The chief estimated it takes just under two years to market for positions, recruit and train new members.

"From seed to tree, it takes us 20 months to get a fully-trained police officer out on the streets," he said.

Representing the Downtown Business Association, Jim Taylor said it's important the city is proactive with its plans for the changes to downtown and the surge of people expected to come once the arena is opened.

"When we have an arena that's bringing 20,000 people in on a nightly basis for events, all of a sudden there are - and this is a literal figure - millions more people on the streets downtown," he said.

Taylor called Knecht's plan a practical move.

"If you're proactive about it, you're ready to meet the challenge," he said. "If you're not proactive, you're reactive."

(Metro News)

THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 20, 2014

Nov 20 2014

OTTAWA - The RCMP has abandoned some investigations because of a key Supreme Court ruling that said police require a warrant or other legal tool to obtain basic Internet subscriber information, an internal government memo says.

The Mounties and Canada's spy and border agencies are "very concerned" about increased paperwork and delays now involved in obtaining such information, the newly disclosed memo says.

In addition, the Justice Department is "examining the need for potential remedies" following the landmark June ruling.

The Public Safety Canada note is perhaps the first concrete indication from federal police and intelligence officials of how the Supreme Court decision is affecting their work. A copy of the memo was released to The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act.

Basic subscriber information includes a person's name, phone number and Internet protocol (IP) address, but not the actual content of messages or their metadata, such as time stamps and routing codes.

Before the Supreme Court decision, law-enforcement agencies submitted hundreds of thousands of warrantless requests for such data annually to telecommunications companies, and they complied in about 95 per cent of cases.

At least two major telecommunication firms, Rogers and Telus, have since stopped routinely disclosing basic customer information without a warrant or production order.

The memo says telecom companies "have erred on the side of caution" by requiring warrants for all basic subscriber information requests except listed landlines and emergency demands.

The RCMP, Canada Border Services Agency and Canadian Security Intelligence Service "are very concerned about the potentially unsustainable resource and operational fallout" from the June ruling, the memo adds.

Prior to the court decision, the RCMP and border agency estimate, it took about five minutes to complete the less than one page of documentation needed to ask for subscriber information, and the company usually turned it over immediately or within one day.

The agencies say that following the Supreme Court ruling about 10 hours are needed to complete the 10-to-20 pages of documentation for a request, and an answer can take up to 30 days.

Applying for a production order requires that all the elements of an offence under the Criminal Code have been met but - posing a Catch-22 - basic subscriber information is often needed to meet that threshold, the memo says.

Other concerns outlined in the note:

- Some telecom providers keep Internet protocol logs for 30 days or less, and they may be erased by the time a company processes a production order;
- Banks, hotels, and car rental companies are reviewing the Supreme Court decision and "a few have signalled less voluntary cooperation" in future.

Still, the federal privacy commissioner said Thursday there appears to be wide variation in how the Supreme Court ruling is being interpreted. As a result, Canadians are still in

the dark about what may happen to their personal information, Therrien told a Senate committee studying the government's cyberbullying bill.

Complicating matters is an immunity provision of the bill that would protect companies from legal liability should they voluntarily disclose personal information in response to requests without a warrant.

Therrien urged Parliament to put an end to the ambiguity and clarify what - if anything - remains of the common-law policing powers to obtain information without a warrant.

The Public Safety memo says the department and other federal agencies continue to "document the resource and investigative impacts" of the court decision.

"Justice Canada is gathering information and examining the need for potential remedies."

Nov 20 2014

EDMONTON - Edmonton's police chief says he would like more front-line officers trained in counter-terrorism tactics.

Chief Rod Knecht says he would like to think his officers are ready if something catastrophic happened.

Knecht says along with training, his department will rely heavily on community outreach.

"We only have ... a very limited number of eyes and ears on the street at any given time, but our strength is when we have 870,000 sets of eyes and ears out there that are working with us to make this community a safe place to work and live," Knecht says.

Since the Ottawa attack, Knecht says there has been growing fear that groups such as ISIL could recruit Albertans to carry out terrorist attacks.

"If we see people that are acting different, uncommon, making threats either online or in person, we want to know about that and we want the community to come forward so we can deal with that," says Knecht, adding Edmonton could be targeted due to important critical infrastructure.

"There is no known threat in Edmonton at this time and it is all about balance. We don't want to over-react, nor do we want to under-react."

Nov 20 2014

SASKATOON - A Saskatoon police officer will be headed to trial this spring.

Const. Steven Nelson was suspended with pay last month after the police announced he had been charged with attempting to obstruct justice.

His lawyer entered a not guilty plea at Saskatoon provincial court Thursday on his behalf. A trial was set for April 28 and court determined an out-of-town judge and prosecutor will be brought in for the case.

The charge was laid following an internal investigation and provincial justice review into

a missing victim's statement from an August 2012 domestic violence case that Nelson was investigating.

The victim's statement disappeared sometime between August 2012, when Nelson was assigned to the case, and October 2013, when the issue was brought to light.

Police Chief Clive Weighill said last month Nelson, a nine-year member of the service, did not know those involved in the domestic case prior to the investigation.

The charge was the first complaint Nelson has ever had laid against him.

(CTV Saskatoon)

Nov 20 2014

THUNDER BAY - A member of the Thun-

der Bay OPP is facing a pair of charges under the Police Act.

The charges follow a series of incidents that occurred in May.

Const. Chris Bannon, 46, is charged with discreditable conduct and insubordination.

He's accused of using profane, abusive or insulting language in a Facebook message to a candidate running in the June provincial election.

He's also accused of being disrespectful to an officer with the OPP's Professional Standards Bureau.

Bannon is currently on paid leave, as he awaits his Police Act hearing. His next appearance is scheduled for Jan 7.

(TBT News)

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CALGARY - Mexican drug cartels are slowly making their way into Calgary as they attempt to secure a foothold in what they see as a wealthy city where users are willing to shell out loads of cash to get high, police say.

The cartels, known for violence and deeply-entrenched networks of distributors, pose a big challenge for city police, Sgt. Jason Walker said Wednesday in an overview of the local gang landscape.

Investigators could spend considerable time cracking down on the cartel's local drug dealers, only to watch as the arrested offenders are replaced by fresh recruits.

"We have to be mindful of what our impact is going to be on the actual criminal organization," Walker, an investigator with the Calgary Police Service's guns and gangs unit, told dozens of residents gathered at a Bowness community hall.

Calgary is home to sophisticated networks of organized crime groups that dodge police detection by learning their tactics and using encryption devices to block investigators from following their illicit movements, Walker said. (Calgary Herald)

EDMONTON - The Edmonton Police Service is forming a new unit to investigate cybercrime, which will focus on crime that uses or targets computers or technological devices.

The vision for the new unit was to be presented at the police commission meeting Thursday evening.

Insp. Chad Tawfik said the unit is slated to start work in 2015. He said the unit will ideally be a four-person team that takes on its own cases as well as assists other police officers with cyber aspects of their cases.

He said cases could include anything where technology is either an instrument or the target, including fraud, violent crime, homicide, cyber stalking and cyber bullying.

He said the unit will tackle different work than what is currently being done by the city's tech crime unit, and addresses the reality of how much time Canadians spend on computer devices and online.

"We need to be responsive to emerging technology," he said. "We need to be moving with the times."

(Edmonton Journal)

FRIDAY
NOVEMBER 21, 2014

HALIFAX - Nova Scotia's justice minister says disciplinary action will be taken against staff at a Halifax jail after a man facing charges including attempted murder was mistakenly released from custody earlier this month.

Lena Metlege Diab says policies and procedures were not followed when Eliahs Knudsen Kent was discharged from the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility despite facing charges including attempted murder.



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Kent was being held on remand and awaiting trial for charges including home invasion and robbery when he was released Nov. 7.

He was found at an address in the Spryfield area the following day and arrested after a short foot chase.

The Justice Department says an internal review found jail staff did not verify the man's identity through photographs, signatures or an identification bracelet before he was released.

Halifax Regional Police have also laid charges against two inmates, alleging one impersonated the other in order to obtain release.

Nov 21 2014

SURREY, B.C. - Police fired their weapons on the streets of Surrey, B.C., during a lunch-hour incident that saw two cruisers rammed by a fleeing car.

RCMP say nobody was hit by the officers' gunfire in the city's Newton town centre.

The incident erupted early Friday afternoon when Mounties say plain clothes officers attempted to stop a suspect vehicle that was trying to escape.

RCMP Inspector Bruce Stuart says the car was boxed in by the RCMP cruisers, and the driver tried to ram his way out.

Police say two males and one female were arrested, and one of the suspects later joined two officers at hospital for treatment of non-life threatening injuries.

The Surrey RCMP says its serious crimes' unit is now investigating, and the police watchdog known as the Independent Investigations Office has been notified but is not involved. (The Canadian Press, News 1130)

Nov 21 2014

VANCOUVER - The Vancouver Police Department is making cuts and redeploying officers in a bid to stay within its proposed new budget.

Police Chief Jim Chu has told staff the costs of policing exceed the \$220 million the department gets every year to deliver the service.

Chu sent out an e-mail to all staff this week, outlining a series of cuts and redeployments affecting sworn officers.

In the e-mail, Chu said 67 officer vacancies will go unfilled, but he notes 58 of those vacancies have been there for years — so the total number of jobs lost will be nine.

The VPD is reorganizing the officers who will be left, by cutting three officers from the dog-handling unit, 7 officers from the marine unit, and 12 officers from the major crime unit.

Cst. Brian Montague — who speaks on behalf of Vancouver Police — says the department is responding to a declining number of homicides, and bank robberies.

"Every unit is looked at within the department and like I said, these are not easy decisions," Montague said.

The VPD has decided to assign more officers to patrol duties, and says the reassignments will occur early in the new year. (CBC News)

Nov 21 2014

WINDSOR - The Windsor Police Service has unveiled its new "tactical rescue vehicle." The Cougar, a light armoured vehicle, was donated to Windsor police by the Department of National Defence.



Similar vehicles were used in combat missions in Yugoslavia and in Somalia. The one given to Windsor police was used for training across Canada.

Police say it will mainly be used to protect officers from gunfire when dealing with the most dangerous calls and incidents, such as a barricaded gunman.

While the vehicle may look like a military vehicle, it has been "demilitarized," meaning all its weaponry has been removed, making it what police call an armoured rescue vehicle, and nothing more.

"The community should be at ease with the thought that we have something like this now, [something] that we didn't have before," Police Chief Al Frederick said. "If it's used once in the next ten years, it's going to certainly pay for itself and show its value to this community."

Twelve police officers will be trained to operate the vehicle.

The six-wheeled, 9,071-kg vehicle is worth \$300,000 but comes at no additional capital cost to the taxpayer and costs \$1,000 to maintain yearly.

Similar vehicles have been deployed by police in Toronto, London, Peel, Hamilton, Durham, Sault Ste. Marie and Ottawa.

(CBC News)

Nov 21 2014

Quebec's Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions (DCPC) is denying that pressure from any outside groups influenced its decision not to press charges against an officer involved in a fatal car crash in Longueuil, Que., that killed a five-year-old boy.

"Nobody is above the law. The public should know that the prosecutors took into consideration all the facts — all the evidence," said spokesman Rene Verret.

The incident happened last February on Montreal's South Shore.

Four unmarked provincial police cars were involved in surveillance of Robert Parent, the former director of the Quebec Liberal Party.

The operation was carried out by Quebec's anti-corruption police unit.

Around 8 a.m. on Feb. 13, the police officers reportedly accelerated to catch up with the car that was tailing Parent's Mercedes.

A police officer driving a black Camry sped through the intersection, crashing into the grey Kia sedan carrying Mike Belance, his five-year-old son and his 10-year-old stepdaughter.

The young boy suffered head trauma and died Feb. 17 in hospital. The girl suffered minor injuries.

A police document established that the tail was part of an investigation related to corruption, breach of trust and illegal political party financing.

Verret said during a news conference late Friday afternoon that prosecutors had no knowledge about the nature of the officers' work, or that police were tailing the former director of the Quebec Liberal Party.

"The Crown prosecutors knew the officers had important work to do, and for them it was necessary to go at a certain speed," Verret said, adding that the officer was travelling at 109 km/h at the moment of impact.

At 8 a.m., in the moments before the crash, the officer was travelling at 122 km/h in a 50 km/h zone.

Verret said the speeding was not sufficient reason to press charges.

"We cannot isolate the simple fact that the police officer was driving fast... The police officers made a decision that ... it was necessary to go at that speed in order to reach their target. It was not an officer who was on a day off - it was an officer who was working who determined he had to go at that speed."

Verret said all the evidence in the case was taken into consideration before a decision was reached.

The victim's father gave a statement to police after the collision, Verret said, in which he told police he shouldn't have turned left and didn't have the right of way.

"The father used to drive at this place every day, and he knew there was a priority light that permits him to cross at this place safely. He decided not to wait ... and cross at this time anyway. This was not without risk," Verret said.

Prosecutors met with the victim's family to explain why charges won't be laid in the case. (CBC News)

SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 22, 2014

Nov 22 2014

OTTAWA - New figures show Canada's financial sleuthing agency disclosed more than 1,000 pieces of intelligence to police and security agencies last year.

The Ottawa-based Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada, known as FinTRAC, says the intelligence contributed to hundreds of police investigations.

The centre identifies cash linked to terrorism, money laundering and other crimes by sifting through millions of pieces of data annually from banks, insurance companies, securities dealers, money service businesses, real

estate brokers, casinos and others.

The agency's annual report, tabled quietly this week in Parliament, says the 1,143 disclosures to law-enforcement agencies in 2013-14 were up from 919 the previous year.

While the vast majority of them involved money laundering, 234 were related to terrorist financing or threats to the security of Canada, and 64 involved all three issues.

The centre says resulting police investigations included a two-year RCMP probe of a drug-trafficking organization with alleged ties to international organized crime groups.

FinTRAC also contributed to the Mounties probe of the International Relief Fund for the Afflicted and Needy-Canada, an outfit accused of links to terrorist organization Hamas.

The intelligence agency recently acknowledged it is helping police and spies trace money flowing into the coffers of Islamic extremists fighting overseas.

The RCMP received most of FinTRAC's disclosures last year, with the Canadian Security Intelligence Service and municipal police forces ranking second and third respectively. Foreign counterparts, the Canada Revenue Agency, the Canada Border Services Agency, provincial police and the Communications Security Establishment — Canada's electronic spy agency — also received intelligence from FinTRAC.

The agency says it has made changes to its systems and processes to address concerns raised by the federal privacy commissioner. For instance, it has made provisions to separate and destroy information received from businesses that should not be kept.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23, 2014

Nov 23 2014

OTTAWA - When the Bank of Canada started making the switch a few years ago from paper currency to the smoother polymer bills, it touted the upgrade as a way to stay ahead of counterfeiters.

But the change also meant that Canada's crime fighters had to come up with a new method for lifting fingerprints off of them since the traditional "wet chemistry" method used on the old paper bills no longer worked on the new ones.

A team of RCMP forensic scientists has now developed a protocol using some nifty gadgets that have shown promise for detecting fingerprints off cold-case exhibits that may have been in storage for years.

"We have full confidence that when high-profile cases are coming to our forensic identification sections, we know what the best approach will be," said Della Wilkinson, a research scientist with the RCMP's Integrated Forensic Identification Services in Ottawa.

The need to lift fingerprints off of money happens in all sorts of investigations, from residential break-ins to drug investigations to kidnappings involving ransoms, Wilkinson



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said. "Who's handled that (money) becomes very key in tying people to the event," she said.

In the old days of paper money, investigators would dip the bill in a chemical solution. That would cause a reaction with sweat and oil residue from the finger, allowing investigators to visualize the print wearing special goggles and using blue-green lights in a dark room.

When RCMP forensic scientists heard that the Bank of Canada was going to begin rolling out new polymer bills, they knew that this method wouldn't work on the new bills.

They started consulting with their counterparts in Australia, which had introduced polymer bills years earlier, and also worked out a deal with the Bank of Canada to start doing tests on the new polymer bills before they went into circulation.

"We were very lucky to be loaned banknotes from the Bank of Canada for this research," Wilkinson said. "It allowed us to be ready by the time the notes were turning up at crime scenes."

The recommended RCMP protocol for detecting fingerprints on polymer banknotes was adopted this year and published in the *Journal of Forensic Identification* by Wilkinson and colleague Rolanda Lam.

The protocol recommends that investigators start with the most accessible method - the cyanoacrylate fuming method, also known as the superglue method.

The polymer bill is placed inside an airtight chamber. The humidity level is raised to about 80 per cent.

Superglue is heated, transforming it from a liquid to a vapour. A fan distributes the vapour throughout the chamber and when it comes into contact with fingerprint residue, it causes a chemical reaction, making the print more visible.

But there is a limitation with this method. Fingerprints can be detected easily only on the transparent parts of the banknotes. It is harder to visualize them on the opaque, or ink-covered, parts of the bill.

In this instance, investigators are told to then try another method: vacuum metal deposition, or VMD.

Again, the bill is placed inside a special chamber. Minute gold filings are vaporized, coating everything inside the chamber. The gold is absorbed into the fats and oils of the fingerprint.

Then vaporized zinc, which features a re-

flective surface, is introduced. It sticks to the gold and nothing else, thus helping to visualize the fingerprint.

Currently, the RCMP only has one older-generation VMD chamber located in Ottawa, but the introduction of polymer banknotes has prompted the agency to look into acquiring three new machines from a U.K. company for its detachments in Surrey, B.C., Newmarket, Ont., and Montreal, Wilkinson said.

They aren't cheap - costing about \$350,000 each. But in a report this past June to Surrey City Council touting the benefits of VMD technology, Chief Supt. Bill Fordy said it was the "most sensitive technology for obtaining fingerprints on solid (non-porous) objects presently available in forensic science."

It can be used to find prints on plastic packaging, plastic bottles, glass, tight-weave fabrics, firearms, glossy paper or magazines, Fordy said. The technology was even able to turn up a fingerprint from an exhibit in a 17-year-old homicide in Alberta.

(Post Media)

Nov 23 2014

VANCOUVER - The Independent Investigations Office has taken over the case of a 51-year old man who died after an altercation with police in East Vancouver.

Officers responded late Friday afternoon to reports of a distraught man acting erratically.

A release issued by police says the man was standing at an intersection shouting and waving around a two-by-four.

Police say that when the suspect refused to comply with their orders to put down the lumber, officers attempted to disarm him by opening fire with bean-bag rounds.

The release, however, says the man was eventually shot with bullets, and was pronounced dead in hospital a short time later.

One witness said officers fired several rounds when they were within about two metres of the suspect.

No other details have been released.
(NEWS 1130)



Nov 24 2014

MONTREAL - Drivers aren't paranoid, cops really do have ticket quotas. In Montreal, at least.

An e-mail sent on Jan. 29 by Roch de Roy, head of the Montreal police traffic squad, outlined monthly requirements for his officers.

The recommended monthly ticket per officer includes 25 to pedestrians, 24 to cyclists, 25 to drivers who use their cellphones, 25 at intersections, 20 for speeding and 40 for miscellaneous.

In a separate e-mail sent Oct. 25, 2013, du Roy expressed dissatisfaction with how his officers were enforcing the Highway Safety Code.

That e-mail included a warning to officers who are overly fond of issuing parking tick-

ets in the downtown core - which usually max out at \$52 - at the expense of targeting more lucrative traffic infractions that rarely come in under \$150.

Du Roy included a veiled threat, writing that any police officers in his department who weren't on board with his guidelines could be free to seek a transfer to a less prestigious department.

"Many officers want a job as a parking enforcement officer," wrote de Roy. "Instead of driving a white car with blue stripes, they can drive a white car with red stripes," referring to the traffic squad's red and white vehicles.

Fines issued by police and parking officers amount to more than \$150 million for the City of Montreal every year.

The revelation about quotas comes a week after the umbrella group representing Quebec police forces denounced the practice.

The group proposed a law ensuring police officers focus on public security and not municipal revenues.

(QMI Agency)

Nov 24 2014

OTTAWA - The Ottawa police website was offline again Monday after a weekend hacking incident loosely linked to the hacking group Anonymous.

Media reports say the group has targeted the police site, as well as the City of Ottawa's site, which was in accessible early Monday but back online by midday.

Some reports have linked the attacks to a police investigation of an Ottawa teenager accused of making fake calls to emergency services across North America.

An Anonymous statement issued Sunday said the youth is being framed and the group wants to clear his name.

Visitors to both the city and police sites early Monday were greeted with messages saying the websites were not available.

The web problems follow an incident Friday when visitors to the city's website saw a dancing banana graphic and a brief text message directed against an officer with the city's police force.

Anonymous claimed credit for that attack in an online message.

The group also threatened to go after other government sites, including the Supreme Court and the Parliament of Canada, although both sites were still accessible at midday Monday.

The City of Ottawa says it doesn't believe any sensitive information has been compromised. The website was up again on the weekend before being out of service once again Monday.

Police say they are continuing to work with their service providers "to address the service issues affecting ottawapolice.ca" but added they could not comment on the ongoing police investigation.

In a release Saturday, the city said it was "confident that no corporate or resident information was compromised as a result of the breach."

It said the "issues were related to a third-party service provider."

HALIFAX - A Nova Scotia man whose life sentence may have been the result of a wrongful murder conviction has been granted bail.

Glen Eugene Assoun was convicted by a jury of second-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison in September 1999 for the stabbing death of Brenda Lee Anne Way, who was his girlfriend.

The federal Justice Department said recently that a preliminary assessment shows there may have been a miscarriage of justice and a more in-depth investigation has been launched into his case.

Assoun is to leave Nova Scotia on Wednesday to an undisclosed province, where he will be staying with family, and will be electronically monitored.

Way's partly clothed body was found behind an apartment building in the Halifax area on Nov. 12, 1995.

The 28-year-old woman was stabbed six times and her throat was slashed.

Assoun, who was living in British Columbia when he was arrested more than two years later, has always said he was wrongfully convicted of the crime.

He represented himself at his trial after firing his lawyer three days in to the court proceedings.

His sentence included a provision that he couldn't apply for parole until he served 18 1/2 years in prison.

Nov 24 2014

LOS ANGELES - Against the team of hackers, the poor car stood no chance.

Meticulously overwhelming its computer networks, the hackers showed that - given time - they would be able to pop the trunk and start the windshield wipers, cut the brakes or lock them up, and even kill the engine.

Their motives were not malicious. These hackers worked on behalf of the U.S. military, which along with the auto industry is scrambling to fortify the cyber defences of commercially available cars before criminals and even terrorists penetrate them.

"You're stepping into a rolling computer now," said Chris Valasek, who helped catapult car hacking into the public eye when he and a partner revealed last year they had been able to control a 2010 Toyota Prius and 2010 Ford Escape by plugging into a port used by mechanics.

These days, when Valasek isn't working his day job for a computer security firm, he's seeing how Bluetooth might offer an entry point.

Automakers are betting heavily that consumers will want not just the maps and music playlists of today but also Internet-enabled vehicles that stream movies and the turn dictation into email. The federal government wants to require cars to send each other electronic messages warning of dangers on the road.

In these and other connections, hackers see opportunity.

There are no publicly known instances of a car being commandeered outside staged tests. In those tests, hackers prevail.

One was the Defence Department-funded assault on a 2012 model American-made car, overseen by computer scientist Kathleen Fisher.

Hackers demonstrated they could create the electronic equivalent of a skeleton key to unlock the car's networks. That may take months, Fisher said, but from there it would be "pretty easy to package up the smarts and make it available online, perhaps in a black-market type situation."

The project's goal is more than just to plug vulnerabilities - it is to reconceive the most critical lines of computer code that control the car in a way that could make them invulnerable to some of the major known threats. The model code would be distributed to automakers, who could adapt it to their needs. That should take a few more years. The industry is participating - and not waiting.

One major association representing brands including Honda and Toyota is helping establish an "information sharing and analysis centre" patterned after efforts by big banks to try to thwart cyberattacks.

"Before, when you designed something, you looked at how might components fail," said Michael Cammisa, director of safety for the Association of Global Automakers. "Now, you have to look at how would somebody maliciously attack the vehicle."

The so-called Auto-ISAC will allow participating companies to evaluate the credibility of threats and, in the event of an attack, let one warn others so they could test their own systems.

Nov 24 2014

WINNIPEG - An investigation into whether a Manitoba judge whose nude photos were posted online should be removed from the bench is over.

A panel investigating Associate Chief Justice Lori Douglas has approved a settlement between the judge and the Canadian Judicial Council.

Under the agreement, Douglas will voluntarily retire in May and hearings into her conduct will be dropped.

Douglas - who has been on leave since 2010 - has also asked that the intimate photos of her taken by her husband be returned to her so they can be destroyed.

The judicial council said pursuing the matter once Douglas has retired isn't in the public interest.

Douglas faced allegations that she failed to disclose the photos when she applied to become a judge in 2004 and that the pictures could undermine public confidence in the justice system.

Nov 24 2014

VANCOUVER - A B.C. judge has ruled the Conservative government's changes to the dangerous-offender regime violate the charter.

While the B.C. Supreme Court judge hasn't yet said whether the law will be struck down, the ruling means some dangerous-offender hearings have already been put on hold.

The case involves Donald Boutillier, who pleaded guilty to assault and robbery and now faces the possibility that he'll be declared a dangerous offender.

His lawyer challenged the law, arguing changes put into place in 2008 violate the charter because judges are no longer able to consider whether an offender can be treated.

Judge Peter Voith says the law goes too far because it removes the judges' discretion and could apply to people who won't actually pose a danger to society in the future.

A hearing is set for February to determine what will happen to the law, but Boutillier's lawyer, Gary Botting, says the Crown in B.C. has delayed other dangerous-offender hearings until a decision is reached.

Nov 24 2014

MONTREAL - Quebec's justice minister has ordered an independent review of the evidence in the case of a five-year-old boy who was killed when a speeding police cruiser struck his father's car.



Stephanie Vallee made the announcement this afternoon, shortly after the Crown prosecutors' office said it would reopen the file.

The Crown's decision came after Montreal La Presse published an interview today with a woman who witnessed the accident last February.

Vallee says the group of people who will review the evidence will include a former judge.

In interviews with the newspaper and other media, Madeleine Noiseux says she was shocked to see the boy's father being blamed because, according to her, it was clearly the provincial police officer who was at fault.

The officer's cruiser was travelling at twice the speed limit of 50 km-h when the accident occurred in Montreal-area Longueuil. The Crown confirmed last Friday no charges would be laid against the officer and said the boy's father made a risky manoeuvre.

Nov 24 2014

OTTAWA - The deputy minister of public safety says a bill that would allow Canada's spy agency to break foreign laws is constitutional.

At a Commons committee meeting, Francois Guimont assured MPs that Justice Department lawyers had vetted the legislation

against the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The government legislation introduced last month would provide blanket protection for Canadian Security Intelligence Service sources and give the spy agency more latitude to obtain a court-ordered warrant authorizing investigations abroad - even if it means violating the laws of other countries.

The government says the source-protection and warrant provisions will help CSIS conduct investigations into potential terrorists when they travel overseas.

The Federal Court of Appeal said in 2012 that human sources recruited by CSIS do not have the sort of blanket protection that shields the identities of police informants, even from a judge.

In the case of CSIS, that is instead decided on a case-by-case basis.

Nov 24 2014

VANCOUVER - Two men have been charged following an incident in Surrey Friday that prompted RCMP officers to open fire on a fleeing vehicle.

The confrontation occurred when plain clothes officers used their cruisers to box in a suspect vehicle. Police say the driver then attempted to ram his way out, hitting the cruisers and prompting the gunfire.

The RCMP says 26-year-old Daniel Monaghan of Langley is charged with a number of offences, including assault of a peace officer, assault with a weapon and dangerous operation of a motor vehicle.

Fifty-two-year-old David Traill of Surrey is charged with resisting arrest and breach of a conditional sentence order.

A 21-year-old woman, who was arrested at the scene and later released, is also expected to face charges.

(Vancouver Sun)

Nov 24 2014

SASKATOON - Saskatoon City Council has voted in favour of starting a photo radar pilot project.

One camera will be used at five different locations on Circle Drive this month. Another camera will be used to monitor speeds at five school zones across the city.

The location of the cameras will be clearly marked to motorists. While the cameras will move from location to location, they will be attached to light fixtures, instead of mobile structures like trailers or vans.

"There's no wondering if there's going to be photo radar there or not," said police chief Clive Weighill.

Weighill says Saskatchewan has a terrible record of traffic deaths and accidents, and hopes measures like this will change that.

"We absolutely have a problem in Saskatoon," he said. "Fatality rates in Saskatchewan are higher than any other province."

Weighill wants tickets from the program to be sent out in a timely manner. If they're not sent out after around two months, he says they will be cancelled.

"I mean, the idea of traffic enforcement, especially for speeding, is to correct the be-

haviour," he said. "So, if we can't correct the behaviour in a few months to get the ticket, we're not correcting that behaviour."

There will be a two-month warning period where speeders will be mailed warnings instead of tickets.

(CBC News)

Nov 24 2014

HAMILTON - Hamilton police want to build a city-wide registry of private surveillance cameras they can use in their investigations.

With surveillance footage now a key part of most police investigations, the service wants businesses with private surveillance cameras to register their cameras so investigators know where they are.

Currently, police officers spend valuable time canvassing neighbourhoods looking for surveillance video that may have captured an image of the suspects involved or anything else that might help their investigation.

Police hope to create the registry via its news online crime map. Bair Analytics, the American tech company behind the map (Hamilton police provide the data), is working toward adding a new button that will allow people to notify police that they have a camera.

Acting Insp. Paul Evans said registering a camera doesn't guarantee police access to its footage, nor would it be monitored in real time. The registry's main goal is speeding up investigations by cutting down on the time police officers spend searching for cameras.

(CBC News)



WINNIPEG - The Manitoba Court of Appeal will review the murder conviction of a man who spent 23 years in prison insisting he was innocent.

Federal Justice Minister Peter MacKay has referred the case of Frank Ostrowski to the Appeal Court for a conviction review.

The move comes five years after a Court of Queens' Bench judge released Ostrowski on bail pending a federal review of his case, citing serious concerns about the 1987 conviction.

Ostrowski was found guilty of ordering the shooting death of Robert Nieman over a drug debt.

He was convicted largely on the testimony of a key witness who had separate charges of cocaine possession stayed.

Ostrowski's lawyers and the jury were never told about that arrangement and the witness told the trial he did not receive any favours in exchange for his testimony.

Nov 25 2014

OTTAWA - The RCMP gets a passing grade from the auditor general for the way it handles its multimillion-dollar

relocation program, but National Defence is once again facing tough questions about how it moves members around the country.

Michael Ferguson's latest report, which looks at both departments, says defence officials don't provide enough assurance that payments under the program are in accordance with the contract.

Perhaps more importantly for those in the military, the audit finds that the department doesn't use the information at its fingertips to ensure that its members consistently receive all the moving benefits to which they are entitled.

The federal government forks out \$303.4 million a year to move soldiers, sailors, aircrew and RCMP members to different posts across the country using one contractor, Brookfield Global Relocation.

A previous audit questioned the RCMP's diligence in monitoring its portion of the contract, but Ferguson's new report says the Mounties have improved their controls.

Nov 25 2014

OTTAWA - The national sex offender registry may not include some Canadians convicted of crimes abroad because the RCMP doesn't have access to Foreign Affairs information on convicts released from prisons in other countries.

Auditor general Michael Ferguson, who flags the issue in a new report out today, is urging the RCMP to work with the department on improving information sharing.

Ferguson's report on support for fighting transnational crime finds that overall, the RCMP and Justice Canada were working well with foreign police on criminal investigations that affect Canadians.

It says the 42 RCMP liaison officers posted to 30 countries generally co-operated with foreign and domestic partners on problems ranging from human smuggling to terrorism.

In general, the RCMP did not have access to information on Canadians arrested, charged, convicted and released from foreign prisons.

Foreign Affairs, however, does collect such data when Canadians detained abroad exercise their rights to receive consular assistance. In 2011, the department opened more than 1,800 arrest and detention cases and received information on more than 1,700 ongoing cases related to Canadians jailed abroad, the audit report says.

Federal privacy law and the Charter of Rights and Freedoms limit the amount of information Foreign Affairs can share about these Canadians with the RCMP. The Mounties can gain access when it relates to a criminal investigation, or when the public interest outweighs any invasion of privacy.

A 2011 amendment to the federal law governing sex offender registration means those who serve time in prison abroad for sex offences must report to a local police service within seven days of returning to Canada to provide relevant personal details.

The auditor found 25 offenders had regis-

tered as required by law since then. However, the RCMP could not confirm whether there were other convicted sex offenders who did not register upon their return because the national police force does not have access to the Foreign Affairs data.

Public Safety Canada and the RCMP are co-leading an interdepartmental initiative that would allow the RCMP to routinely obtain such information, the report says. "At the time of our audit, they had met seven times between 2010 and 2013, but no new protocols had been established."

Other findings:

- RCMP files indicated that efforts by the Mounties and other federal agencies had prevented over 750 migrants from reaching Canadian shores;
- Still, the RCMP had not assessed whether it has the right number of liaison officers abroad in the best locations;
- The Mounties had not examined the costs and benefits of greater participation in Europol, despite the organization's growing importance in transnational crime-fighting;
- Justice Canada processes international requests for legal assistance and extraditions appropriately, but had not looked at reasons for the often significant delays in processing those requests.

Nov 25 2014

TORONTO - A disciplinary hearing for the most senior police officer charged in relation with mass arrests made during Toronto's G20 summit, which was called off last week after the presiding judge fell ill, will resume on Dec. 1.



Retired Ontario Superior court judge Peter Gross had to leave his role on Friday due to medical reasons.

Another retired Ontario Superior Court judge, John Hamilton, is now presiding over the police hearing for Supt. David (Mark) Fenton.

Lawyers involved in the case say Hamilton has agreed to consider the evidence and testimony that was brought before Gross last week, which means the hearing can pick up where it left off.

Fenton has pleaded not guilty to a total of five charges of unlawful arrest and discreditable conduct stemming from two "kettling" incidents that occurred over the G20 summit weekend.

The first took place on Saturday, June 26, 2010, hours after a small group of vandals smashed windows and set police cruisers alight.

Nov 25 2014

MONTREAL - The defence has formally rested its case in the first-degree murder trial of Luka Rocco Magnotta without the accused taking the stand.

Attorney Luc Leclair presented a dozen witnesses over roughly two weeks, with the final one being the lead investigator in the case, Michel Bourque.

While Magnotta did not testify, his lawyer called several other witnesses, including his father and two forensic psychiatrists who assessed him for criminal responsibility.

Magnotta is charged with first-degree murder in the slaying and dismemberment of Jun Lin in May 2012 in Montreal.

He has admitted to killing the Chinese engineering student, but has pleaded not guilty by way of mental disorder.

Magnotta faces four other charges: criminally harassing Prime Minister Stephen Harper and other members of Parliament; mailing obscene and indecent material; committing an indignity to a body; and publishing obscene materials.

Nov 25 2014

OAKVILLE, Ont. - Fifteen people face a long list of charges after an eight-month police investigation into alleged drug trafficking in Toronto, Hamilton and Halton region.

Police say the group ran a sophisticated operation using "modern-day technology and counter-detection techniques" but that the probe identified suspects and their alleged roles, drug stash locations and concealment methods.

They say the drug ring was "well entrenched" in the three municipal areas.

Officers from six police forces executed 15 search warrants across southern Ontario on Tuesday that allegedly turned up 47 kilograms of marijuana, 2.5 kilograms of cocaine and two handguns, among other items.

The 15 accused are between the ages of 24 and 33 and from Hamilton, Milton, Burlington, Toronto, and Oakville.

The charges include possession for the purpose of trafficking, conspiracy to traffic a controlled substance, possession of a prohibited weapon and possession of property obtained by crime.

Nov 25 2014

BRAMPTON - A former Toronto Police officer was sentenced to six years in jail Tuesday for sexually abusing three girls and possessing thousands of pornographic images involving children.



Former constable Dariusz Kisielewski, a

46-year-old married father of two sons - ages 18 and 12 - is banned for life from having contact with children, must not take a job where kids are involved, and must limit future Internet use to work purposes only.

Justice Bruce Durno said that when he took the time that Kisielewski spent in pre-trial custody into consideration, he has just over four years remaining in his sentence.

Kisielewski had pleaded guilty during a past court appearance to four counts of accessing child porn and three of sexual interference involving minors.

He was arrested in September 2013 after Peel police carried out a search of his Mississauga home, where they seized computer equipment.

Court heard he sexually abused three victims, ranging in age from a toddler to preteen. The incidents took place over several years.

Investigators seized thousands of images of the victims at various stages of undress, and thousands more of child porn images downloaded from the Internet.

Court heard that Kisielewski "had problems growing up," and was a victim of sexual abuse as a child in his native Poland - once as a four-year-old at the hands of a vagrant, and again as a 10-year-old at the hands of a teenager, and then the teen's friends.

(Toronto Sun)

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 26, 2014

Nov 26 2014

TORONTO - Ontario's auditor general says the security budget for the Pan Am Games in Toronto next summer was too low, and warns purchasing of security services is behind schedule.

Auditor Bonnie Lysyk says the Ontario government's decision to award the contract for most private security at the Games to Contemporary Security Canada was fair, even though at \$81 million it was \$14 million higher than the next lowest bid.

Lysyk says the only concern raised in an audit was that the budget for security procurement "was understated and should have been more accurate."

Pan Am organizers now estimate security costs at \$247.4 million, more than double the original estimate of \$121.9 million in Toronto's bid for the Games.

The security bill is just a fraction of the nearly \$900 million spent on security at the Vancouver Olympics, but officials believe there is a lower risk profile at the Pan Am Games, with far fewer high-profile dignitaries expected to attend.

In September, the province had to pump another \$74 million into the Games, most of it because of lower than expected sponsorship revenues.

The government was criticized for not including the \$709 million cost of the athletes' village in its original \$1.4-billion budget for the Games, which now is expected to top \$2.57 billion.

“The budget for security services has increased significantly as planning for the Games has progressed,” concluded Lysyk. “It could increase even more depending on future risk and threat assessments and changes in the scope of the Games.”

Nov 26 2014

SASKATOON - Saskatoon's police chief says concern about innocent people's privacy is just one reason his force is holding off on issuing body cameras to officers.

The cameras, which are fastened to officers' uniforms and are meant to capture virtually everything they see while out on the job, have been used in limited ways in cities like Calgary and Toronto.

Saskatoon Police Chief Clive Weighill said he's waiting to see what happens in those larger centres before recommending their use here.

“I think the jury is out on the success rate of them so far,” Weighill said.

The cameras have become a flashpoint of controversy in some cities where they are deployed. They are said to hold officers accountable for their actions because everything they do is caught on film, but privacy advocates worry people's personal information is at risk if their every interaction is caught on camera.

Weighill said he is aware of concerns that the privacy of bystanders or witnesses could be compromised by the cameras. He wants to make sure the proper policies are in place before even considering using the cameras here, he said.

Practical concerns - like the cost of storing the massive amounts of data the cameras collect and whether or not the technology would work in sub-zero temperatures - are also a factor, Weighill noted.

“I think we are just waiting and seeing what the research has to say and the results.”
(Star Phoenix)

Nov 26 2014

A federal judge has overruled the RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson's "unreasonable" decision to deny a staff sergeant's bid for promotion because of long-discounted misconduct allegations.

In a decision made public Wednesday, Federal Court Justice John O'Keefe directs Commissioner Paulson “to do as much as he can” to ensure Staff Sergeant Walter Boogaard is elevated to the rank of inspector.

The Mountie's lawyer, Paul Champ, said Wednesday the drawn-out case illustrates there is persistent bitterness and dysfunction within the national police force, despite promises of change.

Staff Sgt. Boogaard has twice successfully completed the force's officer candidate program and has many positive job appraisals. But he has been unable to win promotion to inspector due to an incident 14 years ago in which his gun was stolen by two women.

The women said Staff Sgt. Boogaard had picked them up and was trying to buy sex from

one when the other pinched the firearm - a version of events the officer denies.

Staff Sgt. Boogaard's account - that the gun was stolen from his vehicle - was accepted when the matter was addressed by the police force at the time. He was reprimanded and ordered to forfeit five days' pay.

He was promoted twice through the non-commissioned ranks but then passed over for inspector. Staff Sgt. Boogaard later learned the chair of the board that disciplined him had told his career development adviser “there may have been more to the disciplinary matter.”

The revelation prompted Staff Sgt. Boogaard to file a harassment complaint, which he later grieved and took to the courts.

Meanwhile, Staff Sgt. Boogaard was selected for an officer's posting in Saskatchewan and his file was forwarded to the RCMP commissioner for approval.

The commissioner examined a copy of the investigation report underlying the firearm incident and his concerns - which he shared with Staff Sgt. Boogaard's commanding officer - effectively led to denial of the promotion.

Mr. Champ wrote to Commissioner Paulson in July of last year asking him to approve his client's advancement based on the findings of a judge and an adjudicator, both of whom looked into Staff Sgt. Boogaard's harassment complaint.

In a September, 2013, letter to Mr. Champ, Commissioner Paulson said the disciplinary proceedings for the firearm incident were “silent on the full nature of the events” and that Staff Sgt. Boogaard did not embody the core values of the RCMP.

Commissioner Paulson suggested Staff Sgt. Boogaard might one day be considered for promotion if he chose to “come clean” and “explain his behaviour.” But for now, the commissioner said, he would not be promoting him and Staff Sgt. Boogaard should therefore consider whether he still belonged on the force.

In his ruling, Justice O'Keefe said Commissioner Paulson could not revisit the 2000 incident and “substitute his own judgment” for the board that ruled on the gun's disappearance.

The RCMP had no immediate comment on the court ruling.

Nov 26 2014

WINNIPEG - Manitoba says it will fill a void left by the end of a federal band constables program by replacing front-line peace officers on dozens of reserves with better-trained safety officers.

Federal funding for the band constable program runs out in March and Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney has rejected any extension.

Attorney General James Allum said Ottawa is pulling out of the program but is leaving \$1.4 million on the table. Manitoba has already dismissed the cash as insufficient and has decided to match that money and use it to pay the salaries of safety officers whose skills are tailored to the needs of individual First Nations communities.

Some 31 Manitoba First Nations communities rely on band constables and currently get about \$1.7 million in federal funding for the program. Supporters say the constables are a vital front-line service for many remote reserves where the RCMP detachment is several communities away.

Band constables are trained to federal policing standards but live in the community and can enforce band bylaws. Alberta and New Brunswick have band constable programs similar to the one in Manitoba, where it's more widespread in remote northern communities.

The federal government has said it is terminating the program because it fell short of its goals and Ottawa plans to reallocate the money to a program better suited to “ensure the safety and security of First Nations.”

A spokesperson for Blaney did not immediately respond to questions on whether the government will support the proposed reincarnation of the band constable program in Manitoba.

Aboriginal leaders are skeptical of the proposal. Grand Chief David Harper, who represents northern Manitoba First Nations, said the program depends on the support of the federal government, which is not assured.

Chiefs of the affected communities weren't consulted on the new program, he added.

“It's more of a demotion than a promotion for band constables,” said Harper, head of Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak. “What happens to the peace-officer status that the constables have?”

Allum said safety officers will have an expanded role in the community. They will enforce the same laws as band constables but will also be responsible for crime prevention programs and emergency response.

“We're not only preserving the program, we're actually enhancing it,” Allum said. “We still need the federal government to be at the table and be a partner in this important initiative. We're looking forward to their continued participation from a funding point of view.”



Nov 27 2014

OTTAWA - Almost 7,000 outstanding pardon applications are in limbo as the Parole Board of Canada struggles to clear a backlog created when the federal government changed the rules in 2010.

The parole board has announced it is not currently processing old pardon applications for more serious, indictable offences, but rather is focusing its efforts on lesser, summary convictions.

In March 2013, the board told The Canadian Press it would clear a backlog of 22,000 older applications within two years, but now says it still has more than 10,000 applications remaining.

It announced last month that only older

applications pertaining to summary offences are being processed at this time.

"The board expects to have close to 70 per cent of the overall backlog, and 100 per cent of the backlog of files containing offences tried summarily, cleared by March 31, 2015," the board said in response to a media inquiry.

"This leaves approximately 6,963 applications for indictable offences in the backlog."

Asked how and when those applications would be handled, the board replied it "does not currently have a timeline for when the backlog will be cleared."

A notice on the board's website suggests applicants - long ago having submitted the proper paperwork and the appropriate fee - start over with a new application that now costs \$631.

Nov 27 2014

OTTAWA - The Supreme Court of Canada has agreed to hear a pair of cases involving drivers stopped by police at roadside checks.

One of the cases involves a British Columbia man who got a warning reading after blowing into a roadside screening device.

Lee Michael Wilson received a three-day driving ban in September 2012 after the roadside device registered a blood-alcohol level in the warning range.

He took the issue to the B.C. Supreme Court, which dismissed the roadside prohibition, saying there was no evidence indicating Wilson's ability to drive was affected by alcohol.

But the B.C. Court of Appeal later overturned the lower court's ruling.

The other case involves six B.C. drivers who either refused to give a breath sample or registered a fail on a roadside screening device.

They challenged the province's automatic roadside prohibitions for those who blow over .08 on a screening device.

Nov 27 2014

OTTAWA - The Conservative government is trying to quash a finding of the federal integrity commissioner concerning alleged wrongdoing within the RCMP.

In a notice of application, the government is asking the Federal Court to set aside an Oct. 31 decision of the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner's office.

The notice says the commissioner's office began investigating last November following a disclosure from a whistleblower.

There is little other public information about the case, other than the government's argument that the decision -which remains under wraps - should be tossed out because the matter is already being dealt with under another, unspecified parliamentary provision.

A spokeswoman for the integrity commissioner's office said confidentiality provisions prevented her from discussing the file.

The Justice Department lawyer the government has assigned to the case did not answer a phone message left last week.

Nov 27 2014

NEW TECUMSETH, Ont. - A six-year member of the Ontario Provincial Police has been charged with dangerous driving in connection with a three-vehicle collision northwest of Toronto.

Police say an officer was responding to a priority call on Nov. 3, when his fully marked cruiser was involved in a collision with a minivan and a compact car in New Tecumseth.

It's alleged the cruiser crested a hill with its emergency lights activated when it turned

to avoid a collision with the car, which was stopped to make a left-hand turn into a private driveway.

The minivan was then involved in the collision (on 14th Line between the 10th Sideroad and Industrial Parkway).

All three drivers were transported to a local hospital with non-life-threatening injuries, and were treated and released.


Const. Kyle Kneeshaw is charged and is to appear at the Ontario Court of Justice in Newmarket in December.




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