

RCMP-GRC



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE • GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

2013-2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

"H" DIVISION NOVA SCOTIA RCMP

Your Provincial Police



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada

Canada



Etched in stone on the granite memorial wall of the Nova Scotia RCMP Headquarters are the names of those Nova Scotia RCMP members who left us too soon. This is a solemn and constant reminder of those who lost their lives in the line of duty.

In front of the wall is a bronze statue of a lone member with his head bowed to show his remembrance and grief. His Stetson and gloves at his feet signify they belonged to a member who is no longer able to wear them and is not with us physically; however remains with us in mind and in spirit.

Message from the Commanding Officer

Assistant Commissioner

Brian Brennan

As Commanding Officer for Nova Scotia's Provincial Police, I want to thank you for your continued support and confidence in the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

The 2013-14 Year in Review provides an overview of our activities and it demonstrates the hard work and commitment of the men and women of the RCMP. The highlights within this report offer a glimpse into the work we undertake on a daily basis. Policing is a 24/7 operation and our employees work around the clock to ensure Nova Scotia is a safe place to live. Whether you live in Annapolis County, Guysborough County or Halifax, the RCMP work alongside citizens to address issues that have a direct impact at the community level.

Public safety is not just about law enforcement, it is a combined effort of partnerships and working together to achieve a way of life that Nova Scotians are used to and deserve. I am pleased we have strong and trusted relationships with groups that represent the diverse racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds throughout Nova Scotia. We work collaboratively with our Aboriginal partners and have fostered sustainable positive change. For example, in Eskasoni the collaborative approach between the Band and the RCMP to address the issue of prescription drug abuse is making a significant difference. A focused approach on youth has also led to the RCMP and community members hosting summer youth clinics to equip children with a variety of skills. This increases positive interaction between youth, elders, and the RCMP.

The employees of the RCMP in Nova Scotia are accountable to you. As your Provincial Police we ensure timely and accurate communication and we take great pride in this. Empowering citizens with information promotes transparency and this report is simply one way we achieve this. RCMP employees are a part of the community and

they are having conversations every day engaging citizens on issues that matter to you. Social media has allowed us to invite you in and engage you in meaningful and timely conversation with us. Whether it is talking on a Twitter chat or answering questions on Facebook, we are connected to you.

We often get asked what specialized skills and expertise does the RCMP offer. To answer that question would take many more pages than this report but within this document you can read about some of our specialized sections. As Canada's national police service the RCMP can mobilize large numbers of highly skilled and specially trained employees from within the province and across Canada in a moment's notice. In law enforcement, the RCMP is on the leading edge in many areas; research and development in support of covert operations, intelligence gathering around the world and the application of innovative practices to police work. For example we have RCMP Liaison Officers who are positioned to live and work in countries throughout the world to reduce or eliminate potential threats to Canada. The scope of our work is vast and it is best to say that whatever you can imagine in police work, the RCMP is already doing it.

RCMP employees put their best effort forward every day and what leaves a lasting impression with me, as Commanding Officer, is that success is defined by making a difference. In addition to traditional police work, employees spend countless hours volunteering and giving back to the communities in which they live and serve. Helping others is ingrained in our culture and I am extremely proud of the genuine compassion and generosity of our employees.

I hope you find our Year in Review interesting and that it helps you to better understand the role of your Provincial Police.



Wejiaq, Nikanus wjit

Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik No'pa Sko'sia

Brian Brennan



Ni'n nikanus Nopa Sko'sia nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik. ketu' kinua'tulooq ta'n tetuji-wula'liek wjit ne'kaw apoqnmuiek aqq ta'n tel-lita'suatmoq Nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP). Etawey kitmnew ula wi'katikn kis-wi'km wjit ula kis-pmiaq newtipunqek (2013-2014). Ewikasik ta'n tel-mil-lukutiek aqq ta'n tetuji atikneta'jik aqq tel-melkuktmi'tij wtlukwaqnmuew ji'nemuk aqq e'pitjik etl-lukutijik nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP). Ula wi'katikn-iktuk ewikasik ta'n tel-lukutiek te'sikiskikl. Nujikla'qa'luemk na lukwaqn pemiaq te'sikiskik aqq ntlukewinueminaq atikneta'jik kulaman wlpmiatiew telo'timk Nopa Sko'sia. Ta'n pasik tett wikin, Kespukwitk, Setapuktuk kiswa Kijipuktuk; nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik toq-lukuti'tijik mimajuinu'k maliaptmnew koqoey ta'n tela'sik wutanl. Jajiko'ti mu wejianuk pasik tplutaqney-iktuk, wejiaq elt mawkwamk aqq maw-lukutimkik wenik kulaman msit wenik wuljaqo'ltitaq Nopa Sko'sia. Welta'si tetuji-wula'matultie'k tel-milamuksultijik aqq mil-taqne'wasijik wenik Nopa Sko'sia. Maw-lukutie'k L'nu'k kisa'tunen koqoey naji-wla'sin wutanl. Kutey nike' Essisoqnik, poqji-wla'sik mawlukutiekik Nikanpukwultijik maliaptmnen tel-kepaqsi-we'wmumk npisunn. Aqq elt Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) aqq wutank wenik maw-lukwatmekl kina'matnewe'l nipk kina'muanen nutqo'ltijik. Ula koqoey tel-lukutiek kulaman naji-wula'matultitesnen nutqo'ltijik, kisiku'k aqq wenik wutank.

Ta'nik etl-lukutijik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP) elukewuksioqik kilew. Mekite'tmek tel-menaqaj aqq tel-wisqiw ekinua'taqatiek koqoey. Mita skwijinu'k kjijitu'tij ta'n teliaq koqoey aji-wlpiatiew telo'timk. Ula wi'katikn na tel-lukwek.

Ta'nik etl-lukutijik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP) wiaqpultijik wutank aqq te'sikiskik aknutma'tijik wenik wutank wjit koqoey sespit'e'tmi'tij. Milamu'k koqoey ewe'wmek kinua'taqatinen koqoey teliaq. Kis-nasa'sin "Facebook" kiswa "Twitter" tlewistu'tinenu kiswa pipanikesin koqoey. Kaqisk pipanimuksiek ta'n tel-mil-lukutiek. Awsamelk koqoey kaqiko'tun ula wi'katikn. Katu kijka'wsku'ttes koqoey kisa'tuek.

Kanataewey Nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP) wisqiw kisi-l'kima'titaq pikwelkik keknu'lukutijik lukewinu'k tami nuta'tij apoqnmasuti Nopa Sko'sia kiswa Kanata.

Pema'tmumk tplutaqney, Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) knekk nikanpultijik koqoey; kutey kina'matnewey aqq tel-jiko'tekemk, mawo'tumk kinua'taqney wksitqamu'k aqq ta'n tel-maliaptmumk lukwaqn wjit Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP). Kutey nike' iko'lujik nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik toqlukutineu wenik msit tami wksitqamu'k kulaman ma wen ktanuksiwk. Pikwelk koqoey elukwatmek, kis-tluek ta'n pasik koqoey kisite'tmn nuta'q lukwasin ki's tel-lukutiek.

Ta'nik etl-lukutijik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP) atikneta'jik te'sikiskik aqq ni'n Nikanus telte'tm wel-lukutimk na wel-pmiaq telo'timk. Lukewinu'minaq aqq pikwelk koqoey pisu' maliaptmi'tij koqoey wutanl ta'n tleyawultijik. Mekite'tmek apoqnmua'timk aqq wela'tekemk aqq mekite'lmkik tetuji wula'taqatijik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP). Etawey msit wen wulte'tmn ula wi'katikn wjit kis-pmiaq newtipunqek (2013-2014) aqq apoqnmultew naji-wli-kjijitun ta'n tel-lukutiek.

Wela'liaoq



Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations

Superintendent

Darrell Beaton



The past year in Nova Scotia has been both challenging and rewarding for the RCMP as we continue to apprehend those responsible for criminal activity and reduce crime in our communities, on our roadways and along our shore lines.

In my role as Criminal Operations Officer, one of my responsibilities is to provide oversight and direction for major criminal investigations, including the deployment of resources. As your Provincial Police, the Nova Scotia RCMP is always prepared to respond to a significant incident or provide the necessary support and resources to our partner police agencies. My responsibilities extend to ensuring our employees are well trained and equipped to quickly and efficiently respond given time is of the essence in major investigations.

Police work is fascinating to many people. Given I've been a police officer for over 30 years, I have to admit; I am one of them. There is no shortage of dramatic television programs that highlight the work we do, but the reality is that sometimes people's lives are seriously impacted by crime.

Although the plots for these programs can seem unbelievable, I can tell you that police work is just as unpredictable, shocking and challenging as television shows portray. People turn to the police for answers and for justice, and as an important stakeholder in the justice system, we take this responsibility seriously.

By taking the time to read this report, you are acknowledging our efforts and I want to thank you for that. The support we receive in our communities is truly appreciated so I encourage you to stop and visit the RCMP detachment in your community and say hello to our employees.





The “H” Division Pipes and Drums Band is a hit at festivals and parades across Nova Scotia. The band marches along Barrington Street in downtown Halifax in this photo.



Members of “H” Division proudly march to participate in a ceremony at the RCMP headquarters in Dartmouth.



RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson receives a smudging from Elder/Cst. Joe Michael (Ret'd) and Cst. Walter Denny during the “H” Division Change of Command ceremony.

National Strategic Priorities

As Canada's national police force, the RCMP is committed to ensuring the safety of our country from threats domestically and abroad. To accomplish this, the RCMP identifies national strategic priorities that guide the focus of our criminal investigations. Some of the priorities are intended to support key groups in society and our efforts to build and grow relationships with those communities. During 2013-14, the priorities were: Serious and Organized Crime, Youth, National Security, Aboriginal Communities and Economic Integrity.

Serious and Organized Crime

Various forms of illegal activity are undertaken by organized crime groups with one goal in mind: to make money at any cost. Nova Scotians may not recognize the daily impact of organized crime, however, it is reflected through your taxes because tax revenue is lost from contraband tobacco and alcohol; car insurance premiums are higher due to vehicle theft by organized crime rings; banking fees that banks charge to recover fraud costs; and even your health and safety as a result of drug-related violence, faulty counterfeit goods, and neighbourhood marihuana grow operations.

Using an intelligence-led, integrated approach, the RCMP is focusing its activities on reducing the threat and impact of organized crime. In fulfilling its mandate, the RCMP works closely with domestic and international partners in an effort to dismantle criminal groups.

Youth

Our objective in working with Nova Scotia's youth is to reduce their involvement in crime; support sustainable long-term responses to youth crime and victimization; support approaches that are consistent with youth justice; focus on risk factors; prevention and early intervention; and promote youth engagement. The RCMP believes that the long-term prevention of youth crime and victimization can only be accomplished in partnership with the community. Across the province, School Safety Resource and Community Policing/Crime Prevention Officers work closely with schools, community groups, and all levels of government to develop and implement programs that are proven successful in reducing youth involvement in criminal activity.

National Security

The greatest threat to our national security is the risk of terrorist criminal activity in Canada and abroad. The RCMP's role is to prevent, detect and respond to this criminal activity. We need to ensure we have outreach/awareness at all levels of policing with communities and partners, prevention, strategic analysis, information/intelligence sharing, and enforcement. Our investigative successes are largely determined by our flexibility, leadership and collaboration with foreign and domestic law enforcement partners.

Aboriginal Communities

The RCMP has a long and productive history of service to First Nations across the country and here in Nova Scotia. Throughout our province the RCMP is responsible for day-to-day policing in 12 First Nation communities; Indian Brook, Millbrook, Acadia, Annapolis, Bear River, Paq'tnkek, Chapel Island, Eskasoni, Pictou Landing, Wagmatcook, Waycobah, and Glooscap. The RCMP is contributing to safer Aboriginal communities through crime prevention, ongoing social development, maintaining and strengthening partnerships with Aboriginal communities, policing and government partners, stakeholders and Aboriginal organizations. Our employees continue to demonstrate value through the development, management and evaluation of the detachment performance plan created in collaboration with the local Aboriginal communities.

Economic Integrity

The types of crimes that are driven by greed are extensive and certainly not victimless. Illegal economic activity diverts funds away from hard-working Nova Scotians. The RCMP is focusing on preventing, detecting and deterring crimes that affect the province and the overall Canadian economy. Enhancing public awareness of the methods to reduce and prevent economic crime will also enhance citizens' confidence in the monetary, financial and market systems. Last year was another successful year for the RCMP Financial Crime units in Nova Scotia. Many long-term investigations led to criminal charges and seizure of assets associated with criminal activity. The more we share information with our partners and cooperate with enforcement units at the municipal, national and international level, the more we reduce opportunity for criminal activity throughout Canada.

Provincial Priorities

Each year, the Nova Scotia Department of Justice and RCMP work together to identify areas of public safety that require a strategic, targeted focus. The RCMP works to address each area through strategic enforcement efforts, innovative public safety programs, and effective education on preventing crime. In 2013-14, the Provincial Policing priority areas included Road Safety, Warrant Reduction, Domestic Violence and Crime Reduction.

Road Safety

The Nova Scotia RCMP Traffic Services Unit operates from nine locations across the province. Strategically placed in high traffic areas with close proximity to the 100-series highways, members of the Unit provide road safety support and expertise to all police agencies throughout Nova Scotia. The Unit also has a full-time traffic analyst who provides intelligence on serious and fatal collisions which allows us to focus on problematic areas around the province. As well, the Traffic Services Unit works closely with road safety partners such as the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, Vehicle Compliance, Emergency Health Services and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

While Nova Scotia RCMP Traffic Services' focus is on the four primary causal factors of fatal and serious injury from motor vehicle collisions; *impaired driving, not wearing a seatbelt, speeding/aggressive driving and driver inattention/distraction*, the Unit also engages in a number of prevention, education and awareness initiatives around emerging issues or trends.

Throughout this past year, we had an increase in charges related to distracted drivers and impaired drivers by alcohol or drug. While very unfortunate that people continue to engage in this type of dangerous and potentially fatal driving behaviour, the good news is that due to the increased number of

charges, we saw on average a 47 per cent decrease in the number of distracted or impaired driving-related deaths.

Highlights:

By analyzing traffic data, Halifax District RCMP are able to gain crucial information about road safety issues and then develop targeted and timely police responses. By knowing exactly where, when and what kind of event has occurred, police can anticipate traffic control issues. As a result of this type of analysis, there was a nine per cent reduction in all collisions and an increase in focused checkpoints by 184 per cent throughout the areas Halifax District RCMP patrol.

In January 2014, Pictou County RCMP participated in a Nova Scotia Power employee session on worker safety. Nova Scotia Power employees spend considerable time on the road so the RCMP developed a road safety presentation that covered topics such as what to look for if you suspect a driver is impaired or distracted, the role of RCMP drug recognition experts, the laws governing impaired driving, and how roadside screening devices work. The presentation was so well received that it was requested for another employee session. This is a great example of how the RCMP can work with communities to create awareness and educate on topics that ultimately improve road safety across the province.



Warrant Reduction

Across Canada, high numbers of outstanding warrants are a common problem for law enforcement agencies. Contributing to this is offenders who constantly change their address to try and evade police.

Throughout 2013-14, the Nova Scotia RCMP worked diligently to decrease the number of outstanding warrants. We were able to identify and target individuals involved with over 700 warrants, therefore contributing to the broader goal of crime reduction.

Some strategies that have proven to be effective include centralizing outstanding warrant information, the development and implementation of standard outstanding warrant management practices and coordination with police agencies to arrange out-of-province arrests. An excellent example to illustrate the above stems from a 2006 stabbing in Bible Hill that resulted in serious injuries to the victim. The suspect fled the province and an arrest warrant was issued. Several years later, the suspect was arrested on serious charges in Ontario

however attempts to bring the suspect back to Nova Scotia were unsuccessful due to a number of factors such as the individual having no fixed address. In March 2014, following routine checks RCMP were informed of his whereabouts in Ontario. Cumberland District General Investigation Section liaised with the Ontario Provincial Police and Ontario Corrections officials and then traveled to Ontario where the suspect was arrested and transported back to Nova Scotia and brought before the courts. Upon seeing the evidence before him, the suspect pled guilty immediately and received a three and a half year prison sentence.

Domestic Violence

The Nova Scotia RCMP is committed to investigating and charging those responsible for domestic violence.

Training employees to deal with incidents of domestic violence continues to be a priority for the RCMP. Every active RCMP officer in Nova Scotia has completed the Ontario Domestic Assault Risk Assessment (ODARA) training which is a tool that guides police during a

domestic violence investigation. The training helps officers better understand the relationship between the victim and offender and the likelihood of the abuser reoffending. With this information, they are then able to keep the victim safe and provide them access to the necessary supports, services and resources.

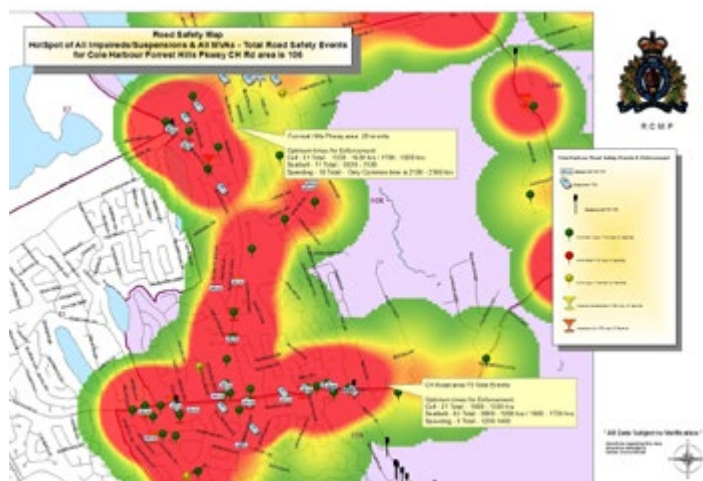
Over the last year, several projects throughout Nova Scotia were funded by the RCMP Federal Family Violence Fund to contribute to our ongoing education efforts. For example, in March, Halifax RCMP partnered with Silent Witness Nova Scotia to facilitate a workshop with police, victim services and community partners to raise awareness and increase knowledge on sexualized violence and domestic violence.

This past year we held 200 community domestic violence education sessions across the province. These sessions covered youth talks on healthy relationships, self-esteem and violence in relationships, senior talks on elder abuse, presentations on sexualized violence and family violence sessions in various First Nations communities.

Another unique partnership involved the Antigonish RCMP, Naomi Society, the Antigonish Town and County Crime Prevention Society and Saint Francis Xavier (St. FX) University who came together to provide a unique domestic violence program in Antigonish. *Neighbours, Friends and Family* is a campaign that raises awareness about the signs of domestic violence.

Antigonish RCMP worked with volunteers in the community to present the campaign to various school and community groups, including over 200 St. FX students. Throughout these presentations the message was loud and clear - domestic violence is not a private matter and ordinary people can and should reach out to help those suffering.





Crime Reduction

As criminal behaviour evolves, so must the role of police. That is why the Nova Scotia RCMP takes a strategic, proactive approach to reducing crime. Under the RCMP Crime Reduction Strategy, policing is tailored to the specific needs of the community. To determine these needs, crime analysts gather information and Detachment Commanders consult with community leaders to identify priority areas. The RCMP has many examples of the effective use of these strategies and below we have highlighted a few.

Enfield RCMP was seeing a trend with break and enters at the Mount Uniacke Business Park. The RCMP brought together 25 business owners from the park to come up with a plan to deal with the issue. After much discussion, it was decided that business owners would improve visibility on their properties and put up signs letting people know that they were partnering with the RCMP to tackle crime. The Municipality agreed to more lighting in the area and the RCMP increased the number of patrols through the park. As a result, the business park saw an immediate decrease in break and enters by 34 per cent. This is an excellent

example of the RCMP partnering with the community to come up with a solution and it also demonstrates what can happen when citizens take an active role in public safety.

Throughout Northeast Nova District, over 900 compliance checks were conducted on people who have court imposed curfews as part of their Conditional Sentences. Officers laid 77 charges on people who were not abiding by their conditions. The increase in compliance checks has sent a message that police will be at your home to make sure you are following the conditions imposed by the courts.

This past year, Halifax District employee Sheila Serfas received an award for her contribution to public safety in policing. Sheila was recognized for demonstrating how Halifax District RCMP are maximizing the use of the Versaterm technology applications to advance crime reduction. As a result of her ability to leverage and interpret information, RCMP officers from across the city can target areas prone to criminal activity and deploy police officers before the crime occurs.

As part of Southwest Nova District's crime reduction efforts, crime analysts created a quarterly Prolific Offender list (the few offenders in a community who commit the majority of the crimes). Based on this information, it became clear that many prolific offenders in the area were committing property crimes while on court-ordered conditions (i.e; curfew, house arrest). As a result, officers increased targeted compliance checks to ensure the offenders were abiding by their conditions. By identifying the prolific offenders and increasing police interaction with them, we saw a 30 per cent reduction in the number of prolific offenders in the community and property crime went down by 12 percent.



Highlights from Halifax District



Chief Superintendent Roland Wells
Halifax District Policing Officer

Operation INDICT sends a message to drug dealers

During the fall of 2013, Halifax District RCMP and Halifax Regional Police announced the results of Operation INDICT, a six week investigation targeting the disruption of violence between rival drug dealers controlling certain areas of Halifax.

As part of the investigation, a number of arrests and seizures occurred as members of the Integrated Drug Unit and the Guns and Gangs Unit focused on those dealing drugs within Halifax. Six people were charged with various drugs and weapons related offences including Trafficking Cocaine and Trafficking Marihuana. These arrests sent a strong message to violent individuals and criminal groups in the community that police will relentlessly pursue them to keep communities safe.

Teen convicted of Attempted Murder

In April 2013, a 15-year-old boy was shot in the abdomen while playing basketball behind the North Preston Community Centre. Other teenagers and children were also on the court at the time of the shooting. Members of the Integrated General Investigation Section, with assistance from Preston RCMP, charged a youth with Attempted Murder and numerous firearms offences. In December 2013, the accused was convicted of those charges. He will be sentenced in Halifax Youth Court in September 2014.

CHARGED: Four people arrested for murder of Matthew Penney

On the morning of January 1, 2014, Lower Sackville RCMP received a 911 call indicating that a body had been located at the entrance of Oakfield Park. This would be Nova Scotia's first homicide of 2014. In March 2014, the Integrated Major Crimes Unit arrested four people from Dartmouth for the homicide of Matthew Penney.

- Tyler Berry was charged with Manslaughter, Criminal Negligence Causing Death by a Firearm, Indignant Disposal of Human Remains and Public Mischief.
- Jason Patrick MacKenzie was charged with Accessory to Manslaughter, Accessory to Criminal Negligence Causing Death by Firearm, Indignant Disposal of Human Remains and Public Mischief.
- Keisha Slawter-Vassel was charged with Accessory to Manslaughter, Accessory to Criminal Negligence Causing Death by Firearm, and Public Mischief.
- Caitlin Fay Thompson charged with Public Mischief.

These charges are still before the courts.

Crime Reduction is working!

By analyzing crime data, we gain crucial information about criminal activity and then develop targeted and timely police responses. In some cases, police are able to strategically deploy to an area before a crime takes place. From April 2013-March 2014, we have seen a reduction in overall crime within Halifax; specifically a 9.4 per cent reduction in property crime and a 3.4 per cent reduction in crimes against people.

Through analysis, we can also pinpoint areas of collisions and dangerous driving. GPS technology allows us to know exactly where an event or complaint has been made and we can anticipate traffic control issues. District efforts have delivered a 184 per cent increase in checkpoints, an overall reduction of all motor vehicle accidents by nine per cent, as well as a reduction in pedestrian/intersection events. We will continue to work with Halifax Regional Police and traffic enforcement to reduce serious injury and fatal collisions.

Connecting with youth

Opportunities to interact with youth provide an important chance to better understand the issues youth face today.

April 2013 marked the 7th annual Police Youth Camp, held at the Tim Horton's Camp in Tatamagouche. Community Policing officers came together with over 60 youth and police from Halifax District RCMP, Halifax Regional Police (HRP), New Glasgow Police Service, North Bay Police Department (Ontario), and Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (Florida) to participate in a variety of team building exercises and presentations with a focus on leadership.

In recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on March 23, 2014, officers from HRP and RCMP, in conjunction with the Black Cultural Centre, hosted the 2nd annual youth-led African Heritage Event at the Black Cultural Centre. Twenty students from the Discovering Opportunities Pilot Program at Graham Creighton Junior High led an event that consisted of African dancing and drumming, an African Heritage Quiz (created by the youth), and a presentation on African Nova Scotian history.

Throughout the 2013-14 school year, Halifax District RCMP facilitated a full-credit co-operative education course in partnership with the Halifax Regional School Board. As part of the course, RCMP officers taught students from various schools in and around the Halifax area and the students received credit towards graduating. Twenty-two grade 10-12 students attended classes that covered presentations from a variety of RCMP units such as the Underwater Recovery Team, Emergency Response Team and Explosives Disposal Unit. In addition, students were taken to provincial court for a chance to sit in on a trial, went on a tour of the Halifax Stanfield International Airport where they took part in demonstrations by Canadian Air Transport Security Authority and International Security and visited the Saint Mary's University Criminology Department. They participated in an impaired vision driving scenario and had the chance to test their physical skills by running a modified Physical Abilities Requirement Evaluation (PARE) - a test that must be passed by anyone entering the RCMP. Some of the participants have indicated that they are now considering a career with the RCMP!

Halifax RCMP is integrated with Halifax Regional Police (HRP). What does that mean?

The RCMP in Halifax is referred to as Halifax District RCMP and they operate under an integrated policing model with municipal police force, Halifax Regional Police. Halifax District RCMP is under the command of Chief Superintendent Roland Wells and Halifax Regional Police is run by Police Chief Jean-Michel Blais.

Halifax District RCMP is the largest RCMP jurisdiction east of the Rockies. The RCMP is responsible for policing Lower Sackville, Cole Harbour, Tantallon, the Prestons, Musquodoboit Harbour, Musquodoboit Valley, Sheet Harbour and the Halifax Stanfield International Airport. Although RCMP and HRP are responsible for particular areas of Halifax, each agency can respond and assist in one another's territory. What this means is that when a police officer shows up on a scene in Halifax, it may be a police officer from either police agency.



Photo courtesy of Barbi Jollota

Officers from both agencies also work side by side in a number of integrated units including the Criminal Investigation Division, the Integrated Traffic Unit, the Courts Section, the Records Section and the Summary Offence Ticket Section. This provides an enhanced service for citizens because it allows for shared learning, techniques, resources and equipment on any given day.



Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments
Halifax District

Highlights from Northeast Nova District



Staff Sergeant Tony Perry
Northeast Nova District Policing Officer

Educating youth on domestic violence

In March 2014, Pictou RCMP formed a partnership with the Chignecto District School Board and engaged numerous partners to educate youth on domestic violence. More than 300 students from the area received a presentation on violence in relationships. Led by the RCMP Domestic Violence coordinator and staff from Tearman House (a local woman's shelter), the presentation focused on topics such as what is violence, risk factors, support mechanisms, and where students can go for help. The presentation was eye-opening and had an impact on two students in particular who came forward after the meeting to share personal stories of violence that may have otherwise gone unreported.

Crime spree ends with arrests

A two-year crime spree being investigated by the Colchester General Investigation Section ended with the arrests of two wanted criminals in Fall 2013. Over several months, RCMP received reports of break and enters so they enlisted the help of a crime analyst. With the analyst's assistance police were able to establish patterns for the incidents including time of day and the types of businesses that were being targeted.

RCMP in Colchester drew upon numerous units as the investigation unfolded and it became apparent these individuals were responsible for many sophisticated break and enters in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick with losses totaling over \$1 million. As a result of collaboration and intelligence sharing with police agencies, in November 2013, Halifax Regional Police arrested the suspects. Two men were charged with Attempted Murder, weapons-related offences, and numerous Break and Enter charges from incidents across Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Working together to solve crimes

A strong relationship with the officers of the Wagmatcook First Nation led RCMP to disrupt drug trafficking that was occurring in the community. In Fall 2013, RCMP received information concerning large amounts of prescription pills that were being sold in the community of Wagmatcook. Drug trafficking has an impact on the safety of the community and the overall quality of life so with the full confidence and support of the Wagmatcook Chief and Council, the RCMP began an investigation.

Given the relationships the members have within the community, they were quick to receive information that led to arrests and charges under the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act. A large quantity of hydromorph-contin, dilaudid, methadone and other drugs were seized.

Unique approach to understanding and responding to mental health

Antigonish RCMP took a unique approach to education and training on mental health and illness. Partnering with local nurses, officers from the detachment looked for a way to convey information about mental illness and offer a more detailed understanding of what life is like for people who live with mental illness.

This led the RCMP to obtain the help of the Park Bench Players, a community-based theatre troupe consisting of adults living with chronic mental illness. The Players attended training for police officers and performed monologues from their play called, 'A Little Help from my Friends'. The play aims to debunk myths about mental illness and introduce others to the meaningful contributions that people living with mental illness can and do make to their communities.

Electronic disclosure pilot project is a success in Antigonish

The Antigonish RCMP Detachment is leading a pilot project to move from paper to electronic disclosure. Traditionally all disclosure for court proceedings were in paper format and involved making multiple copies of documents and compiling large packages. This process took officers off the road and away from other policing duties. The new electronic disclosure system has many benefits. It is convenient to use for police and justice system officials, ensures consistency of information, reduces the amount of time officers are in the office completing paperwork, and reduces paper consumption. To date, the detachment has saved hundreds of administrative hours which have been directed into enforcement and education initiatives.

The Nova Scotia Public Prosecution Service has welcomed the switch to electronic disclosure. Chief Crown Allan Murray stated that the pilot project is an *"important step in the evolution toward a fully paperless system and Antigonish Detachment has been a leader in this process."*

Man charged with murder following woman's disappearance

RCMP in Cape Breton charged a man with Second Degree Murder after an investigation into a woman's disappearance.

In May 2013, 57-year-old Michelle Demers-Kennedy was reported missing to RCMP after a family member tried unsuccessfully to contact her for Mother's Day at her home in Framboise. After Michelle was reported missing to police, RCMP, joined by search and rescue personnel, scoured the area near her home in an effort to locate her.

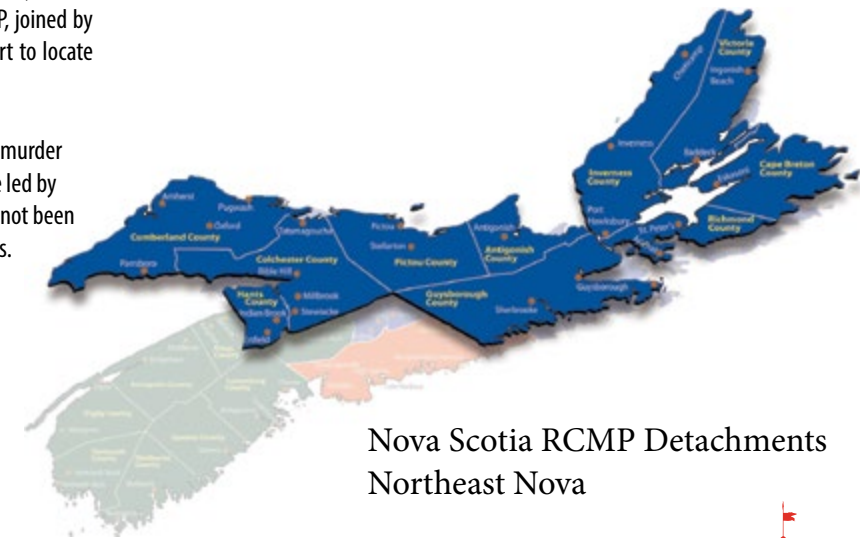
In January 2014, Merlin Demers-Kennedy was arrested and charged with murder following an extensive seven-month investigation into her disappearance led by the RCMP Northeast Nova Major Crimes Unit. To date, Michelle's body has not been located. The investigation is ongoing and the case is now before the courts.

RCMP and youth partnership is making a difference in Port Hawkesbury

The Port Hawkesbury RCMP and Strait Area Education and Recreation Centre Youth Council was created three years ago with the goal of supporting the RCMP in policing youth. With the largest school population in the area, students who are interested in joining the council must have an interest in its mandate and share the core values of the RCMP.

Students work with the RCMP to identify growing trends of concern. Initially, the council focused on impaired driving and substance abuse. The following year the goal focused on cyber-bullying and mischief. This year, the council decided to create the Port Hawkesbury Cinema, where the council converted the auditorium into a movie theatre. Proceeds raised are returned to the school for upgrades and also to other service groups. To date, the cinema has donated over \$5,000 to service groups around Inverness District. The cinema gives teens and families a safe place for entertainment. During the movie previews, the council plays public safety messages on impaired driving education, fraud prevention and anti-bullying. The benefits of the cinema don't end with mentoring and inspiring the leaders of tomorrow. By offering movies at a price that everyone can afford, it creates another social activity for everyone.

Overall, the Port Hawkesbury cinema has been a win-win situation for the community: the students involved benefit by developing leadership skills, the youth benefit by a having a drug and alcohol free source of entertainment, and the community benefits through the donations of funds raised by the cinema.



Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments
Northeast Nova

Highlights from Southwest Nova District



Superintendent Sylvie Bourassa-Muise
Southwest Nova District Policing Officer

Creating connections: Domestic Violence Coordinator

Incidents of domestic and sexual violence require immediate police response and follow-up to ensure the safety of victims. Officers involved in these investigations work regularly to identify improvements that could be made to support victims throughout the investigative and court process as well as the healing process. Kings County RCMP piloted the creation of a Domestic Violence Coordinator. The role of this specialized position is to improve victim safety, increase the likelihood of successful prosecutions and reduce the likelihood of re-victimization. In addition, the coordinator works closely with community partners, including domestic violence and sexual violence prevention groups. This model is proving very successful.

Southwest Nova Senior Safety Program setting the standard

The Senior Safety program has become a benchmark program that is working. Through partnerships, RCMP employees work with seniors to assist in bridging security, safety and wellness matters between police and community groups. Designated coordinators are liaisons and advocates for seniors to ensure they have the resources and support they require.

Through the program it was identified that seniors who suffer from various types of dementia are at an increased risk with their overall safety, many of whom live alone in isolated areas. In 2013, Yarmouth County RCMP and partner agencies established a goal to reach out to seniors to create awareness about the new program. Through partnerships with groups including the Western Regional Housing Authority, there were 138 new clients and 978 visits in both the Municipality of District of Argyle and Yarmouth. As well, in 2013 an additional position received funding from the Municipality of the District of Yarmouth in support of the program.

The Annapolis County Senior Safety Program won the RCMP Southwest Nova District Award of Distinction. The program's service standards are also recognized as a best practice service by the Nova Scotia Government.

Street Crime Enforcement Units are a success

Street Crime Enforcement Units (SCEU) throughout Southwest Nova Scotia continue to have a significant impact on drug and property crimes. Consisting of RCMP and municipal policing partners, the six SCEU teams take a focused approach on street-level crimes. During this period, SCEU units removed a significant quantity of drugs from our streets, seized more than \$40,000 in property and laid charges against 41 people. Beyond street level enforcement, SCEU members provide valuable assistance to frontline police officers and are routinely called upon to support Major Crimes Units, Ground Search and Rescue and Tactical Troop.

Proactive policing

Through the assistance of crime analysts and focused enforcement, the RCMP has experienced a reduction in certain crime types which allows police to focus on preventive measures. One example is increased checkpoints that focus on drivers impaired by drugs and alcohol. Yarmouth County experienced a six-year spike in charges resulting from driving while impaired and Kings County experienced a 13 per cent increase in impaired driving charges compared to the previous year.

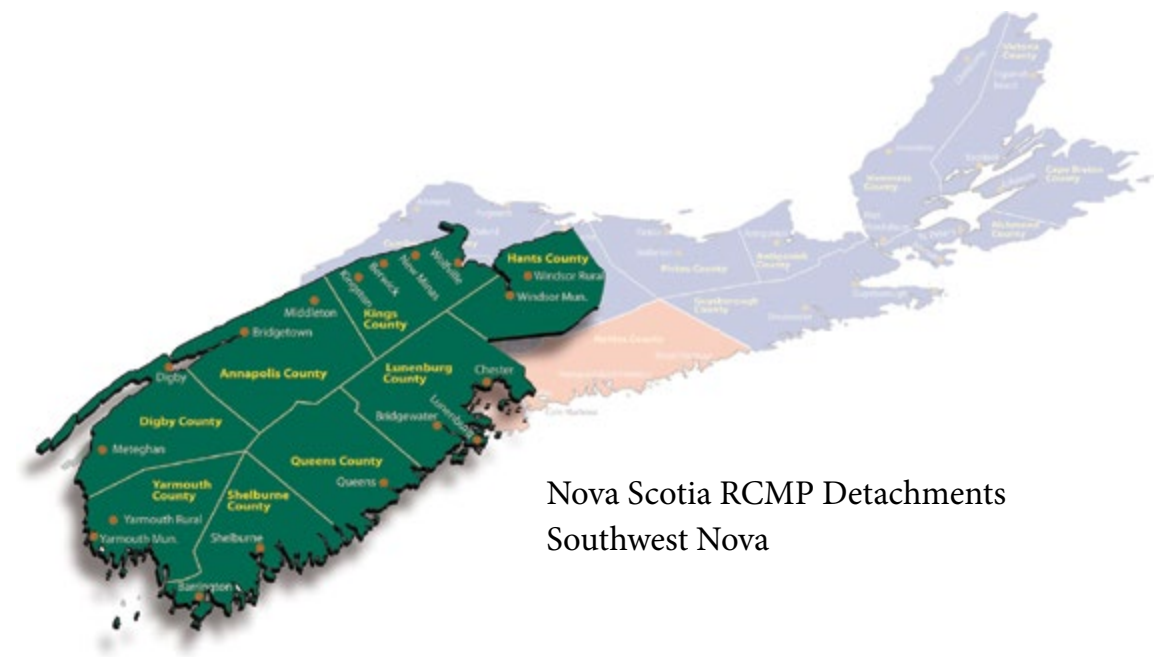
Youth Advisory Committee makes its mark in Lunenburg County

Cst. Brandy Steeves and Cst. Susan Foote (Ret'd) formed the Lunenburg County RCMP Youth Advisory Committee - made up of RCMP, South Shore Schools Plus and students from across Lunenburg County who regularly meet to discuss youth issues. The committee works toward developing leadership skills and raising awareness on bullying, drugs, and sexual harassment/assault and ensuring resources are available to those who require them. To raise awareness, the Committee conducts school presentations and creates videos which are posted to their YouTube channel.

In 2013, the Lunenburg County RCMP Youth Advisory Committee was presented with the Lieutenant Governor's Respectful Citizenship Award. The award recognizes students from around the province who are going the extra mile to demonstrate leadership and commitment to creating safe and inclusive spaces in schools and communities.

Cyber safety and youth

The RCMP continues to focus on educating youth on cyber safety. Lunenburg County School Safety Resource Officers developed a program to educate youth on safe communication on the internet and mobile devices. During the presentation the officers also focus on youth-related issues including self-respect and gender respect.



Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments
Southwest Nova

From Our Inbox

The men and women of the RCMP have the privilege of serving the people of Nova Scotia. What makes this job even more rewarding is when we open our inbox and reflect on the comments and feedback from you, our citizens. Thank you for your kind words...

"Thank you to the employees who answer the phone. I was in Oxford tonight and thought I had lost my purse containing cash, credit cards and my ID. I eventually found it between the seat and door post of my car but they were good enough to go to the place of business and look in garbage cans and the likes. Something so insignificant to many but such care given and the officer who answered the phone and his calming voice to a very distraught person was wonderful, great work officer! Thanks."

"I had a major dilemma and want to send a huge thank you to the two officers who were the first on scene. I am so very thankful at how fast they came, how pleasant and sincere they were dealing with my situation and trying to make me laugh and brighten the situation. This was a first and last thing to ever attempt again and I want them to know things are finally looking up for me. I hope all of you get acknowledged for the things you deal with on a daily basis. Thank you."

"Just want to say thanks for the quick response on the Guysborough Road tonight! Glad to have my husband home and my stepson and his wife in their home safe and sound."

"I want to say thank you to S/Sgt. Warnica. I was in a pretty crazy accident this morning involving a dump truck and was amazingly not injured. He was the first responder on scene and did an amazing job. He was very efficient and controlled the situation with authority. Today I realized what an important role all of our emergency services play, and I want to thank the RCMP for the amazing jobs they do every day."

"I want to take a moment to thank you and everyone who helped to search for, locate, and help my husband. He was 'greeted' by several police officers today and their calm, professional actions finally convinced him to seek some professional counseling, and medical attention. Although I was as surprised to see them there as he was, I wanted to high-five them all right then and there for the help. Since he has been 'on the run' for 3 weeks, I am convinced he would still be on the run, or worse, if there had been no intervention. With all the many things police officers have to do, I am so grateful for the time and attention that was paid to this matter and it is going to make a big difference for him and me. Thank you!"

"I just spoke with someone to report a car at my home was broken into. I want to thank the person I spoke with who took the information I provided and was very helpful and reassuring, explaining the local detachment would be contacted and provide me with a file number to reference in future correspondence. I was very pleased with how quickly my call was answered and having someone explain what the follow-up action would be."

"Tonight I was involved in a collision with a deer on Hwy 101 and reported the matter to 911. I would like to express my thanks to the lady who dealt with my phone call for her help and understanding. I would also like to express my most grateful thanks to Cst. Francois LeVesque who attended the scene. His help in taking my wife and friend to our accommodation, returning to the scene to ensure myself and friend were safe on the highway, and then taking us to the accommodation after our vehicle was recovered, was in my opinion above and beyond what the four of us would have expected. He is certainly a credit to the RCMP."



Operational Support Services

"Members of the Operational Support Services team are experts in their field and ready to respond to situations unfolding across the province. From investigating major and serious crimes, responding to high risk emergency situations and providing a range of specialized services and expertise, the RCMP demonstrates its capability as Nova Scotia's Provincial Police by utilizing these units to support public safety."

Superintendent Ray Oliver
Operational Support Services Officer

Major Crimes Units

RCMP Major Crimes Units (MCU) are responsible for the investigation of murders, attempted murders, abductions, missing persons, historical homicides and a variety of other complex criminal investigations.

In 2013-14, Major Crimes investigators launched an extensive investigation into the disappearance of Michelle Demers-Kennedy after she was reported missing to Richmond County RCMP on May 12, 2013. To read more about this case and the Second Degree Murder charges please refer to the Highlights from Northeast Nova District section of this document.

Major Crimes investigators also played a critical role in the arrests and charges against four people involved in the murder of Phillip Boudreau in Petit-de-Grat. To read more about this case please refer to the Major Investigations section of this document.

Major Crimes investigations differ in many aspects but the common goal is to make arrests and lay charges. Our officers are committed to reviewing facts and gathering evidence to bring those responsible before the courts and most importantly to provide a sense of closure to the victim's families.



Internet Child Exploitation Unit

The Nova Scotia RCMP Internet Child Exploitation Unit (ICE) is focused on rescuing children and identifying child victims of sexual abuse is their number one priority. They spend much of their time investigating and identifying suspects involved in a variety of child pornography and related offences.

They do this by conducting undercover and peer-to-peer investigations. Peer-to-peer investigations target people sharing child pornography over the web. RCMP ICE is involved in investigations around the world and provides expertise to frontline police officers with municipal police forces throughout Nova Scotia.

The RCMP believes strongly that the best defense against child pornography and child exploitation is to equip the public, and most importantly, our youth with awareness and education to minimize the risk of becoming a victim. They accomplish this through presentations to a variety of audiences such as police officers, youth, parents and social workers.

In June 2013, the RCMP ICE Unit and the Integrated ICE Unit participated in a child pornography investigation called Operation Snapshot II. The goal of this operation was to identify and rescue child victims of sexual exploitation, and identify and charge high-risk offenders who possess, distribute or collect child sexual exploitation material online. Operation Snapshot II was complex and highly coordinated as it involved sharing information and police resources at the federal, provincial and municipal levels. In Nova Scotia, one child victim was rescued and seven men were charged for Possession, Making Available, Accessing Child Pornography, and Making Child Pornography.

The Internet has changed the way child sexual exploitation offences are committed, investigated, and prosecuted however the RCMP remains committed to reducing the vulnerability and exploitation of children in Nova Scotia.

Community Aboriginal and Diversity Policing Services



The Nova Scotia RCMP promotes and strengthens strong relationships with communities throughout the province including African Nova Scotians, Aboriginals, LGBTQ*, immigrants and new Canadians, as well as religious and multi-faith groups. In order to effectively police our diverse communities, we integrate cultural experiences and teachings in our

training. In 2014, to promote cultural diversity and inclusion, RCMP Community Aboriginal and Diversity Policing Services (CADPS) organized workshops for employees on a variety of topics including African drumming, a multi-cultural food market, a screening of the film "Spirit Wind" by Mi'kmaq artist Cathy Martin along with presentations on Mi'kmaq Cultural Landscape by Archaeologist Roger Lewis, LGBTQ* youth by the Youth Project, and issues faced by disabled people, presented by The Work Bridge Association.

We work in partnership with the 12 First Nations communities we serve in Nova Scotia to develop annual policing plans. RCMP employees also receive training and participate in events that recognize and pay tribute to Aboriginal values and traditions including Mi'kmaq Summer Games, Mi'kmaq Treaty Day, MADD Walks, Mi'kmaq Valley Youth Gathering, St. Anne's Mission, Community Feasts, Pow Wows, Cultural Workshops, and Sister in Spirit Walks. Collectively, the events provide opportunities to help us build and reinforce relationships that are culturally sensitive.

Truth Verification Section

The Truth Verification Section (TVS) supports criminal investigations by conducting forensic polygraph examinations and interviews with witnesses and suspects. TVS assists RCMP and municipal police officers in active and historical homicide investigations in partnership with the Major Crimes Unit. In addition, the section supports RCMP recruiting efforts by completing all pre-employment polygraph examinations for applicants in Nova Scotia. Training and development in this area is critical and experts within this section teach techniques through an RCMP interview course that is also offered to municipal agencies throughout the province.

Forensic Identification Services

Nova Scotia RCMP Forensic Identification Services (FIS) is called on at a moment's notice to respond to crime scenes across Nova Scotia. Forensic investigators are often covered head-to-toe in white jumpsuits, masks, gloves and shoe coverings when they begin their tireless search for evidence. They navigate a crime scene with precision, employing highly skilled techniques and specialized equipment to begin to uncover the 'story' about the crime. Officers within the unit have varied police experience with additional years of specialized training in forensics. Members deal with evidence – locating, collecting, preserving and analyzing it – all in an effort to identify or link suspects to a crime scene.



Forensic investigators photograph everything before it is moved. Placards are set on visible evidence, which is examined with a white light and fingerprint powder. They also use a series of specialized forensic light sources including laser search for trace evidence such as DNA (blood, saliva), hairs, fibers, fingerprints, tire tracks or footwear impressions. In many cases these trace items of evidence are not visible to the naked eye and require the expertise of FIS to locate and collect. As you can see, the recovery and analysis of forensic evidence is a critical element of any investigation.





Police Dog Services

The expertise of the Nova Scotia RCMP Police Dog Services (PDS) is invaluable and the connection between a handler and dog is a lifetime bond. In Nova Scotia there are eight dog handler teams. Our dogs are Cento, Ammo, Stinger, Arik, Lennie, Baylee, Doc and Jake. Each dog is trained with a specific profile; in Nova Scotia six are general duty dogs that specialize in tracking and criminal apprehension. Of those, four are specially trained to detect drugs and two specialize in the detection of explosives.

The RCMP polices the Halifax International Airport and a dog and his handler are on site trained to detect explosives. One of our specially trained narcotic detection dogs assists with major investigations, spending much of his time at train stations, bus stations and airports and has played a key role in preventing drugs from entering our community.

This highly trained unit supports the frontline and specialized units including Major Crimes, Federal Operations, VIP, Explosives Disposal Unit, Emergency Response Teams and Tactical Unit Troops.

In 2013, Police Dog Services attended close to 1,000 calls for service. Check out some examples below:

- A police dog and handler tracked a suspect for three hours through rivers, down roads and over cliffs. This led to the apprehension of the suspect who was wanted for 22 warrants.
- A police dog and handler entered a home following a break and enter in which a suspect had been arrested. Once inside the residence, the dog immediately tracked a scent to a concealed location in the attic where two additional suspects were located and arrested.
- A police dog and handler tracked a suspect for eight kilometres through residential and wooded areas. The suspect was located and arrested for numerous motor vehicle thefts.
- A police dog and handler pursued a scent trail and recovered evidence that led to tracking down three suspects involved in a violent home invasion.
- A police dog and handler tracked and found a man who was reported missing and suffering from dementia.
- A police dog and handler located remnants from a shot gun shell that was used during an attempted murder.



RCMP collision analyst investigates a serious injury collision on Highway 103 in Blockhouse, Nova Scotia. The photo was taken by an RCMP officer piloting an Unmanned Aerial System (UAS).



National Impaired Driving Enforcement Day

Impaired Driving Enforcement Strategy: Nova Scotia hosts national launch

In December 2013, the RCMP launched a National Impaired Driving Enforcement Strategy to increase efforts to end drinking and driving and drug impaired driving through proactive education and enforcement campaigns. Throughout the year, the RCMP conducted targeted enforcement and had a strong presence on our roadways checking to see if motorists are driving in a safe and sober manner.

“Impaired driving remains one of the leading causes of death on Nova Scotia’s roadways.”

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson came to the province to launch the enforcement campaign. He geared-up in duty equipment and worked alongside members at checkpoints in Sackville and Windsor during the kick-off in December. During a 24-hour period, a total of 75 checkpoints were held across the province and more than 10,000 vehicles stopped. This resulted in 14 people charged with impaired driving; two of those were drug impairment.

Checkpoints take place day and night explains Superintendent Ray Oliver, *“People may be surprised to know that some of those we charged were impaired behind the wheel in the middle of the day. It is a myth that impaired drivers are only behind the wheel at night. Sadly, impaired drivers are on the road 24 hours a day, seven days a week.”*

In March 2014, the second national impaired driving enforcement day was held. Close to 9,000 vehicles were stopped in province-wide checkpoints and 12 drivers were charged with impaired driving by alcohol and nine other drivers were issued roadside driving suspensions.



*RCMP asks you to make the right choice
“How are you getting home?”*

As the Provincial Police, the RCMP continues to aggressively focus on drug and alcohol impaired drivers. Everyone has the right to come home safe and with your help the RCMP is working hard to ensure this occurs.





Federal Policing

"Much of the work that members of Federal Operations undertake is not always visible to the public; however, employees in these units undertake a number of projects including long-term investigations tackling serious and organized crime groups. Members from Federal Policing are usually dressed in plain clothes and in some cases, operate undercover. These members are required to follow criminal activity around the globe and work closely with law enforcement partners such as Canadian Border Services Agency, Department of National Defense and the Federal Bureau of Intelligence (FBI)."

Superintendent John Ferguson
Federal Policing Officer

Investment fraud investigations lead to many arrests

Nova Scotians work hard for their money and unfortunately there are individuals that continue to try and defraud or scam investors of their money. The RCMP fully investigates reports of investment fraud and as a result laid a number of charges in 2013.

- In November 2013, RCMP charged a Port Williams man in relation to a multi-million dollar fraud following a 16-month investigation. The investigation began in June 2012, when the RCMP received a complaint of a possible banking and investment fraud against the Royal Bank of Canada by two Nova Scotia companies, Advanced Commission Company of Canada and Capstan Management Limited. The RCMP Financial Crime Team began an investigation and interviewed 64 witnesses. As a result they determined both companies defrauded the Royal Bank of Canada over a period of six years by submitting fraudulent financial statements. The owner of the companies was charged with three counts of Fraud Exceeding \$5,000 and 12 counts of Uttering Forged Documents.
- RCMP began an investigation in 2009 after receiving a complaint about an investment advisor. Officers determined that 30 victims were defrauded of approximately \$2 million for non-existent business deals. Of the 30 victims, 28 were Nova Scotia residents. In 2013, Nova Scotia RCMP charged two Ontario residents with 28 counts of Fraud Exceeding \$5,000. In addition, the two accused were jointly charged on one count of Fraud Exceeding \$5,000 and one count of Possession of Property Obtained by Crime.

RCMP lay charges after investigation into Development Authority

An investigation began into the South West Shore Development Authority after the RCMP received a referral from the Nova Scotia Department of Economic and Rural Development and Tourism (ERDT) in September 2012. The referral resulted from key findings released from an independent forensic examination commissioned by ERDT. The investigation was extensive and included examining expense claims and supplier invoices.

Eleven months later in August 2013, the RCMP Federal Operations section charged a Lake George, Yarmouth County man with eight counts of Uttering Forged Documents and one count of Fraud over \$5,000.

Citizenship fraud

Citizenship and immigration fraud is taken very seriously because of the potential threat this can pose to Canada's national security.

As a result of collaboration between the Federal Operations Section with Citizenship and Immigration Canada and Canada Border Services Agency, in August 2013, the RCMP charged Basem Farid Awaad with two charges of Counseling Misrepresentation and two charges of False Representation. Based on the evidence gathered during the investigation, the RCMP alleges the man was counseling and assisting foreign nationals through fraudulent means to maintain their Permanent Resident status and obtain Canadian citizenship.

The RCMP identifies and disrupts those who are trying to circumvent the requirements of the immigration process. Through the success of these types of investigations, the message will continue to be sent that you cannot purchase Canadian citizenship.

Suspicious containers at the Port of Halifax

The Federal Serious and Organized Crime Unit in partnership with Canada Border Services Agency and the Insurance Bureau of Canada resulted in the recovery of 77 stolen vehicles in 2013. The RCMP, working with its partner agencies, targeted suspicious containers coming into the Port of Halifax. Through investigation, officers also recovered stolen vehicle parts in various containers throughout the year.

Of these 77 recovered vehicles, 62 were stolen vehicles, while 15 were vehicles that had been fraudulently obtained and were then being shipped out of the country to Western Africa countries. The majority of the vehicles recovered were Toyotas and Hondas but others included Acuras, BMWs and Land Rovers.



Operation HARVEY: 15 arrests in undercover operation

Officers from the RCMP Combined Forces Intelligence Unit and Integrated Special Enforcement Section arrested 12 men and three women from across Halifax, Cape Breton and Truro. Following a five-month undercover investigation into drug trafficking, officers charged 15 people for trafficking a variety of drugs including hydromorphone, dilaudid, hash, marihuana and steroids throughout the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility. During the investigation officers seized over a kilogram of cocaine, a loaded handgun and a quantity of cash.

Operation HARVEY was an excellent example of inter-agency collaboration between the RCMP, Halifax Regional Police and the Department of Justice Correctional Services. As a result, police were able to gain a clear picture of the network of criminal activity and the drug dealers involved.





Divers from the Underwater Recovery Team searching for evidence



Major Investigations

CHARGES: Murder of Philip Boudreau in Petit-de-Grat

In the early morning hours of June 1, 2013, Richmond County RCMP responded to a report of an overturned boat owned by Phillip Joseph Boudreau that was found at the mouth of Petit-de-Grat harbour.

Shortly after, Richmond County RCMP, the RCMP Underwater Recovery Team, with the assistance of Department of Fisheries and Oceans, the Canadian Coast Guard and the Strait Area Ground Search and Rescue began their search for 43-year-old Mr. Boudreau who was last seen on June 1.

Officers immediately began investigating and within one week, the RCMP Northeast Nova Major Crimes Unit charged three men with Second Degree Murder. In the weeks following, officers charged a woman with Accessory After the Fact. Boudreau's body has not been recovered and the matter remains under investigation.

Once charges were laid, the RCMP Provincial Proceeds of Crime Unit (PPOC) became involved because they seize property related to offenses. After reviewing the homicide investigation, PPOC determined that the fishing vessel "Twin Maggies" played a key role in the homicide and was therefore seized as offense-related property.



RCMP bust 'drugs-for-sex-ring' in Lunenburg area

In late 2012, Lunenburg County District RCMP received anonymous information that several adult males in the Chester area were exchanging drugs for sexual intercourse with teenaged females. Officers learned young women who were addicted to prescription drugs were being exploited and exchanging sexual favours to support their drug habit.

A number of specialized RCMP units were involved in the investigation and their goal was to identify the suspects and help the young women who were involved. In the spring of 2013, the RCMP wrapped the investigation and arrested five men and laid 11 sex and drug-related charges.

While the matter remains before the courts, the RCMP ensured the victims in this crime had access to the resources they required including addiction treatment and counseling.

CHARGES: RCMP lay 300 charges and put an end to a break and enter spree in rural Nova Scotia

A break and enter spree in rural parts of Annapolis, Kings, Lunenburg and Queens Counties that dated back to 2012 came to an end in November 2013. Close to 50 homes were targeted for various items including jewelry, collectable coins and bills, firearms, cameras, computers, electronics and gas.

Annapolis District RCMP Street Crime Enforcement Unit conducted a five-month investigation, executing multiple search warrants that led to over 300 charges. RCMP officers from all four counties were called upon to assist in completing the investigation into the day-time break and enters that occurred when most homeowners were away at work. Two males and one female face charges including Break and Enter, Possession of Stolen Property, and Conspiracy to Commit Break and Enter. One of the males is facing additional charges of Breach of Probation.

While some of the stolen property has been recovered, efforts are continuing to locate other items that were stolen. The investigation is continuing.

CHARGES: Self-proclaimed 'Pillowcase Bandits' face over 170 charges

Following a four-month investigation in relation to a series of break and enters in the Halifax area and Lunenburg and Colchester Counties, the Integrated General Investigation Section, assisted by RCMP from Colchester and Lunenburg Counties, laid over 170 charges against four men. The investigation began in Tantallon in April 2013 after police seized cell phones and obtained search warrants in relation to break and enters that occurred in various communities in Nova Scotia.

In July 2013, three adult males were charged with various offences including Participation in a Criminal Organization, Conspiring to Commit the Indictable Offence of Break and Enter, and Conspiring to Commit the Indictable Offence of Trafficking Property Obtained by Crime. Within days a fourth man was charged with multiple Break and Enter charges and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime.

The accused, who referred to themselves as the "Pillowcase Bandits" committed approximately 30 break-and-enters and targeted cash, jewelry and electronics, such as laptops, iPods and iPads. Investigators quickly saw similarities between the time of day, items stolen and methods used in break ins.

In almost all of the investigations, pillowcases were removed from the house likely used to transport stolen property out of the home. "As far as break-and-enter investigations go, this may be one of the largest ones I've been involved in. It was fairly sophisticated and it affected a lot of people throughout the province," said Sergeant Paul Robinson, Investigator in the General Investigation Section of the Integrated Criminal Investigation Division.





Members of the RCMP Emergency Response Team on the Rigid Hulled Inflatable Boat (RHIB). Criminal activity is not limited to land. It's important that we have the ability to respond to events on the water. The 10-metre boat is capable of marine intervention in the rough waters off Nova Scotia's coast.



Members of the Emergency Response Team (ERT)

Keeping You in the Loop

The Nova Scotia RCMP are accountable to you. We work 24/7 to ensure Nova Scotians receive objective, timely and accurate information, from one end of the province to the other. Whether you are in Victoria County, Yarmouth County or Halifax, your Provincial Police is always working to ensure you are in the know!

Social Media

Nova Scotia RCMP use social media to show you who we are and what we do. Through updates, comments, photos and tweets, we showcase the Force to our 'Friends' and 'Followers' throughout Nova Scotia and around the world.

As your Provincial Police we use social media to inform, investigate and alert citizens to emerging public safety matters. During the past year, social media has proven to be a valuable tool for leveraging the public's assistance and getting everyone involved in community safety. Through your 'shares' and 'retweets' you have helped us locate missing persons, solve break and enters and identify suspects in hit-and-runs. Every piece of information counts when it comes to solving a crime. Thank you!

Interested in learning more? Follow us on Facebook (Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Nova Scotia) and Twitter (@RCMPNS) and visit our website to learn more about what the RCMP is doing in your community.

Ask a Mountie

@RCMPNS #NSMountieTalk



Hosting chats on Twitter is a unique way for citizens to engage and receive useful tips and information. We hosted 'Ask a Mountie' Twitter sessions on a variety of topics and gave you unlimited access to police officers who answered questions on road safety, internet and identity fraud prevention to name a few. As well, for the first time ever, Halifax District RCMP and the Halifax Board of Police Commissioners hosted a joint chat as part of their community consultation process. These meetings help shape priorities and the Twitter chat was a unique way to reach a demographic that could not or might not normally attend a session in-person.

RCMP, Nova Scotia @RCMPNS

Did you know? Every day in NS, 911 dispatchers answer approx 650 calls, 65% request ambulance, police and fire service #NSMountieTalk

Geoff Cainen @GeoffCainen

@policenews @RCMPNS thanks for supporting us today as students return. Your presence around schools and bus routes has been noted positively

Kyle Mackay @kyleemacc

Question @RCMPNS speed limit is 50 and must slow down to 30 but is it only in effect when children are out or at all times when school is in

NS_TIR @NS_TIR

@kyleemacc @rcmpns #NSMountieTalk Thks for the ques. Reduced speed limit in effect 24/7, 365 days, when children r outside.

Kyle Mackay @kyleemacc

@NS_TIR awesome! Thanks @NS_TIR. And @RCMPNS

RCMP, Nova Scotia @RCMPNS

Did you know the penalty for passing a school bus illegally is \$406.45 and 6 points against the license? #NSMountieTalk

Safety Services NS @SafetyNS

@RCMPNS hosting a Twitter Chat today at 11:30am. Topic: school bus safety. Ask a ? or follow the conversation. #NSMountietalk.

RCMP, Nova Scotia @RCMPNS

The 'Ask a Mountie' Twitter session with our 911 operators will now close. Thank you for participating. #NSMountietalk

And they called it puppy love



In January 2014, an RCMP officer on patrol in East Preston came upon three black puppies huddled together in the middle of the road, trying to keep warm. The puppies were shivering, dirty, and frightened by the police officer. After some coaxing, the puppies allowed him to place them in his warm police car.

The dog's first stop was the RCMP detachment in Cole Harbour where they received water and a whole lot of love. From there, a Halifax dispatcher found a dog shelter that would take the puppies in the morning so they spent the night at a 911 call centre.

All three were taken to the shelter in the morning where they were fittingly named Radar, Sirens and Cuffs. Once we shared the story of the puppies on social media, your comments, shares, likes and retweets said it all! The puppies had hundreds of people looking to adopt them and all three eventually found safe and loving homes.

Through social media, we were able to update through photos and videos of the puppies getting settled in their new homes. A happy ending to what could have been a very sad story.



'Twas the night before Christmas



Every December, we reinforce simple ways people can protect themselves from crime around the holiday season. Last year we partnered with Elmsdale Fire for a guided house tour that highlighted crime and fire prevention safety tips and a demonstration of how quickly and easily a tree can ignite. To highlight a few of the tips in a memorable way we offered a unique take on a classic Christmas story and shared on social media – here's an excerpt to give you an idea:

*'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house
The RCMP and Elmsdale Fire found lots of safety tips to boast!
Timer lights were hung by the doorway with care,
In hopes that potential burglars would always beware.*

*The tree lights were glistening,
Their wires in good condition,
Smoke detector batteries,
Were in correct position.*

*With no overcrowded power bars,
And a hydrated tree,
It was clear this was a family
Who knew fire safety.*

*The gifts were nestled all snug under the tree,
Tucked away from the window where thieves could not see,
The ladder was placed safely away in the shed,
While visions of open second story windows danced in their heads...*





Administration and Personnel

"Employees of the Administration and Personnel Officer work to ensure that the RCMP is a modern, motivated, healthy, qualified and productive workforce with a focus on continuous improvement. Our goal is to provide an environment that supports operations and aids in the delivery of quality policing services. Employees support various programs and initiatives including recruiting, hiring and screening of new employees, awards and recognition, training and managing relationships with government partners and clients."

Superintendent Dennis Daley
Administration and Personnel Officer

RCMP Awards & Recognition

Awards and recognition ceremonies are an integral part of recognizing RCMP employees for their contributions and years of dedicated service to the Force.

One such award is the Commanding Officer's Commendation.



Constable Gord Giffin received the Commendation for launching an investigation after hearing rumours about drug activity in his community. Cst Giffin's persistence and dedication resulted in a five month investigation that led to the arrests of five men who were charged with a total of 11 sex and drug related charges. For further information, please refer to the Major Investigations section, 'RCMP bust drugs for sex ring in Lunenburg area'.



The Second Man Award honours the wives of RCMP members working in one or two-man detachments from the 1900s to the 1970s. When officers were out on investigations, the wives were often called upon to perform a range of duties in support of police operations, cooking and caring for prisoners, filing, transporting and searching female prisoners, taking complaints, compiling accident reports, and comforting crime victims and families after accidental deaths. The women were left to fill the gaps and often became the 'unpaid second man' for the communities in which they lived. The award recognizes their dedication and commitment to their spouses and the work of the RCMP.

"I remember one Christmas morning, having one of the locals pounding on my door when my husband was out on a call and I had to answer. The lady had been in a fight with her husband and she was covered in blood. That was definitely trying."



The RCMP is Hiring!

Did you know there are more than 150 different types of operational and administrative opportunities within the RCMP?

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police offers meaningful work, vast opportunities, the chance to serve across Canada and a career like no other. RCMP officers play an important role in ensuring the safety and security of those in the communities they serve. Responsible for enforcing the law and investigating crime, our officers are role models and leaders who provide advice and guidance to people from all walks of life. If you want to make a difference in your community and your country, this is a career to consider.

The RCMP is looking for people who are responsible, respectful, professional, compassionate, honest and who have integrity. Once training is successfully completed, a new member will be posted to one of our 750 detachments across Canada.

For more information on a career with the RCMP and basic requirements, visit our website at www.rcmpcareers.ca where you will also find information on career presentations.

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