

RCMP·GRC



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE • GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

2012-2013 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, the 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 Alphonse MacNeil

As Commanding Officer for the RCMP in Nova Scotia, I am pleased to provide you with our 2012-13 Year in Review. This report provides a snapshot of our activities and highlights the impact the women and men of the RCMP are making in your community.

It is our goal to ensure Nova Scotians are aware of our activities and how we are focusing our resources as the Provincial Police to make a difference in your community. From solving murders, seizing drugs, arresting criminals, patrolling the highways to organizing community events; we take great pride in serving you. All of us, like you, are proud to call Nova Scotia home.

There are many ways the RCMP in Nova Scotia are accountable to the citizens we serve. One example is through social media where we connect with you, both to hear what you have to say and to keep you informed about what is going on in your community. Through casual conversations, community presentations, traditional media, town halls, Facebook and Twitter we strive to be transparent and show you who we are and what we do.

Through your support we have surpassed 20,000 followers on both Facebook and Twitter and our numbers continue to soar. Social media has become a valuable tool for leveraging the public's assistance and getting everyone involved in public safety. Whether it is assistance locating a missing person or identifying potential suspects in a crime, many Nova Scotians have become our eyes and ears on the street. Public safety is everyone's responsibility and your support demonstrates that we are in this together.

As your Provincial Police, we remain committed to finding efficient and effective ways of using modern technology to fight crime and improve business practices. In our new state-of-the-art headquarters we have units such as the Underwater Recovery Team, Tech Crime, Truth Verification Section, Police Dog Services and multiple specialized investigative units. The RCMP are well positioned to mobilize our specialized services and deploy from our Headquarters to respond to any event from Yarmouth County to Victoria County.

Over the course of the year I travel across the province, attending community events and meeting with employees at our 52 detachments and offices. In many cases I get the chance to speak with community members and I am continually impressed and humbled by their support for the RCMP.

Employees of the RCMP are truly committed to serving the public and they give back in ways that many will never know. The kind words from citizens mean a lot to us and the impact extends far beyond what one may imagine.

As you read this report I hope you enjoy the photos. RCMP Cst. Bryce Haight from Pictou County District is a natural when it comes to photography. Who better to showcase your Provincial Police than one of our own.

Thank you for your continued support.
Assistant Commissioner Alphonse MacNeil
Commanding Officer



Nikanus ta'n Nuji-apoqnmuatl Alsusitl Wi'katikn wejiaq Alphonse MacNeil



Ni'n Nikanus wjit Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) No'pa Sko'sia, aqq welta'si kisi-kinua'tulninen ta'n kis-tliaq koqoey 2012-2013.

Ula wi'katikniktuk ewikasik ta'n tel-mil-lukutiek aqq ta'n teli-atikneta'jik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) e'pitjik aqq ji'nmuk kwutanminal.

Menuekeyekik mimajuinu'k No'pa Sko'sia kjijitunew ta'n Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik Nopa Sko'sia tel-mil-lukutijik aqq ta'n teli-ika'tuek apoqnmatickewey kulaman naji-wl-pmialat kwutanminal. Pikwelk koqoey elukwatmek kutey nike' kwiluj wen kis-ne'pateket kiska netui'sket, pija'lut wen ta'n kisi-o'plateket, awti'l jiko'tmekl aqq maliaptmek koqoey wutank teliaq; mekite'tmek ta'n tel-lukewulek. Kutey kilew, ninen elt kesite'tmek kmitkinu Nopa Sko'sia.

Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) Nopa Sko'sia amujpa ekinua'lsultijik ta'n tel-lukuti'tij. Ewe'wme'kl mataqte'kney aqq ekitasikl wi'katiknn kinua'lsultinen ta'n tel-lukutiek wutank aqq elt kulaman kisi-kinua'tuksinen wenik ta'n telita'sulti'tij. Aqq elt ewe'wme'k etlewistu'timkik wenik, mawaknutma'timkl wutank, ekitasik wi'katikn aqq mataqte'kne'l, aqq elt ewe'wme'k Facebook aqq Twitter kulaman kjijituten ta'n tel-lukutiek aqq ta'n weniek.

Piamiw 20,000 te'sijik Facebook aqq Twitter ekitmi'tij ta'n tel-lukutiek aqq te'sikiskik me' pemi-atelkik. Ekitasik wi'katikn aqq mataqte'kne'l weli-apoqnmuksiekl msnmnen apoqnmatusi aqq kisi-wiaqa'lanan wenik apoqntmnew tel-pmiala welo'qn wutanl. Weli-apoqnmuksiekik skwijinu'k Nopa Sko'sia ta'n tujiw kwilut wen keska't kiska ta'n wen kisi-opla'toq koqoey. Welo'qn wutanl na amujpa msit wen maliaptik aqq amujpa msit mawkwayk.

Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) melkuktmij kwilmnew ta'n tel-wekasimk kiskukewey kina'matnewey wjit tel-matmumk o'pla'taqn aqq mlkiknewa'tun wije'wmumk mtmo'taqney. Piley mtmo'taqnewo'kuo'm kisitasik ta'n etekl tepkistekl lukwaqnn kutey nike' Apaqtuk Westasimkewey, Kwilujik Etli-o'pla'taqatijik Mataqte'kney-iktuk, Panuijkatmumk Ketlewo'qn, L'mu'jk tel-wekasimk pija'luemk aqq Milamu'kl Keknue'kl Panuijkatekekl. Ta'n pasik tami koqoey tliaq Kespukwitk mi'soqo Unama'kik, Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP) kisi-wikuttaq apoqnmatusi wejiaq ula Piley mtmo'taqnewo'kuo'm.

Newtipunqek ala'si No'pa Sko'sia koqoey teliaq wutanl kulaman kisi-wulteskuates aqq tlewistu'titesnen wenik etl-lukutijik 37 te'sikl mtmo'taqnewo'kuo'm. Kisewistu'tie'k wenik wutanl, wela'lilik tetuji wulte'tma'tijik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'tijik (RCMP).

Lukewinu'k etl-lukutijik Nuji-kla'qa'lua'timk (RCMP) ketloqo melkuktmij wtlukwaqnmuew aqq kisi-apoqnmuanew wenik aqq ta'n tel-mili-apoqntmi'titl wutanl ma kaqi-wi'tasinuk. Ta'n tel-welimuksiekik wenik welkwija'luksiek. Ke'sk etl-kitmn ula wi'katikn ajipjutm wulaptmn wiaqtekl wasoqatestasikl. Nuji-kla'qa'lue't (RCMP) Bryce Haight tleyawit Piktuk kisi-ksua'toql. Aqq welta'si kisi-ika'tuekl ula wi'katikn kulaman wenik nmittaq tetuji-nta'lukwelij.

Wela'liek ne'kaw teli-apoqnmueik.
*Wi'katikn wejiaq Alphonse MacNeil
Nuji-apoqnmuatl Alsusitl*



Officer in Charge of Criminal Operations

Chief Superintendent

Brian Brennan



As Nova Scotia's Provincial Police Force, maintaining and enhancing public safety is our primary mandate. We believe in doing the job right and doing the job well. Throughout this report we highlight achievements within our provincial policing priorities that reflect our commitment to meeting the expectations of the communities in which we police.

Road safety is a key priority for the RCMP. Officers patrol more than 23,000 km of Nova Scotia's highways and secondary roads, educate road users on safe driving practices, and when necessary conduct enforcement activities. Accident prevention, however, is a dual responsibility. Together the RCMP and the public must address the factors that contribute to collisions so that we can reduce the number of injuries and fatalities on Nova Scotia's roads.

Police routinely work in an environment that is dynamic, unpredictable and at times dangerous. We place great importance on providing our frontline officers with the training, tools and equipment they need to work safely and effectively. With support provided by the Province we invested in personnel training and specialized skill development. As a result of these initiatives we are now one of the most well-equipped RCMP Divisions in Canada.

As criminal activity becomes more organized and sophisticated, the RCMP must and will adapt to today's policing realities with cutting-edge technology to investigate complex crimes and protect Nova Scotians. Strategic investments in new technologies will improve the efficiency, quality and timelines of police investigations. Likewise we will be able to more effectively combat technological crimes, like child exploitation, through our ability to capture evidence from increasingly advanced electronic devices.

As a federal, provincial and municipal police force, the RCMP is able to draw upon the expertise and resources from across the country. Many of our members and employees are specialists in their fields and are often recognized for their innovation, skill and expertise. The RCMP is well positioned to effectively and efficiently respond to large-scale emergencies and complex investigations.

Over the course of the coming year we will continue our efforts to enhance the safety and security in our communities. Through valuable programs and services we encourage community engagement for a safer Nova Scotia.





Eighty-eight Nova Scotia RCMP employees paid their own expenses to travel to New York City to march in the 2013 St. Patrick's Day Parade. The Troop represented the Force, Canada and the province of Nova Scotia with pride and dignity and were honoured to wave Nova Scotia's flag in the largest and oldest traditional marcher's parade in the world.

Top: The Nova Scotia RCMP Troop at the Brooklyn Bridge in New York City.

Left: The Troop marching down 5th Avenue.

Photo credit www.groupphotos.com

National Strategic Priorities

"As Canada's national police force, the RCMP is committed to ensuring 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 2012-13, the priorities were: Serious and Organized Crime, National Security, Youth, 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; higher car insurance premiums 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 have 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 including 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 officers 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 the motivation for profit 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 identifies the areas of public safety that require a strategic, targeted focus. The RCMP's goal is to meet and exceed public expectation of these priorities through focused enforcement efforts, innovative public safety programs, and effective education on preventing crime. In 2012-2013, the four Provincial Policing priority areas included: reduction in overall levels of crime; reduction of the number of outstanding warrants; increase safety on our roads and highways; and reduction of domestic violence.



Road Safety

Each day, thousands of Nova Scotians head out on our highways and secondary roads.

The RCMP's priority as the Provincial Police is to make these roads safe for everyone. One way this is accomplished is through a multi-faceted road safety strategy which includes educational, enforcement and awareness initiatives.

As the lead on the road safety initiative, Nova Scotia RCMP Traffic Services operates from nine geographic locations. Strategically placed in high traffic areas with close proximity to the 100-series highways, members of the RCMP Traffic Service team provide road safety support and expertise to all police agencies across the province. While their primary focus is on the four primary casual factors of fatal and serious injury motor vehicle collisions - impaired driving, unbelted occupants, speeding and aggressive driving, and driver inattention and distraction - the unit also engages in a number of prevention and education awareness initiatives around emerging issues or trends.

In the 2012 calendar year, RCMP Traffic Services reported 70 deaths. These deaths were preventable and were caused by things such as distracted or inattentive driving, impairment by drugs or alcohol, or lack of seatbelt use.

While Traffic Services leads the road safety strategy, all RCMP offices in the province play a role improving the safety of our roads. By focusing on local policing priorities, members are responsible for enforcement around unsafe driving behaviours which contributes to overall public safety. From Yarmouth to Cheticamp and all areas in between, the RCMP assigns a focus to initiatives with road safety partners like the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and

Infrastructure Renewal, and Vehicle Compliance. The RCMP also works closely with community partners like Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

The RCMP continues to assume a leadership position on training programs in support of road safety. Members complete training to increase their expertise and knowledge in the areas of impairment by drugs and alcohol.

Some highlights over the past year include:

- Training officers in the Standard Field Sobriety Test. This test allows for visual signs of impairment and members use a multitude of tests to assess an individual's attention and ability to respond.
- Training officers to become Drug Recognition Experts. This advanced training is critical as members are witnessing an increase in the number of traffic offenders who are impaired by drug.

With the increased vehicle traffic on the road ways from personal and commercial, motorcycles and cyclists, now more than ever, the RCMP recognizes the need to leverage intelligence-based findings, involvement of road safety partners and feedback from our communities if we are going to address the number of deaths that occur on our roads each year.

Domestic Violence

The RCMP continues to implement the Domestic Violence initiatives detailed in the Government of Nova Scotia's Domestic Violence Action Plan. The goal of the plan is to insure "all persons in Nova Scotia live free from domestic violence and abuse".

One priority area has been ensuring our employees and volunteers are equipped with educational information. In support of this the RCMP developed tools and training to ensure employees are culturally sensitive and understand the dynamics involved in these situations. In addition, the RCMP have Victim Services volunteers that are ready to respond to these high-risk situations. While the initial response may provide the much needed comfort and support, the volunteers also inform victims of the services and programs available within the community.

RCMP Community Aboriginal and Diversity Policing Services continue to contribute to several programs, policies and practices. The RCMP Domestic Violence Officer for First Nation Communities in Nova Scotia continues to be a resource for police officers and community members. The officer delivers programs for women, men and youth that are culturally specific to First Nations communities.

The Domestic Violence Officer works in collaboration with Domestic Violence Case Coordinators are in place to manage the sharing of information between agencies involved in high-risk domestic violence situations. The RCMP Domestic Violence Officer was part of the first Domestic Violence Court Program Pilot launched in Sydney, Nova Scotia in 2012.

In 2012, the RCMP launched an e-learning educational program about domestic violence that

will assist police officers in responding to domestic violence cases and conducting risk assessments. All RCMP officers in Nova Scotia are required to complete the program and it has provided insight and guidance on evidence-based risk focused domestic violence investigations.



Crime Reduction

The Nova Scotia RCMP takes a strategic, proactive approach to reducing crime. The RCMP Crime reduction strategy is about employing a guiding philosophy and set of principles and combining that with intelligence to reduce crime in the communities we serve. Within Nova Scotia, no two strategies are alike as they are tailored to the specific needs of the community. Intelligence analysts gather information from the local area and Detachment Commanders consult with community leaders to identify priority areas. A common approach within crime reduction strategies is to identify prolific offenders or those few offenders in the community who commit the majority of the crime. The RCMP has many examples of the effective use of crime reduction strategies and below we have highlighted a few.

Halifax District continues to be a leader in crime reduction. The District adopted a data driven approach over five years ago and are having tremendous success. Please refer to examples within their District report. In addition to property crime rates dropping, we are also experiencing significant declines in other types of crime: persons crimes offences have gone down 13%, persons crimes include assaults which dropped by 27%, robberies decreased by 15%, and weapons offenses went down 26%.

The crime reduction strategy in Southwest Nova District continues to expand. Through an intelligence-led approach, the RCMP identified prolific offenders and focused their resources on these individuals. As a result, crime patterns were identified and through enforcement, close monitoring and enforcing court-imposed conditions there has been a decrease in the number of calls for service related to these offenders. Since the inception of the program, police contact with 20 identified prolific offenders (relating to property crime) in the Yarmouth area dropped on average from 1.30 times per month to 0.18 per month, a significant decrease.

In Northeast Nova District, Victoria County employed a crime reduction strategy with a focus on youth in an effort to divert them from becoming involved in crime or associated to those committing criminal activity. Working collaboratively with community leaders in Wagmatcook, children at risk were identified, assessed and appropriate programming was put in place. This includes taking an active role in the girls and boys life skill camps initiated by Naturally Active Victoria County. Members also attend the local Wagmatcook School to participate in the lunch program allowing them to talk to youth and discuss respect, bullying, and substance abuse. This approach has proven effective and there has been a decrease in the calls for service pertaining to youth in Wagmatcook.





Warrant Reduction

Across Canada, high numbers of outstanding warrants are a common problem for law enforcement agencies. Out-of-area offenders, frequently changing addresses, and lack of a structured follow-up procedure are three contributors to many warrants remaining outstanding.

Throughout 2012, the Nova Scotia RCMP worked diligently to decrease the number of outstanding warrants within the areas we police. By identifying and targeting those wanted on warrants, the RCMP is contributing to the broader goal of crime reduction and supporting efforts to increase public safety. Research shows that many of these individuals are prolific offenders who commit a high percentage of the crime in our communities.

Some strategies that have proven to be effective include: coordination with police agencies to affect out-of-province arrests; centralizing outstanding warrant information; and the development and implementation of standard outstanding warrant management practices.

Each District noted reductions in the number of outstanding warrants. As examples of some of the progress achieved, 88 outstanding warrants were closed in Antigonish reducing the number of outstanding warrants by 60% in the past year. In Pictou County the arrest of offenders wanted on Nova Scotia warrants in other provinces reduced the number of outstanding warrants for that detachment area.

In Southwest Nova, Crime Analysts centralized warrant information so that police officers have ready access to the information they need. By combining outstanding warrants into a single document, and placing it in a Geographic Information System-based crime map, officers can now easily access the information from anywhere via their laptop computers. Instant access to this information allows officers to search information quickly and confirm information on an offender with an outstanding warrant.

In addition, the development and implementation of a standard procedure for monitoring outstanding warrants is proving to be effective. It involves querying and updating records management systems, regular communication to officers on the front line, and establishing a standard review process after a minimum of 30 days.

A tried and tested practice in Kings District continues to yield favourable results. Utilizing up-to-date information about outstanding warrants, RCMP publishes a top-ten list in the community newspaper, The Advertiser. This continues to result in tips from the public that help RCMP apprehend a number of individuals. The RCMP continues to develop appropriate policy on the legality of publishing warrant information to the public.





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 Frank Foran, Criminal Operations Support Services Officer

Major Crime Units - MCU

RCMP Major Crime Units in Nova Scotia are responsible for preliminary and follow-up investigations of murders, attempted murders, abductions, missing persons, historical homicides, found human remains, and a variety of other complex criminal investigations. Major Crime investigators are specially trained and are experts in the fields of death investigation, interviewing, interrogation, and the management of major cases.

In 2012-13, investigators continued to pursue leads on a number of recent and historical homicides. Of note, two high-profile investigations which involved the tragic deaths of two young women, Amber Kirwan and Melissa Peacock resulted in charges and are now before the court. These cases are explored in further detail in the Major Investigations section of this document.

The dedication and determination of MCU investigators cannot be underestimated when it comes to the investigation of historical homicides. Countless hours are spent reviewing facts and evidence gathered in the hopes of bringing closure to family and friends. Major Crime Units coordinate and partner with various RCMP units as well as other police agencies throughout the Province. These partnerships have enhanced the public safety of Nova Scotians through successfully identifying and bringing those responsible before the courts.

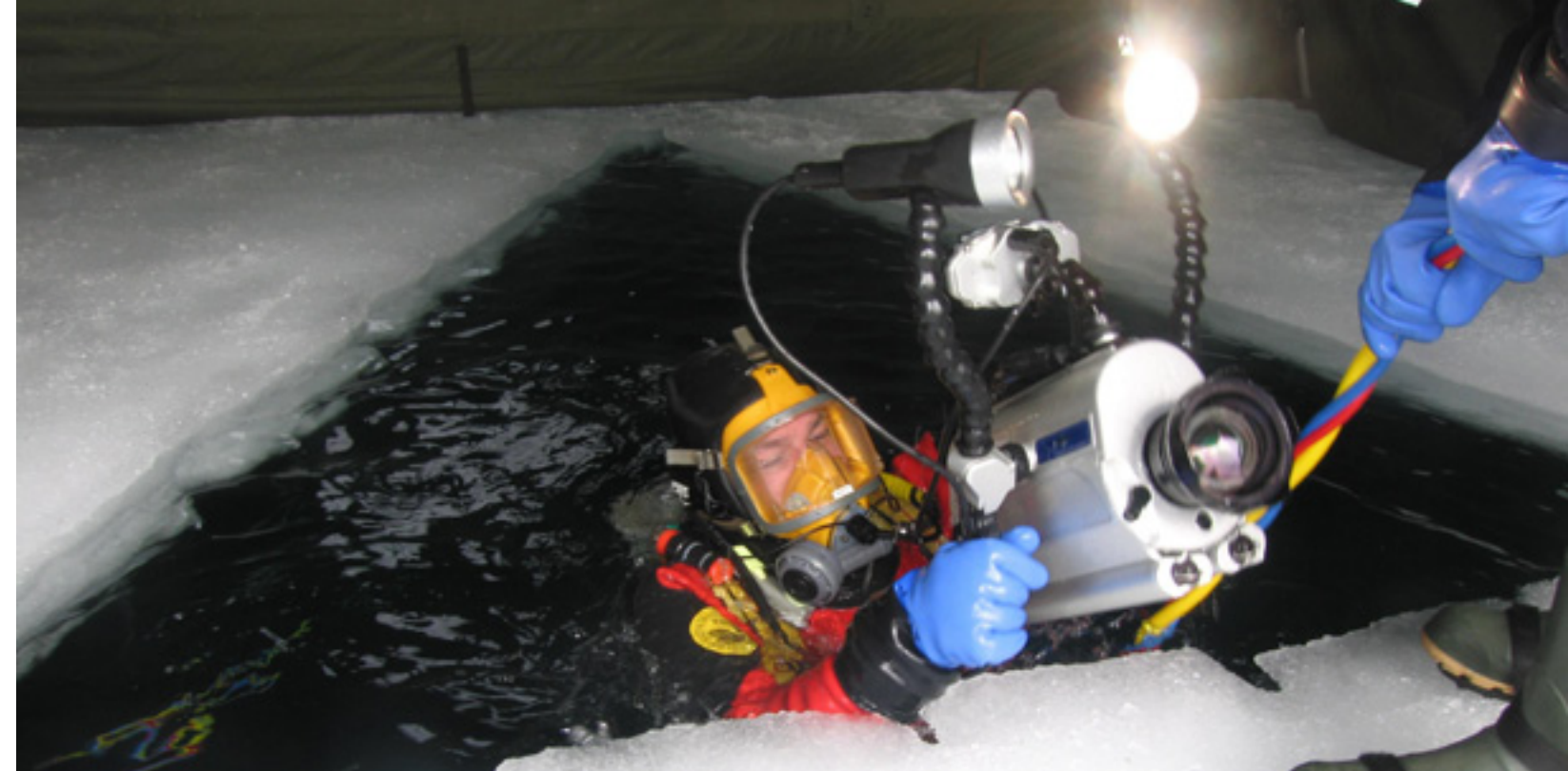
Underwater Recovery Team - URT

Below the surface of our oceans and lakes, the RCMP Underwater Recovery Team is searching to recover evidence and in many cases searching for those who have gone missing. As Nova Scotia's Provincial Police, the RCMP has the only URT team in the province and they provide service to all police agencies. Nova Scotia's landscape creates a demanding environment for URT and divers work under challenging and often dangerous situations. The remoteness of some sites, limited visibility and the sheer vastness of the ocean and lakes are hazards of the job for divers. Nonetheless, these highly-skilled divers explore the depths of the waterways delivering critical support to ongoing investigations.

Traffic Services

Nova Scotia's RCMP Traffic Service Units are dedicated to improving the safety of our roadways. Operating from nine locations across the province, over 70 police officers take a leadership role and provide road safety support and expertise to police throughout the province. High-risk behaviours like impaired driving, speeding and aggressive driving, unbelted occupants and driver inattention and distraction are the primary causes of crashes on Nova Scotia roadways.

The Traffic Services Unit incorporates the strategic focus on the aforementioned high-risk behaviours into the core functions and duties of every unit and detachment in the province which ultimately contributes to saving more lives.



An RCMP diver from the Underwater Recovery Team prepares to enter the freezing water with an underwater video camera to video and photograph the crime scene prior to collecting the evidence.

Community, Aboriginal and Diversity Policing Services

The Nova Scotia RCMP leads and participates in a variety of programs in communities across the province: ASSIST, is a suicide intervention program, WITS - Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek Help is an anti-bullying program, Parents Against Drugs, Mi'kmaq Men's Intervention Program, Beyond Trauma - A healing Journey for Women, Adopt-a-Library, and Youth Moose Camps among others.

The RCMP's relationship with First Nations communities is pivotal to the work we do. Through partnerships with Aboriginal leaders and community members, the RCMP develops strategies around prevention, education, and enforcement. An example is the Aboriginal Shield Program; a youth-driven initiative that provides substance abuse prevention and healthy lifestyles coaching to Aboriginal communities. The program enables Aboriginal youth to gain a sense of cultural connection and pride, while learning to make informed healthy lifestyle choices about drug use and related activities. The RCMP trained several Aboriginal community members to deliver the program in Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq communities.



Forensic Identification Services - FIS

Experts in the field of crime scene investigation, the RCMP's highly-trained Forensic Specialists use an array of technical equipment to record and collect evidence such as fingerprints, footwear impressions and tire tracks to identify a potential suspect in the investigation. Forensic Identification programs and services form an essential part of virtually every criminal investigation.

Emergency Response Team - ERT



The RCMP trains members to respond to violent and dangerous situations. Nova Scotia's ERT members perform various policing duties day-to-day and are available at a moment's notice to attend emergency situations anywhere in Nova Scotia.

ERT members maintain a high-level of physical fitness and are highly-trained in weapons and tactics ensuring they have the skills and abilities required for the most intense situations. Team members train for a variety of scenarios including armed and barricaded persons, hostage situations, marine and aircraft interventions and rural surveillance, to name a few.

To support the demand for a rapid response, ERT members must have the tools necessary to act and engage regardless of landscape and terrain. The new Tactical Armoured Vehicle (TAV) and Rigid Hulled Inflatable Boat (RHIB) are two of the many vehicles used by ERT to handle high-risk situations. These vehicles represent the evolution of resources that are available to police to enhance officer and public safety.

Operational Communication Centre - OCC

Nova Scotia's OCC in Truro is "The Front Line of First Response" employing the latest communications technology to answer both 911 emergency and non-emergency calls from the public. In 2012, dispatchers answered 249,253 calls for service and 81,490 of those were 911 emergency calls. The OCC also provides dedicated dispatching services for local Department of Fisheries officers, and risk management oversight to the frontline. The OCC serves more than 40% of Nova Scotia's population, spread across 85% of the province.



The Nova Scotia RCMP's Tactical Armoured Vehicle (TAV) navigates the roughest terrain and provides a 360 degree observation tower, advanced ballistic and explosive protection, as well as impressive off-road capability. The TAV represents the evolution of resources available to police to enhance officer and public safety.



Federal Policing

"The strength of the RCMP Federal Policing program is our ability to conduct investigations at all levels. Our successes are the result of hard work and dedication, and tremendous inter-agency cooperation within Nova Scotia across Canada and around the world. Nova Scotia RCMP Federal Policing units had great success disrupting criminal groups involved in the production and sale of illicit drugs, the smuggling of commodities and importation and sale of contraband tobacco. While these investigations were conducted in Nova Scotia, they had impact both nationally and internationally"

Superintendent John Ferguson, Federal Policing Officer

RCMP shakes up Northeast Nova Scotia

"These individuals were beyond your street-level drug dealers; they were part of criminal groups that trafficked large quantities of drugs in and out of our community. They had access to guns, bullet proof vests, drugs and cash and they used whatever means necessary to get their job done. These criminals thought they could fly under the radar because they were living and conducting criminal activity in smaller communities. The RCMP kept good on our promise to criminals: to find you, arrest you, seize your weapons and drugs, and bring you before the courts."

Operation H-HAKON: RCMP arrest 24 people and lay over 130 charges

In early January 2013, RCMP wrapped a 13-month investigation and laid over 130 charges with 24 arrests across Cape Breton and Antigonish County. Operation HAKON targeted several criminal groups that were involved in trafficking large amounts of cocaine, hashish, marihuana, and ecstasy throughout Eastern Canada.

At any given time the operation included RCMP members from Sydney Federal Operations Support Unit, the Combined Forces Intelligence Unit, Inverness and Victoria County detachments, as well as Inverness and Antigonish Street Crime Enforcement Units (SCEU) and Truro and Halifax Federal Drug Sections. As a result of numerous residential and nine vehicle searches, RCMP seized a quantity of items including drugs, weapons, nine vehicles, and approximately \$55,000 cash.

Drugs: 25 kg of marihuana, 1.5 kg of cocaine, 1 kg of hash oil, 1 kg of hash, and over 100 marihuana plants.

Weapons: 17 firearms, related weapons and body armour: AK47 assault rifle, 22 calibre handgun, 22 calibre rifles x 5, 12 gauge shot guns x 5, 20 gauge shot gun, 410 gauge shot guns x 3, 30-30 calibre rifle, recurve bow and arrows, bear spray, ammunition, and a bullet-proof vest.



RCMP seize assets to take the profits out of crime

"Our message is simple, if you want to do the crime the RCMP will make you pay the price."

Operation H-TIMBER: RCMP seize hundreds of thousands in assets and lay close to 20 charges: Total value of assets seized and restrained=\$750,000.

In October 2011, the RCMP arrested nine people following a large-scale drug investigation that resulted in the seizure of large quantities of drugs, cash and 9 vehicles. Following the arrests, the RCMP launched a nine-month investigation into the financial activities of one those charged and his common-law girlfriend. As a result, RCMP seized several items including: a condominium in Halifax, an Acura TSX, a Harley Davidson motorcycle, diamond ring, Breitling watch, a Trek Madone bicycle, an investment account with a combined value of \$425,000 and close to \$200,000 cash. The two faced 20 criminal charges of Possession of Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering.



RCMP deals a significant blow to a marihuana trafficking network

"Wherever illegal marihuana grow operations exist, there's an increase in criminal activity and an associated increase in violence."

Operation H-TORT: Orchestrated takedown leads to 29 arrests and 97 charges

In the early morning hours of December 14, a team of 120 police officers from RCMP, Halifax Regional Police and Truro Police Service searched 14 locations and arrested 29 people in an orchestrated takedown of criminals who were trafficking marihuana in and around Halifax Regional Municipality. The arrests followed an elaborate 11-month operation involving multiple arrests and 97 charges. RCMP seized 4 long guns, 46 pounds of marihuana, over 2,200 marihuana plants, \$250,000 dollars worth of marihuana production equipment, and over \$100,000 in cash and 5 vehicles.



Protecting Canada's borders

The RCMP has a responsibility to protect Canadians from terrorism, organized crime and other border-related criminality, while allowing for the secure and effective international movement of people and goods.

In support of this mandate, the RCMP laid seven charges against three Immigration Consultants in 2012 following two separate investigations involving residency fraud. One of these investigations resulted in charges in August 2013, RCMP arrested a 42-year-old Bedford man and charged him with two counts of Counseling Misrepresentation and two counts of False Representation. The RCMP alleges that the man was counseling and assisting foreign nationals through fraudulent means to maintain their Permanent Resident status and obtain Canadian citizenship.

The RCMP is conducting an investigation into another major consultant fraud involving more than 600 immigration clients. To date, warrants have been executed and charges are anticipated.

The National Ports Enforcement Team (NPET) undertook a number of active investigations about the Port of Halifax. In April 2012, the team seized 1,511 kg of hashish at the Port of Halifax as part of 'Project CONFUSION'. The seizure came from a shipping container originating in Karachi, Pakistan and was destined for Montreal, Quebec. Hashish was concealed in packages of coffee that were located packed in boxes of clothing. The investigation is ongoing.

During the past year, members of NPET were involved with two investigations involving the importation of ketamine, commonly known as the "date rape" drug. In September 2012, NPET was advised by Canada

Border Services Agency (CBSA) of a shipment of 188 kilograms of ketamine in a shipping container originating from India and destined for Windsor, Ontario. The ketamine was hidden in bags of rice. The RCMP investigation continued and one person has been charged with Conspiracy to Import.

On February 11, 2013, CBSA officers found suspected ketamine while performing a secondary examination of a shipment originating from India, containing a variety of natural health products. CBSA officers seized the ketamine and turned it over to the National Ports Enforcement Team. The investigation is ongoing.

In addition to the identification of drugs coming in through our ports, NPET works closely with our partners at CBSA to combat the exportation and trade of stolen vehicles. In 2012, officers recovered 65 stolen vehicles at the Port of Halifax worth more than 1.2 million dollars.

Be a champion!

RCMP brings together youth, athletes and celebrities for drug-free initiative

'This appeals to the average teen because they admire celebrities and athletes and listen to what they have to say. The RCMP's goal is to reinforce that making good decisions, dealing with peer issues, and choosing friends wisely are keys to avoiding substance abuse and achieving their goals in the future.'

The Nova Scotia RCMP Drug and Organized Crime Awareness Service launched a national youth engagement initiative, "Canadian Champions" to promote building a bright and drug-free future. Through this endeavour, initiated by the Nova Scotia RCMP, we engaged our partners in order to reach out to as many young people as possible.

Canadian Champions is a video production featuring Canadian athletes, celebrities, and high school students who have joined together to share their personal stories on how staying drug-free made a significant difference in their lives and careers.

The launch took place in front of more than 600 students at Auburn Drive High School in Cole Harbour. The RCMP sent a powerful message to youth on rising above the influence of others and becoming champions in making a difference for themselves, their peers, their school, and their community.

Hockey Night in Canada's, Scott Oake was on hand to share his personal story about the devastating loss of his son to a drug overdose. Former amateur and professional boxing champion, Ricky Anderson spoke about self image and David Eng, three-time Paralympic Medalist and world champion for Wheelchair Basketball Canada talked about peer pressure. Students also watched video clips featuring NHLer and Cole Harbour native, Sidney Crosby, NBA star, Cory Joseph, and Olympic snowboarder, Caroline Calve to name a few.



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...

“I’m writing to say Thank-you. Although no doubt a routine day in your life, that fateful day changed my life forever. Thanks for treating me with dignity and respect. You treated me fairly and with the utmost professionalism and gave my family strength during a very difficult time.”

“Thank you Cole Harbour RCMP! I was stranded, upset and with no cell phone after my car broke down. Your member made a call to CAA and waited with me until the tow truck arrived. I truly want to express my thanks for her help at what was a very stressful time for me.”

“A big thanks to your Constable for his regular visits to Aldershot Elementary. He is a friendly and familiar face to the students. He is an excellent role model for the children, and their love for him shows any time he enters the room.”

“My car broke down on the Causeway and the weather was terrible. Despite the conditions, your Constable directed traffic with not even a windbreaker for cover and more than one irate driver with choice words for him. I have no doubt his actions saved our lives...”

“Happened to catch one of your Corporals on the news talking about Road Safety Week. He is very familiar to me. My undying gratitude goes out to him for saving my life some 8 years ago. Thank you Cpl. for the firm yet dignified way you helped me turn my life around. Without your advice and actions I or perhaps other innocent people would not be alive today. God bless you.”

“I would like to commend the officers who responded to the call on Baker Street for their professionalism, courtesy and compassion. These gentlemen did you proud.”

“Words cannot express the relief we felt when we were finally able to wrap our arms around our daughter. Yesterday was the longest day of my life and the gratitude we feel for all of the help we received from the RCMP and our community is immense and we don’t know how to begin to say thanks.

“I am grateful everyday that you were on duty that night, you saved his life. It has only been a few weeks but I can see a change in him, you woke him up...”

“I’m from out west and recently visited Nova Scotia. While there my husband and I were stopped behind an RCMP vehicle. To our surprise, the officer opened his door, got out and walked up to the vehicle stopped beside him to inform the driver about cell phone rules when driving. I am SO impressed! The RCMP in Nova Scotia are always visible, and always on watch. Thank you!”





Nova Scotia RCMP's new headquarters

'H' Division

In April 2013, more than 500 employees from across the Halifax Regional Municipality moved in to the new headquarters in Burnside. The opening of the Nova Scotia RCMP headquarters brought employees together in a new and modern environment that still reflects the historical elements of the RCMP as Nova Scotia's Provincial Police.

The hub of operations for Nova Scotia, employees based at headquarters can be deployed anywhere in the province to support an unfolding event or incident. With all units based at a central location, the RCMP is able to enhance its integrated and intelligence-based policing activities and initiate a faster operational response; better supporting the public safety and security needs of Nova Scotians. Designed to meet the needs of policing now and well into the future, the building operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

To support these activities, the headquarters is equipped with a Division Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC). The DEOC is equipped with technologies that enables the RCMP to visually monitor and assess an incident anywhere in Nova Scotia via a video link in the Mobile Command Post stationed at the scene in a community. In addition, the RCMP can connect with other government departments and agencies to coordinate a police response for multiple sites in the province.

As the core facility for the RCMP, the headquarters has the ability to serve as a back-up Operational Communications Centre in the event of a disaster or emergency at the centre in Truro. 911 dispatchers and call-takers can receive emergency calls seamlessly with no interruption in service delivery or response time. This functionality is critical when every second counts.

An added benefit of the new headquarters is the relocation of staff from 10 leased office sites located across the city. This delivers long-term savings from rental costs and reduces the RCMP's overall environmental footprint in the city.



Additional features of the new headquarters include:

- One of the most energy efficient buildings ever constructed by the Government of Canada, it is a leading example of smart and environmental technologies. It was designed to meet LEED (Leadership, Energy, Environmental Design) Gold benchmark.
- A fully functional industrial wing for operational units including the Emergency Response Team, Underwater Recovery Team, Mobile Command Post and Police Dog Services to name several.
- Modern office suites were designed to meet administrative and technical requirements now and in the future.
- The living green roof is the largest in Atlantic Canada.
- Enhanced security across the building site reflects policing in the 21st century.
- The use of natural light was incorporated into the design to reduce the requirement for artificial lighting and contributing to energy savings.
- Occupancy sensors activate lighting only when it is necessary.
- Recycled rainwater is used to reduce overall water consumption.
- A memorial wall and garden, dedicated to the memory of RCMP members from Nova Scotia who have fallen in the line of duty, provides a formal focus in the building's circular entrance pavilion.

Major Investigations



RCMP focus enforcement on Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs and send a clear message on the criminal actions of these groups

"Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs like the Bacchus think they control certain areas of our community and that is not the case. The RCMP will not tolerate it, nor will the citizens of Nova Scotia allow a group of individuals to conduct criminal activity in our neighbourhoods and then threaten and intimidate people."

On September 21, 2012, the RCMP charged three members of the Bacchus Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMG) after investigating allegations of Uttering Threats and Using Intimidation to control their perceived territory. Investigators executed search warrants and seized biker related items at four locations including the Bacchus clubhouse on Hogan Road in Nine Mile River, Colchester County. The RCMP continued the investigation and in January, 2013 dealt a significant blow to the Bacchus and laid Criminal Organization charges against three members. This was the first time Criminal Organization charges were laid against the Bacchus since they were established.

Also in January 2013, the RCMP charged the former President and spokesperson of the Hants County Chapter of the Bacchus for Attempted Murder after a 50-year-old man was attacked with a hammer. A female attempted to intervene and was also assaulted.

The RCMP communicated extensively to inform the public about the criminal activity of these gangs. Through traditional and social media the RCMP made sure Nova Scotians were aware that OMG members attempt to fool people and portray themselves as a group of motorcycle enthusiasts who are unfairly targeted and tainted by the police. They are known to align themselves with charity events as a way to present they are improving or assisting the community and nothing can be further from the truth. They are involved in or associated with criminal activity. Through continued enforcement and intelligence gathering, the RCMP is sending a clear message that Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs remain a serious threat to our communities.

SOLVED: Man arrested in murder of Amber Kirwan

In the early morning hours of October 9, 2011 19-year-old Amber Kirwan disappeared after leaving a pool hall in the town of New Glasgow. New Glasgow Police Service immediately began a missing person's investigation, seeking public assistance for anyone with information as to her whereabouts. A number of searches were conducted by New Glasgow Police and the RCMP began to provide assistance with the investigation.

Tragically, on November 5, 2011 Amber's remains were discovered in a rural area outside of the town of New Glasgow. As a result this became an RCMP led murder investigation in collaboration with the New Glasgow Police Service. The investigative team, led by the RCMP Major Crimes Unit, utilized all available resources from our local detachment in Pictou County to a range of specialized RCMP units from across the province.

Months of investigative work culminated with an arrest on May 17, 2013. The RCMP and New Glasgow Police announced the arrest of Christopher Alexander Falconer for Kidnapping and First Degree Murder in connection with the homicide of Amber Kirwan. At the time of the arrest, Superintendent Darrell Beaton, RCMP Northeast Nova District Policing Officer said that he hoped the arrest would be a step forward in the healing process for Amber's family and the entire community.

The case is currently before the courts and a trial is scheduled for January 2014.

SOLVED: Rewards Program leads to arrest in murder of Melissa Peacock

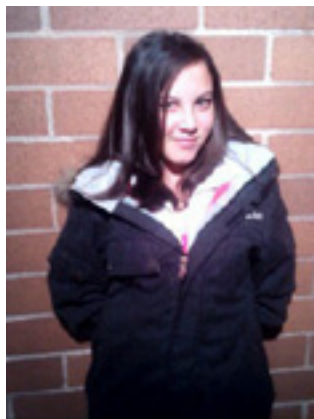
Melissa Peacock was reported missing to Halifax Regional Police on November 9, 2011. She left her residence in Dartmouth on November 7 and her last known contact was on November 8 at approximately 12:34 a.m.

The disappearance of the 20 year-old woman was concerning and police launched a missing persons investigation to determine her whereabouts, hoping someone would come forward with a piece of information that would help police uncover what happened to Melissa.

In the months that passed, investigators from the RCMP, Halifax Regional Police and Truro Police Service would begin to piece together facts and evidence, and with a critical piece of information coming forward through the Nova Scotia Department of Justice Rewards Program, they could now make arrests.

On July 3, 2012 Nova Scotia RCMP Southwest and Northeast Nova Major Crimes Units arrested two men, one in Halifax and one at a home in Kennetcook. The RCMP officers were assisted by investigators from Truro Police Service and Halifax Regional Police. Dustan Joseph Preeper, 24-years-old of Halifax and Joshua Michael Preeper, 20-years-old of Kennetcook, Hants County were charged with the First Degree Murder of Melissa Peacock. During the course of the Peacock investigation, police also gathered evidence that led to the arrest of Dustan Preeper for the Second Degree Murder in the 2010 death of Ben Hare. The matter is currently before the courts with a preliminary inquiry set for December 2013.

"We were relentless in our efforts to gather evidence and with the assistance from the Nova Scotia Department of Justice Rewards Program, we have ultimately been able to bring individuals to justice and have them answer to these senseless acts of violence" said Chief Superintendent Brian Brennan, Criminal Operations Officer for the RCMP in Nova Scotia.





Traffic stop leads police to thousands of stolen artifacts

While on regular patrol in July 2012, an officer with Halifax Regional Police on a work exchange with the RCMP conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle in Fall River. What started out as a simple vehicle check soon became what mystery novels are based on.

During that stop, the officer seized a document which was later identified as an original letter dating back to 1758, written by Major General James Wolfe. The initial investigation revealed it belonged to the Dalhousie University library. As a result, members of the Halifax District RCMP Street Crime Enforcement Unit (SCEU) executed a search warrant at a residence in Fall River on January 18, 2013. A search of the home revealed thousands of stolen artifacts, books and papers believed to be taken from several universities, museums and private collections across Atlantic Canada.

Police seized more than 2,300 items and are still attempting to identify each one and return them to their rightful owners.

John Mark Tillman, 51, from Fall River faced more than 35 stolen property charges, including possession of stolen property both over and under \$5,000, theft, possession of stolen property for the purpose of trafficking, trafficking in stolen property, obstructing justice, possession of forged documents, uttering forged documents and causing someone to deal with a forged document.

A second man was arrested in March 2013 and a search of a residence in Sackville led police to seize more stolen items. That case remains before the courts.

In September 2013, Tillman pleaded guilty to 40 charges, including theft, fraud and possession. He was sentenced to nine years in jail.



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 Regional Municipality, your Provincial Police ensures you are in the know!

Social Media

Nova Scotia RCMP use social media to show you who we are and what we do. Through conversation, photos and updates we showcase the Force to our 'Friends' throughout Nova Scotia and around the world. With your support we are able to tell our story in our own words and have surpassed more than 20,000 followers on both Facebook and Twitter.

Social media has become a valuable tool for leveraging the public's assistance and getting everyone involved in public safety. When someone goes missing, every minute counts and when the RCMP asks for help, we can count on our social media followers to spread the word and assist our efforts to locate and bring a missing person home.

Another effective use has been identifying a potential suspect or a person of interest in a crime. Nova Scotians are our eyes and ears on the street and this was evident when we asked for your help to identify individuals as part of a homicide investigation:

"RCMP Investigators hunting for Amber Kirwan's killer asked for — and got — public help identifying three young males... RCMP released surveillance images taken outside a convenience store. The pictures and videos also appeared on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Nova Scotia Facebook page. The three individuals were identified within 90 minutes." Local newspaper, November, 2011

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, subscribe to news releases, visit our website to ask questions or read breaking news, to see the difference we are making in our community or to learn safety tips.

Innovative Thinking

RCMP invites citizen to ride-along and #tweetfromthemountieseat on Twitter

Citizens often ask RCMP members, "What is a day in the life of a Mountie like?" The simple answer: no two days are alike but we decided to take it a step further and give you the best possible answer: a virtual ride-along!

The Nova Scotia RCMP developed the hashtag: #tweetfromthemountieseat and invited a citizen to live-tweet from the passenger seat of a police car and share a day in the life of an RCMP officer. A first for the RCMP in Canada, @thecyr took citizens on a 7-hour 'virtual ride-along' inside the police car where he shared what an officer sees and does, via Twitter updates, pictures and video tweeted live from the field.

People following hashtag #tweetfromthemountieseat, @thecyr or @RCMPNS on Twitter asked questions throughout the day and gave feedback:

*"Thanks to @rcmpns for an interesting day of real-life policing and live-tweeting!"
"Thank you @RCMPNS for using Twitter! Real eye-opener"*



Officer's compassion solicits soaring feedback on Facebook

Facebook has allowed us to connect with the public in ways that we never imagined. It gives us the chance to talk to you, answer your questions and tell our story in our own words. Our officers show compassion and go above the call of duty on a regular basis, and this next story is one that captivated our audience and went viral in hours.

On October 11, 2012, as a member was driving to work he was flagged down by a motorist on the side of the highway in Baddeck, Cape Breton. He pulled over and a man approached the patrol car to say he had hit an eagle that flew in front of his car. While waiting for Department of Natural Resources to arrive, the member was joined by two other officers who stood roadside protecting the eagle. The eagle became agitated by the torrential rains and used his wings to drag himself across the ground into the ditch and under a large spruce tree. The officers made numerous attempts to lure the eagle to prevent it from dragging itself further into woods. Their attempts were unsuccessful and the officers went into the woods and found the eagle on the side of a large ravine. Fearing the eagle may climb over the side, one of the officers took the eagle in his hands and walked out of the woods with the eagle until he could be transported to the Rehabilitation Center in Shubenacadie.

The RCMP Strategic Communications Unit posted the story and photos to the Nova Scotia RCMP Facebook page and within hours it went viral. The response from people across the world was remarkable. There were over 7,000 positive comments about the Force and one of the photos (see right) ended up with over 40,000 'Likes' and 5000 comments.

These are just two examples to highlight how your Provincial Police are keeping you informed and listening to what you have to say. We continue to speak with you through social media and it is part of our ongoing effort to enhance communication with you.





Highlights from Halifax District

"I am very pleased to be the new District Policing Officer for Halifax District. Our District's integration with Halifax Regional Police is a unique model that offers numerous opportunities to strategically focus on crime reduction and crime prevention; both of which have resulted in significant reduction in property crimes for citizens of Halifax Regional Municipality over the past three years. During the coming year, the District will work with social agencies and partners as we strive to reduce and prevent crime for long term, positive change. In this challenging fiscal environment we need to be focused, creative and welcoming of new ideas and new approaches to enhance the safety of the citizens of HRM and the province."

Chief Superintendent Roland Wells, Halifax District Policing Officer

Crime Mapping

Thanks to a new online tool, citizens of Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) can take steps to protect themselves from becoming victims of five types of crimes: robbery, assault, break and enter, theft of vehicles, and theft from vehicles. In February 2013, Halifax District RCMP partnered with Halifax Regional Police (HRP) to launch a new informative and interactive tool for citizens: HRM Crime Mapping. Updated daily, it provides the public with access to current information about crimes occurring in HRM communities. Additional crime types are expected to be added by early 2014. The crime mapping web site can be found at: <http://maps.halifax.ca/crimemapping/>

Property Crime Reductions

Halifax District continues to focus on disrupting and reducing crime by focusing on known, prolific and active offenders who are committing crime in HRM. The data-driven approach in the District continues to give an evidence-based, strategic focus on when and where crime is happening and who is committing the crime. Success over the last 3 years has led to a 27% decrease in property crimes and a reduction in hotspots (areas where crime is high or increasing).

Opening of the new Preston Office

Residents of Preston and surrounding communities no longer have to leave the area to file accident reports, request criminal background checks, or access other RCMP front counter services. Likewise, the public can now meet with the Community Liaison Diversity consultant who has office space in the building. The new Preston unit office for Halifax District RCMP (encompassing North Preston, East Preston, Cherry Brook, and Lake Loon) officially opened its doors in September 2012. In addition to positively impacting service delivery to the area, the expanded Preston office provides a visible presence in the community 24/7 and demonstrates our commitment to the community.

Beaver Bank Policing/Community office reopens

The grand opening of the Beaver Bank Kinsac Community Centre was a welcome milestone in November 2012. The building had been destroyed by fire in September 2009 and the RCMP Volunteer/Community Policing office had been operating out of a local school. The volunteers including those from the Citizens on Patrol program were excited to begin helping the community from their new location.

Major Crime investigators pursue all leads in homicide files

The integrated Major Crimes Unit diligently investigates homicide files with the goal of finding the person(s) responsible for the crimes. Below are two cases that were concluded this past year. Other cases are highlighted in the Major Investigations section.

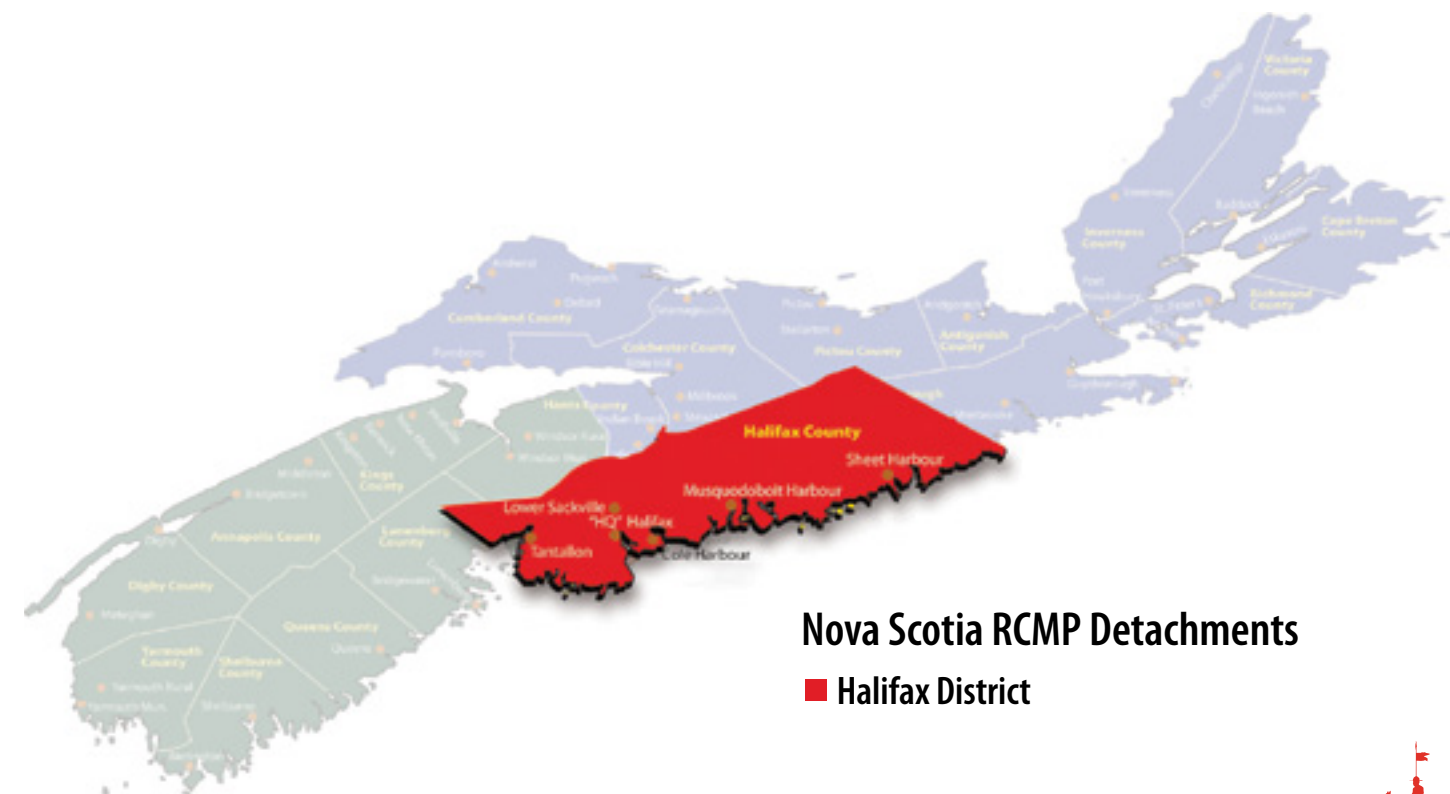
The RCMP/HRP Integrated Major Crimes Unit made an arrest in the July 2012 homicide of Narico Downey. He was found suffering from a gunshot wound in North Preston and died later in hospital from his injuries. Information received from the Nova Scotia Rewards for Major Unsolved Crimes Program assisted officers with the investigation. A 21-year-old man from North Preston was charged in October 2012 with Second Degree Murder.

In March 2013, members of the RCMP/HRP Integrated Major Crimes Unit located the remains of Nadine Anne Taylor in East Chezzetcook. Nadine went missing from her home in July 2010 and this development brought closure to her family and friends.

Targeting drug-traffickers in our community

Over the last 12 months, a number of arrests and seizures occurred as officers in Halifax District and members of the Integrated Drug Unit and Guns and Gangs team focused on those dealing drugs in our community.

The result of a significant two-month drug investigation was announced in August 2012. Halifax District RCMP and Halifax Regional Police detailed the results of Operations IGL00 and IMPLANT, investigations that targeted mid and street-level dealers. A total of 17 people, 15 men and two women ranging in age from 16 - 65, were charged. These investigations reinforce that police are not going to stand by and watch as criminals bring drugs and violence to our communities. Enforcement actions against those who have little regard for the well-being of their communities or the public safety of their friends, families and neighbours remains a priority.



Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments

■ Halifax District



Highlights from Northeast Nova District

"The RCMP in Northeast Nova continues to work and focus on the issues that are impacting quality of life and overall public safety in our communities. Our Annual Performance Plans are designed to be responsive to the individual districts across Northeast Nova and this past year we saw a renewed focus in some critical areas thanks to ongoing support and input from the community. Crime Reduction and Road Safety are a priority and we are tackling these issues by leveraging the skills of crime analysts. We also continue to focus on domestic violence training for employees. The training compliments our efforts around public education and awareness in order to reduce these serious and disruptive family incidents. The employees of Northeast Nova, who live and work in our communities, understand the value of working with community members to problem solve together and address the important issues that can only be resolved through effective partnerships and collaboration."

Superintendent Darrell Beaton, Northeast Nova District Policing Officer

United against domestic violence

Antigonish RCMP partnered with several community groups to form a committee focused on eliminating domestic violence. The committee wanted to host an event that would have a major impact on how everyone views violence towards females. They believe that educating males, especially young males, about the impact of domestic violence may be the route to having long term success. The Strait Regional School Board supported the presentation and was eager to get the message out to students. As a result the Board bused 2400 high school students to the Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre to participate. For the presentation, the committee secured one of North America's most renowned speakers on the topic of gender violence prevention education for men, Dr. Jackson Katz. He has lectured on hundreds of college and high school campuses worldwide. To capitalize on his visit, the organizers opened up the event to include the public as well as the students. The committee held three separate, well-attended events during Family Violence Prevention week. These events have created a dialogue within the community and the hope is it will spur others to take on leadership roles in the prevention and elimination of gender violence.

Taking down drug traffickers

First Nation leaders in Eskasoni expressed concern about the prescription drug abuse in the community and the resulting . Cooperation with the Department of Justice and the local RCMP led to a full-time investigator position being created to assist in an enforcement capacity, among other strategies, to combat the prescription drug problem. In Eskasoni, the position was filled by an experienced local officer and the member has made his presence known in the community in a unique way. His duty-related cell phone number has been publicly broadcasted by way of local newspaper and radio. Eskasoni residents can call anonymously and help their community and the police through timely sharing of information. This successful initiative led to eight people being charged with drug trafficking related offences and another six for possession. Eskasoni community leaders and detachment personnel continue to address this issue together, not only through continued enforcement, but in conjunction with the necessary prevention and treatment surrounding prescription pill abuse.

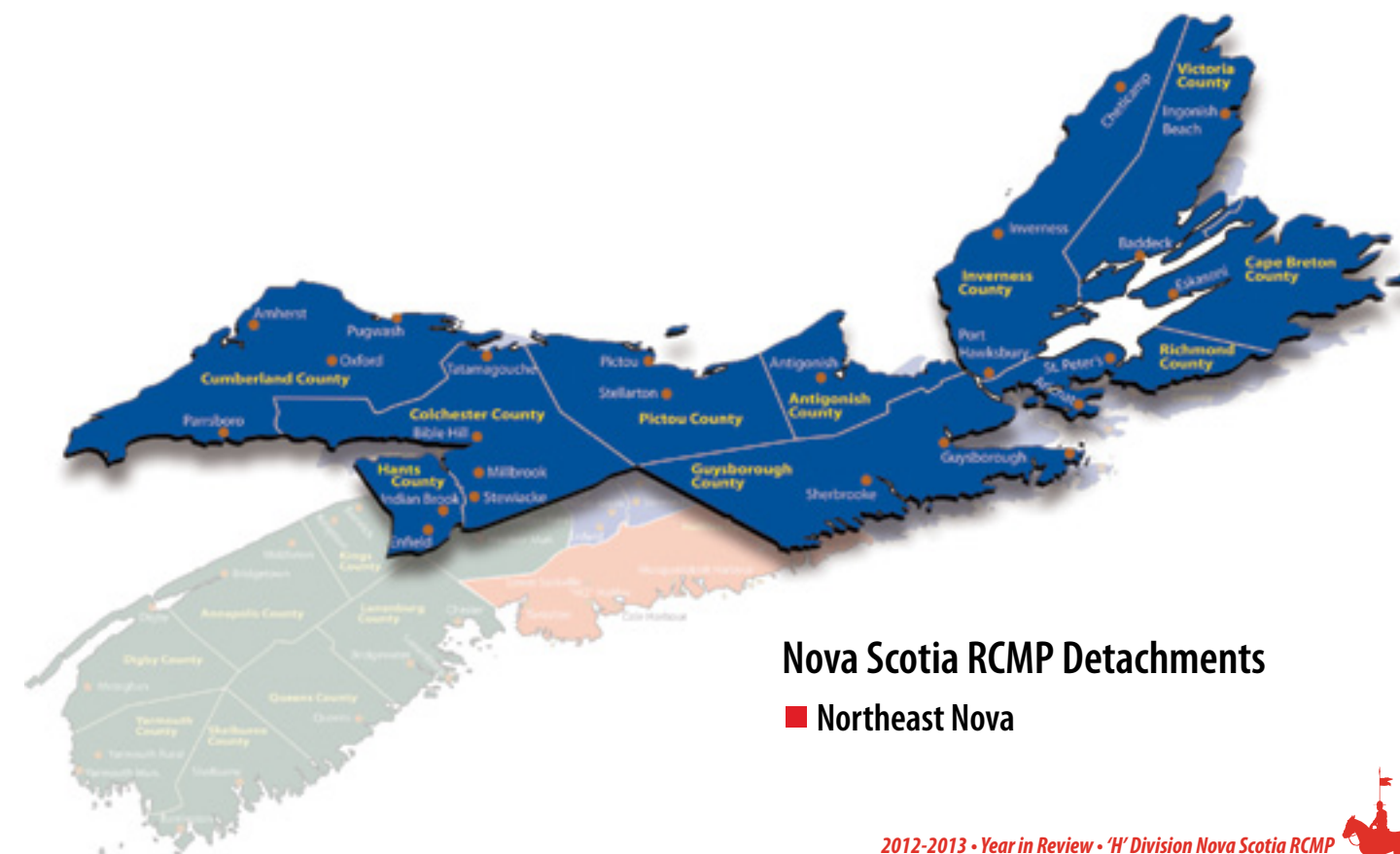
Province's first meth lab found in Salmon River

Colchester RCMP and Truro Police Service uncovered Nova Scotia's first meth lab during a joint investigation in December 2012. Following a vehicle stop where a 26-year-old male was arrested for various weapons offences. RCMP then executed a search warrant on his Matheson Drive, Salmon River residence. Members of the RCMP Synthetic Drug Section and Clandestine Lab Enforcement Response Team entered the premises and found chemicals, equipment and residue of unidentified substances related to the production of methamphetamine. The man was charged with unlawful possession of chemicals known to produce a controlled substance and unlawfully producing a substance (methamphetamine).

Meth labs are dangerous and leave potentially lasting effects on the community. For every pound of meth produced, seven pounds of toxic waste are created. The people who produce drugs don't concern themselves with dumping their hazardous materials safely.

Youth intervention on the dangers of distracted driving

Pictou County RCMP solicited support from RCMP officers across the province to start an RCMP basketball team to play against high school teams at various locations across the province. These games connected police and youth, presenting an opportunity to interact in a positive environment that promotes casual conversation between police and youth. In March 2013 the RCMP team, 'Officers of the Court' played against the Northumberland Regional High School team. During half time, they brought in an RCMP officer who had been at the scene of a terrible motor vehicle fatality which resulted from an inattentive driver who was distracted while using a cell phone. He shared his experience with students to reinforce the dangerous and tragic consequences of distracted driving. Also, Guysborough County RCMP created an educational brochure related to the dangers of using a cell phone/electronic device usage while operating a motor vehicle. During the year the brochure was distributed to motorists at 132 checkpoints.



Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments

■ Northeast Nova





Highlights from Southwest Nova District

"Having served my first 10 years in Southwest Nova, I was pleased to return in my new role as the District Policing Officer. Southwest Nova RCMP has taken a leadership role developing and implementing new strategies, many with a specific focus on those who are vulnerable to abuse and victimization, such as the elderly and those coping with mental illness. Nova Scotia has the highest population of seniors in the country and the RCMP is working in partnership with the community and various agencies to ensure we are addressing their safety needs through our Senior Safety Coordinator Program. We are focusing on reducing property crime through the crime analysis that assists us in identifying our most vulnerable areas. Our enforcement, intelligence gathering and co-operation from the community are resulting in crime rates dropping, making this a safer place to live. Employees in Southwest Nova take great pride in their work and their community. I am proud of our work and the relationships we have created and look forward to building upon them through new initiatives and approaches in the years to come."

Superintendent Sylvie Bourassa-Muise, Southwest Nova District Policing Officer

Street Crime Enforcement Unit

RCMP Street Crime Enforcement Units (SCEU) continue to make a huge impact on the community, netting hundreds of thousands of dollars from various seizures and preventing drugs from entering the community.

A decrease in property crimes occurred following an investigation into 47 break and enters in Annapolis County. The SCEU team disrupted criminal activity in the area by targeting criminal 'hot spots' with marked patrols, street checks and surveillance. Through intelligence sharing with detachments, and contact with known associates of other break and enter suspects, the crime reduction techniques of the RCMP have made a direct impact in the community. SCEU partnered with the Nova Scotia Fuel and Tobacco Unit on two investigations relating to the trafficking of Bath Salts and contraband tobacco in Barrington and Shelburne County areas. Officers seized cash and tobacco. This collaborative effort continues to strengthen the working relationship between SCEU and the Nova Scotia Fuel and Tobacco Unit.

Officers from Shelburne and Barrington detachments worked with SCEU and specialized RCMP units to identify 28 outdoor marihuana grow sites which resulted in the seizure and destruction of 1,100 marihuana plants in the area.

Crime Reduction

The Crime Reduction strategy reduces crime by focusing police efforts on prolific offenders, crime hotspots and proactive enforcement. Two criminal analysts work out of New Minas and Yarmouth to provide tactical and strategic support to detachments and specialized units.

The crime reduction strategy in Southwest Nova continues to expand with a focus on prolific offenders. Through enforcement, close monitoring and enforcing court-imposed conditions, regular RCMP contact with 20 identified prolific offenders (relating to property crime) in the Yarmouth area has significantly dropped from 1.30 times per month to 0.18 per month. The reported property-related offences by these individuals decreased by 57%. Consequently, total property crime in Yarmouth-Clare in 2012 was down 17% compared to the previous four year average.

In Kings County, a series of break and enters and thefts were disrupted with the help of the local crime analyst. Crime mapping led analysts to establish trends and through targeted police work, investigators successfully identified and charged numerous prolific offenders.

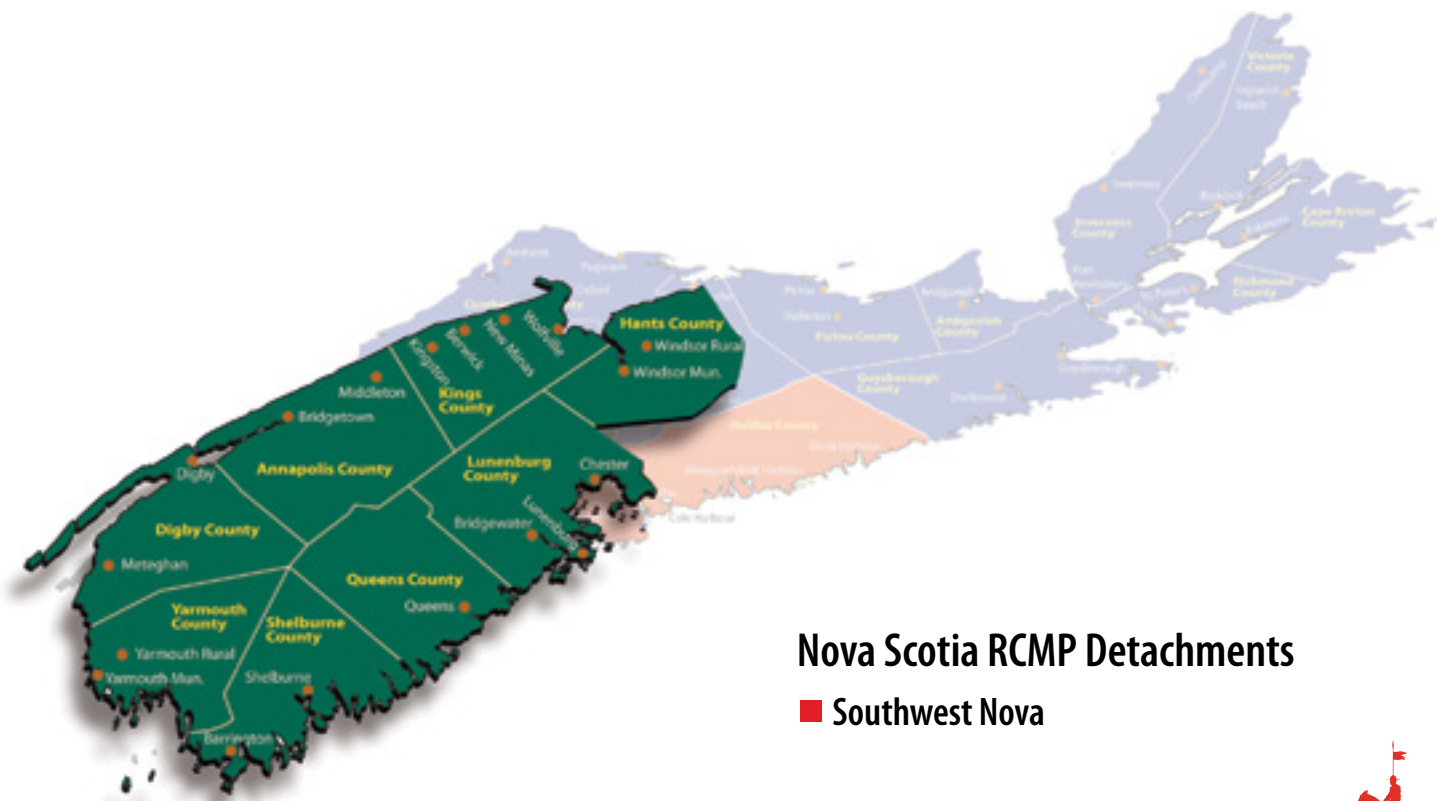
RCMP target drug trade in the Valley

The RCMP recognizes the impact that the sale of illicit and prescription drugs has in our communities. That is why the RCMP Federal Synthetic Drug Unit with assistance from Yarmouth Border Integrity, Customs and Excise Enforcement, Halifax Federal Drugs, Annapolis Integrated Street Crime Unit, Kentville Police Service and numerous RCMP Detachments undertook an investigation in 2012. RCMP targeted drug-traffickers supplying methamphetamine, cocaine, marihuana, and illegal cigarettes to Annapolis and Kings Counties and Bridgetown areas.

Over the course of five months, RCMP charged 16 people with a variety of drug offences and seized approximately 10,000 methamphetamine tablets, 10 pounds of marihuana, 1 oz. of cocaine, \$22,000 in cash, 12 cartons of illegal cigarettes, several un-secured firearms and two vehicles. The arrests and seizures significantly disrupted the drug supply and trafficking activities throughout Kings County, as well as Annapolis, Bridgetown and surrounding areas.

Senior Safety Programs

The Seniors Safety Programs in Southwest Nova are an effective component of law enforcement that meets the needs of those who are vulnerable to abuse and victimization. Integral to the crime prevention strategy, the innovative approaches to seniors' safety in Southwest Nova have been nationally recognized. Adopting a community mobilization approach, every detachment has coordinators who work alongside police to ensure seniors can access appropriate resources. Through this partnership, the coordinators can secure a broad range of health and safety services, free of charge, for seniors. In addition, RCMP assist program workers on matters such as seniors scared to live alone and those who are being taken advantage of financially.



Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments

■ Southwest Nova

Looking after Youth – Name the Shame

Created in 2010 by Lunenburg District RCMP and a teacher from the local area, the 'Name the Shame Project' was recently recognized as a "Provincial Promising Best Practice". The program is designed to educate and engage young people to create materials and messages about harassment. The project supports youth success, growth and development and aims to strengthen knowledge, awareness and skills to deal with sexual harassment and abuse. The RCMP leads countless activities including presentations for parents delivered by youth, discussions at community dinners, youth retreat weekends, and the creation of an awareness video. The program is a success and the following is what one of the 'Name the Shame' partners had to say:

"I write this note filled with a lot of joy and overwhelming gratitude for the magnificent efforts you put forward. The comments and pure happiness from the boys and girls is a testament to their learning, their successes, and their enthusiasm! The joy they experience in learning new things, in being able to trust, in finding peaceful moments, in overcoming their resistance and anger, and the satisfaction in their eyes and voices when they accomplished something... it was magnificent."

RCMP partners with the arts to fight domestic violence

Annapolis District RCMP received a grant through the RCMP Family Violence Initiative Fund to partner with the performing arts community. The RCMP and the Atlantic Ballet Theatre of Canada used a dynamic ballet production as an educational tool to help raise awareness of domestic violence. The project, "Ghosts of Violence", aims to generate insight and instigate new forms of thought and action on domestic violence and homicide. The Nova Scotia RCMP partners in a wide range of activities to reduce incidents of violence in the home and community. Domestic violence is a provincial priority for the RCMP and we strive to get the message out using various mediums. This unique, artistic approach brings further education and understanding to the community.





Statistics

Criminal Activity (RCMP jurisdiction only)

	2011	2012	% Change
CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS			
HOMICIDES	8	8	0.00
ROBBERY	95	120	26.32
ASSAULTS (EXCLUDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS)	4,976	5,209	4.68
OTHER PERSONS	5,536	5,850	5.67
TOTAL	10,615	11,187	5.39
CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY			
THEFT UNDER \$5000	7,394	7,036	-4.84
THEFT OVER \$5000	259	257	-0.77
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	732	863	17.90
BREAKING AND ENTERING	3,285	3,803	15.77
OTHER PROPERTY	9,396	8,801	-6.33
TOTAL	21,066	20,760	-1.45
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE			
OFFENSIVE WEAPONS	327	405	23.85
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE	6,025	7,587	25.93
TOTAL	6,352	7,992	25.82
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE	38,033	39,939	5.01
FEDERAL			
DRUGS	2,383	2,504	5.08
GENERAL	1,586	1,549	-2.33
TOTAL FEDERAL	3,969	4,053	2.12
PROVINCIAL STATUTES			
PROVINCIAL (EXCLUDING TRAFFIC)	22,979	20,645	-10.16
LIQUOR ACT	2,101	1,915	-8.85
TOTAL PROVINCIAL	25,080	22,560	-10.05
TRAFFIC COLLISIONS			
FATAL COLLISIONS - TRAFFIC ¹	48	74	54.17
INJURY COLLISIONS- TRAFFIC	962	988	2.70
NON-INJURY COLLISIONS- TRAFFIC	6,840	5,811	-15.04
TOTAL TRAFFIC COLLISIONS	7,850	6,873	-12.45

Sources:
PROS Occurrence Statistics 2013-05-06
Hfx District Versadex Detachment Statistics 2012-05-06
¹ Provided by 'H' Division Traffic Services

NS (H Div) Reported

Police Resource Stats

Regular Members (Peace Officers)	
Provincial	792
Municipal	49
First Nations	41
Federal	153
Administration	8
Total	1043

Civilian Members	
Provincial	58
Municipal	0
First Nations	0
Federal	26
Administration	4
Total	88

Public Service Employees	
Provincial	130.5
Municipal	0
First Nations	5
Federal	21
Administration	14
Total	170.5

Grand Total	1301.5
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Source: RCMP E-05 Activity Report dated 2013-04-01



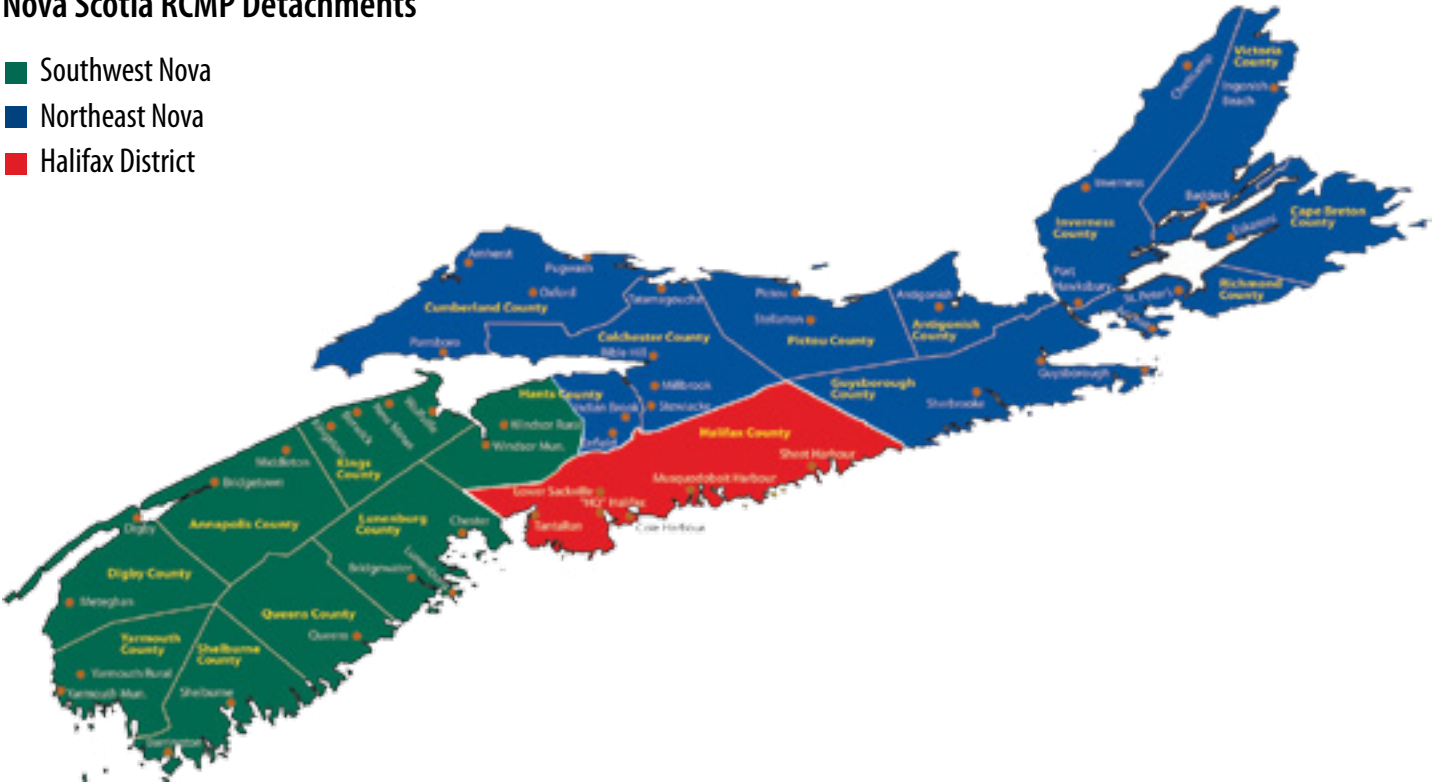
Stats of Division

Land area of Nova Scotia		Population policed by RCMP	
Area policed by RCMP		Coastline border of Nova Scotia	
Provincial population (2011 Census)		Border with New Brunswick	
53,913 km²	50,075 km²	536,474	7,459 km
	921,727	28 km	

Did you know? Road way deaths kill more people than any other type of crime in Nova Scotia.

Nova Scotia RCMP Detachments

- Southwest Nova
- Northeast Nova
- Halifax District



Your Provincial Police believe in Listening, Sharing and Serving.

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