

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



THE MISSION:
To make Abbotsford
the safest City in BC

ABBOTSFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT



INTEGRITY • HONOUR • COURAGE • SERVICE



YVON DANDURAND



KAREN MATTY



MIKE McWHINNEY



SUKH SIDHU



AMANINDER GILL



BARB SCHIMNOWSKY

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

On behalf of the Abbotsford Police Board, I am pleased to present the Abbotsford Police Department's 2015 Annual Report to the residents of Abbotsford. This report highlights the focus and accomplishments of the APD over the past year and outlines our objectives for 2016.

The Abbotsford Police Board serves to provide independent civilian oversight

and governance of the Abbotsford Police Department to ensure measurable progress towards a safer community. As Board Chair, I feel very privileged to be working alongside the Abbotsford Police Department, Chief Constable Bob Rich and all of the Abbotsford Police Board members. I have seen first-hand the incredible commitment of the members of our Police Department as well as their in-depth knowledge of the

needs of our community and the issues it faces regarding crime prevention and safety. Our police force – sworn officers and civilian staff – work hard every day to tackle crime and to create a safe community. And they do so with integrity, compassion, a strong sense of purpose and a drive for constant improvement.

I would also like to thank the members

of the Abbotsford Police Board for their continued commitment to the residents of Abbotsford and for their direction as we move into 2016. I look forward to working with Board members again this year in providing support and oversight as our dedicated Police Department works to make Abbotsford the safest city in BC, while providing accountable police service that is deserving of respect throughout our community.



MESSAGE FROM CHIEF CONSTABLE BOB RICH

2015 presented several challenges for the men and women of the APD. Our job is to make the community safe. Simple to say; but sometimes very hard to do. Gang violence and property crime both substantially increased last year. We have had to devote resources to both to suppress the violence and find a way to reduce the level of property crime. Unfortunately, both problems revolve around illicit drugs. Our gang violence occurs as rival gangs fight for market share as they traffic in drugs. The primary reason someone breaks into a house or steals a car is to get money to

buy drugs to feed their habit. This past year heroin and fentanyl have become much more available on the street and have sadly led to many overdose deaths.

All of the above means that the focus in 2016 is for us to find a way to end this round of gang violence and reduce property crime. Abbotsford is a wonderful community full of caring people. We will continue to work with our partners so Abbotsford is a place where our seniors are safe, our families can thrive and our children flourish.



MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY CHIEF DAVE SCHMIRLER

Fraser Valley East jurisdictions including Abbotsford experienced an increase in property crime rates in 2014 and this trend continued through 2015. Property crime offenders travelling across jurisdictional boundaries to commit crimes presented an additional challenge to police.

Internally, APD sought to improve the organization's wellness and be more strategic in using resources. To remain cost effective, new methods of delivering service to the community were developed by considering what functions could be reduced or shared with other service providers.

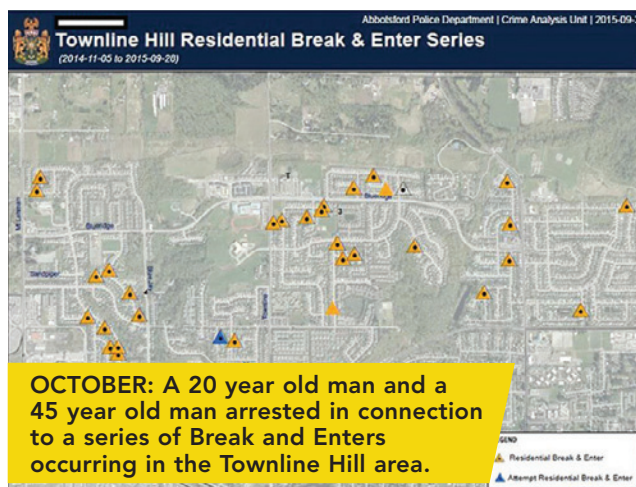
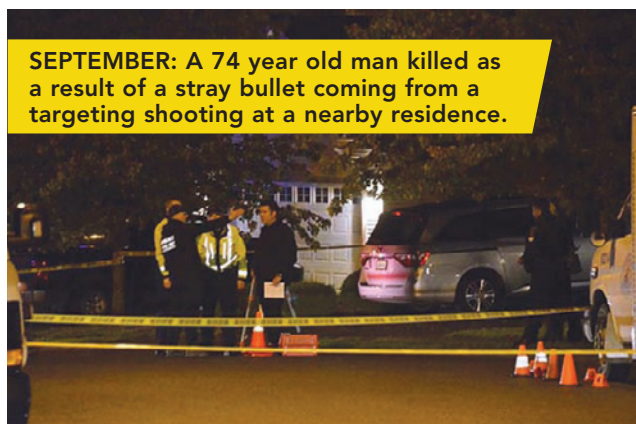
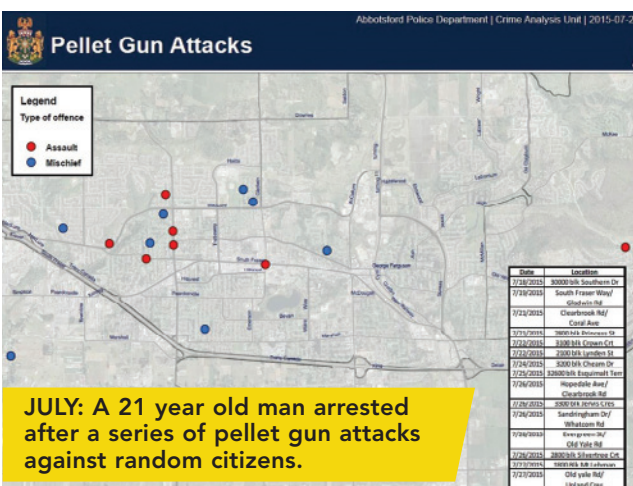
To reduce overall police resourcing in handling calls for service involving the mentally ill, the department committed a full time APD member to the Fraser Health ACT Team (Assertive Community Health team).

For 2016 APD finds itself aggressively recruiting the next generation of Police Officers.



MESSAGE FROM DEPUTY CHIEF MIKE SERR

After a twenty-six year career with the Vancouver Police Department I was proud to join the Abbotsford Police Department in November 2015. As the Deputy Chief of the Administration Division I identified several priorities to address. First, policing is a challenging and stressful occupation and the wellness of all APD staff has been identified as an organizational priority. Strategies have been initiated to support our staff's mental and physical wellbeing. Second, we need to remain fiscally responsible, while at the same time not compromising our service to the community. We also need to consider options for a new police building. We understand this is a long term initiative; however, it is important to start planning now. Finally, the APD currently has several police vacancies and we are committed to hiring dynamic women and men who will bring energy and commitment to our team.



FIGHT CRIME, NOT TRAFFIC

Join The Abbotsford Police Dept!

Abbypd.ca/careers



POLICE OFFICER RECRUITING

Join our team!

If you are interested in joining a progressive organization that is consistently open to change and development, consider becoming a member of our team. We are proud to be one of Canada's policing leaders. Maybe the APD is where you should be?

For more info:
abbypd.ca/careers

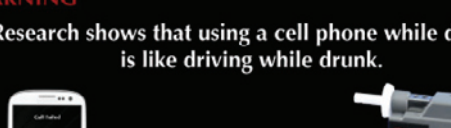
DWD-DWI POSTER CAMPAIGN

WARNING

Research shows that using a cell phone while driving is like driving while drunk.

DWD = DWI

Keep your eyes-on-the-road, hands-on-the-wheel, mind-on-task.

A white smartphone with a cracked screen and a breathalyzer device. The phone screen shows a cracked glass pattern and the text "Call failed". The breathalyzer is a grey and blue device with a red "Fail" label and a "Breathalyzer" label.



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2015 TARGETS/RESULTS

STREET SAFETY AND PUBLIC DISORDER

TARGETS

- Implement the Assertive Community Treatment Team
- Advocate for young people in crisis
- Partner with the City on implementing the Homeless Strategy

RESULTS

- Assertive Community Treatment Team implemented and running
- SMART program implemented to advocate for young people in crisis
- APD liaising with the City as they implement the Homeless Strategy

PROPERTY CRIME

TARGETS

- Reduce property crime by 10%

RESULTS

- 21.3% increase in property crime

ROAD SAFETY

TARGETS

- Reduce injury crashes by 10%
- Increase proactive road safety within patrol
- Public education programs

RESULTS

- 25.4% increase in injury crashes
- Patrol officers participating in targeted proactive enforcement
- Various social media public education campaigns

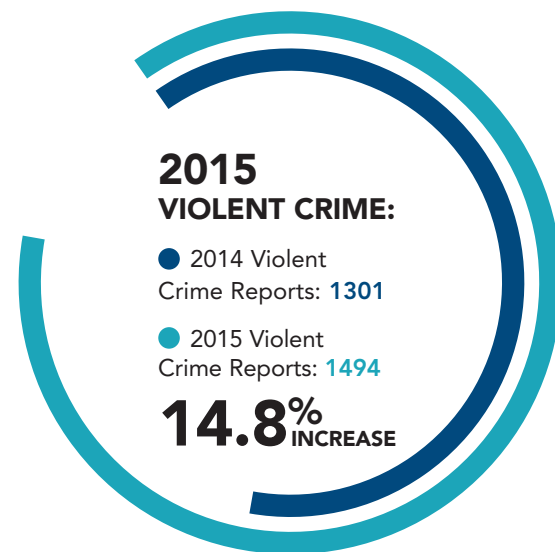
SUPPRESS GANG CRIME

TARGETS

- No gang / drug homicides
- Targeting of Top Risks to Public Safety
- Disrupt dial-a-dope distribution

RESULTS

- 2 gang / drug homicides
- Though covert and overt enforcement, the various branches of the APD targeted the identified top risks to public safety.
- Various dial-a-dope lines targeted throughout the year



2015 BUDGET

2015 BUDGET CHANGES

- Staffing remained the same.
- \$986,000 Budget Increase

The Abbotsford Police Department is comprised of
212 Police Officers, 118 Civilian Staff
and **182 Volunteers.**



HELP US REDUCE GANG VIOLENCE

The APD will continue to deal with the ongoing conflict and threat to public safety as a top priority. We are asking you to be a part of the solution. Report gang activity to **Crime Stoppers 1-800-222-8477** or the **APD Tip Line at 604-864-4777**. Be a part of the public consultation at community Forums. Spend quality time with your children. Become involved in your child's life.



2016 TARGETS

SUPPRESS GANG VIOLENCE

Our Drug & Gang Suppression Unit will focus on targeting the Top Risks to Public Safety disrupting their drug and gang lifestyles. Our goal is to suppress gang related incidents involving shots fired and assaults by 50%.

REDUCE PROPERTY CRIME

Although property crime has increased over the past two years, by focusing on prolific and repeat offenders, we will try to reduce the upward trend by June and for the remainder of the year attempt to see a reduction of 10%.

FOSTER EMPLOYEE WELLNESS

The people who work to keep our community safe matter to the APD. Over 2016, our goal is to implement a consensus built employee wellness program.



OVERALL CRIME

Although crime has increased, Abbotsford continues to have one of the lowest crime rates.

- 2015
- 2014
- 2013

* Stats taken from PRIME BC and are subject to rescoring

ABBOTSFORD

● 69.3
● 60.8
● 57.6

MISSION

● 138.6
● 110.1
● 107.3

CHILLIWACK

● 129.5
● 116.2
● 113.0

LANGLEY

● 92.8
● 93.8
● 85.1

RIDGE MEADOWS

● 99.9
● 90.3
● 86.3

SURREY

● 104.3
● 100.6
● 88.6



Junior Police Academy



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE POSTER CAMPAIGN

OPERATION REVEAL'UTION

The Abbotsford Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit has launched an important video on the topic of violence in relationships called "Reveal'ution". The film was created and produced by FireCanvas Productions and features amazing actors from the W.J. Mouat Secondary School drama class. With the full support of the Abbotsford School District, the Domestic Violence Unit of the APD will be using the film as discussion points for students in grades 10-12 in schools throughout Abbotsford as a way to increase awareness of relationship violence and to encourage youth to seek help if they witness or experience it. The Abbotsford Police Department and the APD Domestic Violence Unit are encouraging all citizens to join us in our effort to end relationship violence.



ARE YOU AWARE THEFTS FROM VEHICLES ARE OCCURRING DAILY IN ABBOTSFORD?

Please help us reduce the number of thefts from vehicles. Tips for vehicle owners:

- Use an anti-theft device like a "club"
- Remove valuables from your car like loose change
- Park your vehicle in a well-lit area
- Check your vehicle's doors to ensure they are locked



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Reducing crime and making Abbotsford safe only happens when the community and the police work together. Crime has increased this past two years and we want to turn that around.

PLEASE WORK WITH US BY

- 1 REMOVING VALUABLES FROM YOUR CAR** People will break into a car for loose change.
- 2 USE AN ANTI-THEFT DEVICE LIKE A "CLUB"** on your older model vehicle.
- 3 PHONE 911** if you think something suspicious is happening and there may be a crime in progress.
- 4 WATCH OUT FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURS** We are a community and we look after each other.

WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

- Child ID
- Cell Watch
- Special Events Team
- Citizens Patrol
- Speed Watch
- Reserve Constable Program
- CPO Office
- Lock Out Auto Crime
- Victim Services

CONTACT US

ABBOTSFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT
2838 Justice Way,
Abbotsford, BC V2T 3P5
PHONE: 604.859.5225
TEXT: ABBYPD (222973)

COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICE
105 - 34194 Marshall Road,
Abbotsford, BC V2S 5E4
PHONE: 604.864.4814

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