



ABBYPD
Strength In Community



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



Chief Constable Mike Serr

2020 was a year that brought about challenges I never anticipated our police department would face. I commend the amazing officers and staff who served the community of Abbotsford during a year unlike any other. COVID radically changed the way we all live life. We were all challenged for different reasons – COVID brought sickness or loss, financial burden, reduced employment, political polarization, depression, addiction, seclusion, poverty, confusion, and stress. Despite this, AbbyPD continued to focus on its mission to make Abbotsford the Safest City in BC. Knowing we were all a little less connected, we worked hard to be creative in bringing our motto ‘Strength in Community’ to life.

The launch of our summer-long community scavenger hunt was a tremendous success for children and families. We held Zoom mini-webinars which connected officers with youth to discuss various topics of interest. AbbyPD celebrated its 25th anniversary and issued a commemorative coin set designed by Abbotsford community members and collected by local youth. We also introduced our fully restored vintage police cruiser, a project made possible through the generous support of the Abbotsford Police Foundation.



Deputy Chief Constable Brett Crosby-Jones



Deputy Chief Constable Paulette Freill

In late spring, our attention turned to the murder of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis. This tragic event started an important dialogue about racism and public safety, and in some cases, shifted public opinion about police. I can assure you that the AbbyPD will never take for granted the positive relationships we have with the amazing citizens and businesses who call Abbotsford home. AbbyPD is a department that strives to become better every day.



Inspector Tom Chesley



Inspector Colin Thomson



Director Elaine Klassen

Despite the unexpected challenges that came our way in 2020, AbbyPD was hard at work addressing our core policing goals. In this report we will review our 2020 crime statistics, and I am proud to say the team at AbbyPD contributed to Abbotsford having lower property and violent crime rates than our neighbouring jurisdictions. AbbyPD remained committed to suppressing gang violence and improving road safety, and our Street Outreach Response Team worked hard to connect those in marginalized communities with critical supports and services.



Inspector Jason Burrows



Inspector Casey Vinet



Director Randy Millard



Director Patricia La Framboise-Lo

Although a year unlike any other for all of us, the support and encouragement AbbyPD received from our community gave us strength on the harder days. You have every reason to be proud of the amazing people who serve and protect in Abbotsford – there truly is Strength in Community!

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Mayor Henry Braun



Barb Schimnowsky



Chris Dominato



Mark Warkentin



Amaninder (Aman) Gill



Yvon Dandurand



Mike Welte

As Chair of the Abbotsford Police Board, I am pleased to present the 2020 Annual Report to our community. Every year this report showcases the excellent work of the Abbotsford Police Department as we strive to become the Safest City in BC.

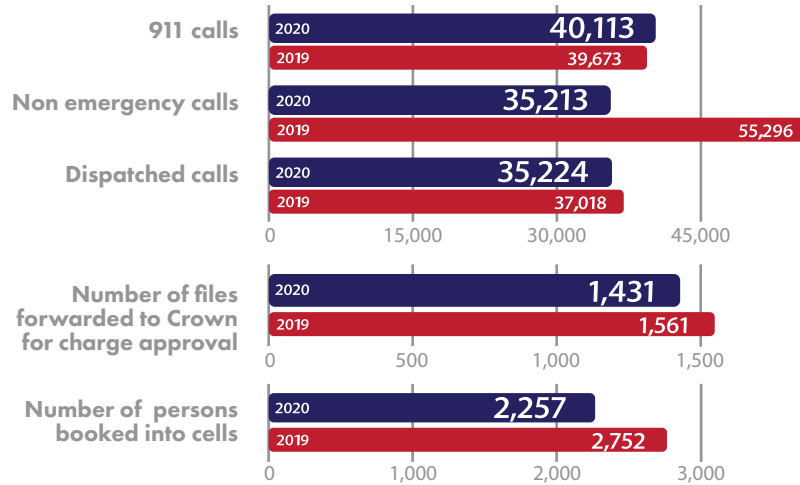
Our police department is not only responsible for ‘fighting’ crime, but they also improve public safety and increase the quality of life for our community. I’m proud of how many of our officers play such active roles in building relationships with youth, volunteering with local non-profits, and contributing to countless community events from Cops for Cancer to Canada Day. They truly live by the motto ‘Strength in Community’ and continue to build meaningful and long-lasting relationships across Abbotsford.

Our Abbotsford Police Department continues to be committed to building a strong and safe community. Issues like gang violence and the overdose crisis continue to create challenges across the province that often end in tragedy. Like many communities across the Lower Mainland, Abbotsford is not immune to issues related to mental health and substance abuse, rising homelessness, and a shortage of affordable housing. It’s our officers who are often the first to respond to many of these challenges, and I would like to commend them for over 25 years of dedicated service.

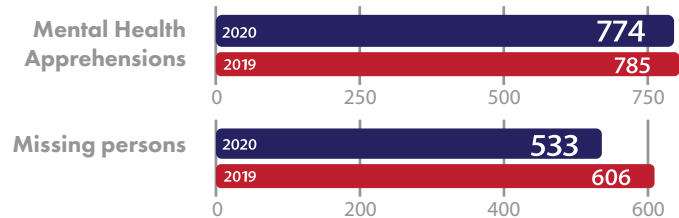
While we have an outstanding police department, safety is everyone’s responsibility. All of us, as residents of Abbotsford, have a role to play in fighting crime and shaping our city. From making the effort to connect with neighbours, youth and others in our community, to remembering to always lock our car, drive safely, or report signs of gang involvement, we all can and should be part of the solution in building a safe community.

On behalf of the Abbotsford Police Board, I want to express appreciation for the daily work of our dedicated police department - both sworn officers and civilian staff. Their commitment to integrity, honour, courage, and service will move us forward.

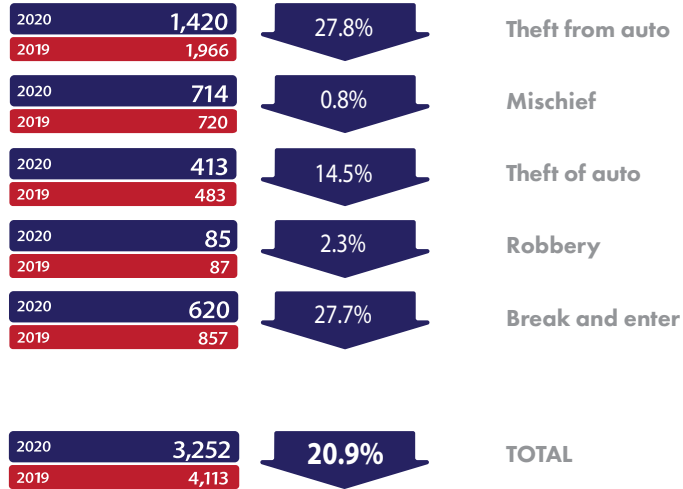
CALLS FOR SERVICE AND WORKLOAD



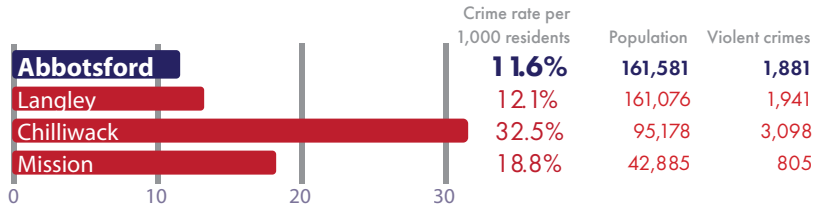
NON-CRIMINAL FILES



CRIME



VIOLENT CRIME RATE COMPARISON

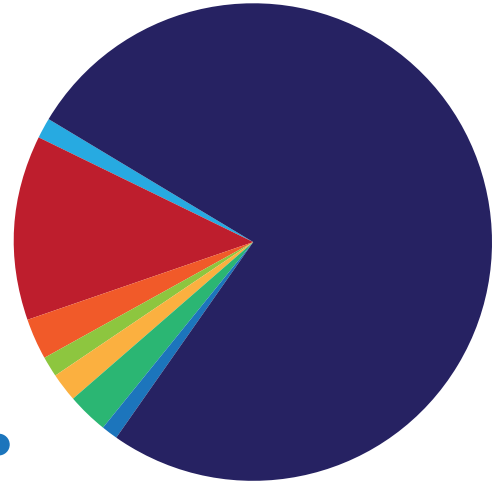


VEHICLE-RELATED



FINANCIAL December 31, 2020

Salaries	\$43,722,836	●
Training/Conferences/Memberships	\$353,182	●
Supplies/Contract Services	\$7,248,092	●
Administrative Costs	\$1,720,627	●
Uniforms and Equipment	\$389,925	●
E-Comm Equipment Lease	\$964,001	●
Vehicle Operating Costs	\$1,172,222	●
Police Buildings	\$279,550	●
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Total Expenses	\$55,850,435	



PERSONNEL December 31, 2020

Sworn positions	223	Civilian positions	85 includes full time and part time
New hires - experienced officers	9	Reserve constables	15
New hires - recruit constables	1	Volunteers	143



INTEGRATED & SPECIALTY TEAMS

In addition to providing police services to the community of Abbotsford, AbbyPD contributes team members to a variety of federal, provincial, and regional integrated units. These units work within, and deploy across, multiple jurisdictions. These teams provide specialized services within Abbotsford and enhance our partnerships and shared expertise with other police agencies. Through its association with these teams, Abbotsford receives comprehensive police services covering most types of investigations and derives a significant benefit from information and skillset sharing.



6 members **IHIT**

Integrated Homicide Investigation Team

IHIT is the largest homicide unit in Canada, responsible for investigating homicides, suspicious deaths, and high-risk missing persons where foul play is suspected.

1 member **IRSU**

Integrated Road Safety Unit

IRSU officers conduct strategic traffic enforcement of high-risk driving behavior in an effort to reduce the number of serious injuries and fatal collisions on BC roads.

1 member **ICARS**

Integrated Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Service

ICARS team members are expertly trained in the use of highly sophisticated equipment that helps them investigate the factors that caused a collision.

4 members **IPDS**

Integrated Police Dog Service

IPDS dog and handler teams are highly trained and specialized experts in their field. The teams cover an immense area consisting of all types of terrain, deploy in all weather conditions, and are strategically placed throughout the Lower Mainland to ensure a quick response.

5 members **CFSEU**

Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of British Columbia

The CFSEU-BC's mandate is to target, investigate, prosecute, disrupt, and dismantle the organized crime groups and individuals that pose the highest risk to public safety due to their involvement in gang violence.

2 members **TFO**

RCMP Air Services Tactical Flight Officer

The RCMP's Air Services Branch provides direct operational support in technical and specialized areas of airborne law enforcement, enabling front-line members to preserve the peace, uphold the law, and prevent and investigate crime.

1 member **UHU**

Unsolved Homicide Unit

UHU is a dedicated, standalone investigative team within the BC RCMP Major Crime Section. This unit assists RCMP detachments and municipal police departments with investigations into unsolved homicides and missing person cases where foul play is suspected.

1 member **RTIC**

Real-Time Intelligence Centre

RTIC collects, analyzes, and shares intelligence with front-line police officers across the Lower Mainland District, allowing police to respond faster to serious crimes.

1 member **INSET**

Integrated National Security Enforcement Teams

INSET teams collect, share, and analyze information and intelligence concerning threats to national security and criminal extremism/terrorism.

1 member **IQARAS**

Integrated Quarantine Act Response and Support Team

IQARAS launched in early April to conduct COVID-19 quarantine compliance checks.

The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) comprises nine constables, one sergeant and a crime analyst. This proactive investigative unit focuses on more complex, large-scale and/or serialized property crime offences, and targets prolific offenders. CRU conducts covert surveillance of suspects and potential targets, reviews CCTV, and interviews witnesses. Obtaining the judicial authorizations for warrants and other judicial orders is a significant part of the investigative process. CRU also assists the Patrol Branch with larger property crime investigations which require the experience and expertise of this specialized unit.

CRU works with community partners including police agencies from other jurisdictions, Corrections, Probation, Parole and other social service organizations to ensure offenders are abiding by court ordered conditions



once released back into the community.

In 2020, CRU conducted a variety of property offence investigations, leading to approximately 70 arrests and criminal charges which included Break and Enter,

Theft of Vehicle, Possession of Stolen Property, and Trafficking in Stolen Property. These investigations resulted in the recovery of over 20 stolen vehicles and other property worth thousands of dollars. CRU investigations also led to

the asset forfeiture (pursuant to the *Civil Forfeiture Act*) of four vehicles, and cash and other property totalling \$44,910. CRU played a major role in reducing the 2020 Abbotsford property crime rate by over 25%.

COURT LIAISON OFFICERS

The Court Liaison Officer acts as the primary liaison between the AbbyPD, Crown Counsel, and the Courts, ensuring that all reports to Crown Counsel are accurate with respect to evidence and witness information. Currently, the AbbyPD has five civilian Court Liaison Officers who provide coverage seven days a week. They ensure that files, no matter the day, are quickly and efficiently advanced to Crown Counsel. In 2020, our Court Liaison Officers processed and submitted over 1,500 files to Crown Counsel for charge consideration.

Some of their other responsibilities include affirming/swearing information before a Justice of the Peace, processing memo requests from Crown Counsel and the Courts, and coordinating the service of summons and subpoenas. They submit electronic fingerprints to the Canadian Criminal Real Time Identification Services (CCRTIS) and court dispositions via the Criminal Justice Information Management

system (CJIM), ensuring the accurate and timely update of a person's criminal record. In 2020, the Court Liaisons submitted just over 1,400 fingerprints to CCRTIS and 1,200 court disposition updates to CJIM.

The Court Liaison team works tirelessly to get the job done. The position involves high

volume workloads, professional-level duties, independence, and sound judgment. It requires extensive knowledge of both police investigations and court proceedings to effectively communicate the required information and bridge the gap between agencies. They are highly respected and play a pivotal role within the department.



AbbyPD's Street Outreach Response Team ("SORT") was launched in February 2020. It was created to respond to the ongoing opioid crisis and the growing number of those in Abbotsford experiencing

homelessness. Its purpose is to support vulnerable populations in Abbotsford.

SORT is comprised of one sergeant and three constables. The team has established partnerships with a variety of

local agencies, including those offering shelter and supportive housing services, mental health care, and other supports offered through Fraser Health.

One of SORT's most successful projects is its comprehensive

"Continuum of Care" program for prisoners.

The team has partnered with the Salvation Army to provide immediate outreach support to homeless prisoners upon their release from custody. The AbbyPD is the first police agency in BC to offer a variety of harm reduction supplies, including naloxone, to all adult prisoners upon their release. While in custody, all adult prisoners suffering from opioid withdrawal symptoms are offered alternate opioid therapies, with the hope they will continue to use sanctioned (rather than street) drugs upon their release.

SORT also works closely with CEDAR Outreach Society to identify and support homeless individuals not currently served by other agencies, and to assist in connecting them back to the community.



ABBOTSFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT

GANG INTERVENTION TEAM

In 2020, Harpreet Jhinjar joined the AbbyPD's Gang Intervention team (GIT) as the Gang Prevention Coordinator. Harpreet grew up in Punjab, India before receiving a MSc in Criminology and Forensic Psychology from Middlesex University London. He conducted research for the University of Alberta and eventually served as a police officer in Edmonton for ten years. His passion for change, diverse background, and extensive education made him a natural fit to lead the creation and implementation of AbbyPD's PATHWAYS program.

The PATHWAYS program focuses on community engagement, gang prevention, and early intervention. This program uses an evidence-based approach which draws heavily on academic research in

the field of gang prevention and intervention. Using this research ensures that program strategy is informed by the best available data.

The program's primary objective is to connect with, educate, and positively influence youth and young adults who have been identified as being at risk for gang participation or other criminal activities. GIT uses a multidisciplinary approach through collaboration with families, the community, and other stakeholders. By committing to the PATHWAYS Program, AbbyPD is investing in the future of our community's youth.

PATHWAYS initiatives are supported by the provincial and federal governments through the Gangs and Guns Violence Action Fund. Referrals to

AbbyPD's PATHWAYS Program may be made by visiting the AbbyPD Gang Strategy section on our website at <https://www.abbypd.ca/pathways-referral>,

or by phoning the PATHWAYS referral line at (604) 864-4898. General inquiries can be emailed to gangintervention@abbypd.ca.



RECOGNITION

Each year, the Abbotsford Police Department recognizes those employees who go above and beyond the call in the execution of their duties – by either putting themselves at great risk for the sake of others, exhibiting the highest standards of conduct or humanitarianism, or otherwise demonstrating exemplary work performance. The following individuals have been recognized for their achievements in 2020:

POLICE EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARDS

30 Year - 1st Bar

Chief Constable Michael Serr
Staff Sergeant Paul Dhillon
Constable Kenneth Lewko

20 Year

Staff Sergeant Kevin Murray
Sergeant Colin Wiebe
Sergeant Kelly Joiner
Constable Allison Bourne
Constable Ian Parks
Constable Leisa Shea
Constable David Stevens
Constable Karen Burridge

CHIEF CONSTABLE'S COMMENDATION

Constable Marie-Michelle Page

INSPECTOR'S COMMENDATION

Sergeant Kelly Joiner
Sergeant Alex Wood
Constable Justin Dubois
Constable Marcus Dyck
Constable Terry Maniwa
Constable Troy Peters
Constable Jess Williams
Constable Jason Baskin
Constable Jon Courtney
Constable Dan Heideman
Constable Miles Krauchi
Constable Nolan Moore
Constable Angela Galos
Constable Brandon Lanthier
Constable Kyle Frizzell
Constable Marie-Michelle Page
Constable Jesse Logan
Constable Kris Kim

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



SERGEANT ALEX WOOD

Sergeant Alex Wood joined AbbyPD as a recruit constable in 2005, and quickly established himself as an exemplary police officer. Even early in his career, it was clear that he would develop into a solid leader and mentor.

Sergeant Wood is an accomplished investigator and skilled tactical officer, having served in Patrol, the Crime Reduction Unit, the Drug Enforcement Unit, and as a Major Crime Unit detective. Most notable, however, is his time spent with the Emergency Response Team, where he became a trained tactical medic.

He is a highly decorated police officer, having received numerous departmental and provincial awards for his courageous and life-saving actions.

Sergeant Wood is committed to his colleagues and the Department. He continually demonstrates his strength and resiliency when faced with tough calls and tragic circumstances. He frequently provides support to others despite his own exposure to the same trauma. He has taken on numerous volunteer positions within AbbyPD, including membership in the Peer Support Team and organizational roles with a variety of fundraisers. He has proudly represented AbbyPD as a member of the Ceremonial Unit since 2015.

Sergeant Wood is a true professional, admired and respected by his colleagues. The Abbotsford Police Department is proud to name Sergeant Alex Wood as Police Officer of the Year.



MRS. CAREN DUYNIS



Caring. Hard-working. Kind. These are all words used by colleagues and community supporters when describing Caren Duynis. Since joining AbbyPD in 2006, Caren has worked as the Administrative Assistant in a variety of branches, including Support Services, Operations Support, Finance, and the Criminal Investigation Branch. Prior to becoming an AbbyPD employee, Caren was a dedicated volunteer in our Victim Services Unit. Over her career she has continually demonstrated a desire to assist others, both inside and outside of our Department.

Caren is known at AbbyPD as someone with a strong work ethic, who can be relied on, and who is always willing to take on new challenges. Her volunteer

activities are numerous, and over the years have included the BC Summer Games, the BC Senior Games, Abbotsford Restorative Justice Advocacy Association and Cares Counseling and Restoration Services. Caren is the driving force behind the Angel Bag Project, which seeks to provide bags filled with essentials and comfort items to those in need.

Caren's dedication to AbbyPD and her work family is also very visible through her participation in the organization of many employee support programs. We are so very grateful for Caren's enormous contribution to AbbyPD and our community, and we are proud to name her as the Abbotsford Police Department Civilian Employee of the Year.



On the cover: AbbyPD's 1965 Chevrolet Biscayne vintage police cruiser "Carol", named in memory of long-serving AbbyPD police officer, retired Inspector Carol Powell.

INTEGRITY

HONOUR

COURAGE

SERVICE