

2021

ANNUAL REPORT

DeLair Park
CITY OF ABBOTSFORD



ABBOTSFORD
POLICE DEPARTMENT

STRENGTH IN COMMUNITY



Chief Constable
Mike Serr



Deputy
Chief Constable
Paulette Freill



Deputy
Chief Constable
Brett Crosby-Jones



Director
Elaine Klassen



Inspector
Tom Chesley



Director
Patricia La Framboise-Lo



Inspector
Jason Burrows



Director
Randy Millard



Inspector
Casey Vinet



Inspector
Dan Culbertson



Inspector
Doug Moore

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Although 2021 came to an end as another challenging year, we witnessed many amazing acts of kindness, courage, compassion, and hard work throughout the year. As I reflect on 2021, I feel tremendous pride about how our department and community worked together.

With all that the City of Abbotsford withstood over the past many years, it is clear that, collectively, we have brought AbbyPD's vision of 'Strength in Community' to life and were able to apply that strength to how we met the many challenges of the year. In 2021, in addition to navigating through year two of the COVID pandemic, we experienced weather extremes with a heat dome at the beginning of summer and the November flooding emergency. I am incredibly proud of everyone at AbbyPD who displayed tremendous

courage, compassion, and dedication to support and protect our community during the devastating floods. AbbyPD is proud to be your police service and we are committed to everyone's safety in our community.

Our strong connections that have developed over the years, strengthened our resilience as a community and department, and we forged through dark days to find the light together. For the AbbyPD, it was our amazing team, policing and first responder partners, community members, and the strong leadership from our City, that enabled us to continue to do our job and maintain public safety. The AbbyPD team never lost sight of the core policing goals despite the need to pivot our focus to the emergent challenges that touched all of us in some way.

Knowing the weight of the challenges being experienced through the year, we found ways to celebrate and bring our staff and community together. We participated in events with Special Olympics BC in the Law Enforcement Torch Run and Polar Plunge, the BC Law Enforcement Memorial, and the two Abbotsford Police Foundation's (APF) sponsored events: the Community Family event, a celebration for families to enjoy with the AbbyPD, and the City Police Basketball tournament, which encourages youth to make positive choices by participating in sport. We also celebrated recruitments, retirements, promotions, recognitions of our amazing sworn officers, civilian professionals, and members of the public, and held our first internally lead leadership week to promote

development and employee well-being. These events and reasons for celebration are a significant benefit to our city, bringing everyone together and building our community trust and connections.

This annual report highlights the hard work achieved by our AbbyPD team who serve this fine City. The highlights of the crime stats for 2021 are the decreases in violent crime, break and enter, and theft of and from auto, which were also lower than all neighbouring communities. We were steadfast in our efforts to disrupt gang activity and reduce property crime. Although the property crime rate remained flat from the previous year, Abbotsford was the lowest in comparison to bordering communities. Our frontline officers and Street Outreach Response Team continued their proactive engagement with those in our

marginalized communities to help connect them with local supports and services and find ways to work together.

Abbotsford Police are striving each year to achieve our mission to make Abbotsford the safety city in BC a reality. This can be accomplished through our diverse team and community working together, recognizing that with Strength in Community we will be a stronger and better community, able to react to the challenges that life presents. AbbyPD commits to carrying out the vision and mission with its' core values of Integrity, Honour, Courage, and Service. Thank you from everyone at the AbbyPD – we are grateful for the continued community support, and we are proud to serve and protect Abbotsford.



Mayor Henry Braun



Chris Dominato



Mandy Padda



Mark Warkentin



Paula Olmstead



Mike Weite

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As Chair of the Abbotsford Police Board, I am pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report to our community. Every year this report highlights the excellent work of the Abbotsford Police Department as we strive to become the safest city in B.C.

If there is anything these last two years has solidified for us, it is how important our first responders are from all areas of service - and that we truly are stronger together.

The strength of our community is, in large part, thanks to the Abbotsford Police Department in disrupting gang violence, reducing property crime and helping to support the marginalized in our community. Every day they work hard to solve complex issues, tackle crime and keep our community safe – and they do this while exemplifying the AbbyPD's values of integrity,

honour, courage, and service.

A perfect display of this courage and service was in the AbbyPD's response during November's flooding emergency. As the floodwaters quickly moved into our City, our police department responded with lightning speed - controlling the roads, assisting in rescues and keeping our residents both safe and calm with constant updates of the changing conditions. I am eternally grateful to the entire department for being such a steadfast presence during our City's greatest hour of need.

In addition to being on the front line, our police department is actively involved in our community, and our City has benefitted from this greatly. From hosting a city-wide basketball tournament, to volunteering and participating in a number of local charity and community events, looking for ways to engage

and build relationships with residents. It is clear that the members of the Abbotsford Police Department truly care about this community and the people in it.

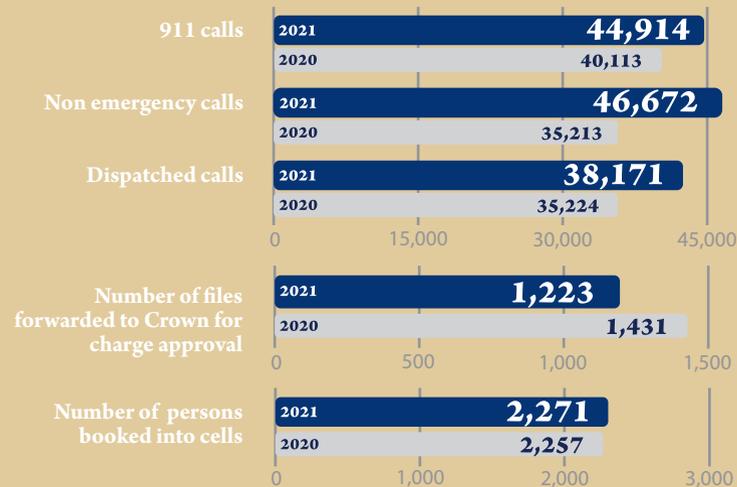
Of course, we all have a role to play in keeping our City safe and healthy; we all can and should be part of the solution in building a safe community. However, thanks to the daily work of our dedicated police department, both sworn officers and civilian staff, we are making great strides in our journey to becoming the safest city in B.C.

On behalf of the Abbotsford Police Board, I want to express appreciation and gratitude to every member of the Abbotsford Police Department for their excellent service and unwavering commitment to our community.

STATISTICS

Public Safety

CALLS FOR SERVICE AND WORKLOAD



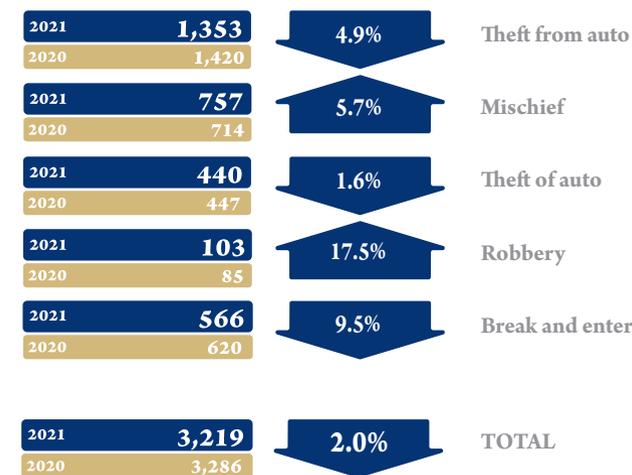
NON-CRIMINAL FILES



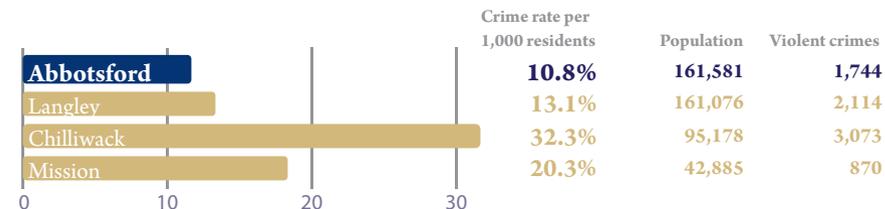
VEHICLE-RELATED



CRIME



VIOLENT CRIME RATE COMPARISON

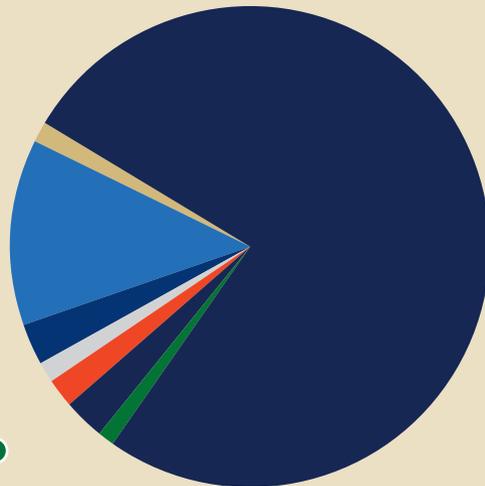


STATISTICS

Financial & Personnel

FINANCIAL
December 31, 2021

Salaries	\$46,006,789	●
Training/Conferences/Memberships	\$412,449	●
Supplies/Contract Services	\$7,550,963	●
Administration Costs	\$1,685,831	●
Uniforms and Equipment	\$615,680	●
E-Comm Equipment Lease	\$855,994	●
Vehicle Operating Costs	\$1,146,473	●
Police Buildings	\$320,988	●
Total Expenses	\$58,595,167	



PERSONNEL
December 31, 2021

Sworn positions	224	Civilian positions	83 <small>includes full time and part time</small>
New hires - experienced officers	14	Reserve constables	8
New hires - recruit constables	10	Volunteers	127

TRAINING SECTION

The Training Section is staffed with a Staff Sergeant, 4 Constables and a training coordinator. The Constables in the Training Section bring with them a variety of certifications such as Use of Force Instructors, Pistol Instructors, Rifle Instructors, De-escalation Instructors, a Tactical Medic and so on. The Training Section works tirelessly to bring forward new and innovative training ideas to keep members of the AbbyPD up to date and current in their training. The Training Section is responsible to ensure compliance with BC policing standards.

In November, the AbbyPD Training Section hosted the first annual "Leadership Week." The goal was to create a week that promoted leadership at all levels within the organization. To achieve this goal, numerous leadership opportunities were created and delivered during the week by members within our AbbyPD organization. The week was a success, and the Training Section is excited to host this event again in 2022.



YOUTH SQUAD

The City of Abbotsford has a total of sixty schools, which is a combination of both public, alternate and independent schools, with over twenty-five thousand students. This presents some interesting challenges for the Abbotsford Police Department's Youth Squad.

The Youth Squad (YS) is comprised of five Constables and one Sergeant. They play a pivotal investigative and enforcement role within the public and private school systems as well as other youth-related investigations. In addition, they coordinate activities with and provide support to youth, create educational campaigns, and participate in youth-focused community development. The YS also rely on other resources within the City to manage youth-related issues, such as SACRO, the Foundry, Archway, Cyrus Centre, ARJAA, Pathways, Probation, MCFD, and Crown Counsel (to name a few).

These officers host a wide range of educational presentations from kindergarten through grade



12, with a range of topics including pedestrian safety, social media / internet safety, gang and drug prevention along with other community related events such as the Junior Police Academy (JPA). The JPA gives interested grade 11/12 students an opportunity to participate in a competitive recruiting process involving a physical test, panel interview along with other challenges to see if they would be

a good fit for law enforcement. In addition, the YS monitor and assist our most high risk youth; those impacted by homelessness, drug addiction, and exploitation.

This past year, the YS was reassigned to assist with those impacted by the flooding in 2021. They remain a dedicated team to our community and our future leaders!

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The nine-person Information Technology (IT) Section has a collective 80 years of policing-specific technical service at AbbyPD. The IT Section consists of one Manager, one Senior Technical Analyst, four Network Support Analysts, one PRIME Coordinator and two IT Support Technicians. This section supports operational objectives, and the core policing processes and mandates of the sworn, civilian, volunteer, Police Board, and external in-house partners. Working collaboratively with all parties, the vision of this section is to provide excellence in technical services by strategically leveraging secure technology to empower, inform and support AbbyPD, and the citizens of Abbotsford.

Virtually every section in the department has a reliance on IT to varying extents. The team supports multiple buildings and off-site locations and is responsible for the surveillance, network, voice, and the data

connectivity required to maintain a secure infrastructure which is integral to the continued operation of services. The Pandemic saw what was already becoming an increasingly mobile workforce transition into a largely remote workforce. End users are supported by an in-house Helpdesk offering hardware, software, and user training support. Critical technical issues outside of regular business hours are handled 24/7, 365 days a year by an on-call team of experienced analysts.

IT is always looking for innovative technologies to enhance enforcement and community partnerships. In 2021 the section replaced the phone system, worked with the Intel Section to deploy a fleet of Public Safety Surveillance Cameras throughout the community, implemented enhanced access to technologies in the fleet computers, began to support the implementation of an HRIS system, and upgrade the department Interview Recording System.

The IT Section strives to engage and collaborate with members and stakeholders to achieve the organizations' strategic goals. Solutions must adhere to information governance and all data and information must be stored securely and appropriately. To stay current on up-and-coming legislation and technical trends, AbbyPD IT staff represent the department on several regional and provincial law enforcement committees.

Conscientious and diligently working behind the scenes, AbbyPD's IT Section plays a critical role in the department.



GENERAL INVESTIGATION SECTION

The General Investigation Section (GIS) is comprised of a Sergeant, seven Investigators, and one Missing Persons Investigator. The role of GIS is to take conduct of files initially received by the Patrol Section but deemed to require significant secondary investigation. GIS members investigate a broad range of criminal offences including sex assaults, violent offences, robberies, arsons, threats, and fatal motor vehicle incidents. Much of a GIS member's time is spent obtaining witness, victim, and suspect interviews, obtaining legal applications, or file coordinating criminal investigations. In addition to files assumed from Patrol, GIS members are available to provide assistance and mentoring to Patrol members during their investigations.

The Missing Persons Investigator's role is to monitor all missing person's files received by the Abbotsford Police Department and to assume any investigations that require ongoing investigation. The MPI coordinates with a broad range of agencies (such as the Canada Border Services Agency, INTERPOL,

financial institutions, cell service providers, government agencies, Social Assistance and Welfare, the Ministry of Child and Family Development, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation) in an effort to locate Missing Persons. In the event that a Missing Person

is not located, the MPI will ensure the investigation is thoroughly documented and the file will be transitioned to the Major Crime Unit or IHIT (if the circumstances are suspicious).





INTEGRITY

HONOUR

COURAGE

SERVICE