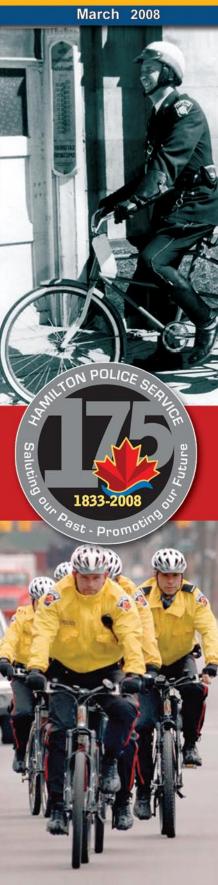
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Canada's National Law Enforcement Magazine





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March 2008 Volume 20 Number 3

We recognize the Hamilton Police Service in this edition as it celebrates 175 years of policing Canada's "steel city." Shown here is Sergeant Webber giving a child a dream for the future. You can read more beginning on page 6.

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# Cause and effect

by Morley Lymburner

Life is an endless stream of cause and effect. If you're wise or observant enough, it's easy to connect the dots; take drug trafficking, for example.

Since the late 90s I have watched with interest the case of the six Toronto Police Service (TPS) drug squad officers. The script seems straight out of a thriller novel - or at least the basis for a good whodunit.

For those living under a rock for the past decade, here's a brief overview. The officers, all former members of TPS Central Field Command drug squads, were known as 'Team 3.' Some had been under investigation as far back as 1998. A criminal investigation was eventually begun into the team's alleged misuse of informant money. Several officers were charged with fraud, forgery, theft and breach of trust in Nov. 2000.

Throughout many adjournments, the most notable feature of these prosecutions was the Crown's failure to fully disclose its evidence, despite repeated defence requests to do so. Even the urgings of a judge assigned to monitor the disclosure process went unanswered. Finally, in January, all charges against the officers were staved because of the unreasonable delay.

From whence did this come? It all began with newspaper coverage of a group of defence attorneys. They believed something was amiss because of the numerous charges these officers laid against their clients and techniques they deemed suspicious. Sharing a common interest – the team had charged all their clients – they met to compare notes. Their defence – an aggressive and public offence – was certainly effective, resulting in more than 200 prosecutions of some of Toronto's most notorious drug dealers being dropped.

The officers were quickly convicted in

the court of public opinion, and the only other thing of note to result is the marked increase in the number of dead people turning up on Toronto streets. The murder of innocent citizens and drug dealers by gun wielding hoods since Team 3 was taken out of action has reached epidemic proportions. Could there be a cause and effect relationship here?

Toronto's frustrated mayor and police chief try to stem the bloodshed by pumping more money into programs and assuring the public that guns are the problem. Somehow, the very profitable drug trafficking problem does not exist, but a gun trafficking problem most assuredly does. The reality is that the two problems go hand in hand.

Cause and effect again becomes evident when we consider why competition is so keen in Toronto's flourishing drug industry. The answer is simple – supply and demand. We live in a society which has plenty of disposable income and is apparently running out of places to spend it. These consumers first want, and then need, illicit drugs.

Supplies of hard drugs come from desperate third world countries and, in an ironic twist, the money spent to buy it supports people bent on undermining us. Terrorists need money; the drug trade not only supplies it but also furthers another objective; killing Western society from the outside in and the inside out.

Cause and effect also offers a solution. If we can make illegal drugs and a druggy lifestyle socially unacceptable, much like what's already been done with tobacco, the cycle is broken. Media hype can make a difference, but so can the actions of every front-line police officer. Forget the traffickers and go after the users. Charge people for any amount of illegal drugs and you just might short circuit the demand. We can also create an atmosphere of disdain for shows, music

and stars popularizing drug use.

All of this would come far too late for the six officers placed under suspicion, of course, but the cause and effect from this fiasco has created a great chill in the war on drugs. Toronto is now a wide open city, with many police officers just going through the motions. After all, they are paid just the same whether they write traffic tickets or catch murderers. Once bitten, twice shy.

Many lessons can be gleaned from the words of Ontario Superior Court Justice Ian Nordheimer, who noted the following common elements as he read the officers' applications to stay the charges:

Each of the (officers charged) was, from the outset of these investigations, an experienced police officer with many years of service. The applicants all had unblemished records as police officers. None of the applicants had any prior charges or disciplinary offences, but they now bear the burden of the worst accusation imaginable to a police officer, namely being labelled "a dirty cop"...

Their service as police officers has either actually or, for all realistic purposes, come to an end. For each of the applicants, the profession of being a police officer was their first wish. They have now lost their desired and chosen career...

It would not be an overstatement to say that the applicants have become pariahs in the police community.

Whether we believe the officers are guilty or innocent, we all must pause, consider their plight and ponder not only what we cause to happen - but the effect it may have.



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Established in 1988, Blue Line Magazine is an independent publication designed to inform, entertain, educate and upgrade the skills of those involved in the law enforcement profession. It has no direct control from an enforcement agency and its opinions and articles do not necessarily reflect the opinions of any government, police, or law enforcement agency

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PRINTED IN CANADA

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SUBSCRIPTIONS \$25.00 per year; \$40.00 for 2 years. U.S. & Foreign: \$75.00 ISSN # 0847 8538



# 175 Years and counting

The Hamilton Police Service salutes past, promotes future

#### by Tim Fletcher

Hiring John Ryckman as 'high bailiff' on March 11, 1833 was a momentous step for Hamilton's newly elected board of police. Ryckman was the community's first paid law enforcement official and only the second in Upper Canada; an unbroken line leads to today's Hamilton Police Service (HPS).

It's a lineage unparalleled by any other major Canadian police agency. Present chief Brian Mullan is the heir of a 175 year legacy and the 33rd chief to head the force.

Although efficient in maintaining order, Ryckman was replaced in 1834 following the annual civic elections after quarrelling with a police board member over an arrest and excessive force. Some things haven't changed!

The HPS has grown significantly since those early days, absorbing four Great Western Railway detectives in the mid 1800s and Hamilton Beach Police — except for the chief, who was known to shake down US tourists with phony fines. The parks police came aboard in 1963 when its chief retired — he was Canada's only one-armed chief, but a no-nonsense type who kept a gimlet eye on trouble-makers.

The Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth was formed on the first day of 1974. A fourth tier of governance, it managed region-wide functions while member municipalities were responsible for "internal" matters. The police departments of Hamilton, Stoney Creek, Dundas, Ancaster and Saltfleet Township





merged into the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Force (the name was later changed to 'Service'). The rural districts of Glanbrook and Flamborough and the small town of Waterdown were added over the next two years and the harbour police joined in 1987.

Initially, the OPP patrolled much of the old Wentworth county land between the towns. That was reduced to just Highway 6, the Queen Elizabeth Way and Highway 403 in the 1990s.

The colossus of Hamilton inevitably overshadowed the region's other municipalities. The region vanished after only 26 years with the birth of the amalgamated City of Hamilton on Jan 1, 2001, and the Hamilton Police Service (HPS) was also created. Its new, modern badge was the visible sign of the change.

The 787 sworn members, 272 civilians and 65 auxiliary officers of the HPS, the 11th largest police agency in Canada, police nearly 530,000 people and 1,113 square kilometres of diverse territory surrounding the west end

of Lake Ontario. Members respond to some 86,000 calls for service annually.

The service has three patrol divisions (including detectives), investigative, corporate and support services divisions, a full-time emergency response unit and shares an explosives disposal unit with Niagara Regional Police. Its canine and marine units are joint efforts with Halton Regional Police.

HPS has sent three officers on United Nations missions – two to Bosnia-Herzegovina and one to Guatemala – and has lost seven officers in the course of duty.

#### Simple rules

The 1833 rule book was simple and direct: The high bailiff shall report to some member of the board of police without delay any and every breach of any regulation established by the board for which a penalty is established, and in cases where the parties are transitory, such as traveller driving furiously to the danger of any of the public or committing an offence against the public peace, decency and good order, shall arrest such person or persons forthwith and shall bring him or them before one of the members of the corporation. To command any inhabitant in the King's name to assist him when necessary in the discharge of his duty.

This is remarkably similar to police duties today!

Alexander David Stewart, who became chief at age 28, was the first to put Hamilton police on the world stage. "A.D." was selected

MARCH 2008 — BLUE LINE MAGAZINE



in 1885 to be the gaoler of Metis leader Louis Riel when he was tried for treason. Stewart left for Manitoba in June and returned in October after overseeing the court case and later arrested more Riel supporters.

Hamilton has seen many famous international cases. Perhaps the most notorious was Evelyn Dick; her husband John left just five months after they were married because of Evelyn's infidelity. Local children found his torso shortly after and Evelyn was arrested for murder. Evidence showed the head and limbs were probably burned in the furnace of her home. A popular school yard song was sung about the case:

You cut off his legs... You cut off his arms... You cut off his head... How could you, Mrs. Dick?

Dick was convicted in 1946 and sentenced to hang. Lawyer J. J. Robinette, who won renown on the case, appealed and won an acquittal. In the meantime police found the mummified body of a baby boy under her home's floor boards, encased in cement. Dick was tried for this murder in 1947 and given 11 years. She was released in 1958 and disappeared from public view.

Although the Dick case was sensational, it is Hamilton's mob reputation that persists.

One of the most prominent Mafiosi bosses in Canadian history, Rocco Perri, ruled southern Ontario from his Hamilton base from the 1920s to the '40s. He smuggled liquor to the US during Prohibition and was also into gambling, extortion and prostitution. Feeling the heat from police and his rivals, Perri was last seen in Hamilton on April 23, 1944. Rumour says he was dumped into Burlington Bay in a cement-filled barrel, however there is evidence he moved to the Rochester area and died in the 1970s.

Johnny "Pops" Papalia, an old-style Mafiosi who figured in the famous "French Connection," succeeded Perri. He began by trafficking heroin on Toronto streets and grew to be the most powerful capo in Ontario before he was shot dead in May, 1997 outside his small office on Railway Street.

The mob connection lead Hamilton to create the first Canadian Joint Forces Unit (JFU), made up of officers from several agencies, including the RCMP, and aimed squarely at the mob. The JFU had major successes before staffing issues lead to its disbandment, but it served as the model for many others and has since been re-activated.

Organized crime grabbed the headlines, but it was the 'small stuff' that created most of Hamilton's headaches – and still does. The plague of crack cocaine has spawned new levels of crime and violence, abetted by the rise of the 'gangsta' culture.

To combat this, the 'old clothes unit' concept took a unique turn with Hamilton HEAT (High Enforcement Action Teams). There's one in each patrol division and they focus on division-level special projects, including crack houses. Numerous agencies have adopted the concept.

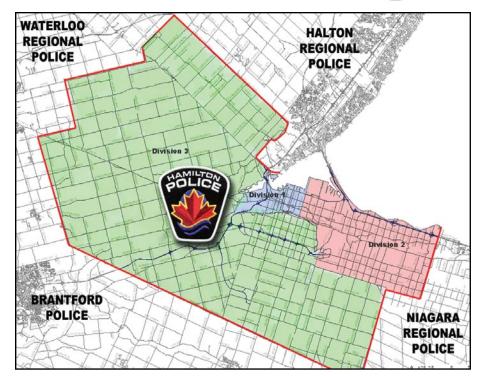
Criminals work across boundaries so the















BEAR (Break, Enter, Auto Theft and Robbery) squad was formed and given city-wide responsibility for mandated crimes, allowing it to know the players and target them intensely. It's not unusual for BEAR officers to identify and arrest a suspect within hours of an offence, cutting short crack-fueled robbery sprees and breaking up B&E gangs.

These units don't work in isolation. In the 1980s, the service underwent an epiphany. Like most agencies, it had turned into a motorized service (the first vehicle was purchased in 1912) and was becoming isolated from the people. Reaction-based policing — the "thin blue line" — was the norm.

Police scholars recognized this and lobbied for what, in effect, was a return to the basic precepts of policing developed by Sir Robert Peel in 1829. Hamilton was among the first to move to this community-based policing, inaugurating it service-wide among all members in a year-long effort featuring such then-radical things as community consultation, store-front offices and "park 'n walk." The award winning HPS Victim Services Unit, established in 1992 and one of the few in Ontario, grew out of the CBP initiative.

The community responded when asked what it wanted from its police service, but it wasn't enough to just ask people what the problems were; residents had to be an integral part of the solution. An "intelligence-lead, all-agency" model was developed to work on the prevention leg of the "prevention, detection, apprehension" crime triangle, aimed at fixing the cause of a problem, not just the symptoms.

Problem bars are one example. The old approach simply meant showing up and making arrests when trouble broke out. Now, a multi-agency group of property, fire department and liquor inspectors come together as a mini-task force, conduct a full inspection and either shut the problem down or force it to come up to standard.

Intelligence from all sources, including the public, is widely disseminated via an e-mail system, intelligence reports and more. It is now uncommon to find an unknown criminal; any that do turn up are usually quickly identified. Images from store and bank cameras are put on a 'crime fighting' e-mail forum. Officers seconded to work with the provincial and federal parole offices have also proven remarkably effective in preventive intelligence efforts.

Internally, crime is not compartmentalized. Although one unit – BEAR, for example – might have the lead on an investigation, all members– including school officers, special constables, civilians and superb crime analysts – can provide input, putting years of knowledge to work identifying trends, bringing forward suspects and either preventing an occurrence or making arrests.

The new paradigm is constant change. The key is the mission, not the methods. Officers must be flexible to remain effective and this is



ingrained in operations. The newest example is the award-winning Neighbourhood Safety Project (NSP), a policing model that's quickly building an impressive resume of success and versatility. NSP involves a cultural change, moving the service from time-based squad deployment to a geographic-based deployment.

NSP has made a significant impact in gang activity, resulting in the largest-ever grow-op bust, and received the 2007 OACP Community Policing Award.

The future is wide open. Recognizing that criminals cross municipal boundaries, the HPS has built a reputation as a collaborative service, working with national and international agencies, including Interpol, in the war against crime and now, terrorism.

"Today, Hamilton is a leading-edge, continually-evolving, intelligence-lead, community-based, full-function, modern police service," says Mullan.

service," says Mullan.

"A 175th anniversary is quite a milestone but what is truly remarkable are the men and women of our service, past and present, who brought us to where we are today. As we mark this anniversary, we will be celebrating the outstanding individuals who keep our community safe."

**Tim Fletcher** is the Hamilton Police Service historian.

# Women in policing – The first 50 years

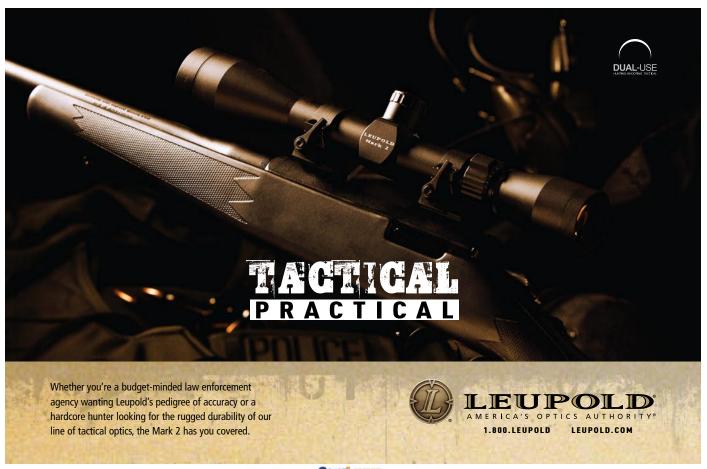
The first sworn HPS females, although unarmed and in plain clothes, were hired in 1944 but quietly shuffled to matron status, guarding women prisoners, after the Second World War. Interestingly, the officers were called "police women" in the annual report and listed below police constables.

Social pressure was such in 1958 that the HPS hired its first three "true" female uniform officers. They were referred to as police constables and listed with their male counterparts. Despite the apparent rise in status, they visited schools and did parking enforcement and cell block duty, but did carry firearms in small black purses. Improvements came in increments, including eventually being issued pants, standard hats and holsters.

Female officers are now fully integrated and eligible for all positions, including the emergency response unit (two women have served to date). Former HPS D/Chief Christine Silverberg was hired from outside and went on to become Calgary's police chief. Another female officer has risen from constable to



superintendent. The HPS currently has 148 female officers, 18.6 per cent of the total sworn complement.



# **Getting it back in line**

### Surveying recruitment in Canadian policing

#### by Morley Lymburner

Acquiring police recruits in Canada has turned into guerilla warfare, with few rules of conduct. As a quick survey revealed, there are fewer consistent standards than in the past, and even less ethical considerations, as some agencies try to make up for regional disparities and a declining work pool. To suggest we are re-arranging the deck chairs on the Titanic would be optimistic.

Blue Line Magazine sent out a survey in January to most Canadian police agencies, asking specific questions about recruiting practices. Very quickly a regional disparity became evident. There are few prisoners of conscience when it comes to saving money on training or finding ways to make a buck on recruits – or even applicants.

Many agencies find regional disparities work in their fiscal favour, though some tire of the wandering "gypsy" cop. The most disdain must be reserved for agencies who charge a fee simply for filling out an application. This shameless shakedown brings policing to entirely new depths.

In the midst of conducting our survey we found, sheerly by accident, a ray of sunshine. A retired officer directed us to a report released last October and funded by the Police Sector Council, a national organization dedicated to human resource issues within policing. Entitled *A national diagnostic on human resources in policing*, it was researched and published by the Hay Group. More on that later but let's first look at our quick overview of the status quo.

#### The down east story

Eastern Canada seems to be the most dysfunctional area, with training costs more than three times higher than Ontario and a process which prevents police services from pre-screening recruits.

One of the main factors is the \$24,000 tuition for basic recruit training at the Atlantic Police Academy (APA). All municipal Maritime police agencies can draw recruits from these graduating classes. The hefty charge takes a toll on the available work pool and restricts the possibility of a police career to those who can afford it.

Some assistance is available to applicants who qualify for a Human Resource Development Canada grant, which pays about half of the tuition, but there is the added problem of going six months with no income. Certainly not an option for people with lower incomes, married couples with children or young adults without a proven work record.

Lack of support from the three provincial governments is part of the problem. They once supported and subsidized the academy but stopped in the mid to late 90s. Full cost recovery was implemented. As a result, the academy put through only 63 recruits last year



and agencies routinely advise potential recruits to go to Ontario or the RCMP for training. A job awaits them on their return. In other cases, the service may repay an applicant's training costs if the individual is viewed as a desirable candidate.

Since no pay is given for recruits, the survey indicates an average starting salary of around \$39,820, with a potential high of \$59,310 after five years service.

#### The Ontario story

Ontario is the happy hunting ground for Canada when it comes to police training and head hunters. The province requires all of its 23,000 municipal, provincial and First Nations police officers to be trained at the Ontario Police College (OPC), at a cost of \$7,500 a head. The question of who pays, and how much, depends on the agency.

Most First Nations police pay all of their recruit's training expenses. Eighty per cent of the Ontario agencies we surveyed do not repay any training expenses, but all pay a salary to officers in training — and these agencies are the most vulnerable to piracy. The remaining 20 per cent repay some training costs, with stipulations. Some repay through payroll over a set period of time, while others hand out a lump sum after a set number of years service, but no interest.

Two anomalies stand out. One agency pays training fees but the municipality claws it back through payroll deductions over two to three years — sort of a no-interest loan. Another agency doesn't cover the fees but offers officers a \$2,000 incentive payment if they meet a performance standard and accept a remote posting for a specific period. When asked if the performance standard were not

met would the officer still have to accept a remote posting there was considerable thought put into the non-answer we were given.

Unlike the APA, the province sends OPC considerable subsidies which, along with more recruits, explains its lower fee. Average annual pay for Ontario recruits is \$44,540, generally as a 4th class constable — that increases to an average of \$74,246 after five years of service.

#### Go west young man

Western police agencies have a general policy of not charging for training and paying officers while they train. The most notable exception is the RCMP, which believes in total dedication to the cloth to such an extent that it not only charges for training but pays recruits nothing until they graduate six months later. "How do you like us so far" surveys were not available.

Given the keen competition for recruits and the Mounties' need to train up to 8,000 recruits over the next four years to stay ahead of demand, this will likely soon change. Few potential candidates can afford no income for half a year. The only difficulty at this point is getting that big lumbering machine in Ottawa to change the policy.

Each individual police service is responsible for its own training, overseen by the province to ensure standards are met. In Manitoba, for example, Winnipeg or Brandon police conduct the training and the sponsoring municipality, and provincial grants cover the tab.

To counter the big human resources sucking sound coming from east and west of the prairies, most agencies require repayment of training expenses if officers leave within a set

number of years. Starting annual pay averages \$39,650 while the top pay after four years is around \$68,400.

#### The BC experience

As is the case in so many other ways, British Columbia is different. Most of the population base is in the lower mainland region, hugging the American border, and the US influence is clearly reflected by the tendency toward fragmented policing. However the RCMP is exempted from this basic mistrust of larger metropolitan agencies. The largest Mountie detachments in the country abut cheek to jowl with a potpourri of municipal agencies skirting Vancouver. Likewise, almost all attempts to unify policing around Victoria have failed.

The issues surrounding the RCMP basically revolve around retention. Although somewhat alleviated by a regional living allowance, it is losing officers to municipal police services.

Members from all 12 municipal police forces must be trained at the Justice Institute of BC. Like the APA in PEI, it's a private college which supplies study courses for the public sector. JIBC differs in that it is subsidized by the province and is not a residential institution. Students are supplied a list of local houses and apartments available for rent.

Recruits generally pay for their own tuition (\$9,500 a head) but most receive a salary during training. JIBC can currently train 144 recruits per year but this is expected to increase to 190 due to increasing demand from

Vancouver and Victoria.

Newly placed RCMP members are paid around \$45,000, which increases to a maximum of about \$72,000 after four years service. Average pay for new municipal police officers is \$46,000, topping out at \$75,000.

#### The national scene

Several issues of interest arose in the survey. Recruiters felt the strongest affinity toward people with previous law enforcement experience but college LE trained graduates also ranked very high on the preference scale. University education was less valued — military experience came in last — and 40 per cent replied, when asked, that they would only accept experienced officers from within their home province.

The average age for recruits was 28, although almost all respondents indicated age is not a factor. This peculiar anomaly could not be explained by most people interviewed. When pressed, some acknowledged they were looking for more mature officers to fill the gap of retiring officers. Many felt the loss of so many to retirement would leave them vulnerable if they had only younger recruits.

Others worried that older recruits may not handle shift work as well and could be more set in their ways. Another concern was the loss of so much talent to other industries as demand increases. Also noted was an increased willingness to invest in nurturing after the training process is complete.

#### A ray of light

It is clear that radical changes are needed to help fuel the engines of policing in the years to come. Maritime chiefs must be empowered more to screen training candidates. The provinces have a duty and indeed a strong interest in supporting and funding a proper police college. Staff shortages have hit the Maritimes as hard as anywhere else in the country, and backfilling vacancies with disaffected personnel from other parts of the country is a recipe for grief. Acquired personnel may be unknown quantities, lacking loyalty to the community and bringing along habits which don't fit the local environment. The Maritime personnel vacuum has forced Ontario agencies to develop "carrot or stick" processes to retain trained personnel. This can cause labour relations issues and more grumbling within the industry.

Just in time comes a ray of light. The *Hay Group* study delved into the same issues as we did. Its 254 page report, released last October, outlines the results of exhaustive interviews and surveys reflecting on all aspects of police human resourcing. The authors took more than a year to research and write this superb blueprint for the future, even identifying a couple of strengths we can build upon to make Canada a world leader in the field.

Blue Line will excerpt portions from the study A national diagnostic on human resources in policing over the next few months to get things moving in the right direction, but you don't have to wait for us. Visit http://www.policecouncil.ca/pages/home.html for the full report or e-mail me at publisher@blueline.ca and I will send you a copy.

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# The Rock's best cops

#### by Danette Dooley

Police officers throughout Newfoundland and Labrador gathered in St. John's recently to congratulate the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) and RCMP officers selected as finalists for the 2007 Crime Stoppers Police Officers of the Year.

Cst. Kent Pike of the Nain, Labrador detachment took the award for the RCMP, while Cst. Wayne Mercer of the North East Avalon Division won the accolade for the RNC.

Mercer has been with the RNC for the last five years and previously served with Halifax Regional Police. Standing on the podium as a semi-finalist, his eyes became moist as organizers read about an incident he was involved with just over a year ago.

Mercer responded to a Dec. 2006 call that an ATV had gone through the ice on a pond on the outskirts of St. John's. Upon arriving, he heard a young girl's screams coming from the water and hauled a small skip boat out to the open ice, where an ATV and several teens had broken through.

A local firefighter arrived to help. Dressed in a floater suit, he walked out on the ice, entered the water, swam to the young girl and took her to Mercer, who was waiting on the edge of the ice. A male was also rescued and taken to hospital by ambulance. Mercer then helped the firefighter out of the water, making for a happy ending to what could have been a tragedy.

Mercer said he didn't expect to win but was honoured to be recognized by his peers.

"I'd like to say congratulations to the other nominees. They were deserving as well," he said, also acknowledging the other police officers on the scene of the incident. Rescuing the youth was a team effort, he added.

Mercer is also proud to be policing back

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in his home province. "It sounds corny but this is something I've always wanted to do since I was a kid... I enjoy getting up and going to work every day, and for someone to be able to say that, they're very lucky."

The RCMP's top cop, Cst. Kent Pike, spent his first five years of service as a police officer in Labrador.

While policing in Nain, he ensured both children and adults were comfortable in approaching him and always took an interest in the social and sport activities of his community.

He involved many off duty members in a friendly basketball game at the local gym and often ended the season with a tournament to raise money for the community's family resource centre and Nain Cares, a charity which helps people who cannot afford the expenses of traveling for services.

On several occasions, Pike won the strongest man in Labrador title and finished fourth at the 2007 East Coast competition. He is described not only as a role model for youth but also a gentle giant who is always ready with a quick joke.

Whether bouncing a basketball with a teenager or dealing with a prisoner, Pike shows compassion for all, his nominators noted. He's credited with addressing the problem of impaired snowmobile operators by providing a detailed history of repeat offenders, ensuring those who continue to break the law are given serious sentences.

His follow officers noted Pike is "a hero to local youths, who have seen him as bigger than life and someone to emulate."

Like his RNC counterpart, Pike was also surprised to receive the honour and noted that it's important for people in the community to see him as a person rather than a police officer. That starts with having people call him by his first name rather than by constable.

"Being involved in the community I'd go to the store sometimes and there'd be one kid there. You say, 'Would you like a chocolate bar?' and I can't just buy for one kid... so I'd come out of the store with a pack of gum and there'd be 20 kids behind me with their chocolate bars and drinks," he laughs.

Danette Dooley can be reached at dooley@blueline.ca

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# 2007 CRIME STOPPERS POLICE OFFICERS OF THE YEAR FINALISTS

RCMP FINALISTS Cst. Stephen Conohan Cpl. Keith MacKinnon RNC FINALISTS Insp June Layden Cst. Ryan Wentzell

# Outstanding female police officers honoured



Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement (AWLE) recognized the contributions of outstanding female police officers in Atlantic Canada at its 15th annual conference in November.

#### Officer of the year Cst. Marie Dumont RCMP

A District 2 (J Division) crime prevention liaison officer working in Oromocto, NB, Dumont immediately became familiar and involved with her community. This dedication has often brought police and citizens closer together. Dumont is a skilled leader who continues to impress those around her. She is quick to problem solve through a team approach, establishing goals, developing realistic plans of action and pulling resources together to get things done. Her unit has no designated or assigned resources, which has encouraged her innovative approach.

Dumont is a great supporter of women's issues. She continually motivates, mentors and supports new female officers and has lectured on the role of women in policing. Dumont is a celebrity in her community, known by everyone through her efforts to reach out to citizens and business people with crime prevention initiatives and charitable activities.

She is involved in several committees and a Neighbourhood Watch program which has reached beyond the limits of her post. Dumont performs her duties at the highest level. Her dedication to the community and the endless passion she demonstrates is unparallelled. She loves her work, her community and especially youth.

#### Excellence in performance Det. Sara McElman Fredericton Police Force (FPF)

FPF members were simultaneously dispatched to two city Zellers stores in April to investigate fraudulent activities. Officers ar-

rested three Nigerian nationals. A search made clear that the scope and depth of their activity was overwhelming, involving a complex series of frauds and identification issues.

McElman, a 17 year FPF veteran, immersed herself completely in the file for the next two weeks and presented three complete disclosure packages to the Crown in time for plea. Due to immigration status and other factors, many of the fraud charges ended up being withdrawn. The Crown accepted a guilty plea on participa-

tion in activities of criminal organization from all three subjects. This was the first organized crime charge in the province.

#### Mentoring Cst. Andrea Joyce Fredericton Police Force

Joyce has worked diligently on a jobsharing proposal for almost two years and the FPF is the first municipal police force in the Atlantic Region to embrace this concept. She



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truly believes in balancing her own personal life and professional life. Her goal in taking on this challenge wasn't only to assist her, but those who follow her. Her interest in the subject arose from her own efforts in obtaining a job share.

#### **Team endeavours**

Cst. Amy Lisa MacKay and Cst. Dean Simmonds Halifax Regional Police

MacKay and Simmonds have immersed themselves in their community in their daily work and by participating in many community events. They look at the big picture and involve organizations and businesses in effectively solving community problems and are true community leaders. Their successful implementation of the community response model of policing in their area has resulted in significant positive change and reduced crime.

#### **Leadership** S/Sgt. Katherine Alchorn Fredericton Police Force

Alchorn is a leader in every sense of the word and leads by example. Members under her command are motivated and excel as a team, thanks to her leadership, which is based on respect, open communication and commitment.

#### **Medals of Valour**

Cst. Kelsey Aboud Royal Newfoundland Constabulary Aboud, a four year member of the RNC, responded to the report of an robbery at a service station. Working alone, Aboud spotted a suspect, who was armed with a knife, and ordered him to stop. She drew her pistol, ordered him to the ground and removed the knife from his access. When backup arrived, she handcuffed and searched him.

# Cst. Isabelle Beaulieu RCMP

Beaulieu and partner Cst. Charles Debotton were dispatched to a family dispute and encountered a male armed with a large sword. He challenged officers to either come get him or shoot him. Beaulieu drew her Taser and DeBotton drew his pistol; DeBotten negotiated with the suspect and he eventually dropped the sword.

#### Cst. Tammy Sanders Saint John Police Force

Sanders and partner Jason Lohnes were dispatched to investigate the report of a suicidal man armed with a gun. They spotted a handgun upon entering and drew on the man, who was being held back by a woman, and ordered him to drop his weapon. The man asked them to shoot him, then struggled with the woman and told her he was going to shoot the officers. The gun went off and Sanders ran forward, stomping on the man's right arm, spraying him with OC and jumping on him. She pushed the gun away and he was arrested without further incident.

#### COMING EVENTS

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# WHOIS will soon reveal only 'WHATIS'

#### by Sheila Barrows

How to best manage the vast amount of private information available on the Internet is a source of constant debate. Balancing its open nature and easy access to information against individual privacy continues to be a key issue for policy makers, law enforcement, Internet users and the public at large.

While some, including police agencies, believe contact information must be published to afford accountability, others believe individuals should be able to protect personal details and contact information.

As administrator of the dot-ca domain name registry and custodian of the dot-ca WHOIS, the Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) thoroughly investigated how to maintain privacy for its registrants. After extensive public consultation and policy development, CIRA is changing the dot-ca WHOIS search tool, effective April 8, 2008, to limit the disclosure of an individual domain name registrant's personal information. This will impact how police investigate and communicate with Internet domain name holders.

#### What is WHOIS?

WHOIS is a generic term describing an online directory service that allows people to look up information about Internet domain names (web addresses). CIRA maintains a WHOIS search tool on its website that permits queries related to dot-ca domain name registry database. Users can quickly determine whether a domain name is available and/or view administrative and technical contact information.

WHOIS has been used since the inception of the Internet, but recent concerns have prompted a re-evaluation of the information disclosed. Issues included privacy concerns, harvesting of personal information for commercial or criminal purposes (spam, identity theft or stalking), and the expansion of the Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA).

In response, CIRA developed a number of proposed changes which were vetted through two series of extensive consultations. The opinions of registrants (domain name holders), registrars (domain name sellers), the Canadian public, experts and law enforcement professionals were all considered. The goal was to create a balanced policy addressing registrant privacy while accommodating commercial, legal, and law enforcement purposes.

#### Changes

The current dot-ca WHOIS provides a significant amount of information: the registrant's name, job title, address, phone and fax numbers and email address are all accessible. The new dot-ca WHOIS restricts access to all personal information related to individual registrants, including all administrative and technical contact information. Information about non-individual registrants such as corporations and organizations will continue to be displayed.

CIRA will continue collecting registrant contact information from individuals but will no longer make it publicly available without explicit consent.



#### **New procedures**

In implementing the new policies, CIRA recognized that there are many legitimate reasons to contact individual registrants by developing an administrative process for passing correspondence from interested parties to individual domain name holders. A message delivery form will be available on CIRA's website (www.cira.ca). CIRA will forward these messages to the respective registrants.

When additional information such as identity or contact person is required, CIRA will comply when it is requested through proper legal channels such as a court order or warrant. Detailed instructions on the format required will be available at www.cira.ca/legal.

CIRA does not collect information about the 'owner' of domain names and the administrative contact is the focal point of all its communications. Use of this terminology is critical to processing court orders.

Also pertinent to investigators is the requirement for CIRA to notify registrants when personal information is disclosed. Unless otherwise specified on the court order, the registrant will be notified that personal information was revealed not less than 30 days or more than 60 days after the disclosures. The timing was adjusted during CIRA's policy development process based on feedback from law enforcement to provide a wider investigative window prior to notification.

CIRA remains committed to maintaining a high standard of privacy and data protection while remaining sensitive to the unique needs of law enforcement.

Visit www.cira.ca for more information on CIRA's new WHOIS policy. Sheila Barrows is CIRA's marketing manager and can be reached at melisa.db@cira.ca.











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# Improving complaint process carries a price

by Dorothy Cotton

There's a saying in medicine that sometimes the cure is worse than the disease. I don't think it's true in a literal sense.

People with cancer, for example, may feel relatively okay before the diagnosis but really awful after radiation or chemotherapy. In the short run, it seems like the cure is worse than the disease, but in the longer term cancer may kill, so suffering through the treatment is probably a good idea.

I thought of this analogy recently when reading a study about what happens when police services improve their accountability and complaint processes. There are many changes going on in this area of the police world, with much talk of civilian and external oversight. enhanced internal systems, early warning systems and databases.

Presumably, the point of all this change is to make sure police services are fair, evenhanded and within the letter of the law. Equally important is that police are seen to be fair, evenhanded and behaving within the law at all times.

It is far beyond the scope of this short article – or me – to comment on what constitutes a good model for dealing with complaints, but I find it interesting and somewhat counterintuitive that the better you handle complaints, the worse you look - on the surface.

The research suggests that improving your complaints process gets you more complaints. Bummer; but while this may not appear to be good news on the surface, it is a phenomenon worth thinking about.

There is no doubt that credible and effective systems for addressing citizen concerns are an essential part of developing and maintaining the support and trust of the community, but it is a trust that comes with a price. "If you build it, they will come," as Professor John Worrall of California State University's Department of Criminal Justice so aptly put it - and he was talking about complaint systems, not baseball parks.

Anyone who has ever bought substandard merchandise or received bad service from a store or business knows that sometimes you complain and other times you don't bother. I suspect we know people - maybe even ourselves – who have taken advantage of the process, perhaps getting a refund a few days after the warranty expired, for example. Maybe they gave the refund just to get rid of us.

Most people know the places worth complaining to and the places where it's not worth the trouble. Curiously, it is likely the "good" places that get the most complaints because they have good processes for dealing with them.

Police services appear to be no different. Worrall surveyed over 700 US police services to learn the effects of having a good complaint service. He started with the hypothesis that since traditional police complaint processes were often viewed as being hostile to certain groups of individuals - such as racial minorities – then it makes sense that these groups would tend not to bother filing complaints. After all, they would say, what's the point?

Note that it's the perception that matters, not the truth. Perception and reality may be the same sometimes – not always – but they likely influence the public's decisions – and thus, they are what we must deal with.

Citizens are more likely to complain if the process is easy. 'Easy' can mean that information about how to file is readily available, the process makes sense and is within the abilities of the complainant and assistance is available if needed.

People are also more likely to complain if they feel there are options for procedural justice. Often, complainants want an apology, face to face meeting or simply to be heard. These factors are often as important to them as any possible punishment to the officer in question.

Naturally, people are more likely to complain if they feel they will be taken seriously, an honest effort will be made to investigate and the process is legitimate and proceeds in a timely manner.

Worrall's research suggests a good process attracts more complaints. Interestingly, it doesn't appear to make much difference which process is used. While one might guess the public would perceive an external review as more objective, the data do not particularly indicate this. In fact, police services emplying an automated database method received the most complaints. Worrall suggests these services may simply be more professional and organized to begin with, and thus the public may view their complaint processes as more credible.

So it appears developing a good complaints process is tantamount to shooting your self in the foot in the short run. If your service uses "number of complaints filed" as a measure of organizational performance or lists them in your annual reports, it may be wise to think about how you interpret your data. Perhaps a high number of complaints are a good thing???

OK, I suppose that's really not true either - but anyone who works with data knows that the numbers themselves don't tell the story - it's what you do with them that counts. If you are one of the many places in the middle of changing the way you handle complaints, keep that in mind!

Dr. Dorothy Cotton is Blue Line's pschology columnist, she can be reached at deepblue@blueline.ca



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HAMILTON

# Where is my child?

#### by Diana P. Trepkov

Parents across North America are searching for lost children. Some will never come home, their bodies remaining unidentified and unclaimed for years, like the young male victim of a 1999 hit and run accident in Phoenix, Arizona.

His remains, along with 200 other unidentified bodies, were at the Maricopa County Medical Examiners Office, which lists those it can't identify on its award winning website www.maricopa.gov/Medex/Unidentified

The victim was Hispanic, with short black hair and brown eyes. He had a moustache and slight beard on his chin, was 5' 9" and weighed 160 to 180 pounds. His DNA was entered into the national database. Surely, he is someone's son.

I used the postmortem reconstruction method in hopes of discovering his identity. Proportions and features, including eyes, nose and mouth, are very important in any reconstruction.

The unidentified boy had much swelling, bruising and blood on his face, caused both by the blunt trauma and medical procedures. DOA photographs are usually taken from above, making everything appear wider, which can sometimes lead to distortion.

I began the reconstruction by studying and measuring his features using many different techniques. I then visualized what he would look like alive, keeping in mind that it's usually a family member who will recognize a facial feature in a reconstruction.

My postmortem reconstruction had been posted on the county website for about six months when I received some great news from Suzi Dodt, an exceptional investigator with the examiners office. A man visiting the site was 99 per cent sure my reconstruction was his grandson.

The ID process began. The circumstances under which he had gone missing were a match, so DNA, dental records or a fingerprint were required to confirm. The victim was a minor with no criminal record so investigators had been unable to match his prints, but his mother still had her son's fingerprint from a youth fingerprinting program done at his school. They were compared with prints from the body and matched 100 per cent.

From the time the stepfather saw the reconstruction to the establishment of a positive

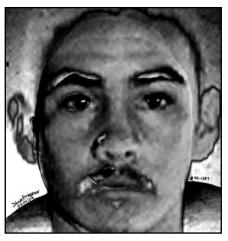




A portion of my reconstruction drawing showing a very crucial part of the victim's face.

identity took all of six days. After eight years, the unidentified victim finally had a name – Victor Edward Ortiz, who was only 15 years old when he died. His family was very grateful to finally have some closure. It is a sad way for any family to end a long search for a loved one, but they could now finally give him a proper burial, which was long overdue.

There isn't a greater feeling than to be part of a team and investigation which puts a name to an unidentified person, but there is much more work to be done. There are some 40,000 to 60,000 unidentified human remains, with another 1,000 or so added to the list each year.



Actual photograph of the victim. The bottom part of the face is very similar to the postmortem reconstruction, leading to a positive identification. This is an example of how certain features can trigger recognition.

Forensic art shared with other jurisdictions and the public can help reduce this list.

I have assisted law enforcement and coroners on some 70 cases in Canada and the US, motivated by my firm belief that every parent should know where their child is – dead or alive. They deserve it.

We all came into this world with dignity and that is the way we should leave.

Diana P. Trepkov is a forensic facial reconstruction artist. Visit www.forensicsbydiana.com or diana@forensicsbydiana.com.





# JUVENILE JUSTICE IN CANADA

It has been 100 years since the first formal regulation directed at young offenders was developed in Canada. The evolution toward a distinct regime for young offenders has been a long one and this six-part series drawn from the Department of Justice will be useful to view the current system within the social and historical contexts of its development.

#### Part 2 - Tough Justice - The treatment of delinquents

Penal practices and conditions in New France were harsh. On 19 January, 1649 a young girl of 15 or 16 was hanged for theft in the town of Quebec. Punishments were freely handed out for every type of infraction. For swearing a person could be fined or put in detention. Repeat offenders could be put in an iron collar and subjected to public ridicule, while chronic recidivists could have their lower lip cut. Those put in jail were given a diet of bread and water. Jails were poorly ventilated, humid in the summer and cold in the winter. In 1686 Governor Denonville reported having to cut the feet off certain prisoners in Quebec for purely medical reasons: they had developed gangrene from the cold. Sentencing was given little uniformity by either principle or practice, and severe punishments were handed out for both major and minor crimes.

To discourage servants from breaking their service contracts, authorities in 1676 announced that offenders, many of whom were teenage girls, would be put in an iron collar. For a second offence, the servant would be beaten with rods and branded with the fleur-de-lis. Juveniles were also kept in detention for their crimes. André Lachance, in a study of female crime in New France between 1712 and 1759, tells of a 13-year-old girl being confined for three months and a 14-year-old female being held for six years.<sup>3</sup>

While many children were subjected to harsh punishments, justice was frequently tempered with mercy. The governing councils in New France sometimes set aside sentences and reduced the punishments handed down by the courts. For example, instead of executing children who committed crimes normally punishable by death, it was customary to whip them. In a case tried in Quebec in the summer of 1695, a mother and daughter were jointly convicted of theft. While the mother was put in the pillory to be ridiculed in the public square, the girl was let off by the council with a reprimand.

Punishments for juvenile offenders in both English and French Canada were a mixture of harsh laws, severe retribution and justice tempered with mercy. It was generally established that children under seven, regardless of the crime, could not be punished because they were not yet capable of discerning the nature of their acts. It was also common, in the case of offenders up to the age of 14, to withhold severe penalties except when justified by special circumstances. In practice, however, these guidelines were not always observed or uniformly applied. As a result, justice was uneven, and many children were subjected to treatment that was harsh in the extreme.

Whipping of young offenders was a common practice, especially in communities without jails. In some cases, juveniles were punished with the whip instead of incarceration. Although Halifax by 1815 had a jail together with a courthouse and a regular police court, juvenile offenders frequently received the straightforward physical chastisement of 39 lashes at the public whipping post. Parsimonious public officials preferred corporal punishment to detention since it avoided the use of

public funds to provide board and lodging.

Across the country as more communities built jails, young offenders were either whipped or incarcerated, or sometimes both. When jailed, they were mixed indiscriminately with adults and shared the same cells as drunks, prostitutes, hardened criminals, the indigent and the mentally ill. The physical facilities themselves, once built and in operation, were of little concern. They quickly became run down and neglected. They were too hot in summer and too cold in winter. Jailers could be cruel, the food was both inadequate and poor, bedding was scarce, and laundry and hygiene were neglected. Prisoners spent their time either in idleness or in performing extremely hard labour. For young and old alike, justice continued to be uneven and, on occasion, out of proportion to the offence. In 1813, for example, a 13-year-old boy was hanged in Montreal for stealing a cow.

As the population grew and more jails were built, children continued to be incarcerated with regularity. Even when Upper Canada (as the province of Ontario was then known) opened its first prison at Kingston in 1835, authorities did not hesitate to commit the young to confinement. Most sentences at Kingston Prison ranged from one to six years. They often lacked uniformity: for a crime such as grand larceny one person might be committed for a year while another might be sentenced to five years. Significant numbers of young boys were sent to Kingston. In 1839 the records listed 6 boys between 12 and 15, and 24 between 16 and 20. The attitude of the warden in his report for that year no doubt reflects the prevailing view of other officials of the day. He recommended that convicts released from prison be sentenced to life if they committed another crime.

This prison, the first — as opposed to a jail — to be established in Upper Canada, was far from a model institution. The problems in its operation and administration were so numerous that the government in 1848 appointed a commission headed by George Brown, publisher of the Globe newspaper, to investigate. The Brown Commission submitted its report in 1849 and documented a variety of serious problems, especially the extreme practices in punishment, which made no distinction between juveniles and adults in either the men's or women's sections of the prison.



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Punishments were meted out frequently for simple disciplinary offences, often of the most innocuous kind, and whippings were administered before an assembly of the inmates. One 10-year-old boy, committed on 4 May, 1845 for a seven-year term, was publicly lashed 57 times in the space of eight and a half months. His offences were staring and laughing, which although in contravention of prison rules, were normal behaviour for a boy of that age. An eight-year-old child, admitted on 7 November, 1845 for a three-year term, received the lash within the first week of his arrival. Over a nine-month period he was similarly punished 47 times. An 11-year-old

French-Canadian boy received 12 lashes on Christmas Eve 1844 for speaking French.

In the prison's female quarters young girls experienced similar treatment. The records show that one 14 year-old was whipped seven times in four months, while a 12 year-old was similarly punished five times over another four-month period. Both boys and girls were sentenced to the same terms as adults for the various crimes, and in prison they were subject to the same rules and conditions. At the time of the Brown Commission investigation, three children under 12, including one eight year-old, and 12 under 16 were serving time in Kingston Prison.

Children for some time continued to be put in jails and prisons across the country, and they endured the same treatment and foul conditions that characterised the criminal justice system as a whole. As the population and the number of settlements increased across the country, so did the incidence of youth crime. More children were brought before the courts and sent to jail. However, as soon became apparent, this form of punishment was accomplishing very little. Rather, many juveniles were corrupted by older offenders, and instead of being turned away from crime, returned to society schooled in the latest lawbreaking techniques. As a result, many young people went on to more serious offences following their incarceration and, all too often, ended up back in jail.

# DISPATCHES

British Columbia Solicitor General John Les says



changes to provincial regulations allow emergency vehicle sirens to be silenced when they're not needed, such as late at night in urban areas. He says the move is aimed at allowing emergency vehicles to travel through high density neighbourhoods at night without waking people up. He says the default position is still to use sirens in con-

junction with emergency lights, but when it's safe, emergency vehicles can travel without their sirens.

Ontario Provincial Police Constable **Dan Bailey** has received the Carnegie Medal for an exceptional act of bravery and courage. Bailey was off-duty in August 2006 when he ran to the scene of a burning car crash and helped free the driver and her passenger from the vehicle. Bailey used a pocket knife to cut the seat belts despite the intensifying flames and extreme heat. The Carnegie Medal is awarded by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission to persons in Canada or the United States who voluntarily risk their lives while attempting to save the life of another.

In January Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day



announced funding to keep illegal drugs from crossing Canada's borders. Day said the Canada Border Service Agency will receive \$3.3 million over two years. The money is to be used to improve detection of illegal drugs and chemicals used to manufacture crystal meth and other illegal substances.

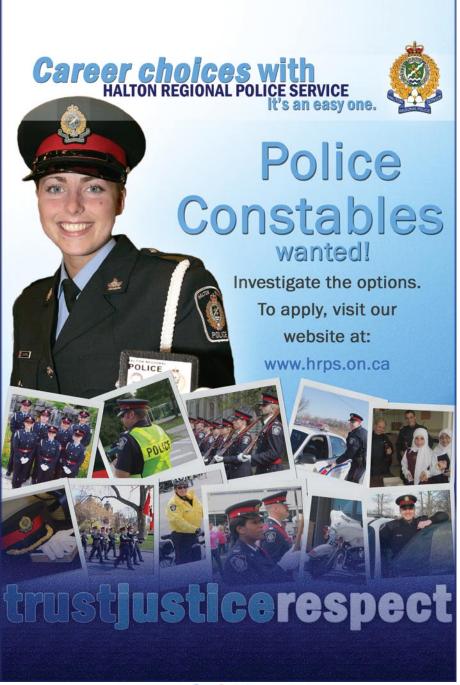
The money is part of the government's \$64 million anti-drug strategy announced by Prime Minister Stephen Harper last October.

In a history making action a Commons committee



has recommended Deputy Commissioner Bargara George be found in contempt of Parliament for testimony she gave about pension troubles within the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The Paliamentary House Committee report filed last month said she misled them when she denied involvement in a fellow

Mountie's removal from a police probe into management of the RCMP's \$12-billion pension and insurance plans. Staff-Sgt. Mike Frizzell testified that George engineered his removal, and inspite of documents and testimony presented George maintained she had nothing to do with it. The heavy rebuke stated "Deputy Commissioner George is a senior, uniformed member of the RCMP, (and) the committee expected more from her as a witness."



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# Crime scene approach for first responders

by Patrick Gould

As a police officer, you may arrive first on the scene of anything from a minor theft or simple break-in to a complex homicide. Your approach and subsequent actions may make the difference between conviction or acquittal.

#### **Initial dispatch**

When notified of a crime scene, you should record the following:

- The time and subject of the call;
- Who made the call and what was said;1
- Date, time and weather conditions;
- Circumstances of the complaint and location of the incident.

These notes are important and will refresh your memory, if required, when writing your report and during court proceedings.

#### The approach

After gathering the facts, approach the incident/crime scene. The level of assistance you require depends on the type of incident – for example, you may require back-up for a break and enter where the suspect(s) might still be inside.

Pay attention to details and make continuous observations, i.e. whether a driveway is paved or dirt. Take care not to destroy footwear or tire impressions leading to or from a building if there is a possibility they



Fig.1: Fingerprints on broken glass at POE. (Photo by Cpl. Pat Gould, Moncton FIS)

may be present. It's also important to note environmental conditions, i.e. a windy day may blow the door closed or move possible evidence in the yard.

#### Protecting the crime scene

In many instances, you will have to enter and secure the scene. The first and foremost consideration is officer and public safety, followed by determining the "path of contamination" – that is, "the path taken by the offender to and from the victim/crime". It must be avoided, thus reducing the chance of destroying or contaminating evidence.

Depending on the crime scene, a perimeter may be required. If you need to cordon off the scene, "isolate a large enough area to prevent loss of evidence, never leave point duty until you are relieved and permit only essential personnel inside the scene". If unauthorized police officers enter, the potential for contamination is increased, which may result in the evidence being damaged or even destroyed.

Contamination—altering a scene or evidence prior to it being recorded and collected—can occur in various ways. The perpetrator(s) can walk, touch or move items, which is often referred to as "path of contamination." Civilian personnel such as witnesses or ambulance attendants may walk or touch items while attending to victim(s). Police officers entering/securing the scene can also cause contamination.

#### Search for evidence Exterior

Once the scene has been secured, you must conduct a preliminary visual examination of the exterior. This task is particularly import-

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ant as many types of evidence may be located (e.g. footwear and tire impressions, cigarette butts, tools etc.). Physical evidence must be protected from possible environmental conditions such as rain, snow or sun. At times, the best practice is to place a clean covering, such as a cardboard box, over the evidence.

Instead of covering a footwear/tire impression or other evidence made in the snow, it's wise to protect it from sunlight by creating a shadow over it. A box covering it could create too much heat and melt the snow with a strong sun.

Another example is a tire tread impression made in mud. If the first responding officer observes this and it begins to rain, it should be covered and, if possible, water draining into it should be limited. Always document your actions and notify the forensic identification specialist when they arrive if you moved anything.

#### **Point of Entry**

The point of entry (POE) is usually where a forensic identification specialist (FIS) has the best opportunity to locate physical evidence such as fingerprints (Fig. 1), trace evidence (hairs, fibres, DNA), footwear evidence (Fig. 2) and tool mark impressions. The POE should be secured and, if possible, avoided when entering or exiting the scene until the FIS officer can examine it.

Do not handle any evidence unless absolutely necessary - for example, a broken piece of glass with a suspected blood stain exposed to rain or snow must be moved to protect it, since it may be the only link to your perpetrator. It is imperative that officers



Fig. 2: Footwear on cushion at POE. (Photo by Cpl. Pat Gould, Moncton FIS)

wear protective gloves when handling any exhibits, and "eating, drinking or smoking should never be allowed at a crime scene." Not only do you run the risk of leaving your DNA, you may also place yourself at risk of a health hazard. Always ensure you have the

necessary personal protective equipment (e.g. disposable examination gloves, mask, etc.) and practice proper personal hygiene.

If an investigator leaves the scene to deal with a suspect and then returns, ensure they do not contaminate the scene. They could unknowingly bring evidence from a suspect, such as hair, into the crime scene or transfer it to a police vehicle or interview room.

Care should also be taken when using the same cell to house suspects or the same vehicle to transport prisoners or witnesses, since this may result in transferring trace evidence such as hair and fibres from one person to another. This may be unavoidable but it's important to show the court that all reasonable precautions were taken. If possible, use separate vehicles and cell blocks.

Although transfers are highly unlikely in most cases, defence counsel will take the opportunity to turn it into a major issue. This is also why the investigator dealing with the scene should not deal with the suspect. By avoiding this contact, you limit the possibility of cross-contamination of evidence.

#### References

- <sup>1</sup> Path of Contamination, P.106 Crime Scene Manual, 2005.
- <sup>2</sup> Crime Scene Examination Module, Page 9 Canadian Police College, *Forensic Identification* course, 2005.
- <sup>3</sup> Code of Police Practice, Collection and Preservation of Evidence, Part 1, Page 3. http://www.rcmp-learning.org

Corporal Patrick Gould joined the RCMP in 1992 and has been posted at the Moncton FIS since 2004. He can be reached at Pat.Gould@rcmp-grc.gc.ca





### Un-shredder debuts and SIMs take the heat

by Tom Rataj

In these days of paranoia over identity theft, people are usually advised to shred any documents containing personal information. Most police and government agencies have strict policies about shredding confidential documents before disposing of them.

While that may be good advice for the vast majority of people and agencies, shredding is not a foolproof method of ensuring permanent confidentiality. Researchers at the Fraunhofer Institute of Production Facilities and Construction Technology in Berlin, Germany have developed a commercially viable 'un-shredding' machine.

The "E-puzzler" can rapidly reassemble mountains of shredded and torn documents in a fraction of the time it would take to put them back together manually. It was developed as part of an effort to reassemble the estimated 45,000,000 pages of secret records remaining from the former Communist East German "Staatssicherheitsdienst" (State Security Service or Stasi).

During the regime's final few months, the Stasi command ordered that all paper records amassed since the country's establishment after the Second World War be destroyed. Millions of documents were initially sent to commercial grade paper shredding machines and, as the fall of the state neared, agents began using office paper shredders to tackle the remaining mountains of documents. When they failed from overuse, agents resorted to hand-tearing documents, resulting in an estimated 600 million pieces of torn paper hastily stuffed into garbage bags.

The majority of these destroyed records were saved after the regime fell, in hopes they could one day be reassembled to shed



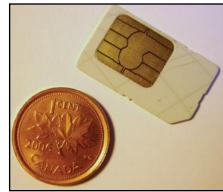
Jan Schneider of Germany's Fraunhofer-Institute demonstrates the E-puzzler. Photograph Above: by Herbert Knosowski/AP; Right: by Tom Rataj

light on the operation of the Stasi and East German state.

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, a dedicated group of 15 people have managed to reassemble about 10,000 documents. At that rate, it would take an estimated 600 to 800 years to complete the task.

The process of re-assembly was made somewhat easier by the fact Stasi agents put all the torn pieces of each document directly into the same garbage bag, so all the pieces of the 'puzzle' were at least in the same bag.

To address the issue and spur development of an automated technological solution, the Stasi Records Office (the agency with carriage of the records) issued a proof-of-concept challenge, which the Fraunhofer Institute won. Its E-Puzzler can process batches of up to 10,000 pieces of paper and electronically reassemble the documents within about one hour.



The machine uses a two camera digital imaging scanner to record each fragment. A computer program analyzes the pieces for features such as paper colour, shape and texture, fonts and other details that make each piece unique. Complex algorithms are used to match all the pieces and electronically reassembles the documents for analysis and archiving. A two-year, 400 bag pilot project is now underway.

The E-puzzler has also been helped Chinese archaeologists reassemble some of the broken Terracotta warriors found in the tomb of Emperor Qin and deciphered some of the poor quality Nazi records of concentration camp victims.

This technology could be a great tool for investigating a wide variety of serious criminal and terrorist cases involving shredded or partially destroyed paper records.

Visit www.fraunhofer.de for more information.

#### **Baked SIM cards survive**

The postage stamp sized Subscriber Identity Module (SIM) card found in GSM-band cellular phones used on the Rogers and Fido networks generally contain all the user data kept on the phone. This usually includes the subscriber's identity information, contact list or telephone book, ingoing and outgoing calls and text messages, pho-



tographs and a variety of other data.

The advantage of SIMs is that if a phone breaks or is replaced, the card can just be moved into another phone and the subscriber is back in business.

From the law enforcement perspective, SIM cards potentially contain substantial amounts of valuable information that could be direct evidence of criminal or other activity.

One would ordinarily presume that all the SIM data would be lost if a cell phone is damaged in a fire but this may not be the case. Electronics engineers Tony Kenyon and Benjamin Jones at the University College London (UK) recently conducted tests to determine whether SIMs can survive extreme heat.

They exposed 12 SIM cards to varying degrees of heat. Half were baked at 180 C (356 F) for 10 minutes, five were baked at 450 C (842 °F) and the remaining card was subjected to 650 C (1,202 F).

The first six cards were then connected to an electronic interface and data was successfully retrieved. The next five cards were effectively useless, although one functioned very briefly. Not surprisingly, the final card was inaccessible.

The researchers used a special rewiring technique to conduct the data access portion of the test, but pointed out that there are other techniques to access damaged cards. Their external contacts can also be connected directly to a processor capable of monitoring power consumption within the SIM. An electrical scanning microscope could then be used to read the electrical signals at various points of the internal circuitry, potentially extracting the data.

During their experiments, the researchers used acid to carefully strip the plastic exterior of each SIM card in order to expose the actual electronic chip contained within. This probably increases vulnerability to heat damage. One would suspect a card inside a phone would have substantial additional protection against damage from heat and fire, and would likely survive quite well.

The Madrid terrorist bombs in March, 2004 were partially carried out using SIM equipped cell phones to remotely trigger bombs placed on trains. While those phones and their SIM cards were destroyed in the blasts, investigators recovered two phones attached to unexploded bombs, and the SIM data provided valuable information about the individuals behind the bombings.

A SIM equipped cellular phone seriously damaged in a fire or other catastrophic event may be able to provide valuable evidence if it can be successfully accessed. Even a card which didn't function in a phone or SIM card reader could yield its contents to a data recovery specialist.

A research paper on this project is in the latest issue of the Journal of Forensic Science International. Visit: www.elsevier.com for more information.

Tom Rataj is Blue Line Magazine's technology editor and can be reached at technews@blueline.ca

#### Kenora Police to amalgamate

KENORA, Ont. - Ontario Provincial Police will be Kenora's next official police force if all approvals indicate a go-ahead.

Kenora city council voted last month by a 4-3 margin in favour of the provincial police takeover from the city-run Kenora Police Service. The decision must still be approved by the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services

The plan calls for the provincial police to supply 42 officers dedicated to all of Kenora — including the two former townships of Jaffray Melick and Keewatin. Since city amalgamation in 1999 it has been policed by both the OPP and the Kenora Police Service.

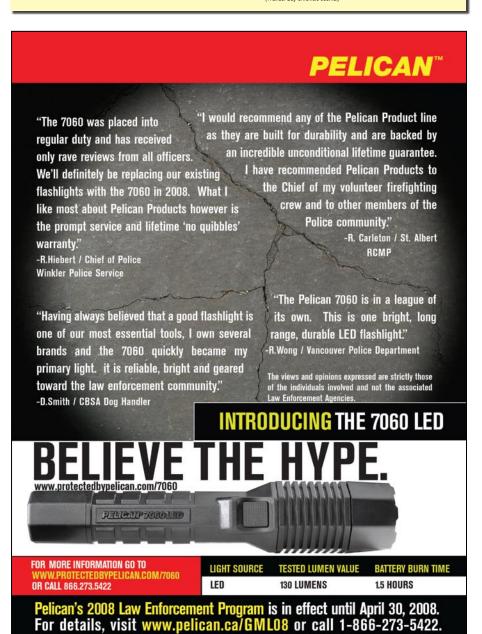
The proposed service will have seven officers on

duty at any given time as well as an office Sergeant who could go out and help the other officers. Coun. Wendy Cuthbert says the force would also offer up to 39 more officers whenever required, along with specialists in drugs, guns and gangs.

A policing system by the provincial police will cost Kenora \$5.26 million a year, saving the city about \$1.2 million a year compared to the bid made by the existing Kenora Police Service.

"It's a huge savings," Cuthbert said Saturday. Current city police officers will be offered jobs with the provincial police under the new plan.

"So really, it would just be a matter of changing their uniforms," Cuthbert said.



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# Listening for the right words

#### by Gord MacKinnon

We were well into the interview – I, a young aspiring detective and my older partner, a grizzled veteran who had grudgingly begun to share some of his interrogation secrets with a kid whom (as he later told me) had some potential.

We all smoked in those days; the subject was chain-smoking, my partner puffed his pipe (like Sherlock Holmes, I thought) and I lit the odd coffin nail just to keep in vogue. I could never inhale – cigarettes made me sick – but I didn't want to seem like a complete wuss!

The suspect was in for rape and looked pretty good for it. Although his sheet was extensive, our man was pretty cool throughout the interview. He had a typical con's ability to deflect questions with shrugs, lazy asides and numerous, "I don't recalls."

He'd met the girl in a bar and, after a number of drinks, they had retired to his car in the parking lot to get to know each other better. At some point – this from our victim's perspective – the relationship had soured and she wanted to go home, since she now realized this guy was unlikely to be the man of her dreams.

From his perspective, she was ready, willing and able – and, no doubt, found him wildly attractive. Regardless of who was telling it, events took a decidedly unpleasant turn, which brings us to a late summer evening in a Mississauga Police interview room:

Partner: So she liked you – you said?

Suspect: Yeah, said I was her kind of guy.

Partner: *So – then what?* Suspect: *Well – you know?* 

Partner: What.
Suspect: She wanted it.
Partner: Wanted it?

Suspect: Yeah you know - wanted it.

Partner: Wanted?

Suspect: Geezus - she was asking for it -

wanted it – me!

Partner: Why would she come to us?

Suspect: I don't know – geez – I didn't mean

to be so offensive!

Partner: Offensive?

Suspect: *I mean – be forceful, you know?* 

Partner: Forceful?

Suspect: You know – make her do it man!?

Partner: Make her do it?

Suspect: I ain't sayin' no more – that's it.

We pressed him further, trying to get a full confession, but he was on the defensive now, his eyes telling of a man who had already said too much and was now going to stonewall us, no matter what was said. My partner seemed quietly satisfied, for reasons that I, in my youthful exuberance, could not fathom.

I was ready to go further, and did when my partner asked, you want to ask anything, Gordie?

You bet. You already told us you had her in the car – you expect us to believe that you didn't force yourself on her? C'mon – you know you did – you've done it before, you did

it this time. Don't lie to us!

He looked at me like the snake that he was and asked, *how long you been a cop?* 

Before I could reply, my partner held up his hand and said OK, OK, look, you want something to eat? The cretin looked pointedly at me and replied yeah, maybe the kid here could go out and get me a burger.

I was about to reply but the look in my partner's eyes stopped me in my tracks. Yeah, we'll get you somethin'. Gordie, go see if the sergeant has a car clear for a pick-up.

He was a great partner and mentor, and he knew we had this guy. The victim's testimony, the physical evidence from the hospital "rape kit" and now the words from the bad guy's mouth.

Asking the right questions, he always told me. and – more importantly – listening to the answers will often complete the chain and lead to the truth.

Our witness gave great testimony when the case finally went to trial. The subject was convicted of the charge of rape, as it was then known, and a good thing too; he was a wellknown rapist with a long sheet.

The one thing the judge focused on was the phrase **didn't mean to be so offensive**, putting great stock in the accused's "free spoken words" and his subsequent definition of what, exactly, he meant by that. I learned a lot from that interview.

Let the subject speak and define his own actions without trying to force the issue. When my partner heard the key words, he laid back and waited to see if he would elaborate further. We were dealing with a seasoned offender who, after realizing that he had said too much, declined to say more,

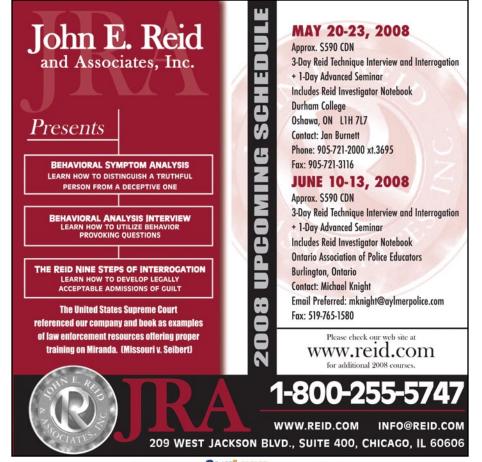
In my experience, most offenders will elaborate further with gentle prodding and low key questions aimed at getting them to throw further light on just what it is they mean.

Make the subject EXPLAIN themselves; don't help or supply your own theories or pre-conceived ideas. Their own words will often be the key to what they did.

I eventually learned to smoke a pipe – you didn't have to inhale and it sure beat those awful cigarettes. I wasn't copying my old partner, honest!

We will cover a number of interview tactics April 29 at my *Blue Line Trade Show* course, drawing on examples much like this, from real cases illustrating cutting edge interview techniques.

S/Sgt Gprd MacKinnon (retired) has 30 years in law enforcement. He will teach the course, Detecting Deception by Verbal Analysis at the *Blue Line Trade Show* April 29th.



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# Future trend: BOLF the migrating drug criminal

by Steve Walton

The challenges law enforcement face continue to evolve and diversify. In a pattern emerging across Canada, drug criminals who deploy, or know how to deploy, sophisticated tactics to avoid interdiction are migrating from urban to rural or outlying areas.

The motivation to engage in these activities is clear, as are the results. Drug criminals are broadening their scope because of:

- A desire to expand their market;
- A demand for their product(s);
- A certain naiveté by their prospective customer base;
- Inherent isolation and privacy;
- Less intense policing due to larger patrol areas and fewer officers.

The results are already becoming very evident. For the first time, many areas are noticing an increase in crimes against the person and obvious drug behaviours. In essence, the urban drug criminal has taken the city drug scene to smaller communities.

For decades there has been a tendency to deploy newly graduated police officers to outlying areas, allowing them to gain experience and slowly become immersed in the world of crime fighting in a measured response. Historically, the pre-requisite skill set in rural areas or smaller centres was quite different than that required in urban areas. This has changed and it is now time for law enforcement to adapt.

Regardless of how small or remote a community or how large its patrol area, now more than ever the officers responsible for policing it require appropriate skill sets and corresponding experience to address the migrating criminal.

It is incumbent on law enforcement agencies

mandated with keeping the public safe and preventing crime to provide their patrol officers with suitable incentives such as seniority and investigative moxie. This will ensure that they are ready, willing, and able to deal with the new face of crime rearing its head in rural and small town Canada.

They also must ensure these officers are proficient in drug investigations, not only to provide the areas they serve with an appropriate level of service but also to maximize officer safety.

When conducting a needs inventory of required skills for drug enforcement and investigating other high profile criminal activity, the following abilities are essential:

- Search warrant and wire tap acquisition;
- Physical surveillance and undercover/ covert response capabilities.

These skills have proven to be an effective and relevant response to high level criminal activity.

Please join me April 29 at the *Blue Line Trade Show* as we look at covert assignment training and how officers can improve their response to the migrating drug criminal.

**Detective Steve Walton** (retired) was a member of the Calgary Police Service for 25 years. He will teach the course Covert Assignment Training at the *Blue Line Trade Show* on April 29th.

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### What animals and emergencies say about us

by Jay Hope

I recall hearing the expression when I was in policing that how we treat our prisoners says a lot about our society. The renowned statesman Mahatma Gandhi, who said "The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated," also comes to mind.

His timeless words have taken on a very timely importance for those in emergency management. Animals live among us, fulfilling many different roles – companionship, service, work, food and wildlife.

In our post-Hurricane Katrina world, we have had to re-examine many of our assumptions and their effect on our planning process. In the past, we often assumed people would take care of their own pets during emergencies, the agriculture industry would manage as best it can and, although it seems almost too simple to say, wildlife would fend for itself. Wild animals often flee from dangerous situations much faster than humans.

We commonly assumed when planning evacuations that evacuees will all be human. Animals were usually an afterthought, if considered at all. That can no longer be our approach; they should now be an integral part of our emergency planning process.

This is not about being an 'animal person;' it is about employing responsive emergency management practices that ensure our communities are fully served.

Let's focus on domestic animals for now, largely because the agriculture industry has a fairly sophisticated approach to emergency planning and wildlife tends to take care of itself.

More than 60 per cent of Ontario households have a pet and more than half have more than one. While I have no statistics handy to prove it, I assure you most pet owners think of their animals as family members. Emergency managers have to remember that and plan accordingly.

Katrina's lessons are clear. We either include animals in our emergency planning or the communities we serve will – quite literally – suffer the consequences. The lives of many pets were needlessly lost in New Orleans and the emotional impact on their owners was enormous. Ultimately, some people died because they refused to abandon



their animals or risked their lives to rescue them.

The fact is, people often refuse to leave their animals in crisis, which causes a number of complications for police and other emergency responders. While these tragedies were not all preventable, many of them were and we should treat them as avoidable in the future.

We only have to look at our own record of past events to see how domestic animals fared in emergencies. Interestingly, the most significant and relevant event with respect to pets in Ontario is the Mississauga train derailment of 1979 and the subsequent evacuation of almost 250,000 people.

Residents were advised to leave their pets at home with enough food and water for two or three days. Thankfully, the situation was resolved fairly quickly and people returned to find their pets lonely but not much worse for the experience (except, I'm told, for one sad incident where a kitten drowned while trying to drink from a toilet!).

New Orleans residents were given that same advice. Then, as the days stretched to weeks, the enormity of the tragic consequences grew. People risked their lives trying to re-enter prohibited areas to rescue pets and animal welfare personnel were devastated by the number of dead or dying animals found during more official rescue attempts. Volunteer veterinarians worked around the clock to save some of these animals. Families, especially children, were often just as traumatized by the loss of their pets as the loss of their home.

Two different events, a quarter-century apart. The same advice to pet owners, but dramatically different outcomes. Perhaps the real lesson is that we tend to learn from tragedy, not tragedy averted. Regardless, we must put this lesson to use.

Ontario's Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act was amended in 2006 to include a definition clarifying the status of domestic animals in emergencies and specifying that they may be included in an evacuation order. Now, we must pursue this issue at the public education and planning levels.

In public education, the concept of the 72-hour personal and family preparedness plan has been expanded to include pets. Anyone can get involved and children seem very interested in helping to make their pets part of any family plan. In 2005, Ontario Girl Guides initiated a new merit badge for family emergency preparedness. I understand there was particular interest in how guides could contribute by making sure pets were included in family emergency plans and the kit of emergency supplies.

Emergency Management Ontario's (EMO) provincial emergency response plan recommends municipalities consider animals in their planning process and suggests the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA) as a resource.

The OSPCA is an independent charitable organization mandated by provincial legislation to enforce any law in Ontario pertaining to the welfare of animal. It delivers services all over Ontario.

EMO is leading a working group on animals and emergencies made up of representatives from ministries with animal-related interests, interested groups and volunteer veterinarians who will provide us with their invaluable field-level perspective. The objective is to co-ordinate expertise and efforts towards further supporting the most effective emergency management.

The test for any emergency plan is whether the preparation and response is truly comprehensive. We have to ask ourselves if all the components that make up each community have been addressed. While animals are now recognized as important in our planning, there is much work to be done.

Gandhi's words guide us on this issue because we know, in our hearts, that how we treat our animals says so much about who we are as a civilized society – especially, perhaps, in an emergency.

Whether prisons or animals – I guess you can teach an old dog new tricks!

Jay Hope can be reached at jay.hope@ontario.ca



# How much is too much?

#### by Wayne Van der Laan

A colleague and I were discussing search warrants the other day, and a topic investigators have debated many times through the years came up — how much should be included in the information to obtain a search warrant?

Some argue that an officer should include any and all information available to ensure they are not accused of withholding anything that may affect the issuing justice's decision. If the warrant is challenged in court, they add, certain parts may be thrown out so more information makes it more likely to stand up.

Supporters of the "inclusion theory" argue, correctly, that if a warrant is challenged in court, defence lawyers will usually take a "death by a thousand cuts" approach.

They will attempt to undermine or discredit small parts of the warrant, hoping that the cumulative effect is to have the judge exclude certain portions of the information to obtain, leaving not enough evidence to support the issuance of the warrant.

Unfortunately, the inclusion approach also forces investigators to include information whose link to the offence is tenuous at best, irrelevant at worst. This can confuse the issue for the issuing justice and make the warrant writing process much more arduous. It can also lead to the writing of repetitive, time consuming and haphazard warrants.

The other side of the argument is made by those that believe warrants should be focused, targeted and written for the reader. Most warrants now include headings directing the reader to salient points and also draw links and conclusions based on the evidence presented. This makes for a much better overall presentation of the investigative theory, is much less confusing and clearly presents all of the evidence deemed to be relevant at that stage of the investigation.

Detractors of this approach argue that it leaves the door open to information becoming available later in the investigation that sheds new light on certain evidence available when the warrant was issued. Defence lawyers might argue that the investigator is guilty of suppressing evidence that may have negatively influenced the issuing justice if this information is not in the original warrant. In other words, things that didn't seem relevant at the time of writing might become relevant later in the investigation.

So what is the correct answer?

First and foremost, officers should remember that a search warrant is an investigative tool, used to gather evidence of an offence. The standard of proof for issuing a warrant is "reasonable grounds to believe" and not "proof beyond a reasonable doubt." We use warrants to get the evidence that will bring us to the higher standard of proof, not the other way around.

Too often, officers confuse the issue, thinking that the case must already be investigated in order to get a warrant and it must include proof of the offence. This is not true.

The next question is how much should be included in the information to ensure the warrant can be successfully presented to a court. The answer, I'd argue, may well be "it depends":

- It depends mainly on the nature of the offence. For the more serious, the probability that the warrant will be challenged is much higher and thus more information should be included to stave off the argument mentioned above. This goes double for complex investigations where the relationship of certain pieces of information changes daily.
- It depends on the nature of the available information. If you are relying heavily on an informant, you might want to include more on the steps taken to verify the information given. If the information rests largely on the observations of police officers, then less verification might be justified.
- It depends on how strongly certain aspects of the case can be presented and how much foresight the investigator has in determining weak points and possible challenges. More information should be developed and included to ensure that the warrant is presented in a "Charter-proof" manner.

The argument goes on from there, but the point remains the same; the rules of warrant

writing are not written in stone, but change to suit the matter under investigation. Both approaches to warrant writing have their strengths, but the investigator need not tie themselves to any one approach, given the dynamic nature of investigative work. The key is to balance operational needs with experience, good judgment and a knowledge of ever changing search and seizure case law.

Speaking of case law, I asked a Crown attorney who I know to be the resident "expert" on search and seizure in her office, about the latest developments in issues and cases. She went on at length about cases such as *Regina v. A.M.* (a sniffer dog was used to detect drugs in a school), *Regina v. Patrick* (officers searched the garbage of an accused) and *Regina v. Kang-Brown* (officers approached a party in a bus station and formed grounds to make an arrest for drug possession). The common element to these court challenges was that they were all done without a warrant.

"Do you have any cases where search warrants were used?," I asked. "Telus is trying to get compensated for costs associated to production orders; that's about it right now," she replied

It appears those currently writing warrants are doing a pretty good job and it's time to get more officers involved in the process. Please join me April 30 at the *Blue Line Trade Show*, where I will be teaching a one day introduction to the skills of warrant writing.

Wayne van der Laan, has more than 20 years experience in policing with specific experience in CID, break and enter and auto squad. He has bachelor and masters degrees from the University of Guelph and lectures in the technique of investigative interviewing, with a specific focus on writing search warrant reports.



### **Internet Privacy Policy Changes**

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# Arrest not required for resistance charge

by Mike Novakowski

A charge of resisting a peace officer under s.129(a) does not require an arrest, Alberta's highest court has ruled.

In R. v. M.L.M., 2007 ABCA 283, a tactical unit head

was told the accused may be a member of an Asian gang which had used stolen vehicles for numerous drive by shootings. The suspect may be armed, according to the information, and was alone in a stolen vehicle.

Police decided to use their seven member tactical unit to make the arrest as quickly and safely as possible. Members wore uniforms clearly indicating they are police officers and responded to high risk situations that may be too dangerous for regular officers to handle. Each member was assigned responsibilities that enhanced the safety of their unit and the public.

The arrest was made mid-afternoon on a clear day in the parking lot of a major store after M.L.M. exited and returned to his vehicle, which was parked between two others. A post blocked the front. The parking lot was icy in patches and busy with shoppers. When M.L.M. entered his vehicle, the tactical unit van, with emergency lights flashing, drove up and stopped



about 18 inches behind to block it.

Police smashed both passenger side windows, identified themselves, told M.L.M. he was under arrest and instructed him to place both hands on the dashboard. He instead inserted the key, started the vehicle, put it into reverse and hit the accelerator. The tires spun on the ice and police smashed out both drivers side windows and, concerned for public safety, Tasered the suspect, removing him through the window and subduing him. A piece of car window glass lodged in M.L.M.'s right eye during the arrest, making him legally blind in that eye, according to an eye physician and surgeon.

M.L.M. plead guilty to possession of a

stolen vehicle, but was also charged with dangerous driving, resisting a peace officer in the execution of his duties and other charges. An Alberta Provincial Court judge found he was operating a motor vehicle, even though it may not have moved — once started and put into reverse, he was operating it and "driving."

His actions were also dangerous in light of all the circumstances. The vehicle was initially stopped in the parking lot of a major store, open for business, with other cars in the lot and people going to and from the store. Tactical unit members had surrounded his vehicle. Accelerating after being warned he was under arrest was dangerous to the public.

As for the resisting charge, M.L.M. knew he was surrounded by officers but ignored their commands and tried to drive away. He knew he was being arrested and was given more than one opportunity to comply. The Taser wasn't immediately deployed and the fact he would not be allowed to exit the vehicle under his own power did not matter. Further, the officer was executing his duty when attempting to make the arrest. As a tactical unit member he was dressed in standard issue police tactical uniform, with clearly identifiable markings. M.L.M. was convicted of dangerous driving and resisting a peace officer.

He appealed to the Alberta Court of Appeal, arguing the trial judge erred in convicting him of dangerous driving, since he wasn't "driving" or "operating" the vehicle, and finding he resisted a peace officer because he wasn't under arrest when disobeying the officers.

#### **Dangerous driving**

Section 249(1)(a) of the Criminal Code makes it an offence to operate a motor vehicle in a manner dangerous to the public, having regard to all the circumstances, including the nature, condition and use of the place at which the motor vehicle is being operated and the



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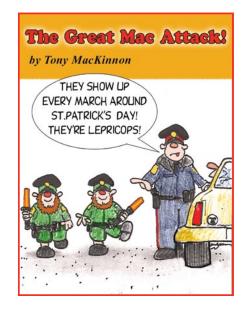
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amount of traffic that at the time is or might reasonably be expected to be at that place.

Although a driver cannot, under the Criminal Code, "operate" an immobile or immobilized vehicle — stuck in a ditch or lodged on a traffic median so it can't be moved without assistance, for example. A vehicle that may not move at one instant can still be operated; it may be temporarily stuck and driven back and forth only a short distance. In this case, there was evidence M.L.M. attempted to put the car in motion by starting and reversing it. The engine was accelerating and the vehicle actually moved backwards and struck the police van. The vehicle was only partially on ice and could have moved. M.L.M. was therefore operating the vehicle.

In upholding the trial judge's view concluding M.L.M. operated the car in a manner dangerous to the public, the Court stated:

The test for dangerous driving is well established. The question to be asked is whether a driver's operation of a motor vehicle amounts to a marked departure from the standard of care that a reasonable person would observe in the accused's situation. The mental element of the offence is a modified objective one, meaning that it should be assessed objectively in the context of all the events surrounding the incident.

The trial judge reviewed the actions of the (accused) in light of all of the circumstances, including the location, the proximity of members of the public and the surrounding police officers and other vehicles. Reversing one's

vehicle rapidly in close proximity to a number of individuals and in a shopping centre parking lot during shopping hours, where it should be reasonably expected that there will be pedestrians and other traffic, demonstrates a marked departure from the standard of care of a reasonable person in the same circumstances (reference omitted, paras. 16-17).

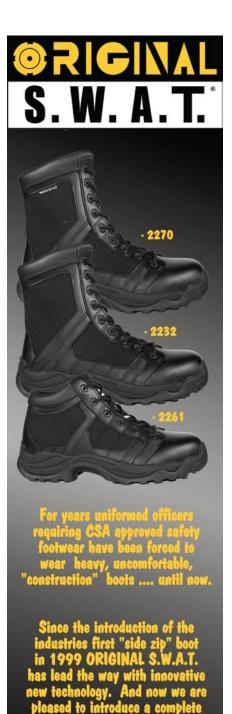
#### Resisting a peace officer

Section 129(a) of the Criminal Code makes it an offence to resist a peace officer in the execution of his duty. This section does not require an arrest. In this case, the duty the officer was executing was an attempt to put M.L.M. under arrest. He did not co-operate, despite knowing the person was a police officer and that the car was stolen.

M.L.M. was also resisting. The trial judge found that he was given a reasonable time to comply with the officer's orders to put his hands on the dashboard but instead tried to flee. This non-cooperation was resistance and a direct confrontation wasn't required, the appeal court stated:

Starting a vehicle, placing it in gear and attempting to drive away from (the officer) who was executing his duties in attempting to carry out an arrest clearly amounts to more than passive resistance. It is an active use of force to resist a peace officer. There is no basis upon which to upset the finding that these actions amounted to resistance as required under s. 129(a). (para. 9).

M.L.M.'s appeal was dismissed.



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### More than pot smell required to arrest

#### by Mike Novakowski

The smell of burned marijuana, by itself, does not justify an arrest, Saskatchewan's highest court has concluded.

In *R. v. Janvier, 2007 SKCA 147*, a police officer stopped a truck with a broken front headlight. He smelled a strong, pungent odour of burned marijuana when he was about a metre from the vehicle, leading him to conclude someone had been smoking in the truck, possibly within the past 20 minutes.

Janvier, the vehicle's sole occupant, was immediately arrested and the truck searched. The officer found one gram of marijuana in a clothing pocket, seven grams in a boot and a trace amount in the truck's console. The officer also found what he believed to be a list of contacts and money in denominations consistent with trafficking. The accused was charged with possession for the purpose of trafficking.

Janvier was acquitted by the Saskatchewan Provincial Court. The judge ruled that odour of burned marijuana alone did not provide the necessary grounds to arrest or search the vehicle. In his view, the odour in a confined space like a vehicle could provide a reasonable suspicion that marijuana was consumed at some time, but did not, without more evidence (such as a cloud of smoke) provide reasonable grounds the person in the vehicle recently consumed it.

The warrantless search was unreasonable, breaching Janvier's s.8 Charter rights, and the evidence was excluded under s.24(2). The Crown appealed to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal, arguing the trial judge erred in his analysis.

#### Arrest

Section 495(1) of the Criminal Code allows police to arrest without a warrant. Justice Jackson, authoring the opinion of the Court, described this power:

(T)he arrest power depends on the type of offence for which the person is being arrested. A police officer may arrest anyone he or she finds committing an offence, but if a police officer only believes, albeit on reasonable grounds, that someone has committed or is about to commit an offence, the offence must be an indictable one before the police officer can arrest.

The distinction is a significant one in that it means, with respect to summary conviction

offences, a police officer can only arrest a person he or she **finds committing** the offence (emphasis in original, para. 10).

In this case, Janvier was initially arrested for possessing marijuana. This is a dual offence if the quantity possessed is 30 grams or more, but strictly summary if it's less than 30 grams.

There was no evidence the officer believed there was more than 30 grams and no basis to determine quantity on smell alone, thus authority to arrest would need to arise from the stricter standard for summary offences. In other words, the officer would need to find Janvier committing the offence, unlike the arrest power for indictable offences, which permits arrests based on reasonable grounds.

Here, "the officer did not see, hear, or smell Mr. Janvier committing the offence of possessing marijuana and therefore did not find him committing that offence," said Jackson. Nor could it be inferred from the smell of burned marijuana alone that there was more present, Jackson reasoned.

(Section) 495(1)(b) does not permit the officer to say "based on my experience, I believed I would find other marijuana present because I smelled recently burned marijuana." Observation (i.e. the smell) of recently smoked marijuana is not an observation of current possession of additional unsmoked marijuana.

One might infer the presence of more marijuana, but one is not observing or smelling it and one is therefore not finding the person committing the offence of possession of additional, unsmoked, marijuana within the meaning of s. 495(1)(b). Section 495(1)(b) does not permit an arrest made on inference derived from the smell of burned marijuana alone (emphasis in original, para. 30).

Even if such an inference could be drawn from the smell by itself, it is not sufficient to give objectively reasonable grounds to believe that more, unsmoked marijuana is present. With the odour of raw marijuana, there is a direct relationship between the smell and its source – it is a sensory observation of its presence just as seeing it is – and provides grounds for arrest.

The smell of burned marijuana, on the other hand, is a sensory observation that marijuana has recently been smoked and does not provide the power to arrest. Moreover, there was no basis to assume that Janvier was the person who consumed it in the vehicle.

Jackson held that a reasonable person standing in the officer's shoes would be unable to objectively conclude from the smell alone that there was more marijuana present, writing:

In summary, as a matter of statutory construction, s. 495(1)(b) does not permit an arrest based on the smell of burned marijuana alone. An officer smelling burned marijuana does not find a person committing the offence of possession of marijuana.

If, contrary to my primary conclusion, s. 495(1)(b) permits reliance upon an inference based on observation (i.e., smell), the smell of burned marijuana alone is not sufficient to support a reasonable inference that more, unsmoked marijuana will be present.

Arresting someone is the penultimate interference with liberty, short of being in custody. In the circumstances of a summary conviction offence, which is recognized to be a less serious offence, Parliament has established a more constrained arrest power (para. 48).

Since the arrest wasn't lawful, the search incident to the arrest was also unlawful.

#### **CDSA** search power

Under s. 11(7) of the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (CDSA), "a police officer may exercise any of the powers in ss. 11(1) or (5) without warrant if the conditions for obtaining a warrant exist but exigent circumstances make it impracticable to obtain one."

However, "the officer must have reasonable grounds to believe a controlled substance is on a person or in a place before searching the person or the place, without a warrant, if exigent circumstances exist making it impracticable to obtain a warrant."

Before considering whether exigent circumstances exist, there must be reasonable grounds to conduct the search, Jackson stated:

Plain smell evidence is recognized by this court. The smell of burned marijuana is evidence. When the offence is possession of marijuana, the smell of burned marijuana will be one factor to determine whether there are reasonable grounds to search. Taken alone, the smell of recently burned marijuana does not reasonably support the inference that additional marijuana is present (para. 54).

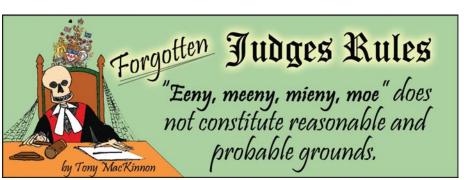
Thus, the officer did not have reasonable grounds to search Janvier or his vehicle under the CDSA.

#### **Evidence exclusion**

Although the evidence was non-conscriptive and its admission would not affect trial fairness – a reduced expectation exists with vehicles and the evidence was important to the Crown's case – the Charter breach was serious.

Janvier wasn't only searched without lawfully authority, he was also arrested without lawful authority. Further, the nature and amount of drug seized indicated that it wasn't the most serious charge.

The trial judge's assessment of *s*.24(2) was not unreasonable and the Crown's appeal was dismissed.



#### Police misconduct reduces sentence

by Mike Novakowski

Alberta's highest court has upheld a reduced sentence imposed as a Charter remedy because police used excessive force during an arrest.

In R. v. Nasogaluk, 2007 ABCA 339, police received information from a taxi company that an intoxicated male was driving a black truck. Officers attempted to stop it and a high speed pursuit ensued; at one point, police had to reverse to avoid being hit when Nasogaluk drove at them.

Nasogaluk eventually stopped but resisted arrest and would not comply with commands. Police struck him during the ensuing struggle, resulting in broken ribs and a collapsed lung. Police did not record the force used in subduing him or document his injuries, and the arrest or subsequent detention was not recorded on video. Nasogaluk received emergency surgery the day following his release to treat his injuries.

In the *Alberta Court of Queen's Bench* Nasogaluk pled guilty to impaired driving and evading a police officer. At his sentencing hearing, the judge concluded police used excessive force during the arrest, breaching his *s.7* (security of the person) and *s.11(d)* (presumption of innocence) Charter rights.

Although the sentencing judge noted Na-



sogaluk's flight, pursuit and danger to police would usually require prison, he imposed a reduced sentence as a remedy under *s.24(1)* of the Charter. Nasogaluk was given a 12 month conditional discharge on each of the two counts.

The Crown appealed the sentence to the Alberta Court of Appeal arguing, among other grounds, that the judge erred in reducing it.

When an individual's rights under the Charter have been violated, the court has the discretion to grant a remedy it considers appropriate and just in the circumstances. In doing so, a judge may exercise this discretion based on their careful perception of the nature of the right and infringement, the facts of the case and the application of relevant legal principles.

Justice McFadyen, on behalf of the court, concluded that a sentence reduction below what

would normally be imposed is a valid option:

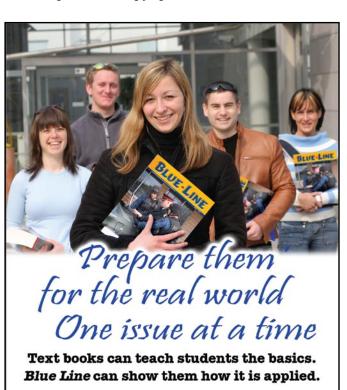
(A) reduction in sentence may be granted as a remedy for a Charter breach where the breach mitigates the seriousness of the offence, or imposes some form of punishment on the individual that should be factored in calculating the sentence. Generally, reductions in the sentence imposed should not be used as a means of punishing or sending a message to the police.

While we find that a reduction in sentence is an available remedy under s. 24(1) in some circumstances, it is a remedy to be used sparingly and as a last resort in extraordinary cases. This interpretation respects the provisions of the Criminal Code, which set out the objectives and principles of sentencing.

There was a connection between the Charter breaches and the remedy sought in this case. The accused also suffered a hardship, as the sentencing judge found the excessive force caused the rib fractures and lung collapse.

He also concluded the failure to disclose the force used may have led to medical treatment being delayed. McFayden held the sentencing judge did not err in reducing the sentence.

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# Records at hand

#### by Brian Ward

A London beat officer is questioning a person acting suspiciously near children in a a playground. He unclips a small device from his duty belt and, with just a few keystrokes, accesses a vast array of information that would not have been available just a year ago.

The device is a BlackBerry, the Canadian designed all-in-one mobile phone, email device and web browser manufactured by Waterloo, Ont.'s Research in Motion (RIM).

London Police Service (LPS) senior support services director Eldon Amoroso and IT director Jeff Craigmile spearheaded the project. Working with records management system provider Versaterm, they added a unique component to the 20 BlackBerry smartphones available for front line officer use. Both men have been with the LPS for more than 28 years.

#### **Unique accessibility**

Officers can now access CPIC, the Police Information Portal (PIP) and the LPS records system database from the smartphone – resources formerly available only through office and mobile workstations. The video screen on the BlackBerry displays data about a suspect and mug shots or other graphics.

The devices have been dedicated to officers working surveillance, foot and bicycle patrol, motorcycles and schools, Amoroso explained. "It is working out so well that our officers want

to see smartphone access expanded to things like our radio dispatch system so they can see vehicle status and type of call they may be on," Craigmile added.

#### **Unauthorized access denied**

Security follows RCMP guidelines governing CPIC access, Amoroso said. An officer first logs on using a special code and touches a special tab to open the records system. "The data on the network is encrypted and incoming traffic

is scanned by our service's servers," he added.

The devices operate on the Rogers cell phone network. Amoroso delights in the reaction of a homicide investigator who travelled to a mid-west US state as part of his investigation.

"The officer was amazed to discover that he could access London Police records on the Blackberry, and this included all the reports about his case. He was able to keep himself right up to date on the progress of the case. Previously he would have to identify himself to local police agencies and ask to use their fax facilities to keep current."

#### Officer safety paramount

The LPS, with nearly 800 sworn officers and civilians, has a long tradition of partnering with the private sector to supply needed skills. Local staff define needs and work to improve the product. This has enabled it to streamline many procedures and enhance the information available to members.

Since the BlackBerry used by officers for records access does not function as a phone, "voice radio is still the king," Amoroso said, but added radio traffic is reduced by use of mobile workstations. Not using the voice capability reduces billable air time, since data is transmitted in brief bursts or 'packets.'

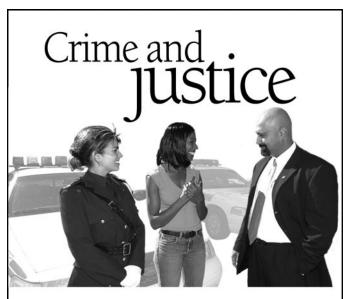
The devices are tough – damage has been limited to an occasional accidental fall – and the BlackBerry has an internal sensor which indicate if it has been dropped in water, he explained.

#### RIM on board

Nick Dawson, RIM public sector account manager, enthusiastically supports the LPS project. "This changes the way in which policing can be delivered... police services have spent millions of dollars on systems that gather information behind the walls of their data centres, and we can now provide a secure method to supply it to officers out in the field."

RIM counts an increasing number of police forces worldwide as BlackBerry customers, including the Cape Breton Regional Police, which uses the devices instead of more expensive mobile workstations.

Compression technology, exclusive to RIM, allows information to be transmitted in small batches to avoid the extra cost associated with mobile phone transmissions, Dawson said. Data security of 256 bit encryption far exceeds many other technologies. The company is working on additional features, including better compatibility with mobile workstations.



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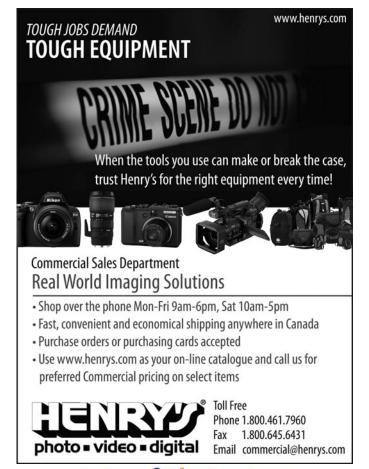
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**Instructor: Detective Steve Walton** (retired) was a member of the Calgary Police Service for twenty five years. For the last ten years of his career Steve was attached to the Drug Unit and was responsible for managing a drug undercover street team and high level drug investigations. Steve has supervised more than 120 undercover drug operations, 220 surveillances related to drug enforcement, and 780 undercover drug transactions. He is the author of the First Response Guide to Street Drugs books.

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Instructor: Marc Sand, CEO of V.I.P. Protection has a B.A. degree in Law and PhD. in Psychology. He has training in a wide array of commando, martial arts and other special operations disciplines. He is a guest lecturer on terrorism at St. Clair College in Chatham, Mohawk College campuses in Brantford and Hamilton. He has been a guest lecturer with several police services in Canada as well as the American Society of Industrial Security.

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Instructor: S/Sqt Gord MacKinnon (retired) with thirty years in law enforcement, has experience in a multitude of areas including criminal investigation, underwater search and recovery, fraud investigation and, Intelligence. Gord is an acclaimed lecturer in the techniques of investigative interviewing and is author of the book Investigative Interviewing.

# **Ontario Gang Investigators Course**

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The impact of street gangs has reached into every facet of law enforcement. From policing and courts to corrections and immigration, the activities of gang members require law enforcement professionals to be current and knowledgeable in order to maintain their personal safety and the safety of the communities they serve.

Ontario Gang Investigators Association (ONGIA) will feature keynote speaker Ron "Cook" Barrett, Gang Prevention Specialist from Albany, New York. Also presenting will be: D/Cst Chris Dodds, Halton Police, on weapon concealment; D/Cst Mike Press, Toronto Police, on gangs, weapons and firearms; and D/Cst Doug Minor, Toronto Police, on gangs in pop culture.

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# Trade Show & Course

### **Search Warrant Preparation**

April 30: 0900-1600 Fee: \$225 + GST



This one-day course is an invaluable resource for any investigator. Participants will learn the proper way to draft a warrant while avoiding the various hurdles placed in the way. You will learn: Theory and case law; Types of warrants; How to write a "charter proof" warrant; Exceptions when you don't need a warrant; Telewarrants, and more.

Instructor: A/Sgt Wayne van der Laan (retired) has 20 years experience in law enforcement that includes service in Criminal Investigation Unit, Public Order Unit, Break and Enter Unit and Auto Squad. Wayne holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Masters Degree from the University of Guelph.

# Crime Scene Management

April 30: 0900-1200 Fee: \$125 + GST

This half-day course will look at crime scenes; Crime Scene management and, Handling of evidence for front line officers.

### **DNA: Evidentiary Uses & Misuses**

April 30: 1300-1500 Fee: \$125 + GST Both of Brian Ward courses may be combined for a fee of \$225.



This half-day course will examine the history of DNA; A discussion of the national DNA databank and, The importance of Scene preservation for DNA management.

**Instructor: Brian Ward** retired from policing in 2006 in the rank of Staff Sergeant. His career included 20 years with the Toronto Police Forensic Identification Service. He is forensic technology editor for Blue Line Magazine, teaches at Humber College and Durham College and provides private forensic consulting services.

# Managing the Pandemic

April 30: 0900-1600 Fee: \$225 + GST

This one-day conference examines the latest facts used by the medical community to articulate its Pandemic Influenza Doctrine. Then will consider how these facts are analyzed by government ministries and businesses as they prepare for an outbreak; including considerations that police services must take as they develop their plans, and the challenges faced as the Ministry of Attorney General attempts to ensure the orderly performance of the courts. The conference closes with a presentation of the best practices and innovations being developed and applied by emergency management professional.

**Moderator:** Jay Hope, Ontario's Commissioner of Emergency Management, is a distinguished police veteran with a career in public service and community safety spanning almost 30 years. Appointed as the OPP's Deputy Commissioner, Strategic Services, in November 2004, he was responsible for developing the OPP's strategic vision, including Aboriginal and First Nations policing, and media and

corporate relations, policy, municipal policing contracts and training.

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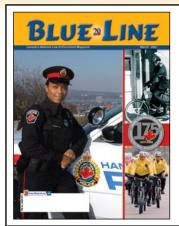
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This one-half day course will include: Use of experts such as engineers, reconstructionists, ploygraph, DNA, forensic accountants, locksmiths; Use of such experts in arson, auto theft, break & enters and auto accidents; Summary of insurance legislation and how it aids in the investigative process; Police access to insurance investigation file.

**Instructor: Sue Collings** is a former Toronto Police Officer who has worked for the past 12 years as an insurance investigator. Sue is currently the president of the Canadian Association of Special Investigations Units.

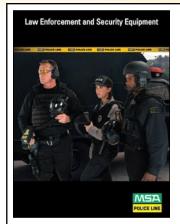
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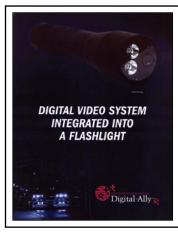
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#### ODDITORIALS

# AUBURN, CA - A 1.4-kilogram Chihuahua mix named Tink helped police put a fugitive in the clink.

The dog's Christmas Day adventure began when four suspects who were fleeing police crashed a stolen minivan into a hillside in Auburn, east of Sacramento, and one of them fled.

Tink, a Pomeranian and Chihuahua mix, found him hiding under a neighbour's motor home and chased him into the woods, said Wendy Anderson. The dog belongs to her son.

Her son and husband directed a lawenforcement helicopter to where the 20-yearold man was hiding.

"The Chihuahua gave him up," California Highway Patrol officer Jeff Herbert said.

# VALDOSTA, GA - A southern Georgia sheriff faces federal charges accusing him of billing jail inmates for room and board and interfering with an FBI investigation of local judges.

An U.S. District Court indictment accuses Clinch County Sheriff Winston Peterson of perjury, obstruction of justice, using forced labour and extorting former jail inmates.

The 62-year-old pleaded not guilty to the charges in November and was released on \$10,000 bond.

Investigators say the sheriff charged jail

inmates \$18 per day for room and board.

County officials agreed in April, 2006 to return \$27,000 to hundreds of inmates who paid the fees between 2000 and 2004.

Peterson also used an inmate to do work at a business run by his wife, investigators say.

# LONDON - James Bond certainly didn't get his job this way.

But a British intelligence agency is posting want-ads in video games.

Government Communications Headquarters or GCHQ is hoping to attract computer-savvy young recruits by going where they play.

The agency is embedding job ads in video games like "Tom Clancy's Splinter Cell: Double Agent."

The ads will be on billboards within the online versions of the games.

A statement from GCHQ says they want to capture the imagination of people with a particular interest in information technology.

# TOKYO - Did you just grope me? Shall we head to the police?

That's the message women are flashing on their cellphones with a popular program designed to ward off wandering hands in Japan's congested commuter trains. Anti-Groping Appli by games developer Takahashi was released in late 2005 but has only recently climbed up popularity rankings, reaching Number 7 in this week's top-10 cell-phone applications list compiled by web-based publisher Spicy Soft Corporation.

The application flashes increasingly threatening messages in bold print on the phone's screen to show to the offender.

Users press an Anger icon in the program to progress to the next threat.

A warning chime accompanies the messages.

# LAKE COUNTRY, BC - Two bungling bank robbers were jailed in Lake Country, north of Kelowna, B.C., after they botched their getaway - twice.

RCMP Sgt. Tim Shields says while one man was in robbing the CIBC, the other was draining the truck battery by listening to music with the ignition off.

When the suspect ran back to start the vehicle, it wouldn't turn over.

Shields says the pair then ran to the bakery next door and called a cab. Police arrived first and arrested them.

The pair faced several charges, including armed robbery, obstruction and using a disguise during an offence.



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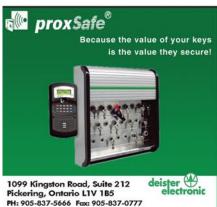
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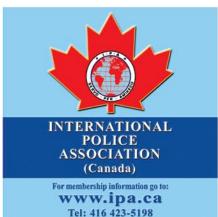






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# "On through the hail..."

#### A prequel to the RCMP's recent tribulations

#### by Robert Lunney

A visceral howl arose from the mob at the back of the arena, gathering strength and cresting at the stage, where a small party of municipal police association executives grinned and encouraged the din. The hair on the back of my neck rose. I had never seen Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers behave like that.

The year was 1973, the setting Ottawa's civic arena and the event a rally for RCMP members protesting autocratic management and what they viewed as inadequate pay and benefits. Other more-or-less spontaneous gatherings were held in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver.

I was the officer in charge of classification and compensation at RCMP headquarters at the time, responsible for supporting the top executive and preparing recommendations to deal with this unexpected outburst of discontent.

I attended the rally with recently appointed staff relations officer Bob Head. We sat in the front row watching Guy Marcil from Montreal and Sid Brown from the Metro Toronto Police Association expound on their philosophy of police labour relations. They ridiculed the absence of a contractual agreement, representative grievance procedure and collective bargaining in the RCMP.

While the two association presidents were persuasive, this was essentially an information meeting and petered out without any attempt to develop formal resolutions. RCMP members left to consider what they had heard but their grievances did not subside. Over the following weeks, a member's committee emerged in Ottawa under the leadership of S/Sgt Bob Potvin.

#### **Table talk**

The federal treasury board held the purse strings for RCMP compensation. With the expiration of an existing one year agreement looming, pay section head Don Barnes and I opened discussions with board representatives.

Many serving officers at the time regarded this process as a sham and not a credible negotiation process, but in reality we modeled our preparations and list of proposals after those of the larger municipal police associations. With supporting data and arguments we vigorously argued our case with the same treasury officers who bargained pay with the powerful federal civil service associations.

This was my second set of negotiations. We settled for a marginal increase in the first year, holding our place against the compensation schedules of other major departments but not achieving improvements. The second round of negotiations were protracted. While preparing our case, I consulted my colleagues and bosses and attended at least one roundtable meeting of members disgruntled with their situation and meeting regularly. The depth of their dissatisfaction, not only with compensation but a variety of grievances, profoundly impacted my thinking about the direction and management of the force.

#### Renewal, of a kind

In the weeks following I drafted an aspirational paper entitled *Renewal*, proposing a fundamental change to the RCMP's organizational culture and introduction of a more democratic and responsive style of management. Ross Pilkey, then the assistant commissioner in charge of all personnel issues, his deputy George Reid and I signed and submitted a recommendation to the commissioner encompassing the core message of *Renewal* and proposing an action program to counter internal unrest.

Several days later, our submission came back from the commissioner's office with this handwritten note: "Whoever wrote this has no idea what is going on in the Force today."

The instigator of the division representative system that emerged as the preferred option was Dep/Comm Peter Bazowski. He assembled

the resources, created the structure and found the funding to quickly get it off the ground. Although we had not completed pay negotiations, divisional representatives were assembled at Ottawa and Barnes and I made a presentation on the issues, progress and prospects.

We returned to the table with the treasury board and soon afterwards the commissioner met with senior board officials to agree on a settlement for the forthcoming year. For a short period, an RCMP constable was the best paid in Canada.

There was a spontaneous celebration at the sergeant's mess at headquarters on the day of the announcement, and Potvin was hailed by his peers as the man responsible for this breakthrough. There was some truth in that, for the widespread discontent and unprecedented demonstrations handed us an ace card to play and we did.

I resigned from the RCMP in December 1974 as a superintendent with 21 years service to become chief of police in Edmonton, and never looked back. Although I had considered myself a 'lifer,' I realized my notions about change and the direction of the force were not compatible with reality.

#### Déjà vu

The forgoing tale would be of no contemporary significance had internal grievances related to the appropriation of pension and insurance funds not touched off another eruption of discontent inside the force. The chief investigator of this affair, David A. Brown, reported that the culture of the RCMP was "horribly broken." I had an eerie feeling that I had seen this picture show before. The Brown report led directly to the appointment of a task force on governance and cultural change, which submitted 49 recommendations for change last December.

#### **Parting shots**

Since retiring from active policing I have laboured on the fringes of this business for 10 years, working as a policing consultant in the US and other countries, with an opportunity to examine a myriad of organizational problems and challenges for policing.

A seven year contract with the Oversight Commissioner for Police Reform in Northern Ireland afforded a ringside seat for the most dramatic example of rapid operational and cultural change for a police service in a democratic country.

Although it is now time for me to leave the field for the bleachers, like many cops I cannot resist the proverbial "parting shot." I well know that this is usually ill advised, and do so with prompting from no one and with sole responsibility for my opinions. In the articles to follow, I will itemize and detail my personal wish list for an organization which I revere and owe so much.

This risks, I am keenly aware, another assessment that, "whoever wrote this has no idea what is going on in the Force today."

This is the first of a three part series about renewal within the RCMP. **Robert Lunney** can be contacted at lunney@blueline.ca.

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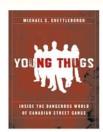


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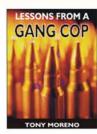
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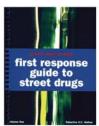
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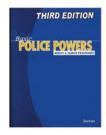
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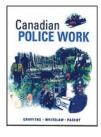




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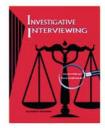


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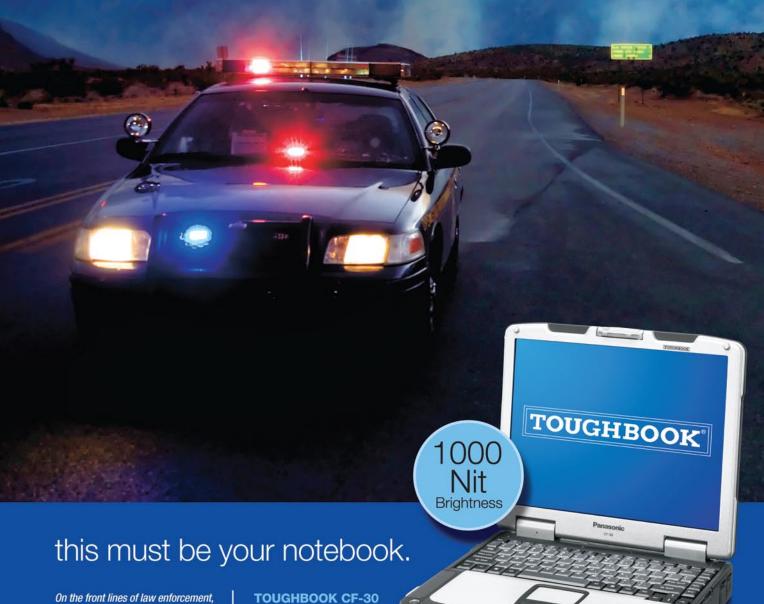
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