



**VICTORIA
POLICE**

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT QUARTER THREE REPORT ESQUIMALT

December 9, 2019

Chief Constable's Message

It is my pleasure to present the 3rd Quarterly Report for 2019. In this quarter, the officers and staff of VicPD responded to a number of complex incidents and investigations. While we have highlighted a few here, I want to point out that these represent a fraction of the work performed by our people everyday, all in pursuit of serving the residents and visitors to our great communities.

Also this quarter, we are highlighting the work of the Greater Victoria Police Emergency Response Team. The GVERT is an integrated policing unit comprised of officers from each of the local municipal police agencies. Almost all of these dedicated officers perform these critical functions as secondary responsibilities to their normal work assignments. I would like to thank each of them for their hard work and dedication to public safety in the region.

Finally, I must once again make a point to thank our leadership team, officers and staff for their tireless efforts. I constantly hear of the remarkable work they are doing while working under tremendous workload pressures. I hope that we can find ways to ensure their long-term health so they may continue to serve our communities, and we can benefit from their experience for years to come.

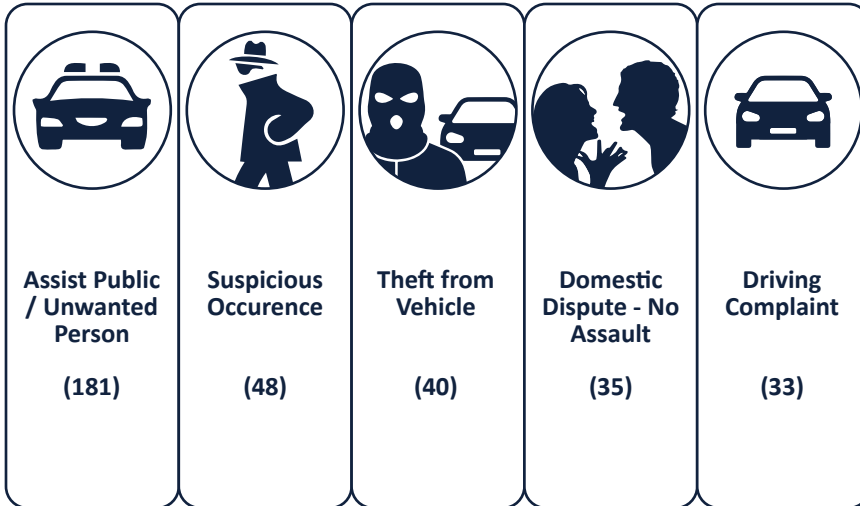


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Chief Constable

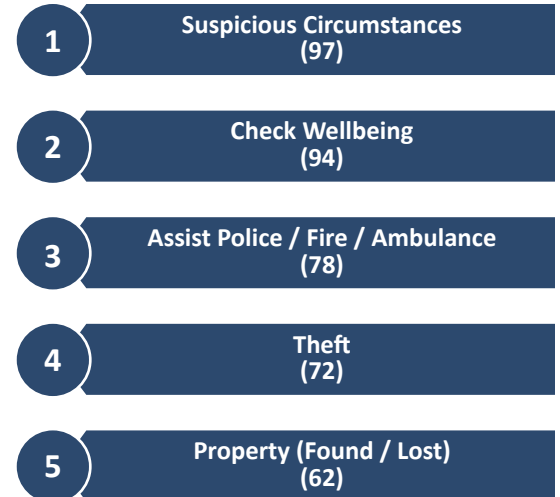
Q3

IN REVIEW

TOP 5 REPORTED OCCURRENCES IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT



TOP 5 CALL TYPES - CALLS FOR SERVICE (TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT)



DISPATCHED CALLS FOR SERVICE IN THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
2019	109	266	412	154
2018	128	257	451	154
Response Benchmark Met?	No	No	No	No

NUMBER OF CROSS-OVERS OUTSIDE JURISDICTION

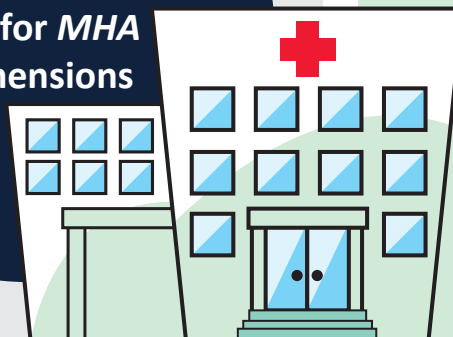
108
Victoria to Esquimalt

237
Esquimalt to Victoria

366
Media Requests

1,743
Volunteer Hours Logged

387
Hours Spent in Hospital Wait Rooms for MHA Apprehensions



HIGHLIGHTS: INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES DIVISION



CHILD ABDUCTION

In July, Patrol members responded to a report of a potential parental abduction. Attending officers learned that the child's father had taken his four-year-old daughter, Samantha, to Vancouver and not returned. Major Crime Unit (MCU) investigators began a comprehensive investigation and determined that the father traveled to Jakarta, Indonesia, abducting Samantha contrary to the Court Order.

As a result of the investigation by MCU, Crown Counsel approved criminal charges against the father for Abduction and Disobeying a Court Order. The father was arrested when he returned to Canada and the mother was able to fly to Indonesia and bring Samantha home safely. Funds for the mother's trip were raised entirely via personal donations from members of the Victoria Police Union.



SUSPECTED DRUG DEALER

In July, Patrol officers began an investigation into an Esquimalt man after community complaints about suspected drug dealing. Officers completed a detailed investigation and in August, they were granted a search warrant for the man's residence.

Officers with the Strike Force Unit and the Greater Victoria Emergency Response Team (GVERT) assisted with the search of the residence and arrested the man without incident. He was found to have a hand gun, ammunition, knives, and other evidence on his possession. Officers then conducted a search at the residence where a woman was arrested. The search of that residence revealed suspected drugs, cash, a loaded shotgun, several replica firearms, and other weapons.



GANG ACTIVITY

The VicPD Analysis and Intelligence Section identified persons involved in a Lower Mainland gang selling drugs in Victoria and Esquimalt. The potential for violence amongst this group was very high; therefore, Strike Force immediately initiated an investigation into their activities in the Greater Victoria and Esquimalt area.

During the six-week intensive investigation, active drug deals were observed to become more organized over time. As a result, several arrests were made, drugs and firearms were seized, and search warrants were executed in the Victoria and Esquimalt areas, as well as in neighboring jurisdictions on Vancouver Island.

The investigation continues and charges will be forwarded to Crown Counsel at the completion of the investigation.

EMERGING TRENDS / CONCERNS



The national and cyber nature of fraud continues to pose investigative challenges with local victims often being targeted by organized crime groups across Canada. For example, in September police were called for a Fraud In Progress at a local bank. The suspect had identification in the name of the existing account holder and was attempting to withdraw over \$50,000 from the account. An interview with the suspect determined that she was being used as part of a larger and more organized scheme where she was being provided bank client information by handlers and being driven from Calgary to Victoria, committing frauds along the way. This group originates in Calgary and has sophisticated identification and insider banking system information. Although two main suspects were located and arrested, obtaining evidence against them to support charges remains a challenge. The file remains under investigation.

SPOTLIGHT ON:

GREATER VICTORIA EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (GVERT)

MANDATE

To provide the best and safest possible police response in both planned and in-progress situations where an increased potential for violence exists, arising out of a confrontation between police and a subject. The use of members trained, equipped, and organized for this purpose provides a greater margin of safety for the public, police members, and subjects alike.



The Armoured Rescue Vehicle (ARV), pictured above, is a transport mechanism that is used as an additional layer of protection to officers and the community in response to some types of critical incidents or a natural disaster. It facilitates a variety of support functions. For example, it is often used by Crisis Negotiators to facilitate communication from a position of safety.



STAKEHOLDERS



COMPONENTS

Critical Incident Commanders



Senior officers with extensive experience in critical incident management and major crime investigations.

Scribes



Specially trained individuals that capture and organize information and provide documentation on Critical Incident Commander decisions.

Crisis Negotiators



Experts trained at a national level in crisis intervention and de-escalation; in the area of threat-assessment, mental health, and addiction.

Tactical Unit



A unit composed of highly trained officers equipped to safely resolve situations that exceed the capabilities of front-line police. The Tactical Unit provides explosives detection and disposal services for regional operations and major public events.

Mental Health Professionals



Three psychiatrists and an addictions social worker advise Crisis Negotiators by providing advice that is specific to the crisis at hand.

Cultural Advisors



Includes any person in the community that can provide insight and communication strategies to the Crisis Negotiators.

60

Operations to date in 2019



50%

High-risk arrests for firearms and drugs



35%

High-risk Mental Health Act apprehensions



15%

Public event security, explosives disposal / suspicious package

HIGHLIGHTS: ESQUIMALT DIVISION



INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

In July, 10 public service members, including social workers, VicPD sworn and civilian members, and RCMP members joined Indigenous youth in a powerful 10 day canoe journey. The aim of this annual event is to "pull together" towards reconciliation by fostering mutual respect. There were 20 canoes and 300 participants that traveled to the Tla'amin Nation outside of Powell River. The journey, facilitated by the Pulling Together Canoe Society, began in 2001 and has visited over 100 First Nations since its inception.

In August, VicPD constables conducted the second annual joint initiative to help train youth from the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations in marine and cold water safety. The training took place at Esquimalt Nations and consisted of classroom theory and practical exercises utilizing the South Island RCMP rigid hull inflatable boat and exercises in the Esquimalt harbour.

SUMMER ACTION PLAN

Campers and squatters in select areas were identified as a concern during the second quarter. These areas were patrolled as part of the Summer Action Plan which is facilitated by the Community Resource Officers (CROs) and some Patrol members. Despite being short staffed, Patrol was still able to deploy a Summer Action Plan team on most weekends during the summer. This is a reflection of the dedication shown by the Patrol Division. The Summer Action Plan was very popular with the community, generating several positive comments. In general, enforcement was down as the level of issues experienced in the past were not present. Joint effort between the Esquimalt Division members, Patrol, and Traffic also worked to keep youth congregation in select areas to a minimum. Patrols through parks and high problem areas also prevented issues from arising. In quarter four, CROs and some Patrol members will continue to ride bicycles, allowing them to be more accessible to the public.

OPERATIONAL PLANNING

The Operational Planning Section (OPS) reports to the Officer in Charge (OIC) of Esquimalt and consists of one Sergeant and one civilian member. This section organizes police resources for special events in Esquimalt and Victoria such as parades, races, festivals, and protests. In quarter three, OPS organized police resources for the Ribfest at Bullen Park as well as the MARPAC Navy Bike Ride which took place around the local streets of Esquimalt. VicPD officers worked a total of 673 special duty shifts totaling 3779 hours throughout Esquimalt and Victoria. This includes 12 shifts in Esquimalt, totaling 75 hours.

Over the last three years, VicPD has seen a significant rise in protests and demonstrations. In 2017, there was a total of 14 protests, doubling to 28 in 2018. To date, we have seen 34 protests.

EMERGING TRENDS / CONCERNS



Esquimalt Together Against Graffiti (ETAG) is a program that previously ran in Esquimalt to combat the graffiti problem that existed in the Township. This joint venture between the Township, VicPD, and a group of volunteers became the victim of its own success when graffiti had all but disappeared from the Township. However, in the past couple of years graffiti has again become an issue. As a result, ETAG will be resurrected by the end of the year and coordinated by Parks with support from Public Works, VicPD, and a group of volunteers.

HIGHLIGHTS: STRATEGIC OPERATIONS COUNCIL



INTELLIGENCE GROUP

Theft from Auto calls remained a high priority throughout this quarter due to significantly higher rates per month when compared to the three-year average. In Victoria and Esquimalt, there was a total of 171 Theft from Auto calls in June/July, 164 in July/Aug, and 189 in August/September. This call type has been steadily increasing since August 2018 and remained a major concern for the duration of the summer.

Esquimalt Division's K9 Unit showed leadership by taking charge of the Bait Car program. Traditionally, this program has been used to catch individuals who steal vehicles. The K9 Unit adapted the program to strategically place bait cars in specific areas in Victoria and Esquimalt which were identified by crime analysts as areas with the highest vehicle thefts. Since initiation of the program in July, there have been 10 bait car activations in Victoria with two resulting in charges. There were no bait car activations in Esquimalt.

The Community Engagement Division created an awareness video on how to prevent theft of valuables from a vehicle. The video was posted to VicPD social media sites including Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. Volunteers also assisted by checking over 15,695 vehicles through the Lock Out Auto Crime program.

MENTAL HEALTH / SOCIAL DISORDER GROUP

Percentage of submitted General Occurrence Reports that indicated that mental health was a factor in the incident:

- Victoria: 18.13%
- Esquimalt: 20.84%

Total Section 28 Apprehensions: 191

- Victoria: 160
- Esquimalt: 31

Total hospital visits (all MHA apprehensions): 261

Total hospital wait time: 387 hours and 43 minutes

(Average: 88 minutes; Longest: 5 hours and 30 minutes)

Percent of hospital waits longer than 2 hours: 28.6%

Number of violent occurrences involving persons with a mental health issue: 123

Number of persons who appeared on the Early Warning System (EWS) list: 1646

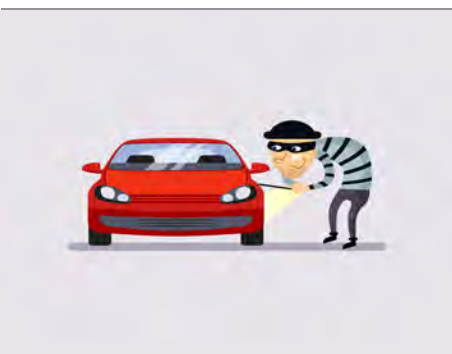
Number of persons who were identified as being in the greatest need of intervention / assistance: 45

Services accessed to support those identified with the EWS:

Integrated Mobile Crisis Response Team (IMCRT), Island Health, shelter housing (e.g. Arbutus, Rock Bay Landing, Our Place, etc.), 713 Outreach, Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) teams), hospital security

Major Issues: Individuals leaving the hospital after being certified by an emergency room physician; increase in the number of individuals who are released with borderline personality disorders because the hospital cannot help them.

EMERGING TRENDS / CONCERNS



To continue responding to the high rates of Theft from Auto calls in Esquimalt, the Patrol Division has been assigned to increase police presence via foot patrols in specific areas in order to deter and prevent theft from vehicle incidents. The Bait Car program will also continue into quarter four. To further enhance prevention efforts in Esquimalt, Lock Out Auto Crime volunteers will be assisted by Reserve Constables to promote locking up vehicles, removing valuables, and reporting to residents of the community when a vehicle break-in is experienced.

HIGHLIGHTS: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIVISION

366
MEDIA
REQUESTS

61
MEDIA
RELEASES

157
ACTIVE
BLOCK
WATCH
GROUPS

1743
VOLUNTEER
HOURS
LOGGED



PUBLIC AFFAIRS

During this quarter, the Public Affairs team continued to support public safety at various events and protests. Efforts were continued to curb the increase in theft from vehicles in Victoria and Esquimalt via the release of a public safety video on all social media platforms of which there have been over 14,000 views to date. Public Affairs continued to support the Patrol division through media releases to aid in the location of missing people and supported the Traffic Division in their Back to School campaign.

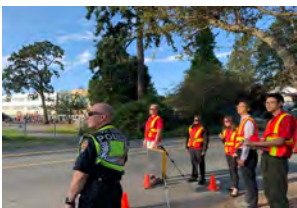
Public Affairs also continued to release information on various search warrants conducted, including the seizure of drugs, cash, and a loaded shotgun from an alleged drug dealer operating in the area of Victor Brodeur School.

BLOCK WATCH

Block Watch continues to increase its presence in the communities of Victoria and Esquimalt. New Captains and participants are continually added to the program and our Reserve Constables make regular presentations to Block Watch groups. Working in partnership with the City of Victoria and Township of Esquimalt, the VicPD Block Watch sign revitalization process is now 63% complete. In the coming months, we will be reaching out to the public for assistance to ensure that any additional old and weathered signs are refreshed with the new high profile signs.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Our Crime Watch team carried out 55 speed watch deployments, 12 cell watch deployments, and checked over 15,695 vehicles under the Lock Out Auto Crime program. Our teams worked in tandem with officers to deliver our most successful Back to School campaign yet, attending almost every school in the jurisdictions of Victoria and Esquimalt. Our Community Events Team attended Vic West Fest, India Mela, Harbour Cats games in support of Tour de Rock, and assisted to recruit new volunteers at Camosun College, Royal Roads University, the University of Victoria, and Vancouver Island University. The Front Desk team continued with their high service standards and seamlessly adapted to the integration of new procedures for the daily operations of the Front Counter.

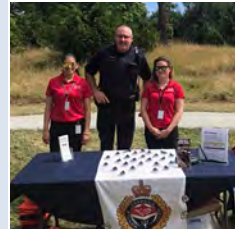


HIGHLIGHTS: KEY MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS



Maritime
Forces Pacific
Community
Garden Party

Vic West
Festival



Music in the
Park



Esquimalt Book
Festival



VicPD
Reserve
Graduation

Pulling Together
Canoe Journey



Esquimalt Arts
Festival in
Memorial Park



Swearing-In
Ceremony

Ribfest



Rockheights
Back to School
Assembly



UPDATE: FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION



At the end of the third quarter, the net financial position was 0.3% below the approved budget. Salaries and benefits were below due to a higher than normal employee turnover and time lags in securing replacements. As a result, overtime costs to maintain shift minimums are higher than budgeted. Overall wage costs including overtime were still below budget and are expected to remain so until early 2020. Other line items are generally within budget, with the exception of contractually obligated retirement payouts. Retirements are over budget by \$364,544 and are expected to exceed the budget by the end of the year by approximately \$500,000. We expect, with the exception of retirements and barring unforeseen events, the net financial position to remain in line with the budget. Capital expenditures are slightly below budget at this time and we expect to be below budget at the end of the year. Adjustments were made to the prioritization of fleet replacements that have reduced expected expenditures by approximately \$200,000. Additionally, a building capital project originally planned for 2019 will not be complete until 2020.

APPENDIX

Number of Dispatched Calls in Each Municipality*

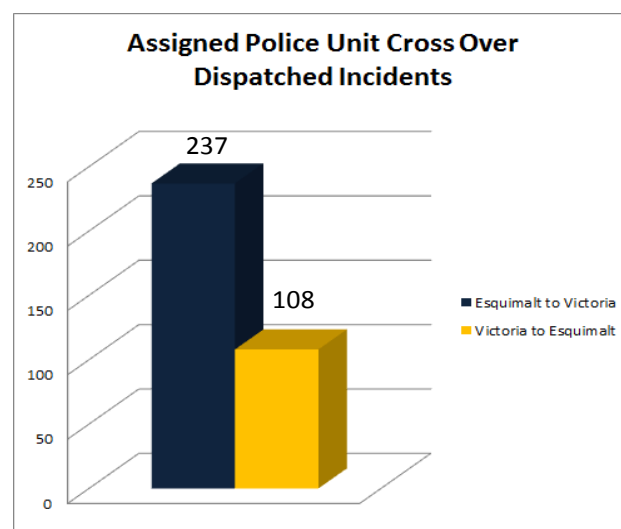
Dispatched Calls for Service by Municipality												
	Priority 1		Priority 2		Priority 3		Priority 4		Other		Grand Total	
	Q3 2018	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	Q3 2019	Q3 2018	Q3 2019
Victoria	764	898	2409	2514	5287	4706	1663	1829	2	3	10,125	9950
Esquimalt	128	109	257	266	451	412	154	154	0	0	990	941
Outside	7	8	10	7	11	14	3	3	0	0	31	32
Grand Total	899	1015	2676	2787	5749	5132	1820	1986	2	3	11,146	10,923
Note* All calls dispatched to Esquimalt do not include calls to Vic West												

Note that statistics for previous periods may not match existing published reports because those figures can change over time. The data presented in this report is taken from the Police Records Information Management Environment (PRIME). This data is based on the day that it is extracted from PRIME, but due to ongoing investigations and internal quality control efforts, this information is subject to change including addition, deletion, and reclassification.

Assigned Police Unit Cross-Overs outside Jurisdiction

The chart to the right details the number of incidents where police units were required to cross between dedicated municipal division jurisdictional boundaries to provide assistance in relation to a call for service.

NOTE: These figures reflect Vic West as being part of the Esquimalt Division jurisdiction. Therefore, these figures show the number of bridge cross-overs in both directions.



Response Times to Calls against New Benchmarks

Priority	Definition	Response Benchmark*	Victoria	Esquimalt
Priority 1	Requires urgent attention, life-threatening	Officer(s) on scene in 7 minutes or less, 95% of the time	No	No
Priority 2	Requires immediate attention, serious, may not be life-threatening	Officer(s) on scene in 12 minutes or less, 90% of the time	No	No
Priority 3	Routine attention, no current threat to life or property	Officer(s) on scene in 40 minutes or less, 90% of the time	No	No
Priority 4	Event must be documented, may or may not require police attendance	Officer(s) on scene in 90 minutes or less, 90% of the time	Yes	No

*Response times are calculated using "time received" to "time on scene" using standard police data analyst quality control methodology. Benchmarks were established using four metrics: response standards established by other police agencies where available, five-year call response data, 2017 Community Survey responses regarding

community response expectations, and overall assessment of reasonableness by the VicPD Senior Management Team. These benchmarks are subject to revision following a trial period of at least six months.

Top 5 Call Types - Calls for Service

Esquimalt				
Top 5 Call Types	Q3 2019	Rank	Q3 2018	Rank
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	97	1	34	13
CHECK WELLBEING	94	2	100	2
ASSIST FIRE/FIRE/AMBULANCE	78	3	76	3
THEFT	72	4	70	4
PROPERTY (FOUND/LOST)	62	5	49	8
Grand Total (All call types)	1,165		1,352	
Victoria				
Top 5 Call Types	Q3 2019	Rank	Q3 2018	Rank
UNWANTED PERSON	1282	1	1436	2
THEFT	1183	2	906	4
CHECK WELLBEING	1162	3	1164	3
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	964	4	339	11
PROPERTY (FOUND/LOST)	736	5	731	5
Grand Total (All call types)	13,249		14,846	

Top 5 Reported Occurrences for Each Municipality

Esquimalt				
	Q3 2019	Rank	Q3 2018	Rank
ASSIST PUBLIC / UNWANTED PERSON	181	1	185	1
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	48	2	85	2
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	40	3	46	4
DOMESTIC DISPUTE - NO ASSAULT	35	4	47	3
DRIVING COMPLAINT	33	5	33	7
Grand Total (All occurrence types)	866		987	
Victoria				
	Q3 2019	Rank	Q3 2018	Rank
ASSIST PUBLIC / UNWANTED PERSON	1842	1	1993	1
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	584	2	603	2
THEFT FROM VEHICLE	558	3	400	3
THEFT - OTHER UNDER \$5000	414	4	314	5
MISCHIEF - \$5000 OR UNDER	336	5	272	8
Grand Total (All occurrence types)	9,209		9,566	