



Quarterly Report to the Township of Esquimalt

April 1st to June 30th, 2017

August 9, 2017

Chief Constable's Message



It is my pleasure to offer this quarterly report on the initiatives that the Victoria Police Department has undertaken in the Township of Esquimalt in the second quarter of 2017.

During this time, VicPD's Esquimalt Division continued to make community events a priority. In this quarter, our officers, Reserves, and volunteers participated in a wide range of events in the township, including the Buccaneer Days Parade, the Lions Easter Egg Hunt, the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Rainbow Kitchen and the Esquimalt Block Party.

The second quarter of 2017 saw the completion of our comprehensive Community and Business Survey project. These surveys are vital to ensure that we're providing the best service we can to the citizens of Esquimalt. In addition to the surveys themselves, we hosted a community conversation in Esquimalt Council Chambers to do a reliability check on what we'd heard from the survey process and turn it into action. For a comprehensive overview of the survey results, please visit <https://vicpd.ca/survey>.

This quarter also saw a change of leadership at the Esquimalt Division as Inspector Jamie Pearce succeeded Inspector Jason Laidman as the Officer-in-Charge. This transfer, which is part of VicPD's overall succession plan for senior leaders, took effect on June 12th. Inspector Pearce brings with him an extensive operational background, a commitment to community policing, and a contagious enthusiasm that I am confident will be very well received by the Esquimalt community.

VicPD remains committed to delivering the best possible policing service to the citizens of Esquimalt and I would like to personally thank Inspector Laidman for his leadership in delivering that service during the course of his tenure in Esquimalt. I remain confident that we can continue to meet and exceed expectations for the first-rate community policing that the township expects and deserves.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Del Manak'.

Del Manak
Chief Constable

The following represents the performance of VicPD related to the identified performance metrics for the time period April 1 to June 30, 2017.

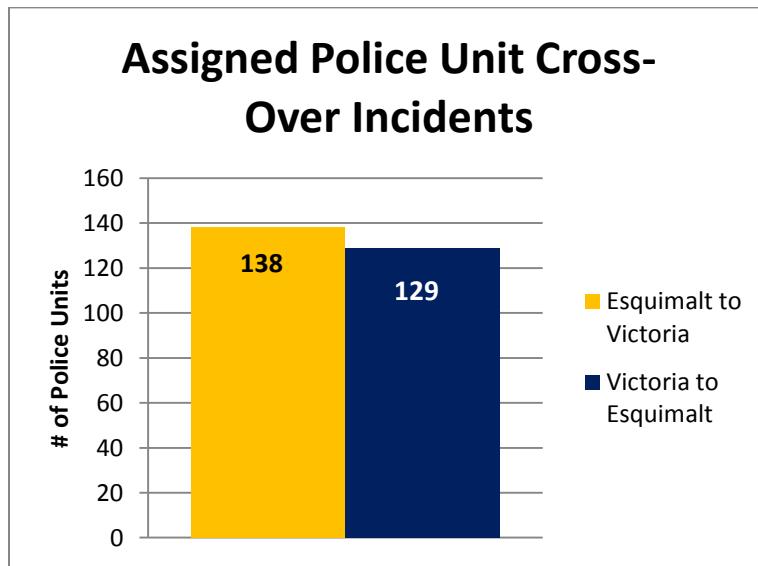
Number of dispatched calls in each municipality (segmented by priority)

	Dispatched Calls for Service by Municipality									
	Priority 1		Priority 2		Priority 3		Priority 4		Grand Totals	
	Q2 2016	Q2 2017	Q2 2016	Q2 2017	Q2 2016	Q2 2017	Q2 2016	Q2 2017	Q2 2016	Q2 2017
VICTORIA	702	665	2373	2341	4947	4856	1520	1267	9542	9129
ESQUIMALT	125	109	264	267	521	464	135	110	1045	950
Outside Jurisdiction	4	6	8	4	16	17	4	6	32	33
Grand Total	831	780	2645	2612	5484	5337	1659	1383	10619	10112

Note* All calls dispatched to Esquimalt do not include calls to Vic West

Number of times officers attend a call outside their jurisdiction

The chart below details the number of police units that were required to cross out of or into VicPD's Esquimalt Division jurisdiction to provide assistance in relation to a call for service.



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

Response times in each municipality (segmented by Priority 1 and 2 calls)

Response times for Priority 1 and 2 calls		
Response Time	Victoria	Esquimalt
0 - 5 min.	53%	56%
5.1 - 10 min.	9%	8%
10.1 - 15 min.	28%	25%
Other*	10%	12%

* "Other" typically indicates response times for secondary units or support units arriving on scene. It also accounts for responses to calls that are initially categorized as Priority 1 or 2 but are found to actually be less urgent (i.e. an abandoned 911 call in which the caller clarifies that it was made in error). Finally, a delay in officers reporting themselves as "on scene" can result in an indication of a longer response time than is actually the case.

Top 5 call types

Esquimalt				
Top 5 Call Types	Q2 2017	Rank	Q2 2016	Rank
ABANDONED 911	165	1	324	1
CHECK WELLBEING	120	2	103	2
ASSIST GENERAL PUBLIC	85	3	70	5
ASSIST POLICE / FIRE / AMBULANCE	66	4	93	3
UNWANTED PERSON	58	5	65	6
Grand Total	1267		1573	

Victoria				
Top 5 Call Types	Q2 2017	Rank	Q2 2016	Rank
UNWANTED PERSON	1427	1	1417	2
ABANDONED 911	1404	2	2021	1
CHECK WELLBEING	1114	3	1079	3
ASSIST POLICE / FIRE / AMBULANCE	754	4	771	4
THEFT	685	5	738	5
Grand Total	12728		13859	

Examples of call types in each category:

Abandoned 911: “pocket dials,” children playing with phones, wrong number, caller unable to communicate with police.

Unwanted Person: person refusing to leave, trespasser.

Check Wellbeing: check on elderly person, person possibly on drugs or intoxicated.

Assist Other Agency: assisting fire departments, the BC Ambulance Service, follow-up requests by other law enforcement agencies.

Theft: stealing items, shoplifting from a store.

Suspicious Circumstances: suspect looking in car windows and appears to be “casing” vehicles, person acting strangely, suspicious person on someone’s property.

Top 5 reported occurrences for each municipality

Esquimalt				
	Q2 2017	Rank	Q2 2016	Rank
ASSIST PUBLIC/UNWANTED PERSONS	228	1	202	1
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	102	2	89	2
MENTAL HEALTH/ATTEMPT SUICIDE	37	3	15	19
BYLAW-NOISE	30	4	42	4
DOMESTIC DISPUTE-NO ASSAULT	27	5	50	3
Grand Total	940		1050	

Victoria				
	Q2 2017	Rank	Q2 2016	Rank
ASSIST PUBLIC/UNWANTED PERSONS	2092	1	2116	1
SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES	538	2	637	2
PROPERTY-FOUND	306	3	320	3
PROPERTY-LOST	302	4	305	4
THEFT FROM AUTO	247	5	222	9
Grand Total	8690		9335	

Examples of call types in each category:

Assist Public/Unwanted Person: a person refusing to leave, assisting lost person.

Suspicious Circumstances: a suspicious person on someone’s property, a suspicious bag.

Found Property: staff at a hotel call as they had found a camera.

Lost Property: a tourist called to report lost camera.

Theft Under \$5000: owner reports bicycle valued at \$900 stolen from yard.

Domestic Dispute – No Assault: a couple having a loud argument in an apartment.

Bylaw -Noise Complaint: a loud party.

Mischief: graffiti, broken window.

Operations Council priorities: Demonstrating responsiveness to community concerns

At the beginning of each twenty-eight day operational period, the Analysis and Intelligence Section identifies and brings to the attention of the Operations Council crime and disorder trends that impact public safety and quality of life. One of the concerns identified related to the increase of deliberately set fires in dumpsters and rubbish piles. While these fires stopped in March, our Investigative Services detectives continue to investigate the incidents to identify the person(s) responsible.

The Analysis and Intelligence section also identifies the top five people that generate calls for service to police in the Victoria and Esquimalt areas for each period. In each case, the Community Services Division took ownership of coordinating resources and developing specific strategies to target these individuals in an effort to reduce the calls they generate. These strategies included assisting them with accessing mental health care, addiction counselling, and housing services through the Victoria Integrated Court. Enforcement work by the Patrol and Community Services Divisions provided several individuals with gateway access to the Integrated Court and services they required. This holistic approach to assisting the frequent call generators proved very successful in this latest reporting period, with almost every person experiencing reduction in the number of police contacts resulting from the proactive work.

Our Strike Force and Crime Reduction Unit continued to focus their efforts on fentanyl dealers throughout the Q2 reporting period. Our Strike Force effected a search warrant in the 700-block of Admirals Road, locating a large quantity of various drugs.

Operational Priorities

April

Viewfield Road area – Ongoing - 30% drop in calls for service but no identification of person responsible for past arsons.

May

Viewfield Road area – Resolved after a 38% increase in calls for service. It was resolved because there was a 75% reduction in violent calls, 33% reduction in property calls, and the priority moved to the Dalton area in Vic West.

June

No priority assigned.

Community Updates via Social Media

The Esquimalt Division's Officer-In-Charge and the VicPD Public Affairs Section post updates to the community on the VicPD Esquimalt Division Facebook page following the Strategic Operations Council meetings. The updates provide information to the community based on the crime and disorder trends. The use of social media touches on two of our Strategic Plan pillars: Communication and Community Mobilization.

Facebook continues to be a valuable tool for VicPD to comment on and post events that we are going to or have attended.

This quarter we posted on operational priorities, numerous missing persons, significant arrests, issues that impact our department, crime alerts to the community and many community events that we have enjoyed participating in.

Some highlights on Facebook this quarter include the release of the 2016 VicPD Annual Report, the HMCS Esquimalt anniversary, the Gorge Park Easter Egg hunt, the water park opening, Fort Macaulay Canada 150 celebration, bike safety, and the welcoming of Insp. Jamie Pearce as the new Officer-In-Charge of the Esquimalt Division.



Celebrating a successful Bike Rodeo for cycling safety



Community Engagement Update

The VicPD Community Engagement Division, comprised of Public Affairs, the Community Programs Coordinator, Block Watch, Volunteer Services, the Reserve Program, and the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program, continued its efforts to engage the residents of Esquimalt through a variety of efforts.

The VicPD Public Affairs section continues to keep the Esquimalt community engaged and informed through both mainstream and social media. The section provided support for the following initiatives:

- 4 successful survey engagement sessions with the community (three community-focussed sessions and one session dedicated to the business community);
- The annual Youth for Change and Inclusion camp, telling the story of the work that is done at the camp via social media;
- Informing our communities about road closures, urgent incidents and public safety concerns;
- Public events associated with the announcement of Chief Manak as Chief Constable;
- Began filming a video series on the VicPD's fight against fentanyl trafficking;
- Staff supported public communications efforts at major township events such as Buccaneer Days.

In addition to answering 365 media requests between April and June, our two-person section issued 42 media releases, issued several mobile alerts, and sent out over 760 tweets and other social media posts during this quarter.

Block Watch continues to increase its presence in the community of Esquimalt. New Captains and participants are continually added to the program, and our Reserve Constables make regular presentations to Block Watch groups. During the second quarter of 2017, two new Captains were appointed to the program in Esquimalt, and VicPD Reserve Constables gave a presentation to Esquimalt residents.

The second quarter is also the start of the community event season. As always, VicPD is happy to support and attend many local events, especially the Esquimalt Country Grocer customer appreciation event, Buccaneer Days Parade and the Esquimalt Block Party.

During the first quarter of 2017, VicPD dropped off community and business surveys to randomly selected addresses. Then in the second quarter the results were collated and presented to the citizens of Victoria and Esquimalt. VicPD hosted four community engagement sessions including one in Esquimalt Council Chambers which was very well attended.

The Community Programs Coordinator also attended the Esquimalt Emergency Stakeholder meeting in an effort to ensure that all local stakeholders work together to serve the residents of Esquimalt during an emergency event.

The Community Programs Coordinator is also responsible for the coordination of the VicPD Civic Service Award Ceremony and events. In May and June, VicPD awarded five community members with Civic Service Awards.

VicPD Volunteers continue to provide excellent service to the Township of Esquimalt through a variety of programs. Below is a summary of the duties, projects and activities for the second quarter of 2017.

Crime Watch volunteers conducted patrols in response to Operations Council priorities, engaging with community members and raising awareness of crime prevention initiatives. During the second quarter of 2017, volunteers conducted 39 deployments in the Township of Esquimalt.

In addition, a small group of dedicated volunteers, often experts in their field, provided program and project support to our volunteer programming. Together these volunteers provided 139 hours of service during this term.

Events/Highlights:

- Community Engagement: Volunteers represented the Victoria Police Department at three very successful events - Buccaneer Days Parade, Country Grocery Customer Appreciation Day, and the Esquimalt Block Party. The public's response was positive and



Chief Manak presents a young recipient with the VicPD Civic Service Award

volunteers reported that they enjoyed the opportunity to interact with the public and promote VicPD initiatives.

- **Celebration:** On June 14, VicPD showed its appreciation for the great support our Volunteers and Reserves provide to the Township of Esquimalt and the City of Victoria. The volunteers were treated to a pizza party with refreshments served to them by our Senior Command Team and members of the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board. In addition, Colleen Woodger, ICBC Road Safety Coordinator, attended the party and presented the Crime Watch volunteers with the Cell Watch Team Challenge Award. This award recognizes the South Vancouver Island regional team that conducted the most deployments during the March 2017 Distracting Driving Campaign.



VicPD Volunteers accept the Cell Watch Team Challenge Award from Chief Manak and ICBC's Colleen Woodger at the annual Volunteer pizza party appreciation event.

VicPD Reserve officers were similarly engaged in a range of activities in the Esquimalt and Victoria communities, investing over 1,500 hours during the reporting period. From April 1 to June 30, Reserves attended 16 public events assisting with traffic and crowd management. Reserves continue to offer home and business assessments for Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). These security audits are often offered to victims of break-ins and this continues to be a very popular crime prevention program.

Maintaining the Reserve program's authorized strength of 71 Reserves continues to be a challenge. From a roster of 63 active Reserves, 12 people left the program this quarter, with 9 being hired by various police agencies and 3 leaving for other careers. To address this shortfall, a new course will be held in October that will train 30 people over a four-month period, with graduation set for February 2018.

During this quarter, 600 bikes were registered with the VicPD Bike Registry. To date, there are 2,300 bikes registered since the registry's inception in July 2015.

Referrals of files to the Restorative Justice process increased during the second quarter with eight referrals taking place, which is double the number of referrals received during the first quarter of 2017.

Community Resource Officer Update on Community Issues and Police Strategies

Community Resource Officers (CROs) Robirtis and Bruschetta and Sergeant Plater maintain their solid commitment to Esquimalt. In this quarter they were tasked with reducing calls for service for a particular person in Esquimalt. They spent time with this person and expressed the concerns that citizens had about the state of being of the person. This interaction and potential other influences reduced the calls for service. The CROs



also investigated an incident at the Recreation Centre which was quickly resolved, assisted in the Indecent Act investigation, and dealt with unwanted camp sites.

The CROs were kept busy with community meetings this quarter. Combined, they attended 12 Esquimalt community events including;

- Buccaneer Days parade
- McHappy Day
- Esquimalt Block Party and Water Park opening
- Tim Horton's Camp Day

In addition, they attended 17 meetings with our Esquimalt community partners such as;

- Chamber of Commerce Business Town Hall

- Buccaneer Days planning
- Fraud presentation
- Township Council Meeting
- Esquimalt Fire roll call training

Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) and Crime Free Multi-Housing (CFMH):

Cst. Robirtis continues to be an active member of the DAC and attended an Intercultural Association Syrian welcome/educational event this quarter. A major highlight for the committee was the launch of its new website at www.gvpdac.org.

Cst Robirtis facilitated another successful Crime Free Multi Housing seminar with a potential to add another 7 new buildings to the portfolio for 2017.

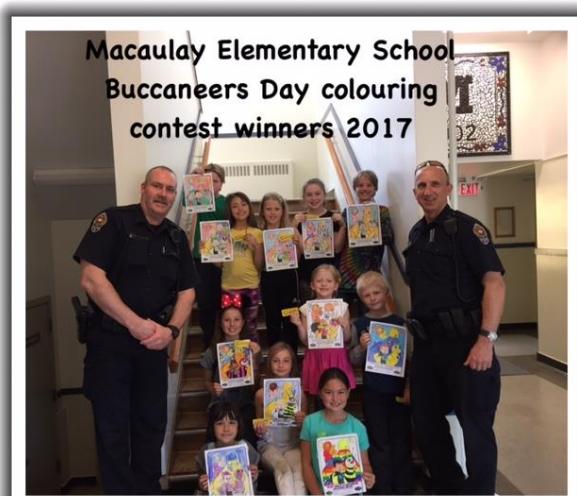
Graffiti Portfolio

Cst. Bruschetta spends a considerable amount of his time managing the anti-graffiti portfolio. He liaises with Patrol members on mischief/graffiti files and provides assistance with the investigations. Cst. Bruschetta attended the Together Against Graffiti Symposium (TAGS) conference last quarter and presented to Council this quarter on the content and what he learned on the conference. Township Councillors had questions for him and found this a valuable presentation.

VicPD held a “Trackside” business meeting this quarter. While the event did not have as many attendees as hoped for, attendees committed to help keep their respective area clean and tidy. We will continue in our pursuit to keep Trackside free from damage and graffiti.

School Liaison Section

This quarter was focused on bike safety and “stranger danger.” Working together, the School Liaison Officers taught bike and road safety to approximately 1,000 students, which was a great accomplishment that spanned over a month.



The Township of Esquimalt was on alert as there were a number of incidences of children being approached by strangers. This led to numerous meetings on safety with the local schools and a great deal of talks to the elementary students in the area. These incidences are still being actively investigated.



They also investigated many files that involved their youth at schools such as missing persons, suspicious persons, and threats through social media.

We continue to be involved in the Esquimalt Youth Coalition. Our first act of business was to work with Esquimalt Parks and Recreation to improve attendance at the Teen Centre. The committee is excited about the project and we welcomed a Parks and Recreation member to the team.

The School Liaison Officers attended 23 meetings and school events related to Esquimalt.

K-9 Unit

Our K-9 Unit continues to serve Esquimalt and Victoria with distinction. This quarter, a K-9 Team marched in the the Buccaneer Days parade and performed their annual explosive training validation. The K-9 Teams maintained excellent nightshift coverage despite injury and required training time.

OIC Report

There has been considerable activity this quarter at the Esquimalt Division. Quarter 2 marked the start of Esquimalt “event season.” Insp. Laidman attended approximately 9 community meetings and 13 community events in relation to Esquimalt. Some of the community events that the OIC took part in included:

- Rockheights Middle School Career Fair
- Esquimalt 5K run
- HMCS Esquimalt Anniversary
- Lions Easter Egg Hunt
- Earth Day at Highrock Park

- Customer Appreciation Day at Country Grocer
- Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Rainbow Kitchen
- Esquimalt Road Design and OCP
- McHappy Day
- Fort Macaulay Canada 150 celebration

Insp. Laidman regularly attends Council and meetings at the Township, and often meets with the Mayor, the Directors and the Fire Chief; these meetings are not reflected in the number of Community meetings or events he has attended. These meetings are invaluable for maintaining a great working relationship and staying current with community needs outside policing.

It should be noted that the Esquimalt Division has two dedicated administrative support staff. They are the face of the Division when Esquimalt residents come into the office. Stephen and Colleen are invaluable to Division operations and service to the community during every quarter.



Insp. Laidman was transferred to the Patrol Division in June and Esquimalt warmly welcomed Insp. Jamie Pearce as the new Esquimalt OIC. Insp. Laidman would like to extend his gratitude for such a great experience and spending time with very proud Esquimalt residents.

Departmental Financial Update

As of June 30th, the department's net budget position was approximately \$24,190,539, representing 46.1% of the total budget. The rates of pay for Police Union employees reflected the 2015 rates of pay under the expired collective agreement. The rates of pay for the CUPE employees reflected the 2016 rates of pay. Once adjusted for projected increments, salaries and benefits are in line with the approved budget. At the end of the second quarter, non-wage operating expenditures were also in line with expectations. The financial condition of the department remains positive at this time, although unexpected and uncontrollable events could affect future projections.