

Niagara Regional

POLICE SERVICE



Annual Report
2015





POLICE



Mission Statement

The Niagara Regional Police Service is dedicated to serving and protecting residents and visitors within the Regional Municipality of Niagara.

In partnership with the community, we shall provide quality policing services with integrity, diligence and sensitivity.

Members of the Niagara Regional Police Service believe...

- In pursuing excellence in every circumstance;
- In being fair and unbiased in the performance of duties in accordance with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms;
- In treating all victims of crime with compassion and understanding;
- In maintaining professional standards of conduct at all times;
- In being approachable, courteous and open to all;
- In developing creative solutions to policing concerns, through community oriented policing;
- In striving to be active participants and leaders in the community; and,
- In providing a professional satisfying work environment that respects employees' rights and encourages personal and professional growth.

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Message from the Chair of the Police Services Board **Mr. Bob Gale**



It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Annual Report of the Niagara Regional Police Service.

The Annual Report highlights only a fraction of the work we do to make the Niagara Region a safe community in which to live, work and visit. When we look back at 2015, it was a year of accomplishments and challenges. I was encouraged to Chair such a committed Board and I am proud of our achievements to-date. We've had a successful year and together we will continue to develop pro-active solutions that will improve policing services for all citizens in Niagara.

I know that our Police Services Board has met emerging issues head-on and has provided adequate and effective police services to all citizens in the Niagara Region. As civilian Board members who represent the public's interests, we remain committed to quality policing and excellence in police governance.

Without question, 2016 will continue to bring challenges to our police service in every conceivable way. A key challenge for the Board will be ensuring the police service is well positioned to meet the needs of our dynamic communities, while maintaining a high level of service that is affordable and sustainable. At the very least,

this will take considerable co-ordination and a possible re-alignment of resources. The workload is considerable, but our priorities are clear. The people of Niagara expect us to deliver a more effective and efficient police service, and a safer community, while maintaining a high level of service that is more cost-effective.

We have accomplished many tasks and dealt with many key issues in civilian oversight, but there is still much to be done. We all look forward to a new year of successes and challenges in 2016.

I would like to thank the members of the Board and staff for their dedication and hard work. The continued support and contributions of our fellow Board Members has been greatly appreciated.



Andy Petrowski
Vice Chair



David Barrick
Member



Terry Bonham
Member



Ken Gansel
Member



Bob Marshall
Member



Vaughn Stewart
Member



Deb Reid
Executive Director



Message from the Chief of Police

Jeff McGuire, M.O.M.



As Chief of Police I am proud to present the Service's 2015 Annual Report to the we serve. The purpose of this report is to ensure that the citizens of the Regional Municipality of Niagara are well informed on the responsibilities, activities, challenges and accomplishments that the NRPS faced this past year. It is vitally important to the safety and security of our communities that all of you are well informed on these issues. Through the sharing of the information in this report it is my hope that the women and men, both civilian and sworn, of the NRPS will be able to continue building your trust in the work that they do every day to keep your neighbourhoods safe. The members of the NRPS must develop and maintain your trust in order to work collaboratively with you to keep the Region of Niagara a safe and viable place to live, work and play.

In 2016 we will be moving into our new and long waited for Police Headquarters in Niagara Falls. This building has been designed in a manner that will provide a suitable and efficient workspace for more than half of our 1100 members as we vacate five other buildings currently being used.

I am very proud to hold the position of Chief of Police of the NRPS and to call the Niagara Region my home. The men and women of the NRPS also make me very proud through their commitment to public safety in this Region. As always, I continue to urge you and all of my employees to *"Have a little fun every day"* as we work together for public safety.



Joe Matthews, M.O.M.
Deputy Chief of Police
Support Services



Bryan MacCulloch
Deputy Chief of Police
Operational Services



Geoff Skafffeld
Superintendent
Executive Services



Brett Flynn
Superintendent
District Operations



Scott McLean
Superintendent
Emergency & Investigative Services



Des Carter
Superintendent
Operational Support

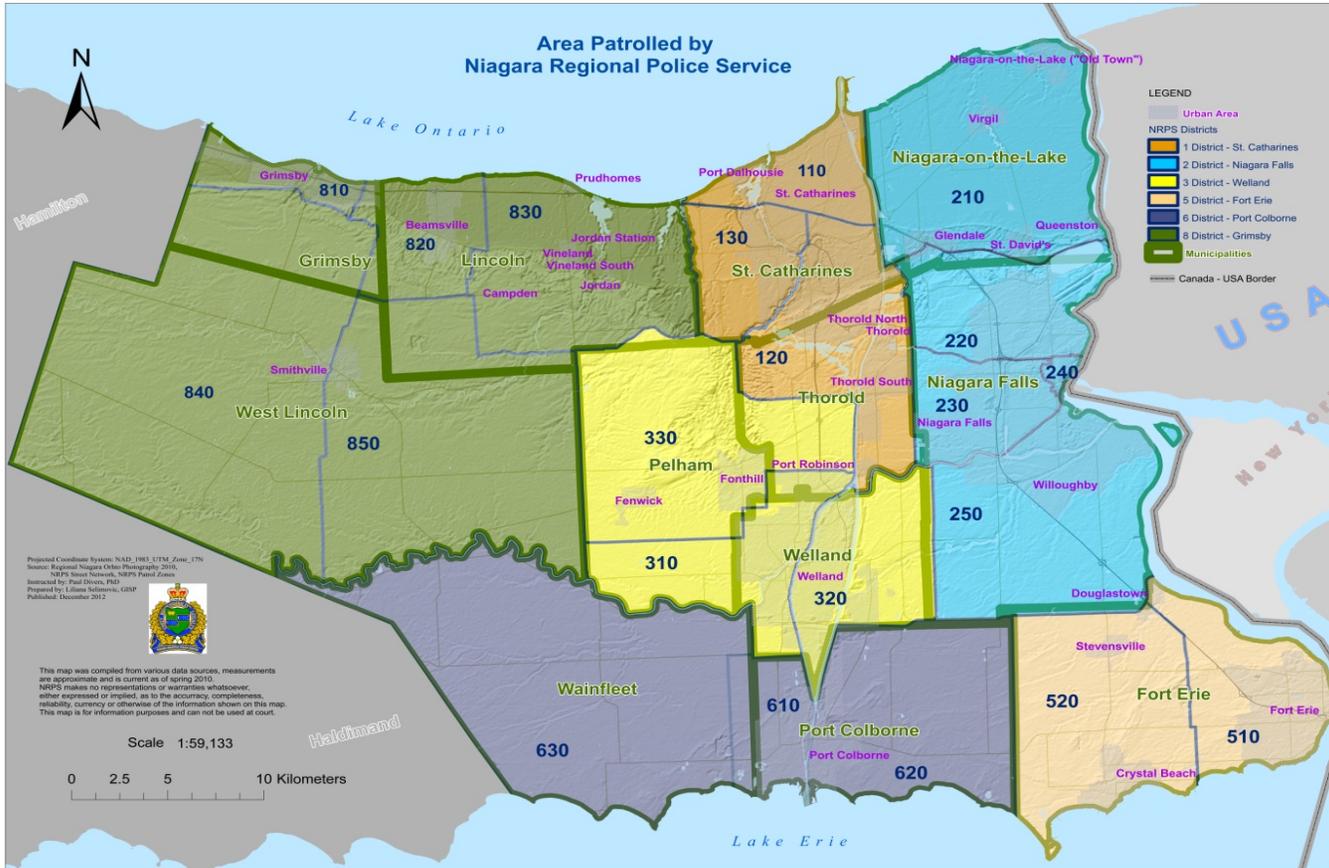


Akram Askoul
Director
Information & Communications
Technology



Lisa DiDonato-DeChellis
Director
Business Services

Region of Niagara



Calls for Service

The Communications Unit is a stand-alone secure centre staffed 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Its compliment includes a Staff Sergeant, 4 civilian Supervisors, 12 - 911 Operators, 44 Communicators / Dispatchers, and a Training Coordinator. The Centre is extensively supported by radio, telephone and computer technology with back-up systems. The Service also maintains a back-up centre to ensure continuity of service delivery during a potential need to evacuate our primary operations centre.

Calls for Service are based on incidents generated from calls received from the public and/or officers generated in the course of their duties. These numbers do not represent police workload as they do not portray other duties such as traffic safety and enforcement, proactive policing nor the length of time that specialty units spend on an investigation due to the seriousness and/or nature of the incident.

		Calls for Service across Districts						
		St. Catharines	Niagara Falls	Welland	Fort Erie	Port Colborne	Grimsby	Casino Unit
		1 District	2 District	3 District	5 District	6 District	8 District	
January	8,452							
February	7,805							
March	8,184							
April	8,715							
May	10,086							
June	9,743							
July	10,539	43,331	25,468	16,043	6,911	5,732	9,056	5,628
August	10,719							
September	10,341							
October	9,356							
November	9,217							
December	9,012							
Calls per Officer <small>(Authorized Strength)</small>		470.9	352.7	401.1	215.9	238.8	283.0	234.5

Calls for Service by Month

112,169 Calls for Service in 2015



Community Patrol and Problem Oriented Policing

In 2015 there were numerous initiatives conducted by officers throughout the Region to address areas of concern reported by business, community members and visitors. These concerns ranged from traffic safety to disrupting criminal activity as well as coordinating efforts with other agencies to positively address public safety. Strategies to address community problems require flexibility, identification of the affected community, and the evaluation of initiative results in order to solve the problem. The success of these initiatives has been documented and clearly validates both the operational compliance and the effectiveness of our Community Patrol and Directed Patrols within the Regional Municipality of Niagara. These initiatives are directly connected to Goal One of the Service's 2013-2015 Business Plan.

Brief Overview of Region-wide Initiatives

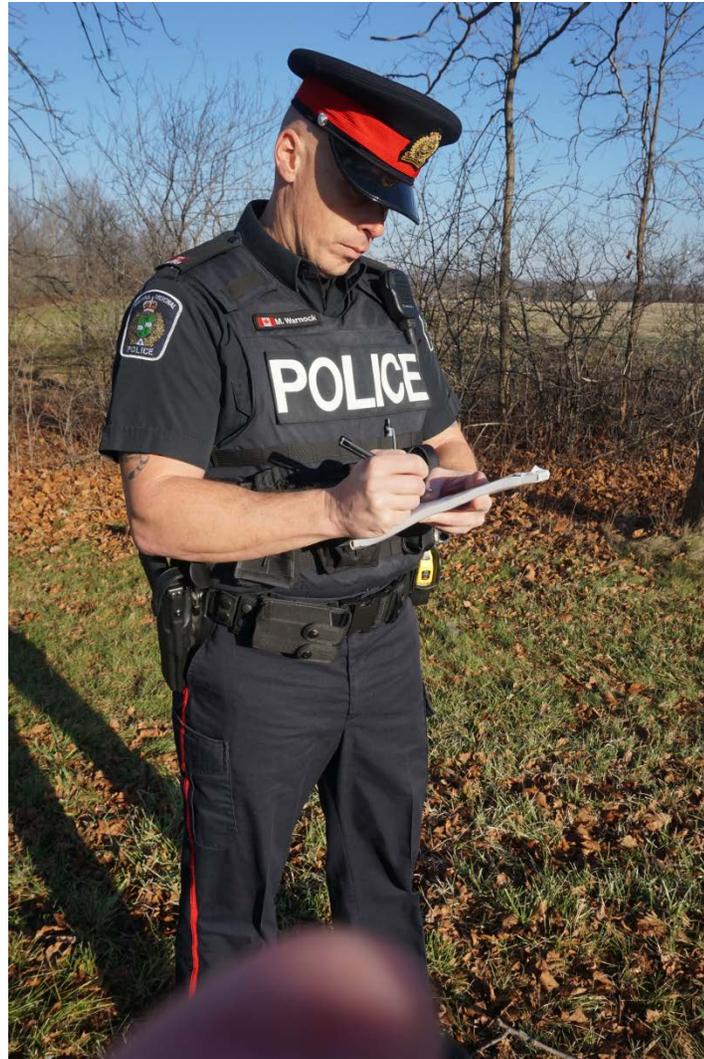
Enhanced R.I.D.E Program – As part of our continuing commitment to road safety, the Enhanced R.I.D.E. program is conducted during peak periods including festival and holiday seasons. Every year the Service makes application for a R.I.D.E. grant that is administered by the policing division of the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. For the 2015 R.I.D.E. season the service was allocated \$43,907 in provincial grant money.

Approximately 6,863 vehicles were stopped and checked. Sixty-nine boats were also stopped and checked. In total, 189 roadside tests were conducted.

- 39 people had their licenses suspended for 3 days.
- 1 had their license suspended for 7 days.
- 13 individuals were charged criminally with impaired driving.
- 5 individuals were charged under the *Liquor License Act* and 142 Highway Traffic Act charges were issued including 1 for stunting.
- 10 individuals were charged with other criminal offences including 7 for drug possession.

Canada Road Safety Week – The Service participated in this national traffic campaign to promote road safety. The campaign focused on aggressive driving, distracted driving, seatbelt/child restraints and impaired driving. During Canada Road Safety Week, Niagara Regional Police officers issued approximately 650 tickets for various traffic related offences. Twenty-four of these charges were for hand-held communication devices and 5 were for seatbelts. An additional 17 charges were laid in alcohol related offences and 8 people were charged with impaired driving charges.

All Hands on Deck – Our 15th annual traffic safety and awareness day involved a total of 92 officers from the Chief of Police to Detectives who were reassigned from their normal duties to participate in this operation. Officers were able to attend 76 schools throughout the region ranging from kindergarten to high school. In total 96 Provincial Offence Notices were given out, 66 for speeding, 7 for distracted driving, 10 for seatbelt / child safety restraint violations and 13 for other various rules of the road violations. In addition to the issued PONs, 66 warnings were given as well.



Speed Enforcement – To reduce the Regions' serious injury and fatal motor vehicle collisions, officers conducted road safety campaigns on several roads of the Niagara Region. Speed enforcement using



RADAR and LIDAR was conducted throughout the region with the assistance of Special Enforcement Unit to support and augment district initiatives. In 2015, officers issued 16,307 Provincial Offence notices for speeding.

Brief Overview of District Initiatives

1 District (St. Catharines and Thorold)

The St. Catharines South End Noise Patrol/Downtown Entertainment District Initiative continued in its seventh year as a partnership between Brock University, the City of St. Catharines and the Niagara Regional Police to address nuisance complaints, noisy parties and public disorder in the south end of St. Catharines, as well as in the Downtown core during the fall and winter school semesters.

Downtown Patrol – Provide high visibility police presence through the use of foot patrol and bicycle patrols to target and reduce incidents of drunkenness, related disturbances, damage and general disorder. This program was established as part of an agreement with both the BIA and the City. Each partner contributed an equal share to the overtime costs incurred. In 2015 167 St. Catharines By-Law

tickets were issued. The additional police presence caused reduced demand for patrol units downtown allowing for greater police response and patrol elsewhere in the district.

The Multi-Agency Task Force Initiative targeting problems associated with designated “High Risk” licenced premises continued in its’ efforts to prosecute infractions under various Provincial, Criminal and Municipal legislation within the city of St. Catharines Downtown Entertainment district.

Project Bike Smart – Officers concentrated on enforcement and education regarding bicycle moving and equipment laws. The City of St. Catharines assisted by increasing signage regarding the prohibited use of bicycles on sidewalks.

8 District (Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln)

Speed Enforcement – Over 30 initiatives had been deployed to make our streets safer. Examples include speeding, seatbelt, handheld communication devices, RIDE, insurance checks and School Zone enforcement.

Crime Patrol – Supplemental undercover targeted Crime Patrols were used throughout 2015 to address identified crime sprees.

Liquor Compliance – Project “Compliance” attended 13 liquor establishments to ensure liquor serving compliance in all three municipalities. This was a joint effort with Alcohol and Gaming Commission.

2 District (Niagara Falls and Niagara-on-the-Lake)

Lock it or Lose it – Crime prevention initiatives were also implemented in the form of the “**Lock it or Lose it**” program. This crime prevention strategy was conducted on three separate occasions:



once in Niagara Falls and twice in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Parked vehicles were checked to ensure that they were locked, that there were no valuables in plain sight, and that keys were not left in the ignition. Vehicle owners were reminded by way of windshield cards to secure their vehicles to prevent being a victim of theft.

E-bike Traffic Initiative – The E-bike traffic initiative was implemented during the summer months with officers focusing their enforcement efforts on infractions involving E-bikes and other subsidiary types of power assisted bicycles/devices. Over the course of one month, eight (8) Part III summons, and ten (10) Part I offence notices were issued along with a roadside E-bike seizure.

5 District (Fort Erie)

Project Bay Watch – Concentrated on the mass attendance of students from several high schools for their annual Skip Day where they attend the beach instead of going to school. Approximately 2,000 students descended on Bay Beach in the Crystal Beach area. A zero tolerance approach by police in relation to inappropriate behavior, trespassing, alcohol possession or consumption resulted in a positive day for both students and area residents. The success of this day was directly attributable to joint cooperation of Town of Fort Erie Parks and Recreational Staff, police and neighboring residents.

Cottage Checks – During the summer months the population of the greater Fort Erie area increases each year by approximately 15,000 temporary residents who annually return to the cottage areas along the north shore of Lake Erie. During 2015 officers assigned to 5 District performed regular patrols on foot, by patrol cars and by ATV's. This Cottage Check Patrol is deployed with the intention of crime prevention and the detection of property based offences.

3 District (Welland)

Niagara College Directed Patrol addressed spring and fall complaints associated with the return/departure of students and related complaints from residents in the neighbourhoods surrounding Niagara College.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) and Bike Patrols were designed to enforce liquor, excessive noise, off-road vehicle issues and enhanced community presence in the District. The program was a joint initiative between Number 3 District and Number 6 District officers.

6 District (Port Colborne/Wainfleet)

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) Patrols On Recreational Trails in Port Colborne / Wainfleet and Welland – A joint effort in ATV patrols and enforcement initiative by officers from Welland and Port Colborne was conducted on the trails along the Welland Canal Recreational Waterway to enforce liquor, excessive noise, off-road vehicle issues. The patrols were conducted from Port Colborne to Welland to address public concern for safety along the trails.



Beach Day 2015 – A Safety Plan which was developed over the past few years and was fully implemented again for 'Beach Day 2015' in Wainfleet. This unsanctioned day of absence from school attracts thousands of students to the Augustine Beach area. The event went off with minimal to no police contact required.

Engaging Youth in Niagara

In 2011 the Niagara Regional Police Service completed a review of our approach to community services and engagement. As a result, in 2012 it was decided that the Community Services Unit would be transformed so that it is more closely aligned to the Ministry's and Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) Mobilization and Engagement Model of Community Policing. A new unit called Corporate Communications and Community Engagement Unit (CCCE) was developed to centralize community policing and engagement. Beginning in September of 2012, seven School Resource Officers (SRO's) were permanently assigned to the CCCE. The school resource officers patrol all of the local high schools in the Niagara Region.



School Resource Officer (SRO) activities for the 2015 calendar year include:

- Occurrences 411
- Follow-ups 409
- Cleared calls for service 364
- Street Checks 161

- e) Provincial Offence Notices 162
- f) Provincial Offence Summons 16
- g) Computer Assisted Dispatch Calls 837
- h) Arrests 70
- i) Criminal Charges 61
- j) Calls cleared Non-reportable 184
- k) Calls cleared Report to Follow 400

To assist the service to ensure quality policing during the summer months and minimize risks to front line officers, the SRO's are deployed where required throughout the service. During the summer of 2015, the SRO Summer Deployment between June 23rd and August 31st was as follows:

During day shifts SROs conducted various pro-active community patrols deployed in a variety of ways including bike, foot, ATV, and in vehicles. During that time officers focused on building positive community relationships through programs such as **Caught You Using Your Head**, a program aimed at youth wearing helmets and safety equipment. Officers also conducted beach patrols, directed patrols targeting drugs, liquor offences, trespassing and other criminal offences.

The second use of deployment for SRO's included assisting front line officers with shift shortages. SRO's altered their shift schedules to assist with staffing shortages that stemmed from a critical incident that depleted resources.

Community Partnerships

In keeping with our goals in the 2013-2015 Business Plan, the Service endeavors to optimize relationships with community partners to improve service delivery to victims, vulnerable persons and at-risk persons. Our Service continues to review existing, and implement new policies, programs and initiatives relating to youth. Our community partners include the following:

- Contact Niagara
- Port Cares Youth Justice Committee
- Family and Children Services (FACS)

- Pathstone Mental Health
- TAPP – C (The Arson Prevention Program for children)
- Niagara Threat Assessment Protocol



GUIDING KIDS TO A
BRIGHTER FUTURE

Pro-Action Cops & Kids Niagara Chapter was officially established and approved by ProAction's Board of Directors on May 29, 2014. A local council has been set up to fundraise for programs that involve officers and youth engagement. The program establishes a positive relationship between cops and kids who are at risk. The police liaison for Niagara's chapter is Sergeant Chris Stewart.

Programming Strategies

The Niagara Regional Police Service has made concentrated efforts to design and implement its programming strategies in developing responses to youth crime and other youth related concerns. The following is a list of School Resource Officer programs which engage the community and increase positive relationships with youth and the Niagara Regional Police Service:

Race Against Drugs (April 27th to May 1st, 2015) is a community based drug and alcohol awareness program for grade 5 students. Since its inception, RAD has gained popularity and spread across the province, including the Niagara Region. Students visited various "Pit Stops" where they received information to promote good health choices, safety and a drug /alcohol free lifestyle. SRO Brian Knight was responsible for the Niagara Regional Police involvement in this event as all other SROs and Auxiliary officers, committed time to ensure the success of this event. In total approximately 4,500 Grade 5 students from across the region participated in this event.

Camp MEDEBA is an initiative created and executed by the SRO program. The SROs partnered with the District School Board of Niagara and Niagara Catholic District School Board on May 11, 12, 13 for an opportunity to learn new skills at Camp Medeba. A total of 50 students were selected to participate through a process developed in conjunction with the School Boards. Each day was filled with rope climbing events, team building exercises, zip lining and camp fires. The program was designed to

develop communication, trust, co-operation and team building skills. It provided a good setting for police and youth to make connections and build bridges of trust and understanding. The event involved nine (9) officers from the Service's Corporate Communications and Community Engagement Unit with an additional four (4) volunteer front-line officers.



Music Not Mischief is a youth outreach program that partners schools, the police and the community so that volunteer police can give guitar lessons to local kids. Students learn to play in a safe environment and, at the end of the initiative, they showcase their talents in a stage performance with a local rock band.

In 2015, The Niagara Regional Police Service School Resource Officer Program, with support from ProAction Cops & Kids, created a Niagara based competition. The Niagara competition paired 19 students from the Niagara District School and Niagara Catholic District School Boards with volunteer mentor police officers. The students, with the assistance of their mentor officers, prepared for a guitar competition held at the Scotiabank Convention Centre in Niagara Falls. St. Michael Secondary School student, Nicole Cerminara took home top honours at the highly successful event.



Crime Prevention Week (November 2015) focused on the **Lock it or Lose it** campaign. The Niagara Regional Police participated in the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police Crime Prevention Campaign. During their presence at the Pen Centre, SROs conducted patrols through the mall, approaching shoppers and speaking to the mistakes that people make, including leaving their cars unlocked and purchases in plain sight. This program was further supported with a flyer campaign and a video message. In total approximately 500 "Lock it or Lose it" cards were handed out, reminding drivers to secure their goods and their vehicles.

Cop Shop: 2015 marked the 8th Annual Cop Shop event held at the Pen Centre in St Catharines. Forty student's ages 6 to 12 years from local schools received a \$200 gift card from the Pen Centre. Students were escorted by 2 Police Officers who acted as personal shoppers. The event created high police visibility while encouraging local students to build valued relationships with our Service, OPP and the Niagara Parks Police.



Film Festival 2015: On February 26, 2015 members of the Niagara Regional Police Service hosted the 2nd annual "Students Inter-School Board Film Festival" at Landmark Cinemas in the City of St. Catharines. The theme was Distracted Driving and 20 teams of high school students from across the Niagara Region created Public Service Announcement videos. A panel of celebrity judges scored each entry based on creativity, quality and ability to convey the message of distracted driving. The winning video was featured on CHCH-TV in March 2015. As with all of the Proaction events, it was a great display of community partnership involving two school boards, the Region, OPP, CAA, Landmark Theatre and the NRPS.

Extrajudicial Measures Program

The Extrajudicial Measures Program is in concert with community partners such as John Howard Society, Family and Children Services, Community Addiction Services, Port Cares, and Contact Niagara and is aimed at promoting strategies in response to youth crime and other youth related concerns. The following is a summary of extrajudicial measures used in 2015:

- a) Community Addiction Services **1**
- b) John Howard Society **16**
- c) Niagara Native Centre **0**
- d) Pathstone Mental Health **2**
- e) Youth Justice Committee **69**
- f) Youth Resources Niagara **20**

Since the full time implementation of 7 SRO officers in 2012, the impact of police officers being fully involved in the local high school communities has increased. The initial trend with implementation of the SROs in every school was an increase in EJM referrals and a decrease in the number of criminal charges laid against young persons.

First, the cooperative effort of the high school administrations and the SROs has created an effective mechanism for crime prevention within the school communities. The administrations have strong working relationships with the SROs and often incidents that would in years past have generated a call for service and possibly a charge or EJM referral are being identified in their infancy and being dealt with by the schools. Also, youths that began their high school careers in 2012 are now the graduating class, thus for the first time we have students whose whole high school experience has been impacted by the presence of the SROs. In 2015 EJM referrals had a 93% completion rate. This in turn reduces the probability of recurrence.

It is without a doubt that the processes in place to address youth crime by the Niagara Regional Police Service and their partner agencies are effective and are yielding positive results.

Crimes against Persons (select incidents)

Select Incidents	2014 Incidents	2015 Incidents	Cleared By Charge	Cleared Otherwise
Murder – 1 st Degree	3	3	2	1
Murder – 2 nd Degree	1	--	--	--
Manslaughter	--	4	3	--
Criminal Negligence Cause Death	1	1	1	--
Murder – Attempt	3	--	--	--
Conspire to Commit Murder	2	--	--	--
Sexual Assault – Aggravated	--	1	1	--
Sexual Assault – Weapons/Bodily Harm	1	4	2	--
Sexual Assault *	140	259	108	42
Sexual Interference	6	6	3	--
Invitation To Sexual Touching	3	6	4	--
Sexual Exploitation	1	5	4	--
Lure Child Via Computer	8	11	5	--
Assault – Aggravated	32	29	29	--
Assault – Weapon or Cause Bodily Harm	332	336	243	22
Assault	1,016	954	545	194
Assault – Police/Peace Officer	82	69	55	14
Criminal Negligence Cause Bodily Harm	2	1	1	--
Assault – Other	11	--	--	--
Forcible Confinement or Kidnapping	13	20	16	2
Abduction <14 years Parent/Guardian	--	--	--	--
Robbery	186	156	93	5
Arson	1	--	--	--
Extortion	7	11	3	1
Intimidate Justice System	2	--	--	--
Criminal Harassment/Stalking	139	129	66	29
Threats – Person Death/Harm	330	286	134	76
Harassing Phone Calls	223	201	17	72
* 2014 saw a significant reduction in Sexual Assaults, compared to previous years. Sexual Assaults ranged from 216 to 286 over the preceding 5 year period.				
Total Crimes Against Persons (All Incidents)	2,714	2,540		
Percent Change 2014-2015 - ↓ 6.4 Percent				

Crimes Against Property Incidents

Select Property Incidents	2014 Incidents	2015 Incidents	Cleared by Charge	Cleared Otherwise
Arson	91	78	11	2
Break & Enter	1,831	1,895	243	76
Theft Over \$5,000	65	106	8	8
Theft from Vehicle Over \$5,000	34	22	1	1
Shoplifting Over \$5,000	3	9	4	3
Theft Under \$5,000	5,441	5,480	643	612
Theft of Motor Vehicle	613	687	51	30
Theft from Motor Vehicle Over \$5,000	34	22	1	1
Theft from Motor Vehicle Under \$5,000	5,441	5,480	643	612
Shoplifting Under \$5,000	1,196	1,139	449	417
Possession Stolen Property	137	126	101	20
Fraud	1,104	1,150	161	107
Fraud – Identity Theft	12	23	1	-
Fraud – Identity Fraud	162	198	8	5
Mischief	1,738	1,855	176	158
Mischief to Religious Property	3	3	--	--
Total Crimes Against Property (All Incidents in 2014 and 2015)	11,231	11,631		

Percent Change 2014-2015 -↑ 3.6 Percent



Other Criminal Code Violations (select incidents)

Incident	2014 Incidents	2015 Incidents	Cleared	Cleared Otherwise
Prostitution	--	6	5	--
Prostitution – Bawdy House	--	1	--	--
Prostitution – <18 Years Living of the Avails	--	--	--	--
Prostitution – Procuring	--	--	--	--
Prostitution – Other	--	--	--	--
Explosives – Possess	1	--	--	--
Weapons – Possess	82	57	35	14
Unsafe Storage of Firearms	2	--	--	--
Weapons Possession Contrary to Order	3	2	3	--
Importing or Exporting of Weapons	8	3	3	--
Fail to Comply	648	549	492	48
Counterfeit Money	6	15	11	4
Cause Disturbance	21	22	8	14
Escape Custody	1	--	--	--
Indecent Act	60	76	12	11
Child Pornography	22	24	8	8
Corrupting Morals	--	1	--	1
Obstruct Resist Peace Officer	45	51	36	16
Unlawfully at Large	26	28	13	15
Trespass at Night	25	--	--	--
Breach of Probation – Adult Only	385	349	340	3
Utter Threats – Property/Animal	11	15	7	5
Public Order – Offence Against	6	12	12	--
Attempts, Conspiracies, Accessories	11	8	5	--
Total Other Criminal Code Violations (All incidents)	1,890	1,746		
Percent Change 2014-2015 - ↓ 7.6 Percent				

Controlled Drug and Substance Act Incidents

Select Controlled Drug and Substance Act Incidents	2014 Incidents	2015 Incidents	Cleared by Charge	Cleared Otherwise
Possession – Heroin	6	5	4	1
Possession – Cocaine	66	48	37	11
Possession – Other CDSA	37	37	28	9
Possession – Cannabis	278	208	52	156
Possession – Crystal Meth.	17	31	25	6
Possession – Ecstasy	5	10	1	9
Trafficking – Heroin	10	13	13	--
Trafficking – Cocaine	88	91	82	1
Trafficking – Other CDSA	27	35	35	--
Trafficking – Cannabis	23	37	36	1
Trafficking – Crystal Meth.	16	28	28	--
Trafficking – Ecstasy	--	--	--	--
Import Produce – Heroin	4	1	1	--
Import Produce – Cocaine	3	6	1	--
Import Produce – Other CDSA	6	--	--	--
Import Produce – Cannabis	19	12	1	--
Production – Cannabis	44	15	5	9
Total Controlled Drug and Substance Act (All Incidents)	650	581		
Percent Change 2014-2015 - ↓ 10.6 Percent				



Child Abuse & Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.)

cybertip.ca

The Niagara Regional Police Service is a member of the Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the internet and conducts investigations into Internet Child Exploitation offences in partnership with numerous Ontario Police Services.

Members of the public can report suspicious Internet activities relating to child exploitation to the Niagara Regional Police Service, or online at www.cybertip.ca. Internet safety tips for parents, children and Internet users are also available on the Cybertip website.

The **Child Abuse/Internet Child Exploitation Unit** consists of 9 Detective Constables and 1 Detective Sergeant. Seven Detective Constables investigate Child Abuse cases, while three others investigate cases involving Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.). The mandate of the Child Abuse Unit is to investigate:

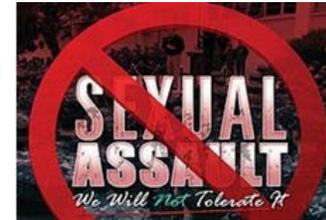
- (i) incidents of child physical abuse by a caregiver;
- (ii) incidents of child sexual abuse;
- (iii) a case of neglect where serious injuries have resulted, a life has been endangered or where there has been a failure to provide the necessities of life;
- (iv) attempted murders of a child by a person having charge, care or authority over a child; and,
- (v) child pornography and incidents of internet luring.

Members of the Child Abuse Unit work closely with the **Child Advocacy Centre of Niagara (CACN)**. The Centre hosts a 17 member child advocacy support team, including members from NRPS, FACS, mental health and medical communities, and the Crown's Office in order to provide a comprehensive and timely response to allegations of child maltreatment. The goal is to treat victimized children and to investigate and prosecute their abusers through a multi-disciplinary approach. The Service and FACS continue to work jointly to ensure the safety and well-being of all children.

Cases Investigated in 2015

Offence Outcome	Incidents
Cleared by Charge	77 (104 criminal charges)
Cleared Otherwise	165
Closed - Suspended	84
Unfounded	29
Total	355

Sexual Assault



The **Sexual Assault Unit (SAU)** is a centralized Unit that services the entire Niagara Region. This unit was formed in 1996 as a result of Justice Campbell’s Report into investigative practices utilized in the Bernardo investigation. It is made up of five detectives including a supervisor. The detectives in this Unit are highly trained in areas of interviewing, major case management and investigation.

Since 1997 the SAU has worked collaboratively to develop a coordinated Sexual Assault Response Protocol with our community partners. This Protocol has evolved over time and now includes: the Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Treatment Program at the NHS (SADV/TC), the Niagara Regional Sexual Assault Centre (CARSA), the Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP), Victim Services Niagara and the Crown Attorney-Ministry of Attorney General. This partnership has resulted in a consistent, comprehensive and knowledgeable response within our community and represents the 'best practice approach' in responding to these types of incidents.

Members of the Sexual Assault Unit continued to attend and present at area high schools with information related to sexual assault, consent and drug facilitated offences. Members of SAU continue to make themselves available for the school presentations and also present to local sports teams and community groups.

Cases Investigated in 2015

Offense Outcome	Incidents
Cleared by Charge	38
Cleared Otherwise	19
Unfounded	54
Non CCJS *	50
Investigation Suspended **	81
Total	242

In 2015 the Sexual Assault Unit saw a 41% increase in Sexual Assault incidents being reported to the NRPS (140 in 2014 compared to 242 in 2015).

* The category deemed "Non CCJS" deals with a situation that is not criminal in nature. This type of incident is not able to be used for criminal stats. An example of this would be an "Information" report.

**The category deemed "Investigation Suspended" deals with a situation where an investigation has been exhausted and little potential exists for solving it, or the victim of the crime has elected to have the investigation terminated. Pending new evidence, this category only ends an investigation, but does not prohibit it from being re-opened in the future.

Domestic Violence Unit

It's not your fault ... hold abusers accountable.



The Niagara Regional Police Service has adopted the Attorney General's directive on instituting a Mandatory Charge Policy whereby officers shall lay charges in all incidents of "intimate relationship" domestic violence occurrences. Intimate relationships include opposite-sex and same-sex partners. These relationships vary in duration and legal formality, and include current and former dating, common law and married couples.

Criminal Code offences include, but are not limited to homicide, assault, sexual assault, forcible confinement, threatening death or bodily harm, harassment/stalking, abduction, breaches of court orders and property related offences.

Domestic Related Incidents in 2015

Domestic related reports	8,456
Domestic related reports – Non-CCJS	7,101
Domestic related reports – Criminal Investigations	1,355
Domestic related criminal investigations – Charges	756
Domestic related criminal investigations – No Charges	599

The Centralized Domestic Violence Unit and has been in operation for approximately two years. The Unit consists of twelve Domestic Violence Investigators who are trained in conducting

"enhanced domestic violence" investigations. The Unit's mandate is to assist and assume responsibility from front-line uniform personnel of all domestic violence incidents where there are grounds to proceed with criminal charges. Domestic Violence Investigators ensure resources are available to uniform officers. This includes increased monitoring and reviewing all reported domestic and family

violence cases, as well as a closer working relationship with the Domestic Violence Crown Attorneys and Victim Witness Assistance. In 2015, the Domestic Violence Unit investigated on average over 80 cases per month with the Domestic Violence Unit investigating approximately 84 % of all domestic cases.

The Domestic Violence Unit continues to work collaboratively with Family and Children’s Services, Nova House, Gillian’s Place, Serenity House, the Coalition Ending Violence Against Women, Victim Services Niagara, Victim Witness Assistance Program, Probation and Parole, Crown Attorney’s and other appropriate community agencies.

Elder Abuse



Due to an organizational change in 2012, Elder Abuse cases are being investigated by four separate units within the Service. The Centralized Fraud Unit investigates the financial abuse of seniors. The Domestic Violence Unit investigates domestic violence involving seniors. District Detective Offices investigate missing persons and physical abuse of seniors while the COAST Unit assists with the mental health and well-being of seniors through referrals from community agencies. The Behavioural Supports Ontario Community Outreach Team works with COAST to assist seniors who have cognitive impairments that can result in responsive behaviours such as wandering, exit seeking, verbal/physical

Domestic Related Charges in 2015

Type	Number
Assault (Simple)	409
Assault (Cause Bodily Harm)	110
Assault (Aggravated)	2
Breach of Probation	194
Breach of Recognizance	183
Criminal Harassment	49
Forcible Confinement	20
Harassing Communication	40
Mischief	118
Murder	--
Murder (Attempt)	--
Robbery	13
Sexual Assault (Simple)	13
Sexual Assault (Bodily Harm)	1
Sexual Assault (Aggravated)	--
Utter Threats	106
Weapons/Firearms	12

agitation and repetitive actions. The BSO team staff offer services in crisis intervention, practical support and outreach, education, advocacy and coordination of services.

Mobile Tracking Emergency Response System – MTERS: As a result of the dissolution of the DVERS program, the Niagara Regional Police Service, Victim Services Niagara and Eyez-On Corporation have worked collaboratively to provide personal alarms for individuals who are deemed at “high risk” for violence. MTERS is a GPS enabled mobile alarm system that is an intervention strategy to enhance the safety of individuals. The mobile tracking device is equipped with a panic button on the mobile alarm victim’s location is pin-pointed and police are dispatched to the victim’s location. The MTERS program has been in service for the past year and has provided a number of clients with enhanced personal safety.

Crisis Outreach and Support Team – COAST

COAST serves the community of the Niagara Region by completing Mental Status Examinations and Risk Assessments for those persons with mental health concerns who are in crisis. The COAST mobile team will meet with these individuals and when appropriate their families, to provide support, obtain information, and assess the individual’s current stressors, coping strategies, needs and risk.

The COAST unit consists of two (2) full time, plain clothes police officers and four (4) Mental Health Workers (Nurses and Social Workers). There are two teams which include one police officer and one mental health worker on duty from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm, Monday through Saturday, with coverage from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Sundays. A designated phone service will be available for the diversion of non-priority calls involving mental health issues and clients. It is the goal of COAST to assist persons with mental health concerns who are in crisis in a manner that diverts from hospitalization and the criminal justice system.

Clients Receiving Service	
Age of Client	Number
0-15	1
16-17	151
18-24	370
25-34	455
35-44	334
45-54	414
55-64	333
65-74	179
75-84	161
85 and over	88
Unknown	137
Total	2,623

COAST served approximately 2,623 clients in 2015. COAST serves a wide range of clients that fall into a number of age categories. The majority of clients are between the ages of 18-64 with the highest number of clients in the 45-54 age grouping. COAST receives a request for services through a number of different community partners and referrals.

Clients Receiving Service

Referral	Occurrences
Police	1,527
Client	598
Family	219
Client's Community	195
Seniors Agency	48

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Special Enforcement Unit



In 2015 the Special Enforcement Unit participated in several operational and educational initiatives. The Canada Road Safety Week in May, along with special projects such as, "Buckle Your Belt/Pocket Your Phone", focused on safe driving, seatbelt use and all aspects related to aggressive and distracted driving. Even with the fines for distracted driving increasing in September, motorists must be continually reminded to focus on safe driving through enforcement and education. In 2015, officers in S.E.U. handed out 654 Provincial Offence Notices for seatbelt and hand-held communication device infractions. Throughout the year, members of S.E.U. also participated in several other Federal, Provincial and Municipal initiatives, including Operation "Sidewalk Sweep". This initiative included the use of uniformed officers on service issued bicycles, enforcing both *Highway Traffic Act* and Municipal By-Laws, by keeping cyclists and riders off sidewalks.

The Niagara Regional Police Service continues to educate motorists on road safety and focuses considerable attention around schools and young drivers. In May, members of the Special Enforcement Unit presented an informative lecture on the effects of distracted driving and impaired driving to the students of South Lincoln High School. With the assistance of other emergency services around the region, a staged motor vehicle true to life collision was created to show the life altering effects of distracted or impaired driving. In addition, the 15th annual "All Hands on Deck" back to school initiative took place in September, which involved 92 officers attending 76 schools throughout the region. In total, 96 Provincial Offence Notices were issued along with 66 warnings.

In addition to education, enforcement, and administrative duties, members of the Special Enforcement Unit are also called upon to assist with other matters and projects throughout the region. In 2015, several occasions arose where regional minimums could not be met and enforcement officers were called upon to be redeployed to assist with meeting this requirement. Officers also participated

in collision investigations, parade escorts, labour disputes along with crowd and traffic control when high risk warrants were executed.

Once again the Niagara Regional Police received grant funding for the 2015 year from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services as part of the Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E) program. A total of 19 scheduled R.I.D.E. spot checks were conducted throughout the year with a significant amount of the dates scheduled during the holiday season. S.E.U. administrative duties also include the Breath Technician and Drug Recognition programs that resulted in 492 alcohol-impaired tests and 13 drug-impaired tests across the region in 2015. The year also saw two additional S.E.U. officers complete the three week long Drug Recognition Expert course and are now certified as DRE officers. With the projected increase in drug-impaired arrests in the coming years, the Special Enforcement Unit hopes to have an additional four officers complete this course in 2016.

As the Special Enforcement Unit moves forward, the Police Services Board approved the reorganization of the Special Enforcement Unit and the Collision Reconstruction Unit. Both units will work together under the umbrella of Traffic Services. Management recognized the growing concern when it comes to the administrative side and the need for further training and courses. During this year, several officers attended and successfully completed courses for Shotgun, C8 Carbine Operators, Speed Management, Breath Technician and the Drug Recognition Expert Course. This year, six officers also attended and successfully completed the Motorcycle Operator's Course. In the coming years the new Traffic Services Unit will focus on qualifying and certifying officers, as well as continual enforcement and education. The Special Enforcement officers issued a total of 4,872 Provincial Offence Notices.



Non-HTA, HTA and Total Provincial Offence Notices (PONS) in 2015

District	Non-HTA	HTA	Total PONS
District 1 – St. Catharines, Thorold	1,871	6,120	7,991
District 2 – Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake	1,235	6,686	7,921
District 3 – Welland, Pelham	661	3,629	4,290
District 5 – Fort Erie	274	2,076	2,350
District 6 – Port Colborne, Wainfleet	307	1,992	2,299
District 8 – Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln	325	3,082	3,407
Special Enforcement Unit – Region Wide	1,033	5,177	6,210
Casino Patrol Zone	424	1,926	2,350
Other Units	216	697	913
Total	6,346	31,385	37,731

HTA – *Highway Traffic Act* tickets (e.g., speeding, run red light, illegal turns, etc.); Non-HTA – *Liquor License Act, Trespass to Property Act, Off-Road Vehicles Act*, etc.; Total PONS – HTA and Non-HTA notices combined.

Collision Reconstruction Unit

Section 29 of the Adequacy Standards Regulation requires that a police services board have a policy on traffic management, traffic law enforcement and road safety. In addition, section 5 (1) (d) requires that police services have technical collision investigation and collision reconstruction investigative supports.

The Niagara Regional Police Service is in compliance with the Adequacy Standards Regulation and has a dedicated Collision Reconstruction Unit. The Collision Reconstruction Unit is comprised of 5 Detective Constables and 1 Detective Sergeant and is mandated to investigate all fatal and serious life threatening motor vehicle collisions that occur within the Region.

Officers assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Unit are technically trained and dedicated investigators, who specialize in the field of collision investigation. Members assigned to the Unit are

initially required to complete a minimum of 10 weeks of extensive collision investigation training at either the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ontario or the Canadian Police College in Ottawa. Beyond their initial training, our collision investigators receive ongoing training to maintain their skill set and expertise.

The five members assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Unit are divided into two teams and are available to respond to incidents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to investigating collisions, members of the Collision Reconstruction Unit also provide support to our Forensic Services Unit and Major Crime Unit by providing forensic mapping services during high profile criminal investigations.

In 2015, the Collision Reconstruction Unit investigated 17 fatal motor vehicle collisions that resulted in the death of 17 people and attended 21 life-threatening injury collisions.

Fatal and Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collisions, 2010-2015

Type of Collision *	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Fatal Collisions	15	17	20	19	16	17
MTO Reportable Deaths	15	17	23	20	18	15
Non-Reportable Deaths	4	2	2	3	2	2
Life Threatening Injuries	34	24	26	26	24	21

* MTO – Ministry of Transportation Ontario.

* MTO Reportable Deaths are deaths that were caused by injuries sustained in a collision. Non-Reportable Deaths are those that were caused by a medical event (e.g., heart attack, aneurysm, etc.) prior to a collision.



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Marine

The Niagara Regional Police Marine Unit continues to provide an effective police presence and response on the navigable waters within the jurisdiction of the service. Mandated by the Police Services Act of Ontario and Provincial Adequacy Standards, the Unit conducts proactive marine enforcement patrols and responds to water-related search and rescue calls throughout their 1,500 square kilometre response area. With one of the largest waterways patrol responsibilities in Canada, the team covers large portions of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie and both the Upper and Lower Niagara River which collectively border the Region on three sides. Vast networks of inland lakes, rivers and hydro canals fall within the Marine Unit's response area along with the Welland Shipping Canal, a critical component to commerce in both Canada and the United States.

The 8 officer unit is trained and equipped to meet the needs of the service and the public in four diverse areas: marine enforcement; tactical support; underwater search and recovery; and front-line uniform patrol. This multidisciplinary model is unique in that the breadth of skill of the officers is beyond that of most police services in Canada. With such a large area of responsibility, the Unit relied on strategic alliances and partnerships with federal and provincial partners to ensure public safety and timely emergency response. To add to the challenge, the 2015 Pan Am Games water events were held at the Royal Canadian Henley Rowing site in St. Catharines and the new Flatwater Canoe and Kayaking course in Welland throughout the busy month of July. The Pan Am & Parapan Am Games was not only Canada's largest-ever sporting event, it was the centre of the country's largest-ever security operation. Careful planning and calculated service delivery made it possible for the Marine/USRU to balance the need to provide on-water security patrols and rescue response during all races and pre-race practice sessions, and maintain adequate marine policing services throughout the Niagara Region.

The Marine Unit strives to educate the public in safe boating practices and effectively patrol and enforce the statutes applicable to the waters of Niagara. The team partnered with the Port Weller Canadian Coast Guard, who provided secure docking facilities and assisted with routine vessel maintenance. The Unit participated in joint interdiction efforts with both Canadian (RCMP, Ministry of Natural Resources) and US enforcement partners and supported a variety of special duties which

included policing several unsanctioned, end of high school beach parties along the shores of Lake Ontario and Lake Erie.

Throughout the year, Marine Unit officers took part in seven community events and attended local public service clubs to educate the public on boating and water safety. During routine marine enforcement patrols, 225 Provincial Offences Notices were issued primarily for failing to comply with safety legislation found within the Canada Shipping Act, Liquor License Act and Highway Traffic Act. The Unit was dispatched to 577 calls for service resulting in 32 search and rescue responses and 33 arrests.

Two officers participated in national maritime security initiatives as contracted or seconded members. One officer supported the RCMP Marine Security Emergency Response Team (MSERT) as a Tactical Rescue Diver on a 24/7 callout basis and a second officer was seconded to the full-time RCMP Marine Security Enforcement Team operating from the Upper Niagara River to as far east as Windsor.

A unique and highly specialized service provided by the Marine Unit in support of the Emergency Task Unit is called the Tactical Support Group (TSG). Marine members provide perimeter containment and a variety of specialized tactical functions including breaching, sniper element, explosives disposal, and rappelling at high-risk incidents such as barricaded gunman calls or drug warrants. The Marine Unit continued developing the recently implemented Waterborne Crisis Intervention Response capability to deal with the rising number of persons in crisis calls at, near or in the water. In 2015, all Marine members successfully completed the Crisis Negotiators Course to advance their skills in crisis negotiating and de-escalation tactics. For the fourth consecutive year, team members successfully intervened and safely apprehended two individuals attempting to take their own lives in the water. Marine members also supported 26 tactical operation calls in 2015.

Underwater Search and Recovery Unit (USRU)

2015 activities included...

- 11 body recoveries
- 2 vehicles recoveries
- 1 ordnance recovery
- 1 smuggling vessel located
- 2 vessel recoveries
- 2 homicide investigations - support

The NRPS Underwater Search and Recovery Unit provides the Niagara Region with a highly trained service capable of extending almost all aspects of the police function underwater on a 24-hour a day, 365 days a year basis. Duties of the USRU include assisting police investigators with the recovery of vehicles, vessels, aircraft, weapons, bodies and a variety of evidence that has found its way underwater by criminal or accidental means. The Unit supports the Explosive Disposal Unit with the recovery and render safe of underwater ordnance, marine markers and explosive devices. Two USRU members successfully revalidated as Police Explosives Technicians at the Canadian Police College. In an effort to protect the public and the Regions critical infrastructure,

USRU members are certified in CBRNE, harbour searching, ship hull inspection, and explosives recognition. A new USRU coordinator was appointed to manage the administrative, training and maintenance needs of the Unit. As a member of the Tactical Support Group (TSG), the new coordinator completed the challenging four-week OPP TRU Advanced Sniper Course.

The USRU was required to perform 18 dive operations within the Region during the 2015 calendar year and three additional dives in Waterloo Region. The NRPS USRU has provided contracted diving services for the Waterloo Regional Police since 1998.





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Emergency Task Unit (E.T.U.)



The Emergency Task Unit (ETU) is a fully operational Hostage Rescue Unit, capable of all functions from Perimeter Control and Containment to Hostage Rescue tactics. As an accredited Hostage Rescue Team, the ETU is comprised of two Sergeants and twelve Constables. The ETU is supported by other Emergency Services Units that come together to form the Tactical Support Group (TSG). These members provide the “Force Multipliers” that permit the ETU to be capable of completing its mission.

The ETU responds to hostage takings, barricaded persons, high-risk warrant service, building and area searches, high risk canine tracks, emotionally disturbed person calls, dignitary security, witness protection, high-risk court security, search and rescue of missing / vulnerable persons, and other duties as assigned. A highly trained and disciplined team is required to provide this specialized support. To provide a greater support for front line officers, ETU members will perform patrol duties when not engaged in tactical support operations, training, or special assignments.

The ETU is a specialized support unit with a broad mandate that assists and augments all operational areas within the Niagara Regional Police Service. In 2015 the ETU continued to provide significant support directly to the front line on its night shift rotation through redeployment. When required the unit also assists the Training Unit by providing firearms and use of force instructors. The Emergency Task Unit responded to 113 requests for its services throughout 2015. This total includes non-tactical type operations for which the ETU is responsible; such as VIP security, high risk escorts, and missing persons - search & rescue operations. In addition, ETU members responded to containment or tactical calls for service as an Immediate Response Team (IRT) in circumstances that did not necessarily require a full team response.

Other highlights:

- High risk arrest of homicide suspect for the Fraser murder – January 2015.

- VIP security for Prime Minister Harper – January 2015.
- High risk arrests for St Catharines home invasion suspects who shot at police – May 2015.
- High risk warrant service as part of Project OPHOENIX which targeted organized crime in the GTA – June 2015.
- Provided security and tactical response throughout Region for Pan Am Games – July 2015.
- VIP security for several Canadian Party Leaders during the 2015 federal election.
- High risk arrest of a male who pointed a firearm at uniform officers responding to a domestic dispute – September 2015.
- High risk arrest of male in Fenwick who shot two uniform officers during shoot-out with police – October 2015.
- High risk arrest of male in Port Colborne wanted for numerous armed robberies with three loaded firearms readily at hand – November 2015.

E.T.U. Calls for Service in 2015

VIP	Warrants	Armed/ Barricaded Persons	Searches Missing Persons / Evidence	Court Security / Escorts	High Risk Arrests	High Risk K9 Track	Other (i.e., Pan Am Games)	Total
5	20	12	30	3	19	2	22	113





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Explosives Disposal Unit

The Explosives Disposal Unit is trained and equipped to render safe improvised chemical, biological, radiological and explosive devices (CBRNE), military ordnance, and provide technical support to the Emergency Task Unit. Additionally, the EDU provides specialized investigative support to other units, as well as consults and educates Service and Community Organizations in matters relating to explosives and bomb threat procedures. In 2015 the EDU responded to 37 events and participated in 12 community functions.

The Unit consists of five part-time members who are certified by the Canadian Police College in bomb/explosive ordnance disposal, electronics disruption, Explosive Forced Entry (EFE), Improvised Explosive Device (IED) identification, and post blast scene investigation. Members participate in monthly local training and attend courses and workshops for advanced and recertification training with other Explosive Disposal Units. In 2015 each Explosives Technician participated in an average of 25 days of training scenarios and operational deployment resulting in an increase in individual and unit skill set which has translated to a more efficient and safe resolution of serious incidents.

In 2015, the Explosive Disposal Unit was responsible for implementing a Hazardous Materials (HazMat) response program; 25 members of the Service were trained to HazMat Technician level and 15 were trained to Operations Plus level. This group of newly trained members includes the entire EDU as well as members of the Emergency Task Unit, Tactical Support Group, Forensic Services Unit, and Intelligence Unit.

Explosive Disposal Unit Calls for Service						
Chemical/Biological	Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	Suspicious Package	Found Explosives	Hoax/Threats	Military Ordnance Fireworks	Other
1	2	7	3	1	6	17

Canine Unit



On September 5, 2015, eight year old Police Service Dog Vesta was diagnosed with cancer. Only three days later she had to be euthanized due to her rapidly deteriorating condition. She was the loyal canine partner of Sergeant Scott Johnstone for six years.

The Canine Unit is a full time unit consisting of one sergeant and six constables. The Unit maintains seven general purpose police dogs, five of which are cross trained in narcotics detection and one cross trained in explosives detection. The Unit for 2015 also had two dedicated explosives detection dogs, which were kept very busy conducting sweeps leading up to the Pan Am games. The Canine Unit provides support to front-line officers and investigators and maintained 100% night-shift coverage last year.

Calls for Police Service dogs	1,176
Number of times canines used	613
Non-K-9 calls	723
K-9 successes	81
Arrest	70
Support apprehensions	76

Breakdown of Police Service Dog Usage

Calls for patrol dogs	540
Calls for narcotics detection	66
Calls for explosives detection	7

Breakdown of Patrol Dog Calls

Tracks	363
Open searches	25
Building searches	65
Article searches	39



In 2015 the Canine Unit completed spring and fall re-certification training for 17 dog teams from Ontario and New York State. The spring of 2015 also saw the Unit complete a Basic Canine Course for two dog teams, one from Buffalo, New York and one from Lockport, New York.

Special Investigative Services (S.I.S.)

The Niagara Regional Police Special Investigative Services (S.I.S.) unit deploys 30 sworn officers, 1 civilian analyst and 1 civilian clerk. All unit members have extensive investigative backgrounds. The Unit is responsible for high level drug and organized crime investigations along with extremism and cross border issues. In 2014 the Unit has underwent several changes in regards to staffing pressures. This has resulted in reduced staffing and partnerships. The Special Investigative Services unit remains a highly experienced, hardworking unit dedicated to the goals of the Police Service.

The unit is comprised of a Guns Gangs and Grows unit, Intelligence unit, Mobile Surveillance unit, Morality unit and the Provincial Anti-Violence Intervention team (P.A.V.I.S.). Several officers are deployed to Joint Forces Operations including, Biker Enforcement (O.P.P.), Provincial Weapons Enforcement (O.P.P.), Provincial Anti-Terrorism Investigations (O.P.P., R.C.M.P.) and the Border Enforcement Security Task Force (Canadian and American Authorities). One officer is also assigned to the Prescription Unit. Another officer is the Covert Asset Manager. Several high profile investigations and one major Project took place in 2015.

The following is a general overview of the combined activities of the Special Investigative Services Unit for the year 2015.

Project Bluenose

Project Bluenose was a drug investigation into the activities of a group of Niagara area males involved in the cocaine trade. Through various investigational techniques, police gathered sufficient evidence in a short period of time. The project was led by members of the Morality Unit but each officer within Special Investigative Services had a role in this project.

The takedown of Project Bluenose was executed at 6:00 am on July 9th, 2015. The operation included 100 officers from various police services in Southern Ontario including two tactical entries by tactical teams from Niagara. Fifteen locations in Niagara and Toronto were searched and 12 persons

were charged as a result of the Project. Various charges including trafficking cocaine were laid in this matter

Seizures as a result of the project included but not limited to:

- \$81,782 cash
- \$56,000 worth of cocaine
- \$15,000 worth of various other narcotics
- 3 Suitcases containing 36 bags of white powder (52,131.5 grams) (tested as Caffeine, Lidocaine, and Phenacetin) commonly used as cutting agent in the resale of cocaine.
- 2012 Harley Davidson Motor Cycle, 2015 Dodge Ram Pick Up Truck, 2015 Dodge Ram Pick Up Truck, 2003 Honda Accord and a 2015 Toyota Yaris



**Sampling of
Seizures
from Project
Bluenose**

Guns, Gangs and Grows

In 2015, the Guns, Gangs and Grow Unit continued with enforcement of marihuana grow operations within the Region of Niagara. The unit also conducted probes into the large scale trafficking of Marihuana in the Niagara Region and beyond. The unit executed a total of 54 search warrants that resulted in the seizure of processed marihuana, marihuana plants, weapons, cash and various other narcotics. This unit was also involved, for part of the year, in Project Bluenose.

The unit conducted 47 separate investigations into the production and trafficking of marihuana that resulted in 43 suspect arrests and the laying of 135 charges under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* and *Criminal Code of Canada*.

Consistent with their mandate the Guns Gangs and Grow unit seized 5,876 marihuana plants in various stages of growth worth an estimated 5.8 million dollars. Also seized during these investigations was \$ 1.07 million worth of dried, ready for sale, marihuana.

During these investigations, various other illegal drugs worth an estimated \$12,000 were also seized. This included seizures of Cannabis Resin, MDMA, cocaine and prescription pills. Also seized during 2015 was \$30,000 cash suspected of being proceeds of crime, 16 firearms including rifles, shotguns and two handguns.

Crooks Street, Fort Erie

On March 17th, 2015 Members of the Guns, Gangs and Grow Unit executed a *Controlled Drugs and Substance Act* search warrant at Crooks Street in Fort Erie. Police seized codeine pills, 81 oxycodone pills, 3.5 grams of cocaine and 15 grams of marijuana. Various weapons including 2 switchblades, 2 brass knuckles, 4 stun guns, 10 shotguns, 12 gauge shotgun and a Tec 9mm rifle with numerous rounds of ammunition were also seized. A large sum of Canadian currency was also confiscated during the search. Two Fort Erie residents faced numerous charges as a result of this investigation.



St. Michael Avenue, Niagara Falls



In April of 2015 a *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* search warrant was executed by police at St. Michael Avenue, Niagara Falls. Upon entering and searching the residence, police observed two active marihuana grow rooms in the basement of the residence. In the first grow room police located a total of 98 marihuana plants. The marihuana plants were approximately two to three feet in height. In second room

police located a total of 51 marihuana plants which were approximately two to three feet in height. The estimated street value of the seized marihuana was \$149,000. A Niagara Falls resident was charged as a result of this investigation.

Lakeshore Road, Niagara on the Lake, Ontario

In September of 2015 members of the Guns, Gangs and Grows Unit commenced an investigation into a large outdoor marihuana grow operation at Lakeshore Road in the Township of Niagara on the Lake. This location is the site of a legal medical marihuana grows operation with four separate licenses. Information indicated that the licensees were not complying with the conditions of the license.

Following the execution of a search warrant, members of the Guns, Gangs and Grow Unit seized a total of 843 marihuana plants ranging in height from 4 feet to 8 feet (Estimated value \$843,000). 11 people were arrested as a result of this investigation.



Guns, Gangs and Grow Unit by Year

Year	Grow Investigations	Plants seized
2011	51	10,215
2012	108	17,385
2013	174	7,714
2014	109	3,726
2015	56	5,876

Intelligence Unit

The Criminal Intelligence Unit is comprised of members of the Niagara Regional Police Service who develop and collect information regarding organized criminal activity in the Niagara Region. These members work with other Criminal Intelligence Units with other law enforcement agencies to ensure that this process is timely and effective. There is a criminal analyst attached to this unit, who among other duties is responsible for the collection, collation and distribution of crime trends and patterns in the Niagara Region.

This Unit is responsible for the monitoring and investigation of various organized crime groups and extremism groups. The unit works hand in hand with law enforcement agencies across Ontario and New York State and is responsible for information sharing on criminal matters not only locally but nationally and internationally. This unit is also responsible for the investigation of Hate Crime and the administration of the Witness Protection program.

This Unit is also responsible for the technical aspect of Intelligence operations including the interception of private communications under Part VI of the Criminal Code of Canada.

Members of this Unit were the lead on Project Roadmaster in 2014 and have led the prosecution of that matter into 2016. Members of this unit were also in several other sensitive investigative projects through the year within the Region of Niagara and elsewhere in the Province of Ontario.

Mobile Surveillance Unit

The Niagara Regional Police Service Mobile Surveillance Unit is a six person team that is a support mechanism for all investigations conducted within Special Investigation Services. The Unit also supports major investigations conducted by Investigative Services and Divisional Detective Services.

The unit is responsible for supporting major projects from Homicide investigations to organized crime probes. On a regular basis the Mobile Surveillance unit assists with divisional investigations in each area of Niagara. Members of this Unit are also responsible for instruction of surveillance techniques to officers in Niagara and are part of the surveillance training team at the Ontario Police College.

Morality Unit

The Morality Unit is responsible for mid to high level Drug investigations within the Niagara Region and elsewhere in Ontario. They work hand in hand with District Detectives on a number of investigations and also assist and work with other drug squads around the province. Members of this Unit are also responsible for the investigation of Human Trafficking within Niagara and work alongside their provincial partners combatting this issue.

The Unit's expertise was utilized to great lengths during Project Bluenose and they were the lead unit within S.I.S. for that project. Each officer is highly skilled in narcotics investigations and specifically skilled in the drafting of judicial authorizations in support of investigations.

P.A.V.I.S. Unit

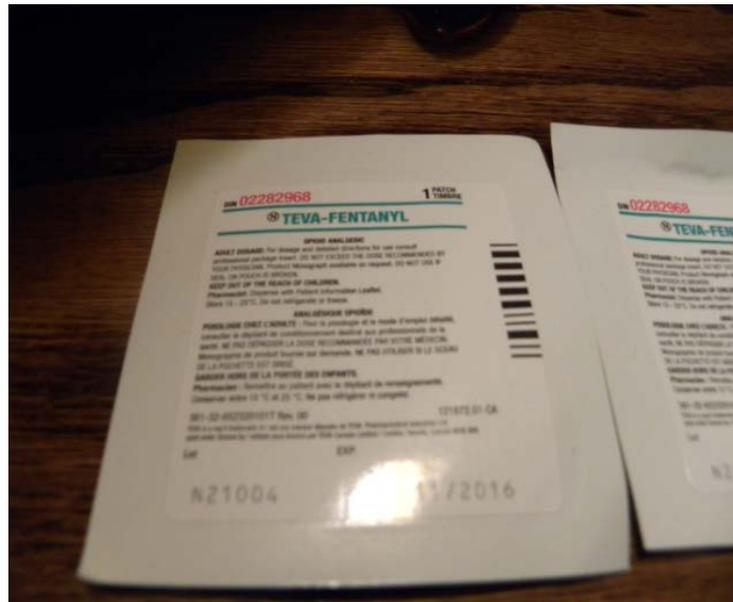
PAVIS (Provincial Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy) is a multi-agency police initiative funded by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. The Niagara Regional Police Service has been a part of this initiative since 2007.

One of the goals of this initiative is to take a more aggressive approach to the issues that arise locally as a result of the proliferation of street gangs. The Unit's main focus is to curtail the activities of local street gangs through enforcement of criminal and drug laws and education of the public regarding downfalls of gang membership and activity.

Efforts to achieve these goals include programs to educate the community, particularly school aged youth with regards to street gang activity. The Niagara PAVIS Unit has formed partnerships with Community interest groups, school boards, the Canadian Border Services Agency, the Crown Attorney's office along with the local Probation offices.

The Niagara PAVIS Unit's focused mandate includes reducing illegal drug and weapons activities in the Region through intervention, prevention, enforcement and community mobilization and partnership.

With the proliferation of the illegal use of Fentanyl in this region, the PAVIS unit has taken on a lead role in the enforcement of laws regarding the possession and use of this dangerous narcotic. In 2015, several successful investigations resulted in the seizure of fentanyl and multiple charges against several persons.



2015 PAVIS Enforcement at a Glance

PAVIS Investigations	26
Criminal Arrest	41
Charge Laid	125
Search Warrants Executed	19
Gang Members Identified	12
Drug Seizures Total value	\$171,991
Drug related cash seizures	\$149,000

Weapons seized

Handguns	1
Rifle/Shotgun	4
Edged Weapons	3
Other	7

The P.A.V.I.S. unit was also responsible for four community outreach programs along with three partnerships with various area groups residing a wide array of community initiatives.

Prescription Unit

The Niagara Regional Police Service has established a Prescription Unit whose specific mandate is to enforce the escalating problems that have been found to be associated to Oxycodone and other synthetic opiates. The Unit concentrates on the misuse of prescriptions, double doctoring, prescription forgery and unlawful drug trafficking of what are commonly known as prescription pain medication.

The officer assigned to the unit is responsible for the very successful Prescription Take Back day. This initiative is conducted annually in cooperation with the Niagara Public Health Department. During this year's Take Back day in conjunction with the PAVIS unit, 97 kilograms of prescription pills were recovered and destroyed.

Joint Forces Operations



Biker Enforcement Unit - BEU

The Biker Enforcement Unit is an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation comprised of 17 law enforcement agencies including the Niagara Regional Police Service. The BEU is committed to investigating and disrupting the organized criminal activities of Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs through shared policing expertise throughout the Province of Ontario. The main objective of this unit is to monitor the activities and movements of outlaw motorcycle gang members within the Niagara Region and to enforce applicable laws when necessary in regards to any illegal activity of gang members and associates.

There currently is no Niagara chapter of the Hells Angels as a result of the arrests made during Project Tandem (2007) and other successful prosecutions involving area gang members in the past 5 years. The Niagara member seconded to the Provincial BEU unit was involved in several high profile investigations across Ontario and locally in Niagara in 2015.

Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit - PWEU

PWEU is an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation made up of 14 law enforcement agencies including the Niagara Regional Police Service. The mandate of the Unit is to identify persons involved in the illegal movement of firearms and to take enforcement action. This includes the offences of smuggling, trafficking and possession of “crime guns”. Many “crime guns” found or used in the commission of offences have their origins in the United States and PWEU has established a strong working relationship with their American counterparts.

Court Services



Court Services is committed to developing and implementing new strategies to ensure high standards are met in relation to prisoner custody and care and quality preparation and presentation of Criminal Cases in the Niagara Region.

Court Services is a rapidly growing, diversified and multi-faceted Unit is responsible for the intake of arrested individuals into our Central Holding Facility, Audit of Police Reports, courthouse security, prisoner transport to and from other detention centres.

The Court Services Unit is comprised of 37 full time Police Officers, 58 full time Special Constables, 19 Civilian Support Staff, and 20 available temporary Special Constables. Officers assigned

to Court Services Unit have duties that include prisoner escorts, wanted person apprehension and detention, court security for bail hearings, trials, and other court sittings where there is the potential of disruptive behavior (physical, emotional and mental). The administrative aspect of Court Services provides for the management and maintenance of all the crown brief folders and further provides general assistance to the Crown Attorneys assigned to the Niagara Region.

Court Services expanded in May 2014 with the implementation of the Quality Assurance / Central Holding Unit which incorporated some of the best practices currently being offered by other Services throughout the Province. Until the New Headquarters and 2 District Facility is completed in 2016, Number 1 District St. Catharines has been designated as the primary Central Holding Facility and receives all prisoners throughout the Region. The Officer-in-Charge of the Central Holding Facility and the Quality Assurance Sergeant are responsible for the care and control of all prisoners brought into custody at the facility and for the quality, preparation and approval of all Crown Briefs throughout the Region

Prisoner Handling has the primary duty of escorting prisoners from the Central Holding Facility and Detention Centre's to the courtrooms in the Niagara Region. With innovative concepts and the implementation of new strategies such as the Central Holding / Quality Assurance Unit, Court Services has seen the number of persons brought into custody reduced by reduced by 29.5%. Innovative processes developed in conjunction with the Crown Attorneys and our local Judiciary, allow for more out of custody releases by front line officers before the Bail process begins. This has resulted in a 24.3% reduction in persons being sent to the Robert S.K. Welch Courthouse for Bail Hearings.

Court Services is responsible for court security at six court facilities located in St. Catharines, Niagara Falls, Welland and Fort Erie with a total of 23 courtrooms.



T. Majuery

CIVIL COUNTER SERVICES

SUPERIOR COURT DOCUMENTS

Public Complaints

The **Professional Standards Unit** serves to protect both the integrity of the Niagara Regional Police Service and the reputation of the Office of the Chief of Police by conducting thorough and objective investigations into complaints originating from the Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD). Complaints forwarded from the OIPRD can pertain to organizational policies, the services provided, and alleged member misconduct. In addition, the Professional Standards Unit, which is comprised of an Inspector, a Staff Sergeant, four Detective Sergeants and an Administrative Assistant, is responsible for the investigation of internal complaints of workplace harassment and violence.

Type of Complaint	2014	2015
Other – No investigation conducted as per the decision of the OIPRD – Not in the public interest, complaint more than 6 months old, frivolous/vexatious, no PSA breach.	44	43
Withdrawn	12	11
Customer Service Resolution (Before investigation)	--	2
Informal Resolution (During investigation)	--	2
Unsubstantiated Complaints (Following investigation)	29	16
Substantiated Complaints (Following investigation)	2	5
Pending / Open Investigations at Year-End	--	6
Total Public Complaints	87	85
Complaint to Officer Ratio	1:8.1	1:8.3

Substantiated Complaint Resolutions	2014	2015
No Further Action	1	--
Action Taken	--	2
Informal Resolution / Discipline	1	2
Disposition without a Hearing	0	0
Disciplinary Hearing	--	1





Recruiting

The Recruiting Unit is comprised of one Sergeant, two Constables and a civilian member shared with Career Development. During the summer months the Unit also utilizes members from the Training Unit and School Resource Officers (SRO's) who are trained in the process. Background investigations are sourced out to Detectives throughout the Service by the Staff Sergeant in charge of the Policing Standards Unit. This process is in place to avoid any potential for recruiting bias.

In 2015, the Niagara Regional Police Service Recruiting Unit continued to utilize the Constable Selection System (CSS). The Unit strives to hire the best candidates possible from both the currently serving applicants and new first time recruits, and the recruiting process is managed via the rules and regulations set-out by the OACP. For the 2015 calendar year, there were 22 total hires, 17 of which were "new" hires, and 5 were currently serving officers. 22% percent of the hires in 2015 were of a visible minority or female.

The Niagara Regional Police Service, represented by the Recruiting Unit, was nominated by Pride Niagara for the Unity award in 2015 for promoting positive relations and engagement within the LGBT community. The Unit has participated in the Pride in the Park festivities as well as "OUT formation-job fair", and supported all community Pride

Niagara events.

In 2015 the Unit started to work with Brock University Athletics Department presenting information sessions to athletes. The Recruiting Unit is looking to promote the career of law enforcement as a team first environment, high energy profession suited to varsity athletes. The information session also helped to introduce the career to several students that had not thought about becoming a police officer. Diversity is a goal of the Unit and the Niagara Regional Police Service continues to strive towards a police service that represents the community.

The Recruiting Unit continued to work with both Brock University and Niagara College through job fairs, ride along opportunities and specific mentorship programs. The Unit interviews and completes background checks on candidates from both the Niagara College ride-along program and the Brock University mentorship program. The ride along program enters its 17th year and provides a chance for Police Foundations students to observe the role of the front line uniform patrol officer. The Brock University mentorship program entered its 4th year and these students are exposed to several areas of the service. The 3rd and 4th year students spend time with the Training Unit, K9 Unit, Communications Unit and the Court Unit.



Budget Overview

Budgeted vs. Actual Expenditures

Expenditure	Budgeted	Actual
Personnel Costs	134,135,491	134,667,059
Materials, Supplies & Utilities	5,142,710	4,905,090
Other Operating Expenditures	2,791,900	2,873,084
Repairs & Maintenance	2,205,443	2,233,065
Administrative Expenses	1,682,845	1,592,543
Capital Equipment & Renovations	384,258	195,300
Financial Expenditures	4,000	4,407
Regional Chargebacks	(1,107,781)	(1,202,109)
Net Transfers to Reserves	5,525,550	5,984,809
Total Gross Expenditure	150,764,416	151,253,248

Budget vs. Actual Recoveries and Revenue

Recovery or Revenue Description	Budgeted	Actual
Fees & Service Charges	7,158,390	7,674,651
Ontario/Canada Grants	7,504,609	7,322,647
Other Revenue	1,737,984	1,892,517
Total Recoveries and Revenues	16,400,983	16,889,815

Budgeted vs. Actual Cost of Policing

Budgeted	Actual Cost
134,363,433	134,363,433

Approximately 96-98% of the Service's actual expenditure in 2015 was directly associated with personnel costs.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Unit continues to support the Service in providing quality policing services to the residents and visitors of the Niagara Region.

In 2015, the Unit focused on the implementation of a new Attendance Management Program. Together with this, the NRP Wellness Program delivered opportunities for members to participate in activities which promote the development of a healthy mind and body, work life balance and family connections.

Planning for the transition to the new Headquarters in 2016 continued during 2015 with the further elimination of a number of administrative positions. The HR Unit made a significant impact on the transition itself by archiving paper records which have been housed in the current facility for several years

2015 Total Hires	
Uniform	22
Civilian	12

2015 Retirements and Resignations			
Superintendent	2	Senior Civilian	1
Inspector	1	Civilian	8
Staff Sergeant	4		
Sergeant	7		
Constable	13		
Total	27	Total	9

2015 Authorized Strength	
Uniform	
Chief of Police	1
Deputy Chief of Police	2
Superintendent	4
Inspector	14
Staff Sergeant	29
Sergeant	112
Constable	540
Total Uniform (69%)	702
Civilian	
Director	2
Managers	11
Civilian Personnel (includes all Special Constables, subject matter specialists, technical and administrative positions)	295
Total Civilian (31%)	308



Command Staff

Chief Jeff McGuire, M.O.M.

Deputy Chief Joe Matthews, M.O.M.
Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch

Senior Officers

Superintendents

Superintendent Des Carter
Superintendent Brett Flynn
Superintendent Scott McLean
Superintendent Geoffrey Skaftfeld

Inspectors

Inspector George Bench
Inspector Christopher Cincio
Inspector Shawn Dowd
Inspector Richard Frayne
Inspector Joseph Garvey
Inspector Pat McCauley
Inspector James McCaffery
Inspector Mark McMullen
Inspector John Sawicki
Inspector James Prinsen
Inspector Cindy White

Directors

Akram Askoul
Lisa DiDonato-DeChellis

Managers

Carol Berry
Paul Divers
Chris Fisher
Gary Holden
Linda Jerome
Laura Rullo
Jamie Saunders
Cathy Tucker

Exemplary Service Awards

Police Services Board Award of Excellence

Inspector Richard Frayne Auxiliary Inspector Bruce Dressel

Police Services Board Commendations

Jeffrey Miller Allan Simmons Paul Simons

Chief of Police Award

Project Roadmaster

Staff Sergeant Shawn Clarkson	Staff Sergeant Dave Gomez
Staff Sergeant Luigi Greco	Detective Sergeant Ray Aceti
Detective Sergeant Mike Adamczyk	Detective Sergeant Brett Atamanyk
Retired Sergeant Steve Bickell	Detective Sergeant Todd Claydon
Detective Sergeant Matthew Hodges	Detective Sergeant Chris Lemaich
Sergeant David Pierini	Detective Sergeant Sean Polly
Detective Sergeant Tony Rupnik	Sergeant Patrick Sandel
Detective Sergeant Todd Waselovich	Detective Constable Dan Borowski
Detective Constable Mike Carr	Detective Constable Chris Chirico
Detective Constable Bryce Diemer	Constable Ryan Diemer
Detective Constable Adam Franklin	Constable Brad Gerow
Detective Constable Jeff Goodman	Detective Constable Jay Howe
Detective Constable Ron Hrcak	Detective Constable David Klassen
Detective Constable George Knisley	Detective Constable Vito Lamascese
Detective Constable Jay Levasseur	Detective Constable Erin Madill
Detective Constable Ryan McComber	Detective Constable Chris Rawson
Detective Constable David Santo	Detective Constable Jeromie Sills
Detective Constable Rick Weasner	Catherine Klassen, CBSA
Mike D'Amico	Patricia Durocher
Shirley Valstar	

Chief of Police Award (Cont'd)

Marissa Whalen Homicide

Andrew Brown
Graeme Leach
Detective Staff Sergeant David Masotti
Detective Sergeant Lynda Hughes
Detective Sergeant Paul Thibert
Detective Constable Vito Lamascese

Tim Hill
Tyler Shuster
Detective Sergeant Michael Clark
Detective Sergeant Steve Magistrale
Detective Constable Lisa Isherwood

Chief of Police Commendation

Burgoyne Bridge Attempted Suicide

Constable Joseph Nardilli Constable Michel Rosato

Craigslist Investigation

Sergeant David Biggar

Eastchester Avenue Incident

Sergeant Jake Grant Constable Jordan Atkinson
Constable David Bozza Constable Claude Labrie
Constable Katherine Livingstone Constable Michael Malachowsky
Constable Mark Morneau Constable Drew Phillips
Constable Brent Sathmary Constable Gary Weinhandl

Toronto 2015 Pan Am / Parapan Am Games

Superintendent Brett Flynn Inspector Sandro D'Annunzio
Staff Sergeant Tim Carter Staff Sergeant Chris Healey
Sergeant Todd Lantz Constable Angelo Blancato
Detective Constable Ron Hrcak Constable James Taylor
Debrah Learn Anthe Tanasi
Shirley Valstar

Ammonia Gas Leak at Rich's Products

Kathleen Bath Jim Foulis Richard Kidd
Ken Winfield Vince Woodcox

Burgoyne Bridge Attempted Suicide Call

Sergeant Mike Spera Constable Mike Daniels Constable Virginia Moir
Constable Colin Pepperall Constable Bryan Veilleux



Police Services Board and Staff

Bob Gale, Chair
Andy Petrowski, Vice-Chair

Board Members

David Barrick
Terry Bonham
Ken Gansel
Robert Marshall
Vaughn Stewart

Board Staff

Deb Morton
Executive Director

Dawn Cichocki
Executive Assistant

Niagara Regional Police Service Chaplains

Father Brian Bevan
Reverend Clive Page
Reverend Jennifer Anderson
Reverend Gerard Power
Reverend Gary Page

East Main St. Bridge Attempted Suicide Call

Constable Daniel Bassi Constable Jake Braun

Auto Theft Investigation

Alan Gibson	Tom Jacob	Ian Knox
Staff Sergeant David Shennan	Sergeant Steven Boyd	Blake Smiley
Constable Keith Gauthier	Constable Jason Hodkin	Constable Paul LaSalle
Constable Sean Moore	Constable David Marynuik	
Constable Kevin Stanley	Constable Michael Keizerwaard	
Constable Joe D'Angelo	Constable David Marynuik	

Niagara Falls Assault

Constable Jennifer Gilby

Burgoyne Bridge Attempted Suicide

Constable Devon Sherry

Apartment Fire

Constable Michael Nelson

Backyard Pursuit

Constable Michael Brouwer

Forty Year Bar

Staff Sergeant Al DeRoche	Sergeant Robert Schottlander
Constable Mark Thompson	

Thirty Year Exemplary Service Bar

Superintendent Robert Wright	Sergeant Wayne Genders
Sergeant Scot Walker	Constable Michael Kelly
Constable Wayne Orcutt	

Twenty Year Exemplary Medal

Staff Sergeant Romolo Di Egidio	Sergeant Jacqueline Fuentes	Sergeant Jeffrey Latham
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Sergeant Jacqueline Moore
Sergeant Deborah Smart
Constable Vanessa Blair
Constable Lori Emick
Constable Michael Rowe

Sergeant Robert Moore
Sergeant Sandra Staniforth
Constable Joanne Carter
Constable Lauren Gore
Constable Michael Storozuk

Sergeant Neal Orlando
Sergeant Vincent Wong
Constable Ryan Diemer
Constable Arturo Quinonez

Police Officer of the Year Award

Executive Services Constable Barry Wills
Investigative Support Detective Sergeant Jamie Munro
Emergency Services Constable Robert Kroon
2 District, Niagara Falls Constable Jenn Gilby
5 District, Fort Erie Constable Jay Howe
8 District, Grimsby Constable Phil Sheldon
Traffic Safety Leadership Award Sergeant Mark Flegg
Community Policing Officer of the Year Award Constable Chad Davidson

Auxiliary Unit Auxiliary Constable Thomas Knight
Court Services/Quality Assurance Constable Peter Gonta
1 District, St. Catharines Constable Jeff Dam
3 District, Welland Constable Joshua Kalailieff
6 District, Port Colborne Constable Kelly Gerrie
Casino Patrol Unit Constable Lawrence Maney

Civilian Personnel Pins/Bars

30-Year Civilian Service Recognition

John Fischer Jane Kerr Timothy Shafley Dennis Tessmer Catherine Tracey Rhonda Young

Retirees

Superintendent Daniel D'Amico
Staff Sergeant Deborah Beaulieu
Staff Sergeant David Hunter
Sergeant Keri Harrison

Superintendent Robert Wright
Staff Sergeant Randall Bleich
Sergeant Richard Brouwer
Sergeant Ernest Pieneman

Inspector Sandro D'Annunzio
Staff Sergeant Al DeRoche
Sergeant Richard Ciszek

Civilian Member of the Year Award

Operational Services Joe Fragomeni **Support Services** Felicia Ethier

Telecommunicator of the Year Award

Bobbie Tarajos

Related Awards

James A. Gayder Award	Starlet Kemp
Media Award	Bill Sawchuk, St. Catharines Standard
Outstanding Service & Commitment Award	Dwight Penner Lauran Sabourin
IACP/Dupont Kevlar Survivors' Club Award	Constable Phil Sheldon
Constable Dale Racine Educational Bursary	Shanna T. Ingram, Fort Erie Secondary School Haleena B. Khan, Westlane Secondary School
Monika George Educational Bursary	Michaela Bodis, Lakeshore Catholic School
NENA (National Emergency Number Association) Memorial President's Award	Krista Neilson
OACP School Resource Officer Award of Excellence	Constable David Theissen



Detective Constable David Biggar (right)
with Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch (left).

ASIS International is a professional organization for security professionals, which annually recognizes the contributions of law enforcement and security practitioners.

On Thursday October 22, 2015, Detective Constable Dave Biggar received the Technological Crime Investigation Award for his dedication and initiative in a recent internet child exploitation investigation. Detective Biggar undertook a self-initiated project on 'Craigslit' to identify online predators. Detective Biggar developed an online personality of a 15-year-old boy and through online chatting he immediately identified one male suspect who was seeking a sexual encounter with a 15-year-old male. All the more troubling was the fact that Detective Biggar's investigation identified the suspect, a teaching assistant at local elementary high school with ties to Niagara politics. Through his perseverance and determination, Detective Biggar used his online persona to convince the suspect to meet at a pre-determined location and bring several sexually related items with him. The suspect was subsequently arrested and charged with several Internet Luring and Child Pornography offences.

Detective Biggar was formally recognized by the ASIS International Toronto Chapter for his unwavering commitment to protect children from online predators and for his knowledge, technological skills and devotion for investigating crimes that are perpetrated against our most vulnerable victims.

Corporate Communications

Media Relations Office



The creation of the **Corporate Communications and Community Engagement Unit** placed emphasis on the growing responsibilities of the Niagara Regional Police Service Media Relations Office. As a large complex organization, the Niagara Regional Police Service is aware of the need to expand ways to deliver key messages, share information and receive feedback from its members and the community at large. The NRPS Media Relations Office has focused its efforts on improving information delivery through the use of diverse and contemporary communication mediums.

Social Media

The Media Relations Office is responsible for maintaining and updating the Niagara Regional Police Service Facebook Account, @NiagRegPolice Twitter Account and the Niagara Regional Police website at www.niagarapolice.ca. In 2015, the Media Relations Office engaged the community by creating meaningful Facebook and Twitter posts relating to enforcement efforts, crime prevention, community partnerships and informational videos. The Media Relations Office grew its Facebook followers from 6,930 in December 2014 to 10,607 in December 2015. Likewise, the Media Relations Office increased its Twitter following from 7,448 in December 2014 to 10,957 in December 2015. The NRPS continues to grow its followers on Facebook and Twitter by an average of over 100 new followers per week. The use of Twitter and Facebook have allowed the NRPS to direct members of the community to the Niagara Regional Police Service website, providing the community with multiple outlets to learn more about safety and policing in the Niagara Region.

The introduction of **#WantedWednesday** in May 2015 provided the NRPS with the opportunity to connect with members of the community and request the assistance of the community to search for suspects wanted in local crimes. Members of the Media Relations Office continue to create valuable social media strategies to captivate the community and build rewarding relationships among members of the community and the NRPS.



2015 Service Directory



Headquarters

110 James Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 3C6
Tel. 905-688-4111

No. 1 District

68 Church Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 3C6
Tel. 905-688-4111

No. 2 District

4343 Morrison Street, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6Z9
Tel.: 905-688-4111

No. 3 District

5 Lincoln Street, Welland, ON L3C 5H9
Tel. 905-735-7811

No. 5 District

650 Gilmore Road, Fort Erie, ON L2A 5M4
Tel. 905-871-2300

No. 6 District

501 Fielden Avenue, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4T9
Tel. 905-735-7811

No. 8 District

45 Clarke Street, Grimsby, ON L3M 1Y5
Tel. 905-945-2211

Website

www.niagarapolice.ca

Headquarters and No. 2 District moving to our new facility in 2016

5700 Valley Way, Niagara Falls, ON, L2E 1X8

Tel. 905-688-4111



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