

2022



**MEDICINE HAT
POLICE SERVICE
ANNUAL REPORT**



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

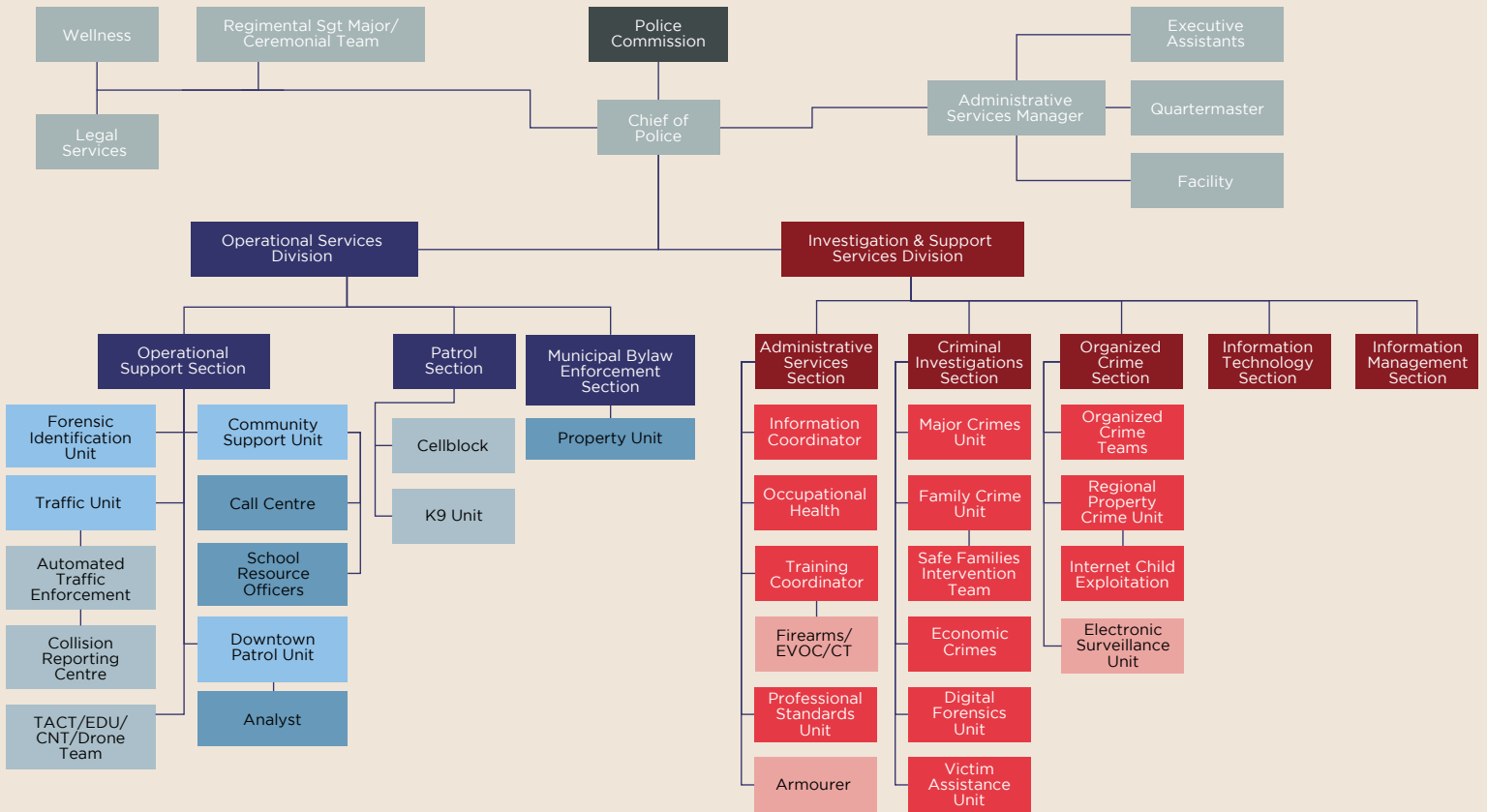


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OUR VISION

**IS TO OPTIMIZE THE SAFETY AND
SECURITY OF OUR COMMUNITY**

MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSION

It is my pleasure to bring you greetings on behalf of the Medicine Hat Police Commission (MHPC). We are proud to serve as representatives of the community, with a mandate to balance the requirements of public accountability with those of police independence.

Reflecting on the accomplishments of 2022, the Commission is grateful to and proud of the men and women of the Medicine Hat Police Service (MHPS) for their dedication and commitment to serving our community. Providing for community safety in a complex and everchanging society is difficult, but they rose to the task to ensure the safety and security of residents.

During 2022 the Police Commission was challenged with the resignation of the Chief of Police, and for seven months the MHPS operated with an Interim Chief. A highlight from the

year was the recruitment of Alan Murphy as the new Chief of Police and we welcome him and his family to Medicine Hat.

I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank Mr. Miles Thorson for his years of dedicated service to the community as a member of the MHPC and to welcome Ms. Sarah Scahill to the Commission in 2023. We look forward to serving you in the year ahead!



Mr. Ted Rodych *Chair,*
Medicine Hat Police Commission

From Left to Right: Chair Ted Rodych, Councillor Alison Van Dyke, Mr. Miles Thorson, Ms. Gwendoline Dirk, Mr. Marco Jansen, Councillor Shila Sharps, Vice Chair Terry Meidinger, Public Complaints Director Greg Keen



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



Over the past year, as the remaining COVID-19 health restrictions were lifted, the MHPS was able to resume normal operations. The commitment and professionalism of our staff during these challenging times was appreciated, as it ensured public safety and confidence in policing in our community.

The wellness of our staff and others in the community has been and will continue to be a focus for the MHPS. Over the past year, the challenge of meeting the complex needs of individuals suffering from mental health issues, addiction, and homelessness was evident, particularly in the downtown core. The MHPS Downtown Patrol Unit was integral to the community response, working with other agencies to address these concerns with a human-centered approach. Our partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Alberta Southeast Region for the award-winning Community Assisted Response (CARE) Team is also evidence of the transition to find new ways to approach the complex concerns of the most vulnerable in our community.

Throughout the past year the Service has continued to solicit input from the community through programs such as Coffee with a Cop, the MHPS Open House, and the Chief's Indigenous Advisory Committee. In September, a traditional Blackfoot naming ceremony was held in the MHPS Community Boardroom, during which the name "Aahkoinnimaan ni" was bestowed upon the community space to honour and acknowledge the Indigenous history of the land. The words translate as "the sacred pipe," a symbol of justice and peace that has a traditional role in the resolution of issues, and which is reflective of the role of the police service in the community.

In December I was honoured to be named as the 24th Chief of Police and I am committed to building upon the professional and progressive reputation for which this organization is already recognized.

Alan Murphy
Chief of Police

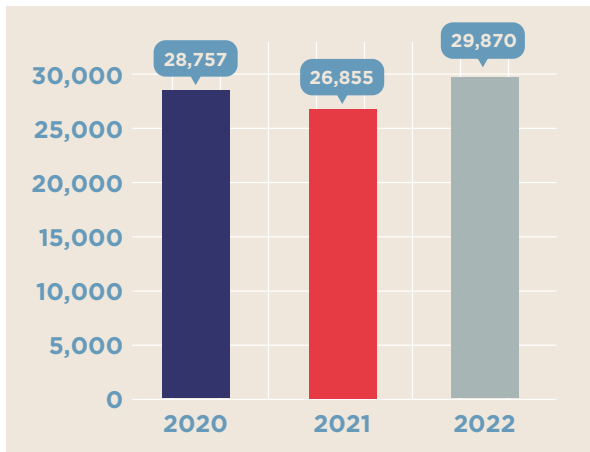


SERVING & PROTECTING

**OUR COMMUNITY WITH PRIDE
THROUGH PROFESSIONAL AND
PROGRESSIVE POLICING**

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

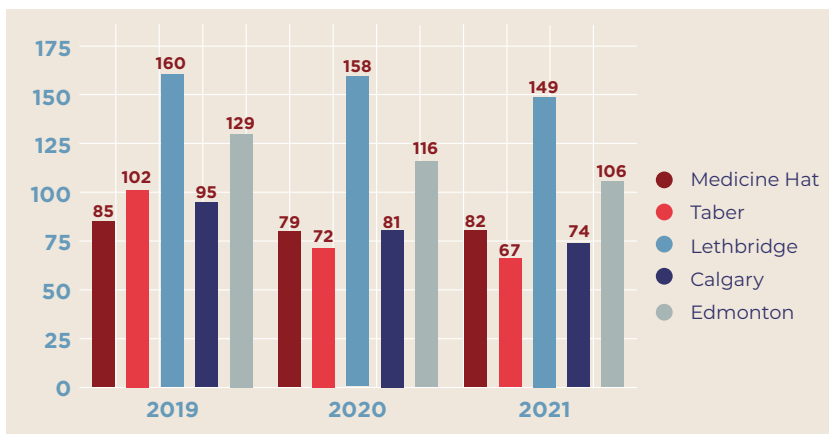
CALLS FOR SERVICE



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

CRIME SEVERITY INDEX

The crime severity index is calculated using incident-based Uniform Crime Reporting Survey (UCR2) data.



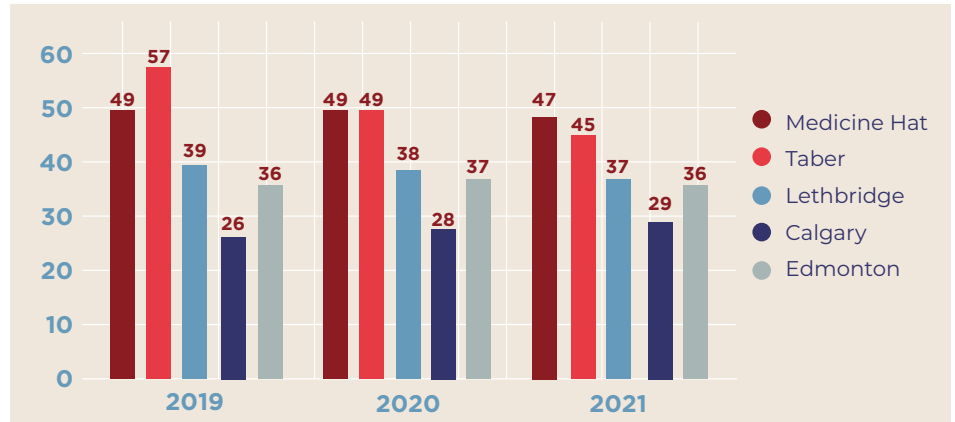
(Source: Statistics Canada CANSIM Table 252-0088)



PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

WEIGHTED CLEARANCE RATES

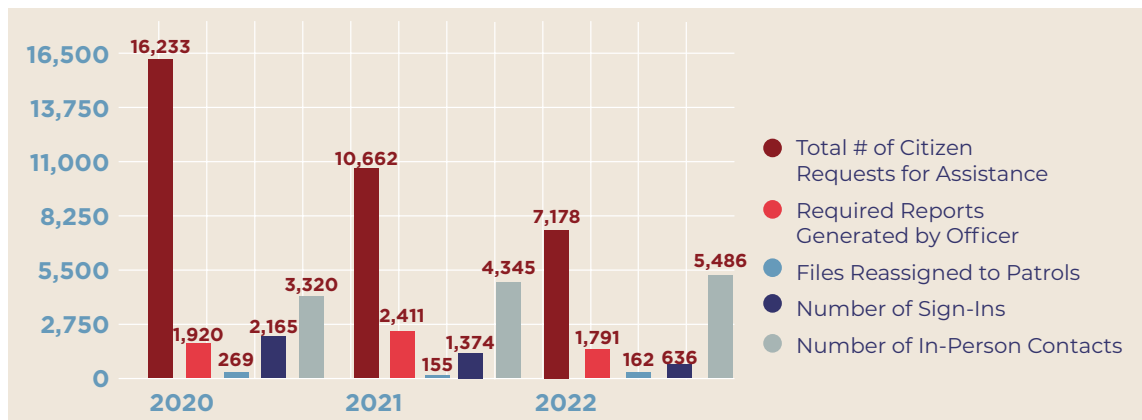
The weighted clearance rate is based on the same principles as the Police Reported Crime Severity Index (PRCSI), whereby more serious offences are assigned a higher “weight” than less serious offences. For example, the clearing of homicides, robberies, or break and enters would represent a greater contribution to the overall weighted clearance rate value than the clearing of minor thefts, mischief, or disturbing the peace.



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

COMMUNITY SUPPORT UNIT

The Community Support Unit includes the School Resource Officers (SRO) as well as the Call Centre (Front Desk Operations). The SRO's provided a full-time Constable in each of the three high schools again this year, and these officers also provide support to other schools throughout both school divisions. During the summer months, the SRO's provided support for the Call Centre, assisted Patrols, provided policing duties at the Canada Day Celebration and the Medicine Hat Exhibition and Stampede event, and made several public presentations. In 2022, there was an increase in investigations that led to criminal charges, an increase in tickets (specifically, for bullying-related offences), and an increase in mental health-related events amongst students. The Unit continued to lead the Encouraging Positive Informed Choices program, with officers teaching 106 lessons to Grades 4 and 6 classes and 38 lessons to Grades 7-12 classes.

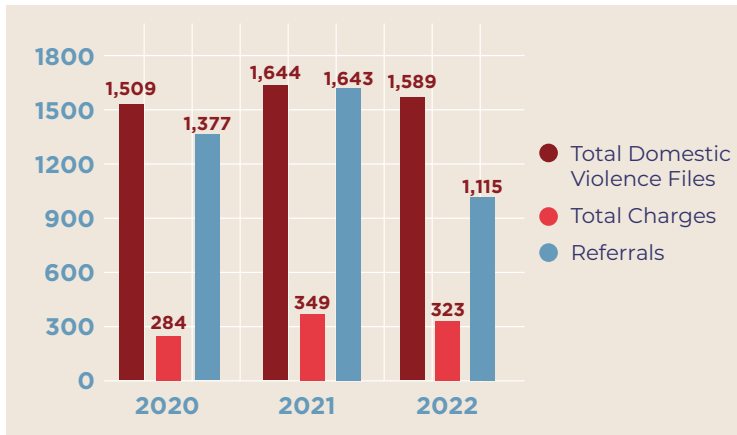


(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

PRIORITY #1

COMMUNITY SAFETY

SAFE FAMILIES INTERVENTION TEAM



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

The Safe Families Intervention Team (SFIT) is a partnership between the MHPS and the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society (MHWSS). The team provides a collaborative response, in partnership with support agencies, to assist families in dealing with incidents of family violence. SFIT strives to:

- Provide early identification and appropriate assessment(s) of families that may need family violence intervention referral service
- Reduce repeat domestic violence-related calls to MHPS
- Ensure that women, children, and men have access to services with MHWSS
- Provide the necessary resources, services, and referrals for families to establish healthy, violence-free relationships

SFIT meets weekly with community partners, including the Crown, Child and Family Services, Alberta Health Services, Probation, and Victim Assistance to coordinate services for families in need of support.

The team also delivers presentations on issues surrounding family violence to MHWSS staff and board members, as well as students enrolled in the policing program at Medicine Hat College.

During the month of November, Family Violence Prevention Month in Alberta, SFIT participates in several activities aimed at increasing awareness of the warning signs of family violence and the resources and supports available, including a purple ribbon campaign, webinars, and community presentations.

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

CLARE'S LAW APPLICATIONS

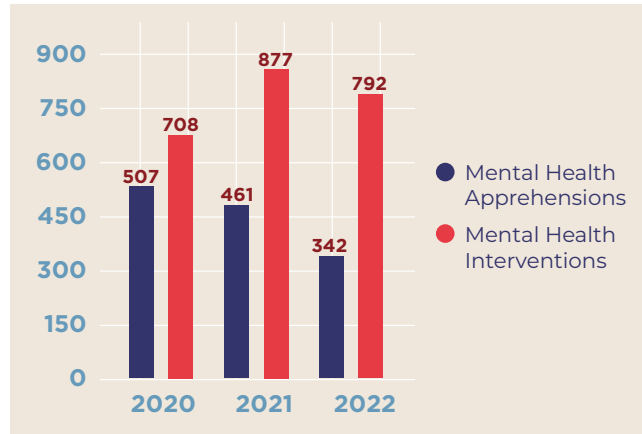
	2021	2022
Clare's Law Applications	13*	13

*Partial year (June to Dec)

In June 2021, the Disclosure to Protect Against Domestic Violence Act, commonly referred to as Clare's Law, came into effect in Alberta. The legislation outlines access to information that enables people to make informed choices about potentially harmful intimate partner relationships and is an important tool in protecting Albertans from domestic violence. It identifies an individual's right to ask for information regarding their current or former intimate partner's potential risk for domestic violence. In addition, it allows police officers to apply, through the Right to Know process, to proactively provide relevant information to an individual if they have reason to suspect that intimate partner violence is likely to occur.

The Clare's Law application is completed online by the applicant and is received by the provincial Clare's Law Coordinator (CLC). The CLC then forwards the application to the respective agencies, depending on information provided in the application. Each agency completes local system checks and then forwards their findings back to the CLC, who then completes comprehensive risk assessments and assembles a disclosure package. The respective agency then provides the disclosure package to the applicant. This process, from start to finish, can take anywhere from two weeks to three months, depending on the number of agencies involved, any difficulties contacting the applicant, etc.

MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION

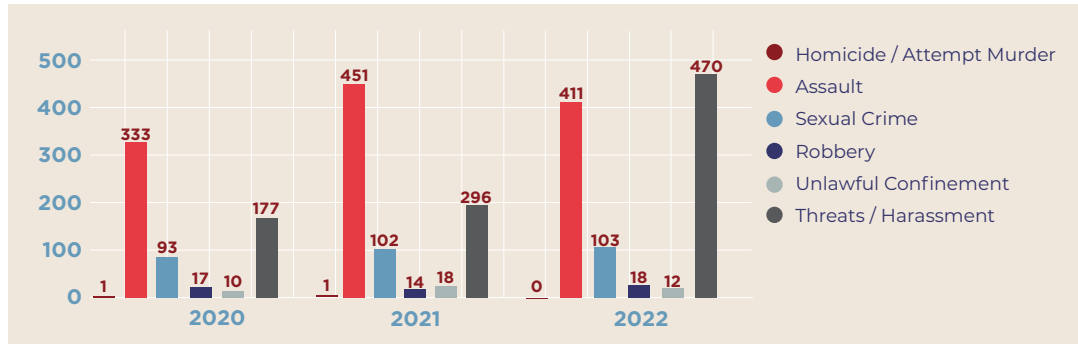


(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

In recent years there has been recognition of the need for trained clinicians to aid police in responding to mental health calls. In 2021, the MHPS conducted a review of annual mental health, "check on the well-being," and intoxicated persons call data and determined that approximately 43% of these calls could be directed to a low-risk crisis team. As a result, MHPS partnered with the local Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) and developed a model for a civilian response to "low risk" mental health, check on the well-being, and intoxicated persons calls for service. In 2022, CMHA received funding for a pilot project for the Medicine Hat Community Assistance Response Team (CARE).

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

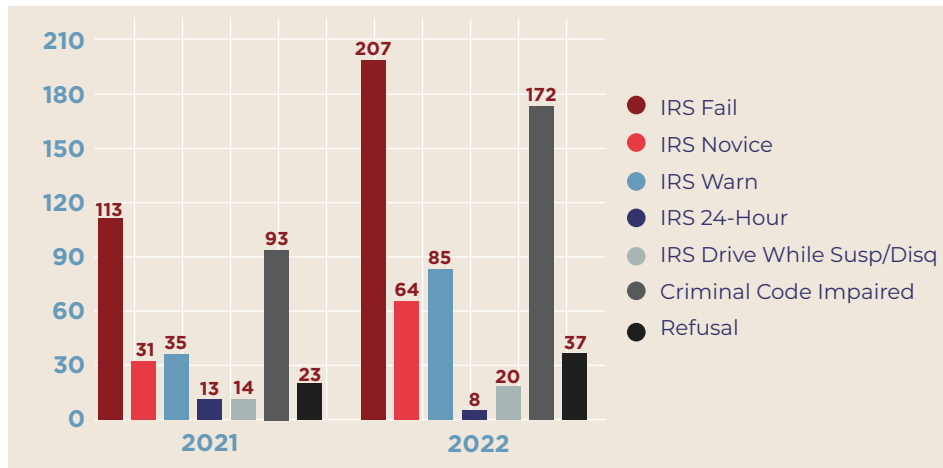
VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST PEOPLE



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

ROAD SAFETY

Due to resource issues, Traffic Unit members were assigned to Patrol Teams throughout the year as opposed to the usual structure of an independent unit. Although this impacted some enforcement activity, the Unit did an excellent job maintaining road safety programs and enforcing impaired driving.

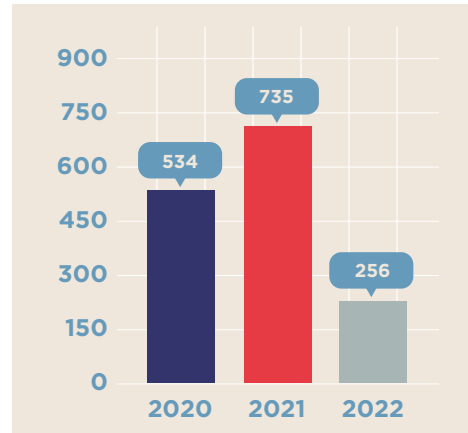


(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY



DISTRACTED DRIVING



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

DOWNTOWN PATROL UNIT

Community demands directed the Downtown Patrol Unit (DPU) to manage mostly social disorder issues resulting from mental health and addiction issues, in combination with many who refused housing resources. The DPU worked closely with Medicine Hat Community Housing and other partners, including the Chamber of Commerce, to implement strategies focused on enhancing safety and the feeling of safety in the downtown area. The Unit identified a sharp increase in unwanted guest complaints after the shutdown of a local problem house location in Riverside and was integral to addressing concerns with illegal encampments that emerged during the warmer seasons. DPU worked closely with Municipal Enforcement, Community Housing, and Municipal Works to address the needs of impacted individuals.

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

In 2022, new Automated Traffic Enforcement (ATE) guidelines came into effect. Changes included new criteria for ATE sites which required an audit process. All sites had to meet or exceed the following criteria and have those criteria proven with comparison data:

- Higher frequency of collisions
- Higher frequency of speeding
- Higher frequency of intersection contraventions (i.e., failing to stop at a red light or stop sign)
- Designated zone (a school/playground zone or construction zone)

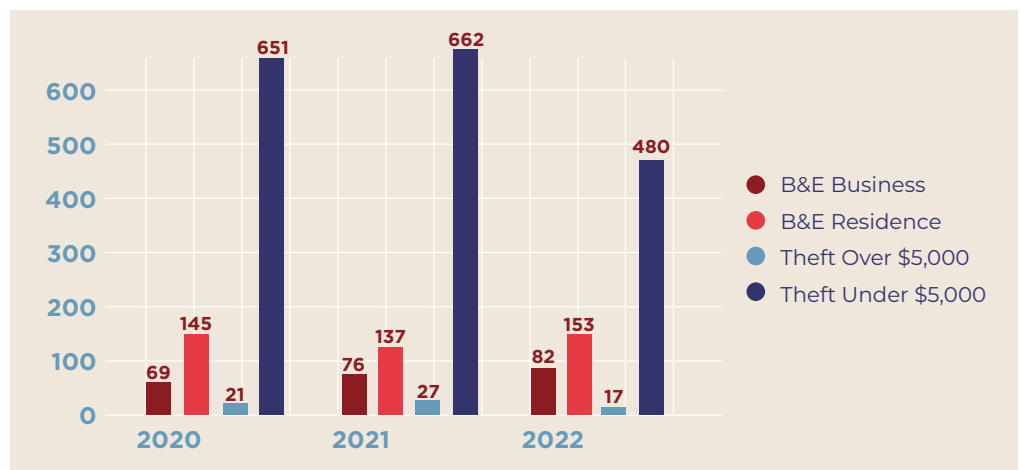
The pre-audit radar sites consisted of 84 designated sites (playground/school) and 62 non-designated photo radar sites (regular sites) for a total of 146 sites. The audit resulted in 17 sites being removed. The guidelines also include a rigorous and complex reporting process, as well as requirements for increasing the visibility of ATE equipment. Equipment visibility will be further enhanced in 2023.

	2020	2021	2022
Vehicles Monitored	682,536	660,908	463,740
Violations Issued	17,675	20,943	17,759
Average Speed over Limit	14 km/hr	14 km/hr	14 km/hr
Number of Sites Monitored	150	153	139
Hours Monitored	4,855	4,722	3,497

(Source: MHPS Records Management System)



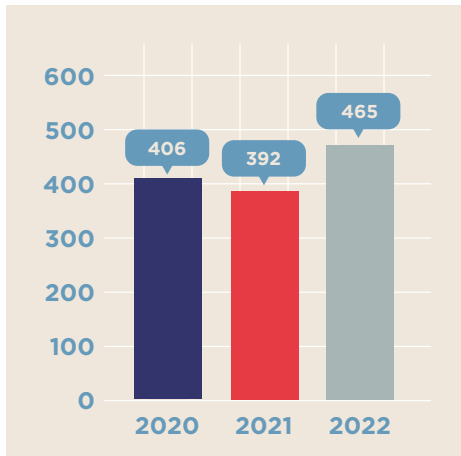
PROPERTY OFFENCES



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

FRAUD CALLS FOR SERVICE



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

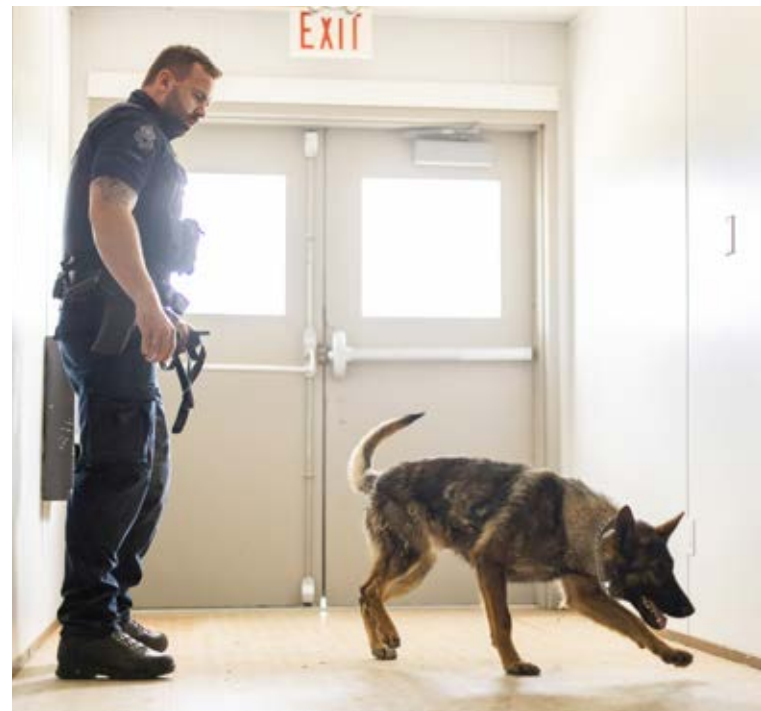
In 2022, there were about 465 fraud calls for service investigated by Police, an increase of 19% from the previous year. The most common types of fraud reported included online transactions, mass marketing, taxi and cheque frauds which accounted for 311 of the 465 investigations. The number of unreported attempted frauds is estimated to be substantially higher.

Locally, Medicine Hat residents lost over \$2 million dollars to fraud. The MHPS were able to make about 10 % in recoveries through fraud investigations, recovering over \$217,000. One of the more common and potentially highyield scams is investment fraud. Cryptocurrency scams are a growing trend that take advantage of the fact that most people have little knowledge and understanding of the new currency. The MHPS works diligently to inform, disrupt, and prevent these and many other scams from victimizing citizens in the community.

CANINE UNIT

	2020	2021	2022
Total Deployments	124	112	102
Apprehension - No Contact	13	15	13
Apprehension - Contact Injury	1	1	2
Track w/o Apprehension	18	13	13
Evidence Find	10	4	2
Drug Find	0	2	0
Community Engagement	2	10	10

(Source: MHPS Records Management System)



PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY



MUNICIPAL BYLAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION

	2020	2021	2022
Animal Control	1,456	1,309	1,333
Road Safety	1,191	1,200	1,250
Noise	930	693	188
Property Standards	637	615	595
Found Property	712	830	644
Officer-Initiated Calls	503	289	425
Homeless Encampments	n/a	n/a	47
Aggressive Dog Calls	119	106	63
Fingerprints	1,185	1,361	1,146
Document Services	n/a	998	922
Total Calls	4,548	5,142	4,770

(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

ORGANIZED CRIME SECTION

	2020	2021	2022
Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking	126	71	51
Trafficking	53	18	9
Production	0	1	0
Simple Possession	163	128	39
Proceeds of Crime	36	29	16
Criminal Code Offences	362	222	147
Weapon Seized from CDSA Investigations	110	67	31
Firearms Seized from CDSA Investigations	26	38	10

(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

DRUGS SEIZED

	2020	2021	2022
Heroin	13	3	1
Cocaine	1,071	957	878
Methamphetamine	5,134	13,028*	1,370
Fentanyl pills	66	52	0
Fentanyl (powder)	701	5,672*	1,359
Total Value of Drugs	\$585,758	\$2,603,259	\$400,055
Total Value of Cash	\$45,081	\$383,052	\$54,023

(Source: MHPS Records Management System) *Seizures related to large project

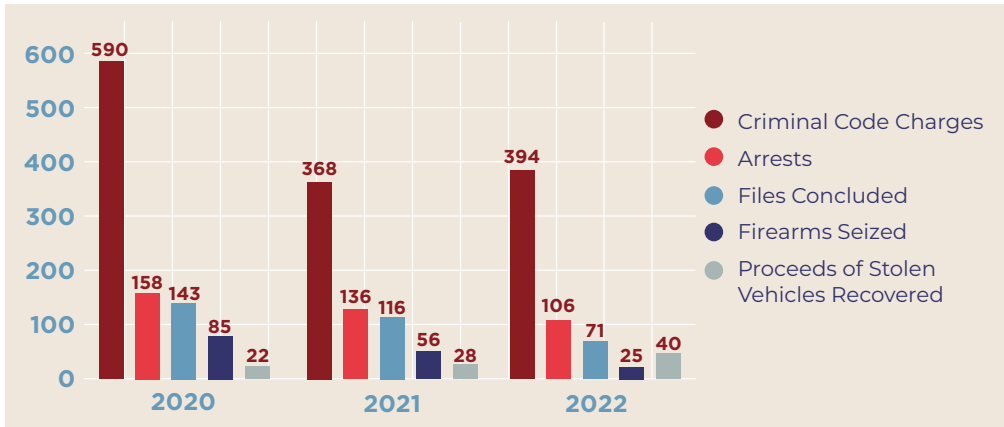
The Medicine Hat Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) concluded an eight-month-long investigation into a drug trafficking network that was suspected of supplying fentanyl, methamphetamine, and cocaine to southeastern Alberta. The network was based out of the small village of Empress, AB, with connections to Medicine Hat, Calgary, and Red Deer.

At the conclusion of the investigation, 625 grams of fentanyl, one gram of cocaine, eight litres of GHB, and \$15,605 in cash were seized. Two males were charged with Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking, and Possession of Proceeds of Crime.



PRIORITY #1 COMMUNITY SAFETY

REGIONAL PROPERTY CRIME UNIT



(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

NOTABLE FILE: STOLEN PROPERTY RECOVERED

ALERT Medicine Hat's Regional Property Crime Unit began their investigation into a rash of regional vehicle thefts in early December.

On December 7, 2022, members of the unit identified a man exiting a 2002 Ford pickup truck that had been reported stolen from Redcliff, AB earlier that day. Upon further investigation, the following stolen items were recovered:

- Suzuki dirt bike
- recreational vehicles
- enclosed trailer

The total value of the stolen property is estimated at \$58,000.



PRIORITY #2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

VICTIM ASSISTANCE UNIT

Throughout the year, Victim Assistance (VA) Unit staff and volunteers participated in monthly meetings and professional development events, including tours of community agencies, to help expand their knowledge of how the community supports our victims of crime. Tours included Cook's Funeral Home and the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society, with an in-house presentation from Medicine Hat Family Service and a virtual presentation by the Inner Man Project.

The Unit also provides outreach to members of the community who have experienced tragedy. VA responded to three agencies' requests for grief support after the sudden passing of a 'family' member. Two VAs, along with one of our facility dogs—either Athena or Mulder—attended and met with several individuals to help process their many emotions of grief and loss. Additionally, other community outreach activities included Community Kettles, the Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Community Kitchen, and the Root Cellar Food Drive.

Two events were also held to recognize and honour the unwavering commitment of volunteers and staff in supporting victims of crime, and in May a community collaboration event, the Power of Collaboration Conference, was organized and hosted by the Unit with financial support provided by the Department of Justice Canada.

FACILITY DOG PROGRAM

The MHPS was excited to welcome a new dog—a 23-month-old lab named Athena—to the Facility Dog Program. The program began in May 2016 with the introduction of the first dog, Mulder. Since that time, Mulder has assisted many victims by offering short-term animal support to reduce symptoms of stress, anxiety, and other emotions that can result from high-

stress situations. Due to their training and certification, which allows them to function unobtrusively in public places, to ignore distractions, and to be attuned to people's emotions, facility dogs have been proven to provide great comfort, particularly to children. Athena works alongside Mulder, and the two provide services to children, their families, the legal system, and the community at large.

The Facility Dog Program is made possible through a collaboration with Dogs with Wings (DWW), who provide the dogs with extensive training before they are placed with the MHPS. It is estimated that each dog costs DWW approximately \$40,000 to breed, raise, and train before they are placed with a client such as the MHPS, which pays only \$1 for their Facility Dog.



PRIORITY #2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

BE THE CHANGE AWARD

On International Women's Day, the MHPS pledged to celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of individuals in the community (Medicine Hat & surrounding area) who lead, inspire, and motivate women and work to break the bias towards advancing gender equity. Each month, the Service, in partnership with the Medicine Hat Police Association, selected local individuals to highlight and celebrate as "Be the Change" award recipients. The recipients were recognized and celebrated for their achievements and for the work they are doing as catalysts for change in the community in advancing women professionally and personally.



PRIORITY #2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

COFFEE WITH A COP

The Service was excited for the return of the popular community engagement initiative, Coffee with a Cop. Four sessions were held at various locations throughout the city and were intended to simply provide an opportunity to connect members of the community with members of the MHPS for informal, casual conversation over a cup of coffee. Members of the community were able to meet the Chief and ask questions, voice concerns, and get to know the men and women of the Service without any pre-set agendas.



POLAR PLUNGE

In support of Special Olympics Alberta, members of the MHPS Executive Team participated in a virtual Polar Plunge organized by the Law Enforcement Torch Run. All money raised from this event went to support local athletes in the community. Due to health restrictions in place at the time, it was not possible to host a public event, so thanks to the Medicine Hat and Cypress County Fire Services, arrangements were made for the team to take an icy dip in a private pool.



PRIORITY #2

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

AAHKOINNIMAAN NI COMMUNITY BOARDROOM

In collaboration with the Miywasin Friendship Centre, a traditional Blackfoot naming ceremony was held on September 23rd in the MHPS Community Boardroom. During the ceremony a Blackfoot name was bestowed upon the community space to honour and acknowledge the Indigenous history of the land. Medicine Hat is situated on Treaty 7 and Treaty 4 territory, traditional lands of the Siksika (Blackfoot), Kainai (Blood), Pikani (Peigan), Stoney-Nakoda, and Tsuut`ina (Sarcee), as well as the Cree, Sioux, and the Saulteaux bands of the Ojibwa peoples, and is also on the Métis Nation within District Two, Battle River Territory. According to the most recently available census data (2021), Medicine Hat is currently home to approximately 3,225 residents who identify as Indigenous.

One of the goals of the MHPS Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan was to create a respectful working relationship and enhance cultural understanding with all Indigenous people. Working with members of the Chief's Indigenous Advisory Committee, it was felt that renaming the Boardroom would pay tribute to the history of this area as a traditional gathering spot for Indigenous communities. During the ceremony, the name Aahkoinnimaan ni was selected by Elder Charlie Fox of the Kainai Nation. The word translates as "the sacred pipe," a symbol of justice and peace that plays a traditional role in the resolution of issues.

During the ceremony MHPS Police Indigenous Liason Officer Cst. Lori Parasynchuk was honored with the name Naato Awo'taan Aakii (Holy Shield Woman) in recognition of her commitment to building relationships with the local Indigenous population. Following the ceremony a mural, painted by local Metis artist, Ray-Al Hochman, was officially unveiled to the community.



PRIORITY #2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



“Police Services throughout Alberta have been working toward answering the ‘Calls to Action’ resulting from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission,” said *MHPS Interim Chief Joe West*. “The Service is honoured to provide this gesture of recognition and acknowledgement of Indigenous peoples and the land we share.”

“The Miwasin Friendship Centre commends the MHPS for their steadfast commitment to reconciliation with Medicine Hat’s urban Indigenous community,” said *JoLynn Parenteau of the Miwasin Friendship Centre*. “From building relationships at the street level to inviting Elders in to honour their space with ceremony, the MHPS respects and acknowledges the traditional Treaty land where they work to protect and serve our community.”



PRIORITY #3

INNOVATION AND EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY

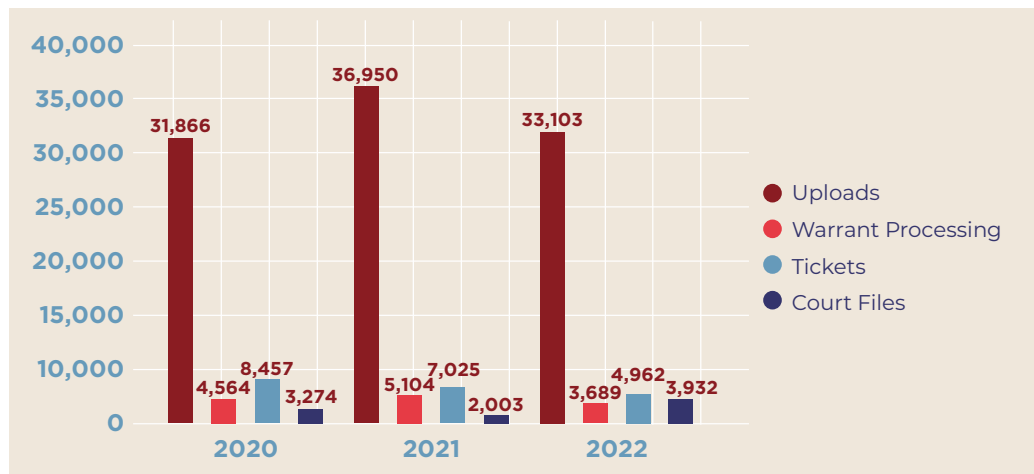


INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SECTION

The Information Technology Section was busy with many projects and initiatives throughout the year, including a refresh of the electronic fingerprinting systems, upgrades to mobile reporting software, and the implementation of an on-call rotation for afterhours critical IT support.

The Section also assisted with the implementation of the Community Assistance Response (CARE) Team initiative, which included electronic report forms for online reporting and a basic dashboard. In addition, increased security was implemented for the mobile data terminals in the police units, meeting rooms were modernized to support new technologies such as Teams and Zoom, and support was provided for the HealthIM initiative and rollout.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SECTION



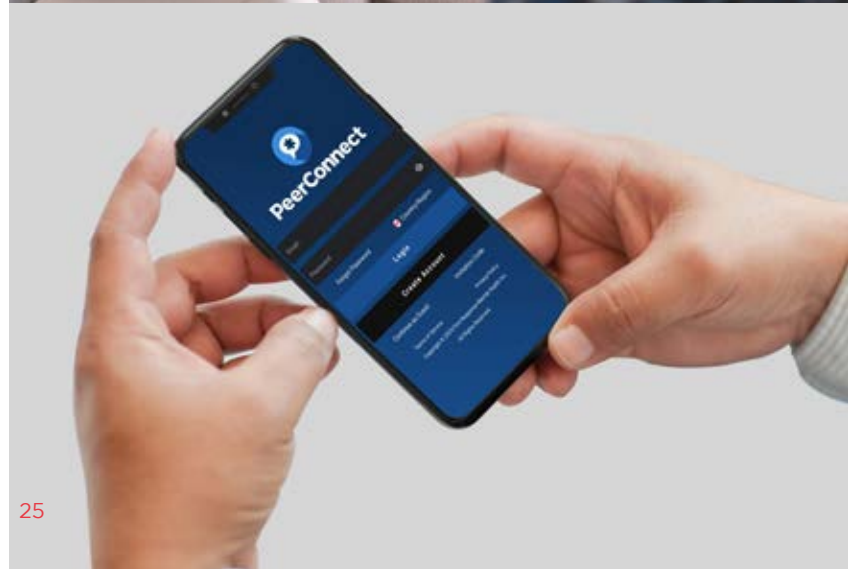
**In 2020, a change to e-ticketing resulted in a reduction of tickets processed by IMS.

PRIORITY #4 ORGANIZATIONAL WELLNESS

WELLNESS PROGRAMS

The MHPS remains committed to employee health and wellbeing. Several wellness services are currently available to support our staff, and the Service is continually looking at ways to enhance the current state of these programs. A Wellness Team comprising a supervisor, a registered psychologist, and 12 peer support members—three of whom are dedicated team leads—is responsible for coordinating supports to enhance the mental, physical, and spiritual resilience of the entire MHPS family.

The most recent enhancement to programming and services was the implementation of a PeerConnect App that ensures members have access to peer support and mental health resources 24/7.



PRIORITY #5

INVESTMENT IN

HUMAN RESOURCES

CADET TRAINING

In October, fifteen police cadets began training in Medicine Hat as the result of a collaborative partnership between the MHPS, Lethbridge Police Service (LPS), Manitoba First Nations Police Service (MFNPS), and Lethbridge College (LC). This is the fourth time since 2016 that the LC Police Cadet Program has been hosted by the MHPS.

The class was comprised of ten MHPS cadets, three from LPS and two from MFNPS, who participated in 24-weeks of training where they learned crucial skills and knowledge such as de-escalation, interpersonal problem solving, professionalism, adaptability, community service, firearms, public safety, organizational awareness, teamwork, report writing, and investigative techniques. Those graduating from the competency-based program earn LC academic credentials that meet Alberta Provincial Policing Standards.

“The Lethbridge College Police Cadet program is a unique program that partners regional police services with our institution,” said Trudi Mason, Dean of the Centre for Justice and Human Services at LC. “We are excited to collaborate with the MHPS to offer high quality and relevant training that meets the needs of our partner agencies and our communities.”

Following their graduation in March 2023, the cadets will return to their communities to join their respective agencies and begin their policing careers.



PRIORITY #5

INVESTMENT IN HUMAN RESOURCES

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

The MHPS held a professional development day for staff. The first part of the day focused on enhancing understanding of land acknowledgements, Indigenous ways of knowing and being, and improved understanding of the local Indigenous community.

The second half of the day was facilitated by Jeremy Allen of “Death Ed.,” who provided information and learning about grief and loss, setting boundaries, and being vulnerable. As a licensed funeral director and embalmer, Allen strives to show others that it is possible to remove the discomfort and fear from grief and loss without eliminating emotion, and that it is possible to normalize difficult conversations without dehumanizing those involved in the process.

Allen shared ideas on how to redefine grief, understand awareness, and identify areas where loss can live. Focusing on this awareness can help create competencies on how to acknowledge loss in a way that supports others, without trying to fix it for them. Additional time was spent applying this knowledge to employees’ personal and professional settings. Using Allen’s “Order of Service Workbook,” employees were taken through stories of grief, loss, mourning, and the importance of learning to “go inward before outward,” or how to properly serve oneself in order to be able to serve others at the highest level. Allen shared strategies with employees on how to walk through their own grief and loss, as well as how to walk alongside others during these difficult seasons of life.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN IN POLICING CONFERENCE

Four members of the MHPS attended the 59th International Association of Women Police Conference in Niagara Falls, ON. Delegates from over 70 countries were in attendance and speakers shared their knowledge on trending topics such as recruitment and retention, increasing diversity and inclusion, employee wellness, and technology. The conference also provided an opportunity for the officers to network, build relationships, and learn from the experiences of others.



HUMAN RESOURCES

ENGAGEMENTS

Ms. Hannah Allison
Cst. Richard Slack
Cst. Tyler Stuber
Cst. Scott Switzer
Ms. Tracy Wright

RESIGNATIONS

Ms. Ali Hutchinson
Mrs. Heather Trail
Cst. Richard Slack
Chief Mike Worden
Mrs. Faith Yukee

RETIREMENTS

Sgt. Michael Fischer
Sgt. Gerald Sadlemyer
Sgt. Tony Schmidt

MEDALS RECEIVED

30 Year Canadian Bar

Sgt. Harley Kesler

20 Year Canadian Medal

Sgt. Kirt Murray
Sgt. Paul Taylor

20 Year Alberta Medal

S/Sgt. Jason Graham
Sgt. Kirt Murray
Sgt. Paul Taylor
Sgt. Carissa Witkowski

10 Year MHPS Medal

Cst. Tyler Risling

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Medal

S/Sgt. Darcy Brandt
S/Sgt. Ernie Fischhofer
Insp. Joe West

CITY OF MEDICINE HAT MILESTONES

10 Years

Cst. Tyler Risling

15 Years

CPO Colin Heyens
Cst. Darryl Hubich
Cst. Lori Parasynchuk
Ms. Nikyta Shandrowsky
Mrs. Schantel Traynor
Cst. Tyrell Vaughan

20 Years

Sgt. Michael Fischer
S/Sgt. Jason Graham
Sgt. Paul Taylor
Sgt. Carissa Witkowski

25 Years

CPO Norman Hammel
Insp. Joe West

30 Years

Mr. Rod Opalinski

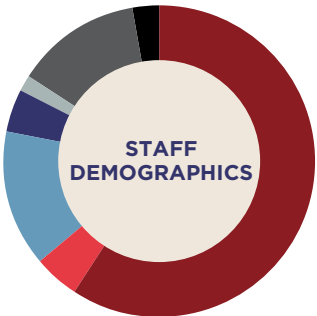
40 Years

Ms. Vonda Moreau

HUMAN RESOURCES



- 2** Less than 2 Years
- 17** 2-4 Years
- 9** 5-9 Years
- 59** 10-19 Years
- 22** 20+ Years



- 109** Police Officers
- 9** Community Peace Officers
- 26** Civilians
- 8** Casuals
- 3** Contract
- 24** Victim Assistance Volunteers
- 5** Auxiliary Volunteers

GENDER DEMOGRAPHICS OF POLICE OFFICERS

93
Male

16
Female

Authorized Strength

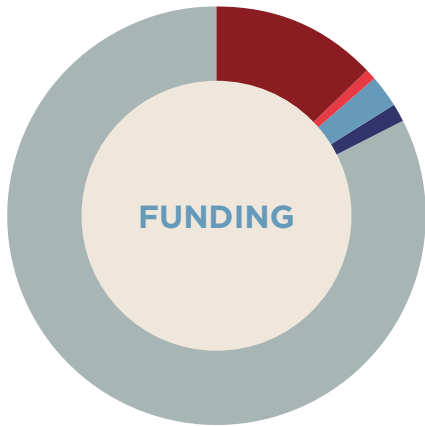
112

Actual Strength

109



BUDGET

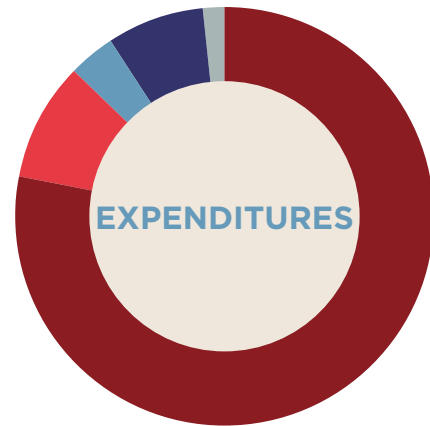


\$3,452 Government Grants
\$201 Internal Recovery
\$675 Sale of Goods and Services
\$319 Other Misc. Revenue
\$21,818 Tax Supports

TOTAL

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

\$26,465

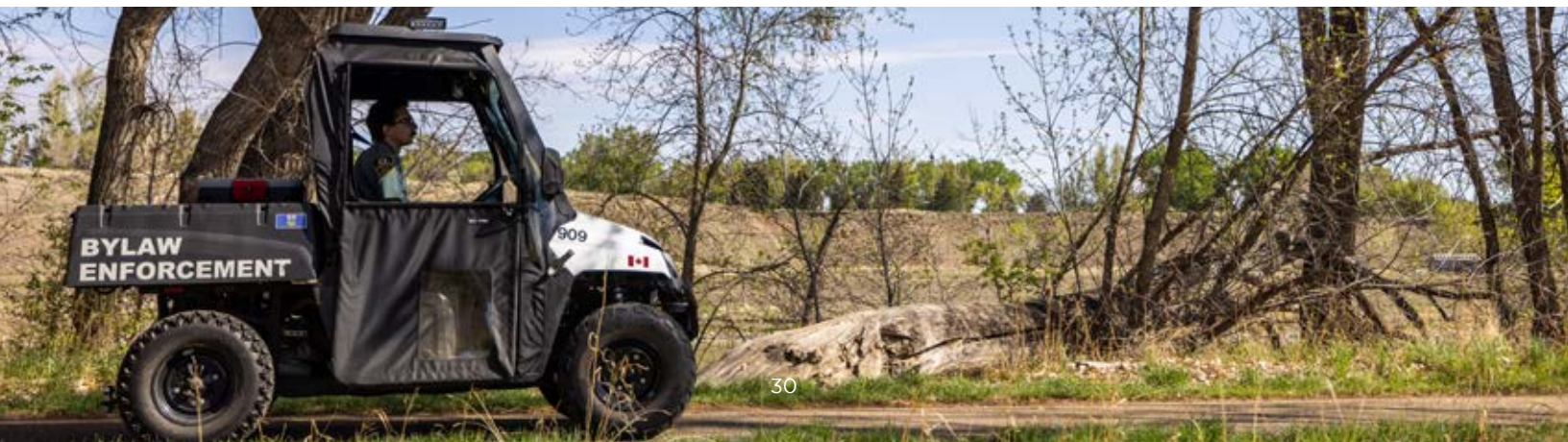


\$20,719 Salaries and Benefits
\$2,437 Contracted Services
\$931 Materials and Supplies
\$1,991 Internal Charges
\$387 Interest and Amortization

TOTAL

(IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

\$26,465



POLICE ACT AND CRIMINAL COMPLAINT INVESTIGATIONS

The Service investigates complaints received from the public as well as those initiated by the Chief of Police. Complaints can be Criminal/Statutory in nature and/or identified as officer misconduct or complaint against policy under the Alberta Police Act. The Professional Standards Unit (PSU) is responsible for investigating complaints against the Service, its policies, and its members in a fair, thorough, and unbiased manner. Serious allegations are forwarded to the Solicitor General for review and to the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team for determination of file assignment. PSU's mission is to safeguard public trust and confidence in the Service while resolving all complaints of policy, service delivery, and employee conduct in a timely and transparent manner.

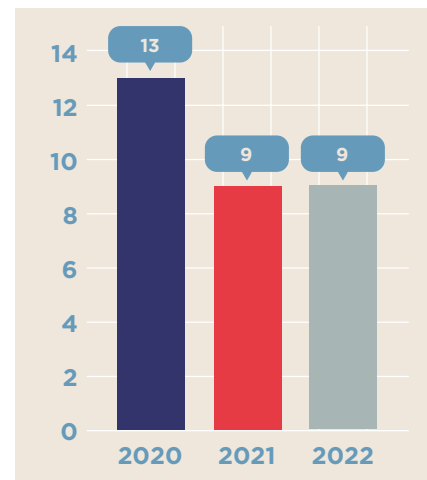
	2020	2021	2022
Police Act complaints generated from Service	9	1	6
Police Act complaints generated from public	3	6	16
Statutory complaints	3	1	0
Dispositions reviewed by Law Enforcement Review Board	0	0	0
Investigations concluded	16	3	7
Minor complaints from public informally resolved	31	32	11
Investigations conducted for other agencies	1	0	0

(Source: MHPS Records Management System)

In 2022 there was a significant rise in complaints submitted from the public. With a total of 16 public complaints and six complaints generated from the Office of the Chief, the Professional Standards Unit continued to be extremely busy. Throughout the year, 11 citizen-generated informal complaints were resolved to the satisfaction of those involved, without the requirement of a lengthy internal investigation.

MOTOR VEHICLE COLLISION REVIEWS

The Service reviews police motor vehicle collisions to ensure compliance with policy and/or determine any potential misconduct under the Police Service Regulation.



SERVICE RECOGNITION

INSPECTOR'S COMPLIMENTS

EPIC PROGRAM

The Encouraging Positive Informed Choices (EPIC) program was developed by the MHPS in conjunction with school boards in 2010. Its curriculum for Grades 4, 6, and 8 focuses on creating positive relationships between police officers and students and providing age-appropriate communication to help prepare students for the challenges of life. The program is offered in all Medicine Hat schools and continues to evolve to ensure it remains current and up to date. In 2022, a major update of the curriculum was completed by members of the Community Support Unit, including Cst. Marc Seiller, Cst. Keegan Clarke, Cst. Brian Harper, and Traffic Cst. Perry Rasmussen, who assisted in developing a traffic presentation focused on relevant student topics.

In addition to changing and updating the entire EPIC curriculum, Csts. Seiller, Clarke, and Harper developed a half-day training program for new EPIC instructors. The success of this Instructor Training Course had the effect of attracting and retaining several new EPIC instructors for the Service.

Further, Cst. Seiller assisted in the creation of an online EPIC booking feature on the MHPS website and implemented a yearly internal review process which helps to ensure that the EPIC material is always relevant and appropriate.

CST. GUERRA

After receiving a tip about a potential armed robbery, Cst. Guerra was tasked with patrolling the nearby area and attended to some businesses in the vicinity. During his patrol, Cst. Guerra observed a masked person and a clerk with her hands held up through the window of a liquor store. Cst. Guerra waited for the subject to exit the store, at which point he followed MHPS takedown procedures and took the person into custody with the assistance of Cst. Dave Smith and Cst. Paul Gudlaugson.

Cst. Guerra was commended for his diligence, good judgment, and courage. Cst. Smith and Cst. Gudlaugson were commended for their assistance with the execution of the arrest.

SERVICE RECOGNITION

CST. PIERCE, CST. GRISBROOK, AND THE REGIONAL PROPERTY CRIME UNIT

Constables Jana Pierce and Troy Grisbrook and members of the Regional Property Crime Unit were commended for their diligence, resourcefulness, and commitment in solving a series of vehicle mischiefs. Between January 10th and 28th, 2022, the MHPS responded to approximately twenty-five mischiefs to motor vehicles and thefts from motor vehicles that had occurred in the Crescent Heights and Ross Glen areas of the city.

Reported damages included slashed seats, broken mirrors, and smashed windows.

Assigned as the lead investigator, Cst. Pierce used several investigative techniques, including trackers, to eventually identify suspects. In addition, she reviewed dozens of police reports, tips from the public, and video surveillance submissions before identifying a suspect believed to be responsible for the damages. Cst. Grisbrook provided expertise and supported Cst. Pierce during the investigation.

As a result of their efforts, a suspect was charged with one count of Mischief over \$5,000, twenty-two counts of Mischief under \$5,000, and three counts of Theft under \$5,000. Conducting a thorough investigation into these events was extremely important to those impacted by the damages and the community at large. The successful conclusion of this investigation had a positive impact on overall trust and confidence in the MHPS.

SERVICE RECOGNITION

A/SGT. SANDERS, CST. BOYCE, AND CST. RASMUSSEN

On June 26, 2022, officers were dispatched to a report of a 12-year-old youth with complex needs who had inadvertently shot his sister with a “BB gun.” Upon arrival it was learned that the boy had also punched a window, resulting in an arterial bleed. Recognizing the severity of the injury, the attending officers provided emergency care to the youth, including using a tourniquet to stop further blood loss. When EMS members arrived on scene, they were very complimentary of the attending officers. The following officers are to be complimented for their professional response and quick decision making while providing first aid medical care to the youth:

- A/Sgt. Matt Sanders
- Cst. Jorel Boyce
- Cst. Perry Rasmussen

CHIEF’S COMMENDATION

On June 16, 2022, members of the MHPS responded to a report of a suicidal male who had suffered a gunshot wound. Upon arrival it was determined that there was a person inside the residence who may have access to the firearm. A rescue plan was quickly established to allow officers to enter the dwelling to provide lifesaving care to the victim of the shooting. The quick decisions and actions taken by members on scene likely saved the life of the victim, and for this reason the following members were commended:

- A/Sgt. Dave Hrycyk - Street Supervisor
- Cst. Eric Marshall - provided lethal coverage during the rescue and also provided scene containment
- Cst. Jorel Boyce - provided lethal coverage during the rescue and provided scene containment
- Cst. Travis Funk - shield officer during the rescue
- Cst Teagan Zarowny - rescue team member
- Cst. Dustin Biggar - rescue team member
- Cst. Camille Darr - provided scene containment
- Cst. Mitchell Brandt - provided scene containment
- Cst. Rob Angstadt - assisted scene containment during the rescue
- Cst. Mel Seelye - Forensic Identification Unit member
- Sgt. Darlene Garrecht - Criminal Investigation Section (CIS) investigator
- Sgt. Blake Czember - CIS
- Cst. Kyle Jalbert - CIS
- Cst. Sean McGuigan - CIS

SERVICE RECOGNITION

ARKELL FATALITY INQUIRY

On June 16, 2022, the fatality inquiry into the Arkell matter concluded. Six MHPS officers involved in the event that took place on March 22, 2014, were called upon to provide evidence at the inquiry. This was understandably a difficult task for those officers. At the conclusion of the inquiry, Judge Ailsby commented on the empathy, professionalism, preparedness, and respectfulness demonstrated by the MHPS officers who provided evidence. This offered a fitting closure to an event that has had a profound impact on these officers and their families. The police response provided that day was one of care, selflessness, and professionalism and demonstrated the core values of our Service. There is no doubt that lives were saved by the actions of the officers involved.

The following members are recognized by a Chief's Commendation with a deep and profound gratitude for the duty that each performed. The first six members are those who gave evidence at the fatality inquiry.

- Cst. Marshall Armstrong First Responder Tactical Arrest & Control Team (TACT)
- Cst. Ian Scrivener First Responder TACT
- Sgt. Jeff Wieschorster First Responder/Incident Command

- Cst. David Allen Crisis Negotiator Team (CNT)
- S/Sgt. Cory Both Immediate Action Team TACT
- Cst. Kyle Jalbert Immediate Action Team TACT
- Cst. Beverly Kennedy First Responder
- Cst. Jason Dola First Responder
- Cst. Tyrell Vaughan First Responder
- Cst. Keegan Clarke First Responder
- Cst. Don Kyлло First Responder
- Cst. Brian Harper First Responder
- Sgt. Todd Hodgins TACT (Commander)
- Cst. Dominic Scrimger TACT
- Cst. Mel Seelye TACT
- Sgt. Paul Taylor TACT
- Cst. Kevin Weisgerber CNT
- Stacy Smith (911 Communications)
- Kelly McDougall (911 Communications)

A special thank you is extended to Mr. Randy Pick, who expertly guided the Service through the fatality inquiry process with great care and attention to detail.



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