

NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

About this Publication

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Niagara Regional Police Service

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.

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Message from the Chair of the Police Services Board Bob Gale



As Chairman of the Niagara Police Services Board, I am pleased to report to you on the 2014 accomplishments. Change is the operative word to describe the activities in the year 2014. Former Regional Councillor Vance Badawey, Regional Councillors Gary Burroughs and Henry D'Angela, and our Regional citizen appointee Todd Shoalts, completed their terms and left the Board in December 2014.

These Board members made significant contributions to the Board and I would like to thank them for their dedication and hard work. The Provincial Government reappointed Ken Gansel and Niagara Regional Council appointed another three new members, Councillors David Barrick, Andy Petrowski and myself. Council also appointed Terry Bonham as its new citizen appointee.

In 2014, the Board supported a number of law enforcement initiatives to enhance public safety. Highlights include a distracted driving campaign and a new police venturing program for youth to assist in crime prevention initiatives. In addition, infrastructure enhancements were made to the police voice radio communications system and a new online identification and payment process to streamline our service to the public seeking criminal background checks.

We also formally congratulated Constable Jacob Smits who was presented with the Ontario Medal for Police Bravery for his courage and actions taken while attempting to save a young man from falling into the Niagara gorge.

Without a doubt, 2015 will continue to bring challenges to our Board and Police Service in every conceivable way. A key challenge for the Board will be the ongoing redevelopment of police facilities in our Region. This includes working towards the successful completion of the new Headquarters/2 District facility in Niagara Falls and the start of a new 1 District station to serve the communities of St. Catharines and Thorold.

Our challenge as a Board is to provide the best policing services to respond to the needs of the citizens of Niagara Region in the most cost effective manner. In doing so, the Board is committed to ensuring that citizens have a prominent voice in how police services are delivered through the development of our 2016-2018 Business Plan. Input from a comprehensive consultation process will serve as a blueprint for the delivery of police services over the next three years.

Together we will continue to develop pro-active solutions that will improve policing services, prevent crime, and enhance the safety, security and quality of life for all citizens in Niagara Region.

On behalf of the Niagara Police Services Board, I wish to thank all of our uniformed officers and civilian staff for their dedication to community safety. I would also like to thank the former and current members of the Board who continue to strive to provide the highest level of service possible to the residents of Niagara and who work tirelessly to confront the significant challenges that undoubtedly lay ahead.



Vance Badawey
(Member until December 2014)



David Barrick
Member



Terry Bonham
Member



Gary Burroughs
(Member until December 2014)



Henry D'Angela
(Chair until December 2014)



Ken Gansel
Member



Bob Marshall
Member



Andy Petrowski
Vice-Chair



Todd Shoalts
(Member until December 2014)



Vaughn Stewart
Member

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Jeff McGuire, M.O.M.



Joe Matthews
Deputy Chief of Police
Support Services



Bryan MacCulloch
Deputy Chief of Police
Operational Services

I am pleased and honoured to present the Service's 2014 Annual Report to the Police Services Board and the public. I trust you will find this report informative and that it assists you in understanding the many services that are provided to the citizens of the Regional Municipality of Niagara by the women and men, both civilian and sworn, of the Niagara Regional Police Service. Most importantly I extend my thanks, on behalf of all of the members of the Service, to the citizens of the Region who have continued to work supportively in partnership with us.

I take great pride in having the opportunity to lead this organization, along with my very capable and accomplished Senior Management Team. Again this year I also want to acknowledge and thank the women and men in our front line, support and administrative roles who work diligently to provide and maintain a safe environment for all us of to live, work and play in the Niagara Region.

The new headquarters facility is approaching completion and we will be operational in this new facility in 2016. Many years of effort have been put into the planning of this project and I believe that we will have one of the most efficient and effective police facilities in the country. This new building will combine five existing facilities into one. In order to take advantage of this convergence we have committed much effort and research into the

centralization processes and pilot projects required to complete our move.

In 2014 the Recruiting Unit reviewed 331 applications and hired 19 new recruits. The Niagara Regional Police Service remains committed to ensuring we do all that we can to secure the finest candidates. Our recruits have extremely diverse backgrounds which assists us maintaining an organization that reflects and understands the diversity of our communities. You have my commitment that we will continue to provide bias neutral policing services in the most effective and efficient manner.

Members of the 2014 Board, Mr. Henry D'Angela, Mr. Gary Burroughs, Mr. Todd Shoalts and Mr. Vance Badawey are no longer on the Board and I would like to thank and acknowledge them for their commitment to public service in assisting us to make Niagara safe. I look forward in 2015 to working with the newest members of the Police Services Board, Mr. Bob Gale, Mr. Andy Petrowski, Mr. David Barrick and Mr. Terry Bonham, as we collectively strive to enhance public safety by continuing to deliver quality policing services to our community.

As always I encourage all of my employees, and all of you to *"Have a little fun everyday"* as we work together to keep our Region safe for everyone.



Akram Askoul
Director
Information & Communication Technology



Lisa DiDonato-DeChellis
Director
Business Services



Scott McLean
Superintendent
Operational Support



Clifford Sexton
Superintendent
Emergency & Investigative Services

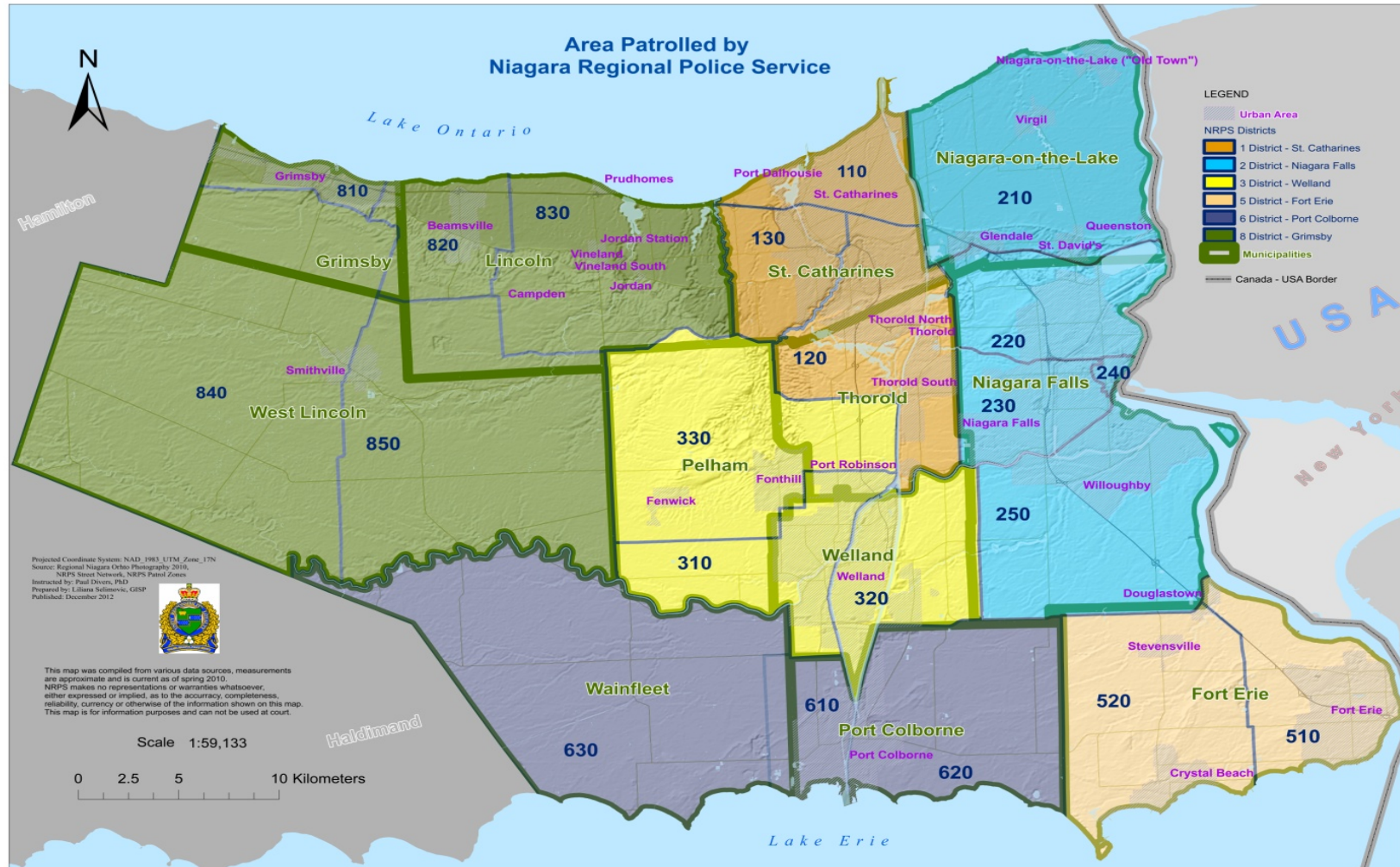


Geoffrey Skafield
Superintendent
Executive Services



Robert Wright
Superintendent
District Operations

Region of Niagara



Covering 1,850 square kilometers (715 square miles), Niagara is one of the largest geographical areas policed by a municipal police service. Its 12 unique municipalities include large urban centres such as St. Catharines and Niagara Falls, as well as towns with a distinctly more rural favour such as Wainfleet and West Lincoln. Niagara also has a total of 161 kilometres of shoreline and a total of 1,500 square kilometres of international water surrounding its borders.

Introduction



It is with pleasure that the Niagara Regional Police Service releases its **2014 Annual Report**. This report provides an overview of the vast array of services provided to the residents of Niagara and its visitors by the men and women of the Service.

Among other things, the report provides information on:

- The police service's provision of community-based crime prevention initiatives, community patrol, and criminal investigation services;
- Emergency calls for service;
- Violent crime and clearance rates for violent crime;
- Property crime and clearance rates for property crime;
- Youth crime and clearance rates for youth crime;
- Police assistance to victims of crime;
- Emergency services;
- Road Safety;
- Joint forces operations;
- Public Complaints; and
- Corporate Communications.

In addition, the Report provides an organizational overview, documentation of the administration and disposition of public complaints, the annual cost of policing, and initiatives undertaken as they pertain to crime analysis and Joint Forces Operations (JFOs).



Calls for Service

The Communications Unit is the center of Niagara Regional Police Service communication. It 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 in case of a situation requiring evacuation.

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 indicate the length of time patrol or specialty units may spend on an investigation due to the seriousness and/or nature of the incident.

Calls by Month

January	8,573
February	7,805
March	8,541
April	8,631
May	10,149
June	11,004
July	11,033
August	11,050
September	10,325
October	9,667
November	8,869
December	8,460

Calls for Service across Districts

Calls for Service	St. Catharines	Niagara Falls	Welland	Fort Erie	Port Colborne	Grimsby	Casino Unit
Calls	44,324	25,872	16,376	7,093	5,519	9,223	5,542

Calls do not total 114,107 calls for service. Some calls were directly referred to our Alternate Response Unit.

There were 114,107 incidents where police officers were dispatched to a call in 2014.



Crimes against Persons (select incidents) *

Select Incidents	2013 Incidents	2014 Incidents	Cleared By Charge	Cleared Otherwise
Murder – 1 st Degree	3	3	4	--
Murder – 2 nd Degree	3	1	1	--
Manslaughter	--	--	--	--
Criminal Negligence Cause Death	--	1	1	--
Murder – Attempt	3	3	3	--
Conspire to Commit Murder	3	2	2	--
Sexual Assault – Aggravated	--	--	--	--
Sexual Assault – Weapons/Bodily Harm	6	1	1	--
Sexual Assault	230	140	49	14
Sexual Interference	15	6	2	1
Invitation To Sexual Touching	3	3	2	--
Sexual Exploitation	2	1	--	--
Lure Child Via Computer	13	8	3	--
Assault – Aggravated	21	32	30	--
Assault – Weapon or Cause Bodily Harm	395	332	255	38
Assault	1,296	1,016	635	234
Assault – Police/Peace Officer	62	82	74	6
Criminal Negligence Cause Bodily Harm	1	2	2	--
Assault – Other	13	11	9	--
Forcible Confinement	12	13	11	2
Trafficking in Persons	2	1	1	--
Abduction <14 years Parent/Guardian	1	--	--	--
Robbery	193	186	91	7
Arson	5	1	1	--
Intimidate Justice System	4	2	1	1
Criminal Harassment/Stalking	163	139	71	32
Threats – Person Death/Harm	405	330	135	104
Harassing Phone Calls	345	223	14	86
Total Crimes Against Persons (All Incidents)	3,239	2,587	1,408	534

Percent Change 2013-2014 - ↓ 20.1 Percent

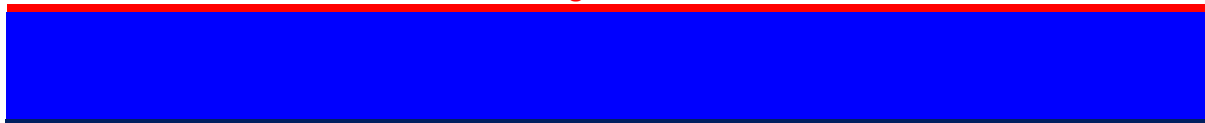
* Cleared and Cleared Otherwise do not equal incidents due to the fact that some cases were actually cleared in 2014 though the incident occurred in 2013, while other cases are still under investigation in 2015 even though they occurred later in 2014.



Crimes Against Property and Controlled Drug and Substance Act Incidents

Select Property Incidents	2013 Incidents	2014 Incidents	Cleared by Charge	Cleared Otherwise
Arson	88	91	10	8
Break & Enter	2,058	1,825	187	66
Theft Over \$5,000	127	102	18	2
Theft from Vehicle Over \$5,000	42	34	4	--
Shoplifting Over \$5,000	1	3	2	--
Theft Under \$5,000	2,722	4,223	295	429
Theft of Motor Vehicle	754	614	56	25
Theft from Motor Vehicle Over \$5,000	42	34	4	--
Theft from Motor Vehicle Under \$5,000	2,355	1,956	47	36
Shoplifting Under \$5,000	1,019	1,196	457	418
Possession Stolen Property	158	137	101	22
Fraud	1,110	1,839	304	196
Fraud – Identity Theft	11	11	1	--
Fraud – Identity Fraud	151	162	5	3
Mischief	1,975	1,737	153	151
Mischief to Religious Property	1	3	--	--
Total Crimes Against Property (All Incidents)	12,528	13,898	1,634	1,356

Percent Change 2013-2014 - ↑ 10.9 Percent



Select Controlled Drug and Substance Act Incidents	2013 Incidents	2014 Incidents	Cleared By Charge	Cleared Otherwise
Possession – Heroin	8	6	3	2
Possession – Cocaine	73	66	52	12
Possession – Other CDSA	47	37	27	9
Possession – Cannabis	412	278	63	211
Possession – Crystal Meth.	9	17	15	2
Possession – Ecstasy	1	5	2	2
Trafficking – Heroin	17	10	10	--
Trafficking – Cocaine	70	88	86	2
Trafficking – Other CDSA	17	27	24	2
Trafficking – Cannabis	56	23	18	4
Trafficking – Crystal Meth.	6	16	16	--
Trafficking – Ecstasy	--	--	--	--
Import Produce – Heroin	1	4	--	--
Import Produce – Cocaine	2	3	1	--
Import Produce – Other CDSA	10	6	--	--
Import Produce – Cannabis	21	19	3	1
Production – Cannabis	42	44	12	24
Total Controlled Drug and Substance Act (All Incidents)	746	650	332	275

Percent Change 2013-2014 - ↓ 12.8 Percent

Other Criminal Code Violations (select incidents)

Incident	2013 Incidents	2014 Incidents	Cleared	Cleared Otherwise
Prostitution	13	--	--	--
Prostitution – Bawdy House	--	--	--	--
Prostitution – <18 Years Living of the Avails	3	--	--	--
Prostitution – Procuring	2	--	--	--
Prostitution – Other	3	--	--	--
Explosives – Possess	1	1	1	--
Weapons – Possess	81	82	47	20
Unsafe Storage of Firearms	7	2	1	--
Weapons Possession Contrary to Order	6	3	2	--
Weapons Trafficking	1	--	--	--
Importing or Exporting of Weapons	13	8	6	2
Fail to Comply	729	647	599	41
Counterfeit Money	9	8	1	--
Cause Disturbance	21	19	2	8
Escape Custody	--	1	1	1
Indecent Act	74	60	10	8
Child Pornography	27	21	4	11
Corrupting Morals	1	--	--	--
Obstruct Resist Peace Officer	61	45	33	11
Unlawfully at Large	10	--	--	--
Trespass at Night	33	25	5	4
Fail to Comply with Conditions	724	--	--	--
Breach of Probation – Adult Only	387	385	376	8
Utter Threats – Property/Animal	14	11	1	4
Public Order – Offence Against	14	6	6	--
Offences Against the Person and Reputation	18	22	--	8
Offences Against Rights and Property	5	10	10	--
Proceeds of Crime	3	--	--	--
Attempts, Conspiracies, Accessories	7	11	9	1
Total Other Criminal Code Violations (All incidents)	1,954	1,886	1,558	192

Percent Change 2013-2014 - ↓ 16.9 Percent



District Operations: Problem Oriented Policing

1 District St. Catharines and Thorold



The **Downtown Foot Patrol Initiative** is a partnership between the St. Catharines Downtown Business Improvement Association; the City of St. Catharines and the Niagara Regional Police Service that continues to provide high visibility police presence through the use of foot and bicycle patrols in the Downtown core 365 days of the year. The presence of police during peak times assisted and alleviated regular patrol units from being dispatched, allowing them to be take calls elsewhere. 167 St. Catharines By-Law tickets were issued during that period. It is expected that the program will continue into 2015.

South End Noise Patrol/Downtown Entertainment District: Brock University withdrew the financial support for this initiative due to fiscal limitations. 1 District augmented the shortfall by adding 4 extra officers to address nuisance complaints, noisy parties and public disorder in these identified areas of St. Catharines during the Halloween weekend. This initiative reduced the number of incidents and provided a safe environment for the students and residents alike.

Get In Touch: A proactive initiative that various officers conducted, both on duty and on their own time. Officers go into primary schools where the SRO program does not reach and give brief lectures on bullying or assist in developing safety plans.

Old Bill: This program was continued by the platoons with assistance of the Street Crime Unit in an effort to mobilize the Queenston Street business community to reduce the "Sex Trade" business and illicit drug transactions that take place there. This lower income residential area is recognized as a community at risk.

Project Impact: This initiative is a program driven by Superintendent Robert Wright, enabling teenage youths to attend the St. Catharines Collegiate and interact with police officers through sports activities in a positive fashion. The initiative has proven to be most helpful for youths at risk and shall continue during the school year into 2015.

School Zones: Throughout the fall, officers from one platoon also conducted a shift traffic initiative where 2 officers each day shift were assigned to enforcement in School Zones from 7:00am to 10:00am. This initiative resulted in 15 Provincial Offence Notices (PONS) being issued.

Curb criminal activity in downtown St Catharines and Thorold: Initiatives to reduce the incidences of criminal activity in these two communities proved fruitful. Officers were deployed as Crime Patrol in plain clothes and in an unmarked police vehicle. A male was arrested who had just committed a break and enter. Subsequent investigation identified the same male as being responsible for numerous other break and enters. The male was charged for these additional offences.

Project Freshman: This initiative targeted problems associated with St. Catharines Downtown licensed premises. The joint initiative, which included police, fire and members of the AGCO continues to identify and prosecute infractions under various Provincial, Criminal and Municipal Acts. Two (2) criminal charges and 8 PONS were laid. St. Catharines Fire also identified 35 infractions with charges pending.



2 District Niagara Falls and Niagara on the Lake

Project Compliance Check: This initiative saw officers working with Probation and Parole, monitoring persons on probation, parole, recognizances of bail and on OIC undertakings. This project ran the entire year. As a result, there were 194 arrests for Breach of Probation (Adult) and 201 charges for Fail to Comply.

Project Café Compliance: The goal for this project was to proactively ensure that the often overlooked licensed cafés that sold liquor were in compliance with the Liquor License Act of Ontario and its regulations. This was a joint project with the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario and the Niagara Falls Fire Department.

Project P.A.C.E.: P.A.C.E. (Police and Community Engagement) saw lots of interaction between police and "at risk" youth, during the summer months of June, July and August. The goal of the project was to conduct foot patrols and have positive interaction with the youth who reside within identified "high risk" areas. The presence and visibility of uniformed officers served to educate and open lines of communication with youth. Through a generous donation by the Niagara Falls Community Safety Committee (formerly the Niagara Falls Community Policing Committee), youth were supplied with bicycle helmets and PACE t-shirts. In total, 25 youth helmets and 100 t-shirts were given away. Letters of appreciation from Niagara Regional Housing management were notable and parents, along with the children, were appreciative of police presence in their community.

Project P.A.C.E 2014





Niagara on the Green Crime Patrol Initiative: This was our response to an increased number of complaints concerning Niagara College students' behaviour in the residential neighbourhood of Niagara on the Green. Complaints of drunkenness, disturbances, trespassing, urinating in public, littering and noise were addressed. Two officers were hired between the hours of 8:00p.m. and 1:00a.m. to conduct vehicle and foot patrols, identify the locations of student parties and respond to all calls in the immediate area involving students. This approach served to eliminate many potential calls for service and provided a visible police presence to both residents and students alike.

Pawn Shops: Pawn Shops was a project initiated in October and is ongoing. On duty officers attend local pawn shops and analyze their daily inventory, specifically looking for identifiable stolen items. Uniform police have identified a number of potential persons of interest, who may be involved in break and enters or possession of stolen property.

Casino Patrol Unit

Thefts from Autos: In January, a Theft from Auto enforcement initiative was undertaken. Utilizing officers in plain clothes, police would maintain static and mobile surveillance of designated parking lots within the Casino district, in an effort to prevent and/or reduce the number of thefts from autos. This initiative was also carried out to identify and charge the individuals responsible for the thefts. No thefts from autos occurred during the times when the parking lots were under surveillance. The initiative was also conducted again in October in response to an increase in thefts from autos. Each time, the response resulted in a decrease in the number of thefts from autos.

Operation Compliance: This initiative focused on release condition compliance checks on offenders residing in many of the temporary residences (hotels and motels) used by transient criminals, within our jurisdiction. Numerous persons that were to abide by judicial release conditions were sought out. This resulted in the arrest of two known criminals that had failed to comply with their restrictions.



Operation Warrant Officers: The goal of this initiative was to locate and arrest residents of Niagara Falls who were currently wanted on outstanding criminal arrest warrants and committal warrants. This operation was conducted using on duty personnel from the middle of February until the end of March. Four persons were arrested on the outstanding warrants. In some cases, information related to persons that had moved from the Niagara Region was forwarded to the appropriate police service for their follow up.

Project Safe Sleep: This was an initiative conducted jointly with the Niagara Falls Fire Department and the City of Niagara Falls By-law enforcement unit. While on regular patrols, officers would identify locations that serve as temporary residences that appear to pose as a safety concern to all residents within that building and are frequently used by transient criminals.

3 District Welland and Pelham

Throughout 2014 all 4 uniform platoons identified numerous areas within the patrol districts that were “problematic. These were targeted with monthly initiatives by the platoons. Traffic initiatives were conducted on a regular basis in regards to speeding, four way stop signs, and community safety zones (school zones). During one initiative in January for example, 3 District officers worked in conjunction with the SEU to address these issues and violators were dealt with accordingly. 127 *Highway Traffic Act* (HTA) street checks were issued along with 90 PONS. Other similar initiatives conducted throughout the year led to an additional 270 Pons and 95 street checks.

Rural traffic enforcement: This need was identified. Speed and HTA regulations enforcement was conducted in the rural zones, many of which have 80 km/h speed limits. Fifty-one Pons were issued in March during this initiative. Officers noted a largely positive reception from the public who stated that they did not often see officers in rural areas and welcomed the enforcement. This successful enforcement was conducted again in June resulting in the issuance of 72 Pons.

Project School Drop Off: School zones were targeted for enforcement and education. The platoon members personally visited elementary schools and spoke to parents, teachers and students about various driving and regulation related offences (seat belts, speeding, distracted driving). The platoon then conducted targeted enforcement in the area of 9 different district schools, within Pelham and Welland, and wrote a total of 65 PONS during 8 day shifts.

Canada Road Safety Week: This was a focus on an initiative for May. Officers undertook a coordinated effort to be vigilant in identifying dangerous driving habits and conducting enforcement. They identified and focused on impaired driving, occupant restraints, aggressive driving and distracted driving. Between the dates of May 11-14, the platoon issued 28 PONS. One (1) impaired driver was arrested.

5 District Fort Erie

Project Watch Dog: This initiative ran from mid-February until the end of March, when the number of officers on the road allowed. Premise checks were conducted via ATV and crime patrols. In total, 132 residences were checked in the cottage areas, as well as other areas of concern, in conjunction with recent thefts of copper. LLA checks in various licensed establishments were conducted 16 times. Snowmobile by-laws were enforced and in all, 4 PONS were issued for HTA matters, 3 drug related street checks were conducted and there was one arrest for possession of marijuana.

Summer Patrol Initiative: This ongoing project was created to address the increase of population during the summer months in the greater Fort Erie area. Each year, approximately 15,000 temporary residents return to the cottage areas along the north shore of Lake Erie. Officers assigned to 5 District perform regular patrols on foot, by patrol cars and on ATV's. This initiative provides additional police presence and crime deterrence.

Friendship Trail Initiative: The area that runs from the Old Fort westwards into 6 District is the setting for the Friendship Trail Initiative. Regular ATV patrols of this area, other pathways and recreational trails increases police

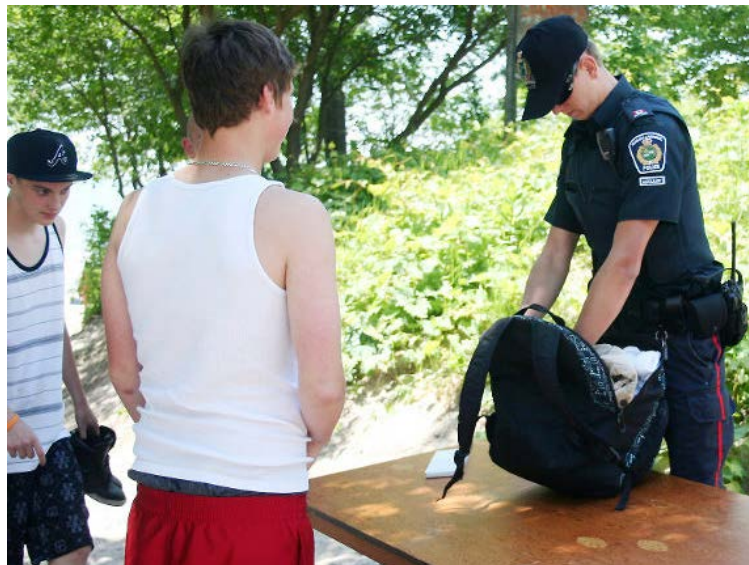
visibility in these areas and is recognized as a crime prevention initiative insuring the safe use of these pathways for all users.

Beach Patrol: This initiative allowed officers to patrol and implement the proper use of not only the beach areas, but also the adjacent streets and businesses. These patrols are necessary because of the seasonal increases in tourists and beach users.

Project Bay Watch: This project 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. In June of 2014, approximately 2,000 students descended on Bay Beach in the Crystal Beach area. Project Bay Watch is a proactive approach by police and is paramount in ensuring student safety.

6 District Port Colborne and Wainfleet

Operation Beach Day: Each year, in the month of June, high school students are absent from school to attend Augustine Beach in the Town of Wainfleet to celebrate the ending of another school year. With several hundred students in attendance liquor, drugs and general damage to beach property have been prevalent. Operation Beach Day was designed to curb further issues and persuade students to attend school as required. Student attendance in 2014 was dramatically less and local high schools had far less absenteeism.



Operation Beach Day 2014



Sherkston Shores Holiday Village: Numerous complaints of residents and campers operating golf carts in a careless manner were received during the first two weeks of July 2013. Through discussion with property owners and management, uniform officers devised a plan to utilize the *Trespass to Property Act* to hold operators accountable for careless use of the carts. During the summer months of 2014, the initiative was continued as a part of general patrol duties.

Ghost Car Initiative: Each morning a fully marked police cruiser was deployed to areas recognized as high collision and speeding locations. School Zones were also targeted for morning attendance and afternoon release. As a result, speeding concerns and collisions have been reduced. Feedback from the local residents has been positive and well received.

8 District—Lincoln, Grimsby and West Lincoln

Senior Safety Presentations: Presentations were given on phone scams and other fraudulent schemes targeting senior citizens. They were delivered to senior residences, church groups and service groups.

Speed enforcement: RADAR enforcement throughout the district was conducted. 57 provincial offence notices for speeding, 24 provincial offence notices for other offences were laid. **Suspended driver enforcement** – This project was to identify and enforce suspensions for HTA offences. 7 PONS charges for driving under suspension and 8 notices served.

Youth

The following is a summary of the School Resource Officer (SRO) activities and initiatives for the 2014 calendar year:



- a) Occurrences 571
- b) Follow-ups 408
- c) Cleared calls for service 528
- d) Street Checks 226
- e) Provincial Offence Notices 146
- f) Provincial Offence Summons 33
- g) Computer Assisted Dispatch Calls 1,035
- h) Arrests 66
- i) Criminal Charges 85
- j) Calls cleared Non-reportable 216
- k) Calls cleared Report to Follow 540
- l) PBOM's (youth) 206

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. A summary of extrajudicial measures:



- a) Community Addiction Services 1
- b) John Howard Society 13
- c) Niagara Native Centre 0
- d) Pathstone Mental Health 8
- e) Youth Justice Committee 78
- f) Youth Resources Niagara 34

During the summer of 2014 the SRO Summer Deployment between June 23rd and August 31st was as follows:

- During this time members of the unit were deployed in two fashions. During the day shifts (0700hrs-1700hrs) SROs conducted various proactive community patrols deployed on bike, foot, atv, and vehicle. During that time officers focused on building positive community relationships through programs such as **Caught You Using Your Head**, a positive ticketing program aimed at youth wearing helmets and safety equipment. During 1700hrs to 0300hrs night shifts the SROs were deployed in St Catharines for a directed patrol and problem oriented policing. SROs targeted drugs, liquor offences, trespassing, and other criminal offences

while responding to calls for service. All patrol conducted during this time was "high visibility" bicycle patrol in areas including, but not limited to Port Dalhousie, Waterfront Trail in North St Catharines, Jaycee Park, Municipal Beach, Malcolmson Park, Queenston Street, Centennial Park, Montebello Park, Merritt Trail, both sides of Twelve Mile Creek, West St Catharines and the St Catharines Downtown core. As a result of these patrols 20 people were arrested, 51 Provincial Offence Notices were issued, and more than one hundred reports generated. A summary of statistics from summer deployment, covering June 23rd to August 31st were as follows:

- 112 occurrences
- 20 arrests
- 75 street checks
- 58 Provincial Offence Notices

Additionally SROs used alternative measures 12 times in July and August 2014 to process individuals (mostly youth) by other means through the extrajudicial measures program. This 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.

Spearheaded by **ProAction 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.



ProAction Cops & Kids

Race Against Drugs (April 27th to May 1st, 2014) 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.



Dale Racine Bursary is awarded to three high school students to assist with post-secondary education. Fundraising efforts involve a trivia night which is largely attended by both members of the Niagara Regional Police Service and educators from both DSBN and NCDSB.



Music Not Mischief 2014 is a youth outreach program that partners schools, the police and the community where volunteer police mentors give guitar lessons to local kids. Students learn to play in a safe environment and, at the end of the initiative, they get to showcase their talents in a stage performance with a local rock

band. In 2014 the Niagara Regional Police were invited to participate in this program for the first time. As a result Jessica Leslie a 16 year old student at Lakeshore Catholic High School in Port Colborne was the winner of the 2014 program.

Beach Day is an annual event that takes place on Friday's in June (weather permitting) prior to high school students exams. In the past, large operational plans have been prepared and executed in response to past violence and mischief. SRO's have played a vital role with their presence and familiarity of students in attendance. This has resulted in peaceful gatherings of students with a low need for police assistance.

Crime Prevention Week (November 27th, 2014) focused on the **Lock it or Lose it** campaign. The Niagara Regional Police participated in the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Polices Crime Prevention Campaign. During their presence at the Pen Centre, SROs conducted patrols through the mall, approaching shoppers and speaking to the obvious mistakes average 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: this year marked the 7th Annual Cop Shop event held at the Pen Centre in St Catharines. Forty underprivileged 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. All members of the SRO Unit were present for this successful event that created high police visibility while encouraging local students to build valued relationships with Niagara Regional Police.





Camp MEDEBA is a new 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 14, 15, 16 for an opportunity to learn new skills at Camp Medeba. A total of 100 students were selected due to being either identified as "at risk" or as having had prior interaction with the Niagara Regional Police. 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. The purpose of this camp was to show at risk youth that possibilities exist in life and that developing positive relationships, even with Police, can impact your life. The event involved nine (9) officers from the Service's Corporate Communications and Community Engagement Unit with an additional three (3) front-line officers.

Social Media (Twitter): Many SRO's have twitter accounts in an effort to engage youth and the community through developing media. SRO Davidson has 482 followers and almost 1,700 tweets using the media frequently to connect with students and the community.

The SRO program continues to develop and nurture relationships with community partners such as; The Raft, Nightlite Shelter, Port Cares, FACS, Pathstone, Youth Probation and Parole, John Howard Society "Project Rewind," Youth Justice Committee, and Contact Niagara. These continued relationships help build on community safety through information sharing. The SRO program has proven to be highly successful in engaging community partnerships, increasing police visibility and deterring crime throughout the Niagara Region.





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

The **Child Abuse/Internet Child Exploitation Unit** is made up of 10 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.

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. In total, Niagara detectives investigated 361 incidents in 2014.

Cases Investigated by the Child Abuse/Internet Child Exploitation Unit in 2014

Offence Outcome	Incidents	Percent
Cleared by Charge	103	28.5
Cleared Otherwise	47	13.0
Closed - Suspended	62	17.2
Open Investigation	15	4.2
Unfounded	70	19.4
Non-CCJS (Not Criminal Code)	64	17.7

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. This investigative initiative has been made possible with financial assistance from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services and the Ministry of the Attorney General.

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.



**Kristen French
Child Advocacy
Centre Niagara**

The **Child Advocacy Centre of Niagara (CACN)** opened its doors in the fall of 2008. From this one site a 17 member child advocacy support team, including members from Niagara Regional Police Service, Family and Children Services of Niagara (FACS), mental health and medical communities, and the Crown's Office together 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.

Sexual Assault



The Sexual Assault Unit saw a decrease in sexual assault incidents being reported to the Niagara Regional Police Service in comparison to 2013. The Sexual Assault Unit has cleared forty-one percent of the calls for service where the investigation has been concluded in the 2014 calendar year. Approximately 16 percent of these incidents have been cleared by charge.

The Sexual Assault Unit has continued to maintain its close ties with community partners in the Sexual Assault Protocol. The Niagara Regional Police Service, The Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Treatment Centre (SA/DV-TC), Niagara Regional Sexual Assault Center (CARSA), The Ministry of the Attorney General's Office, Victim Witness Assistance Program and the Niagara Crisis Victim Support Services continue to meet and work together in a collaborative approach to these investigations. The Sexual Assault Unit continues to have a very positive and professional working relationship with all of our community partners.

The Sexual Assault Unit along with the Public Education resource member of CARSA, continue to attend local high school law classes to present information on sexual assaults as well as the prevention of sexual assaults and drug facilitated offences.

The Sexual Assault Unit has a very positive and highly effective working relationship with Brock University. The Sexual Assault Unit continues to liaise with and present to classes and sports teams at Brock University. Our relationship and Brock University's approach to these types of incidents has been recognized as the quintessential protocol for all universities in the Province.

Total Calls for Service / Assigned and Investigated – 171

Total calls deemed to be Criminal in nature and investigated in 2014 – 123



Cases Investigated by the Sexual Assault Unit in 2014

Offence Outcome	Incidents	Percent
Cleared by Charge	19	16
Cleared Otherwise	9	7
Closed – Suspended	37	30
Unfounded	42	34
Open Investigation	16	13
Non-CCJS (Not Criminal Code)	48	39

Note: Not all charges laid by the NRPS for sexual offences are the result of sexual assault investigations. Incidents disclosed here are based solely on SAU investigations.

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 units 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 2014, the Domestic Violence Unit investigated on average over 80 cases per month with the Domestic Violence Unit investigating approximately 84 % of all domestic cases.

Domestic Related Criminal Charges

Type	Number
Assault (Simple)	435
Assault (Cause Bodily Harm)	94
Assault (Aggravated)	3
Breach of Probation	190
Breach of Recognizance	154
Criminal Harassment	29
Forcible Confinement	14
Mischief	86
Murder	--
Murder (Attempt)	--
Robbery	5
Sexual Assault (Simple)	8
Sexual Assault (Bodily Harm)	--
Sexual Assault (Aggravated)	--
Utter Threats	115
Weapons/Firearms	10

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. The divisional Criminal Investigations Branch investigates missing persons and physical abuse of seniors and the COAST unit assists with the mental health and well-being of seniors through referrals of community agencies. The Behavioural Supports Ontario Community Outreach Team works with COAST to assist seniors who have cognitive impairment which can result in responsive behaviours such as wandering, exit seeking, verbal/physical 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 mobile alarm system that is a GPS enabled intervention strategy to address the need to enhance the safety of individuals. The mobile tracking device is equipped with a panic button and GPS technology. After pressing the panic button the victim’s location is pin-pointed using the GPS technology and police are dispatched to the victim’s location. As a result of the GPS technology, police are able to respond to a victim’s location in an effective manner with information updates every 60 seconds. 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 in the community. 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.

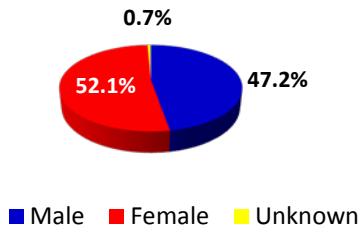
The COAST unit consists of two (2) full time, plain clothes police officers; back fill officers and four (4) Mental Health Workers (Nurses and Social Workers). There are two teams which include one police officer and one mental

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.

COAST served approximately 2,676 clients in 2014. COAST serves a wide range of clients that fall into a number of age categories. Of those COAST conducted 559 mobile visits and completed 24 mental health assessments. COAST apprehended 5 individuals as part of their interventions. The majority of clients are between the ages of 18-64 with the highest number of clients in the 45-54 age grouping. There has been an increase in the number of clients in the 15 to 17 age group that have accessed services.



Referral by Sex of Client



Age of Client	Number
0-15	28
16-17	167
18-24	353
25-34	406
35-44	369
45-54	431
55-64	293
65-74	202
75-84	148
85 and over	80
Unknown	199
TOTAL	2,676

COAST receives a request for services through a number of different community partners and referrals. The Niagara Regional Police has the highest number for referrals. Approximately 1,219 individuals were apprehended under the Mental Health Act.

Top 5 Referral Sources

Referral	Occurrences
Police	1,505
Client	601
Family	248
Clients Community	196
Seniors Agency	48

Traffic Enforcement

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

District	Non-HTA	HTA	Total PONS
District 1 – St. Catharines, Thorold	2,124	6,386	8,510
District 2 – Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake	1,224	6,785	8,009
District 3 – Welland, Pelham	776	4,253	5,029
District 5 – Fort Erie	348	2,439	2,787
District 6 – Port Colborne, Wainfleet	416	2,589	3,005
District 8 – Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln	385	3,583	3,968
Special Enforcement Unit – Region wide	1,180	6,679	7,859
Casino Patrol Zone	542	2,457	2,999
Other Units	291	847	1,138
Total	7,286	36,018	43,304

HTA – Highway Traffic Act tickets (e.g., speeding, 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.



Fatal and Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collisions, 2010-2014

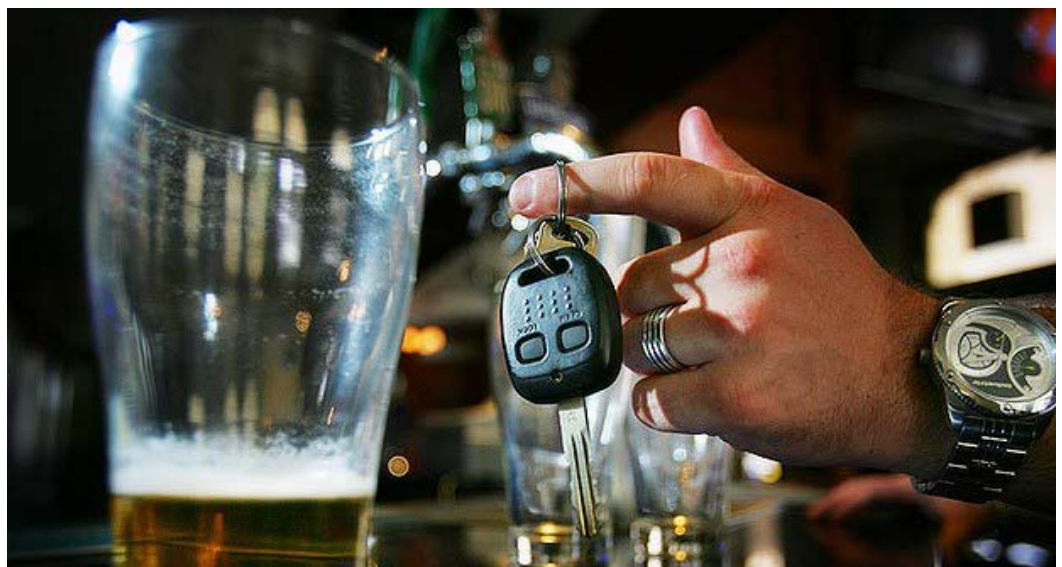
Type of Collision *	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Fatal Collisions	15	17	20	19	16
MTO Reportable Deaths	15	17	23	20	18
Non-Reportable Deaths	4	2	2	3	2
Life Threatening Injuries	34	24	26	26	24

* MTO Reportable Deaths are those that are reported annually to the Ministry of Transportation Ontario. Non-Reportable Deaths are those that were caused by a medical event (e.g., heart attack, aneurysm, etc.) prior to a collision and not caused by injuries sustained in a collision.

Special Enforcement Unit

In 2014 operational and educational initiatives included Operation Impact, an initiative educate the public in safe driving practices focusing on Impaired Driving, Seat Belt Use and all aspects related to aggressive and distracted driving. Operation Oblivious was a project aimed at the enforcement of distracted driving laws and specifically the use of mobile phones and texting while driving. The S.E.U. also participate in Federal and Provincial initiatives such as Canada Road Safety Week, Provincial RIDE Program and Ontario Seatbelt Awareness month all in an effort to make our roads safe for the motoring public. Other S.E.U. duties include collision investigation, traffic and speed control, parade escort, labor disputes, concerts (crowd and/or traffic control), impaired driving, seat belt and distracted driving enforcement.

The Niagara Regional Police Service continues to promote education, safety and enforcement on our roadways and waterways. In an effort to enhance performance and educate members of the Service, the Special Enforcement Unit in early 2013 created an impaired driving investigation template to assist Front Line Officers in completing superior impaired driving investigations. Members of the S.E.U. worked with Crown Attorneys to develop a template that resulted in more consistent evidence in Crown Briefs and decreased the amount of time Front Line Officers spent on impaired driving investigations. Members of the S.E.U. produced an instructional video for Front Line Officers providing training for the form and impaired driving investigations. The video was released on IRIS and distributed to Front Line Officers and Supervisors on e-parade in 2013. In 2013 40% of all impaired driving investigations in the Region utilized the template. In 2014 the use and subsequent time saved processing impaired arrests, increased dramatically.





SEU officers support the Service's goal of reducing serious personal injury and fatal collisions on our roadways through their initiatives and day-to-day traffic enforcement. In 2014, SEU members issued a total of 7,859 provincial offence notices.

SEU traffic duties include the administration of the Breath Technician and Drug Recognition programs. The DRE program continued to grow and there are currently 8 officers deemed drug recognition experts. DRE officers responded to 472 alcohol-impaired arrests and 17 drug-impaired arrests across the Region.



Emergency Services

Marine Unit

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 the 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 eight 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.

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. With such a large area of responsibility, the Unit relied on strategic alliances and partnerships to ensure public safety and timely response. The team partnered with the Canadian Coast Guard, along with Port Weller, who provided secure docking facilities and assisted with routine vessel maintenance. The Unit participated in joint interdiction efforts with both Canadian 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 10 community events and attended local public service clubs to educate the public on boating and water safety. During routine marine enforcement patrols, 265 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 499 calls for service resulting in 8 search and rescue responses and 20 arrests. Accidental drownings and water-related deaths by misadventure were down from 8 in 2013 to 3 in 2014.

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. All members are equipped with modified personal protective equipment and use of force options combined with formal training in crisis negotiating and de-escalating tactics. For the third consecutive year, team members successfully intervened and safely apprehended two individuals attempting to take their own lives in the water. Marine members supported 18 tactical operations calls and 5 explosives disposal calls in 2014.

Underwater Search and Recovery Unit (USRU)

2014 activities included...

- 5 body recoveries
- 2 vehicles recoveries
- 1 ordnance recovery
- 2 vessel recovery
- 2 persons rescued

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. In an effort to protect the public and the many critical infrastructures within the Region, USRU members are certified in confined space entry, harbour searching, ship hull inspection, and explosives' recognition. The USRU fulfilled a pressing need to enhance their ability to test life support equipment and conduct high-risk training evolutions in a controlled environment with the completion of the Emergency Services, Cushman Road site indoor test/training tank. A used sea

container was modified at a minimal cost to provide immediate access to a test/training venue. An onsite diving capability has been extremely beneficial in terms of cost savings by eliminating pool rental fees, increased time management efficiencies, and enhanced public safety through increased responder competency and capabilities.

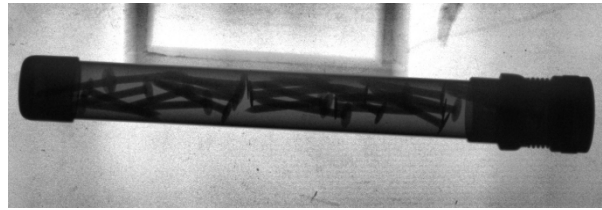
The USRU was required to perform 26 dive operations within the Region during the 2014 calendar year. Working with a Forensic Anthropologist, the USRU concluded a Waterloo Regional Police Service cold case following a detailed skeletal remains search, survey and recovery in the Grand River. The NRPS USRU has provided contracted diving services for the Waterloo Regional Police since 1998.



Niagara Regional Police Underwater Search and Rescue Unit

Explosives Disposal Unit (E.D.U.)

Pipe
X-ray



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 Service Units and consults and educates Service and Community Organizations in matters relating to explosives and bomb threat procedures. In 2014 the EDU responded to 33 events and participated in 8 community functions.

The Unit consists of five part-time members who are certified in bomb disposal, electronics, explosive forced entry and post blast investigation by the Canadian Police College. Members participate in monthly local training and attend out of service courses and workshops for advanced and recertification training. In 2014 each Explosives Technician participated in an average of 25 days of training, practicing and building their individual and the Unit skill set toward the effective, efficient and timely resolution of incidents.

To ensure a high level of readiness, the unit holds active membership in a number of domestic and international associations, where information and training on the latest trends, threats and techniques is shared and learned. Strong working relationships with other Niagara stakeholders (Fire, Ambulance), as well as regular training and exchanges with neighbouring EDU's in Canada and the U.S.A. adds to the Unit's high level of preparedness.

2014 Calls for Service

Chemical/ Biological	Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	Suspicious Package	Post Blast	Found Explosives	Hoax/ Threats	Military Ordnance Firework	Other
3	2	3	1	2	2	5	15

Tech preparing the robot "tEODor" for an x-ray.



Emergency Task Unit (ETU)



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

The ETU is a support Unit with a broad mandate that assists and augments all operational areas within the Niagara Regional Police Service. In 2014 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 124 requests for its services as compared to 95 in 2013. 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 in circumstances that did not necessarily require a full team response. Other highlights include:

- high risk entry assistance for major projects such as Project Roadmaster (organized drug trafficking), Toronto Police Project Battery (Asian organized Crime), Halton Police Project Wales (organized drug trafficking);
- VIP security to the Ontario Economic Summit;
- Assistance to Hamilton Police with site security for Corporal Cirillo's funeral at the First Ontario Center in Hamilton;
- Several lengthy court security operations and high risk prisoner escorts involving high profile prisoners continued in 2014;
- A successful Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services audit of ETU's Containment Operations was also conducted in early 2014; and,
- 4 new Unit members were also trained to Hostage Rescue operator status.

Entry Training



**Perimeter Control
and Containment
Training**



The Provincial Adequacy Standards contained in the Police Services Act of Ontario mandates the requirements that police tactics/hostage rescue units must maintain. In 2014, the Emergency Task Unit maintained a rigorous training program that met all requirements dictated in the adequacy standards for a hostage rescue team. Additionally, ETU brought four new members up to Hostage Rescue operator status. Training will be ongoing in 2015 with an emphasis on increasing the experience level of newer members, train intermediate members in specialist areas, and Pan Am games preparation. The Unit continues to evolve and develop best practices in all required areas of activity in order to provide high-risk support and service to units within the Niagara Regional Police Service and to the citizens of Niagara.

2014 Statistical Summary

VIP	Warrants	Armed/ Barricaded Persons	Searches	Court Security/ Escorts	High Risk Arrests	High Risk K9 Track	Other
14	24	15	21	20	12	2	16

Canine Unit

The Canine Unit provides support to front-line officers and investigators utilizing the dog's exceptional olfactory system. The Unit is comprised of seven general purpose police dogs, five of which are cross trained in narcotics detection and one cross trained in explosives detection. The Unit also has one dedicated explosives detection dog that is set to retire in 2015. This dog's replacement is currently in training and will be fully operational in time for the upcoming Pan Am games.

2014 Year End Statistics

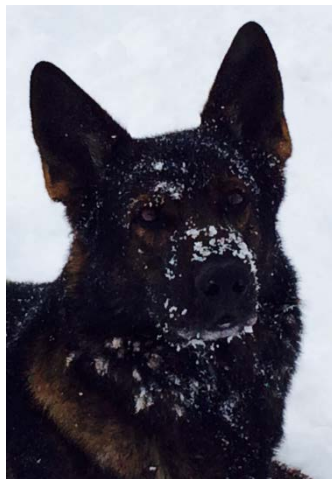
Calls for Police Service Dogs	1,218
Number of Times Canines Used	685
Non-K-9 Calls	980
K9 Successes	124
Arrests	83
Support Apprehensions	102

Breakdown of Calls for Police Dog Services

Calls for Patrol Dogs	583
Calls for Narcotics Detection	102
Calls for Explosives Detection	0

Breakdown of Patrol Dog Calls

Tracks	435
Open Searches	31
Building Searches	64
Evidence Searches	53



The Canine Unit completed re-certification training in the spring and fall of 2014 for 20 dog teams from the Niagara Regional Police Service, Niagara Parks Police Service, Peterborough Community Police Service, Buffalo New York Police Department, Amherst New York Police Department, Town of Tonawanda New York Police Department, Lockport New York Police Department and the Genesee County Sheriff Department.

PSD Render

Special Investigative Services (S.I.S.)

The Niagara Regional Police Special Investigative Services unit deploys 37 sworn officers, 1 drug control officer, 2 civilian analysts 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 broader issues. The Unit is comprised of a Guns, Gangs and Grows Unit, Intelligence Unit, Mobile Surveillance Unit, Morality Unit and the Provincial Anti-Violence Investigation Team (P.A.V.I.S.). Several officers are deployed to Joint Forces Operations including, Biker Enforcement (O.P.P.), Financial Crime Section (R.C.M.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 2014.

The following is a general overview of the combined activities of the Special Investigative Services Unit in 2014.

Project Roadmaster

Project Roadmaster was a Niagara led multi-agency investigation into an international drug importation network. The focus of the investigation began in Niagara but soon spread to areas of the Greater Toronto area and beyond. Project Roadmaster was led by the Special Investigative Services Intelligence unit and each officer in the entire S.I.S. Unit had a part in the investigation. The Niagara unit formed a joint forces partnership for this investigation that includes the Ontario Provincial Police, Peel Regional Police and Financial crimes Section from the RCMP in London, Newmarket and Stoney Creek. The investigation uncovered a sophisticated drug importation ring with ties to the Sinaloa Crime cartel in Mexico and ties to traditional organized crime in the Greater Toronto area.

The project culminated on September 22nd, 2014 with the searches of 28 sites in Southern Ontario. Fourteen persons were arrested for various narcotics, money laundering and criminal organization offences. Narcotics, cash, vehicles and properties were seized as a result of the takedown of the project.

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

- 12 kilos of cocaine
- 90 lbs of marijuana
- 430,000 cash
- 9mm Beretta hand gun – Model 1940
- .303 rifle - Mk1 NG Branch 1943

- .20 gauge shotgun – Mossburg Model 1850
- 21 vehicles including a 2004 Black Mercedes SL5 and a 2005 Silver Ferrari

This project can be considered a success as it resulted in the dismantling of an international drug importation group that previously would have gone untouched. The evidence uncovered during Project Roadmaster will be a resource for similar investigations for years to come.

Sampling of Seizures from Project Roadmaster

Cash Seizures...



\$45,000

\$140,000

Drug Seizures...



10 Pounds of Packaged Marihuana

7 kilograms of Packaged Cocaine

Vehicles Seized...



2005 Ferrari



2004 Mercedes

Guns, Gangs and Grows Unit

In 2014 the Guns, Gangs and Grow unit continued with enforcement of marihuana grow operations within the Region of Niagara. The unit executed a total of 61 search warrants that resulted in the seizure of marihuana plants, weapons, cash and various other narcotics. This unit was also involved, for part of the year, in Project Roadmaster.

The unit conducted 99 separate investigations into the production of marihuana that resulted in 48 suspect arrests and the laying of 119 Controlled Drugs and Substances act and criminal charges.

Consistent with their mandate the Guns gangs and grow unit seized 3,726 marihuana plants in various stages of grow worth an estimated 3.7 million dollars. Also seized during these investigations was \$ 1.24 million worth of dried, ready for sale marihuana.

During these investigations various other illegal drugs worth an estimated \$122,000 were seized. This included seizures of Cannabis Resin, MDMA, cocaine and prescription pills. Also seized during 2014 was \$44,000 cash suspected of being proceeds of crime. 32 firearms including rifles, shotguns and one handgun were also seized by this unit during their many investigations.

Foss Road, Pelham



In April of 2012 The Guns, Gangs and Grow unit began an investigation involving drugs and firearms at a residence on Foss Road in Pelham. After an extensive investigation the unit sought and obtained a search warrant to enter the property and search for evidence in September 2014. As a result the

unit seized 22 long guns, 11,000 rounds of ammunition and \$9,000 worth of cannabis resin. A married couple was charged with 22 weapons offences and one drug related offence.

Regional Road 8, West Lincoln

In October of 2014, the Guns, Gangs and Grow unit commenced an investigation into the illegal production of marihuana at a green house complex on Regional Road 8 in West Lincoln. After a short investigation unit members applied for and were granted authority to enter and search the property for evidence related to the investigations. As a result of the search, officers seized 106 full grown marihuana plants worth \$106,000 along with \$8,600 worth of marihuana, dried and ready for sale and small amount of cannabis resin oil. Also seized was an illegally kept firearm. A West Lincoln man was charged accordingly in this matter.



585 Scobie Road, Grimsby

On December 6th, 2014, the Guns, Gangs and Grows unit were called to assist with a fire investigation at a residence and outbuilding on Scobie Road in Grimsby. They quickly determined that the outer buildings associated with the residence were being used as a marihuana extraction laboratory. With Judicial Authorization, unit members entered the premises and discovered an elaborate laboratory. Seized as a result of the search were elements of the operation including marihuana, solvents, burners and finished cannabis resin. The value of the drugs seized is undetermined at this time and the investigation is ongoing.



Guns, Gangs and Grow Unit Dismantling by Year

<u>Year</u>	<u>Grow Investigations</u>	<u>Plants seized</u>
2009	62	15,506
2010	59	16,530
2011	51	10,215
2012	108	17,385
2013	174	7,714
2014	109	3,726

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.

This Unit is responsible for the monitoring and investigation of various ethnic based 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 mater not only locally but nationally and internationally.

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

There is a crime 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.

Members of this Unit were the lead officers on Project Roadmaster throughout the calendar year and continue that work in early 2015. Members of this Unit were also in involved in several other sensitive investigative projects through the year with the Region of Niagara and elsewhere in the province of Ontario.

Mobile Surveillance Unit

The Niagara Regional Police Service's Mobile Surveillance Unit is a six person team that is a support mechanism for all investigations conducted within Special Investigation Services. The Unit also is a support unit for the other Units within Investigations Services and Divisional Detective Services Units.

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 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 divisional detectives on a number of investigations and also assist and work with other drug squads around the province.

The Unit's expertise was utilized to great lengths during Project Roadmaster and they were an integral part of the success of the project. Each officer is highly skilled in narcotics investigations and specifically skilled in the drafting of judicial authorizations in support of investigations.

They also offer community outreach programs that included presentations on drug abuse and human trafficking. The Unit was also involved in several investigations throughout the year that resulted in prosecutions for prostitution and human trafficking offences.

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.

The goal of this initiative is to take a more aggressive approach to the issues that arise locally and result of the proliferation of street gangs. One of the Unit’s main goals 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 Security Agency, the Crown Attorney’s office along with the local Probation offices.

Two of the major initiatives the PAVIS Unit was responsible for in 2014 were the annual Prescription drug drop of day and the first ever Niagara Gun Amnesty program. Both were successful initiatives. During the May Prescription drop off day PAVIS received 221 Kilograms of prescription drugs for disposal. During the November Gun amnesty program, the Unit took in 179 firearms including many handguns along with 10,100 rounds of ammunition.

Through the PAVIS analyst, the Pavis Unit’s deployment will be based on crime trends and other areas identified as “hotspots” in the Niagara Region.



The Niagara Regional Police Service's P.A.V.I.S. Unit is funded by the Ministry of Community Safety & Correctional Services Ontario with a goal towards keeping Niagara streets safe from violence and guns and gangs activity.

2014 PAVIS Enforcement Statistics at a Glance

PAVIS Investigations	36
Criminal Arrest	48
Charge Laid	112
Search Warrants Executed	21
Gang Members Identified	43
Drug Seizures Total value	\$242,000
Drug related cash seizures	\$41,591

Weapons seized

Handguns	20
Rifle/Shotgun	154
Edged Weapons	5
Other	9
Ammunition Seizures	11,236 rounds

The P.A.V.I.S. Unit was also responsible for six community outreach programs along with eight 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 Health department. During this year's Take back day in conjunction with the PAVIS Unit, 221 kilograms of prescription pills were recovered and destroyed.

Asset Forfeiture Unit - AFU

The primary mandate of AFU is to identify, investigate and seize the proceeds of crime and/or offence related property as defined within both the Criminal Code of Canada and the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act. Asset forfeiture is a powerful tool allowing police services to restrain and forfeit the illicit gains of criminal activity.

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 in 2014.



Provincial Anti-terrorism Section - PATS

PATS are an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation that has active participation from all the major police services in Ontario including the Niagara Regional Police Service. The Unit works very closely with members of the U.S. Intelligence community in addressing threats of terrorism.

The section was established in the aftermath of September 11th, 2001, in the recognition of the fact that additional resources were needed to combat the threat of terrorism in Ontario. Investigators within PATS investigate criminal extremism throughout the province.

As a border community, Niagara is a strategic site for human smuggling and transport of terrorist-related contraband to and from the United States. The primary objective of this Unit is to conduct investigations on individuals and organized crime groups involved in terrorism-related activities. Members of this Unit, including a seconded Niagara, New York police officer, were involved in the investigation that resulted in the arrest of two men plotting to derail a Via Rail train traveling from Niagara Falls to Toronto.



Provincial Weapons Enforcement unit - PWEU

PWEU is an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation with a shared partnership with 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.

Niagara Related Investigations	14
Arrests	15
Search warrants Executed	14
Seizures:	
Ammunition	378 rounds
Rifles	6
Handguns	12
Shotguns	33
Other Weapons	12

Financial Crime Unit – Hamilton/Niagara RCMP

The Financial Crime Unit is a RCMP led Joint Forces Operation consisting of members from the RCMP and the Niagara Regional Police Service.

The Unit is mandated to investigate money laundering and currency smuggling activities and gather evidence to support the identification of these monies as proceeds of crime. This Unit was involved in several high profile investigations in 2014 including Project Roadmaster. This case is still before the courts.



Border Enforcement Security Task Force - BEST

The Niagara Regional Police Service is a partner with the Border Enforcement Team. The team is led by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The Border Enforcement Security Task Force has been involved in numerous cross border investigations resulting in the seizure of illegal firearms, illegal drugs, and money, which has resulted from great working relationships and partnerships. The Niagara Regional Police Service is in its sixth year term with Border Enforcement Security Task Force.



Recruiting Unit

The Recruiting Unit is comprised of one Sergeant, two Constables and a shared civilian member 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 2014 the Niagara Regional Police Service continued to utilize the Constable Selection Process to assist us in our hiring process. The Recruiting Unit focuses on the needs of the Region and in addition to the Essential Competency Interview (a provincially approved interview), the Unit has 2 subsequent requirements: a written Local Focus examination and a Face-to-Face Local Focus interview. The hiring process governed by the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) is highly competitive and it is the Service's goal to only hire the best.

In 2014 the Recruiting Unit reviewed 331 applications and hired 19 new recruits. The OACP has initiated "Discover Policing", in Ontario to showcase the profession of policing to potential candidates in order to educate and inspire them to consider a policing career. The Recruiting Unit has been heavily involved in this program attending numerous events, job fairs and Police week activities aimed at attracting qualified individuals for a career in law enforcement. The Unit also attended the Multi-cultural Centre in St. Catharines and Niagara Falls to educate new Canadians in regards to the duties of a Police Officer in Canada. Officers from the Recruiting Unit also attended several job fairs and information sessions sponsored by the Job Gym and other local business, including the Business Education Council, CERF a francophone employment resource. The Niagara Regional Police Service's commitment to reflecting Ontario's cultural, racial and ethnic diversity and need for the Police to represent the community it serves, brought the unit to Pride in the Park and a job fair sponsored by Pride Niagara called "OUTFORMATION".

The Recruiting Unit also was heavily involved in "The Women in Policing Symposium," Constable Barb Schertzer led this year's event held in Hamilton at Mohawk College. Over 100 women attended the symposium, which has become an annual event sponsored jointly by the Hamilton Police Service, Halton Regional Police, Peel Regional Police, Niagara Regional Police and the OPP. This event is focused on working towards attracting more females to the professional. The Unit was active at Job Fairs at Ontario Universities and Colleges.

2014 Recruit Class Overview

19 Hires

9 graduated from Niagara College

6 graduated from Brock University

6 recruits had both a College Diploma and a University Degree

Age ranged from 23 years to 40 years of age

5 of the recruits were either a Service Special Constable or Auxiliary member

7 recruits spoke a second language

3 recruits were female



Top left - Chief McGuire with proud father Superintendent Cliff Sexton (retired 2014) and his son Class of 2014 Recruit Constable Ryan Sexton. Bottom left – Chief McGuire and Deputies Matthews and MacCulloch with new recruits.

Human Resources

During 2014 the Human Resources Unit continued to support the Service in meeting its objectives while promoting a positive and productive work environment for all members.

In 2014 the focus was on administering and maintaining the Civilian Job Evaluation System and process with more than 30 civilian evaluations and/or re-evaluations having taken place.

The elimination of a number of civilian administrative/clerical positions, as well as, preparation for the transition to the new headquarters in 2016 was at the forefront of 2014 activities for Human Resources.

During the latter part of 2014, a major review and re-vamping of the Service's Attendance Management Program was conducted by members of the Human Resources Unit with an implementation date set for early 2015.

2014 Total Hires

Uniform	18
Civilian	11
Total	29

2014 Retirements and Resignations *

Superintendent	1	Senior Civilian	
Inspector	0	Managers	4
Staff Sergeant	0	Civilian Technical	
Sergeant	3	and Administrative	
Constable	13	Support	10
Total	17	Total	14

* Includes 5 deaths and 13 resignations.

2014 Authorized Strength

Uniform

Chief of Police	1
Deputy Chief of Police	2
Superintendent	4
Inspector	14
Staff Sergeant	30
Sergeant	113
Constable	542

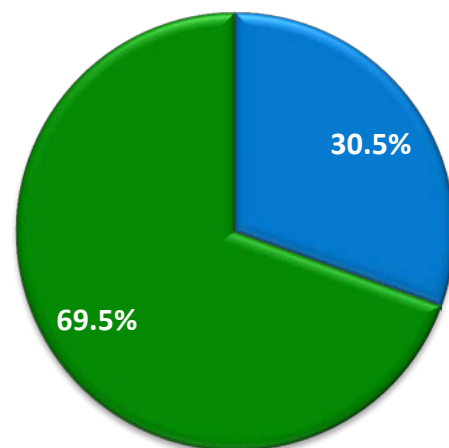
Total Uniform 706

Civilian

Director	2
Managers	10
Civilian Personnel (includes all Special Constables, subject matter specialists, technical and administrative positions)	298

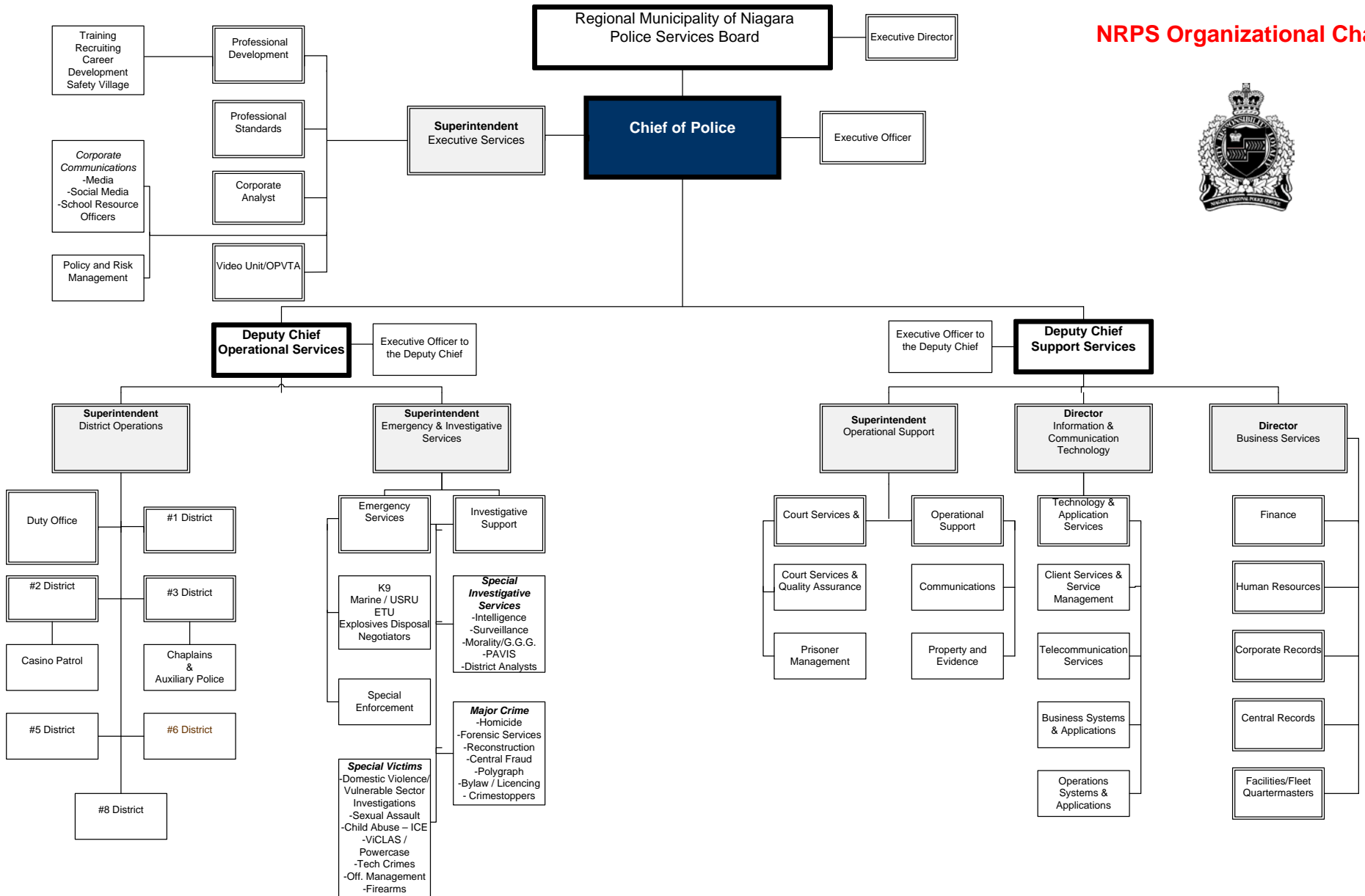
Total Civilian 310

All Personnel 1,016



■ Civilian ■ Sworn

NRPS Organizational Chart



Budget Overview

ACTUAL VS. BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Expenditure	Budget	Actual
Personnel Costs	130,232,057	131,032,373
Administrative Expenses	1,672,821	1,418,539
Materials, Supplies and Utilities	4,951,850	4,574,792
Repairs and Maintenance	2,267,649	2,141,115
Other Operating Expenses	2,841,281	2,640,076
Financial Expenditures	4,786,715	4,964,704
Capital Equipment and Renovations	425,000	265,767
Inter-functional Transfers	141,594	122,259
Total Gross Expenditure	147,318,967	147,159,625

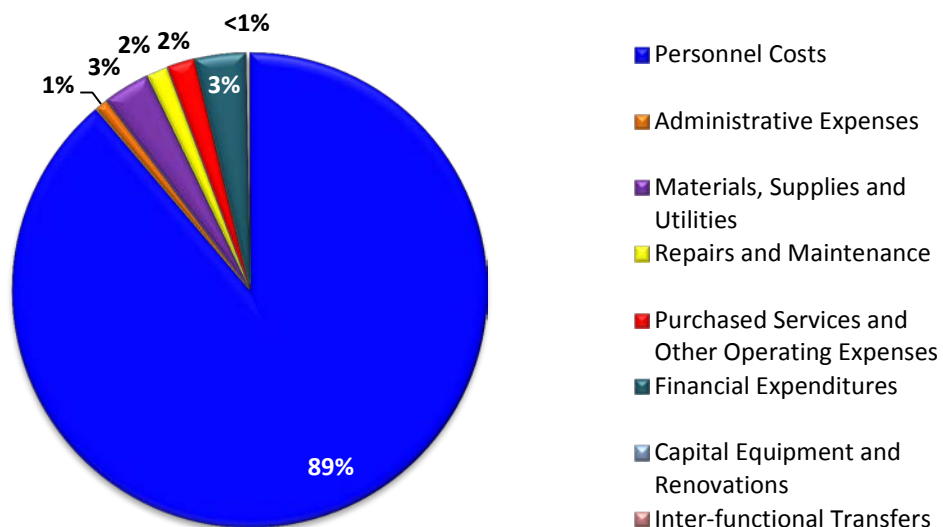
BUDGET VS. ACTUAL RECOVERIES AND REVENUE

Recovery or Revenue Description	Budget	Actual
Recoveries	1,213,495	1,196,764
Ontario/Canada Specific Grants	5,971,132	6,059,731
Fees and Service Charges	7,023,988	7,631,047
Other Revenue	1,694,085	2,180,108
Transfers from Other Funds	700,000	(40,532)
Total Recoveries and Revenues	16,602,700	17,027,118

BUDGETED VS. ACTUAL COST OF POLICING

Budgeted	Actual Cost
130,716,267	130,132,507

Actual Budget Expenditure Breakdown





Exemplary Service Awards

Command Staff

Chief Jeff McGuire, M.O.M.
Shelley Jesik, Executive Assistant

Deputy Chief Joe Matthews
Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch
Evelyn Barkley, Executive Assistant

Senior Sworn Officers

Superintendents

Superintendent Dan D'Amico
Superintendent Scott McLean
Superintendent Clifford Sexton
Superintendent Geoffrey Skaftfeld
Superintendent Robert Wright

Inspectors

Inspector George Bench
Inspector Desmond Carter
Inspector Christopher Cincio
Inspector Daniel D'Amico
Inspector Brett Flynn
Inspector Richard Frayne
Inspector Joseph Garvey
Inspector Pat McCauley
Inspector James McCaffery
Inspector Mark McMullen
Inspector James Prinsen
Inspector Cindy White

Directors

Akram Askoul
Lisa DiDonato-DeChellis

Senior Civilian Personnel

Carol Berry
Paul Divers
Chris Fisher
Fran Garvey
Anne Hepplewhite
Linda Jerome
Laura Rullo
Jamie Saunders
Cathy Tucker

Executive Assistant
Mandy Caughlin
Sandy Croft
Maria Izzo

Police Services Board Award of Excellence

Staff Sergeant Marco Giannico

Police Services Board Commendations

Don Hart Marlene Hart Constable Dan MacKinnon
Staff Sergeant Marco Giannico Caila Stante Corinne Wall

Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Service Board Medal of Merit

Constable Matthew Whiteley Constable Mark Eitzen Constable Ernie Cupiraggi

Chief of Police Award

Pipe Major Peter MacKenzie

Chief of Police Commendation

Detective Constable Eric Bell Constable Dwaine Haughie
Civilian Member Jennifer Savage Constable Michael Amio
Constable Jeffrey Cross Constable Jeffrey Dam
Constable Janine De Vries Constable Trevor Katch

Thirty Year Exemplary Service Bar

Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch Inspector James McCaffery Staff Sergeant David Brennan
Staff Sergeant Deborah Beaulieu Sergeant Richard Brouwer Sergeant Keri Harrison
Sergeant David Shennan Sergeant Bradley Swan Constable Gary Holt
Constable James Marino Constable Craig Moore Constable Daniel Pay
Constable Elaine Sonnenberg Constable Joan Vanbreda Constable Georgina Allan

Twenty Year Exemplary Medal

Sergeant Josephine Hollingshead

Civilian Personnel Pins/Bars

30-Year Civilian Service Recognition

Annette Carrey Lianne Daley Connie DeRoche Elaine Hunter
Donna McIntosh Donna Rose Sandra Wilson



Auxiliary Officer 25 Year Ontario Auxiliary Police Medal

Auxiliary Inspector Chaplain Father Brian Bevan

Retirees

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

and

Dawn Cichocki
Executive Assistant

Niagara Regional Police Service Chaplains

Brian Bevan
Clive Page
Jennifer Anderson
Gerard Power
Gary Page
Ramesh Sharma

Superintendent

Cliff Sexton

Sergeant

Steve Bickell
Ronald Cudney Jr.
Shawn Felstead

Constable

Stephen Canton
David Harrison
James Marino
William Mutch
Stephen Simms
Kenneth Wegelin
James Whittle

Civilian Members

Francis Garvey
Donna Lynn Nywening
Ruth Johnson
Tracy Taylor
Mary Lynn Somogyi
Judith Keep
Joseph MacNeil

Police Officer of the Year Awards

- | | | | |
|---|------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1 District | Constable Paul Koole | Executive Services | Constable Jay Wooley |
| 2 District | Constable Jeff Leavens | Investigative Support | Constable Adam Franklin |
| 3 District | Constable Jessie Stewart | Emergency Services | Constable Raymond Choy |
| 5 District | Constable Michael Ticknovich | Court Services/Quality Assurance | Sergeant Scot Walker |
| 6 District | Constable Trevor Katch | Auxiliary Unit | Auxiliary Constable Michael Robinson |
| 8 District | Constable Karina Kadwell | Casino Unit | Constable Jeffrey Bootsma |
| Traffic Safety Leadership Award | | Constable Adam Carter | |
| Community Policing Officer of the Year Award | | Sergeant David Bridel | |

Civilian Member of the Year Award

Executive Services Operational Services Diane Poulsen

Support Services Robin Johnstone

Telecommunicator of the Year Award

Elizabeth Kierstead

Related Awards

James A. Gayder Award Maria Izzo

Media Award Mark Wikobrado, TVCogeco

Monika George Educational Bursary Cailyn Zamora
Notre Dame College School

Constable Dale Racine Educational Bursary

Charmaine Holland, Fort Erie Secondary School

Kiera Robinson, Holy Cross Catholic Secondary School

Vinay Sharma, Welland Centennial Secondary School

United Way Awards Evening

Chief Jeff McGuire and members of the Niagara Regional Police Service proudly attended the United Way Awards Evening on March 20, 2014. The NRPS and retired Constable Tracy McCabe were recognized for commitment to the Loaned Representative Program and the Employee Contribution Campaign.



Pictured left to right, Constable Evan Lindsay, Inspector Richard Frayne, Constable Tracy McCabe (Ret), Ms. Joanne Andrighette, Constable Matt King, Inspector Mark McMullen and Chief Jeff McGuire. Sadly missed is civilian member Ms. Ann Groves who passed away earlier in 2014.

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.

Public Complaints	2013	2014
Unsubstantiated	32	27
Frivolous, Vexatious or Bad Faith	5	2
Over Six Months of Age	4	4
Withdrawn	3	8
Abandoned by Complainant	--	--
Other – No investigation (auth: OIPRD)	28	35
No Further Action Taken	--	6
Request for Review	16	3
Informal Resolution	1	1
Disposition Without Hearings	--	1
Failing Informal Resolution		
Pending Investigations	11	1
Total Number of Public Complaints	106 (includes 16 carried over from 2012)	82 (includes 9 carried over from 2013)
Complaint to Officer Ratio	1 : 6.7	1 : 8.6

The Professional Standards Unit is also the liaison office for incidents that require the involvement of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). The SIU is a civilian oversight office of the provincial government which is mandated to investigate incidents where members of the public may have suffered serious injury or death, or sexual assault, in their interactions with police officers.

In Memoriam



In 2014 the Niagara Regional Police Service lost five members of its police family. They will be sorely missed and fondly remembered by their many colleagues and friends.

Ms. Anne Groves

October 1, 1961 – January 23, 2014

Mrs. Carol Kitchingman

June 4, 1962 – March 26, 2014

Sergeant James "Jim" Williams

September 29, 1953 – April 22, 2014

Constable Joe Mellen

June 28, 1981 – August 8, 2014

Constable George Savage

January 30, 1975 – September 22, 2014



Constable Jacob Smits

Recipient of the Ontario Medal for Police Bravery

On Thursday November 27, 2014, Constable Jacob Smits was one of six police officers awarded the Ontario Medal for Police Bravery. Chief Jeff McGuire and Jacob's family were at the ceremony in Queens Park to join Jake as he received the Province's highest honours in recognition of police officers whose actions demonstrate outstanding courage.

The Honourable Elizabeth Dowdeswell, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario, and Yasir Naqvi, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, honoured 16 firefighters and six police officers for acts of exceptional bravery and courage.



Synopsis

Constable Jacob Smits was nearing the end of his shift on July 24, 2012, when he volunteered for a call for service regarding an 18-year old male who was the subject of an arrest warrant. Smits was close to the location where the male had last been seen. Given the nature of the call, a second officer was dispatched to provide backup.

As Smits waited for backup, he spotted the suspect walking down the street with a woman. Smits called the man over and explained there was a warrant for his arrest. The officer noticed an immediate change in the suspect's behaviour and became concerned about a potential altercation. Smits took steps to deescalate the situation by attempting to build rapport with the man and his girlfriend. He allowed him a cigarette while he explained that the arrest warrant was in relation to a relatively minor charge.

The girlfriend expressed concern over the cost of a lawyer and as Smits explained how to apply for legal aid, the suspect fled on foot. Smits pursued the man in his police cruiser for a short distance, before engaging in a foot pursuit through the yard of residence overlooking the Niagara Gorge.

As he exited the yard, Smits could not see the man but heard the sound of breaking branches in the Gorge below. Peering over a retaining wall his worst fears were confirmed. The suspect had jumped over the wall and was standing approximately three metres below on uneven terrain. The man began moving further away and Smits knew that he was at immediate risk of falling into the Gorge. Putting himself in an equally perilous situation, Smits leaped over the retaining wall, grabbed for the first tree branch and extended an arm to the suspect. Smits and suspect never made contact and both fell 24 metres into the Gorge.

Smits, who was badly injured, was able to radio for assistance and fired his pistol several times to alert rescuers of their location. Smits was lifted from the Gorge after a challenging rescue by members of the Niagara Regional Police Service Emergency Task Unit, fellow officers from the Niagara Parks Police and the Niagara Falls Fire Department. He was treated for significant injuries. Sadly, despite the best efforts of first responders, the suspect did not survive the fall.

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

[Visit our website](http://www.niagarapolice.ca)

www.niagarapolice.ca

NRPS

@NiagRegPolice

Chief Jeff McGuire

@ChiefMcGuire

NRPS Traffic Updates

@NiagaraTraffic