



**Chief of Police
Update Report to the Winnipeg Police Board**

To: Chair and Members
Winnipeg Police Board

From: Danny Smyth, Chief of Police

Subject : Update Report

Date: October 13, 2017

Exhibit: National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls		
Location/Phase: <u>Parts 2/3 St. John's</u>		
Witness: <u>Danny Smyth</u>		
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Add'l info: <u>P02-03 P04 P0401</u>		
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October is Child Abuse Prevention month in Canada. During the month we work with community partners to raise awareness about how to identify and help prevent child abuse. We all have a role to play in keeping our children and families safe.

There are many types of child abuse, including physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, and exposure to domestic violence. Child neglect is also considered an equally serious child protection concern. Research shows that the impact of neglect on child development and well-being can be more damaging than any other kind of abuse.

This week we will be releasing a community video message to raise awareness for child abuse and acting on those voices that call out for help. Produced by our Video Production Unit, it will appear on our [YouTube Channel](#) as well as through the Service's other social media channels.

A. LESS CRIME AND VICTIMIZATION

1. Indigenous Council

On September 21st Inspector Kelly Dennison, presented on Missing Persons to the Indigenous Counsel on Policing and Crime Prevention at the Southern Chiefs Organization. The Missing Persons Unit provides a timely and coordinated response to persons reported missing, understanding that emergent circumstances, depending on the vulnerability of the missing person require a more concentrated use of police and community resources, simultaneously providing compassionate and accountable support to reporting persons.

Inspector Dennison reported on the structure and priorities of the Missing Persons Unit, as well as the many partner agencies they work with through WON (a network of outreach workers, functioning together, reaching out to anyone street involved. Including youth, exploited youth and adult women, transgender and males, homeless, transient, gang involved, children in care and not in care), the Salvation Army- Ancourage Program, Main Street Project, Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, and Manitoba Housing among others.

2. Project Return

During the weekend of September 25th and 26th the Service's Counter Exploitation and Missing Person's Units, overseen by Inspector Kelly Dennison, along with members of the Community Support Division 11, in partnership with community outreach workers from StreetReach and the Winnipeg Outreach Network (WON), initiated a joint project aimed at protecting youth within our city who are at a high risk of being sexually exploited. The following were the results of the initiative:

- 15 males arrested between ages of 19-62 for Purchasing Sexual Services CC 286.1(1)
- 9 Vehicles seized under the Prostitution HTA offences
- 46 Crime Prevention through Social Development (CPTSD) contacts were made to identify and assist those involved in the Sex Trade
- 26 persons were provided Harm Reduction kits/food and/or clothing during the CPTSD contacts
- 62 locations known to be frequented by high risk missing youths checked
- 13 at risk youth were located with each transported to a place of safety
- 2 of these missing/high risk youths were arrested for an outstanding warrant and Failing to Comply with Sentence

Our commitment to issues surrounding our missing youth and those at risk of sexual exploitation in the community is a continuing one involving various community organizations and partnerships.

3. Community Safety Forum

On September 29th Inspector Mike Herman, Commander of West District, participated in a Community Safety Forum in the Daniel McIntyre Ward. The event was hosted by Councilor Cindy Gilroy at the Valour Community Centre. Other members from the Service's West District were in attendance, along with our Community Relations Division and other community safety partners including City of Winnipeg By-law Officers, Manitoba Justice Safer Communities, Citizens on Patrol Director, the City's End Homelessness Coordinator and MLA's Andrew Swan (Minto) and Scott Johnston (St. James).

Inspector Herman provided an overview of the structure of West District, reactive policing (calls for service), proactive policing (SPI and crime data for the area), what Community Support is doing in the area, and the predominant crime type (thefts from motor vehicles) and tips to curb it including encouraged use of Cop logic/E-Reporting. Our Crime Prevention members spoke on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and Neighborhood Watch. Good information was shared by all the other speakers, supported by MLA Swan providing free graffiti removal on personal property through Ph# 204-954-7900 for area residents, funded by the Province's MLA's in support of the Community, Broken Windows Theory.

B. ENGAGED COMMUNITIES

1. Citizenship Court

On September 19th I had the distinct honour of hosting a Canadian Citizenship Ceremony inside our Headquarters building, in our Community Relations Division. Friends, family and dignitaries were all on hand to welcome 16 new Canadians take their oath of citizenship and join this great country of ours. Those taking part in the ceremony came to Canada from 11 different countries, including Argentina, Cameroon, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Germany, India, Jamaica, Philippines, Sudan, and the United States of America. I was part of the Platform Party and provided welcoming remarks to our new citizens, their families and guests. Afterwards, refreshments were served, and guests were provided the opportunity to interact with members of the Service.

2. Manitoba Metis Federation General Assembly

On September 23rd I brought greetings to the Manitoba Metis Federation's 49th Annual General Assembly. This was my first General Assembly as Chief of Police and it was exceptionally well attended, with representation from several members of the Manitoba Legislative Assembly, the federal Cabinet and a video greeting from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Besides just bringing greetings from the Service, however, I talked about perceptions and a little about myself and my first year as a police officer. I started on the beat in 1986 and within a year I was transferred to the east end of the City. My partner was to be Willie Ducharme, a 10-year veteran of the Service. Willie was Metis, from the community of St. Laurent. Some thought we were an odd looking pair working the streets together – Willie at 6'3", 280 pounds and me at 5'7", 165 pounds.

The only thing bigger than Willie was his heart. Looking back, with nearly 14% of Winnipeg's population being Indigenous, the pairing should not have been that odd (other than the size difference). Willie and I became good friends and lived in the same apartment building for a while. He passed away earlier this year after a brief battle with cancer. For me, his legacy will be the North End Feast held annually at the Indian & Metis Friendship Centre, where the police have the honour of serving the community as honorary members of the Bear Clan. It is fitting that one of the elders gave Willie the spirit name: Big Kind-Hearted Bear.

Just as it should not seem odd that Willie and I worked together; it should not seem odd that the Government of Canada and the Metis Nation are establishing and working on a government-to-government relationship. It should not seem odd that that Indigenous Peoples have taken up new space in the former US Embassy on Wellington Street. As Metis National President Chartier said at the time "it provides the Metis Nation with an eye on Parliament and provides Parliament and, indeed, all of Canada, with an eye on us". In my view there is nothing odd about that.

3. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Awareness Day

On the morning of October 4th I was at the Legislative Building for a Pipe Ceremony & Feast in Recognition of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Families and the Province of Manitoba's Inaugural MMIWG Awareness Day Act. The morning was hosted by Nahanni Fontaine, MLA for St. Johns and Bernadette Smith, MLA for Point Douglas. Later in the afternoon Inspector Gord Friesen gathered at the Legislative Buildings for the 5th Annual Mainaway Kiskisitan Niwakomakanak, organized by the Manitoba MMIWG Coalition, Assembly of First Nations, Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre, Eyaa-Keen Healing Centre Inc., Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak, Ka Ni Kanichihk, Manitoba Moon Voices and the Manitoba Government.

4. Community Outreach

I also attended a number of other community outreach events during the month of September. Several of note include:

a. CTV Morning Show Live. On September 6th I appeared on CTV Morning Show live. This is a monthly engagement where I talk about current issues in Winnipeg. Such engagement with the media and the community is essential to the provision of adequate and effective police services in general, and effective community engagement in particular.

b. Candlelight Service at Brookside Cemetery. On September 10th, along with two of our Chaplains, I participated in the Candlelight Service at Brookside Cemetery Field of Honour, Commemorating Canada 150 and those that have served.

c. Community Challenge Golf Tournament. On September 13th I participated at the Community Challenge Golf Tournament to raise funds for the WPS Opportunity Scholarship at the University of Winnipeg.

d. Kings Corner Restaurant. On September 21st I was invited to participate in the Ribbon Cutting and grand opening of the Kings Corner Restaurant on King Street. Also present were Councillor and former Police Board Chair Scott Gillingham and former Lieutenant Governor, Philip Lee.

e. "Human Trafficking, Canada's Secret Shame" documentary. On September 25th I spoke at the launch of the documentary, "Human Trafficking, Canada's Secret Shame", by the Joy Smith Foundation at the RCMP Headquarters on Portage Ave.

f. St. John Ambulance Investiture and Awards Ceremony. On September 26th I was an invited guest to the St. John Ambulance Investiture and Awards Ceremony at Government House where the Order of St. John in Canada honours its deserving members and presents lifesaving awards to people who have saved or attempted to save lives.

g. Snowflake Place AGM. On September 26th I attended the Snowflake Place AGM with Superintendent Rich Lowen and Inspector Kelly Dennison in support of our partnership that child victims receive sensitive and immediate support in a child-friendly setting.

C. EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT SERVICE

1. Communications Centre Certification

On September 14th, the Service's Communications Division received the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International Agency Training Program Certification.

APCO International is the world's oldest and largest organization of public safety communications professionals and provides expertise, professional development, technical assistance, advocacy and outreach to Public Safety Telecommunicators. Certification is a formal mechanism that ensures the Communications Centre's training programs meet APCO standards, and fosters advancement in training and professional development for our dedicated members who serve in Communications.

To receive this certification, our Communications Centre's training documentation was put under the scrutiny of APCO International's Project 33 Training Certification Program. Training content for both new and veteran members in the Communications Centre was evaluated based on standards approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Call Takers receive five weeks of classroom training and approximately 450 hours of coaching before their final evaluation. Our Dispatchers receive three weeks of classroom training and approximately 150 hours of coaching prior to their final evaluation. It is a robust training program that is the building block in fulfilling the Communications Centre's commitment to excellence.

2. Cadet Class #13 Completes Training

On September 28th, after 4½ months, Cadet Class #13 completed their final phase of training. The Cadet program originally began in 2010. Cadets are peace officers that work throughout our City to enhance the Service's visual presence, build positive relationships in the community and allow police members to focus on core police duties. A Cadet's daily activities vary and include conducting neighborhood foot patrol, guarding crime scenes, directing traffic, enforcing provincial statutes and municipal by-laws, and referring citizens to assisting agencies. Cadets provide an important role in making the WPS a more effective and efficient service.

3. Public Opinion Survey

This week I will be presenting the results of the 2017 Winnipeg Police Public Opinion Survey conducted between May 23rd and 26th. A total of 602 respondents answered over 100 questions concerning their involvement with, and opinion of, the Winnipeg Police Service. Many of the questions on the survey are "tracking" questions that have remained unchanged

for almost 20 years, through eight surveys, and can be used to measure the changing attitudes of citizens over the years.

The questions are generally intended to assess citizens' involvement with the Service over the past year and many of the survey questions are phrased "*in the past 12 months did you ...*" (in regards to the Winnipeg Police). Thus, the responses generally equate to parts of both the 2016 and 2017 years, although the survey was conducted in 2017.

Respondents were asked their overall opinion about the quality of police service in Winnipeg. This is a tracking question and has been asked in every survey since 1999. Over seventy percent (72.9%) of the respondents rated the WPS as good-excellent compared with 5.3% who rated it as poor-very poor. The good-excellent score is up 11% from 2010, and is the best rating seen for this question since the inception of this survey.

D. HEALTHY ORGANIZATION

1. Volunteer Recognition BBQ

On September 13th, while I was at the Community Challenge Golf Tournament in support of the WPS Opportunity Scholarship, Deputy Chief Stannard hosted the annual BBQ in recognition of our volunteers who work tirelessly within our Victim Services and Community Support Programs. With every shift served, they seemingly go above and beyond to further the efforts of the Service.

The Winnipeg Police Service is a stronger and more successful organization with the support of our dedicated volunteers and the relationships they help strengthen in our community. These are the men and women you likely first encounter at one of our police stations. Serving alongside our officers and staff, they're there to help you get to the help you require.

At community events, our volunteers aid in operating our Community Caravan and are always quick to ensure kids young and old – and curious citizens of all ages – can ask questions about our operations and/or get a "selfie" with Copper – our mascot! The volunteers serving with our Victim Services Program are among the most caring committed people you will meet. They assist the public by following up on the citizens' well-being after police related incidents. They also field calls ranging from concerns/complaints, to victims being emotionally distraught, to the public looking for information on anything police related.

2. Police Appreciation Night

On September 22nd Superintendent Gerri Forscutt represented the Service for Police Appreciation Night at Investors Group Stadium in conjunction with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers game against the Ottawa RedBlacks. The Winnipeg Police Pipe Band played at centre field and our Cadets were on hand as part of a recruiting campaign. Unfortunately, just as the Cadet core was to unfurl a gigantic Canadian flag on the field, rain prevented it from occurring.

However, as much as the Winnipeg Football Club wanted to thank the police, I would like to acknowledge all members of the Service who give back to their community by coaching football. As I said in the Service's 2016 Business Plan, healthy engagement with the community is vital for our Service. Effectively helping people and getting to know the people that make up our diverse neighbourhoods reinforces the notion that we too, are citizens doing our best to help our neighbours. Just a few of those your police neighbours and their community football teams are:

a. St. Vital Mustangs:

Patrol Sergeant Andy Wahl
Patrol Sergeant Trevor Forscutt
Sergeant Kevin Kavitch
Constable Marvin Jones
Detective Sergeant Al Hanslip

b. Charleswood Broncos:

Constable James Clarkson

c. Winnipeg Rifles:

Constable Kent Wood

d. St Paul's High School

Constable Paul Weekes

e. Garden City Collegiate

Constable Dan Noordman

3. National Police and Peace Officers Memorial Day

On September 24th along with several members of my Executive Management Team, the Winnipeg Police Museum and Historical Society and the Winnipeg Police Pipe Band, I attended the Police and Peace officers National Memorial at the Legislative Buildings. Proclaimed in 1998 by the Government of Canada, the last Sunday in September of every year is the Police and Peace Officers National Memorial Day, giving the Service and all Canadians an opportunity each year to formally express appreciation for the dedication of police and peace officers, who make the ultimate sacrifice to keep our communities safe. This National Memorial Day is marked by a ceremony held on Parliament Hill and is attended to by Police and Peace Officers from across Canada and the United States.

To coincide with the ceremony held in Ottawa, the Manitoba Association of Chiefs of Police hold a Memorial Service to honour the memory and sacrifice of the Police and Peace Officers who died while on duty in the service of our community.

E. LOOKING AHEAD

Oct 10 - Community Forum / Gang Awareness, Glenlawn Collegiate

Oct 10 - Coffee with a Cop at McDonalds, 664 Portage Ave.

Oct 11 - IRCOM Isabel Celebration

Oct 12 - Cadet Class #14 starts

Oct 14 - Citizens on Patrol Program (COPP) Volunteer Appreciation Night

Oct 19 - "Walking the Talk" Peace Building & Safer Neighborhoods at Canadian Mennonite University

Nov 1 - MADD "Project Red Ribbon" Kick-off

Nov 9 - KAIROS Blanket Exercise Training for Senior Officers

Nov 14 - Manitoba Addiction Awareness Week

Nov 16 - Attorney General's Excellence in Law Enforcement Awards

Nov 17 - Recruit Class No. 160 graduates

Nov 18 - CALEA Conference and Reaccreditation in Florida

Nov 20 - POA comes into force

Nov 20-21 - Dr. Brokenleg Seminar, Truth & Reconciliation

Danny Smyth
Chief of Police