

Chief VERBAL REPORT – JULY 2024

As we all know, the City of Ottawa experiences an influx of visitors over the summer and hosts a number of festivals and special events. **Alors, c'est encore une période bien occupée pour nous. We are very busy right now. You've heard that from many of the delegates.**

I'll start with the Byward Market.

MARKET ENFORCEMENT

“When we opened our Neighbourhood Operations Center in June, our goal was to create a shared space for better coordination with our frontline and community partners. I am very pleased to announce that we have achieved this vision with the creation of the CORE Frontline Task Force (FTF), Not to be confused with the Integrated Community Safety Table. The FTF began operations at the end of June. The FTF is composed of frontline workers, supervisors, and managers from The City’s Community Engagement Outreach Teams, OC Transpo Special Constables, Ottawa Paramedics, Bylaw Services, Ottawa Public Works Department, Ottawa Public Health, and the Ottawa Police Service.

Weekly FTF briefings are held at the NOC to coordinate efforts through sharing real-time information, data, and intelligence for immediate follow up. By working with local businesses, community associations, and service providers, the FTF listens closely to community feedback and takes immediate action to address the most pressing concerns. This ensures that we work as a team to directly respond to community needs.

A key initiative of the FTF is coordinating joint foot patrols, focusing on our eight high-priority Hot Spot areas. These patrols include police officers, OC Transpo Special Constables, Bylaw Officers, and Community Engagement Teams. To facilitate oversight and consistent follow-up on action items, command staff from

each agency will attend one meeting each month. This ensures that strategic decisions are made collaboratively and that all partners remain aligned in their efforts, acting as a unified team.

All FTF partners will have full access to the shared space at the NOC. The interior will feature their respective agency's imagery, storage areas, and signage for each partner, demonstrating the NOC's function as a shared space for seamless frontline coordination. The creation of the CORE Frontline Task Force is an exciting step forward in our ongoing efforts to enhance safety and community engagement in downtown Ottawa. By leveraging the strengths of our partner agencies and fostering a collaborative environment, we are making meaningful strides towards a safer and more resilient community.

I'll go a little off script here. We've heard from some delegates today and previous meetings about wanting and needing more police presence/action/enforcement.

It is our intention to expand our CORE strategy but this is a pilot and a starting point to move it to other areas within the city. But we need to learn and make sure this is a model that works.

But that doesn't mean we will be ignoring other areas of the city. But as I mentioned, through our District policing program, we have to prioritize and address the areas that we can with collaboration from our key partners that include the Councilors.

Traffic Enforcement

After numerous years of traffic complaints, we have launched,

#ResidentsMatter late-night Speed, Street Racing & Disruptive Noise

enforcement initiative. This is led by Traffic Constables Kane and Hagan. .

The team has deployed on multiple evenings to focus on problematic

areas, with a special concentration on the Strandherd Dr/Greenbank Rd area in Barrhaven due to this currently being the most problematic “meet-up” location in the city.

This past Friday our team was in this area focusing and a total of 61 charges we’re laid in one evening included 5 for stunt driving. Speeds on Strandherd for these five drivers ranged from 112km/hr to 181km/hr. All five drivers had their licences suspended for 30 days, their cars impounded for 14 days and a court date to see a justice of the peace.

As well, we have recently launched our ***Enhanced Integrated Enforcement Initiative for 2024 that incorporates feedback from the community/councilors and our own data.*** ***This is*** an ongoing effort to re-prioritize traffic enforcement of our frontline teams. Our officers are now focusing on an additional 114 Enforcement deployment locations with a prioritization on Stop Sign, Unnecessary Noise & General HTA enforcement in residential areas across the city.

Lastly, OPS continues to crack down on impaired drivers on our streets and waterways.

From January 1st to July 1st, 427 drivers were charged with Impaired related offence.

Over the Canada Day weekend – 14 drivers were charged.

On the waterways, since July 1st, three boat operators have been charged, two with Impaired operation and one with a 3-day license suspension.

DEMO UPDATE

Recent events like Escapade, Canada Day, Bluesfest, Red Black games and various demonstrations and numerous festivals have kept our team very busy but all events were concluded without any major incidents.

Des milliers de personnes ont célébré la fête du Canada en toute sécurité avec leur famille dans la ville cette année.

I want to thank all the members who worked many hours planning, and coordinating with partners, for these annual mega-events. And thank you to our members who worked to keep our city safe for all. **Merci à tous.**

HOMICIDE UPDATE

I want to speak to a few homicides that have occurred in the last month. Local media has been reporting a link between the Infinity Centre double

homicide from September 2023 and the July 5th Carling Avenue homicide.

They were targeted events and we are actively investigating both cases.

Our homicide team has laid charges against two males that include first degree murders in the most recent incident on Carling Avenue. A Canada Wide Warrant has been issued for both males. We have reason to believe that both of the accused have fled the country.

The most recent homicide that occurred on July 16th in Orleans is not related to the files I just discussed above. Our team is actively investigating this incident and we are asking the public to contact us with any information or video that they may have.

DATA PORTAL UPDATE

Since the beta launch of the Community Safety Data Portal last fall, we've been collecting feedback and making incremental improvements.

We have seen steady growth in usage. The portal has had over 140k page views over the past 9 months since its launch, while our most popular product, the Crime Map, has seen a 28% increase in average daily users compared to last quarter (April 2024).

As part of our evaluation, we are conducting user experience research on the portal to make sure we are delivering a user friendly experience.

This process is helping us to gather valuable feedback that is shaping our upcoming design enhancements. If you haven't already seen the portal, it can be found selecting the link on the Ottawa Police home page.

PARIS OLYMPICS

On a positive note, the RCMP recently contacted us on behalf of the French Authorities to request that we provide a K9 officer to attend the Paris Olympics. We're proud to have been asked to assist in such a high-profile global event.

Cst. David Guy and his K9 partner, Becky, a German Shepherd short-haired pointer, have now traveled to Paris and are tasked with explosives detection at several Olympic venues until the end of the Olympics in mid-August.

Canine Officers and detector dogs are highly trained and are among the many specialized members of OPS.

Stay tuned to our social media for some updates on Cst. Guy and Becky in Paris.

