

Chief's Verbal Report

Monday, January 25, 2016

Ottawa Police Services Board Meeting

Good evening.

Congratulations Mr. Chair and Vice Chair on your re-elections.

Thank you to you both for your continued leadership.

For my verbal report, I'd like to make a few brief comments on two particular issues:

Guns and Gangs

The issue of guns and gangs is one that our Service has been focused on. We have increased staffing to our Guns and Gangs units and ensured this is a Service wide priority. We began the year with 5 reported shootings. All of those cases are being investigated. Our officers are working every day to investigate these crimes and hold offenders accountable.

Just last week 2 individuals were charged in relation to a recent shooting on January 15 on Innes Road in which a man was struck by a bullet. As a result of the investigation, a loaded handgun with ammunition was also seized.

The reality is guns are becoming more accessible and the criminals that have them are more inclined to use them. We are adapting to this shift. Last year alone, we charged more than 150 people and laid more than 1,200 charges in relation to guns and gang activity on our streets. 76 guns were seized. But we know enforcement alone is not the answer to this issue.

We continue to support our partners' efforts on intervention, prevention, and neighbourhood cohesion through the Ottawa Gang Strategy.

Break and Enters

I would also like to commend the work of our Break and Enter teams who have been busy investigating a number of cases across the city and have successfully solved many of them.

In the last month alone, they have laid 284 criminal charges.

Here are a few highlights that stand out.

Beginning in early December, we received a number of reports of "smash and grab" style break and enters across the City involving 2 suspects. The suspects would arrive

in a vehicle then smash the glass on the entrance door of a business. Once inside, the suspects would target the cash drawer. East Patrol officers located and arrested the suspects in early January. Break and Enter Investigators were able to link the suspects to a total of 11 incidents, resulting in 42 charges. This investigation is ongoing and further charges may be laid.

Another individual was arrested on January 14 on Carling, following a break and enter. This suspect was linked to other investigations and is currently facing 21 charges. Finally, earlier this month, a person witnessed his neighbour's door getting kicked on Duford Dr. Police were called and were able to arrest the fleeing suspects. The investigation found that the suspects had committed a second break and enter in Orleans. As well, one of the suspects was wanted on a Canada Wide Parole Warrant, and was believed to be responsible for at least 20 residential B&Es in Ottawa since mid December of 2015. Both suspects are facing a number of charges.

Mr. Chair, this outlines just some of the excellent work being done by our members on an ongoing basis.

Thank you.