

Ottawa Police Services Board

March 23, 2015

Chief's Verbal Report

Good evening,

I have a number of items to update the Board on.

Special Olympics/Bobby Ryan

Last week, OPS members participated in a floor hockey scrimmage with Special Olympics Athletes. It was a friendly game in preparation for the 2015 Special Olympics Provincial Floor Hockey Championships. OPS is co-hosting the event in May. I know that the highlight for the athletes and OPS members was Ottawa Senator Bobby Ryan. He came out to support the event and the championships and was a great representative of his team. There has also been a competition struck between Mr. Ryan and Defenceman Jake Gardiner of the Toronto Maple Leafs. Their goal is to rally their fans and reach \$50,000 in donations. We encourage the public to get involved and support Bobby by adopting an athlete. These donations will help benefit the almost 380 Special Olympics Athletes coming to Ottawa for the Championship in May.

Guns and Gangs Update

I would like to update the Board on our ongoing efforts on the issue of guns and gangs. Earlier this year a number of additional resources were reassigned to this effort. Those officers are out there every day holding offenders accountable, taking firearms out of our community, and preventing violence. They are making an impact. As part of this effort, since the start of this year alone:

- Over 400 Criminal Charges have been laid;
- Over 120 persons have been charged;
- 14 crime guns have been seized;
- Over 60 warrants have been executed; and,
- Over 120 compliance checks have been conducted.

The credit for these results goes to sworn and civilian members throughout our service. That includes members of the District Directorate, our DART Unit, Patrol, Crime Analysts, Drugs and our Guns and Gangs Unit. They are conducting compliance checks, gathering and acting on intelligence, and taking on proactive investigations.

It is difficult and dangerous work. I would like to give you some examples of their successes.

Arrest for impaired/firearm seized

Last Thursday evening, two members of our DART Unit were engaged in enforcement and suppression duties in the area of Dumaurier Avenue. The officers noticed a vehicle was running at the side of the road. They performed a traffic stop and approached the driver who was found to be alone in the vehicle, passed out, with his foot on the brake and the vehicle running. During their interaction with the man, a firearm was located in his waistband. The man is facing multiple charges.

Shooting on Grant Street and Whitton Place

Last Wednesday in the early morning hours, a shot was fired into a home on Grant Street. Within a day of the shooting, a man was arrested and charged in connection with the shooting. This incident was determined not to be gang related. A 22 years old faces multiple charges. Two males were also arrested last week and charged with the shooting last month inside a residence on Whitton Place.

Search Warrant Executed – Handgun/Ammunition/Bullet Proof Vest and Cocaine Seized

In early March, a Guns and Gangs Unit search warrant was executed in the east end. The warrant resulted in the seizure of a loaded handgun, ammunition, crack cocaine, and a bullet proof vest. A 22 year old man has been charged in that investigation.

Traffic Stop / Firearm and Drug Seizure

In late February, East Patrol conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle. The driver falsely identified himself. Upon querying the vehicle, the male was found to be a prohibited driver. Searches of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of drugs, Canadian currency, ammunition, and firearms including a handgun and three new 12 gauge shotguns. The 36 year old was charged with several firearm and drug related charges. These are just a few examples of the ongoing enforcement work our officers are conducting. But we know enforcement itself 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. At the end of February, the OPS participated in Crime Prevention Ottawa's *Gangs, Trauma, and Community: Improving Outcomes* conference. The conference was geared towards working with front line service providers to better align programs and approaches to the street gang issue.

Arrest in Threats Investigation

On February 17, our officers responded to a call in the area of Pickford Drive in Kanata. During the investigation, general threats were made about causing harm to responding officers, with one officer being named specifically. The swift and combined efforts of West Division Patrol and Investigations, the Tactical Unit, Surveillance, and the DART team, led to the quick arrest of the suspect responsible for the threats. Johnathan TULLY, 23 years old of Ottawa, was charged with Public Mischief, Breach Probation, 2 counts of False Messages, 3 counts of Uttering Threats, and Common Nuisance.

Multiple charges laid in series of Break & Enters

Between August and September of 2014, a rash of commercial break and enters targeting ATMs were committed in the East end. A suspect was soon identified and arrested thanks to the thorough investigation conducted by the lead Detective Jamie Lalonde, along with the efforts of Patrol, Forensics, the East Division Break and Enter Unit, and the Street Crime Unit. Mazen AL-NSEIRI, 32 years old of Ottawa, was charged with 6 counts of break and enter, disguise with intent, and possession of break and enter instruments.

Arrest in Bank Robbery

In early March, a suspect wearing a disguise walked into a bank on Innes Road, armed with a weapon. He made a demand for money and fled on foot. The suspect was observed removing his disguise as he fled the scene. Due to the quick notification and response by officers, the suspect was located and arrested. We have seen an increase in bank robberies this year with 20 already reported since the beginning of January. There were 30 in 2014 with 75 per cent of the cases being solved. Our Robbery Unit continues to work with local banks and to investigate the outstanding cases.

Public Survey

We rely on the public's feedback to do our job. To help gather that information, we are once again seeking public input on policing services through our 2015 Public Survey. The survey will solicit residents' perceptions on safety, crime, community priorities, and police performance. Until the end of April, a random sampling of 16,000 Ottawa households will be invited by mail to complete the survey online. We also welcome additional input and feedback by mail or through our website. The results of the survey will help improve the quality of services provided and ensure the policing needs of Ottawa residents are addressed. The information collected from the Public Survey will also assist us in identifying public concerns and priorities for the upcoming 2016-2018 Business Plan.

I am happy to take any questions you may have.

Thank you.