



Gun & Gang Analysis - City Safety Strategy

Shooting Event Stats & Trends



- The OPS definition of a “shooting” is, ***“Any incident where a firearm has been discharged illegally regardless of injury to persons or damage to property”***.
- In 2020, Ottawa had a 5 year low in shooting events and firearm homicides while having a 5 year high in homicide clearance rates and crime gun seizures
- In 2021, there has been a **169%** increase in year to date shootings over 2020 (as of May 30th, 2021)
- Year to date in Ottawa there have been:
 - 35 shooting events
 - 18 shooting events with no injuries
 - 11 shooting events with non fatal injuries
 - 6 shooting homicides
 - 35 crime gun seizures

Gun & Gang Violence Evolution



- Gun and Gang related violence is continuously evolving – each city has similar and unique elements in terms of gang activity and illegal shootings
- In Ottawa, “gangs” are more based on loose ties and business driven allegiances – they are less and less based on geographic or demographic associations.
- Increased use of illegal firearms still remain core component of the Ottawa “gang” culture – as a sign of “status” and as source of “protection or retaliation”
- Increased ease of access to cheap functional firearms in Ottawa - 77% of crime guns from the USA sources and 23% of crime guns from Canadian sources.
- Increased member fluidity and geographic mobility resulting in “Gang Sprawl” such that local gun violence is related to regional, provincial and national gang activities
- Impact of Ottawa’s increasing (sub)urban spread – results in more use of vehicles to transport gang members, drugs and firearms resulting in vehicle related violent crimes of opportunity
- Increased dealer on dealer drug rip-offs and the resulting violent retaliation(s) – victims become perpetrators and a deadly cycle of violence quickly develops
- Increased use of social media and digital platforms for financial enterprise and acts of aggression
- COVID Factor for gang involved youth - increased mental health and addiction issues, pent up frustrations and reduced impulse control capacity, increase socio-economic pressures and impacts of systemic racism

City Safety Strategy



Suppression

- High Visibility Violence Suppression – 24-7 deployment of uniform officers to deter violence involving high risk offenders/victims, high risk vehicles/roadways and high risk areas for gang activity/shooting events

Prevention

- Neighborhood Policing/CSWB – continue expansion of NRTs to urban/sub-urban/rural communities, creation of CSWB Directorate, development of Youth Strategy, support for City of Ottawa CSWB plan, partnering with community stakeholders re safe supply/injection, narcotics legalization, drug treatment, etc.

Investigation

- Investigation Integration – more coordination between Homicide, G&G and Drug Squad investigations
- Intelligence Led Policing - increase information and intelligence sharing with a focus on CSWB outcomes
- Unsolved Homicide Strategy – to hold offenders to account and reduce retaliation related violence
- Pre/Post Charge Diversion – expand to keep non-gang involved youth out of criminal justice system



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