

Chief's Verbal Report
Monday, July 25, 2016
Ottawa Police Services Board Meeting

Good evening,

Incident in Hintonburg

We are all aware of the incident in Hintonburg on Sunday that resulted in one man in hospital. As a police service, and as Chief, we are not allowed to speak to an investigation after the SIU has invoked its mandate and that includes the Board.

This can be very frustrating for all of us.

What I can tell you is that patrol officers were called to a Hintonburg business on Sunday morning for a disturbance. Multiple callers called police reporting multiple assaults. The situation was on-going as officers arrived on scene. Officers attempted to make an arrest and then engaged in a foot pursuit.

The events leading up to those 911 calls are now under investigation by our service. The investigation into what happened after our officers arrived on scene is being conducted by the SIU. I can't speak to that investigation.

These types of situations are very difficult for everyone involved and that includes members of our police service and the community. We understand and sympathize with the family and friends of this individual. I look to the SIU to provide the answers everyone is looking for as soon as they can.

We are well aware of the context within which we police. Our officers are professional and they are dedicated to protecting the community they serve. They have a difficult job to do. I, along with the Executive, support them. That support includes making sure that our relationships with our communities we serve are strong and that our members have the training they need in techniques like de-escalation, dealing with people with mental health issues and fair and impartial policing.

We've also actively engaged with identified community leaders in the Somali community and with OCISO to ensure that we have an open dialogue between the Ottawa Police Service and our community and that also involves working with COMPAC our working committee that does amazing work in our community to ensure that relationship of trust in these times isn't impacted.

I know that this does not answer all the questions people have but it is the best I can offer at this time.

I'd like to highlight three major events our service and our partners dealt with over the last month.

Canada Run - Hells Angels

This weekend, we had between 600 and 700 Hells Angels members and associates present in Ottawa. Working with our partners in the OPP, Gatineau Police and Surete de Quebec we provided a visible and enhanced police presence in the Ottawa/Gatineau area. There were no incidents or arrests to report.

This operation came only weeks after we deployed hundreds of officers to support two back to back major events, NALS and Canada Day. Both events ran very smoothly ensuring the Nation's Capital was safe and secure. It was a testament to the work of our members, the event leadership, and our partnerships. It was truly phenomenal work by all.

Apprehension of US Fugitive

I want to tell you about some outstanding police work with our partners at the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA). On June 29th, we received a request from CBSA to assist in apprehending a US fugitive sex offender who is trained as a mixed martial arts (MMA) fighter. Intelligence indicated that he had smuggled himself into Canada and was staying at a hotel in Ottawa. The situation had the potential to turn volatile but four of our members, Sgt. Sandra Sparling, Constables Stephanie McConnell, Rebecca Kelleher and Jennifer Delia assisted in locating and apprehending this subject without incident. In doing this, these officers firmly safeguarded our community from potential harm.

Winthrop Private Homicide

Our Major Crime unit continues to investigate the stabbing death of 36-year-old Jeremy Mack. He died on Saturday evening after an altercation in a Winthrop Private residence.

Gill Homicide Verdict

Congratulations go to the many investigators and the team that worked on the homicide case of Jagtar Gill. In particular the lead investigative team of John Monette and Chris Benson. Countless hours of investigation and preparation for court from sections across the Service resulted in both Bhupinderpal Gill and Gurpreet Ronald being found guilty and sentenced to life in prison with no parole for 25 years.

Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

Our members have been working to prepare for the 111th Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) Annual Conference which will be hosted by the Ottawa Police from August 14-17, 2016. This annual conference brings members of the CACP, and other parties, together to work through issues of interest to law enforcement, including challenges of the future. It is also an occasion for the CACP and its committees to report on their work from the previous year so recommendations can be tendered and

resolutions adopted. We're looking forward to welcoming all to Ottawa and participating in valuable discussions related to this year's theme — Public Safety in a Digital Age: Real Victims – Real Crime.

The conference is timed to coincide with the Canadian Association of Police Governance meeting which is taking place from August 12 to 14 in Ottawa. I know that many members of the Board are attending both events.

Supt. Uday Jaswal

Finally, I want to congratulate Supt. Uday Jaswal on his appointment to the role of Deputy Chief with the Durham Police Service. We're proud of the caliber of our officers and he is a great example of the kind of leadership we have in our ranks.

Thank you.