

## Chief's Verbal

OPSB meeting February 25, 2019

Good afternoon,

The past month has been very active for our service.

I want to thank our members for the calls they have been responding to and proactive police work and investigations they have been involved in.

### **Homicide**

Last Wednesday, we began investigating after a man was found badly injured in his Vanier Apartment. The man later died of those injuries leading to the arrest of another man for second degree murder this weekend.

### **Community Policing Project**

We also saw four arrests in an ongoing community policing project targeting problem addresses in the Vanier area. Our Community Police officer in the area has received a list of addresses where drug trafficking and consumption are known to occur. Various sections in our service, including our Bikes and Beats Section, are targeting those addresses for investigation. We are also working with the City of Ottawa to ensure landlords are part of this solution. Expect to hear more about this work soon.

### **Sexual Assault**

I want to thank the investigators involved in laying charges in relation to sexual assaults against four children between 2004 to 2019. We announced those charges on Friday. The dedication of the lead investigator in this case makes us all proud.

### **Susan Kuplu**

I also want to thank the officers and City staff who searched the Trail Road Landfill for three weeks for the body of Susan Kuplu. The discovery of her remains was important to her family and many in our community and this homicide.

### **Pipeline protest**

I also wanted to commend our Special Events Team officers for their exceptional work during the two-day pipeline protest of truckers who came from Alberta. We received multiple compliments, both from the organizers of the protest but also residents of the city, about the quality and level of professionalism shown by our team.

The arrival of a convoy of trucks to our Nation's Capital was a logistical challenge that was seamlessly coordinated by our team, and also included escort by our Traffic

Service officers. It is a great example of teamwork that ensured the safety of both the protestors and residents, while minimizing the impact to commuters.

### **Murder trial results in guilty verdict**

We also saw the successful resolution to the Abdullah Al-Tutunji case before the courts earlier this month, after a man was found guilty of his murder.

Abdullah and his family had fled violence and instability in Iraq for a new life in Canada in 2009, and it's tragic that he was killed in an altercation with a stranger here in Ottawa.

### **Snowmobile safety**

Our Marine, Dive and Trails officers were busy this month, ensuring that residents were obeying the laws when operating snowmobiles.

This education campaign to enhance off-road safety resulted in 36 traffic stops, 28 provincial notices issued, one ticket issued for failing to produce an insurance card, and three tickets issued for having no licence.

We will continue to conduct random checks to ensure that all those who are out enjoying our city's snowmobile routes are doing so both safely and legally.

### **Naloxone**

We also saw two individuals revived by officers carrying police issued naloxone. These are the calls and investigations that we hear about in the media but there are so many more stories that are never told. Here is a letter we received about one of those calls...

*I am writing to express my most sincere gratitude to a few of your officers who came to my son's help.*

*That day, my son who has been battling mental health challenges and addiction for a long time called 911 threatening suicide.*

*While I wished 911 had just sent a paramedic to take him to the hospital, they dispatched the police and since he had locked himself in, things escalated, and soon there were many officers there including the tactical unit.*

*However, they never lost their cool, and kept his mental condition and young age in mind and treated him and me with utmost dignity and kindness. (They) went above and beyond just their duty and acted compassionately, and finally got him to the hospital with paramedics.*

*..... had your men and women not been the compassionate and humane individuals they are, and obviously, educated and familiar with psychology of mental illnesses, I don't know what would have happened to my child.*

*I thank you for hiring such people, and I sincerely hope they get acknowledged for their amazing work.*

That is my verbal report.