

**Chief's Verbal Report  
Interim Chief Steve Bell  
Ottawa Police Services Board**

**May 27, 2019**

Good evening,

It has been a busy few weeks for our service with officers assisting in the flood response, supporting the Ottawa Race weekend, conducting community safety initiatives in the Byward Market along with regular operations.

We continue to see success with our gun violence suppression with 27 guns seized this year and shootings down by about 30% compared to this time last year.

*Total shootings in 2018: 78*

*YTD shootings in 2018: 41*

*Total shootings in 2019: 26*

## **Homicide**

On Friday, May 24, 2019, 27-year-old Kenneth **Frampton** was arrested and charged with first degree murder for the killing of 31-year-old Kenneth **Ammaklak** on May 14, 2019 at 251 Donald St.

This was the sixth homicide of 2019, all six resulting in successful investigations by our Major Crime Unit concluding with murder charges against those deemed responsible.

*On this date in 2018, we were at 12 homicides.*

*Total homicides for 2018 is 16.*

## **Hit and Run—Road Safety**

We continue to investigate the hit and run collision on Laurier Ave that left a cyclist dead.

Our investigators are focused on obtaining the evidence we need to lay charges and I hope to have a further update on this soon.

The collision has also raised the issue of cycling safety and ensuring our most vulnerable road users are protected. We have increased our enforcement in the areas of downtown bike lanes as a reminder to all road users to obey the rules of the road.

But we know that continued public education and a commitment to sharing the road and making sure everyone gets home safe is the best answer.

## **School Bus Cameras**

In that spirit, last week, we announced two safety initiatives with our Safer Roads Ottawa partners.

First, we launched School Bus Camera System on two buses, one with M.L. Bradley and one with Roxborough Bus Lines. The school bus cameras began running this morning **in Orleans and Barrhaven** and are designed to capture the images of vehicles that pass the bus when the stop arms are deployed.

The images are provided to our officers who lay the charge. More cameras are expected to be deployed this fall.

**Constable Scarecrow**

Another example of innovative approaches to traffic safety was launched on Friday again with Safer Roads Ottawa.

Constable Scarecrow is a life-size, metal cut-out of a police officer, pointing a radar gun.

The cut-out is a deterrent measure used to slow motorists down on roadways where speeding is a chronic issue. Experience in BC has seen that the placement of the cut outs on city roads resulted in a significant decrease in speeds. Two of the signs will appear on Portobello Blvd. in Orleans and Bridge Street in Manotick.

Both of these locations have community safety zones and schools.

## **Awards**

I want to congratulate Constable Aaron Reichert for being recognized by the Police Association of Ontario with its annual Hero of the Year Award.

Cst. Reichert was given the award for his bravery and quick response while responding to a triple shooting incident in the ByWard Market last year. While in foot pursuit, Cst. Reichert had the difficult decision to shoot a suspect after the suspect shot two people. His actions saved countless others from harm.

I also want to congratulate Acting Sergeant Chabine Tucker, Constable Kevin Graham and the OPS Hoopstars who were runners-up for the Community Role Model Award. They were recognized for their extensive volunteer work with the community and helping to build relationships, one interaction at a time.

## **Budget discussions**

The First Quarter financial report is on the agenda today. We have identified some issues like overtime that we are managing.

I can also advise the Board that we have begun our work on the 2020 Draft Budget and will have an update for the Board later this summer.

Over the next few weeks we will be looking at our policing and operational priorities and balancing them with expected financial pressures to build a budget designed to meet the Board's direction.

**Hate Crimes Unit**

I'll end this update with a discussion around how we investigate Hate Crimes at the Ottawa Police.

Investigating hate crimes remains a priority for the OPS because we understand and appreciate the impact they have on the community.

Over the years our response to crimes involving hate and bias has evolved and strengthened to match current trends and best practices in policing. The current tiered response to hate crimes includes investigators, intelligence and community outreach and ensures that all aspects of these crimes can be fully investigated and victims are supported.

It is important that the community can have trust in confidence in our approach. And it is



important that the community can participate in the discussions around this issue.

But what the recent discussion in the community has shown us is that we can improve our approach and build more understanding of how we investigate these crimes.

To that end, we will be reviewing the model to ensure it is meeting the needs of our community and victims. That includes work to review our policies, our public facing communications content, call centre procedures and internal training to ensure members of the public and our own members are aware and understand how we prevent and investigate hate crimes.

Thank you.