



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

"providing safe communities"

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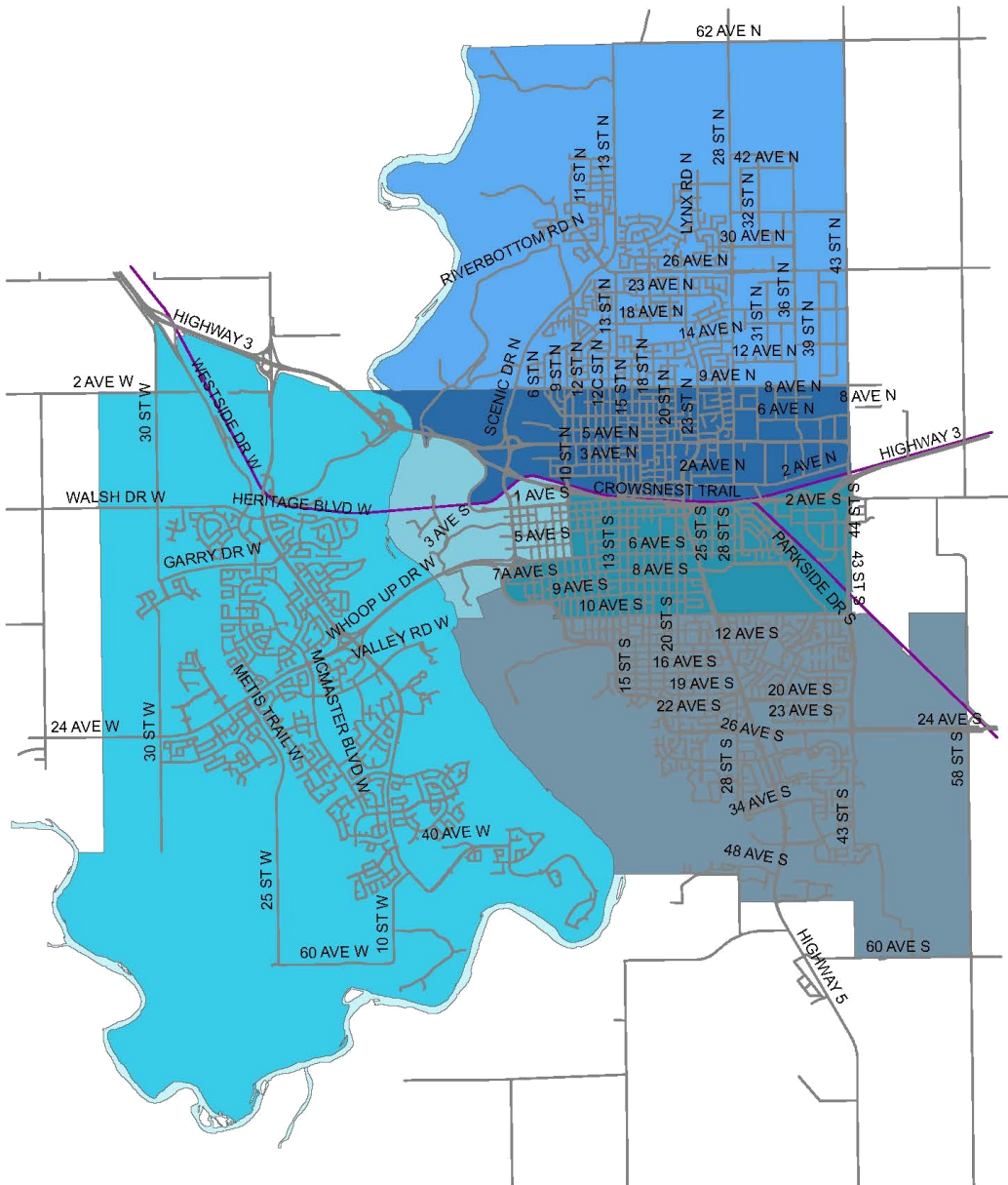
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The Lethbridge Regional Police Service is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Accreditation demonstrates the organization’s commitment to professionalism and excellence in service delivery, leadership and resource allocation.



POLICING OUR COMMUNITIES



MISSION:

Providing safe communities

VISION:

Citizens living in a safe community provided through partnerships, participation and excellence in service delivery.

VALUES:

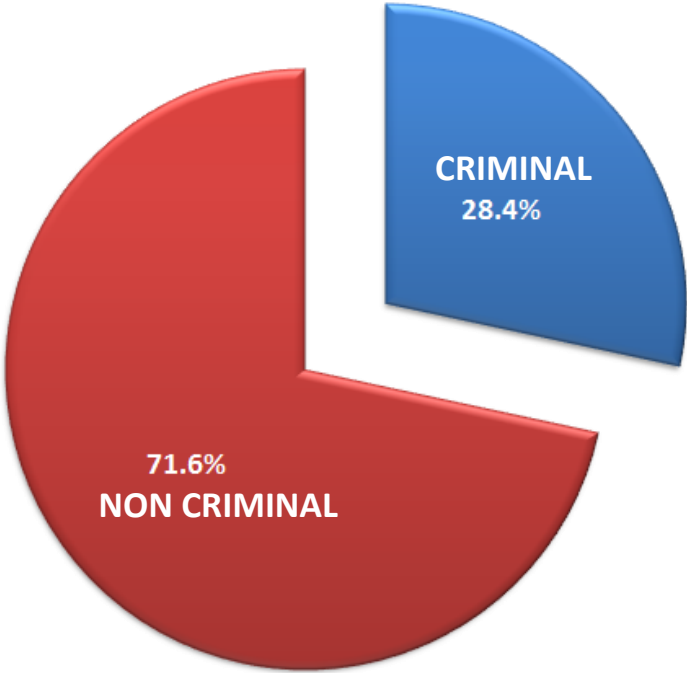
Respect
Honesty
Integrity
Excellence
Commitment

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Total 32,497

Criminal
9,217

Non-Criminal
23,283



POLICE STRENGTH

Officers 176

Civilians 56

Volunteers 49

COP TO POP

1:571

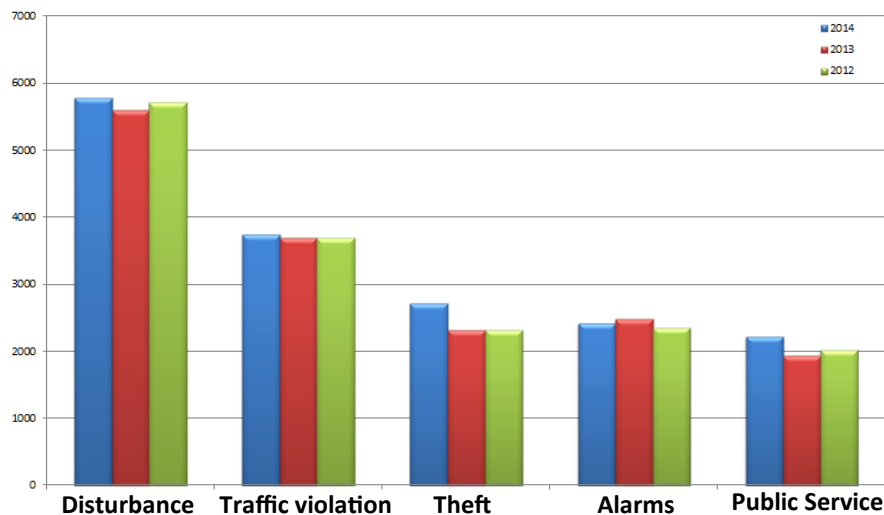
Police respond to an average of 89 emergency and non-emergency calls per day.

CALLS BY BEAT

Undefined		303
LPS10	Downtown	4240
LPS20	Central North	5243
LPS30	North	4491
LPS40	Central South	5611
LPS50	South	5369
LPS60	West side	6080
LPS70	Coaldale	1160

TOP 5 CALLS FOR SERVICE

With the exception of theft, the Top 5 Calls for Service in 2014 were non-criminal matters. This trend is consistent with past years and demonstrates the significant time and resources police invest in our communities to address matters of social disorder.



#1 Disturbance/nuisance

Non-criminal—Any act causing annoyance, disquiet, agitation or interruption of the peace and quiet such as: loud music/parties, barking dogs, panhandling as well as physical and verbal disturbances such as people fighting in the street and bar fights.

#2 Traffic violation/complaint/hazard

Non-criminal—Any report of the inappropriate driving actions of another. These can be violations such as speeding, reckless or aggressive driving and road rage. Parking complaints and abandoned vehicles are included.

#3 Theft

Criminal—Any incident of theft including theft from vehicles, theft of a vehicle shoplifting or general theft of property.

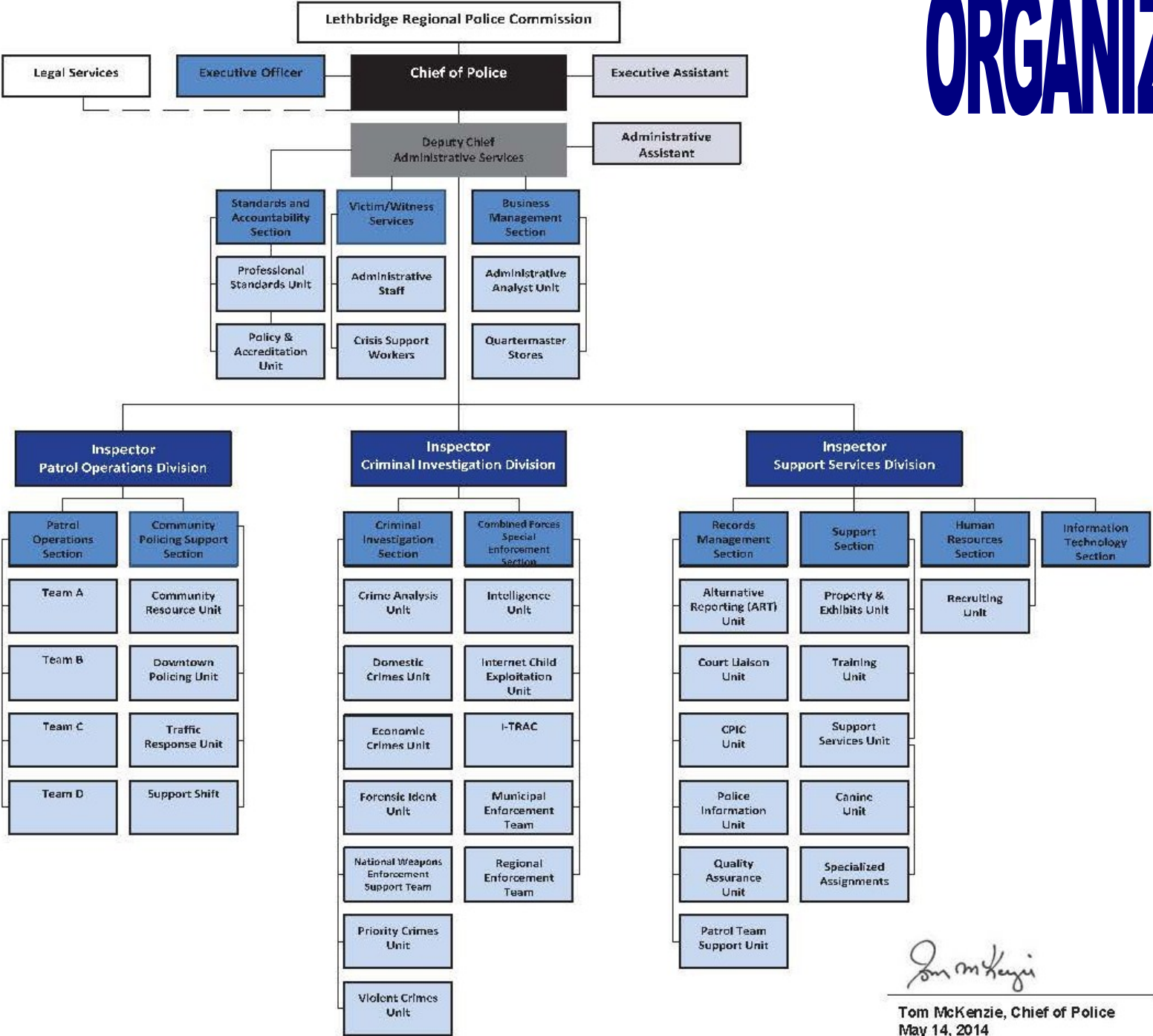
#4 Alarms

Non-criminal—Commercial and residential alarms including burglary alarms, hold up/panic alarms, audible alarms, vehicle alarms, home security alarms. It should be noted that approximately 98 per cent of alarm calls are for false alarms.

#5 Public Service

Non-criminal—Any activity where police engage in a civil function that does not involve criminal investigation including standing by to keep the peace, checking on welfare, checking on hang-up 911 calls, life-threatening situations where someone is locked in or out of a house or vehicle.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Tom McKenzie

Tom McKenzie, Chief of Police
May 14, 2014

2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

It's been said the only constant in policing is change and 2014 was a year punctuated by changes that have provided the Lethbridge Regional Police Service with both challenges and opportunities. The one constant continues to be the hard work and dedication of our sworn members, civilian staff and volunteers who remain diligent in our mission to provide safe communities.

During much of 2014, attention was focused on preparing a new business plan and budget to guide operations over the next four years. In consultation with the Lethbridge Regional Police Commission, five strategic areas were identified: People, Processes, Technology, Crime and Community.

In early 2014 Chief Tom McKenzie announced his retirement after 38 years of service and a search for the new Chief began. Robert A. Davis was ultimately selected as Chief McKenzie's successor. In addition to the retirement of Chief McKenzie, there were a number of retirements service-wide, including two Inspectors, which resulted in a series of promotions and transfers.

Construction of the expansion to police headquarters began in 2014 and resulted in significant changes to the organization in order to maintain business continuity. A number of units and personnel were moved to temporary, off-site facilities or re-organized within the existing building to accommodate necessary demolition and renovations.

In a continued commitment to excellence in service delivery, LRPS was awarded with Advanced Meritorious Accreditation from the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) for voluntarily complying with 468 international policing standards. The award was presented in March, marking the sixth LRPS accreditation since 1999.



New initiatives, operational changes to reflect community needs and the development and implementation of programs to create efficiencies and contribute to employee health and wellness were achieved across all divisions in 2014.

In 2014 police responded to a total of 32,497 calls for service and housed 4,184 prisoners in the detention area – up from 3,050 prisoners in 2013.

Victim/Witness Services, consisting of 49 male and female Crisis Support Workers, assisted police at over one thousand incidents. In 2014, 4,715 volunteer hours were spent helping local victims of crime and tragedy.

As LRPS prepares to move forward into 2015 and beyond a significant change on the horizon will be the dissolution of the regional policing agreement with Coaldale. In the spring of 2014 the Town of Coaldale announced it had struck an agreement with the RCMP to provide the community with policing services starting in 2016.

In the Patrol Operations Division, an additional officer was added to the Quality of Life/Community Resources Unit to enhance the Service's commitment to community partnerships and engagement and address quality of life issues that impact our citizens. In addition, the division refined the Data Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety (DDACTS) program and achieved significant success in an area of west Lethbridge that had experienced a sharp rise in crime and disorder. The DDACTS model integrates location-based crime and traffic data to establish effective and efficient methods for deploying resources.

The Criminal Investigation Division, which is responsible for investigating serious criminal offences and drugs and organized crime, continued to maintain high clearance rates in 2014 despite increases in a number of crimes against persons and crimes against property. Violent crimes including assaults, robberies and incidents involving weapons along with frauds, thefts and vehicle thefts all rose in 2014.

Locally many crimes of violence are targeted incidents between parties who are known to one another as opposed to random incidents, but there is always the potential for an innocent bystander to be in the wrong place at the wrong time. It has become more

common for criminals to arm themselves for protection, retribution or in the commission of an offence and violence is more frequently used to collect debts, protect turf or settle disputes.

The investigation of violent crimes is typically very complex, time-consuming and labour-intensive and maintaining adequate capacity to manage these unpredictable events is a key priority going forward.

Property crime offences continued to plague the community in 2014 with an increase in both thefts and vehicle thefts. A slight increase was also recorded in relation to break and enters. In many instances property offences are crimes of opportunity, but police have achieved noted success using a data-driven approach to identify high-crime areas and predictive analysis to identify areas where crimes are more likely to occur in order to develop operational strategies.

Fraud offences increased in 2014, particularly incidents of identity theft and financial fraud, which due to their scope and complexity present significant investigative challenges. Several high-profile fraud cases were successfully concluded with charges in 2014, however public awareness and education remain critical to prevent victimization.





In 2014 the efforts of the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit-Lethbridge, part of the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) initiative, resulted in a number of significant drug seizures and other operations to dismantle organized crime groups and activity in southern Alberta. These investigations continue to be complex, resource-intensive and challenging due to the dynamics of organized crime groups whose structures are constantly changing and often share associates based on convenience, time and illicit product availability.

Cocaine and marijuana were the most prevalent drugs in the region in 2014 however police continued to see increases in heroin usage. Other illicit substances seized by police include methamphetamine, ecstasy, steroids, GHB and more recently Fentanyl – a very dangerous synthetic narcotic that contributed to a number of

overdose deaths in the southern Alberta region.

In addition, the Integrated Child Exploitation Unit apprehended a number of local offenders engaged in the online sexual exploitation of children and participated in several joint forces projects, including Operation Snapshot III, a national initiative which resulted in the arrest of 150 sex offenders Canada-wide and the seizure of two million child pornography images and videos. Southern Alberta is not immune to the online exploitation of children and illicit images.

Unfortunately in 2014 terrorism on Canadian soil became a focus for law enforcement on the national, provincial, regional and municipal level. As a result the Criminal Investigation Section remains engaged with all levels of government, law enforcement, border services and the private sector to ensure public safety and security.

The Support Services Division focused its efforts on community engagement, enhancing technology, training and opportunities for employee development. Mental health training and mental health awareness – from both an internal and external perspective – were a priority for the Training Unit and Human Resources Section in 2014. Significant projects included an evaluation of the current Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) model and a review of the employee mental wellness and after-care program and policy, which laid the groundwork for research and development of a new employee mental wellness program expected to move forward in 2015.

The Training Unit also worked closely with community partners, including the Lethbridge College Centre for Advancement in Community Justice (CACJ) during recruit training, Lethbridge Fire and EMS and the University of Lethbridge for a collaborative rapid deployment scenario, and the Blood Tribe Police Service to assist in the development of a firearms training program.

In 2014, a complete review of the LRPS training model was undertaken and resulted in the development of a more effective, cost-efficient model that will be trialed in 2015.

The Information Technology Section worked extensively to upgrade infrastructure to accommodate the growing needs of the Police Service and focused on assessing current services being provided in order to modify processes and become more efficient and results-oriented. New applications were introduced with respect to mobile device management, cloud-based systems, enhancements to security and the problem management process. LRPS IT also continued to provide technical support for the Public Safety Communications Centre (PSCC) to maintain the computer-aided dispatching (CAD) systems used by all emergency services.

2014 marked the launch of the E-Disclosure project – an initiative that enables police to provide required disclosure to the courts electronically. Implementation of E-Disclosure involved extensive collaboration and cooperation between the provincial Crown

Prosecutor's Office, LRPS Records Management Section and IT Section and has proven to be a more efficient method of completing disclosure. Records Management staff also invested efforts in continuing to improve and refine the police information check policy and processes, address Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) challenges, transcription processes and file destruction practices.

The Recruiting Unit attended numerous community and recruiting events in 2014 which resulted in a total of 11 police officers – three experienced officers and eight new recruits – being hired. Those members are now serving as frontline officers.



In 2014 there were eight critical incident call outs and three explosive disposal incidents that were all resolved successfully. In any incident where specialized services, such as the Tactical Unit, Explosive Disposal Unit and Incident Command are utilized, public safety is always the paramount consideration. Ongoing scenario-based and other training for these specialized functions help ensure officers are well-trained and well-equipped to handle any high-risk incident that may arise.

To foster a greater understanding about the work police officers do a number of citizens were able to participate in ride-alongs with Patrol members, K9 and the Tactical Team. In many cases these opportunities were provided to local non-profit organizations.

In 2014 the LRPS celebrated the 50th anniversary of the K9 Unit and in conjunction with that milestone, hosted the Canadian Police Canine Association Spring Training Seminar. K9 training experts and participants from throughout North America attended.



Photo by Amanda Berg
Lethbridge Living

VICTIM/WITNESS SERVICES

The Lethbridge Regional Police Victim/Witness Services Unit is a 24/7 police-based victim assistance program that was developed and launched in 1991 to provide information, support and referrals to victims and witnesses of crime or tragedy in Lethbridge and Coaldale.

Volunteer Crisis Support Workers are “first responders” who provide practical support during the first few critical hours after a crime or tragedy. VSU serves as a central information point for those who have been victimized, providing updates on the status of an investigation or court case as well as information about victim impact statements, requests for restitution, provincial financial benefits and referrals to counseling services, shelters, child protection and crisis lines.

Volunteer Crisis Support Workers are minimum of 18-years-old and receive over 120 hours of comprehensive training covering a variety of areas including general police procedures, suicide awareness, domestic violence, sexual assault, bereavement, organized crime and the criminal justice system.



2014 IN REVIEW

⇒ **4,715 volunteer hours**

⇒ **1,508 cases**

(22% increase from 2013)

⇒ **Assisted 2,488 victims
of crime or tragedy**

Back row, left to right, Bernie Schell, Addie Streibel, Carel Macleod, Tim Rau, Steven Jacobson, Dianne Simmons, Deputy Chief Colin Catonio

Second row from back, left to right, Ashley Leonard, Brian Bertolozzi, Natalia Cabane, Julienne Dyck, Bonnie Barrows, Alisha Enslin, Mandy Read,

Middle row, left to right, Rosalind Shakoko, Sue Evans, Darcie James (Program Manager), Kathy Bandman, Gillian Reid, Gwena Schultchen, Marion Setter, Rod Schultz, Annette Baroldi, Josh Maret, Megan Williamson

Second row from front, left to right, Grace Couturier, Karen Blue, Ruth Gronemeyer, Austin Slezine, Kalese Shannon, Sydney Ascroft, Rebecca Mayer, Meagan Charlton, Cass Loff, Jenica Belok, Sara Reid,

Front row, left to right, Cindy Ayukawa, Karen Thomas, Joyce Klassen, Stacey Tajiri, Lacey Anwender, Kem Brewer, Florence Huesken, Jillian Borysewicz, Eric Wong, Stephanie Gokam

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE

COMMISSIONING OF SENIOR OFFICERS

Chief Tom McKenzie
Deputy Chief Colin Catonio
Inspector Bill Anderson

Inspector Tom Ascroft
Inspector Jason Dobirstein

30-YEAR PROVINCIAL BAR/ROSETTE

Chief Tom McKenzie
Deputy Chief Colin Catonio

25-YEAR ALBERTA LAW ENFORCEMENT LONG SERVICE MEDAL

Staff Sergeant Scott Chadsey
Sergeant Tony Andrews
Sergeant William Basso

Sergeant Dan Walton
Constable Tom Kramer
Constable Blaine Stodolka

20-YEAR LONG SERVICE MEDAL

Inspector Jason Dobirstein
Staff Sergeant Jamie Fisher
Staff Sergeant Rod Klassen
Staff Sergeant Dwayne Smith
Sergeant Tiffany Housworth

Sergeant Kevin Mortensen
Sergeant Jim Olsen
Sergeant Tony Yee
Constable Terry Hendricks

15-YEAR LETHBRIDGE REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE MEDAL

Constable David Easter

LRPS TOP RECRUIT AWARD

Constable Timothy Kreft

MEMBER HIRES

Sworn

Lauren Boyer
Brennan Campbell
Robert Davis
Terry Fieguth
Tianna Harland

Stewart Kambeitz
Jamie Kenyon
Timothy Kreft
Daryl Pike
Matt Schoenroth

Non-Sworn

Patrick Balfour
Cheryl Berberich
Denise Boisvert
Stephanie Cousens
Tammy Fanning
Sandra Frampton
Denise Fox
Melissa Harsch

Akinropo Ishola
Brittney Nyrose
Kandis Parascak
John Peters
Jessica Roth
Laurie Scott
Barbara Witcher

RETIREMENTS

Sworn

Tony Andrews
Jeff Cove
Ken Hogan
Bill Kaye
Zealand Leavitt

Tom McKenzie
Shaun Millband
Ian Sanderson
Blaine Stodolka

Non-Sworn

Brenda Clark
Dan Paskuski
Jimm Valentinsen

PROMOTIONS

Bill Anderson
Pete Christos
Wade Davidson
Jason Dobirstein
Robin Klassen
Jeff Mantyak
Jason McMillan
Dwayne Smith
Scott Woods

RESIGNATIONS

Sworn

Brennan Campbell

Non-Sworn

Linda Bushey
Kendra Dunlop
Tammy Fanning
Laurie Scott

POLICE SERVICE AWARDS

Citizen Awards

Chief of Police Letter of Recognition

- ◆ A citizen was commended for assisting police as a translator when officers encountered language barriers during a call.
- ◆ A citizen, who observed a hit and run, was commended for assisting police locate the offending vehicle.
- ◆ Four Lethbridge citizens were commended for their assistance during a drug investigation at an apartment complex.
- ◆ A citizen was commended for assisting police locate a subject who fled from officers.
- ◆ A citizen was commended for his honesty and integrity for turning in a large sum of money that he found in a field.

Police Service Awards

Divisional Recognition

- ◆ Commissionaire Ed Derzaph was recognized for his attention to detail and quick thinking that led to the apprehension of a subject wanted for theft.



STATISTICAL METHODOLOGY

Unless otherwise indicated, this statistical information is derived from computerized data obtained from the Lethbridge Regional Police Service report in Niche RMS, entitled "Occurrence Stats - All Violations." Data is reported on an annual basis, consisting of data from January 1 through December 31. This data is further confirmed through review by the investigational units.

An incident may be comprised of one or more offences or violations of the law, or non-offence occurrences and therefore all of these are included in our totals. The data for the 2014 calendar year was extracted on February 20, 2015. Previous years' annual totals referenced herein are derived from the data extractions for historical LRPS Annual Reports; that is, 2013 Reported counts have been based on the data extraction for the 2013 LRPS Annual Report.

In this report, the number of REPORTED incidents has been referenced, to reflect the volume of responses required. As such, some will have been found to be UNFOUNDED and the ACTUAL counts will be lower. An offence is UNFOUNDED when the investigation has determined that the complaint is without merit. ACTUAL counts are determined by subtracting the UNFOUNDED incidents from the REPORTED incidents.

The CLEARANCE RATE is calculated by dividing the actual offences by the total offences cleared (offences cleared by charge plus offences cleared by other). Clearances also include offences reported in previous years and cleared in the current year; therefore, for some offence types the clearance rate may exceed 100%.

CLEARANCES are either CLEARED BY CHARGE or CLEARED OTHERWISE. An offence is CLEARED BY CHARGE when at least one offender has been identified and charged in connection with that offence. An offence is CLEARED OTHERWISE when at least one offender has been identified and there is sufficient evidence to lay a charge but no charge is laid for one of the following reasons:

- a) the offender dies or is committed to a Mental Institution,
- b) the complainant or an essential witness dies,
- c) the offender is less than 12 years old,
- d) the offender has diplomatic immunity or there is government policy preventing prosecution,
- e) the offender is not in Canada and cannot be returned,
- f) the offender has been charged or is serving a sentence for another incident and it is decided not to proceed with a charge for this particular offence,
- g) the complainant does not wish prosecution against the offender,
- h) the police decide to warn the offender or recommend the offender for the Alternative Measures Program instead of laying a charge.

The 5-YEAR AVERAGE has been calculated by summing the total number of reported incidents for the current calendar year with those reported for the previous four calendar years then dividing by 5. This AVERAGE has been included in an attempt to indicate true patterns rather than highlight fluctuations from year to year.

COLLISION DATA has been extracted from the CROMS Analytics Portal, based on data maintained by the Collision Reporting Centre. The included data is reflective of all collisions occurring between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014 and reported by February 20, 2015.

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

Attempted Murder
Homicide
Sexual Assaults
Assaults
Production/Distribution Child Pornography
Sexual Interference
Invite to Sexual Touch
Sexual Exploitation
Sexual Exploitation Person with Disability
Robbery
Criminal Harassment
Domestic Violence

Reported 2014	Reported 2013	5-Year Average (2010-2014)	Clearance Rate 2014
0	0	0.8	-
2	1	2.8	100.0%
116	117	106.2	81.3%
1291	1046	1092.2	89.2%
18	7	10.2	61.1%
18	26	21.8	123.5%
5	12	7.4	180.0%
3	1	3.2	133.3%
0	0	1	-
74	51	71.6	63.9%
49	40	43.6	95.9%
1629	1134	1172	61.5%

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

Arson
Break And Enters (includes attempts & unlawfully in dwelling)
Theft
Shoplifting
Possess Stolen Property
Theft of Motor Vehicles
Attempted theft of Motor Vehicles
Take Vehicle Without Owner Consent
Fraud
Mischief

Reported 2014	Reported 2013	5-Year Average (2010-2014)	Clearance Rate 2014
16	42	35.6	56.3%
450	421	453.8	37.3%
1952	1629	1858.4	15.9%
786	568	642.2	73.5%
206	184	186	97.1%
206	146	157.2	21.7%
29	16	21.8	7.1%
26	30	20	95.7%
529	382	448.2	52.7%
1245	1108	1361.8	35.3%

DRUG OFFENCES

- Drugs - Possession*
- Drugs - Trafficking/Distribution*
- Drugs - Production/Cultivate*

Reported 2014	Reported 2013	5-Year Average (2010-2014)	Clearance Rate 2014
225	169	193.4	94.2%
83	88	93.6	104.8%
4	6	4	33.3%

OTHER POLICE RESPONSES

- Weapons Offences*
- Bomb Threats*
- Genuine Alarm*
- False Alarm*
- Missing Persons*
- Tactical Team Deployments*
- Explosive Disposal Unit Deployments*

Reported 2014	Reported 2013	5-Year Average (2010-2014)
167	126	150
4	1	2.8
35	23	26
1437	870	1464.4
168	146	194
8	8	0
3	8	3.8

SELECT TRAFFIC OFFENCES

- Dangerous Driving*
- Impaired Driving Offences*
- Fail/Refuse Breathalyzer/Roadside Screening/Blood Sample*
- Fail to Remain At Scene*

Reported 2014	Reported 2013	5-Year Average (2010-2014)	Clearance Rate 2014
204	171	188.6	98.5%
368	329	340.2	93.6%
51	53	46	100.0%
830	720	568.8	36.4%

COLLISIONS

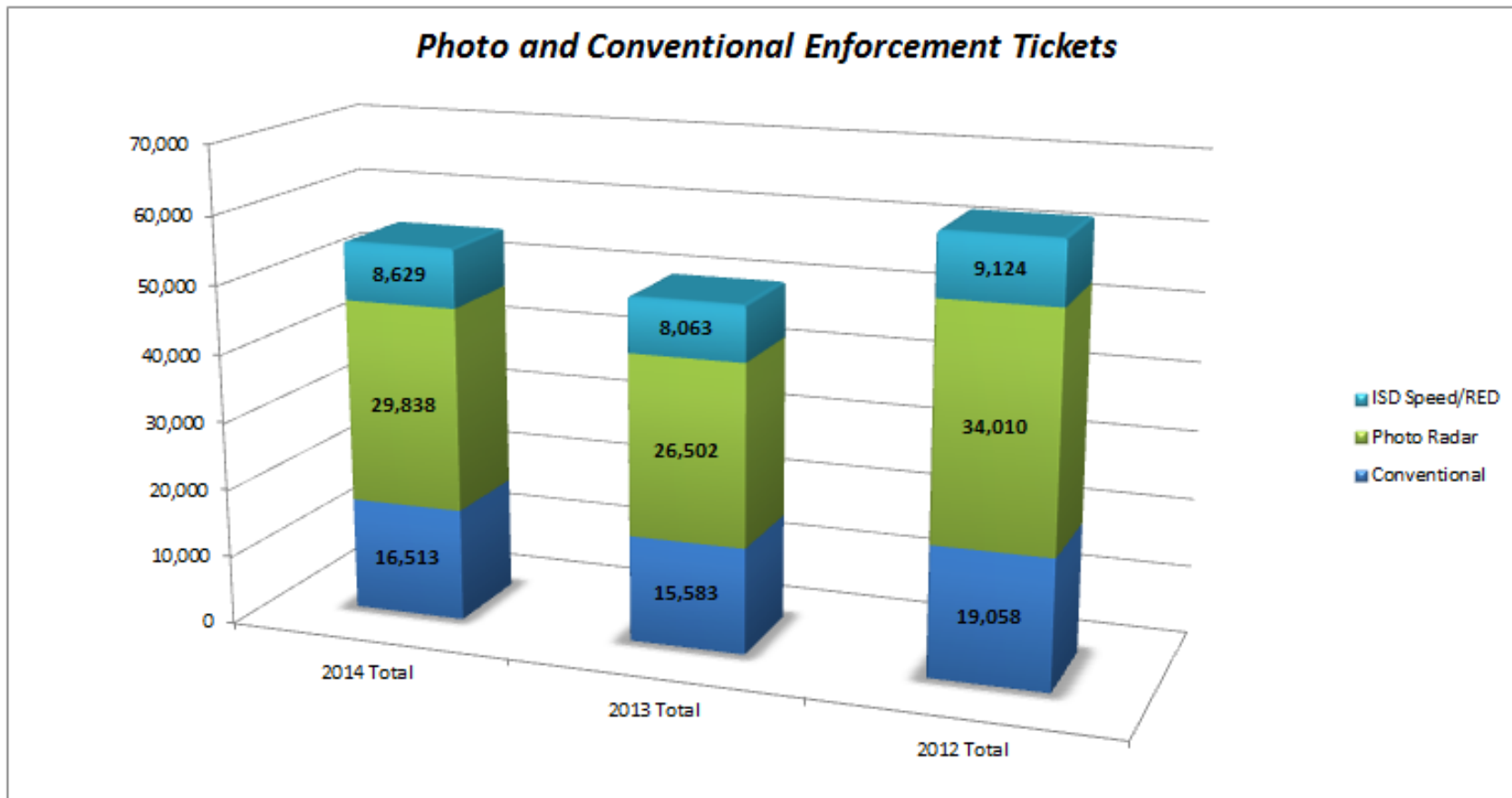
- Fatality*
- Injury*
- Property Damage*
- Total*

2014	2013
1	1
572	486
2944	2922
3517	3409

SELECT TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

- Speeding*
- Careless Driving*
- Fail to Yield to a Pedestrian*
- Traffic Light*
- Traffic Control Device*
- Distracted Driver*
- Fail to Wear Seatbelt*

Reported 2014	Reported 2013	5-Year Average (2010-2014)
4372	3691	4489
215	290	320
54	60	69
298	184	188
1201	676	965
1475	1659	943
965	1260	1370



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

	2014	2013
Compliments	107	93
Citizen Contact	60	12
Public Complaint Investigations	17	20
Service Investigations	11	9
Counselling	23	17
Administrative Review	1	3
Civil Claims	1	1
Biased Based Profiling (Allegations)	0	10
Grievance	1	2
Law Enforcement Review Board Appeals	3	2
Alberta Serious Incident Response Team Investigations	0	3
Assistance to other Law Enforcement Agencies	5	6
Civilian / Non-Sworn Complaints	1	3



