

# NIAGARA REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE 2013 ANNUAL REPORT



Chief of Police Jeffrey McGuire

To Chief McGuire,

I want to bring attention to service beyond the call of duty of two of your officers...PC Margaret Chisholm and PC Sara Mummery.

I crashed my bike across from the police station on July 21 and they rushed to help me, called my husband, called the ambulance, wrapped my head, and most importantly kept me calm and well cared for. They even called my husband to meet with me later that night at the hospital.

I ended up with ten stitches above my eye and a fractured elbow.

They were so kind and calming. They are true professionals!

Please pass along my heart felt thanks to the both...I picked an ideal time and place to have accident.

Kind regards,



*2013 Senior Management Team*

# About this Publication

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## Mission Statement

**The Niagara Regional Police Service is dedicated to serving and protecting residents and visitors within the Regional Municipality of Niagara.**

**In partnership with the community, we shall provide quality policing services with integrity, diligence and sensitivity.**

***Members of the Niagara Regional Police Service believe...***

**In pursuing excellence in every circumstance;**

**In being fair and unbiased in the performance of duties in accordance with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms;**

**In treating all victims of crime with compassion and understanding;**

**In maintaining professional standards of conduct at all times;**

**In being approachable, courteous and open to all;**

**In developing creative solutions to policing concerns, through community oriented policing;**

**In striving to be active participants and leaders in the community; and,**

**In providing a professional satisfying work environment that respects employees' rights and encourages personal and professional growth.**

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## MESSAGE FROM CHAIR HENRY D'ANGELA

### Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board



*Deb Morton  
Executive Director*

As Chair of the Niagara Police Services Board, I am very proud to introduce the 2013 Annual Report, showcasing the many accomplishments and continued progress of the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS).

This Annual Report highlights our numerous community partnerships and initiatives as well as the outstanding work done in our various operational and administrative units. Through the dedication and commitment of our sworn and professional support staff, we are focused on service excellence each and every day.

The year 2013 marked a very special and historic event in the history of the Niagara Regional Police Service – the beginning of the construction of the new Police Headquarters and 2 District facility – a defining moment in the development of the NRPS Long-Term Accommodation Project. The Headquarters and 2 District facility will have an absolutely transformative effect on the operations of the NRPS. With the construction of this facility, the NRPS will have a new place to call home, a place filled with pride, honour and integrity, a modern 'purpose-built' facility that will serve the public professionally and efficiently now and in the future.

There were a number of significant achievements in this past year. The Board and Police Service developed its 2013-2015 Business Plan with a renewed vision to build a safer community together with a sustainable future. The Police Service has made significant progress towards meeting its targets; each goal, objective and performance metric outlines what the Police Service will do and how it will be done, providing a road-map for the next two years.

Community service was enhanced with the establishment of our first Collision Reporting Centre in Welland. This Centre brings increased convenience to the public and allows the police to redeploy valuable front-line policing resources to assist the Service in achieving its community policing goals, including greater road safety. Marked patrol vehicles were rebranded to black-and-white police cars, adding instant recognition and greater visibility. A Corporate Diversity Strategic Plan was developed to promote mutual respect and inclusivity both within the work environment and for the diverse Niagara communities that the NRPS proudly serves. Our commitment to providing the residents and visitors of Niagara Region with current and relevant information led us to the development of a new Service website designed to provide greater ease in accessing information and on-line resources.

A new organizational structure was put in place to reshape the NRPS and make us as effective as possible in delivering policing services to the citizens and visitors of Niagara Region. This moved the NRPS to a two Deputy Chief model and included other changes, adjustments and realignments to support the vision of the Board and the Chief while meeting the challenges and maximizing the opportunities that lie ahead. The selection of Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch represented the final move in putting an extremely important team in place. The executive leadership demonstrated by Chief Jeff McGuire, Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch and Deputy Chief Joe Matthews is second to none and they have provided stability to our police service.

In the coming year we will continue to develop our new service delivery model to ensure that the well-being of our communities remains a shared responsibility with our citizens, Service members, stakeholder partners and government. We remain committed to working together to meet our common goals.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all members of the Board who continue to strive to provide the highest level of governance and leadership to the residents of Niagara. I also want to thank the women and men of the NRPS for their willingness to serve and for their ongoing efforts to keep our communities safe.



*Todd Shoalts  
Member*



*Vance Badawey  
Member*



*Gary Burroughs  
Member*



*Bob Marshall  
Member*



*Vaughn Stewart  
Vice Chair*



*Ken Gansel  
Member*

# MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Jeff McGuire, M.O.M.



Joe Matthews  
Deputy Chief of Police  
Support Services



Bryan MacCulloch  
Deputy Chief of Police  
Operational Services

In June 2014 I completed my second year in the role of Chief of the Niagara Regional Police Service and in July 2014 I commenced my thirty-eighth year in law enforcement in the Province of Ontario. I am incredibly proud and honoured to have the opportunity to lead the men and women, both civilian and sworn, of the Niagara Regional Police Service. When I was first interviewed by the Police Services Board (PSB) I told them that I would not be leading this organization on my own, rather I would lead the team that would lead the organization. I extend my appreciation to the members of the PSB for their support and continued governance of the Service. Most importantly I want to acknowledge and thank all of the men and women in our front line, support, and administrative roles who come to work every day and commit to the oath they have sworn on behalf of the citizens of, and visitors to the Region.

We have accomplished many things this past year. Our long term facilities project is well underway and the new Police Headquarters and 2 District facility are taking shape in Niagara Falls. I am also confident that we will soon have a site selected for the new 1 District facility in St. Catharines. These two facilities are the final pieces in a very extensive plan that was underway long before I arrived here. Much time, effort and commitment by many NRPS members, Police Services Board members and Region staff will ensure this project is completed.

As you will see in this Report, incidents of reported crime continue to decline in many categories across the Region. This can be attributed to many different influences including the partnerships that the NRPS has made with many different agencies, community groups and citizens. Our School Resource Officer (SRO) program has won awards across the Province for the impact it has had in developing relationships with students and schools. We have recently established a chapter of the ProAction Cops & Kids program in the Niagara Region and this will continue to strengthen these relationships.

We have committed considerable time and effort into developing and implementing our Diversity Strategic Plan. This will help us create and maintain an environment where every member of the Service feels they are part of an inclusive organization, and every citizen feels they are treated in a fair and equitable manner by Service personnel.

It is no secret that financial pressures will continue to challenge police agencies across the country; the NRPS is not immune to these pressures. Along with my Senior Management Team I commit to you that we will continue to pursue methods of delivering policing service to the citizens of the Region in the most cost-effective and efficient manner while never losing sight of our statutory and moral obligations to maintain safe communities.

As always I encourage all of my employees, and all of you to *"Have a little fun every day"* as we work together to keep our Region safe for everyone.



Akram Askoul  
Director  
Information & Communication Technology



Lisa DiDonato-DeChellis  
Director  
Business Services



Scott McLean  
Superintendent  
Operational Support



Clifford Sexton  
Superintendent  
Emergency & Investigative Services



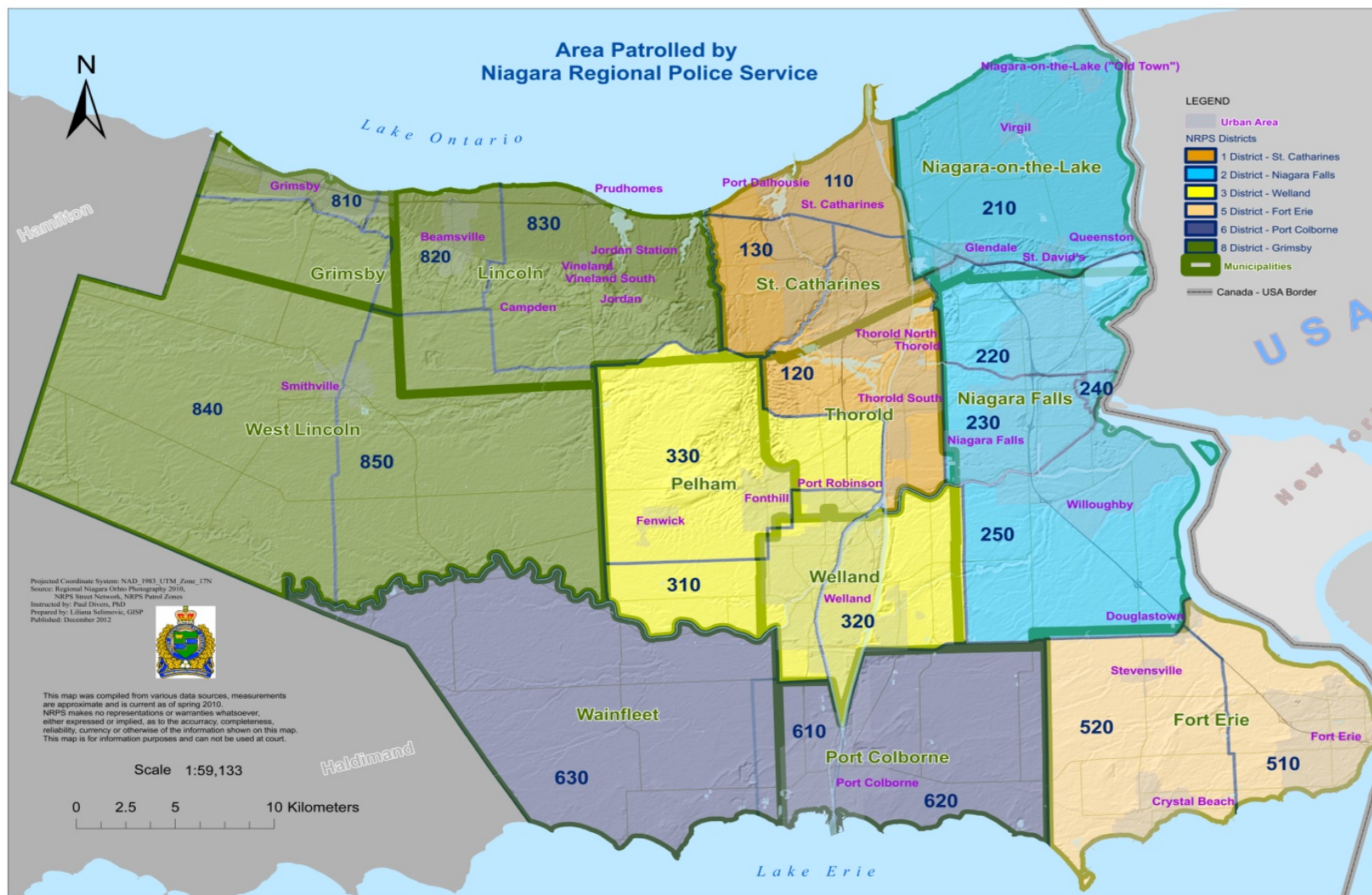
Geoffrey Skatfeld  
Superintendent  
Executive Services



Robert Wright  
Superintendent  
District Operations



# Region of Niagara





# Introduction



It is with pleasure that the Niagara Regional Police Service releases its **2013 Annual Report**. This report provides an overview of the vast array of services provided to the residents of Niagara and its visitors by the men and women of the Service.

Among other things, the report provides information on:

- The police service's provision of community-based crime prevention initiatives, community patrol, and criminal investigation services;
- Emergency calls for service;
- Violent crime and clearance rates for violent crime;
- Property crime and clearance rates for property crime;
- Youth crime and clearance rates for youth crime;
- Police assistance to victims of crime;
- Emergency services;
- Joint forces operations; and,
- Road safety.

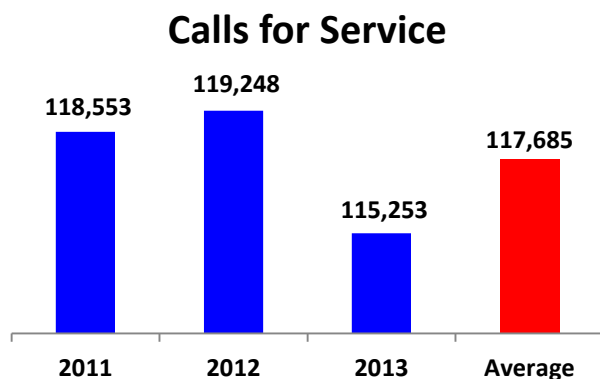
In addition, the Report provides an organizational overview, documentation of the administration and disposition of public complaints, the annual cost of policing, and initiatives undertaken as they pertain to crime analysis and Joint Forces Operations (JFOs).



# Calls for Service



The Communications Unit is the center of Niagara Regional Police Service communication. It is a stand-alone secure Centre staffed 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. Its complement includes a Staff Sergeant, four civilian Supervisors, 9-1-1 Operators, Communicators/Dispatchers, and a Training Coordinator.



## Calls for Service by Month

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
8,641	7,663	8,658	9,048	10,678	10,657	11,518	11,324	9,947	9,505	8,726	8,888

Personnel in the Unit are responsible for the answering of 9-1-1 and non 9-1-1 emergency calls in the Region of Niagara and dispatching police personnel to calls for service. In addition the communicators handle a large volume of administrative calls in and out of the centre. In 2013 the centre handled an average of over 377 9-1-1 calls per day and the administrative incoming call traffic is over 600 calls daily.

The Centre is extensively supported by radio, telephone and computer technology with back-up systems. The Service also maintains a back-up centre in case of a situation requiring evacuation.

9-1-1 Operator/Communicator is one of the most demanding functions in the police service. 9-1-1 Operators/Communicators are extensively screened for aptitude and strength in areas of decision making, comprehension, transcription, multi-tasking, prioritizing and computer skills. Candidates are subject to approximately 1,000 hours of directly supervised training followed by a long period of independent work in a closely supervised environment.

Calls for Service are based on incidents generated from calls received from the public and/or officers generated in the course of their duties. These numbers do not represent police workload as they do not indicate the length of time patrol or specialty units may spend on an investigation or call due to the seriousness and/or nature of the incident.

# Crimes Against Persons (selected incidents)

Incident	2012 Incidents	2013 Incidents
Murder – 1 <sup>st</sup> Degree	1	3
Murder – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Degree	1	3
Manslaughter	--	--
Criminal Negligence Cause Death	--	--
Murder – Attempt	4	3
Sexual Assault – Aggravated	1	--
Sexual Assault – Weapons/Bodily Harm	3	6
Sexual Assault	286	231
Sexual Interference	30	15
Invitation To Sexual Touching	17	3
Sexual Exploitation	1	2
Incest	2	--
Anal Intercourse	6	--
Voyeurism	8	5
Lure Child Via Computer	5	13
Assault – Aggravated	30	21
Assault – Weapon or Cause Bodily Harm	237	250
Assault	1,297	1,296
Assault – Police/Peace Officer	88	62
Assault – Police/Peace Officer -Weapon	2	--
Criminal Negligence Cause Bodily Harm	2	1
Assault – Other	10	13
Forcible Confinement	28	12
Trafficking in Persons	--	2
Abduction <14 No Parent/Guardian	2	1
Robbery	232	193
Extortion	11	7
Intimidate Justice System	3	4
Criminal Harassment/Stalking	93	61
Threats – Person Death/Harm	355	405
Harassing Phone Calls	39	10
<b>Total Crimes Against Persons (All Incidents)</b>	<b>3,663</b>	<b>3,239</b>

**Percent Change 2012-2013 - ↓ 12 Percent**





# Crimes Against Property and Narcotics Control Act Incidents (selected incidents)

	2012	2013
<b>Property Incidents</b>	<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Incidents</b>
Arson	129	88
Break & Enter	2,402	2,058
Theft Over \$5,000	109	85
Theft from Vehicle Over \$5,000	37	42
Shoplifting Over \$5,000	4	1
Theft Under \$5,000	3,106	2,719
Theft of Motor Vehicle	829	754
Theft from Motor Vehicle Over \$5,000	37	42
Theft from Motor Vehicle Under \$5,000	7,096	6,092
Shoplifting Under \$5,000	1,087	1,019
Possession Stolen Property	187	158
Fraud	1,091	1,110
Fraud – Identity Theft	24	11
Fraud – Identity Fraud	103	151
Mischief	2,459	1,975
Mischief to Religious Property	1	1
<b>Total Crimes Against Property (All Incidents)</b>	<b>14,474</b>	<b>12,528</b>

**Percent Change 2012-2013 - ↓ 14 Percent**

	2012	2013
<b>Narcotic Control Act Incident</b>	<b>Incidents</b>	<b>Incidents</b>
Possession – Heroin	10	8
Possession – Cocaine	55	73
Possession – Other CDSA	48	47
Possession – Cannabis	367	385
Possession – Crystal Meth.	3	9
Possession – Ecstasy	2	1
Trafficking – Heroin	16	17
Trafficking – Cocaine	80	70
Trafficking – Other CDSA	27	17
Trafficking – Cannabis	57	56
Trafficking – Crystal Meth.	4	6
Trafficking – Ecstasy	--	--
Import Produce – Heroin	--	--
Import Produce – Cocaine	1	2
Import Produce – Other CDSA	--	1
Import Produce – Cannabis	7	22
Production – Cannabis	44	42
<b>Total Narcotics Control Act Incidents (All Incidents)</b>	<b>725</b>	<b>746</b>

**Percent Change 2012-2013 - ↑ 3 Percent**

# Other Criminal Code Violations

(selected incidents)

	2012	2013
Offences	Incidents	Incidents
Prostitution	7	13
Prostitution – Bawdy House	--	--
Prostitution – <18 Years Living of the Avails	1	3
Prostitution – Procuring	1	2
Prostitution – Other	2	3
Explosives – Possess	--	1
Weapons – Possess	115	79
Unsafe Storage of Firearms	3	7
Weapons Possession Contrary to Order	--	6
Weapons Trafficking	3	1
Importing or Exporting of Weapons	5	9
Fail to Attend Court	301	332
Counterfeit Money	12	9
Cause Disturbance	32	21
Escape Custody	4	--
Indecent Act	62	74
Child Pornography	31	27
Corrupting Morals	--	1
Obstruct Resist Peace Officer	56	59
Unlawfully at Large	16	10
Trespass at Night	33	33
Fail to Comply with Conditions	763	724
Breach of Probation – Adult Only	378	385
Utter Threats – Property/Animal	11	14
Public Order – Offence Against	9	14
Offences Against the Person and Reputation	15	18
Offences Against Rights and Property	10	5
Proceeds of Crime	6	3
Attempts, Conspiracies, Accessories	7	7
Criminal Code – Other	232	251
<b>Total Other Criminal Code Violations</b>	<b>1,962</b>	<b>1,954</b>
<b>(All incidents)</b>		

Percent Change 2012-2013 - ↓ 2 Percent



# District Operations: Problem Oriented Policing

## 1 District: St. Catharines and Thorold

**The Downtown Foot Patrol** initiative, a partnership between the St. Catharines Downtown Business Improvement Association, the City of St. Catharines and the Niagara Regional Police Service continues to provide high visibility police presence through the use of year round foot and bicycle patrols in the downtown core. The initiative began in 2011 and was enhanced in 2012 by the installation of “Street Video Surveillance Cameras” that have proven to be an excellent tool for police investigating incidents in the downtown core. The presence of extra officers designated to patrolling during peak times alleviated regular patrol units from being used, thus, allowing them to be utilized elsewhere. It is expected that the program will continue to provide uniform visibility and enhanced policing into 2014.

**Operation Heal Toe** is an on-going initiative with SEU members and Auxiliary members to enforce the city of St. Catharines nuisance bylaw in the entertainment district. Officers walk the beat in the downtown area taking a zero tolerance approach to infractions of the nuisance bylaw. As of December 1, 2013 over 30 Provincial Offence Notices were issued and 3 arrests for impaired driving.

**The Reduce the Risk Task Force** continues to target problems associated with St. Catharines Downtown licensed premises. The joint initiative, which includes Niagara Regional Police, St Catharines Fire and members of the Alcohol Gaming Commission of Ontario continues to identify and prosecute infractions under various Provincial, Criminal and

Municipal Acts. There were no additional costs associated to this initiative.

**The South End Noise Patrol and Downtown Entertainment Area** initiative continues as a partnership between Brock University, the City of St. Catharines and the Niagara Regional Police to address nuisance complaints, noisy parties and public disorder in these identified areas of St. Catharines during the fall/winter school semesters. The initiative reduced the number of incidents in 2013 by increasing police presence and providing a safe environment for students and residents alike. In 2013, the NRPS portion of this coverage was approximately \$8,000.

**The St. Patrick’s’ Day Luck ‘O the Irish** initiative was planned and implemented in 2012 using a pre-approved operational plan that saw uniformed officers attending identified party houses at off campus residences. In 2013, the initiative continued as police checks began early in the day and continued into the late night hours. The initiative was positively received by students, educators, politicians and home owners residing in the affected neighborhoods. No major incidents resulted in 2013 due to this pro-active initiative. The cost associated to the NRP decreased in 2013 to \$6,300. The initiative





will move forward in 2014.

**The Project Impact** initiative is a program driven by Superintendent Bob Wright and the School Resource Officer Program. Project Impact is a mentoring program for high school students across the Region that involves the Niagara Regional Police Service, the District School Board of Niagara and Brock University. Niagara Regional Police Officers and Brock University student athletes mentor local high school students by participating in activities that include goal setting, career planning, teamwork skills, recreation skills and decision-making skills. Ultimately the goal of the program is to assist the students in making positive choices and decisions for their future. The initiative has proven to be most helpful for youths at risk and shall continue during the school year into 2014. There were no additional costs associated to this initiative.

The **Old Bill Program** was created by Inspector Joe Garvey utilizing both Street Crime and Uniform members in an effort to mobilize the Queenston Street business community to reduce the "Sex Trade" business and illicit drug transactions that take place there. This lower income residential area is recognized as a community at risk. Officers completed increased foot patrols and bicycle patrols in the area, generating 15 arrests for charges related to possession of controlled substance, fail to comply with probation, and various alcohol related offences, including 2 impaired arrests. Officers issued 12 Provincial Offence Notices to ensure compliance with provincial legislation. Over 40 street checks were entered by Officers to share intelligence among members of the service to assist in more effective patrols of the area. The initiative was highly successful in decreasing crime in the Queenston Street community as offenders learned that police

were committed to decreasing crime in the area and restoring safety to the community.

## **2 District: Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake and Casino Patrol Unit**

Niagara Regional Police, Niagara Falls Fire and **AGCO** developed a joint operation for **Licensed Premise Inspections** in licensed premises in Niagara Falls. 2 District Officers, SEU and NRP Licensing Officers assist the AGCO and Fire Department with compliance checks for Liquor License Act infractions, Fire Code infractions, and Public Health infractions. In 2013, over 50 Provincial Offence Notices were written and numerous work orders issued to licensed establishments in the Region.

Niagara Falls Officers conducted **Queen Street Foot Patrols** in the downtown Queen Street Niagara Falls and Niagara on the Lake business districts. Officers walk the beat during day shifts and speak with area business owners to promote uniform visibility in the area. Local business owners expressed their community concerns to officers which were addressed through on-going platoon initiatives.



Through the School Resource Officer program, a Special Project involving Youth Probation and Parole in Niagara Falls was created. School Resource Officers, Front Line Officers and Probation Officers teamed together resulting in 14 young offenders being arrested. Compliance checks led not only to arrests, but the intelligence gathered assisted with the execution of CDSA warrants. Additionally, Officers were able to monitor a number of youth associated to the SCC gang (Saint City Crooks).

2 District Officers focused extra patrols near Niagara Falls High Schools and businesses along Lundy's Lane. Officers identified known drug dealers/users lingering near area high schools. 2 District Officers performed increased patrols in the identified areas ensuring compliance with provincial and criminal legislation while gaining information for Street Crime, CIB and SRO's.

**Lock it or Lose it** is a crime prevention strategy which was conducted in Niagara-on-the Lake. Officers patrol parking lots and conduct random checks of vehicles to ensure they are locked and valuables are properly protected against theft. In January 2013, "Lock it or Lose it" was conducted in Niagara on the Lake to coincide with the local Ice Wine Festival. Approximately 50% of the vehicles checked were not properly secured. Information cards were placed on each vehicle which served to educate vehicle owners on the consequences of not stowing valuables or properly securing the vehicles. There were no additional costs for this initiative.

The Casino Patrol Unit conducted a **Theft from Auto Project** several times throughout the reporting period. Casino Detectives were assisted by front line officers in a plain clothes capacity to conduct surveillance on area hotel



parking lots during late night hours. As a result of their efforts, one person was caught in the act and arrested while other offenders were deterred by the increased patrols in the area.

**Operation Street Sweep** was initiated by Casino patrol members in an effort to ensure persons bound by release orders were abiding by them. This was done by conducting random checks at various hotels/motels used as transient residences and local licensed establishments. This project was done using on duty Front Line Officers and as a result, no additional costs were incurred in its implementation and delivery.

The Casino Patrol Unit makes it a priority to have regular Beat Officers and Bicycle Officers assigned to Beat Patrol when staffing permits. The use of service motorcycles is also a regular occurrence for the Casino District. Visibility and Approachability is a Casino day to day function.

Members of the Casino District attend a monthly meeting of the Casino Patrol and Security Association. The meeting is well attended by members of the City of Niagara Falls, local Business Associations, Casino Security and Clifton Hill Security. The Casino Patrol and Security Association was created for the purpose of having regular contact with the businesses the Niagara Regional Police Casino Patrol Units serve.

### 3 District: Welland and Pelham

**Niagara College Patrol** initiatives were implemented again in 2013 to deal with noise complaints, disturbances and trespass complaints in the residential areas surrounding the Welland Niagara College Campus. This very successful initiative increased uniform visibility and encouraged responsibility on the part of the students, deterring unruly behavior and ultimately creating a safe and accountable “frosh week” for students and residents alike. The cost of the initiative for 2013 was approximately \$6500.

The **Welland Safe Parks Initiative** was designed to specifically deal with liquor offences, loitering and mischief complaints. Platoon Sergeants assigned Officers to walk through local parks and address any concerns regarding youth, mischief, or LLA offences.

There was no cost associated to this initiative, as on duty Officers were utilized.

In summer 2011, a **Downtown Bike Patrol** was developed in both Pelham and Welland by Front Line Officers. The initiative continued in 2013 focusing on the Illuminaqua series events in the downtown Welland area, creating high police visibility and deterring from the usual alcohol related disturbances that generally occur at such social events. Along with the increased downtown patrols, officers also targeted locations in Welland and Pelham parks to deter problematic youth drinking. Area business owners and citizens were pleased with the increased police presence during special events.



**Project Walk and Talk** is an ongoing initiative conducted by Front Line Officers and their Supervisors. The purpose of this project is to provide a visible police presence in the Welland downtown core. Officers walk their designated patrol area speaking with local merchants and residents, offering assistance and guidance and laying both provincial and criminal charges where applicable. There are no extra costs associated to this initiative as the



Officers involved are on regular scheduled duty. This interaction has acted as a deterrent to the usual disturbance and theft related offences generally associated to this area.

Members of 3 District D-Platoon developed **Project Lightning** as a public safety project targeting people riding bicycles at night without lights. Improperly lighted bicycles pose a risk to motorists and cyclists and act as a common method of transportation for criminals and members of the drug sub culture. The initiative resulted in the laying of several Provincial Offence Notices and provided project members with valuable drug information.

## 5 District: Fort Erie

During the summer months the population of the greater Fort Erie area increases by approximately 15,000 temporary residents who annually return to cottage areas along the north shore of Lake Erie. Officers created the **Summer Patrol Initiative** to effectively patrol Fort Erie's unique cottage area. Officers assigned to 5 District performed 67 "cottage checks" on foot, by patrol cars and by ATV's at no additional cost to the service. This initiative provides increased police presence and successfully acts as a crime



deterrent.

In 2013 Uniform Officers expanded the Summer Patrol Initiative to develop the **Friendship Trail Initiative**, adding regular ATV and foot patrols to the area that runs from the Fort Erie Old Fort westward toward Port Colborne and the downtown area of Ridgway. Regular patrols of these areas, other pathways and recreational trails increased police visibility and are recognized as a crime prevention initiative insuring the safe use of these pathways for all users while deterring break and enter crimes at nearby cottages. No additional costs are incurred as trained Front Line Officers complete the patrols. In total, Fort Erie Officers completed 115 foot and/or ATV patrols in the Ridgway and Crystal Beach areas, creating high visibility for residents and visitors.

The **Beach Patrol Initiative** provides increased patrols by special duty officers to assist 5 District Officers in patrolling and implementing the proper use of beach areas and the adjacent streets and businesses. These patrols were created to effectively police the seasonal increases in tourists and beach users in the Fort Erie community. Beach patrol has proven effective as the increased visibility of Officers has reduced the amount of alcohol and drug related incidents and vandalism done on public beaches and to private properties and businesses. Beach patrol continued in 2013 with approximately \$8,000 in additional costs to NRPS.

**Project Bay Watch** concentrated on the mass attendance of students from several high schools for their annual Skip Day where they attend the beach instead of going to school. In June of 2013, approximately 2000 students descended on Bay Beach in the Crystal Beach area. Approximately \$4,000 in additional policing costs was incurred for extra coverage

over the four Fridays in June. Project "Bay Watch" is a proactive approach by police and is paramount in ensuring student safety, public safety and obedience to the law and the enjoyment of property for all.

**Liquor License Premise Checks** is a proactive initiative conducted by 5 District Uniform Officers and 5 District Detectives in cooperation with Canada Border Services and Officers from the Alcohol & Gaming Commission. The checks are directed at all liquor licensed establishments and are checked throughout the year to ensure compliance by the establishment, patrons and employees at no additional cost to the service.

5 District Officers displayed their continued commitment to community policing by completing regular visits to all 15 Fort Erie elementary and secondary schools along with 6 special school presentations by Officers. School administrators and students have expressed their appreciation for the commitment to community outreach by Niagara Regional Police Officers. Two Fort Erie Officers participate in the Niagara Regional Police Colour Guard, offering 140 volunteer hours at 11 community events while the 5 District Native Liaison Officer, Ronnie Ryan contributed over 100 volunteer hours toward building relationships with the Fort Erie Native Community.

## 6 District: Port Colborne and Wainfleet

Officers in 6 District developed the **High School Initiative** to reduce drug use within the 6 District High Schools. Lakeshore Catholic High School and Port Colborne Public High School received directed patrols, targeting drug use during lunch breaks. Front Line Officers



provided high visibility, education and enforcement to deter drug use within the schools. There were no additional costs as Front Line Officers completed the extra checks during regular patrols.

**Project Krystal Knights** was developed after Uniform Officers realized a large increase in Cocaine and Methamphetamine (Crystal Meth) use within the east end of Port Colborne. Uniform Officers and members of 3 District Street Crime worked collaboratively to gather evidence for future search warrants and arrests. Three search warrants were obtained for residences and numerous suspects were identified. On March 1, 2013 the search warrants were executed resulting in, 8 suspects arrested, \$3,400 in Canadian Currency and \$900 (street value) in Cocaine, Crystal Meth

and prescription pills being seized. The approximate cost of the initiative was \$2,500 to cover patrol duties while Officers were re-assigned.

The **Sherkston Shores Holiday Village Initiative** was created after numerous complaints of residents and campers operating golf carts in a careless manner were received during the early part of July 2013. Through discussion with property owners and management, Uniform Officers devised a plan to utilize the Trespass to Property Act to hold operators accountable for careless use of the carts. During the month of August, two Officers were hired by the property owners to enforce golf cart rules. Seven Provincial Offence Trespass Tickets were issued and compliance of golf cart rules increased dramatically. Two Officers were hired for four hours each, operating the ATV's for a total of eight days. Costs of the initiative were covered by the owners of the park.

The 6 District **Beach Patrol Initiative** during the months of July & August 2013 provided high police visibility on 6 District public beaches and surrounding areas. Included in the initiative was an educational component at local Wainfleet beaches regarding dangerous water conditions. Drug and alcohol abuse along with general disobedience and mischief was targeted due to constant complaints from local beach property owners. The patrols have proven to be a strong deterrent regarding the issues identified. The cost of the directed patrols totaled \$6,500. The educational component of the initiative proved to be a success as no fatalities occurred during the 2013 season.

Each year in the month of June, High School Students are absent from school to attend Augustine Beach, in the Town of Wainfleet to celebrate the pending end of the

school year. With several hundred students in attendance, use of liquor, drugs and general damage to beach property has been prevalent. To address the community problem **Operation Beach Day** was devised to curb further issues and persuade students to attend school as required. Students were advised in advance of the increased police patrols, resulting in decreased numbers of students at the beach in 2013 and less absenteeism for local high schools. No additional costs were associated to this initiative as on duty Officers received assistance from School Resource Officers to provide high police visibility in the area.

6 District Uniform Officers, during their night shift are required to attend local liquor licensed establishments to ensure compliance with the Liquor License Act. Public complaints and intoxicated arrest incidents have been drastically reduced due to increased officer visibility and interaction with business owners. No additional costs resulted from this initiative driven by uniformed officers.

## **8 District: Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln**

In January and February 2013, 8 District Officers developed **Directed Crime Patrol Initiatives** with the assistance of Detective Services to identify and disrupt offenders responsible for rural break and enters, theft of vehicles, and theft from vehicles. The combination of plainclothes and high visibility Uniform Patrols resulted in the arrest of 1 male for a vehicle theft, which lead to charges regarding a residential break and enter. Rural break and enters subsided after this arrest. In addition to the above, Uniform Members engaging in the project issued 30 Provincial



Offence Notices, arrested an impaired driver, and gained significant intelligence regarding criminal activity in the area. Members of Detective Services identified and arrested a male suspect with information gathered during **Project Squeaky Clean**, ending incidents of theft and mischief at local car washes.

In June 2013, Grimsby Officers developed project **Stay Away from School** directed at non-student youth hanging out in the vicinity of Beamsville District Secondary School at the end of the school year. The presence of uniform police served as a deterrent to illegal and criminal activity.

To respond to public complaints related to alcohol consumption at public parks and trails in Grimsby, 8 District Officers developed **Crime Patrol Park and Trail Patrols**. Officers conducted extra foot and bicycle patrols in area parks and beaches. The extra patrols resulted in six (6) *Liquor License Act* tickets being issued. Additionally, members of 8 District completed plain clothes and uniform crime patrols when a number of thefts from vehicles were reported from the north end of Grimsby. The high visibility patrol and interventions with youths in the evening hours resulted in a major reduction in subsequent thefts. Information gained during the initiative in July and August 2013, later led to the arrest of an area youth for thefts from vehicles.

In August 2013, 8 District D-Platoon developed a patrol initiative dedicated to **Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement**. Members of the platoon worked in partnership with MTO Enforcement Officers targeting commercial vehicles traversing the Escarpment for equipment and safety inspection concerns and speeding offences. Platoon members involved in the initiative issued 30 Provincial Offence Notices (PONS) for speeding related offences during the month. On August 22,

2013, 12 commercial vehicles received roadside safety inspections, 3 vehicles were taken out of service, 1 set of license plates was seized, and 3 equipment violation charges were laid. A second initiative commenced on September 23, 2013 resulting in 23 commercial roadside safety inspections, 4 vehicles taken out of service, 2 sets of license plates seized and 4 equipment violation charges laid.

On the evening of October 31, 2013 a **Halloween Safety Initiative** commenced with members of B-Platoon and the School Resource Officer Program. High-visibility patrols were conducted of subdivision areas in Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln promoting traffic safety and discouraging incidents of bullying.

During the months of November and December 2013, 8 District Officers from C-Platoon developed a directed patrol initiative, **Walking the Beat**. Officers walk the beat in the downtown cores of Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln. Positive feedback was received from business owners, patrons and residents in the area. Officers identified several community concerns which were added to eParade for further directed prevention initiatives.



## Youth and Police – School Resource Officer Unit

**A summary of SRO activity beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 were as follows:**

- a) Occurrences - 599
- b) Follow-ups - 517
- c) Cleared calls for service - 553
- d) Street Checks -194
- e) Provincial Offence Notices -119
- f) Provincial Offence Summons - 17
- g) Computer Assisted Dispatch Calls - 1,038
- h) Arrests - 71
- i) Criminal Charges - 73
- j) Calls cleared Non-reportable - 131
- k) Calls cleared Report to Follow - 581
- l) Youth PBOM's - 292

**A summary of extrajudicial measures applications from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 and the associated agencies: Total 81.**

- a) Community Addiction Services - 70
- b) John Howard Society - 38
- c) Niagara Native Centre - 1
- d) Pathstone Mental Health - 19
- e) Youth Justice Committee - 47
- f) Youth Resources Niagara - 4

### School Year Activity

On Tuesday, September 3rd 2013, the Niagara Regional Police Service conducted its 13th annual traffic safety and awareness day,



also known as operation All Hands on Deck throughout the entire Niagara Region, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. This project coincides with the return to school for most of the Regions school children after the summer break from school. Police target school zones throughout the entire region. Every available on-duty police officer was assigned to traffic enforcement duties in the vicinity of schools in each of Niagara's 12 municipalities.

In total, 110 officers, from the Chief of Police to Detectives were reassigned from their normal duties to participate in this operation. Officers were able to attend over 70 schools, both junior schools and high schools. During the All Hands on Deck Traffic Enforcement, Safety and Awareness operation, officers stopped over 260 vehicles, of which 138 drivers were issued Provincial Offence Notices (PONS) for speeding, 3 for distracted driving, 12 drivers were issued with PONS for seatbelt/child safety restraint violations, 14 for various rules of the road violations. Members of the SRO Unit participated in this initiative.

Niagara Falls Optimist Club, Respect for Law Award 2013, May 23rd, 2013, In July 1965, a discussion between Past Optimist International President Carl Bowen and former FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover resulted in the birth of the Respect for Law program. In May

the SRO Unit was fortunate to receive the award as a group from the Niagara Falls Optimists.

All of the SRO's have twitter accounts in an effort to engage youth and the community through developing media. SRO Cst. Davidson with 350 followers and almost 1,000 tweets is using the media frequently to connect with students and the community.



During the High School Christmas Break time December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 to January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 members of the SRO Unit conducted pro-active foot patrol at the Pen Centre with members of the mall security unit. As a result of these patrols calls for service for theft under \$5,000 went from 30+ to zero (0). This initiative was hugely successful.

Project IMPACT (Intensive Measures: Police and Community Together), The SRO Unit has committed attendance at all of this years IMPACT nights, October 8th, October 22nd, October 29th, November 12th, November 26th

- Christmas Dinner @ Collegiate, January 14th, January 28th, February 11th, February 25th, March 4th, and Mar 18th - Finale at Brock. This project attracts approximately 120 students per session and runs from 1800 hrs to 2100 hrs at St Catharines Collegiate.

Project Resurgence (Black Pistons M/C), Members of the SRO Unit were able to cultivate Confidential Informants that provided information which was used in the project that involved the execution of 30 search warrants, 29 arrests, and numerous criminal charges as well as asset seizures. SRO's were involved on takedown day at various sites with numerous officers.

In March members of the SRO Unit attended Advanced Human Trafficking training provided by the Niagara Regional Police Licensing Unit directed at Human Trafficking. SRO's routinely investigate "sexting" calls for service with the help of the Niagara Regional Police Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.) Unit. Sexting is an emerging concern among Police and youth as these pictures can lead to bullying and grooming.

K9 Searches, SRO's and K9 handlers have renewed relationships with both school boards. Working within the structure of new case law all of the involved stakeholders have





developed a new protocol that allows all involved to satisfy concerns yet continue to use this tool.

The SRO's continue to build on relationships with community partners such as: The Raft, Nightlite Shelter, Port Cares, FACS, Pathstone, Youth Probation and Parole, John Howard Society "Project Rewind", Youth Justice Committee, and Contact Niagara. These continued relationships help build on community safety through information sharing.

### **School Resource Officer Summer Activity**

During the summer holidays members of the unit were deployed in two fashions. During the day shifts (0700hrs-1700hrs) SROs conducted various pro-active community patrols deployed on bike, foot, atv, and vehicle. During that time officers focused on building positive community relationships through programs such as "*Caught You Using Your Head*" a positive ticketing program aimed at youth wearing helmets and safety equipment and "*Project Impact – Summer School*" where SROs engaged at risk students through sport and educational activities. This program ran at four High Schools (Eastdale, A.N. Myer, Fort Erie Secondary and Kernahan Park) SROs interacted with approximately six hundred youth.

During 1700 hrs to 0300 hrs night shifts the SROs were deployed in St Catharines for a directed patrol and problem oriented policing. SROs targeted drugs, liquor offences, trespassing, and other criminal offences while responding to calls for service. All patrol conducted during this time was "high visibility" bicycle patrol in areas including, but not limited to Port Dalhousie, Waterfront Trail in North St

Catharines, Jaycee Park, Municipal Beach, Malcolmson Park, Queenston Street, Centennial Park, Montebello Park, Merritt Trail, both sides of Twelve Mile Creek, West St Catharines and the St Catharines Downtown core. As a result of these patrols forty-seven people were arrested (fifteen charged criminally and thirty-two offered extrajudicial measures applications \*see below\* for further breakdown), Forty-three Provincial Offence Notices were issued, and nearly one hundred reports generated. The patrols in these areas led to "Project OLD BILL" being initiated.

**A summary of statistics from summer deployment, covering June 23<sup>rd</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013 were as follows:**

- 111 occurrences
- 47 arrests
- 82 street checks
- 43 Provincial Offence Notices

Additionally SROs used alternative measures thirty-two times in July and August 2013 to process youth by other means through the extrajudicial measures program.





## Child Abuse/Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.)



The **Child Abuse/Internet Child Exploitation Unit** is made up of 10 Detective Constables and 1 Detective Sergeant. Seven Detective Constables investigate Child Abuse cases, while three others investigate cases involving Internet Child Exploitation (I.C.E.). The mandate of the Child Abuse Unit is to investigate:

- (i) incidents of child physical abuse by a caregiver;
- (ii) incidents of child sexual abuse;
- (iii) cases of neglect where serious injuries have resulted, a life has been endangered or where there has been a failure to provide the necessities of life.
- (iv) attempted murders of a child by a person having charge, care or authority over a child; and,
- (v) child pornography and incidents of internet luring.

The Niagara Regional Police Service is a member of the **Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the internet** and conducts investigations into Internet Child Exploitation Offences in partnership with numerous Ontario Police

Services. In total, detectives investigated 392 incidents in 2013.

The **Child Advocacy Centre of Niagara** (CACN) opened its doors in the fall of 2008. From this one site a 17 member child advocacy support team, including members from Niagara Regional Police Service, Family and Children Services of Niagara, mental health and medical communities, and the Crown's Office together provide a comprehensive and timely response to allegations of child maltreatment. The goal is to treat victimized children and to investigate and prosecute their abusers through a multi-disciplinary approach. The Service and Family and Children Services (FACS) continue to work jointly to ensure the safety and well-being of all children.

### Cases Investigated by the Child Abuse/Internet Child Exploitation Unit in 2013

Offence Outcome	Incidents	Percent
Cleared by Charge	99	28.4
Cleared Otherwise	43	12.3
Closed - Suspended	51	14.6
Open Investigation	11	3.2
Unfounded	117	33.5
Non-CCJS (Not criminal code)	28	8.0



## Sexual Assault

In 2013 the **Sexual Assault Unit** has seen an increase of nine percent in Sexual Assault Incidents being reported to the NRPS compared to 2012. The Sexual Assault Unit has cleared over forty five percent of the calls for service where the investigation has been concluded in the 2013 calendar year. Nineteen percent of these incidents have been cleared by charge.

The Unit has continued to maintain its close ties with the community partners in the Sexual Assaults Protocol. The Niagara Regional Police Service, The Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Treatment Centre (SA/DV-TC) and the Niagara Regional Sexual Assault Center (CARSA), the Ministry of the Attorney General's Office, Victim Witness Assistance Program and the Niagara Crisis Victim Support Services continue to meet and work together in a collaborative approach to these investigations. The Sexual Assault Unit continues to have very professional and effective working relationship with our community partners.

The Detective Sergeant in charge of the Sexual Assault Unit is a member of the Sexual Assault Investigators Association of Ontario. This Association is newly formed and has allowed investigators in this area of expertise to network and gain contacts in other police departments. The Sexual Assault Unit is often called upon to assist other police departments in their investigations.

The Public Education resource member of CARSA and the Detective Sergeant in charge of the Sexual Assault Unit as well as Detectives from the Sexual Assault Unit attend local high school law classes with information on sexual assaults and drug facilitated offences. Presentations also include post-secondary facilities in Niagara - Brock University and

Niagara College. Due to the successes of these presentations the Sexual Assault Unit has received requests for the presentations. Presentations have been expanded to include local area sports teams.

### Cases Investigated by the Sexual Assault Unit in 2013

Offence Outcome	Incidents	Percent
Cleared by Charge	39	19.4
Unfounded	30	20.0
Cleared Otherwise	14	0.6
Closed – Suspended	96	3.2
Open Investigation	13	48.0

**Note:** Not all charges laid by the NRPS for sexual offences are the result of Sexual Assault investigations. Incidents disclosed here are based solely on Sexual Assault Unit investigations.



## Family Violence

The Niagara Regional Police Service has adopted the Attorney General's directive on its Mandatory Charge Policy whereby officers shall lay charges in all incidents of "intimate relationship" domestic violence occurrences. Intimate relationships include opposite-sex and same-sex partners. These relationships vary in duration and legal formality, and include current and former dating, common law and married couples. "Intimate relationship" does not necessarily have to include a sexual component within the relationship.

Criminal Code offences include, but are not limited to homicide, assault, sexual assault, forcible confinement, threatening death or bodily harm, harassment/stalking, abduction, breaches of court orders and property related offences.

### Reported Incidents in 2013

<b>Domestic related Calls for Service</b>	<b>9,543</b>
<b>Domestic related Reports</b>	<b>7,241</b>
Non CCJS	5,669
Criminal Investigations	1,572
Criminal Investigations - Charges	1,062
Criminal Investigations - No Charges	510

### Domestic Violence Unit

On December 30, 2012, the centralized Domestic Violence Unit came to fruition and has been in operation for approximately one year. The unit consists of twelve Domestic Violence Investigators who are trained in

conducting "enhanced domestic violence" investigations. The unit's mandate is to assist and assume responsibility from front-line uniform personnel of all domestic violence incidents where there are grounds to proceed with criminal charges. Domestic Violence Investigators ensure resources are available to uniform officers. This includes increased monitoring and reviewing all reported domestic and family violence cases, as well as a closer working relationship with the Domestic Violence Crown Attorneys. On average, the Domestic Violence Unit investigates over 80 cases per month that result in charges.

### Domestic Related Criminal Charges

Assault (Simple)	580
Assault (Bodily Harm)	100
Assault (Aggravated)	4
Breach of Probation	230
Breach of Recognizance	207
Criminal Harassment	46
Forcible Confinement	13
Mischief	151
Murder	1
Murder (Attempt)	0
Sexual Assault (Simple)	8
Sexual Assault (Bodily Harm)	1
Sexual Assault (Aggravated)	0
Utter Threats	120
Weapons/Firearms	8

The Domestic Violence Unit continues to work collaboratively with Family and Children's Services, Nova House, Gillian's Place, Serenity House, the Coalition Ending violence Against Women, Victim Services Niagara, Victim Witness Assistance Program, Probation and Parole, Crown Attorney's and other appropriate community agencies.



### New Domestic Violence Protocol

A new Protocol between the NRPS, Victim Services Niagara, Niagara Victim Witness Assistance Program & Niagara Health System was signed on Friday December 6, 2013.

## Elder Abuse

Due to an organizational change in 2012, elder abuse cases are being investigated by four separate units within the Service. The Centralized Fraud Unit investigates the financial abuse of seniors. The Domestic Violence Unit investigates the physical abuse of seniors. The divisional Criminal Investigations Branch investigates missing persons and the COAST unit assists with the mental health and well-being of seniors through referrals of community agencies. The Behavioural Supports Ontario Community Outreach Team works with COAST to assist seniors who have cognitive impairment which can result in responsive behaviours such as wandering, exit seeking, verbal/physical agitation and repetitive actions. The BSO team staff offer services in crisis intervention, practical support and outreach, education, advocacy and coordination of services.

## Mobile Tracking Emergency Response System – MTERS

As a result of the dissolution of the DVERS program, the Niagara Regional Police Service, Victim Services Niagara and Eyez-On Corporation have worked collaboratively to provide personal alarms for individuals who are deemed at “high risk” for violence.

MTERS is a mobile alarm system that is a GPS enabled intervention strategy to address the need to enhance the safety of individuals. The mobile tracking device is equipped with a panic button and GPS technology. After pressing the panic button the victim’s location is pin-pointed using the GPS technology and police are dispatched to the victim’s location.

As a result of the GPS technology, police are able to respond to a victim’s location in an effective manner with information updates every 60 seconds.



**Niagara**



## **Crisis Outreach and Support Team – COAST**

COAST serves the community of the Niagara Region by completing Mental Status Examinations and Risk Assessments for those persons with mental health concerns who are in crisis in the community. The COAST mobile team will meet with these individuals and when appropriate their families, to provide support, obtain information, and assess the individual's current stressors, coping strategies, needs and risk.

The COAST unit consists of two (2) full time, plain clothes police officers; back fill officers and four (4) Mental Health Workers (Nurses and Social Workers). There are two teams which include one police officer and one mental health worker on duty from 10:00am to 10:00pm, Monday through Saturday, with coverage from 12:00pm to 8:00pm on Sundays. A designated phone service will be available for the diversion of non-priority calls involving mental health issues and clients. It is the goal of COAST to assist persons with mental health concerns who are in crisis in a manner that diverts from hospitalization and the criminal justice system.

In 2013 COAST teams responded to approximately 13,419 telephone calls for service across the Niagara Region offering support to clients. Of those COAST conducted 687 mobile visits and completed 104 mental health assessments. COAST apprehended 12 individuals as part of their interventions.

COAST served approximately 2398 clients in 2013. Statistics show that COAST roughly assists the same number of female clients as male clients.

<b>Type of Client</b>	
Female Client	1,254
Male Client	1,110
Unknown Client	34
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,398</b>

COAST serves a wide range of clients that fall into a number of age categories. The majority of clients are between the ages of 18-64 with the highest number of clients in the 45-54 age group.

COAST receives a request for services through a number of different community partners and referrals. The Niagara Regional Police has the highest number for referrals.

<b>Initial Referral Source</b>	
<b>Referral</b>	<b>Occurrences</b>
Client	746
Clients Community	311
Criminal Justice System	8
Family	407
Fire Department	7
Government	9
Hospitals	14
Housing Connections	3
Medical (Other)	12
Mental Health Case Management	11
Police	1,248
Safe Bed Program	3
School	8
Seniors Agency	26
Shelter	4

In 2013 the Niagara Regional Police apprehended 1,077 individuals under the Mental Health Act. In total, COAST reviewed 2,116 calls for service relating to Mental Health.

## Special Enforcement (SEU)

In 2013, the Special Enforcement Unit continued its commitment to traffic and enforcement initiatives throughout the Niagara Region. The Unit is comprised of an authorized strength of 4 Sergeants and 20 constables, all dedicated to developing and implementing various traffic initiatives in problem areas throughout the region, as well as leading and participating in joint forces enforcement operations. Those partner enforcement agencies include the Ministry of Transportation, Canada Border Service Agency and the Alcohol and Gaming Corporation. SEU conducts enforcement using marked and unmarked cruisers, motorcycles, and foot patrol.

In 2013 some of the initiatives that the SEU were involved in included Operation Impact, where the public was educated in safe driving practices with the focus being on Impaired Driving, Seat Belt Use and all aspects related to aggressive and distracted driving. Operation Oblivious was a project aimed at educating and enforcing the public with regards to distracted driving due to the use of mobile phones and texting while driving. The SEU were also involved in Joint Forces Inspections with various community agencies to ensure



compliance of a variety of laws including but not limited to the Liquor Licence Act. Defective vehicles and unsafe loads were another area that the SEU conducted frequent checks to make the roads safer.

Other services and joint projects in which the SEU participates on a regular basis as part of their regular duties include Traffic control duties and Parade Escorts, Labor Disputes, concerts (crowd and/or traffic control), Think and Drive Campaign, Drive Safe and Seat Belt and Distracted Driving blitzes on a regular basis.

Many members of SEU are specialty trained to assist other areas of Emergency Services such as ETU, Marine, and Underwater Search and Rescue. Additionally SEU officers are trained in speed management devices, are both RADAR and LIDAR operators, Intoxilyzer Technicians and Drug Recognition Experts.





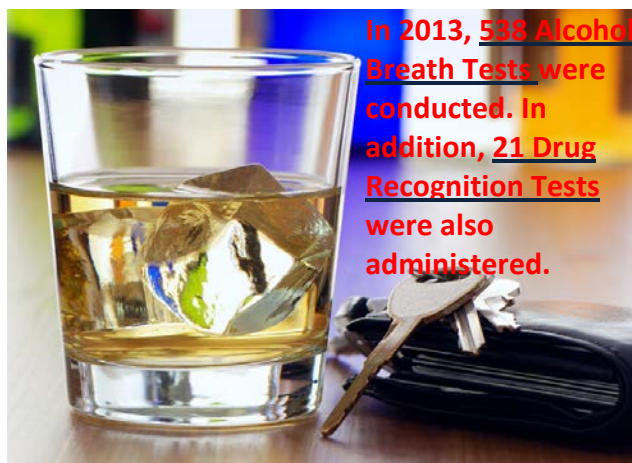
### Non-HTA, HTA and Total Provincial Offence Notices (PONS)

District	Non-HTA	HTA	Total PONS
District 1 – St. Catharines, Thorold	2,571	7,647	10,218
District 2 – Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake	1,583	8,589	10,172
District 3 – Welland, Pelham	1,022	4,510	5,532
District 5 – Fort Erie	329	2,524	2,853
District 6 – Port Colborne, Wainfleet	475	2,645	3,120
District 8 – Grimsby, Lincoln, West Lincoln	433	3,595	4,028
Special Enforcement Unit – Region wide	1,224	6,634	7,858
Casino Patrol Zone	728	2,279	3,007
Other Units	206	546	752
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,571</b>	<b>38,969</b>	<b>47,540</b>

SEU officers support the Service's goal of reducing serious personal injury and fatal collisions on our roadways through their initiatives and day-to-day traffic enforcement.

In 2013, SEU Sergeants and Constables issued a total of 7,858 provincial offence notices.

SEU traffic duties include the administration of the Breath Technician and Drug Recognition programs. The DRE program continued to grow and there are currently 6 officers deemed drug recognition experts. DRE officers responded to 538 alcohol-impaired arrests and 21 drug-impaired arrests across the region.



### 2013 R.I.D.E. Statistics

R.I.D.E.'s Conducted	16
Vehicles Checked	4,000
Roadside Tests	173
3 Day Suspensions	30
Impaired Driving Arrests	14
HTA PONS	102
Liquor Licence Act	21

## Collision Reconstruction

Section 29 of the Adequacy Standards Regulation requires that a police services board have a policy on traffic management, traffic law enforcement and road safety. In addition, section 5 (1) (d) requires that police services have technical collision investigation and collision reconstruction investigative supports. The Niagara Regional Police Service is in compliance with the Adequacy Standards Regulation and has a dedicated Collision Reconstruction Unit. The Collision Reconstruction Unit is comprised of 5 Detective Constables and 1 Detective Sergeant and is mandated to investigate all fatal and serious life threatening motor vehicle collisions that occur within the Region.

Officers assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Unit are technically trained and dedicated investigators, who specialize in the field of collision investigation. Members assigned to the Unit are initially required to complete a minimum of 10 weeks of extensive collision investigation training at either the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ontario or the Canadian Police College in Ottawa. Beyond their initial training, our collision investigators receive ongoing training to maintain their skill set and expertise.

The five members assigned to the Collision Reconstruction Unit are divided into two teams and are available to respond to respond to incidents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition to investigating collisions, members of the Collision Reconstruction Unit also provide support to our Forensic Services Unit and Major Crime Unit by providing forensic mapping services during high profile criminal investigations.

In 2013, the Collision Reconstruction Unit investigated 19 Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions that resulted in the death of 22 people and attended 26 life-threatening injury collisions. The 2 main factors that contribute to serious injuries and fatalities in these collisions are speed and impairment by alcohol or drug. In 2013, of the 21 fatal investigations that were conducted, 6 deaths were caused by excessive speed, 5 were attributed to alcohol consumption, 4 involved pedestrians being struck, 3 were due to uncontrollable medical conditions, 2 snowmobile fatalities, 1 motorcycle fatality and 1 fatality due to extreme weather phenomenon which caused a tree to fall on an unsuspecting motorist.

### Fatal and Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collisions, 2009-2013

Type of Injury	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions	25	14	15	21	19
	25 Deaths	14 Deaths	16 Deaths	24 Deaths	22 Deaths
Life Threatening Motor Vehicle Collisions	35	34	24	26	26

Medical deaths while operating vehicle (i.e., heart attack, stroke, etc.) not included.





# Emergency Services

## Marine Unit



The Niagara Regional Police **Marine Unit** continues to provide an effective police presence and response on the navigable waters within the jurisdiction of the service. Mandated by the *Police Services Act* of Ontario, the Marine Unit is responsible for policing 1,500 square kilometres of water, including Lake Ontario, Lake Erie and the Niagara River which border the Region on three sides. Vast networks of inland lakes, rivers and hydro canals fall within the Marine Unit's response area along with the Welland Shipping Canal, a critical component to commerce in both Canada and the United States.

The eight officer unit is trained and equipped to meet the needs of the service and the public in four diverse areas: marine enforcement; tactical support; underwater search and recovery; and front-line uniform patrol. The Marine Unit strives to educate the public in safe boating practices and effectively patrol and enforce the statutes applicable to the waters of Niagara. With such a large area of responsibility, the Unit relied on strategic alliances and partnerships to ensure public safety and timely response. The team

partnered with the Canadian Coast Guard Port Weller who provided secure docking facilities and assisted with routine vessel maintenance. The Unit participated in joint interdiction efforts on Lake Erie with the RCMP Marine Security Enforcement Team (MSET) Marine patrols and supported a variety of special duties including the Tall Ships display in Port Dalhousie and Canal Day festivities in Port Colborne.

Throughout the year, Marine Unit officers took part in 15 community events and attended local public service clubs to educate the public on boating and water safety. During routine marine enforcement patrols, 300 Provincial Offences Notices were issued primarily for failing to comply with safety legislation found within the Canada Shipping Act, Liquor License Act and Highway Traffic Act. The Unit was dispatched to 485 calls for service resulting in 15 search and rescue responses and 17 arrests. Accidental drownings and water-related deaths by misadventure were down from 11 in 2012 to 8 in 2013.

Two officers participated in national maritime security initiatives as contracted or seconded members. One officer supported the RCMP Marine Security Emergency Response Team (MSERT) as a Tactical Rescue Diver on a 24/7 callout basis and a second officer was seconded to the full-time RCMP Marine Security Enforcement Team operating from the Upper Niagara River to as far east as Windsor.

A unique and highly specialized service provided by the Marine Unit in support of the Emergency Task Unit is called the **Tactical Support Group (TSG)**. Marine members provide perimeter containment and a variety of specialized tactical functions including breaching, sniper element, explosives disposal, and rappelling at high-risk incidents such as barricaded gunman calls or drug warrants.

Marine members supported 13 tactical operations calls and 5 explosives disposal calls in 2013.

## **Underwater Search and Recovery Unit**

The NRPS **Underwater Search and Recovery Unit** provides the Niagara Region with a highly trained service capable of extending almost all aspects of the police function underwater on a 24-hour a day, 365 days a year basis. Duties of the USRU include assisting police investigators with the recovery of vehicles, vessels, aircraft, weapons, bodies and a variety of evidence that has found its way underwater by criminal or accidental means. The Unit supports the Explosive Disposal Unit with the recovery and render safe of underwater ordnance, marine markers and explosive devices. In an effort to protect the public and the many critical infrastructures within the Region, USRU members are certified in confined space entry, harbour searching, ship hull inspection, and explosives recognition.

The USRU was required to perform 21 dive operations during the 2013 calendar year. The USRU conducted three days of contracted diving services for the Waterloo Regional Police Service to support a homicide investigation and the recovery of a drowning victim.

### **2013 activities included...**

- 8 body recoveries
- 3 vehicles recoveries
- 1 ordnance recovery
- 1 vessel recovery
- 2 persons rescued



## Emergency Task Unit



The Emergency Task Unit (ETU) is a fully operational Hostage Rescue Unit, capable of all functions from Perimeter Control and Containment to Hostage Response tactics. As an accredited Hostage Rescue Team, the ETU is a fourteen member team comprised of two Sergeants and twelve Constables. The ETU are supported by other Emergency Services Units that come together to form the Tactical Support Group. These members provide the “Force Multipliers” that permit the ETU to be capable of completing its mission.

The Unit’s duties and responsibilities are defined and governed by NRPS General Orders and Provincial Adequacy Standards. ETU responds to hostage takings, barricaded persons, and execution of high-risk warrants, building and area searches, high risk canine tracks, emotionally disturbed person calls, V.I.P. security and Witness Protection, Court Security, Search and Rescue, and other duties as assigned. It is the policy of the Emergency Task Unit to safely resolve all high-risk incidents through non-violent resolution whenever possible. A highly trained and disciplined team is often required to provide this specialized support. To provide a greater prime-time presence, E.T.U. members will perform patrol duties when not engaged in tactical support operations, training, or special assignments.

The ETU is a support unit with a broad mandate that assists and augments all operational areas within the Niagara Regional Police Service. In 2013 ETU also provided direct



support to the front line on its night shift rotation through redeployment. When required the unit also assists the Training Unit by providing firearms and use of force instructors. The Emergency Task Unit responded to 95 requests for its services in 2013. This total includes non-tactical type operations for which the ETU is responsible; such as VIP security and missing persons - search & rescue operations. In addition, ETU members responded to Containment, or Tactical calls for service as an Immediate Response Team in circumstances that did not necessarily require a full team response. Other highlights included providing assistance to Toronto Police ETF by conducting high risk warrant entries for Project Traveler involving organized gang activity; providing assistance to NRPS Special Investigative Services by conducting high risk warrant entries for Project Resurgence involving Outlaw Motorcycle Gang activity within the region; and VIP security to 13 Provincial/Territorial Premiers during the Council of the Federation held in Niagara-on-the-Lake. Several lengthy court security operations and high risk prisoner escorts involving high profile prisoners were also conducted in 2013.

ETU conducted member selection in 2013 and was able to identify new ETU and TSG members. This process included the successful



### 2013 Emergency Task Unit Callouts

VIP	Warrants	Armed/ Barricaded Persons	Searches	Court Security/ Escorts	High Risk Arrests	High Risk K9 Track	Other	Total
6	16	10	13	17	15	2	16	95

completion of the ETU selection course itself, and successful completion of both the advanced firearms course and finally a perimeter control and containment course.

The Provincial Adequacy Standards contained in the *Police Services Act of Ontario* mandates the requirements that police tactics/hostage rescue units must maintain. In 2013, the Emergency Task Unit maintained a rigorous training program that met all requirements dictated in the adequacy standards for a hostage rescue team. With the

inclusion of new members to the Unit this year training will continue through 2014. The Unit's succession plan and ongoing training schedule ensures the Unit is prepared for future operations.

The Unit continues to evolve and develop best practices in all required areas of activity in order to provide high-risk support and service to units within the Niagara Regional Police Service and to the citizens of Niagara.

### Perimeter containment exercise





# Explosives Disposal Unit

The **Explosives Disposal Unit** is trained and equipped to render safe improvised chemical, biological, radiological and explosive devices, (CBRNE) military ordnance and provide technical support to the Emergency Task Unit. Additionally, the EDU provides specialized investigative support to other Service units, consults and educates Service and Community Organizations in matters relating to explosives and bomb threat procedures. In 2013 the EDU responded to 39 events and participated in 8 community functions.

stakeholders (Fire, Ambulance), as well as regular training and exchanges with neighbouring EDU's in Canada and the USA adds to the units high level of preparedness.



Found explosives for destruction.

Explosive Disposal Unit Calls for Service

Chemical/Biological	Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)	Suspicious Package	Post Blast	Found Explosives	Hoax/ Threats	Military Ordnance Fireworks	Other
1	0	6	0	9	2	8	14

The Unit consists of five part-time members who are certified in bomb disposal, electronics, explosive forced entry and post blast investigation by the Canadian Police College. Members participate in monthly local training and attend out of service courses and workshops for advanced and recertification training. In 2013 each Explosives Technician participated in an average of 25 days of training, practicing and building their individual and the Unit skill set toward the effective, efficient and timely resolution of incidents.

To ensure a high level of readiness, the unit holds active membership in a number of domestic and international associations, where information and training on the latest trends, threats and techniques is shared and learned. Strong working relationships with other Niagara



Explosives technician carries items for destruction.

## Canine

In 2013, the Canine Unit continued to maintain their longstanding tradition of providing night-shift coverage every night of the year. The unit is comprised of seven general purpose police dogs, five of which are cross trained in narcotics detection and one cross trained in explosives detection. The Unit also has a dedicated explosives detection dog.

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### 2013 Year End Statistics

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Calls for Police Service Dogs	1,123
Number of Times Canines Used	828
Non-K-9 Calls	933
K9 Successes	109
Arrests	68
Support Apprehensions	113

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#### Breakdown of Calls for Police Dog Services

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Calls for Patrol Dogs	706
Calls for Narcotics Detection	105
Calls for Explosives Detection	17

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#### Breakdown of Patrol Dog Calls

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Tracks	548
Open Searches	51
Building Searches	70
Evidence Searches	32

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The Canine Unit conducted a basic canine course during the fall of 2013, training canine teams for Genesee County Sheriff Department, Amherst Police Department, Hamilton Police Service, Niagara Parks Police and the Niagara Regional Police Service. Recertification was also conducted with 21

teams attending for both the spring and fall sessions.

On Wednesday September 25, 2013 at the age of 13 years, P.S.D. Ranger passed away. P.S.D. Ranger was the loyal canine partner of Sgt. Dave Bridel for 10 years. During his active duty years, P.S.D. Ranger responded to 1400 canine calls for service in the community. During his career, P.S.D. Ranger was responsible for the locating of 140 fleeing, hiding or barricaded suspects and recovered numerous pieces of evidence and stolen property.



**Sergeant McGregor  
& P.S.D. Ranger**



**P.S.D. Titan**

P.S.D. Titan passed away on November 20, 2013 at the age of 9 ½ after suffering from a sudden and undetermined acute medical situation. Titan was a Czech Republic import who joined the service in early 2005 and became Sergeant Ken McGregor's K9 patrol partner and best friend for the following 7 years. Titan was trained in general patrol and narcotics detection. Over the course of seven years the team attended numerous school presentations and were dispatched to well over 3,500 calls for service responding to assaults, searches, drug investigations and other police calls while protecting and serving our community.

## **Special Investigation Services**

The Niagara Regional Police Special Investigative Services unit is a diverse unit that deploys 36 sworn officers, 1 drug control officer, 2 civilian analysts and 1 civilian clerk. The Unit is responsive for high level drug and organized crime investigations along with extremism and cross broader issues. The unit is comprised of a Guns Gangs and Grows unit, Intelligence unit, Mobile Surveillance unit, Morality Unit and the Provincial Anti-Violence investigation team (P.A.V.I.S.). Several officers are deployed to Joint Forces Operations including, Biker Enforcement (O.P.P.), Integrated Proceeds of Crime (R.C.M.P.), Provincial Weapons Enforcement (O.P.P.), Provincial Anti- Terrorism Investigations (O.P.P., R.C.M.P.) and the Border Enforcement Security Task Force (Canadian and American Authorities). One officer is also assigned to the Prescription Unit. Another officer is the Covert Asset Manager. Several high profile drug investigations took place in 2013.

The following is a general overview of the combined activities of the Special Investigative Services Unit for the year 2013.

### **Guns, Gangs and Grows Unit**

In 2013 the Guns, Gangs and Grow Unit continued with consistent enforcement of marihuana grow operations within the Region of Niagara. The Unit executed a total of 54 search warrants that resulted in the seizure of marihuana plants, weapons and various other narcotics.

The unit conducted 174 separate investigations into the production of marihuana that resulted in 60 suspect arrests and the laying of 158 Controlled Drugs and Substances act and criminal charges.

Consistent with their mandate the Guns gangs and grow unit seized marihuana plants in various stages of grow worth an estimated 7.7 million dollars. Also seized during these investigations was \$253,000 worth of dried, ready for sale marihuana.

During these investigations various other illegal drugs worth an estimated \$290,000, most of which came from a Steroid making laboratory in Thorold. Also seized during 2013 was \$40,000 in cash suspected of being proceeds of crime. Thirteen firearms were also seized by this Unit during their many investigations.

In June of 2012 The Guns, Gangs and grow unit began an investigation into the activities at a residence and greenhouse located on Highway 3 in Wainfleet. After the intensive investigation the unit sought and obtained a search warrant to enter the property and search for evidence of marihuana production. The warrant was executed on July 25, 2012. In the greenhouse on the property detectives discovered one of the largest marihuana growing operations in Niagara history. Over 11,000 marihuana plants in various stages of growth were seized along with the related growing equipment. Three men from the Greater Toronto area were arrested and charged accordingly.

In May of 2013 an investigation was commenced into the activities at a residence on Martindale Avenue in St. Catharines. This investigation resulted in a search warrant being issued on May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013. As a result of the search investigators seized 1187 marihuana plants in various stages of growth (value 1.1 million dollars). Also seized was 2.3 kilograms of dried, ready for consumption, valued at \$20,000, along with \$2000 in cash. The two residents were charged with several drug offences.



Top picture: Martindale Ave residence in St Catharines, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Bottom picture: Petit Road Greenhouse, Wainfleet, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013



In May of 2013 Guns Gangs and Grow investigators entered into a joint investigation with the Niagara O.P.P. Intelligence unit. The investigation centered on the activities at a residence in Wainfleet. The address was a licensed marihuana growing facility but investigation suggested that the owners were growing marihuana in excess of the mandated limit.

On August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2013 investigators executed a search warrant at the property. Marihuana plants, cannabis resin and dried marihuana valued at over 1 million dollars were seized. Six persons connected with the property had been charged with various Controlled Drugs and Substances Act offences.

*Guns, Gangs and Grows seizures by year:*

<u>Year</u>	<u>Grow Investigations</u>	<u>Plants seized</u>
2007	54	17,675
2008	47	21,810
2009	62	15,506
2010	59	16,530
2011	51	10,215
2012	108	17,385
<b>2013</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>7,714</b>

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013, Guns Gangs and Grows investigators executed a search warrant on Deerfield Parkway in Thorold. Police recovered a laboratory used in producing illegal steroids. Steroid valued at approximately \$250,000 were seized and the two male residents of the address were charged with production and possession of illegal steroids for the purpose of trafficking.





## **Intelligence Unit**

The Criminal Intelligence Unit is comprised of members of the Niagara Regional Police Service who develop and collect information regarding organized criminal activity in the Niagara Region. These members work with other Criminal Intelligence Units with other law enforcement agencies to ensure that this process is timely and effective.

This unit is responsible for the monitoring and investigation of various ethnic based organized crime groups and extremism groups. The unit works hand in hand with law enforcement agencies across Ontario and New York State and is responsible for information sharing on criminal matter not only locally but nationally and internationally.

This unit is also responsible for the technical aspect of Intelligence and Investigational operations including the use of interception of private communications under Part VI of the Criminal Code of Canada.

## **Mobile Surveillance Unit**

The Niagara Regional Police Service's Mobile Surveillance Unit is a six person team that is a support for all investigations conducted within Special Investigation Services. The unit also is a support unit for the other units within Intelligence Services and Divisional Detective Services units.

The unit is responsible for supporting major projects from Homicide investigations to organized crime probes. On a regular basis the Mobile Surveillance unit assists with divisional investigations in each area of Niagara.

## **Morality Unit**

The Morality Unit is responsible for mid to high level Drug investigations within the Niagara Region and elsewhere in Ontario. 2013 was a successful year that included the multi-jurisdictional investigation dubbed Project Resurgence.

Project Resurgence began in the spring of 2013 and targeted the drug trafficking activities of the Black Pistons Motorcycle Club in St. Catharines. The Black Pistons were controlled by the Canadian Outlaws Motorcycle club. The emergence of the Black Pistons in this area was a precursor for the Outlaws Motorcycle club to re-establish its presence in the Niagara region. Although the investigation focused on Criminal organization, it uncovered a vast drug trafficking network that this group had in place. The investigators for the project included officers from Niagara, O.P.P. and the R.C.M.P.

The Project was taken down on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The culmination of the project resulted in the search of 31 premises including the Black Piston clubhouse on Page Street in St. Catharines. On that date 30 persons were arrested and charged with offences ranging from Conspiracy to traffic Heroin to Participating in a Criminal organization. The Black Pistons clubhouse and been restrained pending the outcome of the judicial process in this matter.

Seized as a result of the Project was:

- \$70,000 worth of cash.
- Eight vehicles with an estimated value of \$150,000.
- Marijuana from a grow-op in Magnetawan, 90 kilometres south of North Bay, with a potential street value of \$18-million.

- \$30,000 worth of heroin.
- Weapons including a Mac-10 semiautomatic 45-caliber firearm, an AK47-type assault weapon, four handguns and two shotguns. The Mach-10 had a silencer and over-capacity magazines.
- Clothing including the patches and crests members of the Black Pistons hoped to don as full-patch members of the Outlaws.



Cocaine, Marihuana and Heroin seized during Project Resurgence



Outlaws MC and Black Piston MC clothing seized during Project Resurgence



Firearms seized as a result of Project Resurgence investigation

## P.A.V.I.S. Unit



The Provincial Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (PAVIS) is a multi-agency police initiative funded by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. The Niagara Regional Police Service has been a part of this initiative since 2007. Funding for this Unit is in place through 2015.

The goal of this initiative is to take a more aggressive approach to the proliferation of street gangs locally. One of the Unit's main goals is to curtail the activities of local street gangs through enforcement of criminal and drug laws and education of the public regarding downfalls of gang membership and activity.

Efforts to achieve these goals include programs to educate the community, particularly school aged youth with regards to street gang activity. The Niagara PAVIS unit has formed partnerships with Community interest groups, school boards, the Canadian Border

Security Agency, the Crown Attorney's office along with the local Probation offices.

The Niagara PAVIS Unit's focused mandate will include reducing illegal drug and weapons activities by street gangs in the Region through intervention, prevention, enforcement and community mobilization and partnership.

PAVIS Unit members were also an integral part of the Project Resurgence investigation.

Through the PAVIS analyst, the Pavis Unit's deployment will be based on crime trends and other areas identified as "hotspots" in the Niagara Region.

PAVIS Enforcement	Outcome
PAVIS Investigations	46
Criminal Arrest	15
Charge Laid	65
Search Warrants Executed	18
Gang Members Identified	48
Drug Seizures: Total Value	\$84,440
Drug Related Cash Seizures	\$33,866
<b>Weapons Seized</b>	
Handguns	2
Rifle/Shotgun	8
Edged Weapons	4
Other	5
Ammunition Seizures	768 rounds

## Prescription Unit

The Niagara Regional Police Service has established a Prescription Unit whose specific mandate is to enforce the escalating problems that have been found to be associated to Oxycodone and other synthetic opiates. The

Unit concentrates on the misuse of prescriptions, double doctoring, prescription forgery and unlawful drug trafficking of what are commonly known as prescription pain medication.

The officer assigned to the unit is responsible for the very successful Prescription Take Back day. This initiative is conducted annually in cooperation with the Niagara Health department. During this year's Take Back Day, 1035 containers of prescription pills were recovered and destroyed.



## Asset Forfeiture Unit - AFU

The primary mandate of AFU is to identify, investigate and seize the proceeds of crime and/or offence related property as defined within both the Criminal Code of Canada and the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act. Asset forfeiture is a powerful tool allowing police services to restrain and forfeit the illicit gains of criminal activity.

## Joint Forces Operations



### Biker Enforcement Unit (BEU)

The Biker Enforcement Unit is an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation comprised of 17 law enforcement agencies including the Niagara Regional Police Service.

The BEU is committed to investigating and disrupting the organized criminal activities of Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs through shared policing expertise throughout the Province of Ontario. The main objective of this unit is to monitor the activities and movements of outlaw motorcycle gang members within the Niagara Region and to enforce applicable laws when necessary in regards to any illegal activity of gang members and associates.

There currently is no Niagara chapter of the Hells Angels as a result of the arrests made during Project Tandem (2007) and other successful prosecutions involving area gang members in the past 5 years.



### Provincial Anti-Terrorism Section (PATS)

PATS is an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation that has active participation from all the major police services in Ontario including the Niagara Regional Police Service. The Unit works very closely with members of the U.S. Intelligence community in addressing threats of terrorism.

The section was established in the aftermath of September 11th, 2001, in the recognition of the fact that additional resources

were needed to combat the threat of terrorism in Ontario. Investigators within PATS investigate criminal extremism throughout the province.

As a border community, Niagara is a strategic site for human smuggling and transport of terrorist-related contraband to and from the United States. The primary objective of this Unit is to conduct investigations on individuals and organized crime groups involved in terrorism-related activities.



### Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit (PWEU)

PWEU is an O.P.P. led Joint Forces Operation made up of 14 law enforcement agencies including the Niagara Regional Police Service.

The mandate of the Unit is to identify persons involved in the illegal movement of firearms and to take enforcement action. This includes the offences of smuggling, trafficking and possession of "crime guns". Many "crime guns" found or used in the commission of offences have their origins in the United States and PWEU has established a strong working relationship with their American counterparts.

Investigations	Outcome
Niagara related Investigations	26
Criminal Arrest	15
Charge Laid	65
Search Warrants Executed	15
<b>Weapons Seized</b>	
Handguns	12
Rifle	18
Shotgun	84
Edged Weapons	4
Explosives	6 tons
Ammunition Seizures	377 rounds



## Niagara Integrated Proceeds of Crime (IPOC)

IPOC is a RCMP led Joint Forces Operation (JFO) consisting of members from the RCMP and the Niagara Regional Police Service.

The Unit is mandated to investigate money laundering and currency smuggling activities and gather evidence to support the identification of these monies as proceeds of crime. This unit was involved in several high profile investigations in 2013 including Project Resurgence. This case is still before the courts. Seizures during this Project have been previously described herein. Investigation into this project from a proceeds of crime point of view will aim at identifying the items as proceeds of crime or offence related property, and to seize and restrain these items for eventual forfeiture to the Crown.

## Border Enforcement Security Task Force (BEST)

The Niagara Regional Police Service is a partner with the Border Enforcement Team. The team is led by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The Border Enforcement Security Task Force has been involved in numerous cross border investigations resulting in the seizure of illegal firearms, illegal drugs, and money, which has resulted from great working relationships and partnerships. The Niagara Regional Police Service is in its fifth year term with Border Enforcement Security Task Force.



Border Enforcement Security Task Force agents seize money at the Canada-U.S.A. border.



## Recruiting

The Recruiting Unit is comprised of one Sergeant, two Constables (one in a training position) and a shared civilian member with Career Development. During demanding times in the year the unit utilized the services of some School Resource Officers (SRO's) and Training Unit officers to assist with the process. Background investigations are sourced out to detectives throughout the Service.

In 2013 the Niagara Regional Police continued to utilize the Constable Selection System to assist in best practices for hiring, in addition to their own Local Focus Interview to satisfy local needs. The Unit continued to process files through the Staff Sergeant in Professional Standards to determine suitability for background. The Recruiting Unit facilitates outside officers in their background investigations. This ensures efficiency and transparency to the Unit.

In 2013 the Recruiting Unit received 615 applications. The Unit continues to find new methods to mentor applicants and attempt to attract the best candidates. Members continue to attend career fairs at Colleges and Universities across the province. Most of the hosting institutions have an affiliated policing program. The Unit continues to develop community partners in providing information sessions at local services such as Port Cares and the Job Gym. They also provided a presentation to newcomers in Niagara Falls about the recruiting process and about policing in general. In 2013 the Unit started a mentor program with Brock University Career Services. This program involved students interested in policing to apply and complete an interview. Successful candidates were then given the opportunity to complete a Ride-along, spend one day in court, another day observing the



Training Unit in action and a half a day with media/social media office. The program was a success and will be continued in 2014 with more opportunities and more students.

The Niagara Regional Police Service continues to encourage those with diverse backgrounds to apply to become a police officer. Members attended the Folk Arts Festival to educate different cultures about policing and recruiting. Local Pride events are also attended in attempts to attract this culture to policing and develop relations. For the third year the Niagara Regional Police Service was again a part of the Women in Policing Symposium held in Peel. This year's event was attended by 120 women who are interested in a career in policing. Police Services that attended included; OPP, Halton, Hamilton, Peel as well as our Service. This has become an annual event with joint services working towards attracting more females to the profession.

In 2013 the Recruiting Unit hired 17 new officers who attended the Ontario Police College (OPC). Some of these officers were provided the opportunity to develop through the Special Constable position prior to attending OPC due to the cancellation of the May intake at OPC. Five of these officers were Niagara Regional Police Auxiliary officers. The Unit also hired 12 currently serving officers that had served with other police services, most of these candidates were looking to return back to their roots in Niagara. All of our hires have completed either a College or a University education. One has yet to complete his studies, but is currently taking courses towards a University degree. A majority of our hires graduated from local educational institutions with 31% graduating from Niagara College and 21% graduating from Brock University.



**2013 Recruit Graduating Class**

## Human Resources

During 2013, the focus of the Human Resources Unit was to continue to support the Service in meeting its objectives and promoting a positive and productive work environment for all members.

The 2013 year was mainly focused on supporting the Police Services Board in the ongoing process of negotiating three collective bargaining agreements. All three agreements were ratified and implemented during 2013. The Civilian Job Evaluation System maintenance process continues to be coordinated and administered by the Human Resources Unit with a significant number of positions being evaluated and/or re-evaluated during 2013.

During the latter part of 2013, the Human Resources Unit, together with the Finance Unit, launched myINFO, a new and improved way to deliver Human Resources and Payroll Services to Service members through an on-line self-serve platform.

### 2013 Total Hires

Uniform	29
Civilian	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>

### 2013 Retirements and Resignations

Superintendent	1	Senior Civilian	1
Inspector	2	Civilian	9
Staff Sergeant	1		
Sergeant	8		
Constable	13		
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

(Total 35, includes 1 death and 10 resignations)

## 2013 Authorized Strength

### Uniform

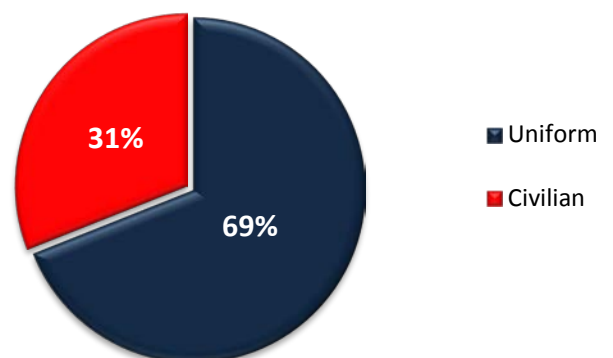
Chief of Police	1
Deputy Chief of Police	2
Superintendent	4
Inspector	14
Staff Sergeant	30
Sergeant	108
Constable	547
<b>Total Uniform</b>	<b>706</b>

### Civilian

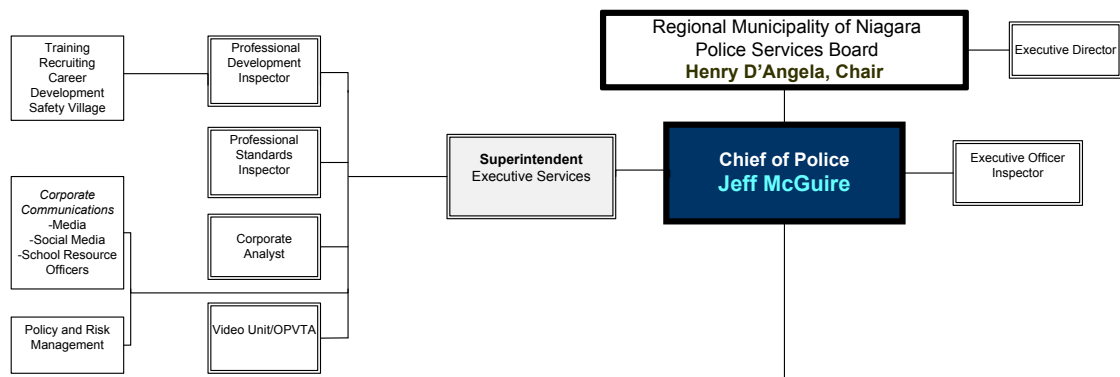
Director	2
Managers	10
Civilian Personnel (includes all Special Constables, subject matter specialists, technical and administrative positions)	298
<b>Total Civilian</b>	<b>315</b>

<b>All Personnel</b>	<b>1,021</b>
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## Percent Civilian and Uniform

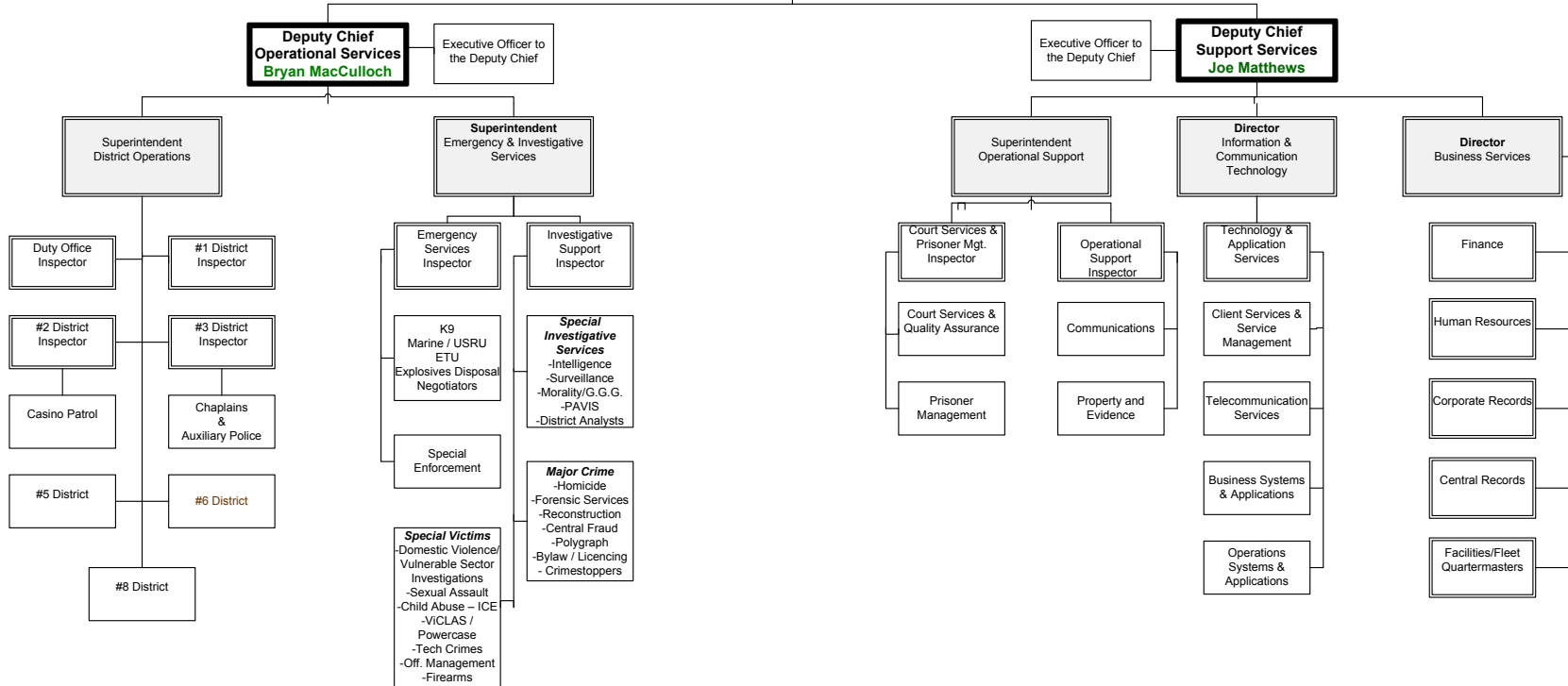






## NRPS Organizational Chart

PSB Approved - February 21, 2013



## Budget Overview

### ACTUAL VS. BUDGET EXPENDITURES

Expenditure	Budget	Actual
Personnel Costs	123,947,192	128,535,356
Administrative Expenses	1,692,475	1,313,822
Materials, Supplies and Utilities	5,002,274	4,638,781
Repairs and Maintenance	2,184,200	2,113,108
Other Operating Expenses	3,106,145	2,773,050
Financial Expenditures	4,753,664	4,989,119
Capital Equipment and Renovations	542,800	270,156
Inter-functional Transfers	105,610	154,218
<b>Total Gross Expenditure</b>	<b>141,334,360</b>	<b>144,787,610</b>

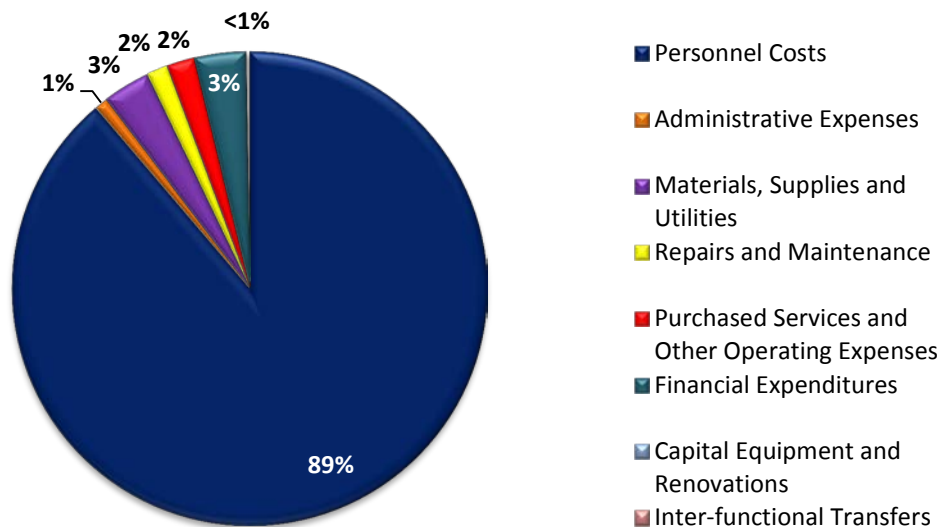
### BUDGET VS. ACTUAL RECOVERIES AND REVENUE

Recovery or Revenue Description	Budget	Actual
Recoveries	1,190,540	1,190,540
Ontario/Canada Specific Grants	5,152,823	5,366,972
Fees and Service Charges	6,538,767	7,089,431
Other Revenue	1,750,946	1,737,418
Transfers from Other Funds	575,000	575,000
<b>Total Recoveries and Revenues</b>	<b>15,208,076</b>	<b>15,959,361</b>

### BUDGETED VS. ACTUAL COST OF POLICING

Budgeted	Actual Cost
125,126,284	128,535,359

### Actual Budget Expenditure Breakdown





# Exemplary Service Awards

## Command Staff

Chief Jeff McGuire, M.O.M.  
Shelley Jesik, Executive Assistant

Deputy Chief Joe Matthews  
Deputy Chief Bryan MacCulloch  
Evelyn Barkley, Executive Assistant

## Senior Sworn Officers

### Superintendents

Superintendent Scott McLean  
Superintendent Clifford Sexton  
Superintendent Geoffrey Skatfeld  
Superintendent Robert Wright

### Inspectors

Inspector George Bench  
Inspector Desmond Carter  
Inspector Christopher Cincio  
Inspector Daniel D'Amico  
Inspector Brett Flynn  
Inspector Richard Frayne  
Inspector Joseph Garvey  
Inspector Pat McCauley  
Inspector James McCaffery  
Inspector Mark McMullen  
Inspector James Prinsen  
Inspector Cindy White

### Directors

Akram Askoul  
Monika George

## Senior Civilian Personnel

Carol Berry  
Jo-Ann Cox  
Lisa Didonato-Dechellis  
Paul Divers  
Chris Fisher  
Fran Garvey  
Anne Hepplewhite  
Linda Jerome  
Cathy Tucker

### Executive Assistant

Sandy Croft  
Maria Izzo

## Police Services Board Award of Excellence

Staff Sergeant Randy Bleich

## Police Services Board Commendations

Cerai Bailey  
Tina Cummings  
Sheriff Timothy Howard  
Art Litzinger

Captain Kevin Caffery  
Christine Hoekstra  
Bertrand Gagnon  
Neal Rowell

Catherine Corbita  
Rachel Hoekstra  
Edouard Lafleur

## Chief of Police Award

Sergeant Chris Stewart  
Constable Brian Knight  
Constable Chris Sirie

Constable Shawn Cuke  
Constable Neal Ridley  
Constable David Thiessen

Constable Chad Davidson  
Constable Ian Rubel

## Chief of Police Commendation

Civilian Steve Beaudry  
Sergeant Luigi Greco  
Constable Tanya Luff  
Constable Phil Morin  
Civilian Brittney Oliver  
Constable Wayne Robinson  
Constable Kyle Wegelin

Constable Barry Beck  
Constable Karina Kadwell  
Constable David Mander  
Civilian Krista Nagy  
Civilian Sarah Parrent  
Constable George Savage  
Constable Les Vuyk

Civilian Samantha Belansky  
Civilian Timothy Hill  
Constable Chris McComber  
Constable Tom Neilson  
Constable Brian Perrault  
Sergeant Jack Warner

## Thirty Year Exemplary Service Bar

Sergeant Steven Bickell  
Constable Thomas Cybula

Sergeant Shawn Felstead  
Constable Mark McNeil

## Twenty Year Exemplary Medal

Constable Michael Farrell

## Civilian Personnel Pins/Bars

### 30-Year Civilian Service Recognition

Cathy Berecz  
Robert Harris  
Mary Lynn Somogyi

Mary Jane Bevan  
Lynn Nywening  
Patricia Thompson

Alison Carr-Kohut  
James Saunders



## Police Services Board and Staff

Henry D'Angela, Chair  
Vaughn Stewart, Vice-Chair

### Board Members

Vance Badawey  
Gary Burroughs  
Ken Gansel  
Robert Marshall  
Todd Shoalts

### Board Staff

Deb Morton  
Executive Director

and

Dawn Cichocki  
Executive Assistant

## Niagara Regional Police Service Chaplains

Father Brian Bevan  
Reverend Clive Page  
Reverend Jennifer Anderson  
Reverend Gerard Power  
Reverend Gary Page

### 20-Year Service Recognition

Thomas Craig

Nancy Speck

### Auxiliary Officer 35 Year Ontario Auxiliary Police Medal

Auxiliary Inspector Bruce Dressel

### Auxiliary Officer 20 Year Ontario Auxiliary Police Medal

Auxiliary Staff Sergeant Al Morris Auxiliary Constable Barry Portuguese

## Retirees

A/Deputy Chief of Police	Inspector	Staff Sergeant
Carl Scott	Richard Coulis Lorne Lillico	Timothy Welychka
Sergeant	Constable	
Paul Bevan	Blaine Boozan	
Paul DiSimoni	Richard Collison	
Douglas Hargreaves	Brian Elliot	
Gaye Pokol	Jack Gill	
Matthew Richardson	Ralph Malcolm	
Jeffrey Skelton	Frederick Townsend	
Thomas Trojan		
Thomas Adams		
Wayne Ascah		
Civilian Members		
Bruce Anderson	Mary Jane Bevan	Micheline Gill
Patricia Gorai	Janet Hiscoe	Laura Kelland
Lisa Krol		



## Police Officers of the Year Award

<b>1 District</b>	Detective Constable Sara VanPagee	<b>Executive Services</b>	Detective Sergeant Kim McAllister
<b>2 District</b>	Constable Neil DeLeeuw	<b>Investigative Support</b>	Detective Constable Shannon Valenti
<b>3 District</b>	Constable Deidre Sajkowski	<b>Emergency Services</b>	Sergeant Scott Johnstone
<b>5 District</b>	Constable Mike Breton	<b>Court Services</b>	Special Constable Michael Dommasch
<b>6 District</b>	Constable Rob Kish	<b>Auxiliary Unit</b>	Auxiliary Constable Shelley Piccirillo
<b>8 District</b>	Detective Constable Mike Rees	<b>Casino</b>	Constable Michael Sorley

**Traffic Safety Leadership Award** Sergeant Neal Orlando

**Community Policing Officer of the Year Award** Richard Gadreau

## Civilian Member of the Year Award

Charlotte Healey The Late, Carol Kitchingman

## Telecommunicator of the Year Award

Natalie McCarthy

## Related Awards

**James A. Gayder Award** Alison Carr-Kohut

**Media Award** Tom McConnell, CKTB 610

**RCMP Commanding Officer's Unit Certificate of Appreciation** Chief of Police Jeffrey McGuire, M.O.M.

**RCMP Commanding Officer's Certificate of Appreciation** Constable Karen Hoare

## Bursaries

**Constable Dale Racine Educational Bursary**

Kaye Puhakka, Eden High School

Kaitlyn Viney, St. Michel High School

Junelle Francis, Governor Simcoe High School

**Monika George Education Bursary**

Andrea Caruso, Notre Dame College School

## Public Complaints

The **Professional Standards Unit** serves to protect both the integrity of the Niagara Regional Police Service and the reputation of the Office of the Chief of Police by conducting thorough and objective investigations into complaints originating from the Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD). Complaints forwarded from the OIPRD can pertain to organizational policies, the services provided, and alleged member misconduct. In addition, the Professional Standards Unit, which is comprised of an Inspector, a Staff Sergeant, four Detective Sergeants, and an Administrative Assistant, is responsible for the investigation of internal complaints of workplace harassment and violence.

Public Complaints	2012	2013
Unsubstantiated	34	32
Frivolous, Vexatious or Bad Faith	6	5
Over Six Months of Age	15	4
Withdrawn	8	3
Abandoned by Complainant	--	--
Other – No investigation (auth: OIPRD)	36	28
No Further Action Taken	--	--
Request for Review	7	16
Informal Resolution	1	1
Disposition Without Hearings	1	--
Failing Informal Resolution		
Pending Investigations	16	11
<b>Total Number of Public Complaints</b>	<b>117</b> (includes 8 carried over from 2011)	<b>106</b> (includes 16 carried over from 2012)
<b>Complaint to Officer Ratio</b>	<b>1:6.0</b>	<b>1:6.7</b>

The Professional Standards Unit is also the liaison office for incidents that require the involvement of the Special Investigations Unit (SIU). The SIU is a civilian oversight office of the provincial government which is mandated to investigate incidents where members of the public may have suffered serious injury or death, or sexual assault, in their interactions with police officers. Consistent with these investigations, the Professional Standards Unit conducts a parallel investigation into the actions of the police officers and determines whether they were aligned with the Service's policies, directives, and expectations of appropriate police conduct. Upon the completion of the SIU investigation, and a report being forwarded to the attention of the Attorney General, the findings are formally reported to the Regional Municipality of Niagara Police Services Board (PSB).



# *In Memory of Monika George*

Director of Business Services, 2006-2013

Monika George became a proud member of the Niagara Regional Police Service in 2001 first holding the position of Finance Coordinator then Manager, and from 2006 to her passing on January 29, 2013 she was the Director of Business Services.

Monika transformed the administrative units of the Service with her technical abilities and her natural leadership style. She inspired and improved the performance of others by empowering them. Direct reports were encouraged to have equal input into decision making. The

Services members under her direction felt comfortable expressing their opinions openly as she encouraged individuality and respect of others' personal differences. Monika served as a positive role model in all performance areas. She was able to maintain composure and calm when faced with stressful situations.

As the Director of Business Services, her knowledge of the Service went well beyond her area of responsibility. She kept abreast of key developments and decisions related to Policing in Ontario.

In addition to her positive representation of the Niagara Regional Police Service she represented the best of the Niagara Region. She was a passionate outdoor and animal enthusiast who, together with her husband Emil, built an incredible vineyard on the Niagara escarpment. Monika will be missed.



## Corporate Communications



Media relations continued to evolve for the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) in 2013, as this was the first full year that the media office used social media. It was also in July of this year that the new Service website [www.NiagaraPolice.ca](http://www.NiagaraPolice.ca) was unveiled. As part of the Corporate Communications and Community Engagement Unit, the media office has broadened its reach and engagement not only with media outlets but also with the residents and visitors of the Niagara Region.

On July 16, 2013 the Niagara Regional Police Service unveiled its new website and new website address, [www.NiagaraPolice.ca](http://www.NiagaraPolice.ca). The new website provided a more user friendly homepage with easy links to current information, media releases, and services. With background images of the Niagara Region

and content that is regularly updated, this new website has quickly drawn more interactions and is more reflective of the quality service the NRPS provides.

The NRPS social media channels had their first full year of service in 2013. The NRPS has several members such as Chief McGuire (@ChiefMcGuire) who use Twitter in an official capacity to engage the public as well as the Service's official Twitter page @NiagRegPolice. Twitter has proven to be a very effective communication tool for the Service and by the end of 2013, over 4760 followers, averaging a re-tweeting percentage of approximately 44.4%. This means that nearly half of our followers are passing on our information to their followers which greatly increase our reach and influence. Twitter has been used effectively





for media releases, community events and emergency communications. With Units such as Recruiting (@NRPSRecruiting) and Communications (@NiagaraTraffic) using the medium, the Niagara Regional Police has taken advantage of this new communications medium.

The Niagara Regional Police Facebook page (facebook.com/NiagaraRegPolice) also experienced exceptional growth in 2013. This page had only begun in July of 2012 but by January 1, 2013 it had over 660 followers. With the development of quality posts and interactive content the Service Facebook page has proven to be a reliable communication tool. The Media Office has used this Facebook page as a stand-alone media outlet to promote NRPS

news and messages, which has given us freedom as never before as we become less reliant on traditional media to promote our good stories. The flexibility of this page to allow for pictures, videos, links and posts has led to a following of 3093 people by the end of 2013. We have also been able to directly converse with people from all over the world through Facebook, addressing questions and correcting misinformation. Our ability to promote public safety messaging and NRPS community sponsored events has led to a greater public awareness of the Service. We have created a digital connection to people whom in the past would have never been able to connect with us in an informal way, truly allowing us to 'walk the digital beat'.

With the development of new technology the role of the Media Relations Officer has evolved to become more interactive, providing information at a quicker pace than ever before. Our ability to release more information in a timelier fashion through social media has allowed the Media Relations Officer to redefine their role with the local media outlets, giving the Service more control.



# Service Directory

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[Visit our website](#)

## Headquarters

110 James Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 3C6  
Tel. 905-688-4111

[www.niagarapolice.ca](http://www.niagarapolice.ca)

## No. 1 District, Western Region

68 Church Street, St. Catharines, ON L2R 3C6  
Tel. 905-688-4111

## No. 2 District, Eastern Region

4343 Morrison Street, Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6Z9  
Tel.: 905-688-4111



Chief Jeff McGuire

@ChiefMcGuire

## No. 3 District, Central Region

5 Lincoln Street, Welland, ON L3C 5H9  
Tel. 905-735-7811

Niagara Regional Police Service

@NiagRegPolice

## No. 5 District, Eastern Region

650 Gilmore Road, Fort Erie, ON L2A 5M4  
Tel. 905-871-2300

NRPS Traffic Updates

@NiagaraTraffic

## No. 6 District, Central Region

501 Fielden Avenue, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4T9  
Tel. 905-735-7811

## No. 8 District, Western Region

45 Clarke Street, Grimsby, ON L3M 1Y5  
Tel. 905-945-2211

