



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

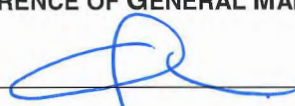

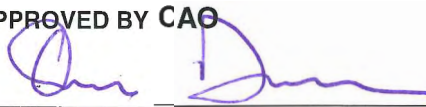
To: Community Safety Committee **Date:** February 20, 2018
From: Will Ng, Superintendent **File:** 09-5000-01/2018-Vol
Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment 01
Re: **2017- 2018 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Third
Quarter Results (October 1 to December 31, 2017)**

Staff Recommendation

That the report titled “2017-2018 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Third Quarter Results (October 1 to December 31, 2017)”, dated February 20, 2018 from the Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment, be received for information.



Will Ng, Superintendent
Officer in Charge, Richmond RCMP Detachment
(604-278-1212)

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER	
	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO	
	

Staff Report

Origin

On April 11, 2017, Richmond City Council adopted the priorities listed in the report “2017-2018 RCMP Richmond Detachment Annual Performance Plan – Community Priorities” dated March 6, 2017.

The priorities selected were:

1. Property Crime
2. Organized Crime – Drug Offences
3. Vulnerable Persons Unit (Mental Health, High Risk Missing Persons, Domestic Violence)

This report supports Council’s 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

1.2. Program and service enhancements that improve community safety services in the City.

1.3. Improved perception of Richmond as a safe community.

1.4. Effective interagency relationships and partnerships.

Analysis

Community Priority 1: Property Crime

Objective

- i. A two per cent reduction in total property crimes from the last five years’ average totals.¹

Actions

Collaboration with partner policing agencies is a salient component of Richmond Detachment’s (the Detachment) response to property crime. On October 15, 2017, a bait car was stolen in the Jones Road area of Richmond. Due to the coordinated efforts of Richmond RCMP patrol units, the Lower Mainland District Integrated Police Dog Service and RCMP Lower Mainland District Air 1 (Urban Patrol Helicopter), officers arrested two males before they were able leave the neighbourhood. Charges have been laid against the suspects, who are known to police.

¹ Five year average of 7,946- Revised from the 2017-2018 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Community Priorities dated March 6, 2017 which was based on projections for the last quarter of 2016-2017.

Three prolific offenders were arrested this quarter. In one instance, the Detachment's Prolific Offender Suppression Team (POST) had suspected that one of their priority offenders was likely responsible for a number of theft from automobile files which were occurring during early morning hours. The individual had a curfew as part of his probation conditions but, due to the time of year, this still gave a large window of opportunity to commit crimes in the dark. When POST submitted the Report to Crown Counsel, Crown was able to have the curfew changed to a 24 hour house arrest which gave increased opportunities for him to be arrested for breaching his conditions, which occurred shortly thereafter.

In collaboration with the Vancouver Police Department, a crime group known to commit break and enters during the Christmas season was targeted in December by the Detachment's Property Crime Unit (PCU). Investigators exchanged intelligence to determine if there was a possible connection to Richmond. After individuals from this crime group were arrested for committing residential break and enters in Burnaby, it was determined that one of the individuals arrested was a Richmond resident. This led to a subsequent investigation in Richmond. Once again this clearly illustrates the cross-jurisdictional range of property crime and the importance of collaborative and proactive policing.

Crime Reduction meetings continue to be a significant component of the Detachment's evidence-led approach to combat property crime by highlighting areas of concern and problem residences. In November, resources were redeployed and patrols were increased near an identified residence. The Detachment's PCU arrested an individual associated to the residence who has a history of residential and commercial break and enters. The statistics for the following month showed a significant decrease in criminal activity for this area.

Criminal analysis also revealed that the sharp increase in the number of auto thefts in October 2017 involving the theft of older model Hondas. The Detachment issued a media release encouraging people in the community who own these vehicles to strongly consider the use of an anti-theft device, such as steering wheel locks, aftermarket alarms and aftermarket immobilizer systems. The use of these devices has greatly reduce the occurrence of theft.² By the end of the third quarter auto thefts had decreased compared to the same fiscal period last year.

Volunteer engagement is another important component of the Detachment's crime reduction strategy. This quarter there were 14 volunteer bike patrol deployments and 77 volunteer foot/van patrol deployments, resulting in 798 volunteer patrol hours for suspicious activities. In a joint partnership with ICBC, volunteers were also deployed to distribute Lock Out Auto Crime prevention notices. A total of 9,366 notices were issued during this quarter.

² "Older Model Honda Theft Alert" – October 23, 2017 Media Release

Results

The following table outlines the total property crime files for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018:

Quarter	Date Range	Total Property Crime Files 2016-2017	Total Property Crime Files 2017-2018	Quarterly Goal 2017-2018 ³
1	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	2,057	1,868	1,947
2	Jul. 1 - Sept. 30	1,944	1,766	1,946
3	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	1,839	1,982	1,949
4	Jan. 1 - Mar.31	2,163		1,945
Total		8,003	5,616	7,787

Source: Richmond Detachment PRIME Statistic July 26, 2017.

There were 1,982 property crime files in the third quarter of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. This represents an eight per cent increase when compared to the same quarter of the previous fiscal year. Total property crime files are currently four per cent lower than the targets established for this fiscal year which indicate that the Detachment is within its target of reducing property crime by two per cent.

Community Priority 2: Organized Crime – Drug Offences

Objectives

This priority has two targets:

- i. A five per cent increase in total drug offences from the last five years' average.⁴
- ii. Deliver DARE to every fifth grade class in the Richmond School District.

Actions

This quarter, the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program (DARE) commenced classes for the 2017-2018 school year. A total of 485 students in 18 classes across 14 schools participated.

Another initiative which promotes the reduction of youth in potential conflict with the law is the Youth Intervention Program (YIP), which prevents and reduces the incidents of youth involved crime through intervention and Richmond School District partnerships. This quarter there were 32 YIP referrals, five of which involved counselling regarding drug issues.

Eight proactive plainclothes and uniformed gang patrols were conducted this quarter at strategically identified locations. Richmond RCMP officers attended 75 businesses/locations, which included various licensed body rub studios, restaurants, pubs, karaoke bars, billiard halls

³ The target for the 2017-2018 fiscal year of 7,797 has been divided into quarters in order to facilitate progress updates.

⁴ Five year average of 747- Revised from the 2017-2018 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Community Priorities dated March 6, 2017 which was based on projections for the last quarter of 2016-2017.

and arcade/internet cafes. These patrols resulted in three drug investigations, 17 street checks of suspected organized crime or gang affiliated persons and one subject being arrested on a warrant.

In addition, three illegal drinking establishments were taken down during gang patrols: one in October and two in December. The locations were after hours drinking facilities found operating within businesses. The results of the investigations were shared with City Bylaws for follow up enforcement. One of these investigations occurred Sunday December 3, 2017. Officers from the Richmond RCMP Anti-Gang Unit identified and shut down an illegal drinking establishment in an industrial area of Richmond. Alcohol was served openly and liquor was discovered throughout the premises, a two-level, almost 2,000 square foot commercial property. Approximately 20 patrons, ranging between the ages of 19-25, were located within the unit, which was equipped with projectors, karaoke machines, a gambling area, and professional-grade lighting similar to that of a lounge or nightclub. Police also discovered a video monitoring area, which had cameras focussed on the front entrance area.

The Detachment's commitment to disrupting these activities is rooted in public safety concerns including gambling, potential fire hazards/overcrowding, congregation of the criminal element, unlicensed liquor service and potential road safety concerns with possible impaired drivers leaving the premises.

This quarter there were also notable successes in organized crime investigations. The Organized Crime Unit (OCU) concluded an investigation into a Fentanyl drug trafficking group. Charges are expected to be forwarded on two additional individuals in the next quarter. The OCU is continuing to target another drug trafficking group selling Fentanyl in Richmond. This investigation is ongoing. Richmond RCMP officers are also working with Richmond Fire-Rescue, City Bylaws and BC Hydro to investigate illegal marihuana grow operations.

Results

The following table outlines the total drug offences for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018:

Quarter	Date Range	Total Drug Offences 2016-2017	Total Drug Offences 2017-2018	Quarterly Goal 2017-2018⁵
1	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	262	218	196
2	Jul. 1 - Sept. 30	207	168	196
3	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	163	148	196
4	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31	189		196
Total		821	534	784

Source: Richmond Detachment PRIME Statistics July 26, 2017.

There were 148 drug offences in the third quarter of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. This represents a 10 per cent reduction versus the same period last year. Year to date totals indicate the

⁵ The target for the 2017-2018 fiscal year of 7,797 has been divided into quarters in order to facilitate progress updates.

Detachment's 2017-2018 target objective of increasing drug offences will likely not be met as the current number is nine per cent lower than the target identified.

However, the Detachment remains committed to the initiatives which are currently underway and is continuing to identify additional opportunities for proactive policing initiatives. For example, to address the lower than expected number of files this fiscal year, additional training has been scheduled for General Duty watches regarding drug offences and drug files.

Community Priority 3: Vulnerable Persons Unit (Mental Health, High Risk Missing Persons, Domestic Violence)

Objectives

This priority has two targets:

- i. A five per cent reduction in mental health related calls for service.⁶
- ii. A ten per cent reduction in mental health related high volume individuals.⁷

Actions

The Detachment's Vulnerable Person's Unit (VPU) announced that the Assertive Community Treatment team (ACT) has recently expanded to include Richmond in its service area. This mental health service delivery model, which is operated through Vancouver Coastal Health, will offer a true wraparound response to clients with complex needs and will provide specialized on-going support to assist in the recovery process. ACT provides community-based treatment, applying a multi-disciplinary approach to support people living with complex mental health and substance use disorders.⁸ The services provided by ACT include "crisis assessment and intervention; illness management and recovery skills training; individual supportive therapy; addictions treatment; employment support services; administration and monitoring of medical prescriptions; supports for medical care, housing, benefits, and transportation; and case management."⁹

One of the members in the VPU is a co-chair for CORE (Collaborative Opportunity for Resources) Richmond. The mission of CORE is to serve as a bridge that connects and coordinates service agencies and committees in order to enhance collaboration between organizations, improve service provision for families and more efficiently meet the needs of the community as a cohesive network of services. On October 5, 2017 CORE welcomed the Executive Director of the Stigma-Free Society as a guest speaker. The Stigma-Free Society endeavours to educate people on the stigmas surrounding mental health, including those that negatively affect peoples' perceptions of themselves and others. The VPU has been working with

⁶ Using 2016-2017 as the baseline year. Revised from the 2017-2018 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Community Priorities dated March 6, 2017 which was based on projections for the last quarter of 2016-2017.

⁷ Offenders with three or more negative role codes in mental health-related calls. 58 individuals were used as the baseline for the 2017-2018 Richmond RCMP Detachment Annual Performance Plan Community Priorities dated March 6, 2017. Based on the updated statistic of 67 individuals, the target is now seven.

⁸ <https://www.act-bc.com/>

⁹ http://redbookonline.bc211.ca/service/9510222_9510222/assertive_community_treatment_team_act

the Executive Director of the Stigma-Free Society since February 2017 to determine ways that the Detachment can support the organization's goal of eliminating stigma on all fronts.

Crisis Intervention and De-escalation Training (CID) took place on November 1, 2017. This initiative has supplemented the resources of the VPU by providing front-line police officers with specialized training to more effectively respond to mental-health related calls for service. Keynote speakers presented on various topics and included external partner agencies such as Mental Health Emergency Services, Pathways Clubhouse, Crown Counsel, Richmond Mental Health Team and the Anne Vogel Clinic. Richmond Detachment has completed this initiative as 19 police officers attended the training.

Results

The following table outlines the total mental health related calls for service for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018:

Quarter	Date Range	Mental Health Related Calls 2016-2017	Mental Health Related Calls 2017-2018	Quarterly Goal 2017-2018 ¹⁰
1	Apr. 1 - Jun. 30	358	370	330
2	Jul. 1 - Sept. 30	309	356	329
3	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31	396	360	330
4	Jan. 1 - Mar. 31	324		329
Total		1,387	1,086	1,318

Source: Richmond Detachment PRIME Statistics July 26, 2017.

There were 360 mental health related calls in the third quarter of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. While this number is nine per cent higher than the quarterly goal for this fiscal year, it represents a nine per cent decrease from the same period last year. Year to date totals indicate that calls for service are 10 per cent higher than the target established for the 2017-2018 fiscal year.

The second objective of reducing high volume individuals has been more successful. Of the 67 individuals who were identified last year, 34 (51 per cent) have not generated any calls for service during the first three quarters of the 2017-2018 fiscal year. While the best time to review this objective is once a full year's worth of data is available, the current data indicates that the Detachment's efforts are on track to meet this target.

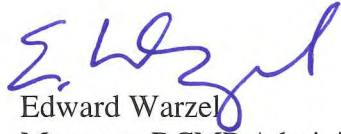
Financial Impact

None.

¹⁰ The target for the 2017-2018 fiscal year of 1,318 has been divided into quarters in order to facilitate progress updates.

Conclusion

With various initiatives in place to support the community priorities and established objectives, Richmond Detachment remains committed to reaching the targets established in the 2017-2018 Annual Performance Plan. The Detachment continues to support the City of Richmond's public safety strategy using evidence led approaches to target criminality, offender management and crime prevention.



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