Strathcona County RCMP & Enforcement Services 2022/2023 Year in Review

Prepared for Strathcona County by:
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OIC, Strathcona County RCMP
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Welcome Message

Supt. Dale Kendall
Officer in Charge

Welcome to the Strathcona County RCMP and Enforcement Services 2022/2023 Year in Review!

I can't be alone in my wonderment of just how quickly this year has flown by. Although we are still feeling the aftershocks of the COVID 19 pandemic, 2022-23 has been a time of renewal, in-person re-engagement with our community and a cautiously optimistic sense of "normalcy". We have been able to host in-person community events once again, such as our popular annual Bike Rodeo, Community Townhalls, as well as participate in many community events such as the Ardrossan Safety and Wellness Fair, Canada Day, CP Christmas Train and New Year's celebrations, to name only a few.

As you will read in our Year in Review, each of our units have been hard at work exemplifying our four critical pillars of policing – engagement, education, proactive efforts and of course, enforcement. In 2022, on the municipal side of the house we saw an increase of 0.1% in calls for service, with a call increase from 14,292 in 2021, to 14,310 in 2022. We observed an increase of 3% in our persons crimes, and a 0% increase in property crimes. Overall, in the past year in the municipality, we observed a decrease of 2% in total criminal code offences. On the rural/provincial side, there was a decrease of 12% in call volume when compared to 2021. There were 5,953 calls for service in 2021, and 5,238 in 2022. We saw persons crimes decreased by 11%, and property crime increased by 5%. In total, we saw a decrease of 3% of all criminal code offences in our rural/provincial area.

I'm proud to say we have modernized our policing Community Advisory Committee. We have updated the Terms of Reference and invited new committee members that are representative of the diversity celebrated here in Strathcona County. These positive changes support inclusion and provides a forum for our committee members to share ideas, perspectives and feedback. I can't stress enough how much I appreciate hearing from our committee members on what is working, areas that need improvement and the great ideas they provide on how we can continuously improve our service delivery for all residents of Strathcona County.

Speaking of feedback, this is the second year we have worked collaboratively with the County to solicit feedback via a community policing survey for our Annual Policing Priorities. Thank you to all community members who participated! The survey ran from January 16th- Feb 5th, and the results are being tallied as this

report is going to press. The feedback from last year's survey was instrumental in creating targeted initiatives for all Policing Priorities in Strathcona County. I am proud to say that our team not only met but surpassed our target numbers in all crime reduction initiatives. I look forward to once again, working in partnership with our community and elected officials in creating a meaningful Policing Priorities strategy for the upcoming 2023-24 fiscal year.

It is important to note, this is a very special year for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. On May 23rd, we will be celebrating our 150th Anniversary serving Canadians. The celebrations will continue throughout the year in exciting ways, two of which will be hosting the RCMP Musical Ride this summer as well as organizing an RCMP Regimental Ball to be held in the Fall. We are thrilled to be highlighting this milestone with our community and sharing our century old ceremonies and traditions with the residents of Strathcona County.

It is with great pride I mention our entire Team here at 911 Bison Way. In the past year, they've had some rough days and some all too dangerous moments. They have hugged those in pain and grieving on the side of the road, they've protected the vulnerable, and continuously put themselves in harms way for the sake of the greater good. Our Team makes a difference in ways they will never know. To victims, to children, to those deep in sorrow and even to those who are committing offences. Their compassionate words, their drive for the truth and strong desire to help those who need it most, is a great honor to witness and be part of each day. All members, Enforcement Services, Admin Support Staff in all units play a huge role in keeping this community safe. Thank you all for being the guardians of this great community.

Lastly, I have to thank you, our community. Your ongoing support to keep the RCMP here in Strathcona County and in Alberta has been overwhelming. We are fiercely proud to be your police service of choice. Here's to another successful year of policing in Strathcona County!

Superintendent Dale Kendall Officer in Charge (OIC)
Strathcona County RCMP Detachment

Detachment Operations

S/Sgt. Bryce Long
Acting Operations Officer

Strathcona County RCMP Detachment has eighty-three municipally funded member positions and sixteen provincially funded, with a total of ninety-nine funded regular member positions. With a Superintendent as the Officer in Charge, an Operations Officer and two Staff Sergeants that provide oversight for two watches each (four in total) that are Sergeant-led, with two Corporal road supervisors and 11 Constables per watch, Strathcona County RCMP provides 24-hour coverage, 365 days per year.

Earlier this past year, we saw the retirement of our Operations Officer - Inspector Beth Leatherdale after over 30 years of policing service. Strathcona County was very fortunate to have her over the last five years certainly she left her mark on not only the detachment but the community as a whole. During the process to identify another Inspector to take over as the Operations Officer, I have stepped away from my normal position as the S/Sgt - NCO i/c of the General Investigations Section (GIS)/Drug Unit and taken on the role of Acting Operations Officer for an extended period.

By the nature of our business line in policing we face unexpected challenges at any given moment and this year was no exception. Our members responded to a wide range of dynamic calls for service and can say that I am proud of their response and our membership in these situations. While hindsight always allows for us to look at ways to improve on service delivery, it has been on these serious incidents that have occurred this year where I saw the professionalism of our team shine through and ultimately them making Strathcona County a safer community. To our team - thank you for this. Serving our community is the basis of our operational policing response, our General Duty members are backed in these efforts by our support units including: Crime Reduction Unit, Community Policing, General Investigations Section(GIS)/Drugs, Domestic Violence Unit and of course all the municipal employees and public servants who we work closely with to achieve our goals.

When looking at crime statistics for 2022, overall, we saw criminal code offences decrease in comparison to 2021 which is certainly positive and gives us a baseline to continue to improve upon. That being said, there are certainly emerging crime trends that we are facing, many of which offers unique challenges to our team in their complexity and investigative strategy, technology is rapidly advancing and policing is not immune to these challenges in our investigations. This past year saw an increase in serious/fatal motor vehicle collisions and remains amongst our

priorities to improve road safety. We work closely with our partners at Strathcona County Enforcement Services in our response to many of our priorities including traffic safety. Given our central location, our team works very closely with neighbouring RCMP Detachments and the Edmonton Police Service targeting criminal activity that affects our communities jointly. This past year also saw our team contribute to provincial policing operations, assisting at events such as the Papal visit and the Coutts blockade.

The relationship with a number of external partners within Strathcona County and Provincially are second to none that I have been involved with throughout my career. We have relationships with community partners such as Saffron, Family and Community Services (FCS), Children and Family Services (CFS), Zebra Center, Regional Police and Crisis Team (RPACT), as well as other mental health support teams such as the newly formed Supportive Outreach Services and Pathways for Change. These initiatives allow to better serve our clients and identify longer term solutions to often complex matters that the police alone can not navigate.

While I look forward to continuing in my role in GIS/Drugs, the opportunity to take on the challenge of Operations Officer in 2022 was certainly rewarding and offered me a chance to work closer with aspects of our team and partners that I wouldn't have otherwise. I've got to see firsthand our team and our partners make Strathcona County a better place and count myself lucky to be a part of it all moving forward.

S/Sgt. Bryce Long
Acting Operations Officer, Strathcona County RCMP Detachment

Operations Support

S/Sgt. Chris Griffiths
NCO i/c Operations Support

A number of specialized services are part of the Operational Support Unit of the Strathcona Detachment. They are the Crime Reduction Unit (CRU), Community Investigations Unit (CIU), Community Policing Unit (CPU), and Police Dog Services (PDS).

The goal of all the units is to provide support to the front-line members and the other specialized units of the Strathcona Detachment to enhance service delivery within Strathcona County.

Crime Reduction Unit

The Strathcona Detachment Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) had been created to respond to current crime trends which are occurring within the County of Strathcona. CRU is intelligence led and maintains a flexible approach to address community concerns such as theft of motor vehicles, break & enters, drug trafficking, and theft of catalytic converters.

Over the past year, CRU has fostered and expanded partnerships with various police agencies to share information with the goal of reducing crime in the area. CRU continues to work in partnership with Probation and Parole Officers to effectively monitor prolific offenders to ensure court conditions are being followed. The management of prolific offenders enhances the intelligence led policing approach to hold offenders accountable. To deter criminal activity, CRU has also formed various partnerships with businesses in the Strathcona County area which are a high crime target.

This past year CRU has made numerous traffic patrols to deter criminal activity and has participated in Check-Stops with partner agencies. There have been various successes in the past year with seizures of illegal drugs and firearms. CRU has recovered numerous stolen

vehicles which have been involved in criminal activity, along with apprehending motorists operating vehicles while suspended or without insurance.

During one such investigation, CRU recovered a stolen vehicle and seized a substantial amount of methamphetamine, cocaine, fentanyl along with other illegal drugs and a weapon. During another traffic stop of a suspended driver, CRU located a mass amount of copper wire along with a sawed-off rifle and knives.

The capability and flexibility of the Crime Reduction Unit provides it the ability to assist the other units of the Strathcona Detachment whether it be General Duty Policing or the various units of the General Investigation Section.

Community Investigations Unit

The Community Investigations Unit (CIU) assists the front-line members of the Strathcona Detachment by managing investigations which are increasingly complex and time-consuming. CIU also provides support at the front counter of the Detachment to answer inquires and assist clients with various matters. Along with CIU completing the more demanding in-depth investigations they benefit the community by supporting General Duty members to have more time to respond to calls-for-service and complete proactive patrols in the community.

The Strathcona Detachment receives numerous collision investigations. While some are minor in nature, others require additional follow-up from investigators to collect the proper documentation and to review the collision to determine if charges are warranted. CIU receives many of these investigations to review and this allows front-line members to focus on more emergent investigations.

As technology evolves and becomes more advanced so does criminal activity. CIU investigates various fraud investigations including vehicle frauds, on-line scams, bank frauds, to name a few. There have been numerous successes in assisting victims in receiving reimbursement through their efforts. In recent years there has been a dramatic increase in crimes linked to digital currency. These investigations are very time-consuming as they are difficult to investigate given their complexity and jurisdictional challenges to which the crimes originate.

The Strathcona Detachment receives various requests from outside police agencies for assistance with investigations ranging from sexual assaults to locating witnesses and serving subpoenas for trials. The members follow-up with interviews to collect witness statements and provide any other assistance as needed.

CIU continues its working relationship with the Zebra Centre, which provides specialized assistance and support for children and youth who are victims or the witnesses to crimes. Outside agencies, such as the Saffron Centre, also assist with persons affected by sexual violence. The relationships between the various support agencies and the Strathcona Detachment continues to grow and evolve with each year to provide a more comprehensive response to those in need.

Community Policing Unit

The Strathcona Detachment Community Policing Unit (CPU) consists of five RCMP members. With the reduction of COVID restrictions, the members were able to resume more active community engagement by attending schools, meetings, and various events which enabled the public more access to speak with police officers in an informal setting. The Community Policing Unit also completes various investigations and is actively involved in providing education and guidance for the public and students involved with the Restorative Justice Program.

The Community Policing Unit participated in such events as:

- RCMP Bike Rodeo
- Saffron Consent Event
- Ardrossan Safety & Wellness Fair
- Canada Day
- Robinhood Carnival
- Bike Patrols
- Cram the Cruiser Food Drive
- CP Holiday Train
- New Years Eve Festival
- Coffee with a Cop at Aster Gardens Retirement Home

The Community Policing Unit participated in various meetings and consultations to maintain positive relationships such as the following:

- Traffic Safety Advisory & Action Committees
- Citizens on Patrol (COP) including Speed Watch Program
- Education and Prevention Messaging
- Drug Strategy Committee
- Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Protocol Sub-Committee
- Community Advisory Committee
- Strathcona County Crime Watch Association
- Liaising with various media outlets

The five members of the Community Policing Unit also fulfill the role of School Resource Officers (SRO) for junior/high schools throughout Strathcona County. The reduction of COVID restrictions enabled the members to spend more time at the schools to liaise with the students and staff to the foster positive relationships. The School Resource Officers participated in various presentations regarding safety, crime prevention, substance abuse, and bullying. They also participated in Violence Threat Risk Assessments (VTRA) and Reinstatement Meetings for struggling students. The relationship with the students and teachers is invaluable and greatly assists in de-escalating situations.

In 2022 the School Resource Officers completed:

- 38 Bullying, cyberbullying and social media presentations at various schools
- 24 Youth Diversion referrals
- 7 Bike Safety Presentations
- 4 Halloween Safety Presentations
- 6 Violence Threat Risk Assessments (VTRA) for schools
- 4 Fraud/Scam presentations to seniors/adults
- School lockdown drills in the event of an emergency
- Reinstatement meetings
- Attended various school sports games
- Remembrance Day Ceremony at schools and seniors residence
- Book reading to students at various school for read-in-week
- Career Presentations at the High Schools (CALM Class)

Police Dog Service

Strathcona Detachment is fortunate to have its own Police Dog Service (PDS). There are currently two Police Dog Handlers working from the Strathcona Detachment. They are both senior members of the RCMP with numerous years of experience as Police Dog Handlers. The members live in Strathcona County and are part of the community. Their German Shepard dogs, "Memphis" and "Madox", are brother and sister from the same litter. The PDS teams are able to assist all units with various calls-for-service such as locating missing persons, apprehending criminals and with the detection of drugs, firearms, and explosives.

Since both dog handlers live in Strathcona County, they are able to deploy quickly to emergencies and high-risk events to provide an immediate service delivery to the community. Having the PDS teams readily available improves the safety of the public and members. In various investigations such as missing persons and fleeing criminals, the benefit of having the PDS teams living in the community has increased the ability to have greater investigational success.

In the past year, PDS has assisted with numerous high-risk incidents and investigations involving pursuits, stolen vehicles, and firearms. PDS also assisted with warrant apprehensions and the execution of search warrants in partnership with the various units.

The PDS officers collaborate with specialized tactical groups such as the Emergency Response Team and the Critical Incident Program and as such receive special enhanced officer safety training which is essential for responses to major incidents in the community. The PDS officers are able to pass on their skills learned to the members at the Strathcona Detachment. In many instances, the PDS handlers are relied upon to guide members on tactical planning and communication when responding to unfolding high-risk situations. This consultation is invaluable and provides the opportunity for enhanced service delivery.

The Strathcona Police Dog Handlers also mentor and instruct other members who are interested in becoming dog handlers. These members quarry and raise German Shepherd puppies in hopes they will be accepted to attend the Police Dog Service Training Centre.

GIS / Drug Section

Sgt. Shayne Hartwell
Acting NCO i/c GIS

General Investigation Section (GIS)

The Strathcona General Investigation Section (GIS) consists of twenty-four experienced members who are arranged into Persons Crime (6), Property Crime (6), Drug (6), Domestic Violence (5), as well as (2) Managers who work in a plain clothes capacity and have received specialized training. Strathcona GIS investigates serious and complex person and property crimes. They use a team-based approach to investigate these serious files. This ensures a successful outcome for the victims of these crimes and in the court system.

In 2022, Strathcona GIS investigated a variety of crimes such as member involved shootings, armed robbery, car jacking, drugs, extortion, forcible confinement, suspicious death, impaired driving causing death, prostitution, complex fraud, serious sexual assault, criminal harassment. In total last year, Strathcona GIS investigated over 205 serious files and laid more than 305 criminal charges.

The Strathcona GIS is mandated to support General Duty members allowing them to spend more time responding to calls for service in the community. Strathcona GIS members also have the experience to assist and mentor junior members with reviewing judicial authorizations (such as search warrants), interviewing suspects, witnesses and vulnerable victims. Strathcona GIS often works in collaboration with other specialized units like the Major Crime Unit and the Historical Homicide Unit.

In 2022, Strathcona GIS assisted General Duty members with over 426 investigations which included, but were not limited to: impaired causing death, robbery, theft, break and enter, fraud, sexual assault. Additionally, the Domestic Violence Unit reviewed and provided support as needed on 404 domestic violence investigations.

Drug Section

The Strathcona Drug team priority mandate is to be actively engaged in the reduction of illegal drugs within the community and the disruption to organized crime groups operating within the hamlet of Sherwood Park and Strathcona County. The team consists of five constables and one corporal.

2022 was again a very busy year for the drug section. Several large-scale projects were completed that aimed to target cocaine and methamphetamine traffickers in the greater Strathcona area. These projects produced multiple judicial authorizations (warrants), seizure of cocaine at the kilo level, 1425 grams of Methamphetamine, 726 grams Fentanyl, 300 grams of cutting agent, 563 unknown pills, 533 grams Psilocybin, 696 Diazepam pills, 305 Naltrexone pills, 245 Clonazepam pills, 130 lorazepam pills, 91 Escitalopram pills, 64 Gabapentin pills, 54 Percocet pills,18 Dextroamphetamine pills, 14 Dexedrine Spansule pills, 14 Baclofen pills,12 Quetiapine pills, several firearms, ledgers, drug scales, and $145,108 in Canadian Currency.

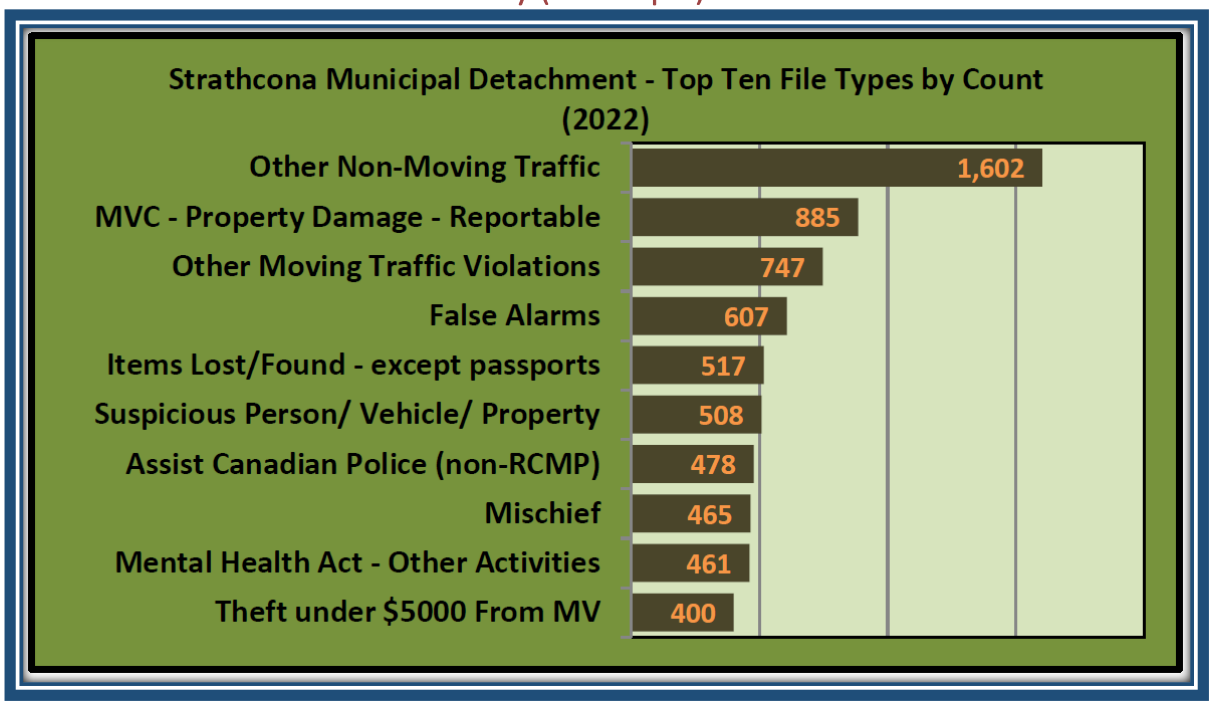
The Strathcona Drug Unit strives to form meaningful partnerships within the greater Edmonton region in order to combat regional drug trafficking. These partnerships involved working closely with the K Division Covert Operations, Edmonton Police Service, and the K Division Surveillance Units. This collaboration has very much added to the overall success of the Strathcona Drug team.

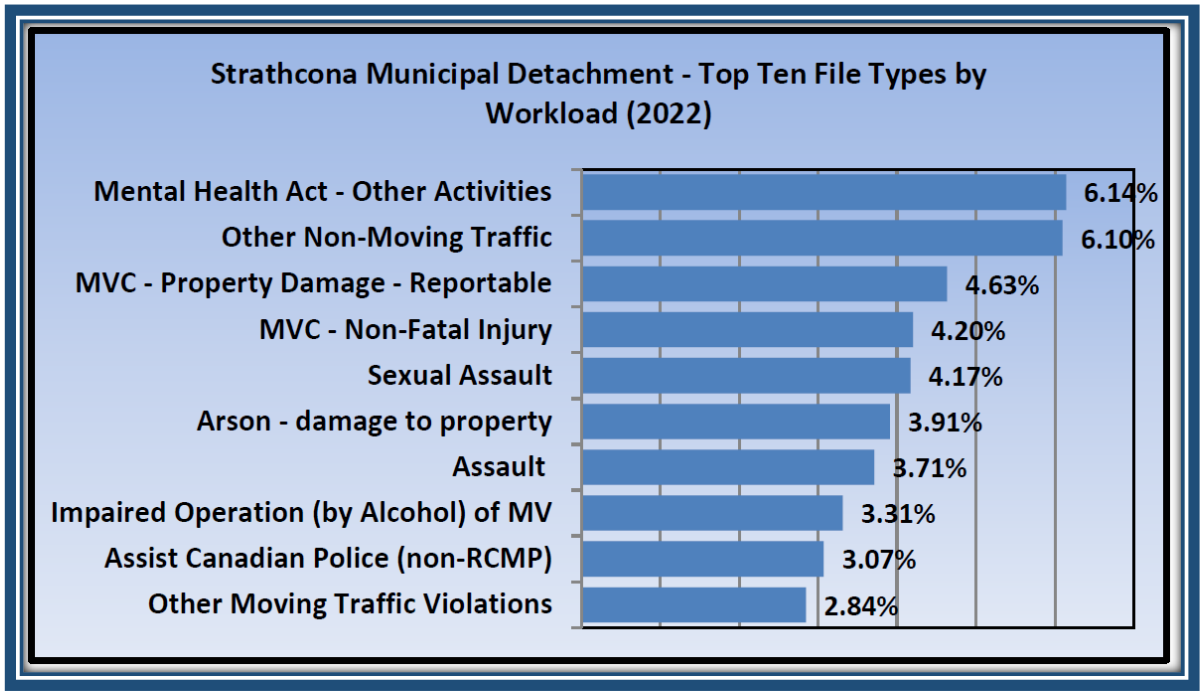
The Strathcona Drug team is a very driven and motivated team that is very much looking forward to continuing their mission to make Strathcona County a safer place to live and work. We are very excited for what the next year will bring for our GIS / Drug teams and our detachment.

2022 Statistical Highlights

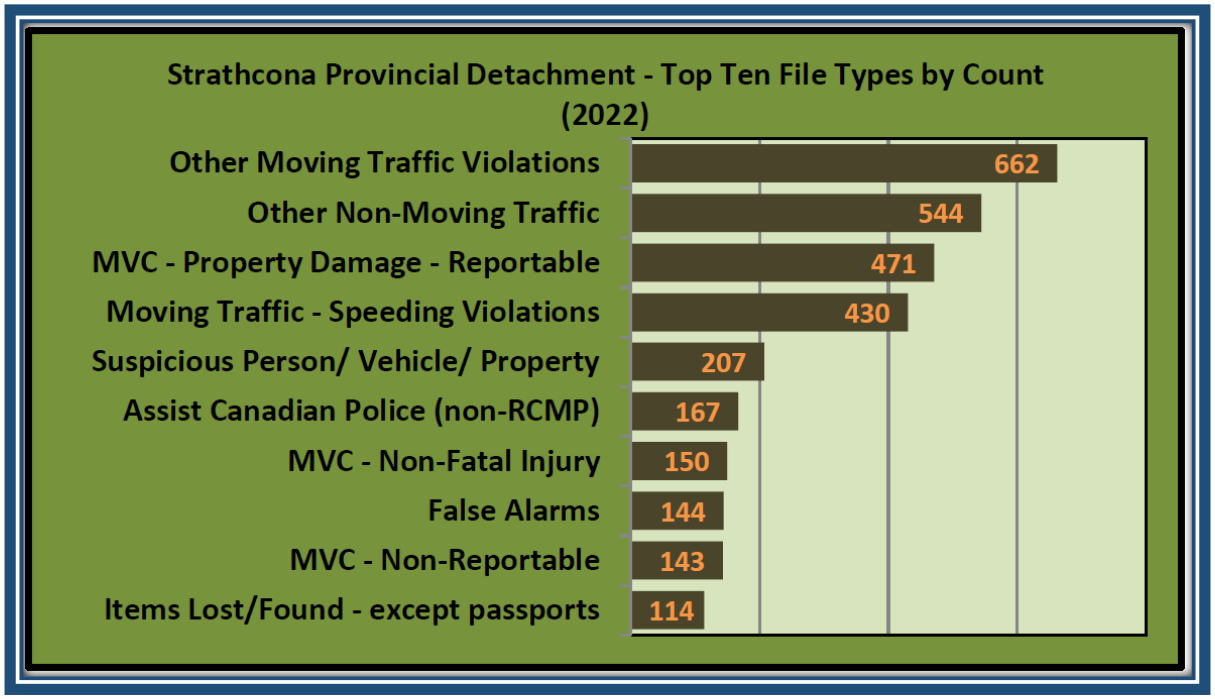
The charts in this section highlight the most common types of files that the Strathcona County RCMP deal with throughout the year (by "Count"), as well as the files that are the most time consuming / resource demanding to investigate and conclude (by "Workload").

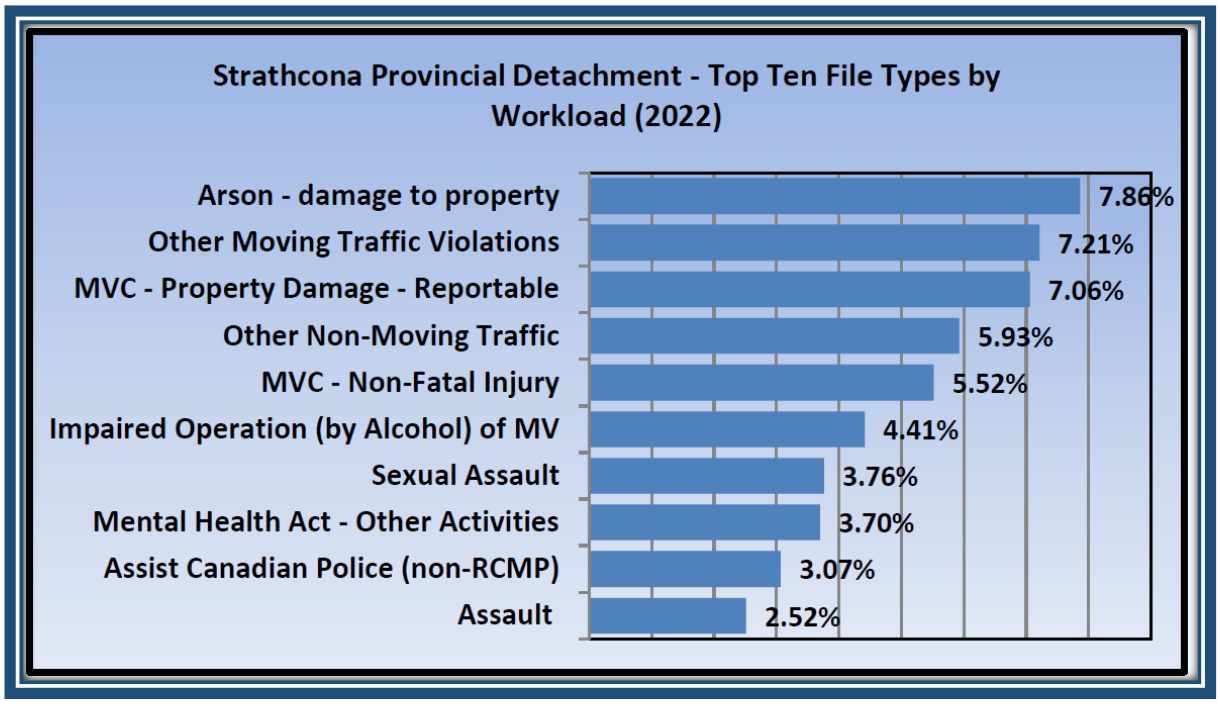
Crime Statistics - Strathcona County (Municipal)





Crime Statistics - Strathcona County (Provincial)

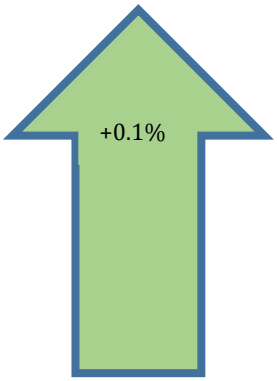




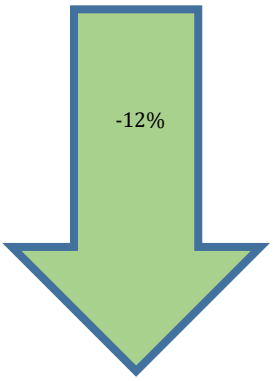
PROS Occurrences

According to PROS data collected by the "K" Division Strategic Analysis and Research Unit, Strathcona County detachment generated 14,310 files in the urban areas and 5,238 files in the rural areas between January and December 2022.

Percent changes in number of files in 2022 compared to 2021:

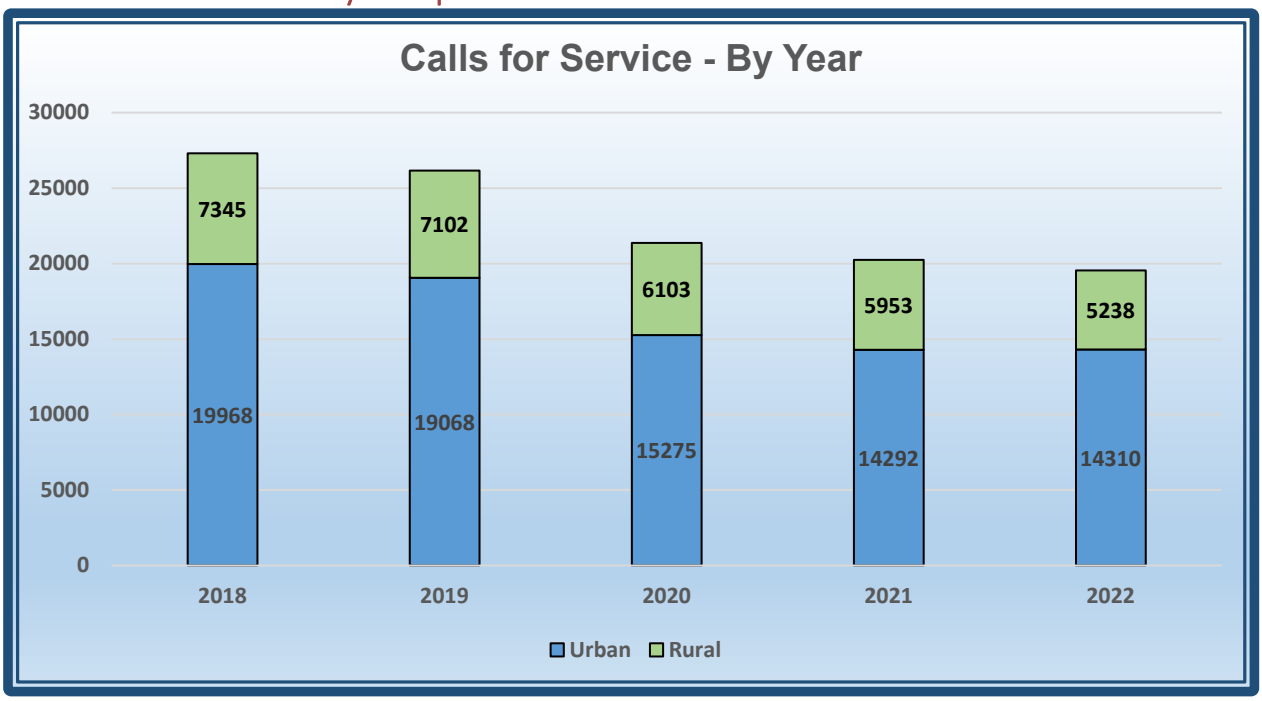


Urban
Increase 0.1%

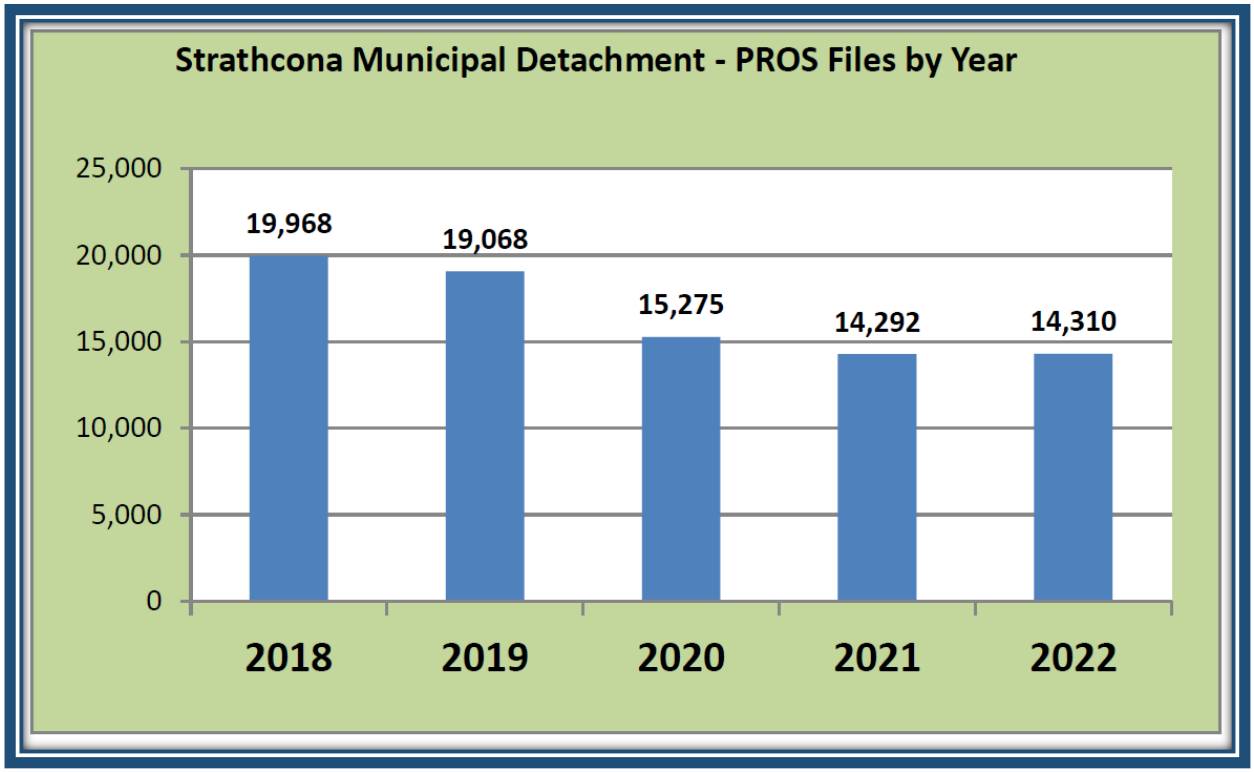


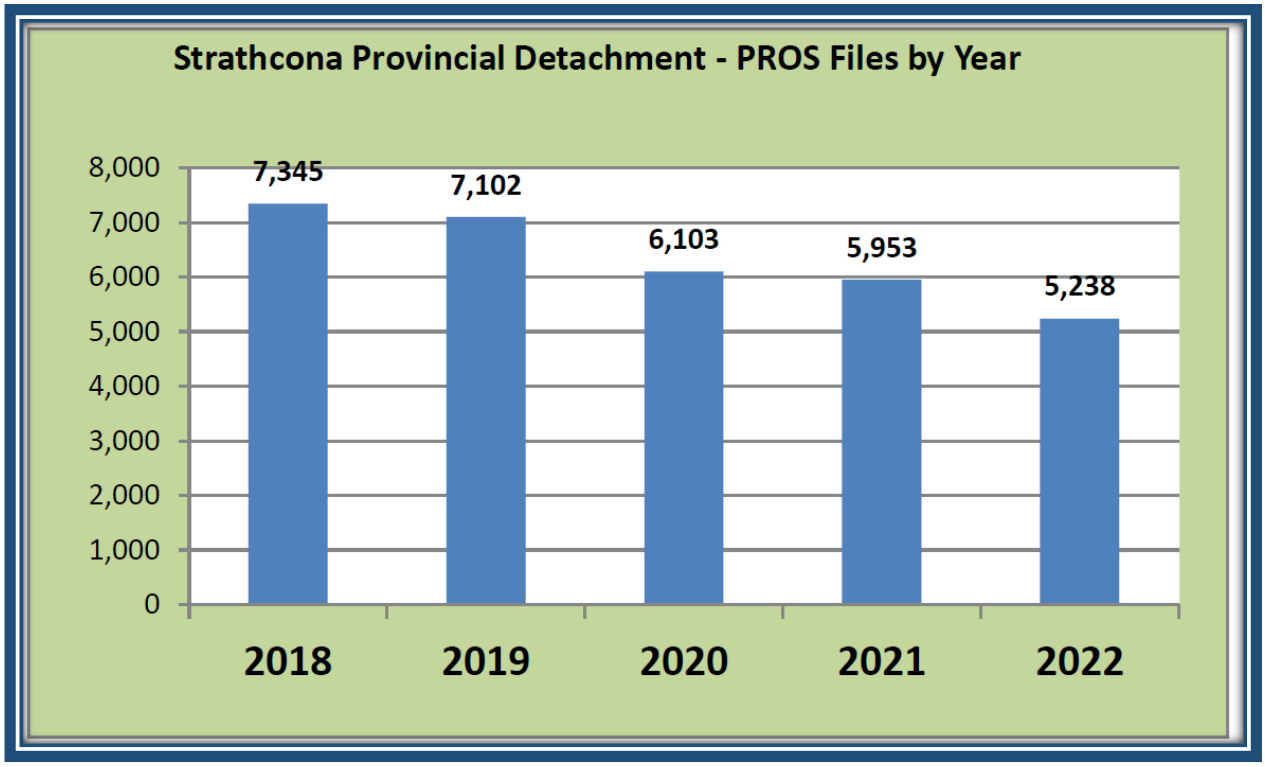
Rural
Decrease of 12%

Calls for Service – Yearly Comparison



Total Calls for Service





Detachment Support Staff

Strathcona County RCMP and Enforcement Services

Tom Sutton, Director
RCMP and Enforcement Services

A year of significant change, 2022 saw a refresh of organizational structures, people leaders, culture, and administrative processes. The Department is focused on enhancing leadership and staff engagement, while modernizing our business processes, harnessing innovation, and enhancing our service delivery. Our strategic focus continues to be community safety and wellbeing through partnership and service excellence with a focus on crime prevention, traffic safety, corporate security, community engagement and bylaw investigation. We strive to be a highly engaged and integrated detachment that serves the public interest.

Through 2022, leadership, staff engagement and well-ness were a critical area of focus. Supporting the teams to make necessary improvements and changes following a past workplace assessment was key to positioning the department for future success. The path ahead includes performance measurement, process modernization and delivering service enhancement both to the RCMP and the broader community. It has been my sincere pleasure to be part of an amazing team working in partnership with the RCMP, Strathcona County and our residents. Our staff has continued to serve the community in a manner that I am very proud and honoured to part of. I look forward to the work ahead and continuing to build the best law enforcement team to support Strathcona County to be Canada's most livable community.

Strathcona County Enforcement Services

Insp. Vito DiSciglio, Manager Enforcement Services

Strathcona County Enforcement Services is a compliment of 27 Community Peace Officers and 5 administrative staff providing municipal law enforcement services to the community. Services include public education campaigns, traffic enforcement, bylaw enforcement, enforcement of select provincial statutes, and commercial vehicle inspections. Our resources work throughout Sherwood Park and rural areas incorporated within Strathcona County. In support of the RCMP, Enforcement Services also assist with various duties such as traffic control, collision scene control and safety, crime prevention through increased visibility and school patrols. Working closely with the RCMP, the Department is responsible for overall public safety and community wellbeing.

Over the course of the past year, Strathcona County Enforcement Services was involved in several initiatives including the support of community stakeholders through engagement and interaction. We were proud to be a part of the following events and groups: The Community Advisory Committee, Remembrance Day ceremonies, Canada Day festivities, Gilmore Park Community League Halloween event, and Cram the Cruiser.

Along with crime prevention, enforcement, and education, these community services are performed collaboratively and in consultation with both internal and external partners. An example of our collaborative efforts was evident in our commitment to regional and local commercial vehicle safety and enforcement. Our group showed a 21 percent increase in commercial vehicle inspections from last year with 367 inspections completed in 2022.
Proactive patrols continued as part of our commitment to the RCMP's Annual Performance Plan initiative to reduce property crime. Enforcement Services

members completed over 8000 proactive rural patrols designed to increase marked peace officer vehicle visibility and identify potential criminal activities. The department also completed over 1300 school patrols, including supporting our residents with patrols of county assets, parks, and transit locations.

Along with the RCMP, the Department's Strategic Traffic Enforcement Plan (STEP) was tailored to our community focusing on our proactive patrol program, joint commercial vehicle operations, speed watch, and child safety seat clinics, among others. We surpassed our RCMP Annual Performance Plan goal of 20,000 violator contacts, and expect to achieve 25,000 contacts by the end of the fourth quarter. Our officers continue to dedicate themselves to implement traffic safety initiatives with Strathcona County Transportation Planning and Engineering to address serious injuries and fatal collisions working towards Strathcona County Vision Zero.

The Peace Officers of Strathcona County Enforcement Services, in conjunction with regional partners, continued with the second year of Project TENSOR East. The Traffic Enforcement Noise/Speed Offence Reduction project ran from May to September 2022 and focused on designated 'Hot Spot' locations as identified by our community. Our regional approach with the Edmonton Police Service was paralleled with operations occurring on the same dates allowing our teams to concentrate our efforts and foster inter-agency collaboration in a targeted enforcement strategy.

In 2022 we worked within this coordinated TENSOR effort to reduce behaviors contrary to the Traffic Safety Act and its corresponding regulations, specifically concentrating on noise and speed. Approximately 858 violations were issued in our second year of the operation. This 27 percent increase from 2021 showed a consistent combination of warnings and tickets. This combination of education, information, and enforcement showed a balanced approach.

In the past year, Enforcement Services introduced a Corporate Security role to the organization, allowing engagement with departments to identify security needs. The Corporate Security Advisor is accountable to maintain partnerships with internal and external stakeholders regarding the coordination of activities and security issues, including the exchange of intelligence information through consultation with various organizations including (but not limited to) the RCMP and Corporate Security Services with Alberta Public Safety and Emergency Services.

The implementation of four Road Supervisors to each enforcement team was introduced this past year to provide direct support, coaching/mentoring, standards compliance, and enhanced communication in real time. Our new team leads effectively and consistently provided a front-line level of support allowing officers to better share assigned duties and ensure quality service delivery.

We continued to work enthusiastically with organizational partners in 2022. This was demonstrated by our cooperation with Recreation Parks and Culture, Transportation and Engineering Operations, Legislative and Legal Service, Transit, Family Community Services and Emergency Services to name a few. These partnerships allowed us to work collaboratively and efficiently in assuring the safety of our community, including the health and safety of our staff.

As an integral part of the Strathcona County law enforcement team, our unit of officers and support staff demonstrated a balanced approach between education and enforcement throughout the year. The continued dedication to our community by Enforcement Services will prove to be a valuable resource and factor moving forward positively and with community connectivity. Working closely with the County and our citizens, we continue to contribute to making Strathcona County the most livable community in Canada.

Strathcona County RCMP Operations Supports

Derek Stankey, Manager
RCMP Operations Support

Strathcona County RCMP and Enforcement Services is an integrated detachment that includes RCMP, municipal peace officers, Alberta Sheriffs, and municipal support staff. The department is unique in that while the RCMP is contracted by the County to provide policing services, municipal staff provide essential support services for the RCMP. This team supports the RCMP members and Enforcement Service's Peace Officers through a variety of services that include front counter customer service, the Municipal Operations Communication Centre (MOCC), court and file management, Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) operators, crime analysts, fleet and exhibit management, electronic voice entry (watch support) and victim services.

The integrated service model allows municipal staff to provide essential support services while maximizing the utilization of RCMP and Enforcement personnel directly engaged in community policing. In 2022, operations support continued to provide exceptional service quality to RCMP and Enforcement Services teams. Operations support also provides high level service directly to residents to promote our community's safety and wellbeing.

Front Counter Services

The front counter team continued to be committed to service excellence in 2022. This team assisted 29,352 clients in 2022 representing a slight increase from 2021. With the on-line Criminal Record Check pilot project coming to an end in March of 2022, front counter experienced an increase in residents attending the detachment to complete the checks once again in person as well as the increased demand related to the community's 'return to normal' following years of pandemic impacts. Front Counter services have returned to pre-pandemic level with no restrictions in place for residents. We have continued to provide the required policing and enforcement services such as criminal record and vulnerable sector checks, public inquiries, collision reporting, subpoena service and non-emergency complaint reporting.

Municipal Operations Communications Centre

The Municipal Operations Communication Centre (MOCC), our emergency communications unit, is responsible for answering 9-1-1 and complaint lines from the public within the jurisdiction of Strathcona County. It is operated 24/7 by 16 full-time operators divided into 4 teams with a compliment of 7 casual dispatchers. The skilled operators' role is to quickly prioritize and accurately process calls to ensure officer and public safety, resulting in safer communities.

Throughout the 2022 year, the MOCC created approximately 14,057 files for service. RCMP accounted for 82% of these generated files and Enforcement Services officers accounted for the remaining 18%. A total of 5,838 (9-1-1) calls were received by telecommunications operators from the public in 2022 providing immediate assistance and support to callers.

Upgrading to the Next Generation 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1) system has begun and will significantly enhance 9-1-1 service in Strathcona County by upgrading to future digital networks that support features such as real time text and video while ensuring this emergency call system remains effective, secure, and progressive.

Electronic Voice Entry EVE (RCMP Watch Administrative Support)

Through many changes of process, personnel, and duties in 2022, EVE (RCMP Watch Administrative Support) continued to provide valued, quality service and support to the members. EVE put a lot of energy into clarifying their role and duties within detachment processes by collaborating with other work units and identifying ways to ensure quality work results. These efforts have shown to improve communication both within the EVE team and externally with other units and will continue to have beneficial outcomes moving forward with the detachment Workflow Assessment recommendations implementation.

Care and Custody

In 2022, the Guard unit ensured the safe custody of 796 prisoners. Of 8,760 hours within a year, 5,209 hours saw at least one prisoner under their watchful care and attention. In addition to providing monitoring of prisoners in custody, as well as the handling of found property files, the guards identified and embraced opportunities to provide improved services to the Strathcona County Detachment including the implementation of in-house biohazard clean up for cells as well as the local destruction of seized firearms and edged weapons.

Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) team

The Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) team made notable achievements including the identification of unit supplements. CPIC also identified the need to address outstanding data quality assurance issues such as outstanding warrant files. CPIC conducted an audit of all detachment warrants to validate entries, while also organizing the warrant files in the MOCC to provide more efficiency. The CPIC unit has put a lot of energy into not only building positive working relationships with other units within our detachment, but also in collaborating with CPIC units from surrounding detachments to share information on policies and procedures.

Exhibit and Fleet Management

In 2022, our Exhibit and Fleet Specialist put a lot of thought and effort into improving the organization and creating efficient use of exhibit storage spaces. Completing most of the procurement and installation, the exhibit specialist implemented a system for hanging firearms to maximize use of space, as well as protecting them from damage while in our control. The specialist also coordinated fleet service needs as well as designed and implemented space saving solutions for the safe storage of large and dangerous goods items. Throughout 2022, exhibit handling personnel from other agencies such as Alberta Fish and Wildlife reached out to gain insight into our practices to manage their exhibit handling. They were grateful for the willingness of our Exhibit Specialist to share knowledge and collaborate on strategies.

Crime Analysts

Through their daily watch briefings, the analysts routinely provide members with information they have gathered via routinely monitoring and liaising with outside units and agencies to provide insight on officer safety risks or linkages to current files in the surrounding areas. In addition, the analysts were major contributors on relevant files within the detachment and have assisted in providing strategic information to reduce mail theft in partnership with Canada Post. With the addition of a new analyst to the team this year, we have the capabilities and knowledge to provide members Tier 2 Open-Source Intelligence, as well as the use of telecommunication analysis to advance complex investigations. Strathcona County Detachment Crime Analysts contributed two submissions to the Provincial Threat Assessment in 2022 which included scopes of operation outside of Alberta.

Drug Abuse and Resistance Education – DARE Program

The DARE program continues to be a valuable asset not only to the Strathcona County Detachment, but also to the community. Program delivery faced some obstacles in the beginning of 2022 as they adjusted and found alternative ways to provide programming through COVID. The DARE team provided impactful curriculum regarding the risks associated with the use of drugs and alcohol through the instruction of over 50 classes delivered to over 1500 Grade 6 and 7 students in Strathcona County. In addition, in collaboration with Elk Island Public Schools, the DARE program began the groundwork to develop community engagement presentations that will provide parents with information on what the DARE program offers their children and the community of Strathcona County.

Victim Service Unit

Operations support also promotes supporting those impacted by crime through the Victim Service Unit. The Strathcona County Victim Services (SCVSU) is a 24/7 police-based victim assistance program that provides information, support, and referrals for victims of criminal code violent crimes, criminal code non-violent crimes, and no offence/non-criminal occurrences (tragic circumstances). Services are provided following the provincial guidelines outlined in the Victims of Crime Act, the Victims of Crime Protocol, and the Federal Canadian Victims Bill of Rights. 35 volunteer community members and 4 staff members support this unit. In 2022, the Strathcona County Victim Services Unit received 1,452 referrals, attended 100 crisis call-outs, and attended over 30 criminal trials in support of victims of crime.

Last year, SCVSU staff and volunteers attended the Ardrossan Safety and Wellness Fair, the Strathcona County RCMP and Enforcement Services Bike Rodeo as well as handed out Halloween treats and safety tips to kids at the Haunted Halloween Skate in Ardrossan.

Court and File Management

In 2022, the Court and File Management Unit saw team members move on to other challenges and welcomed new members onto the team. It was a year of many changes and challenges and the team demonstrated resilience and agility in maintaining their level of service excellence. The unit is comprised of 4 Information Managers, 7 Court Liaison Officers, 3 Disclosure Specialists as well as 3 casual employees who provide support to detachment personnel.

The Information Management Team is responsible for providing Quality Assurance reviews to ensure compliance with Federal, Provincial and Municipal policies such as Canadian Center for Justice Statistics (CCJS), Uniform Crime Reporting and scoring, Operational Manual (OM/KOM), Information Management Manual (IMM), and Detachment Unit Supplements. In 2022, there were over 22 000 files generated where Data Quality reviews were completed to maintain the integrity of data collected. This also ensured the accuracy of statistical information generated to support monitoring of crime trends and resource management.

Court Liaison, Disclosure Specialists, and the Criminal Justice Information Module (CJIM) Coordinator provided administrative and operational support to RCMP members as well as multiple specialized units. They were responsible for the Administration, Management, Disclosure, Quality Assurance of all court documents, and the monitoring/review of fingerprinting processes and submissions. They liaised between multiple external stakeholders such as Federal, Provincial, and Traffic Prosecutors; Provincial, Youth, Traffic, and King's Bench Courts; Community Corrections as well as other departments and agencies. In 2022, there were over 1000 court folders generated, approximately 500 pre-charge assessments, CJIM submissions, and traffic trial documentation gathered and monitored for RCMP and Enforcement Services. Court service team members ensured routine disclosures were submitted to prosecutors promoting just and transparent judicial processes.

The Court and File Management Team are often resources for other detachments or units for their vast knowledge and experience. Many team members have been active participants in the best practice working group developed by Central Alberta District to create an interactive reference guide/instruction manual for staff on procedures across the division. Team members have been instrumental in the development of forms, manuals, and processes that are utilized throughout the division as well as dedicated participants of the detachment workflow assessment.

We are tremendously proud of our team's dedication and commitment to serving the community. The Operations Support team continues to be proud of our collective contributions in providing integrated support services to the RCMP and Enforcement Services. The Operations Support team embraces an ethos that it takes all of us to succeed. This is especially true as it applies to our department's mission, which is to be leaders in public safety through partnerships, innovation, and excellence.

Strategic Policing

2022/2023 Annual Performance Plan

We are currently in the 4th quarter of the Annual Policing Priorities, so the complete results are not yet available at the time this report was being prepared. As the numbers project, all targets will be met or surpassed by the end of the fiscal year.

In our 2022/2023 "Annual Performance Plan," members of the detachment focussed on four main priority issues:

1. Enhance Road Safety – Traffic Safety

Measure	Target	Completed
Officer Violator Contacts (Tickets and Warnings)	20,000	21,531

Target = April 2022 to March 2023; Completed = April 2022 to December 2022

The Strathcona County Detachment continues its efforts with regards to Traffic Safety. The County Enforcement Officers contribute greatly to the traffic safety and enforcement in the area. The enforcement of traffic offences also assists with deterring criminal activity in the area.

2. Crime Reduction

Measure	Target	Completed
Conduct Internal Information Sessions	4	1
Hot Spot Checks	3,000	3,506
Offender Checks	1,500	466
Proactive Rural/Urban Patrols	10,000	11,438

Target = April 2022 to March 2023; Completed = April 2022 to December 2022

Strathcona County RCMP Detachment continues to be on track to meet its goal with regards to Crime Reduction. The Strathcona County Enforcement Officers continue their efforts to complete numerous proactive patrols in the urban and rural areas to deter crime. RCMP members continue with Hot Spot Checks to identify and deter criminal behaviour. The Crime Reduction Unit (CRU) continues investigations concerning motor vehicle and catalytic converter theft. The General Investigation Section (GIS) continues its efforts with the numerous investigations of mail theft.

3. Community Engagement – Build and Maintain positive relations within the community

Measure	Target	Completed
Conduct at least 2 town hall meetings to connect with the community	2	2
Youth Presentations	50	69
Seniors Presentations	12	13
Business Checks	200	188

Target = April 2022 to March 2023; Completed = April 2022 to December 2022

The Strathcona County RCMP Detachment is meeting the goals of education and engagement in the community. Members continue their efforts to liaise with businesses to discuss crime trends and the various frauds which are being conducted. Businesses are becoming more aware of the signs of fraud and are contacting the Detachment when such incidents are suspected. The Community Policing Unit has been providing presentations and are engaged with students and assisting other members in the apprehension of youth which are engaging in criminal activities. Pro-active and educational presentations are being given to seniors in regards to fraud and on-line schemes. Supt. Dale Kendall and Director Tom Sutton completed two in-person Town Hall Meetings at Sherwood Park and Ardrossan to advise of the activities and priorities of the Detachment and to answer any questions or concerns from the residents.

4. Employee Wellness

Measure	Target	Completed
Member Supporting Member Committee Meetings	12	9
Continual Improvement Committee Meetings	4	3
Heath & Fitness Committee Meetings	9	6

Target = April 2022 to March 2023; Completed = April 2022 to December 2022

Employee Wellness continues to be a priority for the Strathcona County RCMP Detachment. The Detachment hosted various events for all employees such as lunch and learns, pancake breakfasts and various potluck dinners. The Detachment has also been hosting guest speakers for financial planning along with scheduling in-house yoga and painting programs to promote mental and physical wellbeing.

Five-Year Trends (2018- 2022)

Municipal (Urban) Statistics

Strathcona Municipal Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
January to December: 2018 - 2022

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 4, 2023

CATEGORY	Trend	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 2018	% Change 2021	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		2	0	0	3	0	-100%	-100%	-0.1
Robbery		14	11	11	15	13	-7%	-13%	0.2
Sexual Assaults		68	60	47	78	90	32%	15%	6.2
Other Sexual Offences		33	34	41	44	36	9%	-18%	1.6
Assault		455	394	362	371	375	-18%	1%	-18.3
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		12	9	8	8	9	-25%	13%	-0.7
Extortion		22	4	22	28	38	73%	36%	5.6
Criminal Harassment		152	119	158	157	161	6%	3%	5.6
Uttering Threats		208	165	149	176	188	-10%	7%	-2.9
TOTAL PERSONS		**966**	**796**	**798**	**880**	**910**	**-6%**	**3%**	**-2.8**
Break & Enter		250	224	200	166	163	-35%	-2%	-23.2
Theft of Motor Vehicle		147	152	134	119	101	-31%	-15%	-12.5
Theft Over $5,000		78	76	55	49	49	-37%	0%	-8.5
Theft Under $5,000		1,390	1,298	1,161	1,043	1,050	-24%	1%	-93.5
Possn Stn Goods		213	210	171	148	115	-46%	-22%	-25.8
Fraud		551	480	407	398	414	-25%	4%	-35.6
Arson		18	9	11	23	23	28%	0%	2.4
Mischief - Damage To Property		3	159	351	600	618	20500%	3%	167.1
Mischief - Other		526	321	146	147	170	-68%	16%	-88.6
TOTAL PROPERTY		**3,176**	**2,929**	**2,636**	**2,693**	**2,703**	**-15%**	**0%**	**-118.2**
Offensive Weapons		91	71	92	97	84	-8%	-13%	1.2
Disturbing the peace		197	242	333	300	284	44%	-5%	23.2
Fail to Comply & Breaches		537	593	376	418	320	-40%	-23%	-60.9
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		221	234	193	208	200	-10%	-4%	-6.8
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		**1,046**	**1,140**	**994**	**1,023**	**888**	**-15%**	**-13%**	**-43.3**
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		5,188	4,865	4,428	4,596	4,501	-13%	-2%	-164.3

Municipal (Urban) Statistics Continued

Strathcona Municipal Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
January to December: 2018 - 2022

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 4, 2023

CATEGORY	Trend	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 2018	% Change 2021	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		0	0	1	0	1	N/A	N/A	0.2
Drug Enforcement - Possession		283	116	108	94	81	-71%	-14%	-42.6
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		70	75	106	88	41	-41%	-53%	-4.5
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	1	1	1	N/A	0%	0.3
Total Drugs		**353**	**191**	**216**	**183**	**124**	**-65%**	**-32%**	**-46.6**
Cannabis Enforcement		1	13	5	6	9	800%	50%	0.9
Federal - General		23	23	26	18	28	22%	56%	0.5
TOTAL FEDERAL		**377**	**227**	**247**	**207**	**161**	**-57%**	**-22%**	**-45.2**
Liquor Act		150	209	167	156	152	1%	-3%	-4.9
Cannabis Act		17	65	44	45	42	147%	-7%	3.0
Mental Health Act		479	490	476	615	548	14%	-11%	26.3
Other Provincial Stats		933	883	899	970	884	-5%	-9%	-1.1
Total Provincial Stats		**1,579**	**1,647**	**1,586**	**1,786**	**1,626**	**3%**	**-9%**	**23.3**
Municipal By-laws Traffic		6	11	6	1	2	-67%	100%	-1.8
Municipal By-laws		226	207	278	257	222	-2%	-14%	4.2
Total Municipal		**232**	**218**	**284**	**258**	**224**	**-3%**	**-13%**	**2.4**
Fatals		2	2	0	1	0	-100%	-100%	-0.5
Injury MVC		418	368	270	278	348	-17%	25%	-23.0
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		1,571	1,397	1,070	1,016	1,201	-24%	18%	-112.1
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		189	149	141	135	187	-1%	39%	-1.8
TOTAL MVC		**2,180**	**1,916**	**1,481**	**1,430**	**1,736**	**-20%**	**21%**	**-137.4**
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	148	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	17	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Provincial Traffic		**12,492**	**10,049**	**6,745**	**6,291**	**6,504**	**-48%**	**3%**	**-1,573.4**
Other Traffic		**190**	**175**	**109**	**25**	**27**	**-86%**	**8%**	**-47.6**
Criminal Code Traffic		**534**	**425**	**325**	**243**	**241**	**-55%**	**-1%**	**-76.8**
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		**1,153**	**806**	**467**	**538**	**607**	**-47%**	**13%**	**-136.0**
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		**878**	**475**	**232**	**212**	**219**	**-75%**	**3%**	**-158.1**
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		**579**	**713**	**628**	**535**	**510**	**-12%**	**-5%**	**-31.6**
Persons Reported Missing		**154**	**100**	**98**	**78**	**129**	**-16%**	**65%**	**-7.2**
Search Warrants		**5**	**7**	**10**	**12**	**17**	**240%**	**42%**	**2.9**
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		**842**	**706**	**630**	**650**	**586**	**-30%**	**-10%**	**-56.8**
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		**0**	**30**	**96**	**91**	**99**	**N/A**	**9%**	**25.9**

Provincial (Rural) Statistics

Strathcona Provincial Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
January to December: 2018 - 2022

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 4, 2023

CATEGORY	Trend	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 2018 - 2022	% Change 2021 - 2022	Avg File +/- per Year
Offences Related to Death		3	3	4	2	1	-67%	-50%	-0.5
Robbery		5	4	2	2	0	-100%	-100%	-1.2
Sexual Assaults		18	13	11	19	23	28%	21%	1.6
Other Sexual Offences		7	8	6	13	4	-43%	-69%	-0.1
Assault		106	91	101	111	102	-4%	-8%	1.2
Kidnapping/Hostage/Abduction		5	3	3	4	3	-40%	-25%	-0.3
Extortion		11	3	6	5	12	9%	140%	0.4
Criminal Harassment		19	36	33	41	39	105%	-5%	4.5
Uttering Threats		45	55	43	54	40	-11%	-26%	-1.1
TOTAL PERSONS		**219**	**216**	**209**	**251**	**224**	**2%**	**-11%**	**4.5**
Break & Enter		154	136	95	79	72	-53%	-9%	-22.1
Theft of Motor Vehicle		86	86	60	64	55	-36%	-14%	-8.4
Theft Over $5,000		31	25	23	19	40	29%	111%	1.2
Theft Under $5,000		267	266	222	153	176	-34%	15%	-29.5
Possn Stn Goods		135	115	116	109	88	-35%	-19%	-10.0
Fraud		103	117	103	124	131	27%	6%	6.3
Arson		24	33	16	17	15	-38%	-12%	-3.4
Mischief - Damage To Property		1	62	103	135	162	16100%	20%	39.5
Mischief - Other		136	83	17	29	23	-83%	-21%	-28.0
TOTAL PROPERTY		**937**	**923**	**755**	**729**	**762**	**-19%**	**5%**	**-54.4**
Offensive Weapons		68	72	99	69	56	-18%	-19%	-2.7
Disturbing the peace		21	19	31	29	30	43%	3%	2.8
Fail to Comply & Breaches		66	66	68	54	39	-41%	-28%	-6.6
OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		52	49	44	66	57	10%	-14%	2.7
TOTAL OTHER CRIMINAL CODE		**207**	**206**	**242**	**218**	**182**	**-12%**	**-17%**	**-3.8**
TOTAL CRIMINAL CODE		1,363	1,345	1,206	1,198	1,168	-14%	-3%	-53.7

Provincial (Rural) Statistics Continued

Strathcona Provincial Detachment
Crime Statistics (Actual)
January to December: 2018 - 2022

All categories contain "Attempted" and/or "Completed"

January 4, 2023

CATEGORY	Trend	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	% Change 2018	% Change 2021	Avg File +/- per Year
Drug Enforcement - Production		3	0	0	0	1	-67%	N/A	-0.4
Drug Enforcement - Possession		56	20	53	33	18	-68%	-45%	-6.3
Drug Enforcement - Trafficking		11	9	11	6	12	9%	100%	-0.1
Drug Enforcement - Other		0	0	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	0.0
Total Drugs		**70**	**29**	**64**	**39**	**31**	**-56%**	**-21%**	**-6.8**
Cannabis Enforcement		1	2	3	0	0	-100%	N/A	-0.4
Federal - General		1	3	7	13	7	600%	-46%	2.2
TOTAL FEDERAL		**72**	**34**	**74**	**52**	**38**	**-47%**	**-27%**	**-5.0**
Liquor Act		45	45	27	22	36	-20%	64%	-4.1
Cannabis Act		2	15	15	29	16	700%	-45%	4.2
Mental Health Act		116	129	134	146	115	-1%	-21%	1.5
Other Provincial Stats		244	205	251	276	229	-6%	-17%	4.1
Total Provincial Stats		**407**	**394**	**427**	**473**	**396**	**-3%**	**-16%**	**5.7**
Municipal By-laws Traffic		0	1	1	0	0	N/A	N/A	-0.1
Municipal By-laws		56	100	132	167	102	82%	-39%	15.9
Total Municipal		**56**	**101**	**133**	**167**	**102**	**82%**	**-39%**	**15.8**
Fatals		3	5	6	3	8	167%	167%	0.8
Injury MVC		166	189	148	163	169	2%	4%	-2.0
Property Damage MVC (Reportable)		559	609	436	431	524	-6%	22%	-24.8
Property Damage MVC (Non Reportable)		137	144	132	125	155	13%	24%	1.7
TOTAL MVC		**865**	**947**	**722**	**722**	**856**	**-1%**	**19%**	**-24.3**
Roadside Suspension - Alcohol (Prov)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	98	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roadside Suspension - Drugs (Prov)		N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	3	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total Provincial Traffic		**6,802**	**7,911**	**5,089**	**4,977**	**4,326**	**-36%**	**-13%**	**-788.6**
Other Traffic		**84**	**101**	**62**	**28**	**18**	**-79%**	**-36%**	**-20.5**
Criminal Code Traffic		**347**	**200**	**186**	**159**	**127**	**-63%**	**-20%**	**-48.1**
Common Police Activities									
False Alarms		**371**	**219**	**112**	**113**	**144**	**-61%**	**27%**	**-56.0**
False/Abandoned 911 Call and 911 Act		**223**	**109**	**78**	**65**	**77**	**-65%**	**18%**	**-33.6**
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Property		**313**	**290**	**266**	**225**	**209**	**-33%**	**-7%**	**-27.3**
Persons Reported Missing		**25**	**30**	**19**	**20**	**20**	**-20%**	**0%**	**-2.0**
Search Warrants		**8**	**3**	**7**	**4**	**12**	**50%**	**200%**	**0.9**
Spousal Abuse - Survey Code (Reported)		**182**	**160**	**144**	**176**	**167**	**-8%**	**-5%**	**-1.4**
Form 10 (MHA) (Reported)		**0**	**12**	**40**	**32**	**16**	**N/A**	**-50%**	**5.2**