

SASKATOON POLICE SERVICE



2019
ANNUAL REPORT



Mission Statement

In partnership with the community, we will provide service based on excellence to ensure a safe and secure environment.

Core values

Honesty

We will be reputable, adhering to truthfulness and being free from deceit.

Integrity

We will lead by example, being incorruptible and doing the right thing regardless of the pressures or personal risk we face.

Compassion

We will be mindful of the distress of others and demonstrate a sympathetic understanding in our desire to assist them.

Fairness

We will demonstrate impartiality, being free from self-interest, prejudice, or favouritism.

Commitment

We will show dedication to the goals of the Service and to our personal development and wellness as we persist in our endeavours to consult, work with, and serve the community.

Respect

We will recognize the right of all people, regardless of their personal situation, to live without ridicule and, as such, we will display courteous regard for people in every situation.

Professionalism

We will be above reproach and exhibit a proficient, conscientious, and business-like demeanour when dealing with those we serve.

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Message from Chief Troy Cooper

The Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) is an industry-leading, professional police service. We are fortunate to have strong community support and amazing partners to ensure this remains a healthy and safe city to visit or raise a family in.

We were challenged in 2019 with clusters of violent activity. We responded by increasing police visibility and partnering with our province on a gang-violence-reduction strategy. To support harm reduction and provide an appropriate level of police presence, we also approved plans for new, specially trained resources in the core neighbourhoods.

A growing city like ours requires long-term vision and 2019 provided an opportunity to consult with citizens, community groups, and our staff to build the framework for a strategic plan that will be rolled out over the next five years. These are exciting times for us and we have a lot to look forward to.

2019 had a number of highlights, including:

- 4.6% decrease in property crime
- High solvency rates for violent offences
- Consistent traffic enforcement, which led to a reduction in injuries and pedestrian collisions
- Police resources augmented at peak times
- Additional communication operators added
- Crime analysts added to ensure a more strategic police response
- Gun amnesty resulting in the seizure of 74 firearms
- Creation of an Indigenous Women's Advisory Circle to support the chief in planning and policy development
- Lifesaving naloxone provided by our officers 11 times
- Drug enforcement resources increased
- Full-time psychologist hired as part of our commitment to the well-being of our members
- Our director of Legal Services awarded the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACCP) Award of Recognition for her work representing CACCP at the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- SPS named a top employer for the eighth year in a row

I would like to thank the Board of Police Commissioners for their support throughout the year. They acted as a conduit between the community and SPS and clearly communicated their goal of developing a culture of community safety.

I would also like to acknowledge the hard working and dedicated SPS staff. Policing with respect, overcoming adversity, and caring for each other were the keys to our success and will be the foundation of our future.



Chief Troy Cooper



Deputy Chief
Mark Chatterbok



Deputy Chief
Mitch Yuzdepski



Board of Police Commissioners

The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners provides oversight to the Saskatoon Police Service. Their mission is to strengthen the culture of community safety within Saskatoon, which they aim to achieve through three strategic goals:

- Provide effective and objective oversight to the Saskatoon Police Service
- Be a highly effective conduit between the public and the Saskatoon Police Service
- Strengthen the culture of community safety through effective and efficient Police Commission governance and operation

Commissioners:

- Mayor – Charlie Clark
- 2 city council members – Mairin Loewen, Randy Donauer
- 4 members of the public – Darlene Brander (chairperson), Jyotsna (Jo) Custead, Kearney Healy (Queen’s Counsel), Carolanne Inglis-McQuay

To learn more about the commissioners, visit <http://saskatoonpolicecommission.com/commissioners>

Contact information:

Residents can contact the board through the board secretary:

- Email secretary@saskatoonpolicecommission.com
- Write a letter to
Secretary, Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners
c/o Saskatoon City Clerk
222 3rd Avenue North, Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5

Community engagement supports strategic planning

On October 23, 2019, the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) hosted a community engagement meeting to gather input for the next long-term strategic plan.

At the meeting, the 75 attendees were asked the following questions:

- What is working in policing and public safety in Saskatoon?
- What is worrying about policing and public safety in Saskatoon?
- What does community safety mean to you?
- Where do you see opportunities for community-based organizations and the SPS to work better together?

In addition to the public meeting, input was collected through social media comments from the general public, internal focus groups, and service-wide employee surveys that asked these same questions. Following these outreach initiatives, key themes were identified and the 2020–2024 Strategic Plan was developed to guide SPS and help set priorities for the next 5 years.



A very busy summer

Units temporarily reallocated to meet higher demands for service

Summer 2019 was one of the busiest on record in terms of calls for service and dispatched calls. In response, the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) reallocated certain units to assist patrol officers responding to calls and securing major crime scenes. The Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan (CTSS) Unit, Traffic Unit, and the Beats and Bikes Unit were all called on to assist patrol officers during busier day or night shifts. Roughly 30 officers were affected by this measure.

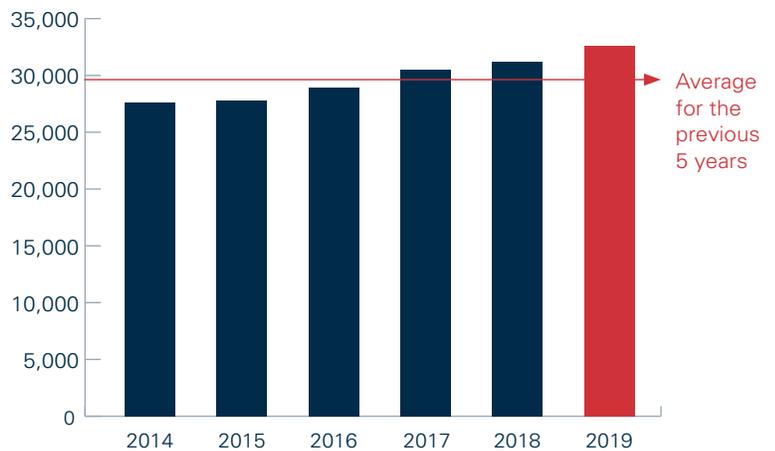
“When we have to respond to homicide calls, aggravated assaults, or serious calls like that, it consumes an awful lot of resources,” said Chief Cooper. “We needed to expand the scope of people available to us when those resources are needed.”

SPS had 32,633 calls for service in July, August, and September of 2019. (See Calls for service graph.) This was 4.6% higher than in 2018 and 11.6% higher than the previous 5-year average.

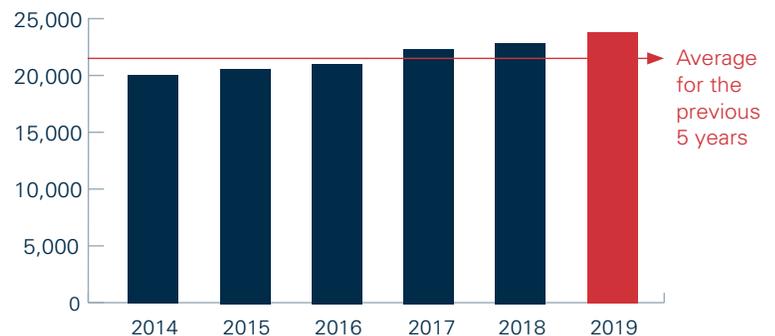
Not all calls answered by SPS communications require police assistance. Communications staff can often direct callers to solve the issue at hand. However, most calls into SPS communications do require police assistance, so communications staff dispatch police officers to the scene.

Dispatched calls are an indication of demand for police services and the workload on SPS patrol officers. Between 2014 and 2019, approximately 73% of calls for service in the months of July, August, and September were dispatched calls. The remaining 27% 

Calls for service
July, August, and September (combined)



Dispatched calls
July, August, and September (combined)



of calls were either addressed by communications staff through means that did not require dispatching a police officer, or the issues did not require police response.

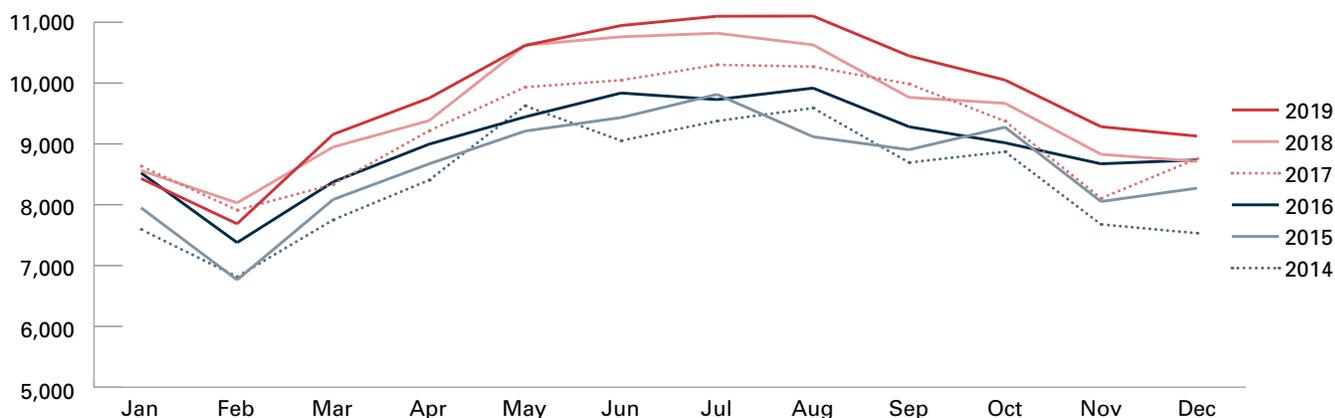
In 2019, SPS received a total of 23,855 dispatched calls in July, August, and September, which was 4% higher

than in 2018 and 11% higher than the previous 5-year average. (See Dispatched calls graph.)

Generally speaking, calls for service peak during summer months.

Calls for service

(by Month and Year) 2014 to 2019



Attention: The number scale above (the vertical axis) begins at 5,000 to reveal subtle variations.



Online reporting was introduced in February of 2011 to allow residents to file non-emergency reports at their convenience and reduce the number of dispatched calls for officers. The number of residents filing reports online has continued

Online reporting option saved over \$300,000

to increase since this option was introduced.

As of mid-December 2019, a total of 8,271 online reports were filed, saving over 6,000 hours of officer time (worth approximately \$330,840). This estimate is based on an average of 0.75 hours per call that would otherwise have been needed to respond to complaints.

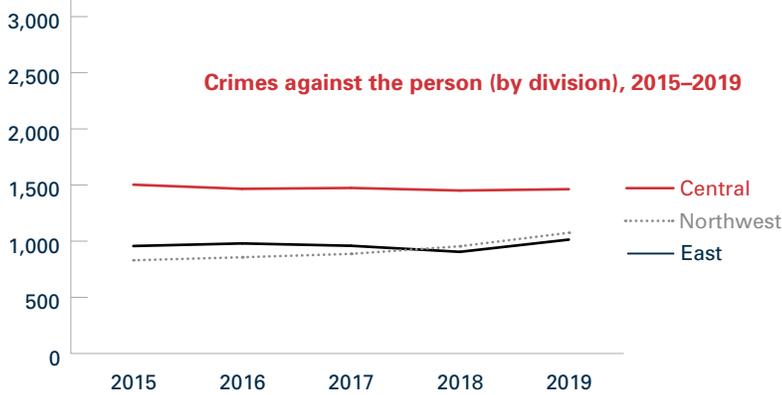
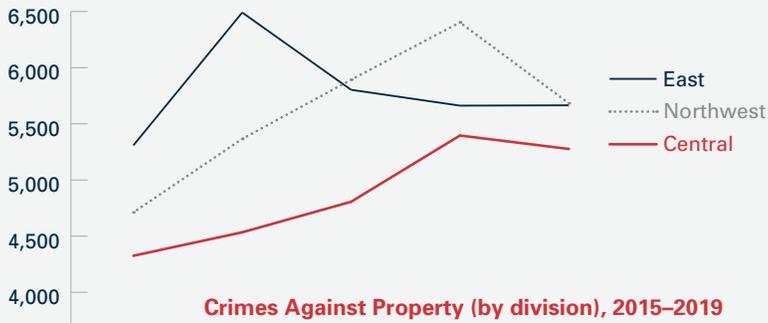
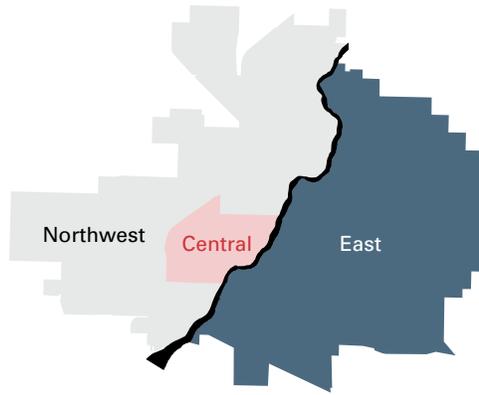
Residents can file online reports on the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) website or through the free SPS mobile app. For added convenience residents have the option to report minor complaints online. Computer terminals were installed in the SPS lobby to provide an option to waiting in line at the service centre.

What can I report online?

The following types of complaints can be reported online:

- Identity theft or fraudulent scams
- Theft (under \$5,000)
- Theft from motor vehicles (under \$5,000)
- Lost property (under \$5,000)
- Mischief / willful damage / graffiti
- Harassing communications
- Lost / stolen licence plate
- Supplemental reports

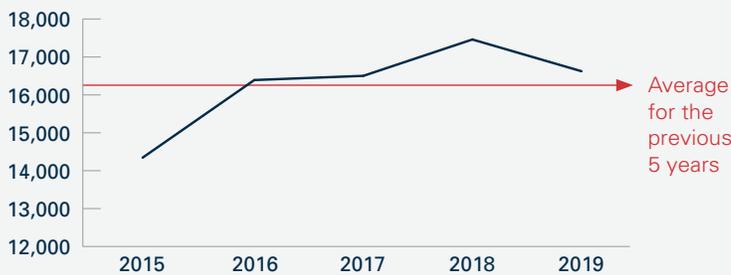
Crime Statistics



Crimes Against Property, 2019

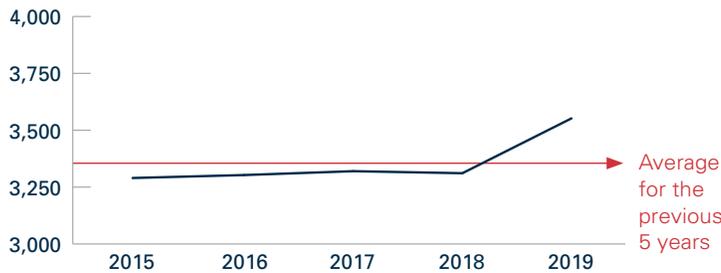
Break & enter (firearms)	14
Arson	71
Theft (over \$5000)	138
Possession of stolen property	478
Theft of motor vehicle	933
Graffiti	935
Break & enter (non-residential)	1,023
Break & enter (residential)	1,663
Fraud	2,032
Mischief / willful damage	2,541
Other theft (under \$5000)	7,480
Total	17,308

Total Crimes Against Property, 2015-2019



Attention:
The number scale above (the vertical axis) begins at 12,000 to reveal subtle variations.

Total Crimes Against the Person, 2015-2019



Attention:
The number scale above (the vertical axis) begins at 3,000 to reveal subtle variations.

Crimes Against the Person, 2019

Attempted murder	8
Homicides	16
Sex Trafficking	55
Other violent crimes	66
Kidnapping / abduction / hostage taking	67
Criminal harassment / stalking	108
Robbery	171
Armed robbery	187
Uttering threats	438
Sexual violations	486
Assaults	2,209
Total	3,811

NOTE: Statistics were taken from the Saskatoon Records Management System on March 6, 2020. Crime statistics are constantly being updated due to new information being received, changes in reporting procedures, and ongoing investigations. As a result, data may differ from previously published reports. For a better understanding of Saskatoon crime statistics, visit www.saskatoonpoliceservice.ca.



Sanctum Survivor challenge

Chief Cooper experienced homelessness for 36 hours



Among the 2019 Sanctum Survivor challenge participants were (left to right) Scott Livingstone (Saskatchewan Health Authority CEO), Peter Stoicheff (University of Saskatchewan president), and Troy Cooper (Saskatoon Police Service chief).

The Sanctum Survivor challenge is a fundraiser for the Sanctum Care Group, a non-profit that helps people living with and affected by HIV/AIDS in Saskatoon.

Sanctum Survivor challenges 10 local community leaders to experience homelessness for 36 hours. The goal is to increase awareness and understanding of the many challenges faced by people who experience poverty, homelessness, and chronic illness.

Participants are faced with different challenges devised by people who

have experienced homelessness. Each task aims to help participants understand the difficulties that are an everyday reality for those with HIV/AIDS who are homeless in Saskatoon but that society is often unaware of.

In an attempt to make this challenge as realistic as possible, participants wear donated clothes and shoes and are not allowed any personal belongings other than a phone to update the public on their journey. Participants must also rely on services provided by various

organizations around Saskatoon that specialize in assisting people experiencing poverty, homelessness, and chronic illness.

At the end of the 36 hours, a reception is held where the public can hear about each participant's journey.

Saskatoon Police Chief Troy Cooper participated in the 2019 Sanctum Survivor Challenge. He was partnered with University of Saskatchewan President Peter Stoicheff and was given the additional challenge of spending 36 hours in a wheelchair.

"The wheelchair was symbolic of the physical challenges people often face when they're struggling with things like addictions," said Chief Cooper. "For me, it was a way to experience a lot of those hardships people have to go through every day."

Sanctum Survivor is organized by the Sanctum Care Group, the charitable organization that opened Saskatchewan's first HIV transition care home and hospice in November 2015. The challenge raises much needed funds, awareness, and understanding of issues

faced by those living with HIV/AIDS in Saskatoon.

“I think about the Sanctum experience often because of the people I met and the organizations I encountered that the Saskatoon Police Service partners within healthcare and harm reduction and that we interact with regularly,” said Chief Cooper.

“It was a great opportunity for me to be exposed to the day-to-day operations at those services. When we’re asked questions about harm reduction initiatives and programs in the community, I feel I have a little bit more education around some of the responses I am giving and the direction the Saskatoon Police resources are taking.”

Since opening their doors, Sanctum Care Groups has expanded their programming to include:

- The Beehive (May 2017), a transitional apartment block for people living with HIV who require continued support in the community
- HART (summer 2017), an HIV/AIDS response team aimed at increasing supports and services for individuals receiving care in hospital
- Sanctum 1.5 (October 2018), a 10-bed care home that supports high-risk, HIV-positive pregnant women

“Sanctum is an incredible organization in terms of the work it does with harm reduction around the transmission of HIV. The fundraising that participants completed for Sanctum was worth all our efforts,” said Chief Cooper.

Sanctum Survivor 2019 raised over \$176,000 for the Sanctum Care Group.

Victim Services supports crime victims

The Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) Victim Services program provides education, information, support, and referrals to victims of crime to help them make the best choices for themselves in the immediate aftermath of a traumatic event and throughout the criminal justice process.

Staff and volunteers with the unit provide assistance with a wide range of incidents:

- **Personal crimes** such as assaults, sexual assaults, armed robberies, and criminal harassment
- **Property crimes** such as residential break and enters
- **Tragic events** such as suicides and fatal accidents

A significant number of the files they handle involve domestic violence and/or sexual assault, which is a strong indicator of the prevalence of these types of crime.

About 70% of their workload is devoted to victim service and direct client work, while the other 30% is devoted to outreach, cultural awareness, and community involvement. Last year, Victim Services participated in the Calling Home Ceremony and Feast honouring Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women

and Girls. This SPS event, held in May, was planned in partnership with the Saskatoon Tribal Council. The unit also participated in the 4th annual Rock Your Roots Walk for Reconciliation held in June. The event focuses on reconciliation by bringing together Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples and paves the way for a shared future.

Victim Services also plays a role in the Hope Restored Canada program, which exists to eradicate sexual exploitation and trafficking in Canada and to create a world where humanity is renewed and restored in healthy relationships.

Victim Services consists of:

- 2 staff members
- 2 Indigenous resource officers
- 1 missing persons liaison
- 1 victim services responder
- Approximately 40 volunteer support workers

Volunteer staff are an integral part of Victim Services. Calls for volunteers are generally held in the fall of each year, but volunteer training is done throughout the year to meet changing needs and continually improve best practices for working with victims.

Table 1: Number of clients served and files assigned, 2019

	Clients served	Files assigned
Victim services	2,636	2,924
Indigenous resource officers	727	886
Victim services responder	364	474
Missing person liaison	136	152
Totals	3,863	4,436



Cultural Resource Unit builds partnerships and understanding

The Cultural Resource Unit (CRU) strives to build partnerships and understanding within the community by providing service based on the core values of the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS):

Honesty	Compassion
Integrity	Commitment
Fairness	Professionalism
Respect	

Partnerships with Indigenous people and culturally diverse communities within Saskatoon increase awareness, improve communication between SPS and the community, and promote acceptance and social cohesion.

The CRU comprises 1 sergeant, 3 constables, and 1 Indigenous relations consultant (who is a civilian member).

The Indigenous relations consultant focuses on enhancing Indigenous relations within the community. The consultant also recommends prospective candidates to the Indigenous / diversity recruiter, and helps address barriers in our recruiting processes.

The focus of the Indigenous / diversity recruiting position, which was moved to the SPS Human

Resources section in 2019, is to increase the number of Indigenous people interested in a career in law enforcement by recruiting and mentoring potential applicants.

CRU officers attend 10 to 15 career fairs per year in hopes of attracting applications from minority groups. They also plan recruitment visits to a variety of groups.

Along with school resource officers and community liaison officers, CRU officers support Indigenous and ethnocultural communities in Saskatoon by attending various community events. These police officers attend and participate in community activities to build trust and positive relationships. Some of the events attended this year are:

- Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) Powwow
- Chinese New Year celebrations
- Annual Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, and Jewish celebrations
- Events within our LGBTQ2S+ community
- Numerous other powwows, ceremonies, and feasts

CRU officers act as school resource officers within Oskayak, Misbah, and the 3 French schools. These

officers are also involved with community school activities and events at Wanuskewin, Central Urban Métis Federation, Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Center, and White Buffalo Youth Lodge.

The CRU provides information on policing to First Nations and Métis organizations such as these:

- Saskatoon Tribal Council
- Central Urban Métis Federation
- Gabriel Dumont Institute
- Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology
- Dumont Technical Institute
- University of Saskatchewan Aboriginal Justice and Criminology Program
- Aboriginal Police Preparation program at Saskatchewan Polytechnic

The CRU also provides information to our growing ethnocultural communities through newcomer agencies like these:

- Newcomer Information Centre
- Saskatoon Open Door Society
- Global Gathering Place
- Saskatchewan Intercultural Association
- International Women of Saskatoon



Breakfast recognizes diversity in the community and in the Saskatoon Police Service

Every March, the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) hosts a breakfast to commemorate the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The intention is to recognize diversity in the community and our own police service. A speaker, generally a police officer, is invited to share their story with the audience. Presenters come from a variety of backgrounds and often have experience working in other countries.



The speaker at the March 2019 event was Constable John Langan from the SPS (centre). Also in the picture are Chief Troy Cooper (left) and Constable Derek Chesney (right).



New Canadian youth are recognized each year for their contributions to the community and are presented with an award to assist them with their future education.

Race Against Racism promotes inclusion and positive police-community relations

The Saskatoon Police Service's Cultural Resource Unit hosted the 9th annual Race Against Racism in September 2019. The event promotes inclusion, provides a positive environment for people of all backgrounds, and encourages positive police-community relations. It was organized in partnership with

settlement agencies (Global Gathering Place, Saskatoon Open Door Society, Saskatchewan Intercultural Association, Newcomer Information Centre, and International Women of Saskatoon), the Saskatoon Tribal Council, and Brainsport.

The 2019 race attracted close to 500 runners, walkers, and rollers





Peacekeeper Cadet Program

Developing connections with elementary students

The Saskatoon Police Peacekeeper Cadet Program began in October 2014 to help the Saskatoon Police Service develop connections with elementary students. It began in partnership with Saskatoon Public Schools and later expanded to include the Catholic School Division.

The program's overall goals are focused on building trust, physical fitness, and citizenship and culture. It is designed to:

- provide structure and discipline
- encourage individual goal setting, community involvement, and leadership
- inspire youth to stay in school and participate in organized sports.

While participating in weekly activities, cadets work with police officers, volunteers, Elders, and community partners. They are given volunteer opportunities because volunteerism teaches the importance of giving back to their community and is a vital aspect of any community cadet program.

Members of the Cultural Resource Unit met with youth from several elementary schools once a week at Princess Alexandra Community School.

In June 2019, the 5th Peacekeeper Cadet class celebrated their graduation. Congratulations to the 2019 Peacekeeper Cadets!

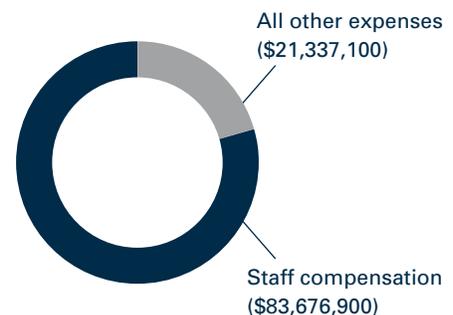
Race Against Racism . . . (continued from page 11)

who could choose between the 2.5 km or 5 km race. Proceeds from registration fees were shared among the settlement agencies.

Following the run, participants were invited to visit the Cultural Expo hosted in the same area. In addition to raising awareness for diversity, this race provides a positive environment for people of all ages, cultures, religions, and ethnic backgrounds to gather and promote an active healthy lifestyle.

At the race, participants were encouraged to "Cram the Cruiser." Non-perishable food items were stuffed into a police patrol car and donated to the Saskatoon Food Bank after the event.

2019 Operating Budget



The Saskatoon Police Service had a budget surplus of more than \$305,000 in 2019.

NOTE: Statistics on page 13 were taken from the Saskatoon Records Management System on March 12, 2020. Crime statistics are constantly being updated due to new information being received, changes in reporting procedures, and ongoing investigations. As a result, data may differ from previously published reports. For a better understanding of Saskatoon crime statistics, visit www.saskatoonpoliceservice.ca.

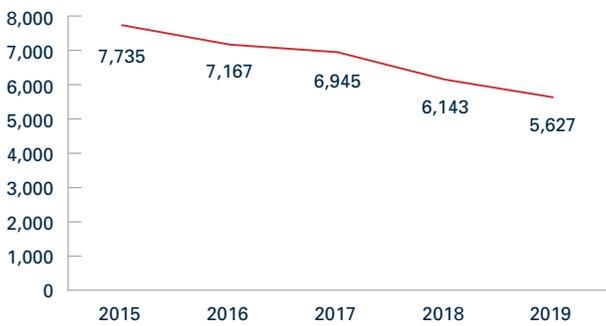


Traffic violations

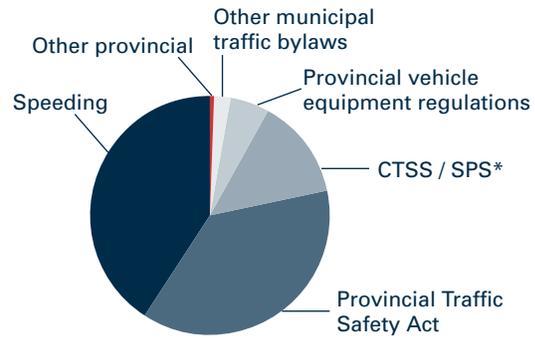
The Saskatoon Police Service issued fewer traffic tickets in 2019 than in 2018, a change largely attributed to the redeployment of Traffic Unit officers to assist patrol officers during one of the busiest summers on record in terms of calls for service and dispatched calls. (See *A very busy summer* on page 5.)

Total Collisions (2015–2019)

Collisions were down for the 5th year in a row



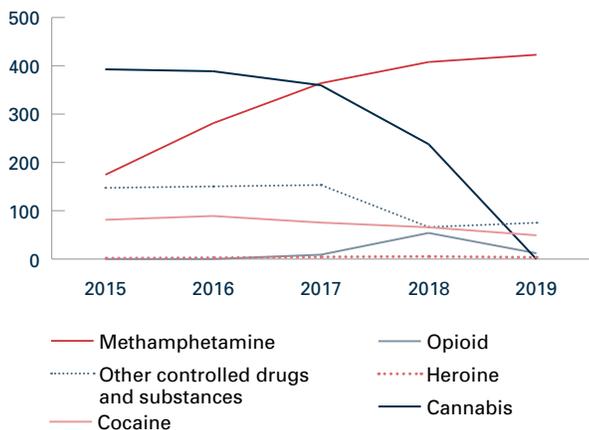
Traffic tickets issued (2019)



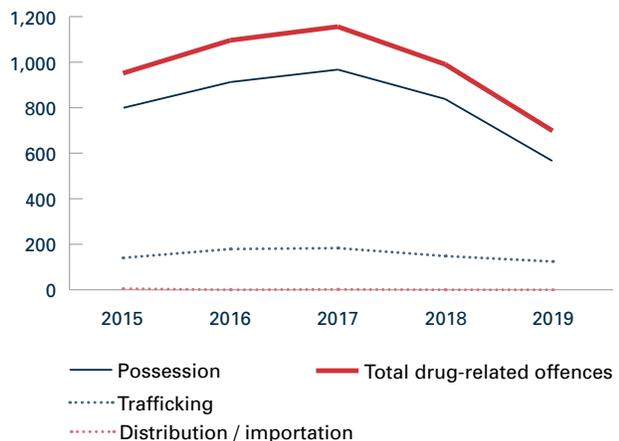
* Combined Traffic Services Saskatchewan (CTSS) is a joint SPS / RCMP initiative to target distracted and impaired driving and excessive speeding in key areas of the province.

Drug-related offences

Drug possession offences (2015–2019)



Drug-related offences (2015–2019)



International Missions

Canadian police are highly regarded

In 2019, 3 Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) members were deployed on international missions. Inspector Lisa Lafreniere was in Kyiv, Ukraine, and Staff Sergeant Nolan Berg and Sergeant Erin Coates were in Baghdad, Iraq. Following is a review of their respective missions.



Inspector Lisa Lafreniere

In late October 2018, Inspector Lisa Lafreniere was sent to Kyiv, Ukraine, as part of Canadian Police Mission in Ukraine (CPMU), which was established under the auspices of the Canadian Police Arrangement (CPA). CPA deployments are delivered by Public Safety Canada, Global Affairs Canada, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Several police agencies across Canada, including the SPS, support the National Police of Ukraine in security sector reform. Canadian police have been providing strategic advice and training to our Ukrainian counterparts since 2015.

Inspector Lafreniere spent twelve months as a police training advisor and team lead. Along with Canadian colleagues from other donor police services, she developed course material and delivered training to frontline police supervisors. With her team of 2 instructors and 2 interpreters, she deployed to various cities across the country



to deliver 5-day courses on facilitating adult learning to training officers and leadership for front-line supervisors to mid-level police supervisors.

Ukrainian police are eager to learn Canadian best practices and are curious about our culture, economy, landscape, and lifestyles. The use of interpreters enhanced the process, helped build relationships, and bridged cultural differences.

The SPS contribution to the mission in Ukraine was a valuable component of security-sector reform in Ukraine and demonstrated our gold standard of policing on an international stage.

Staff Sergeant Nolan Berg

Staff Sergeant Nolan Berg was grateful for the experience he gained as part of Canada's contribution to Police Task Force – Iraq.

"We were challenged to thrive in a militarized environment and teach a broad spectrum of practical skills and leadership concepts to Iraqi police officers," reported Staff Sergeant Berg.

With the help of local Arabic and Kurdish interpreters, Canadian police officers deployed to Police Task Force – Iraq have been developing and delivering key training for the Iraqi police and other security entities in areas such as:

- Community-based, intelligence-led policing
- Gender-sensitive policing
- Human rights
- Crime scene management
- Advanced criminal investigations
- Leadership development

Berg said the overall mission of shifting the policing culture to a modern, community-focused, service-delivery model is a difficult task, particularly since the domestic and geopolitical disruptions that occurred in Iraq at the end of 2019 and beginning of 2020.

Learning about the resilience of Iraqis (who have lived through war, economic and political turbulence, and the savagery of ISIS in their own country) and witnessing the vast differences between policing at home and abroad gave Berg an invaluable perspective and renewed his appreciation for being Canadian.



“Most of all, I observed how highly regarded Canadian police are, among the Iraqis and our coalition partners, as skilled instructors and capable police professionals,” he said.

Berg believes the successful contributions of the Saskatoon Police Service to international

police peacekeeping missions stem from experiences at home. “In our own city, we’ve learned the value of community partnerships and the significant impact of thoughtful leadership,” he said. “Future mission participation will allow us to teach the principles we successfully model at home to others abroad.”

Sergeant Erin Coates

Sergeant Erin Coates from the Saskatoon Police Service was deployed to Police Task Force – Iraq. She was the first female Canadian law enforcement officer deployed to Iraq in a police peace operations capacity.

Sergeant Coates was assigned to the Italian Carabinieri as part of a multinational coalition and delivered training to the Iraqi federal police force on topics such as:

- Human rights
- International law
- Code of conduct
- Values and ethics
- Community policing
- Gender mainstreaming
- Train-the-trainer programs
- Gender-based violence
- Domestic violence
- Conflict-related sexual assault
- Investigation techniques
- Interview techniques (including vulnerable people)

The community policing training was tailored to the Iraq environment, which included militias, tribes, and considerable corruption. To make the content more relevant to the students, lessons were adapted by Coates and other instructors based on the lessons learned from the classes. “Providing examples of challenges to policing in Canada didn’t mean anything to them,” said Coates.

“They see Canada as this magical place that has no problems, but Iraqi police are dealing with similar issues—drugs, theft, poverty, homelessness, terrorism, and violence against people. These issues have different root causes in Canada, and we have systems in place to address these problems that Iraq simply doesn’t yet have or may never have.”

Coates says she and her fellow trainers treated the Iraqis with respect and learned a lot from their

students. Based on her interactions and the connections she made with students, she believes they made a difference. At the start of the course, some students were reluctant and “didn’t want to be there,” but by the end, Coates said they “didn’t want to go home.”

The Iraqi students described the Canadian instructors as, “the best on human rights-related topics and the easiest to interact with,” said Coates. “This, for me, was the best compliment to hear.”

Describing life while on deployment, Coates said they were confined to their fortified camp. When they visited the nearby US base, they always travelled in armoured vehicles.

During downtime, she learned to keep herself occupied. “I made a point of reading and making full use of the gym facilities, both of which I did more of in Iraq than I would’ve been able to at home,” she said. “I learned to enjoy my small room and realized that you don’t need that much ‘stuff’ to survive.”

While her deployment to Iraq brought some sacrifices, she said it also brought benefits. “I have 





All-female police training

Both heartbreaking and empowering

While deployed to Iraq, Sergeant Coates was an instructor for a policing course for female police officers. She described her work as an instructor in the course as a profound experience.

The class size was smaller and she taught off-site at a location set aside for the all-female program. This provided opportunities not just to teach, but also to share experiences with other female police officers.

“Everyone knows storytelling is a powerful method to convey meaning, and the stories I heard from these Iraqi women were heartbreaking and empowering,” explained Coates. “I can’t overstate the degree of respect I have for these women who have committed themselves to taking on such a non-traditional vocation for females in Iraq because they believe in the importance of the work they need to do.”

Coates could not help comparing her own experience as a police officer in Canada with the stories she was hearing and what she was seeing first-hand. The women discovered both shared and unique victories and difficulties.

The experience she brought back to her workplace and her family resulted from her commitment, effort, and emotional investment in what she describes as a “unique opportunity” to take part in the training mission and especially the all-female training course.

“If there was ever a justification for going to Iraq, it was right there in the room with those brave Iraqi women,” she concludes.

grown as a person and learned what’s important to me,” she said. While she didn’t have a lot of control over her situation, she did learn to control her reaction to what was happening around her. “I learned what kind of leader I want to be,” she said.

Coates described her time in Iraq as “simply amazing and life-altering.” She said it would have been impossible to come away from her experience without a new perspective on that region and a renewed insight into life in Canada.

“As Canadians, we’re very lucky to live where we live,” noted Coates. “We’re all human and we all want safety, security, and to be loved.”

Personnel statistics



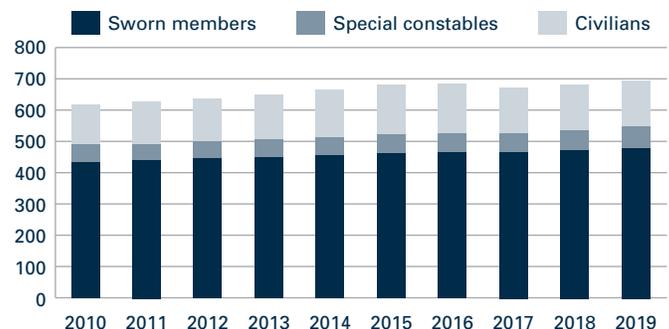
476 regular members
 147 civilians
 + 70 special constables

693 total strength

Average years of service (2015–2019)
Average age of SPS employees at retirement = 54



Number of SPS employees (2010–2019)



Guns & Gangs Unit

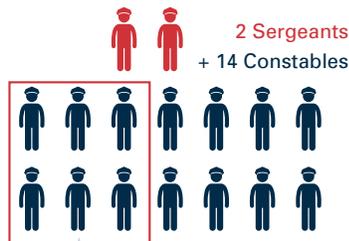
Making streets safer from gang activity

The Guns and Gangs Unit is made up of 2 teams, each with 1 sergeant and 7 constables. Together, they proactively work to make Saskatoon streets safer from gang activity.

The Saskatchewan Government funds 6 of the positions within the Guns and Gangs Unit. These officers are part of the following programs:

- **Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program (SHOCAP)** – provides intensive supervision and inter-agency case planning to work with designated young persons who are habitual offenders.
- **Violent Offender Interdiction Detail (VOID)** – proactive programming to monitor violent offenders released from jail to prevent them from reoffending.
- **High Risk Offender (HRO) Unit** – proactive programming to monitor high-risk offenders when they are released from jail to prevent them from reoffending.

In reality, this 16-person team monitors an estimated 0.1% of the population that's involved in or affiliated with gangs. It's a tiny portion of our population but, as you can see from the numbers in the adjacent chart on the previous page, this unit is busy.



6 positions are funded by the Government of Saskatchewan. Provincial funding is vital and allows police to address specialized areas of crime and public safety.

SHOCAP

A coordinated approach between agencies working with young persons who are **habitual offenders**.

VOID

Proactive programming to monitor **violent adult offenders** released back into the community to prevent them from reoffending.

0.1%

Estimated population involved in or affiliated with gangs

BY THE NUMBERS

832

Criminal charges

48

Firearms seized

350

Gang arrests

606

Warrants executed

489

Gang compliance checks

4,100+

Breach charges

- Undertaking
- Recognizance
- Probation
- Peace bond

Source: SPS Facebook post, Sept 25, 2019

Recruiting

Becoming a more diverse and representative workforce

Since 2002, the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) has become a significantly more diverse and representative workforce. The SPS now has 36 more Indigenous employees compared to 17 years ago, which is an increase of 120%. The SPS has also recruited 124 more women and 21 people from visible minorities in that same time frame.

Saskatoon Police Service welcomes new recruits

Graduates of recruit training class #79 returned to the Saskatoon Police Service after completing 20 weeks of training at Saskatchewan Police College in Regina. This group of new hires comprises people from all walks of life—former school teachers, security guards, paramedics, corrections workers, commerce graduates, advertising employees, and oil industry employees.

During their 20 weeks of training, the new recruits learned about a range of topics:

- Criminal law
- Defensive tactics
- Firearms
- Powers of arrest
- Mental health
- Restorative justice
- Cultural diversity

They flawlessly marched in drills and participated in the most





rigorous and demanding physical-fitness training of their lives. They are all prepared to serve our community and are looking forward to making a difference in their new careers as police officers. They were assigned to their platoons as of December 21, 2019.

The Saskatoon Police Service welcomes its new recruit class.



New K9 dogs

Last year, the Saskatoon Police Service announced the addition of three new K9 police dogs to the service. Police service dogs Bam, Yanga, and Hutch were presented with their badges after they completed their training in September.

Exemplary Service Awards

Forty-Year Bar

Inspector

- Larry Vols

Forty Years' Service

Special constable

- Sandra Braithwaite

Thirty-Year Bar

Inspector

- Russ Friesen

Thirty Years' Service

- Tracey Hendriks
- Sandy Karst

Special constable

- Kathy Richards

Twenty Years' Service

- Shannon Goldsberry
- Laurel Gareau
- Rhonda Henry

Special constable

- Michelle Nemanishen

Twenty-Year Medal

Staff sergeants

- Patrick Barbar
- Tim Failler
- Tony Nadon
- Matthew Ward

Sergeants

- Bryce Baillargeon
- Deanne Bakker
- Tony Boensch
- Sue Deibert
- Carla Garvie
- Sherri Hunchak
- Tyson Lavallee
- Terry Laverty
- Scot Martin
- Rolanda McAvoy
- Keith Meckelborg
- Kory Ochitwa
- Tisha Rae Stonehouse
- Joe Tataryn

Constable

- Lindsey Wall

Chief's Award for Community Service

- Shonan Awasis
- Renes Bill
- Danielle Borix
- Colin Guillou
- Colleen McGrath
- Tim Yee

Constables

- Ryan Crawford
- Jody Culbert

Chief's Award of Excellence

Sergeants

- Grant Linklater
- Chad Malanowich
- Jason Worobec

Constables

- Michael Armbruster
- Derek Chesney
- Chris Hobman
- Dylan Kemp
- Cole Miklautsch
- Adam Shoffner
- Kyle Smart
- Jing Xiao
- Kelsey Yurach

Superintendent's Award of Commendation

- Julie Clark
- Kelsie Fraser

Staff sergeant

- Patrick Barbar

Retired sergeant

- Terry Geier

Sergeant

- James Campbell

Constables

- Cy Bray
- Ryan Crawford
- Shelby Georget
- Molly Glass
- Tyson Holeha
- Eric Jelinski
- Mark Koch
- Beth Kostur
- Gilbert Madsen
- Chris Martin
- Shelby McLean
- Mark Powers
- Andrew Ritza
- Michael Scanlan
- Jamir Walker

Special Constable

- Karin Martel

Chief's Team Award

Staff sergeants

- Richard Bueckert

Constables

- Jeffrey Bouvier
- Brennen Carter
- Thomas Forsyth
- Dylan Kemp
- Jonathan Mann
- Macaully Senger
- Alisha Stewart
- Jason Tomaz

2019 Excellence in Policing Services Awards

Excellence in Policing Services Awards celebrate exemplary service provided by police members in the province of Saskatchewan every year. The following Saskatoon Police Service members were recognized when the awards were presented at the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police Mess Dinner in Weyburn, SK, on April 30, 2019.

- **Ashley Smith** received both the Leadership Award and the prestigious Recognition Award for her representation of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police at the Missing and

Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls National Inquiry.

- **Retired Deputy Chief Jeff Bent** received the Lifetime Achievement Award for exemplary performance throughout his policing career with both the Saskatoon Police Service and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
- **Retired Chief Clive Weighill** received the Lifetime Achievement Award for exemplary performance throughout his policing career with both the Saskatoon Police Service and the Regina Police Service.

Fixed-wing Operator Award

Constable Christina Holovach was presented the Fixed-wing Operator Award in July 2019 by the Airborne Public Safety Foundation in Omaha, NB. This award recognizes a pilot or crew member whose performance of their duties using a fixed-wing aircraft has had a significant impact on the operation of their agency.

On February 18, 2019, Constable Holovach was on duty when the Air Support Unit was dispatched to assist the North Battleford Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) in their search for a missing 66-year-old, legally blind man who had not been heard from since walking away from his home 12 hours earlier in -34° C weather.

After a systematic search of approximately 30 square kilometres, Constable Holovach located the missing man in a wooded area. She then guided a search team to his location and the man was found alive. Constable Holovach is credited with saving this man's life.

Métis Leadership and Professions Award

Angela Daigneault, Saskatoon Police Service's Indigenous relations consultant, received the Leadership and Professions Award at the Métis Cultural Days Gala on September 5, 2019. This award recognizes female Métis leaders in the professional and business sector whose innovations have created positive change and who are role models in their career and community involvement.

Lieutenant Governor's Vice-regal Commendation

Inspector Lorne Constantinoff was presented with the Lieutenant Governor's Vice-regal Commendation in July. This is a very special recognition awarded to those who performed commendable acts in the course of their duties that have benefited the office of a lieutenant governor.

Royal Canadian Humane Association Bravery Awards

A number of Saskatoon Police Service members received Canada Bravery Awards from the Royal Canadian Humane Association in 2019.

In October 2019, the following constables were recognized for their self-sacrificing efforts to save the life of a man who was trapped in a burning vehicle on April 8, 2018:

- **Cameron Brown**
- **Tara Danielson**
- **Andrew Marek**
- **Kai Noesgaard**
- **Christopher Martin**

According to supervisors on the scene, the driver would certainly have died if the officers had not performed life-saving measures.

MADD Canada/ Van de Vorst Family Award

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Canada, Students Against Drinking and Driving (SADD) Saskatchewan, and Saskatchewan Government Insurance (SGI) launched the Van de Vorst Family Award to support frontline officers in their efforts to reduce the number of people killed and injured by impaired drivers. The award honours Jordan and Chanda Van de Vorst and their children, Kamryn and Miguire, who were killed by an impaired driver in 2016.

Saskatoon Police Services **Constable Matthew Hartery** and **former Constable Matthew Sutherland** received this recognition for having each laid 9 impaired driving charges in the previous calendar year.



2019 Top Employer

For the 8th consecutive year, the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) was named a Saskatchewan Top Employer in 2019.

Winners were chosen based on several factors:

- Benefits
- Educational subsidies
- Physical workplace
- Community involvement
- Workplace atmosphere
- Career diversity
- Training and skill development

"The Saskatoon Police Service is a lifelong learning environment," says Chief Troy Cooper. "If there's education you want to pursue on your own, we have programs to provide assistance. Our officers often want to take university courses in criminology, sociology, or even the arts."

The SPS was among 29 Saskatchewan companies chosen in the annual competition.



saskatoonpolice.ca