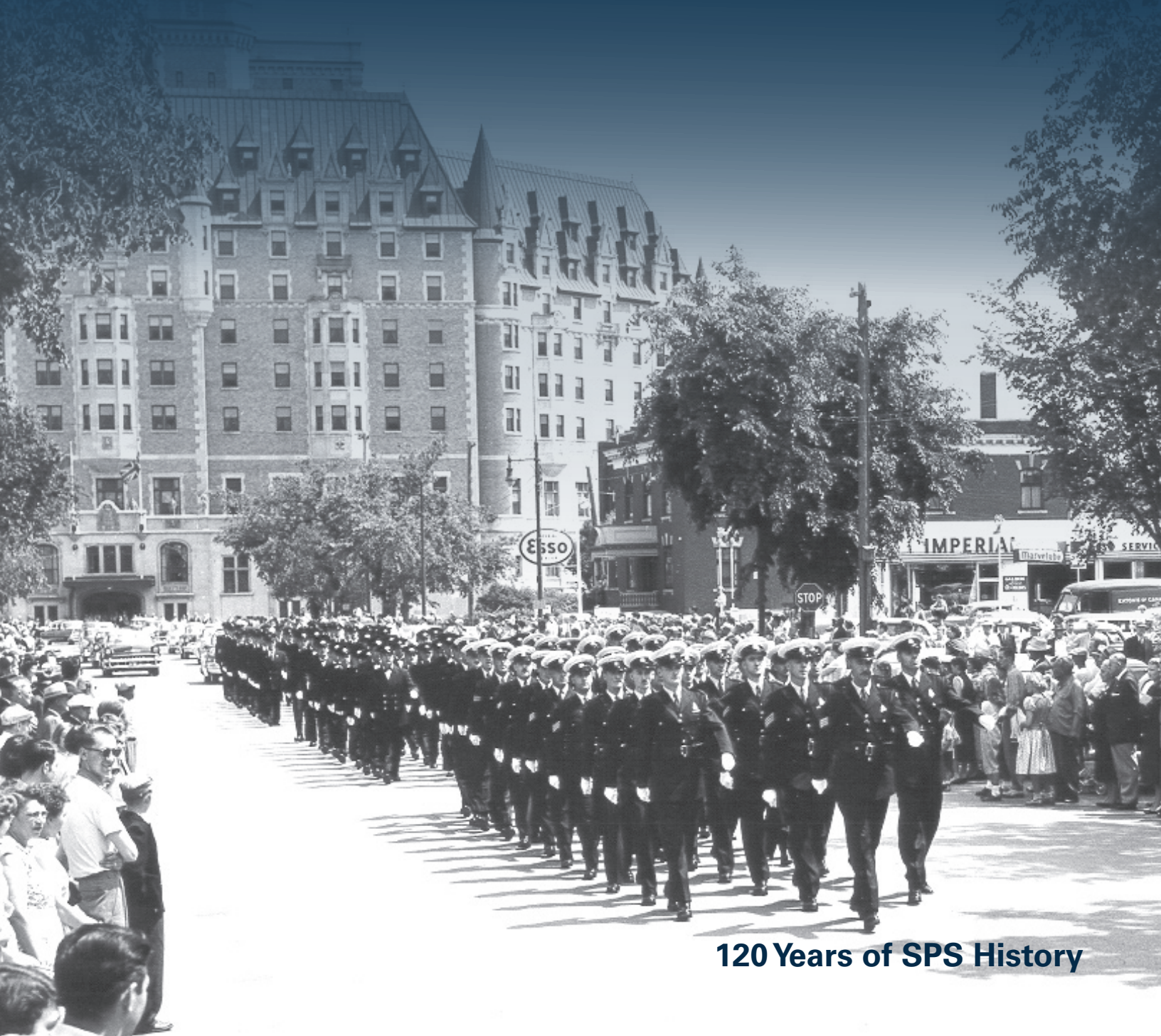




**SASKATOON** \_\_\_\_\_  
**POLICE SERVICE**  
BE THE DIFFERENCE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023



**120 Years of SPS History**

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## VISION

To continually improve community safety

## MISSION

As part of the community, we will provide service based on excellence to ensure a safe and secure environment

## VALUES

Honesty | Integrity | Compassion | Fairness | Commitment | Respect | Professionalism



# CHIEF'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) located on Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Métis. Thank you for reading our annual report. This year we are highlighting the many activities devoted to serving the people of Saskatoon. All employees of our Service recognize the importance of forging partnerships in all communities including First Nations, Métis, new Canadians, and the LBTO2S+. Our work with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner exemplifies our commitment to learning and growing.

The one constant factor in 2023 has been change. With the retirement of Chief Cooper, Deputy Chief Yuzdepski and Deputy Chief Huisman we experienced great change in the organization's leadership. However, with change comes great opportunities for growth amongst our leadership team. We look forward to the Board of Police Commissioners' selection of our next Chief of Police.

The Service continues to evolve in service to the community. With funding from the Province of Saskatchewan we have increased the number of Alternative Response Officers, specifically deploying them to areas downtown and shelter sites. Our response to shelter sites has taught us that we need to hear more from communities and their concerns about safety in their homes. We take pride in providing service to our community through professionalism and accountability to prevent, detect and investigate crime; our goal is to reduce victimization and provide a safe and secure environment for all people.

The Service experienced tragedy in 2023 with the tragic deaths of three valuable people in our policing family. From this we have undertaken a review of our Wellness Programs with the focus of creating a series of programs intended to support our employees as they support our community. Our employees serve their community every day with dedication and selflessness, supporting them is a priority for the SPS.



**Chief Haye**

# SASKATOON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS



The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners provides objective oversight of the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) and serves as a conduit between the Service and the public.

## The Board has three goals:

- 1** To provide effective and objective oversight of the SPS.
- 2** To be a highly effective conduit between the public and the SPS.
- 3** To strengthen the culture of community safety through effective and efficient Police Commission governance and operation.

The mission of the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners is to strengthen the culture of community safety in Saskatoon.

The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners consists of the Mayor, two members of Saskatoon City Council and four members of the public.

2023 was the last year for Police Board of Commissioner's Chair, Jo Custead and Vice-Chair Kearney Healy to serve on the Board as governance rules limit Board members to six-year terms. The SPS thanks them for their support and dedication over the past six years and wishes them the best in their future endeavours.



# 2023 COMMISSION MEMBERS:

The SPS would like to thank all current and past Board members for their service to the citizens of Saskatoon.  
**In 2023 Commission members were:**



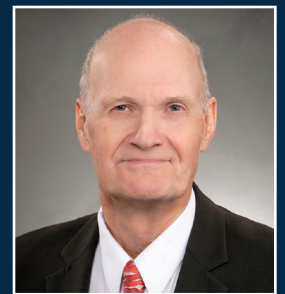
Commissioner  
**J. Custead, Chair**



Commissioner  
**Mayor C. Clark**



Commissioner  
**S. Greyeyes**



Commissioner  
**K. Healy**



Commissioner  
**Z. Jeffries**



Commissioner  
**B. Penner**



Commissioner  
**H. Gough**

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The Board appreciates hearing from members of the community. Anyone wishing to address the Board at one of its public meetings can contact the Board by email at [board@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:board@saskatoonpolicecommission.com) or by letter addressed to:

**Secretary, Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners**  
**c/o City Clerk's Office**  
**222 3rd Ave N**  
**Saskatoon SK S7K 0J5**

For more information on the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners, please see their [website](#).

# STRATEGIC THEMES

The 2020-2024 SPS Strategic Plan outlines five Strategic Themes which have guided police work throughout 2023.

The following table outlines the themes and goals contained in the [2020-2024 SPS Strategic Plan](#):

STRATEGIC PLAN THEMES	GOALS
<b><u>Crime and Safety</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop and implement effective prevention, intervention and suppression strategies to combat the changing facets of crime and its cause;</li><li>• Maintain core policing operations and address community concerns that affect public safety.</li></ul>
<b><u>Our People</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote a healthy work environment and a culture of learning to ensure members reach their full potential;</li><li>• Resource a growing and diverse city to ensure our members are effective and safe.</li></ul>
<b><u>Partnerships</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enrich the relationships between the Saskatoon Police Service and the many diverse communities that we serve;</li><li>• Work with all levels of government to develop solutions to address community safety, health and social challenges.</li></ul>
<b><u>Communication</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure accessibility and enhance communications with the public, utilize communication to maintain transparency and public trust;</li><li>• Foster a culture of engagement and collaboration through improved internal communications.</li></ul>
<b><u>Innovation</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure sustainability by developing leading practices and maintaining an innovative Service;</li><li>• Utilize technology to increase effectiveness and efficiency.</li></ul>



# BUDGET

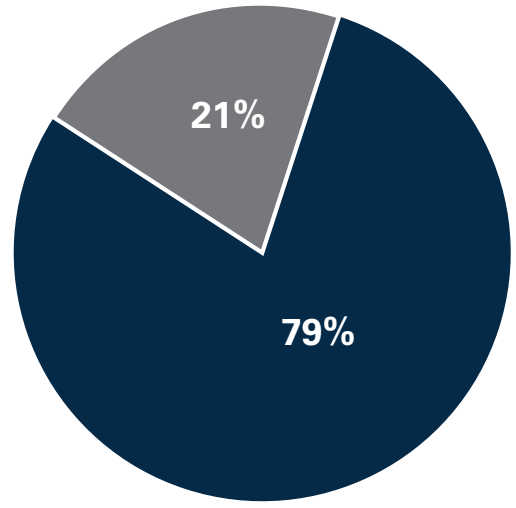
In November of 2023, the Board of Police Commissioners presented to City Council the 2024 and 2025 two-year budget. Council approved the two-year budget, which means the 2024 budget is approved and the 2025 budget will be reconsidered in late 2024 for reapproval. Legislation requires an annual budget approval process.

**Some of the highlights of the 2024 budget approval were:**

- An additional 4 Patrol Constables and 3 Community Mobilization Unit Constables were approved;
- 5 additional Alternative Response Officers were approved, with funding support from the Provincial government;
- 1 Human Resources Consultant was added, to better support reintegration of officers who have been absent from work for a period of time, and 1 Payroll Clerk was added to help support time keeping duties;
- Other key changes were an increase in the cost of vehicle rentals from the City (\$163,000), increased fuel costs (\$151,700) and other primarily inflationary costs resources and equipment already used by the Service;
- Of the \$3.6M of capital projects approved, 85% of the funds are used for replacing things that have passed their serviceable life, with the other 15% expanding equipment to support a growing City.
  - Projects included replacing service-issued sidearms, changing from a .40 calibre to a 9 mm, which will not affect operations but will save money in the longer term, and replacing the SPS HQ CCTV security camera system.

**2023 Fiscal Results**

<b>Compensation</b>	\$ 100,720,500
<b>All Other Expenses</b>	\$ 26,051,600
<b>Offset by Revenues of</b>	\$ (13,307,900)
<b>Total Net Expenditures</b>	\$ 113,429,200



<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #1a3d4d; margin-right: 5px;"></span> Compensation \$100,721,500	<span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 15px; background-color: #808080; margin-right: 5px;"></span> All Other Expenses \$26,051,600
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**Savings of \$294,900 were returned to the City and included in their final year-end financial position.**

# 120 YEARS OF SPS HISTORY



The Saskatoon Police Service celebrated its 120th year of policing and 50th year of women in policing in 2023. Established in 1903, the SPS began serving Saskatoon from the basement of City Hall. Now located at a state-of-the-art headquarters on 25th Street East, the SPS has continued to evolve throughout the years to be reflective of the community it serves. In recognition of its 120th year, the SPS hosted a commemorative BBQ featuring displays and demonstrations from community safety partners.

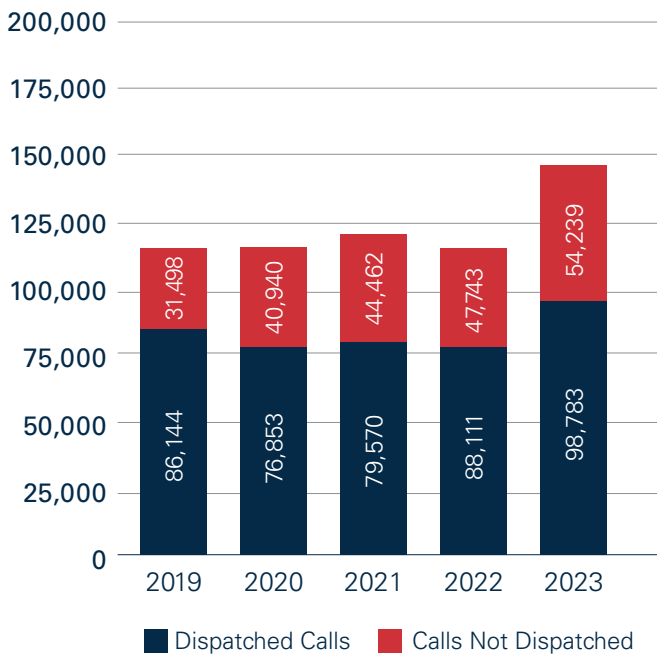




# CRIME OVERVIEW

Overall calls for service to the SPS increased by 12.6% in 2023, surpassing 150,000.

## CALLS FOR SERVICE

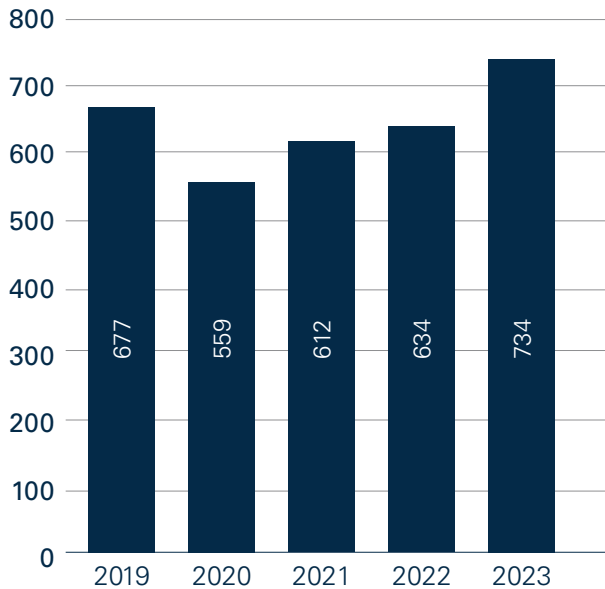


## Top 5 most common types of Calls for Service received by the SPS (initial call type):

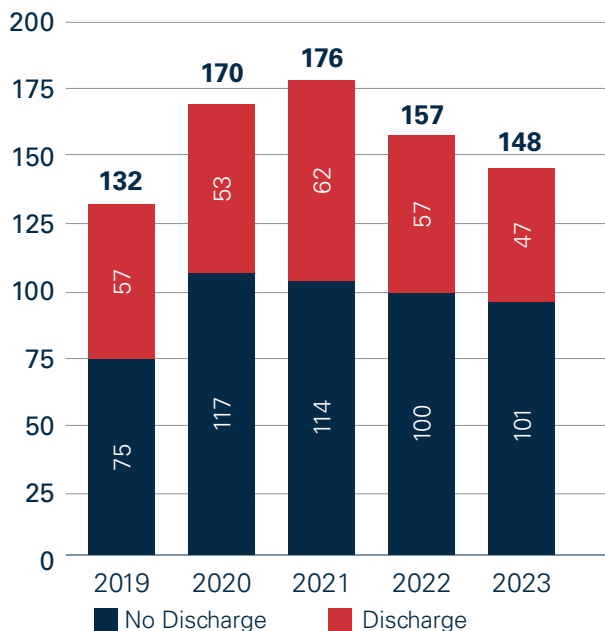
- Need Ambulance
- Suspicious Person
- Disturbance
- Domestic
- Missing Person

	2023	2022	Average (2018-2022)
<b>Crimes Against the Person</b>	<b>4,435</b>	<b>4,131</b>	<b>3,878</b>
Homicides	12	12	12
Attempted Murder	4	5	6
Sexual Violations	483	428	438
Commodification of Sex Activity	10	20	34
Assaults	2,694	2,494	2,283
Robbery total	438	364	334
Criminal Harassment/Stalking	186	190	162
Uttering Threats	398	441	457
Kidnapping/Abduction/Hostage Taking	64	67	70
Other Violent Crimes	145	110	82
<b>Property Crimes</b>	<b>17,974</b>	<b>16,820</b>	<b>16,420</b>
Arson	171	125	103
Break & Enter Residential Prop	740	892	925
Break & Enter Residential Prop (Detached)	591	482	546
Break & Enter - Non-Residential	1,087	1,156	1,043
Break & Enter - Firearms	25	12	15
Theft Over \$5000	321	257	161
Other Theft Under \$5000	8,074	7,307	7,038
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1,078	1,102	990
Possession of Stolen Property	391	402	431
Fraud	2,228	2,194	2,056
Graffiti	304	260	539
Mischief/Willful Damage	2,964	2,631	2,573
<b>Other Crimes</b>	<b>10,993</b>	<b>9,746</b>	<b>9,930</b>
Controlled Drug and Substance Act	385	524	762
Weapons Possession	943	818	852
Firearm Administration	27	30	30
Other Criminal Code	9,004	7,629	7,558
Criminal Code Traffic Violations	634	745	728
<b>Other Traffic</b>			
Dangerous Operation of Motor Vehicle	285	278	255
Impaired Operation of Motor Vehicle	252	354	365
Other Criminal Code Traffic	97	113	108

## NUMBER OF SEIZED FIREARMS



Number of occurrences where the most serious weapon (MSW) present was a firearm; including discharged and not.



## PROTESTS/DEMONSTRATIONS

Protests became more frequent in 2023. While the SPS recognizes charter rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly, police monitor protests to ensure public safety. The role of police in protests is to preserve the peace and maintain public safety while protecting the rights of people to express their beliefs. In an effort to balance these demands, the SPS created the Police Liaison Team (PLT) in 2023, whose members communicate with protest organizers at all stages. The PLT works alongside the Public Safety Unit (PSU), Traffic Unit and Patrol to monitor protest activity to ensure the safety of all.

At times, protests require special deployments if the PSU, Traffic, Scribes and the PLT. In 2023, nearly 100 deployments were made requiring hundreds of on duty hours and approximately 1000 hours of call-out and overtime.

## GRANDPARENT SCAMS

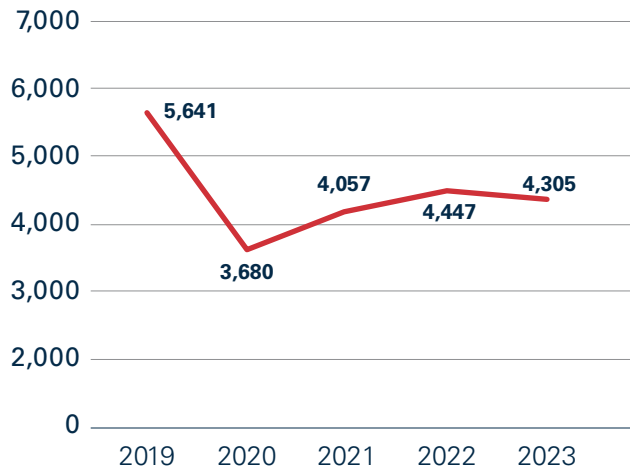
The Family/Grandparent Emergency Scam involves a potential victim, often an older and/or vulnerable adult, receiving a phone call from someone claiming to be a family member in an emergency and requiring money for various purposes. The fraudsters may also work in tandem and connect the victim to another person claiming to be a police officer, lawyer, doctor, or representative of another profession. The payment is often requested as cash, gift cards, or cryptocurrency. This is a scam! Any legitimate authority would never make such requests.

On three separate occasions, the Economic Crime Section was able to arrest and charge individuals for this type of fraud, laying 70 Criminal Code charges involving over 40 victims. This type of scam instills panic and fear to coerce the victim into complying with their request. If you receive a suspicious phone call, ask questions to verify the caller's identity and refrain from offering additional details about yourself or your loved ones. Alternatively, hang up and call that family member or law enforcement agency directly to verify the information. Fraudsters leverage urgency and panic to coerce the victim into complying with their requests and demands. Always use extreme caution, especially when being asked to send any form of currency.

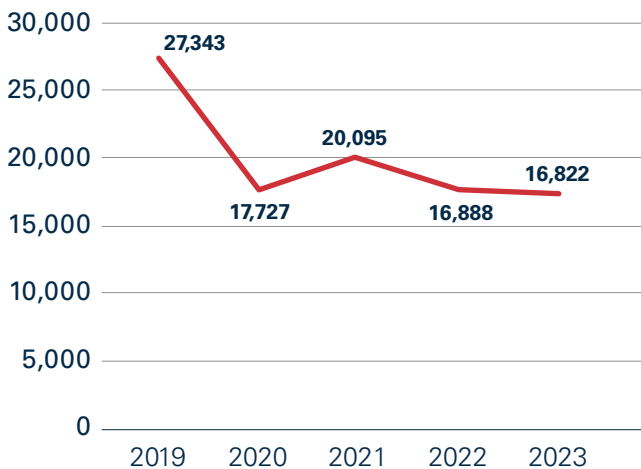


## TRAFFIC SAFETY

### TOTAL COLLISIONS



### TOTAL TRAFFIC TICKETS ISSUED



## ARRESTS IN HISTORICAL HOMICIDE

July 8th, 2004 Darren Greschuk reported that he and his wife had been sleeping in their home on Avenue J South, when a man with a gun entered their home, demanded money and shot him. His wife managed to escape and hide until police arrived while Greschuk was transported to the hospital where he later succumbed to his injuries. Following the dedicated work of Major Crime investigators and the Historical Unit, two men were arrested in 2023 in connection with the 2006 historical homicide of Darren Greschuk. A 48 year-old-man from British Columbia was charged with second degree murder and a 45-year-old Saskatoon man was charged with manslaughter. A third man was arrested in January, 2024 and charged with Accessory After the Fact to Murder. No further arrests are expected in relation to this homicide investigation.

## GUNS & GANGS

The Guns & Gangs Unit is dedicated to disrupting and dismantling gangs, and addressing violence through prevention, intervention and enforcement. Their investigations are crucial to combatting organized crime in Saskatoon and often result in large seizures of weapons and/or drugs. One noteworthy case is outlined below.



On May 12, 2023, the Guns and Gangs Unit concluded a drug trafficking investigation involving firearms. During the execution of a search warrant at a residence in Martensville, a male suspect attempted to flee but was apprehended a short distance away with the help of the Canine Unit. The 38-year-old man was in possession of a large amount of methamphetamine, and cash.

Search warrants were executed on the Martensville address as well as a Saskatoon residence allowing investigators to locate and seize:

- 4 firearms (3 non-restricted and one prohibited)
- Ammunition
- 463 grams of methamphetamine
- 12.46 grams of cocaine, 8.62 grams of psilocybin (mushrooms)
- 68 hydromorphone pills
- 99 Xanax pills
- \$2,376 CAD
- Other weapons
- 2017 GMC Denali
- 2007 Lexus IS350

A total of 43 charges were laid against the two suspects in this investigation.

## **BREAK AND ENTER UNIT**

In August of 2023, The Break and Enter Unit laid 71 charges against an individual for a series of break and enters and thefts to businesses dating back to January of 2023. The incidents all occurred around the areas of 8th Street East, Broadway Avenue, and Louise Avenue, resulting in the theft of electronics and several thousand dollars in cash and gift cards.

After further investigation and with assistance from businesses, video identified the suspect supporting the charges laid.

The suspect was arrested on July 7, 2023 and found to be in possession of break and enter tools.

The 32-year-old male was charged with a total of 71 charges, including Break and Enter and Theft, Possession of Break and Enter Tools, Committing an Indictable Offence by Concealing Identity, and Mischief.

## **DRUG UNIT**

The SPS Drug Unit concluded a number of successful investigations in 2023, resulting in numerous charges and seizures. One of these investigations is outlined below.



On January 9, 2023, the Drug and Tactical Support Units took enforcement action and executed search warrants on properties located in the 1900 block of 7th Street East, 900 block of Pringle Crescent, and 700 block of Hart Road where investigators seized:

- 20,285 grams of methamphetamine packaged in one- and two-kilogram quantities
- 8,040 grams of cannabis packaged in half-kilogram quantities
- 700+ oxycodone pills
- 1,038 grams of buffing agent
- \$12,940 CAD
- Modified fully automatic prohibited Glock 9mm handgun with extended magazine



- Multiple mobile phones
- Paraphernalia consistent with drug trafficking

As a result of investigation, three men, age 25, 26, and 36, have collectively faced a combination of charges, including:

- Trafficking in Methamphetamine
- Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking in Methamphetamine, Oxycodone, and Cannabis
- Possession of the Proceeds of Crime Over/ Under \$5,000
- Several firearms-related charges

## **VICE UNIT**



The Vice Unit made a substantial seizure of illegal tobacco products following the execution of two search warrants. On June 6 2023, police conducted a traffic stop in the 1900 block of Kenderdine Road on a vehicle being operated by a 59-year-old Saskatoon man suspected of trafficking illegal tobacco products. He was arrested without incident and a search of the vehicle found illegal tobacco products and articles consistent with trafficking inside. Shortly after, a search warrant was executed at an address in the 200 block of Epp Place. As a result of investigation, police seized:

- over 500,000 illegal cigarettes
- a 2010 Lexus RX350
- a 2010 Jeep Patriot
- \$24,624 CAD

The Vice Unit executed a second search warrant on June 7, 2023 at a residence in the 100 block of Fairbrother Court where investigators seized an additional 450,000 cigarettes.

## **CRIME REDUCTION TEAM**

The provincially funded Crime Reduction Team (CRT) investigates gang violence, illegal firearms, drug trafficking, property crime and rural crime.



One noteworthy investigation focused on a “dial-a-dope” operation. Which resulted in charges against a 59-year-old female and a 39-year-old male of Trafficking Cocaine, Possession of Cocaine for the Purpose of Trafficking, Proceeds of Crime Over \$5000, and numerous-firearms related offences.

With the assistance of the Tactical Support Unit and other officers from Criminal Investigations, a high-risk traffic stop was conducted that resulted in two search warrants being executed at residences in the 500 block of Candle Way and 3900 block of Taylor Street East. As a result, investigators seized 17 firearms, approximately 2,000 rounds of various ammunition, approximately \$28,800 in Canadian currency, approximately \$2,800 in American currency, 237 grams of cocaine packaged for distribution, paraphernalia consistent with the trafficking of drugs and other offence-related property.

# DETENTION PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

In 2023, the SPS renewed its service contract for Medavie Health Services West to continue providing full-time paramedics on rotating shifts in SPS Detention to ensure each person is fit to stay in custody. These paramedics also have direct access to a Community Paramedic, who attends SPS headquarters twice daily and can provide early intervention for addictions and other issues, assisting some of Saskatoon's most vulnerable people with health and safety concerns. Detention Paramedics provide clinical assessments and diagnostics, physician/pharmacy consults, emergency department supports, administration

of intravenous fluids and medications, vital sign monitoring, wellness checks, pain and withdrawal symptom management, prescription medication assistance and can connect individuals to further supports/programs in the community.

<b>Total Intakes</b>	10,710
<b>Total Visual/Verbal Assessments</b>	8,952
<b>Total Hands On Assessments</b>	1,758
<b>Narcan Administrations</b>	7
<b>Total Transports to Hospital</b>	123

## NEW INITIATIVES

### PODCAST



On December 15, 2023, the SPS released its first ever podcast titled *Deals, Debts and Death: The Disappearance of Kandice Singbeil*, which explores the 32-year-old woman's 2015 unsolved disappearance. The five-part series

explores Kandice's life and the investigation into her disappearance, and features interviews with Kandice's family, retired and current SPS investigators, and other community members. The introduction of the podcast utilizes new communications mediums to maximize reach and generate discussion, understanding and hopefully new leads. It also gives some insight to the hard work that officers put into missing persons investigations. As of March 31, 2024, the podcast has been downloaded over 51,500 times and can be accessed wherever you get your podcasts or from the SPS [website](#).

### Office of the Treaty Commissioner Recommendations

In September of 2022 the SPS entered into an agreement with the Office of the Treaty Commissioner (OTC) to work in collaboration on a strategic initiative to develop authentic and measurable indicators and initiatives to support the growth of our employees and the organization in the areas of Truth, Reconciliation, and Treaty Implementation. The result is a report including 23 Plans for Action throughout the organization and a clear path forward over the next few years.



# EVENTS

## ROUND DANCE/FEAST TO HONOUR ALL MMIWG2S+ AND THE LOVED ONES LEFT BEHIND

On November 8, 2023 the Equity and Cultural Engagement Unit with the help of several community organizations and partnerships, hosted their first annual Feast and Round Dance at the Saskatoon Police Service headquarters. The Feast and Round Dance, which brought in approximately 300 community members, was planned around raising awareness to MMIWG2S+ issues and in response to the MMIWG2S+ Call for Justice 9.2. The Feast and Round Dance surrounded families and loved ones who have been impacted by the tragedies of MMIWG2S+ while allowing time to honour, reflect and mourn those who have been murdered or are still missing.



## PEACE AND RESPECT AWARDS

On June 1, 2023, the Equity and Cultural Engagement Unit hosted the first Peace and Respect Awards. The event, which was created through the Saskatoon Police Service Indigenous Women and Two-Spirit+ Advisory Circle, was designed to recognize youth who actively promote peace and respect in their schools and community. 25-Grade 5 students from inner-city schools were the recipients of the Peace and Respect awards. The children, along with their families, teachers, schools and community members, were celebrated

and recognized for their continued peace, respect, kindness and inclusive behaviour.

## MEET THE MOTOR COPS



A BBQ called Meet the Motor Cops was organized by the SPS, giving the public an opportunity to meet the Traffic Unit and the Community Engagement Division along with some friends from Mothers Against Drunk Driving Saskatoon (MADD). The RCMP also rode in on their Harley Davidsons to share the afternoon. Hundreds of Hot Dogs were given away and about 400 people got the opportunity to meet police officers, see the Alcohol and Drug Testing Van and learn about MADD.



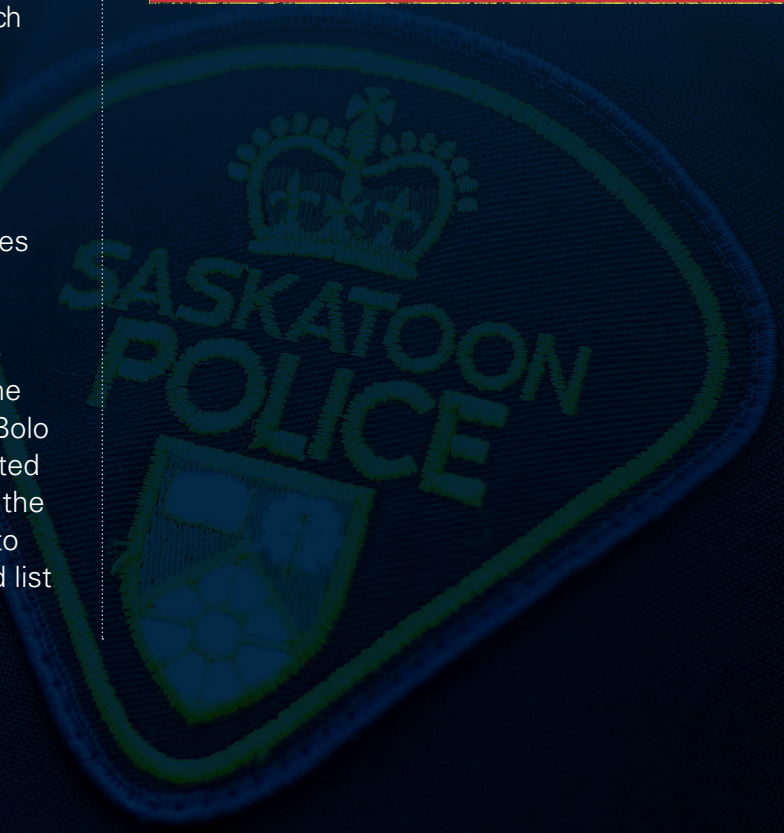
## NEW TIPI

In anticipation of the 120th anniversary of the Saskatoon Police Service, Equity and Cultural Engagement Unit (ECEU) officers, along with staff and students from Oskayak High School, travelled to Chitek Lake in the fall of 2022 to receive tipi teachings and gather new tipi poles from Elder Mary Lee of the Pelican Lake First Nation. Elder Mary Lee gifted the SPS a tipi more than 10 years ago and it is an honour for her to be the one to guide SPS through this process once again.

At the end of June, the new tipi was raised for the first time at a community event, the Oskayak High School's Community Powwow. It was very timely, as Oskayak staff and students have been such an important part of this journey with us. SPS was honored to have Elder Mary Lee present to observe the first raising. The newly completed SPS tipi was taken to a number of events including Indigenous People's Day, SPS Community BBQ, Buena Vista back to school, CUMFI's Métis Cultural Days and others.

## BOLO EVENT

The Bolo Program is an innovative initiative which uses social media, technology and engagement to reach citizens at the right time and increase the profile of notices for wanted individuals. In cooperation with Canadian police services and Crime Stoppers, the program launches amplification campaigns to reach wider audiences for these notices on multiple platforms and over extended periods of time. It offers major financial rewards as incentives for citizens to be on the lookout and submit anonymous tips to the authorities. On May 1, 2023, the Canada Wide Bolo Program announced Canada's top 25 most wanted fugitives with Jonathan Ouellet-Gendron taking the 10th spot. Ouellet-Gendron is the first suspect to be featured on the Bolo Program's most wanted list for a crime committed in Saskatchewan.





# OUR PEOPLE: CHANGES & AWARDS

At year's end, the SPS employed a total of 735 staff.

<b>Executive</b>	19
Supervisors	128
Constables	354
Special Constables	92
Civilians	148

## SENIOR EXECUTIVE RETIREMENTS



Change is inevitable in any organization, and 2023 saw more turnover than normal at the senior executive level as the Chief and both Deputy Chiefs retired from the SPS.

**Mitch Yuzdepski** retired from the SPS in June 2023 to become the Executive Director of Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police and spend more time with his family. Mitch has always been a leader in advocating for mental health, especially among officers. He developed the initial SPS Mental Health Strategy, including supporting the Mental Health First Aid training for members.

**Randy Huisman** began his policing career as a Special Constable with the Medicine Hat Police Service, and then the Prince Albert Police Service before becoming a Regular Constable with SPS in 1987. He has a passion for helping young people in Saskatoon and built a strong partnership with EGADZ, an outreach service for youth. He was the co-creator for Operation Help; an award-winning project for sex trade workers. Moving into retirement, he hopes to focus on friends, family and fishing.

**Chief Troy Cooper**, after almost 6 years as Chief of Police and after serving 31 years with the Prince Albert Police Service, announced he would be retiring at the end of the year. During his six years as Police Chief, Cooper steered the Service through periods of change including the legalization of marijuana, the COVID-19 pandemic, and calls for police reform, all of which resulted in structural changes for the Service. He implemented programs that support community safety while reducing crime in more cost efficient and effective ways, including the new Alternative Response Officer Program, Community Mobilization Unit, and the Body Worn Camera Program. He improved accountability through the introduction of a more robust strategic planning process that includes annual business plan reporting. Chief Cooper also led the Service through several years of the lowest levels of Crime Severity since it was first measured in 1998 by Statistics Canada.

Together, the Chief and both Deputies represented the SPS with pride and vigor, demonstrating a combined 107 years in policing experience as they guided the organization. The SPS is grateful for their contributions to the SPS and the Saskatoon community as a whole and wish them the best.

## TOP DOG



Cst. Drew Dubnuk and his Police Service Dog (PSD,) Yanga, enjoyed success at the Canadian Police Canine Association National Police Dog Championships. Competing against approximately 40 police canine teams, the SPS won first place in Agility, second in Evidence Search, third in Obedience and fifth in Building Searches. At the end of the four-day event, PSD Yanga had earned the “Top Dog” trophy, winning the overall competition.

## FIRST FEMALE SUPERINTENDENT

In the 50th year of women in policing in Saskatoon, the SPS proudly announced the appointment of Tonya Gresty to the rank of Superintendent in charge of Operational Support.

As a 22-year member and the first female to achieve the rank of Superintendent in the SPS’ 120-year history, Tonya’s career is celebrated through several acknowledgements. Among those are multiple Chief’s Awards of Excellence alongside sharing the Chief’s Team Award for exemplified cooperative efforts in the fulfillment of a high-risk incident, she has also received Commendation from the Governor General of Canada for an act of great merit in the line of duty and was awarded the honour of the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for contributions in the field of law enforcement.

Tonya’s advocacy for the recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in policing is evident through her role as a founding member of the

Saskatchewan Women in Policing; a non-profit focused on supporting and advancing women in law enforcement professions within the province.



**EVAN CAMERON – 2023 SASK911 TELECOMMUNICATOR OF THE YEAR**



Special Constable Evan Cameron was awarded the Sask911 Telecommunicator of the year award in 2023. S/Cst Cameron is from Beardy’s and Okemasis’ Cree Nation on Treaty 6 Territory. From the very beginning of his career, he has demonstrated the ability to navigate complex calls while remaining calm, clear and concise. From dispatching for a homicide just hours after finishing



his training period to assisting an outside agency in ending a cycle of child abuse, his adaptability, composure, and professionalism are only some of the qualities that led him to being selected for this prestigious award. He wears his uniform with pride and loves serving the community, putting in extra effort to provide follow-up and thoughtful consideration to the calls he receives. He continues to be a reliable, dedicated employee and source of great pride for the SPS.

### **AIR SUPPORT UNIT AWARD**

The SPS Air Support Unit (ASU) received the Award of Valour, a prestigious award from Canada's Logistics Association and the Saskatoon Transportation Club.

This accolade is presented to an individual or organization who, at great personal risk, prevented or attempted to prevent the loss of life or property.

The ASU is composed of a dedicated team of six officers, including a pilot and a Tactical Flight Officer per shift. The pilot is not only a trained SPS officer but also holds a commercial pilot's license. Thanks to ASU's role in evade police incidents, several dangerous situations are made safer and quickly mitigated.



### **SASKATCHEWAN ASSOCIATION OF CHIEF'S OF POLICE AWARDS**

The Excellence in Policing Services Awards program celebrates the exemplary service policing members provided in the Province of Saskatchewan every year.

SPS Constables Cole Janett, Sheldon Reddekopp, Levi Davis, Josh Pare, Daniel Sedgewick and Andrew Dubnyk received the "Valour Award" for Distinguished Act of Bravery in the Preservation of the Lives of Others.

Retired Deputy Chief Randy Huisman and Retired Staff Sergeant Grant Obst received a "Lifetime Achievement Award".

### **2023 EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARDS/LONG SERVICE AWARDS/SPS AWARDS**

#### **Exemplary Service Medal**

Inspector Richard Bueckert  
Staff Sergeant Fred Siemens  
Sergeant Joel Bautista  
Sergeant Ryan Beerling  
Sergeant Tim Berg  
Sergeant Nicole Doetzel  
Sergeant Eric Flogan  
Sergeant Vince Gabruch  
Sergeant Dennis Hudec  
Sergeant Mike Johnson  
Sergeant Joel Lalonde  
Sergeant Amber Lang  
Sergeant Shannon Murray  
Sergeant Chad Nolan  
Sergeant Lynn Parenteau  
Sergeant Wes Peters  
Sergeant Derek Rainville  
Sergeant Robbie Taylor  
Sergeant Scott Yuzik  
Constable David Connell  
Constable Arnold Fortugno  
Constable Mark Koch  
Constable Traci Kreuger  
Constable Arnold Montes  
Constable Tom Taylor  
Constable Erin Tisdell  
Constable Kelsey Yurach

### **Twenty Years of Service**

Sherralee Hanson  
Bonnie Moorhouse  
Lisa Olson  
Special Constable Lisa Olson  
Special Constable Michele Schlosser  
Special Constable Shelly Takahashi  
Special Constable Shelley Taylor

### **Thirty Years of Service**

Dianne Lee  
Juli Neubauer

### **Chief's Award of Excellence**

Deputy Chief Cameron McBride  
Inspector Tonya Gresty  
Constables Cody Bishop, Mike Scanlan  
Kyum Cho

### **Chief's Award of Community Service**

Constable Al Chan  
Seidon Cozens  
David Lewendon  
Anthony, Jacob, Thomas McCarthy  
and Anastasia Winterhalt  
Jessie Scott  
Bonny and Craig Stevenson  
Linda and Lou Van de Vorst

### **Chief's Team Awards**

Constables Christine Brophy, Rachel Brower,  
Kaitlyn Cummer, Teegan Hunter, Alison Krupp,  
Gilbert Madsen and Mark Oliver  
  
Sergeant Jim Campbell  
Constables Joshua Bond, Cy Bray, Cam Brown,  
Spencer Fitch, Cam Graves, Derrick Harvey,  
Guillaume Lenormand, Sydney McFaul, Anthony  
Neufeld, Michael Norrie, Jemmie Sharp, Jamir  
Walker, Daniel Wolfe, Mariia Yakushenkova

Special Constable Rebecca Viczko

### **Superintendent's Award of Commendation**

Constable Mike Graver

**MADD Canada awarded the following members with the Van de Vorst Family Award for their work in detecting and removing impaired drivers from the road:**

### **Silver**

Constable Melanie Olafson  
Constable Vishal Jheengut  
Constable Justin Thorsteinson  
Constable Cody Teron  
Constable Erin Anthony  
Constable Evan Pasternak  
Constable Ruben Harms  
Constable Bryden Gore  
Constable Cailean Duke  
Constable Teegan Hunter  
Constable Derek Smith  
Constable Grafton Boechler  
Constable Ryan Crawford  
Constable Blake Robert  
Constable Hector Janzen  
Constable Ryan White

### **Gold**

Constable Mike Graver  
Sergeant Raymond Robertson  
Constable Colton Mireau

### **Platinum**

Constable Tara Cummine  
Constable Nathan Gawryluk  
Constable Kelsey Yurach

Saskatchewan police officers are recognized for charging between 8 and 16 impaired drivers during a calendar year (Silver), for charging 17 and more impaired drivers during a calendar year (Gold) and new this year is an award for officers who have removed a minimum of 40 impaired drivers off the roads (Platinum).



## **DIRECTOR ASHLEY SMITH APPOINTED TO THE KING'S COUNSEL**

Ashley Smith, SPS Director of Legal Services, was appointed by the Minister of Justice as King's Counsel in December 2023. This appointment recognizes her contributions to the legal profession and her community. Ashley was one of 18 Saskatchewan lawyers who received this distinguished recognition in 2023.

Ashley was admitted to the Saskatchewan bar in 2008 and has been employed with the SPS since October 1, 2015. During her time at SPS, Ashley has represented the SPS, the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police ("SACP") and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police ("CACP"). She was counsel for the CACP during the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. Ashley was recognized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police with a "40 Under 40 Award" which recognizes law enforcement professionals from around the world that demonstrate leadership and exemplify commitment to their profession. She has also received a CACP Recognition Award; a SACP Leadership Award; a Lexpert Rising Stars Award; the Saskatchewan Trial Lawyers Association Justice



W. Frank Gerein Memorial Award; a University of Saskatchewan Alumni Achievement Award and a Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.





**SASKATOON** 

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**POLICE SERVICE**  
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