



**SARNIA POLICE SERVICE  
2020 ANNUAL REPORT**

***"PEOPLE SERVING PEOPLE"***





## **Sarnia Police Service Mission Statement**

*To provide a safe and secure community by working with the people in a sensitive and professional manner.*

***Members of the Sarnia Police Service  
are dedicated to:***

- Protecting human life
- Protecting the community
- Preventing crime and other offences
- Administering the law fairly and consistently
- Respecting human dignity
- Respecting human diversity
- Caring for victims and having compassion for all
- Being honest and ethical
- Respecting and supporting colleagues
- Understanding changing community needs
- Attaining excellence in each activity undertaken



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## Message from the Chief of Police

Please allow me to introduce you to our 2020 Annual report. Your Sarnia Police Service has continued to work diligently to provide the citizens of Sarnia with a safe and secure community. This continues to be possible only with the help of you, our community partners.

2020 was without a doubt the most challenging year I have experienced in my 35 year career. In addition to meeting all the usual needs of the community as the Police Service, we also had to address the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic. This was particularly difficult since the police, being an essential service, were unable to work from home or substantially alter the level of service supplied to the community of Sarnia. However, we also had to keep in mind the safety and health of our members. I feel the need to thank all of our members who reported unflinchingly to work and continue to do so. Their dedication and strong work ethic is directly responsible for the safe community we enjoy.

During the year we continued to improve our service to the community with regard to response to calls involving Mental Health issues. The new Health IM software in our front line vehicles has allowed officers to more effectively assess and respond to persons in crisis. Responding officers now have an assessment tool that immediately connects with physicians who are better able to determine an appropriate course of action. This has not only reduced the time spent by officers in hospital and therefore out of service but has reduced the number of formal apprehensions, and allowed persons in need of help to access other agencies that can better serve their needs.

Making use of improved technology and moving toward a full computer aided dispatch system, we have installed I-Tracker, real time tracking, in all of our patrol cars. Staying current with all the changes in the field of communication is a priority which ensures both officer safety and effective community service. These improvements coupled with further enhancements in our dispatch centre also move us forward in preparing for the Next Generation 9-1-1 system launch which must be in place by 2023.

As approved by the Sarnia Police Services Board, our compliment was increased by four new officers who recently completed their training in spite of challenges faced at college due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and partial lockdowns. I want to thank those officers for their hard work and flexibility during these trying times.

Once again I want to thank the community and our members for their continued support. Please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

**Chief Norm Hansen**







## Aamjiwnaang First Nation



For many years the Sarnia Police Service has provided police service to approximately 850 people who reside on the 12.57 square kilometers of Aamjiwnaang First Nation.

In 2020 the Sarnia Police Service officers responded to some 979 calls for assistance ranging from domestic disputes, motor vehicle collisions, thefts, traffic infractions, community service, and other law enforcement issues.

Recognizing and respecting the particular needs and concerns of the Aamjiwnaang Community, Sarnia Police Service officers are encouraged to learn about the history and traditions of the Indigenous People of our area.

All new personnel, at the start of their careers, attend a half day session regarding Traditional Indigenous Awareness. This has been delivered by retired OPP Constable Luke George who has committed himself to providing ongoing invaluable First Nation awareness training to civilian and uniform members of the Sarnia Police Service. Luke, who is Potawatomi of Stoney Point First Nation, is the drum keeper for Zhowske Miingan (Blue Wolf) which is a traditional drum gifted to the Indigenous officers of Ontario to help heal the wounds from the Ipperwash Crisis. Luke has been an invaluable asset to our police service assisting in the strengthening of our relationship with Aamjiwnaang, a First Nation territory that Sarnia Police Service is honoured to serve.

On a continuous basis, officers awareness of, and sensitivity towards Aamjiwnaang's issues and concerns are facilitated with the assistance of liaison officers that exchange information between the Aamjiwnaang Community and the Sarnia Police Service.





## FINANCIAL SERVICES AND SUPPLY BRANCH WITH YEAR END ACTUALS

### FINANCIAL SERVICES BRANCH

One of the priorities of the Police Service is the efficient and economical management of the financial resources provided by the taxpayers of the city; for that reason, we begin the annual report with a statement and numbers that show how 2020 dollars were spent.

The Financial Services Branch is responsible for all financial aspects of the Sarnia Police Service, including budget preparation and monitoring, payroll, accounts payable and receivable, and coordination of purchasing and leasing. Responsibilities include day to day maintenance of facilities and fleet.

### OPERATING BUDGET - ACTUALS VERSUS BUDGET

The **Actuals versus Budget** table shows actual operating results alongside the budgeted amount for each category. The 2020 Operating Budget shows a year end surplus amount of \$187,965 which will be allocated to the Police Operating Contingency Reserve.

Category	Budget	Actuals
Salaries & Benefits	\$23,993,191	\$23,036,335
Other Staff Expense - Training, Development, Allowance	\$299,164	\$317,420
9-1-1/Communications	\$167,833	\$221,911
Telephone & Utilities	\$351,860	\$478,317
IT Equipment/Software	\$318,021	\$418,110
Fleet & Facility Management	\$541,450	\$762,279
Other Operating Expenses	\$808,787	\$866,458
Reserves Transfers	\$1,152,500	\$1,303,024
Revenues & Grants	-\$2,455,356	-\$2,414,367
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25,177,450</b>	<b>\$24,989,485</b>



## YEAR END OPERATING ACTUALS COMPARED TO HISTORICAL

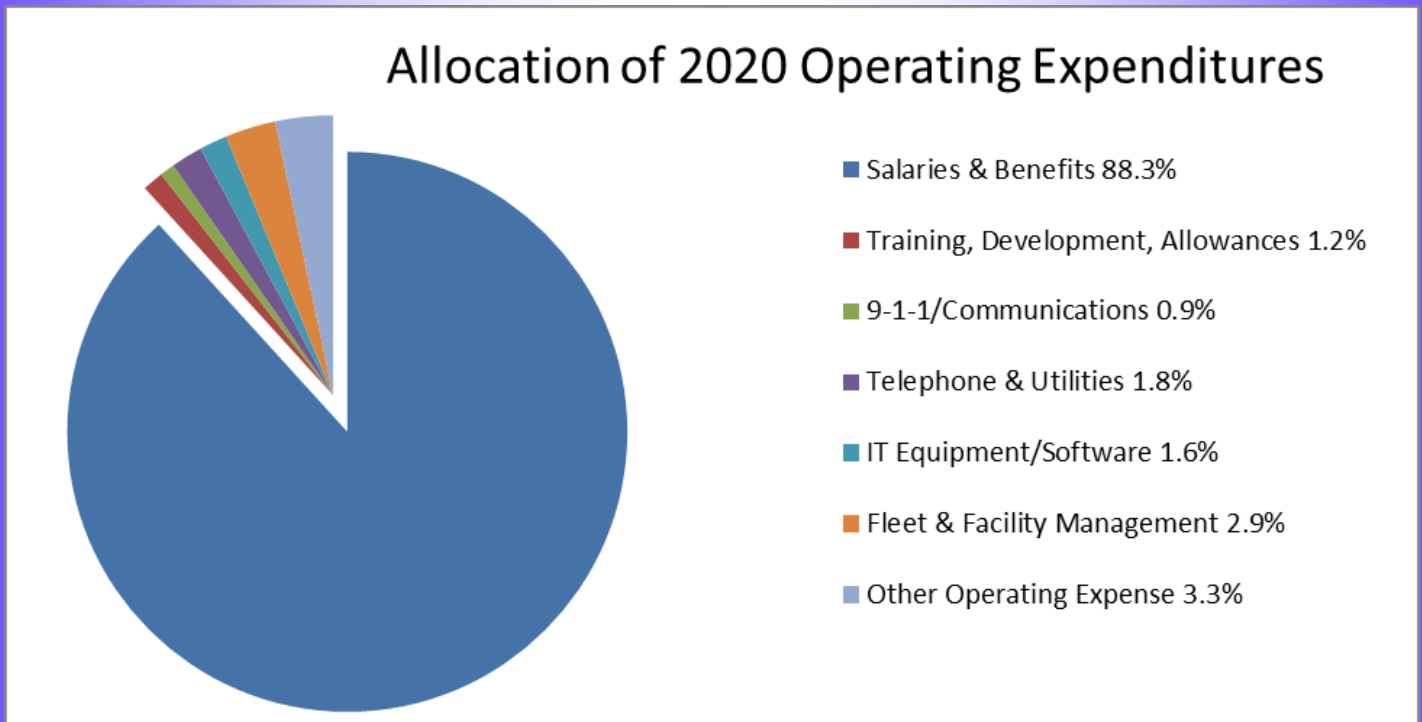
The **Year End Actuals** table shows 2020 actual expenditures alongside those of two years prior. Total expenditures increased by 2.8% compared to last year. Reserves Transfers are budgeted allocations to Police contingency, building, and equipment reserves. The 2020 reserves transfer includes an unbudgeted \$150,524 Safe Restart Provincial Grant .

<b>Division</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Salaries & Benefits	\$22,152,031	\$22,546,406	\$23,036,335
Staff Training, Development, Allowance	\$368,248	\$343,655	\$317,420
9-1-1/Communications	\$166,906	\$220,240	\$221,911
Telephone & Utilities	\$399,912	\$479,279	\$478,317
IT Equipment/Software	\$398,044	\$341,313	\$418,110
Fleet & Facility Management	\$779,963	\$727,072	\$762,279
Other Operating Expense	\$632,273	\$728,252	\$866,458
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$24,897,378</b>	<b>\$25,386,217</b>	<b>\$26,100,829</b>
Reserves Transfers	\$360,900	\$610,000	\$1,303,024
Revenues	-\$2,362,637	-\$2,477,796	-2,414,367
<b>Net Expenditures</b>	<b>\$22,895,641</b>	<b>\$23,518,421</b>	<b>\$24,989,485</b>



## ALLOCATION OF OPERATING EXPENDITURES

The **Expenditure Allocations** pie chart shows that the greatest proportion of expenditures, 88.3%, is allocated to salaries and benefits.







## Community Response Division

### **Community Response Division**

The Community Response Division is the largest and most visible Division of the Service. The four branches and three sections are staffed by 83 police officers, and 15 full and part-time civilians who report to the Community Response Division Inspector, whose job is to ensure that the citizens of Sarnia continue to receive exemplary police service. This division is the true “front line” and face of the Sarnia Police Service.

### **Community Patrol Branch**

The Community Patrol Branch is made up of four platoons of uniformed first-responders who are dispatched to all emergency calls for service and respond to everything from neighbor disputes to homicides.

In 2020, four officers were added to bolster the Community Patrol Branch to 64 officers who maintain order and safety for Sarnia 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These officers are supervised by one Staff Sergeant and one Sergeant per platoon.

Officers in this branch carry out additional duties as Range Officers, Coach Officers, Intoxilyzer Technicians, Drug Recognition Experts, Use-of-Force Instructors, Crisis Negotiation, and Tactical Emergency Responders. In addition, the platoons are encouraged to initiate problem solving ideas to combat identified concerns in our community.

The men and women of the Community Patrol Branch continued to provide excellent service and worked together to keep the citizens of Sarnia safe and secure in 2020.





### **Court Security and J.F.O. Court Services Branch**

The Court Security and JFO Court Services Branch is led by a Sergeant working with two Constables, five full-time Special Constables, up to nine part-time Special Constables, and two Court Coordinators. This Branch is responsible for all of the day-to-day operations and security of the courthouse including crown brief case management, court scheduling, liaising with the Judiciary, Crown, and Defense Counsel, as well as providing a safe and secure environment for all courthouse stakeholders.

### **Telephone Reporting Branch**

Two officers are assigned to the Telephone Reporting Branch. These officers take reports over the telephone from members of the public reporting crimes such as lost and found property, minor mischief to property, minor thefts, and other lesser property crimes. These officers ensure that these matters are reported properly and provide advice to citizens concerning how to replace lost property and steps that might be taken to deter crime. These officers are also responsible for maintaining the Sex Offender Registry, City Of Sarnia Taxi Licensing, and Crime Analysis, including the weekly update of the Sarnia Police Service website Crime Map.



## **Community Policing Branch**

This Branch is led by a Sergeant and is comprised of five divisions:

Community Orientated Police Problem Solving Division (COPPS), Traffic Division, Community Services Division, Mental Health Engagement and Response Team (MHEART), and the Collision Reporting Centre.

### **COPPS (Community Orientated Police Problem Solving) Section**

The COPPS Section is comprised of three experienced uniformed officers. These officers work with the community to develop strategies for the prevention and detection of crime in vulnerable areas. The officers in the COPPS Unit have a great deal of knowledge regarding street level drug users and criminals. They are constantly gathering intelligence on local criminal elements and their activities. These officers are also responsible for other duties including bail and parole compliance and the location and arrest of wanted individuals.

Various officers in the COPPS Unit have other roles such as Qualified Breath Technicians, Drug Recognition Experts, and officers qualified in Field Sobriety testing. The COPPS Unit provides invaluable assistance to all officers of the service.

As the department faced new challenges in 2020, the need to reassign manpower was anticipated and necessitated. The COPPS Unit was there to fill in these gaps and assist other divisions with staffing shortages including VICE, Criminal Investigations Division, and the Community Response Division.

In 2020, the COPPS Unit made 241 arrests for various offences and executed 166 arrest warrants for a total of 407 arrests.

In addition, 89 breach charges, 268 criminal charges, and 27 drug related charges were laid by the COPPS Unit in 2020.

The proactive actions of the COPPS Unit resulted in the seizure of a substantial amount of illegal drugs, along with the recovery of thousands of dollars worth of stolen goods.



## Traffic Section

The Traffic Division is comprised of three highly trained traffic investigators. These officers respond to all motor vehicle collisions involving personal injuries, serious bodily harm, or death. With the use of technology and their personal expertise, these officers analyze and reconstruct major collisions, and provide expert evidence in criminal and civil court. The Traffic Unit officers are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Highway Traffic Act and related traffic laws. These officers provide other members of the Service with in-house training regarding changes in legislation and investigative techniques relating to motor vehicle collisions. The officers also provide training to officers in both mobile and hand held radar units.

In addition, these officers are also a support unit for the Community Response Division as they routinely provide back-up when needed on calls for service.

In 2020, the Traffic Division investigated two fatal collisions along with numerous collisions resulting in various levels of injury.

With the inception of the Collision reporting center, the traffic officers have been able to dedicate more time to traffic enforcement initiatives in the city and focus on areas of aggressive driving. These initiatives have led to the officers writing 1554 Provincial Offence Notices (tickets) as well as producing 370 Criminal Code charges from motor vehicle stops.



## 2020 Traffic Statistics

<b>Vehicle Summary</b>	2019	2020	% Change
Motor Vehicle Collisions	1579	1361	▼ -14%
Fail to Remain	298	135	▼ -55%
Personal Injury	168	120	▼ -29%
Fatal Motor Vehicle	1	2	▲ 100%
<b>Enforcement Summary</b>			
Provincial Offences	2331	2885	▲ 24%
By-law Offences	20	15	▼ -25%
Time to Report Certificates	778	95	▼ -88%
Parking Offences	397	318	▼ -20%
Suspended Driver Offences	190	182	▼ -4%
Prohibited Driver Offences	36	34	▼ -6%
<b>Charge Summary</b>			
Impaired Driving (Drugs)	12	24	▲ 100%
Impaired Driving (Alcohol)	75	52	▼ -31%
Fail to Provide Breath Samples	18	7	▼ -61%
3 Day Suspensions	19	12	▼ -37%
<b>R.I.D.E. Program</b>			
Vehicles Checked	8721	4362	▼ -50%
Road Side Test	16	12	▼ -25%
3 Day Suspensions	3	1	▼ -67%
Impaired	1	1	▲ 100%





## Sarnia Police Service Collision Reporting Centre

On November 29, 2018, the Sarnia Police Services Board authorized the Chair to sign an agreement for a one-year pilot project with Accident Support Services International Ltd. for a Collision Reporting Centre (CRC) to be located in the Sarnia Police Services Headquarters.

On June 11, 2019, the Sarnia CRC officially opened under the direction of CRC Manager Brent Gillen.

Since opening, the CRC has been operating from an office off the lobby of the Sarnia Police Headquarters from 10:00am to 6:00pm Monday to Friday. Due to a greater than expected volume of clients, the CRC engaged the services of an additional staff member to assist with busier times. The CRC has committed to installing a Kiosk in the lobby area to further reduce wait times by allowing clients to initiate the reporting process electronically.

Since June 11, 2019, more than 3,000 motor vehicle collisions have been diverted to the Sarnia Collision Reporting Centre. In 2020, the CRC handled 1,231 collision reports while processing 2077 involved vehicles.

These diversions have provided the public with improved customer service including a significant reduction in roadside wait times and increased public safety by reducing congestion and clearing roadways in a timelier manner. The process for reporting motor vehicle collisions and exchanging information has become more streamlined. The timely transfer of relevant information to the appropriate insurance companies has allowed for a much speedier claims process.

The Sarnia Police Service has been able to re-deploy officers to higher priority needs and engage in pro-active measures to more effectively address issues identified in the 2020 Business Plan such as distracted driving and speeding. Additionally, the diversion of these collisions has effectively relieved some of the time pressures on our officers and has allowed them the time to properly focus on completing investigations, preparing Crown Brief reports, and assisting those in our community with mental health and addiction issues.





## **Mental Health Engagement and Response Team (MHEART)**

The end of 2020 marked the first full calendar year that the Mental Health Engagement and Response Team has been operating. The Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) Lambton Kent, Bluewater Health, and Sarnia Police all work together to engage individuals in crisis, de-escalate situations, assess client needs, and connect people with treatment and resources, with the goal of reducing unnecessary hospitalizations and unnecessary or inappropriate entry into the criminal justice system.

The MHEART team is a mobile crisis response unit that combines a designated Sarnia Police officer with a Psychiatric Assessment Nurse (PAN) for 40 hours a week. The team responds to emergency and non-emergency police calls as well as follow-ups related to a mental health or substance abuse crisis. Activations come primarily from Sarnia Police 911 dispatch; however, the team is also activated by CMHA and Bluewater health psychiatry. MHEART members conduct a mental health assessment of the person in crisis and determine whether intervention is required through apprehension pursuant to the Mental Health Act or a referral should be made to local mental health providers. When a client needs urgent care but not a hospital admission, MHEART is able to utilize urgent psychiatric consults and direct access to priority appointments for community services.

The MHEART unit was kept busy throughout 2020 and proved its worth as the stress of the COVID-19 Pandemic continued. Sarnia Police have seen a steady increase in mental health and substance use related calls for service. Throughout the calendar year the team was activated 768 times. Prior to MHEART a majority of the clients in crisis would have been taken to the hospital emergency department with an approximate 40% admission rate. Of the 768 activations by MHEART in 2020 only 31 individuals were apprehended by MHEART and admitted into hospital care.

Some of the important goals met by MHEART in its first full year were to decrease hospital presentations, to improve collaborative work between Police, CMHA, and Blue Water Health and most importantly to improve patient care and create a bridge for those experiencing a mental health crisis with the needed treatment, resources, and services available.



## Community Services Section

The Community Services Division consists of two officers whose primary function is to develop relationships with community stakeholders and educate the community on various topics relating to community and personal safety.

The officers attend all of our local elementary schools to facilitate various topics and programs including anti-bullying talks, the K.I.D.S. program, bicycle rodeos, Operation Copsicle, and internet safety to name a few.

They also attend secondary schools and Lambton College to discuss various topics ranging from general laws to careers in policing.

The officers meet regularly with service clubs, businesses, community groups, and local committees, to provide information and assistance regarding frauds, drugs, phone scams, impaired driving, distracted driving, and many other current issues or concerns. They also attend and participate in several community events.

Unfortunately, after March of 2020, these officers were unable to attend most institutions as guest speakers due to COVID-19 restrictions. They accommodated presentation requests through virtual means and assisted other departmental units when needed. These officers have also devoted a significant amount of time maintaining a police presence at our local parks and trails via Bicycle, Foot, and UTV Patrol. Other Community Policing initiatives such as CPTED assessments (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design), drive-by requests, and SPS social media maintenance were facilitated by these officers.





## Sarnia Police Service Communication Centre

Currently, the Communications Centre is operated by one civilian manager, 12 full-time dispatchers, and 10 part-time dispatchers.

They are responsible for answering all 9-1-1 calls for the Sarnia Police Service, Sarnia Fire and Rescue, and Point Edward Fire and Rescue. Our dispatchers also receive all local 9-1-1 calls for paramedics that are transferred to the Wallaceburg Central Ambulance Call Centre. This allows Sarnia dispatchers to determine if a tiered response of Police, Fire, and Paramedics is required.

The Communications Centre is also the call centre for the CVECO (Chemical Valley Emergency Coordinating Organization) radio which coordinates all CVECO incidents.

The Communications Centre monitors the Sarnia City Works radio channel and CN Police after hours. The Centre is also responsible for answering administrative calls and directing them to the appropriate office.

In 2020 the Communications Centre directed 25,458 service calls to Sarnia Police (resulting in officers investigating 28,904), 2,567 calls for Sarnia Fire and Rescue, and 87 calls for Point Edward Fire and Rescue. They also dealt with 301 CVECO incidents.







## Information Services Branch

This Branch consists of 11 full-time and six part-time civilian members, and is overseen by one Sergeant.

The branch is responsible for processing all information gathered by the Service and making that information readily available to members of the Service and the public by way of various methods and in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and other legislation.

The Sarnia Police Service has recently endeavored to implement a new report tracking system. Going forward, the system, known as Winscribe, will allow for the capture of specific details regarding reports being entered.

During 2020, Information Services processed and prepared numerous types of reports including those indicated below:

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Freedom of Information Requests	1433	1073
Criminal Background Checks	4117	3237
Police Officer Reports	12829	11964
Provincial Offense Notices	3351	3229
Criminal Crown Briefs	1587	1297
Provincial Offense Crown Briefs	320	426
Motor Vehicle Collision Reports	1606	1336



## Emergency Response Team (ERT)

The Sarnia Police Service Emergency Response Team is a part-time tactical team, made up of 13 officers drawn from other units within the service. The members are highly trained, and are available to respond to calls for service any time, day or night, 365 days a year. Some of these emergencies may include high risk warrant service, armed and barricaded persons, weapons calls, emotionally disturbed persons, search and rescue, or any other high risk situation.

On occasion ERT has been called upon by other police services to provide assistance with large scale projects where multiple teams from across the province are required.

The team members train on a monthly basis together, and on occasion, train with other teams from across the province. This ensures that our team stays current with evolving tactics and best police practice.

ERT responded to 17 calls for service as a full team in 2020. The team has also assisted other agencies such as the Toronto Police Service in the apprehension of a homicide suspect along with the OPP with a number of warrants within the City of Sarnia's jurisdiction.

Recently, S/Sgt Mike VanSickle and Sgt MacDonald have retired from ERT which will allow for two new members to succeed them in 2021.







## Investigative Services Division

An Inspector is responsible for the day-to-day operations of all six branches of the Investigative Services Division. Each branch is staffed by officers who are selected, trained, and certified to conduct complex investigations that require more time, detail, and experience. Each of the six branches is described in the following paragraphs.





## Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigations Division investigates serious and complex crimes such as homicides, suspicious deaths, serious assaults, sexual assaults, human trafficking, elder abuse, crimes against children, frauds, break and enters, major thefts, and robberies. This Branch is commanded by a Detective Staff Sergeant who oversees two Detective Sergeants and nine Detective Constables.

In 2020 the Criminal Investigations Division had a challenging year dealing with a high volume of serious investigations while dealing with the struggles of the pandemic. The Criminal Investigative Division investigated and solved 3 homicides and an attempted murder. Other calls for service included 21 robberies, 72 sexual assaults, 49 cases of suspected human trafficking, 16 arsons, and numerous property related offences and fraud investigations. In addition, the Criminal Investigations Branch also investigated all reports of missing people, break and enters, and deaths investigations.

While investigating major crimes, Detectives collect and use forensic evidence (DNA), prepare and execute judicial authorizations, interview witnesses and suspects, and use a number of other investigative techniques to solve these offences. The most prevalent way is through technological advancements. Surveillance techniques through GPS tracking, geographical data, social media platforms, and video surveillance provide significant assistance for detectives to solve crimes.

The Criminal Investigation Division also coordinates with other divisions throughout the Sarnia Police Service, as well as other community organizations and agencies, to resolve cases and issues as they arise.







## Forensic Identification Branch

The Sarnia Police Forensic Identification Branch is currently made up of three officers, one of whom is a supervising Sergeant. This is a unique specialized branch where officers go through an initial intensive training course and then recertification every three years. This unit is staffed 7 days a week on a continuous basis and available 24 hours a day.

2020 brought challenges to every front line work environment and the Forensic Identification Branch was no exception. The Ident Branch continued with regular duties during the pandemic while trying to keep themselves and their families safe. During the year of 2020 there was an increase in violent crimes which included three homicides. Our fingerprint numbers were down with only 967 prisoners printed (1586 in 2019) due to the lock downs that occurred during the year.





## Youth Branch

The Sarnia Police Youth Branch consists of three Detective Constables who investigate matters involving young people, primarily adolescents between the ages of 12 and 17 years. The Youth Officers contribute to the community by making a positive difference in the lives of young persons who offend or are at risk of offending.

In 2020, Youth Branch Officers, guided by the provisions of the Youth Criminal Justice Act, investigated 705 calls for service (1428 calls for service in 2019).

The Youth Criminal Justice Act is the law that governs Canada's youth justice system. It applies to youth who are at least 12 but under 18 years old, who are alleged to have committed criminal offences. The Youth Officers are responsible for holding youths accountable for their actions while providing education and guidance to them and their families. Youth officers may criminally charge a youth or apply a method of diversion. Extrajudicial Measures are a form of diversion in lieu of charges. Types of extrajudicial measures directed by Youth Officers are formal police warnings, restitution, formal or written apologies, and referrals to community agencies.

The Youth Officers may also use extrajudicial sanctions, which is a form of diversion. These youths are sent to community agencies like Sarnia-Lambton Rebound and St. Clair Child and Youth Services. The Sarnia Police Youth Division collaborates with a number of community agencies which include St. Clair Child and Youth Services (Mental Health Court Diversion Program), Sarnia-Lambton Children's Aid, Sarnia-Lambton Rebound, Family Counselling Centre, Huron House Boys Home, Canadian Mental Health Association, Erie St. Clair Community Care Access Center (mental health and addictions), Sarnia-Lambton Native Friendship Centre, Schoolboards-Lambton Kent District School Board, St. Clair Catholic District School Board, and Conseil Scolaire Catholique Providence.



## Youth Branch continued.....

Sarnia Police Youth Branch referred approximately 63 youths in 2020 to community agencies in lieu of criminal charges. For these measures to be successful, and to be considered, these youths have to take accountability for their actions.

The Sarnia police Youth Branch experienced a record low in calls for service, (705 in 2020 compared to 1428 in 2019, and referrals to community agencies (63 in 2020 compared to 120 in 2019). The COVID-19 pandemic has affected nations worldwide, and it has been no different in the City of Sarnia from March 2020 to the present. Sarnia Police Youth Officers found themselves assisting families, community agencies, and school administrations with more of an indirect approach through phone conversations and emails. The Youth Branch continues to support youth and their families through these troubling times with mental health, addictions, and other behavioural issues.







## Internet Child Exploitation (ICE) Unit

In 2004, the Ontario government requested that the Police develop a coordinated province wide approach to combat the sexual exploitation of children on the internet. The result was the creation of the Ontario Provincial Strategy, comprised of specially trained Internet Child Exploitation Investigators, Forensic Analysts, Crown Attorneys, and Victim Services personnel across the province. The members share resources, intelligence, technology, prevention strategies, awareness, and funding.

In October of 2014, the Sarnia Police Service became a member in the Ontario Provincial Strategy, and currently receives funding for a part-time investigator position.

As a member of the Ontario Provincial Strategy, the ICE Investigator has access to the knowledge, experience and resources of 27 other law enforcement agencies and 82 ICE members across the province.

The Sarnia Police Service ICE Investigator also has investigative access and collaboration with other ICE investigators across the country and internationally. The annual funding enables the Sarnia Police Service to obtain the investigative and forensic tools and training necessary to investigate and prosecute on-line offenders who target and sexually exploit children.

The funding also enables the Sarnia Police Service ICE investigator to participate in specialized training to ensure investigative techniques keep pace with the ever changing technological on-line climate.

The Sarnia Police Service ICE Investigator is a member of the Criminal investigations Branch and as such, divides his time between major crime and ICE investigations. Due to the technological complexity of internet investigations, the ICE Investigator works closely with the Forensic Analyst in the Electronic Crime Branch.

Every device seized in an ICE investigation must be forensically analyzed to secure evidence that leads to the prosecution of offenders who sexually exploit children on-line.

In 2020, the Sarnia Police Service's ICE Investigator participated in numerous child sexual exploitation investigations, and other internet related investigations where the training and experience of the ICE Investigator was required. In 2020, Sarnia Police Service ICE investigations were able to identify several child victims and offer support to both the victims and their family members .

ICE investigations have no geographic boundaries. The Sarnia Police Service ICE Investigator has assisted in many multi-jurisdictional investigations that included other Canadian, U.S. and international law enforcement agencies in offender apprehensions and child victim rescues and identification.



## **Drug / Vice Branch**

The Sarnia Police Vice Unit is comprised of four Detective Constables and a Detective Sergeant. The officers are kept current in regards to mobile surveillance techniques, search warrant writing, and information pertaining to different types of illicit drugs in the area. The unit works hand in hand with the Intelligence Unit officer, and its primary focus is to combat the drug concerns in the City of Sarnia. The unit will also frequently provide surveillance and investigative assistance to the Criminal Investigations Branch in carrying out their operations. The Vice Unit also works in a partnership with the Ontario Alcohol and Gaming Commission (AGCO) with respect to monitoring local premises licensed to sell alcohol.

In 2020, the Vice Unit conducted over 50 drug related searches, search warrants, and street level arrests to combat the growing problems of drugs in our city. They laid close to 300 charges under the Criminal Code and the Controlled Drugs and Substance Act.

Opioid abuse and Fentanyl powder continue to be a major concern in our city. The Vice Unit has seen a drastic increase in the sale of Fentanyl powder in the area, which is still causing a high level of overdoses in the city. In the year 2020, Fentanyl seizures have increased the most out of any drug submitted to Health Canada for analysis at a 65% increase. Fentanyl overdoses in Lambton County have also dramatically increased as has the administration of Narcan. Most of the unit's investigations now involve the sale and distribution of Fentanyl powder in Sarnia. In 2020 the Vice Unit seized over 1740 grams of Fentanyl Powder (compared to 370 grams in 2019) with a street value of almost \$874,000.

We have observed a growing trend of gang related drug dealing from the surrounding larger city centres (London, Hamilton, Windsor and the GTA). The Vice unit has seen an increase in the presence of firearms with these gang related drug dealers in the area. The Vice Unit will continue its efforts in combating the drug related issues and concerns in our city in the upcoming years.



## Electronic Crimes Branch

Smart phones, tablets, computers, and other electronic devices often contain evidence related to a wide variety of criminal activity. The Electronic Crimes Branch extracts data from those devices, utilizing advanced software and specialized techniques to assist in criminal investigations. Many of the seized devices require a forensic software tool in order to unlock the device, and also to work against encryption methods placed on the device by the manufacturer. The Electronic Crimes Branch works closely with other agencies, and outside partners in order to obtain evidence contained on locked electronic devices.

In 2020 the Electronic Crimes Branch processed the following devices:

- 115 Cell Phone Devices
- 12 Tablets
- 14 Social Media Downloads/Video





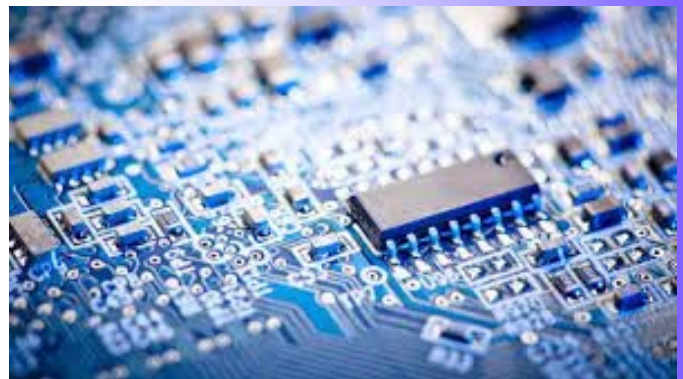


## Systems Branch

The Systems Branch of the Sarnia Police Service is comprised of two full-time Civilian positions, an IT Manager and an IT Technician. These positions are responsible for implementing and maintaining all Information Technology related systems within the Sarnia Police Service.

During the past year, the Systems Branch has seen a few changes. At the beginning of 2020, the person who was working in this role, moved on to other employment outside the Service. It has since been filled with a new person, taking on the roles and responsibilities of the position. We have seen a big shift, with the pandemic, to more online services. This ranges from online court, to online training, in which we have had to adapt technologically.

Infrastructure put in place in 2020, due to COVID, has allowed for new opportunities to take place with remote learning. The transition to new software/hardware is still ongoing for the NG-911 (Next-Generation 911) project. Since this is a multi-functional and multi-agency project that will affect any 911 answering point in Canada, it will take a several more years to complete.





## 2020 Statistics

CRIME STATISTICS	2019	2020	%
Homicide	1	3	100%
Attempted Murder	0	0	0%
Robbery	21	19	-10%
Sexual assault	68	75	10%
Assault	588	528	-10%
Spousal Assault	176	184	5%
Domestic Dispute	1573	1524	-3%
Family dispute	736	688	-7%
Arson	10	16	60%
B&E-Business	138	130	-6%
B&E-Residential	319	215	-33%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	44	111	152%
Theft	1043	985	-6%
Mischief	389	439	13%
Fraud	372	309	-17%
Disturbing the Peace	202	255	26%
Drugs	169	172	2%
Liquor	90	102	13%
Offensive weapons	76	72	-5%

COMMUNICATIONS	2019	2020	%
Fire Calls	3223	2654	-18%
Calls For Service (Police)	30136	28904	-4%
Total Calls	33,359	31,558	-5%

### Missing Person Act

***Under Section 8 of the Missing Persons Act, police services are required to report annually on their use of urgent demands under the Act, and police services are required to make this report available to the public.***

***For the 2020 year the Sarnia Police Service made zero urgent demands.***



## 2020 Complaint Summary

<b>PUBLIC COMPLAINTS</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>
Conduct	7	7
Policy	0	0
Service	1	6
Civilian Members	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Allegations</b>		
Incivility	0	7
Neglect of Duty	3	0
Discreditable Conduct	4	3
Excessive Use of Force	1	0
Exercise of Authority	0	3
Unsatisfactory Work Performance	0	0
<b>Resolutions</b>		
Sustained	0	0
Not Sustained	0	3
Not Dealt With	5	7
Withdrawn	1	1
Ongoing	0	0
Informal Resolution Agreement	2	2
<b>Total Calls for Service</b>	<b>30136</b>	<b>28904</b>
<b>Complaints/Calls for Service</b>	<b>1 / 3767</b>	<b>1 / 2223</b>





## In The Community 2020

All members of the Sarnia Police Service realize that we do not just serve our community through the enforcement of the law, but we, as members of this community, interact with and give back to the people in many ways beyond the requirements of the job.

2020 was a year that no one expected as the pandemic caused by the COVID 19 Virus changed the world as we know it. Restrictions and lockdowns limited numerous activities and functions that our members donated their time and efforts for.

Fortunately Cops for Cans was an event that took place and was, as always, a great success thanks to the public.

We hope that 2021 will allow our members the opportunity to reach out and give back to our community. We look forward to the day we can return to coaching and to taking part in different community initiatives such Clean our Parks, the Torch Run and the Shred Event. We truly believe such commitments afford our Service and its members the opportunity to build relationships with the people of this community and in turn foster trust and sustain mutually supportive partnerships.





# In The Community 2020





## Sarnia Lambton Crime Stoppers



Sarnia-Lambton Crime Stoppers is a non-profit, community-driven, program that relies on help from citizens, the media, and the police. The program receives anonymous tips from all over Lambton County and directs this information to the appropriate agency or police service.

Crime Stoppers pays cash for tips that lead to arrests, criminal or provincial charges, or the recovery of drugs or stolen property. Funding is provided by the Sarnia Police Service and supplemented through generous local sponsors and through fund raising events like the Annual Golf Tournament, Jail and Bail, Cruise Against Crime, and seasonal bowling events.

The Sarnia Police and the Lambton O.P.P. receive the bulk of the tips, and statistics are reported monthly to the civilian 'Crime Stoppers Board of Directors'.

Fundraising was adversely affected by the COVID-19 Pandemic and although it also limited the Coordinators' time in the office, Crime Stoppers continued to serve the people of Sarnia-Lambton by receiving tips online and through mobile devices.

### Crime Stoppers 2019 Statistics

Tips	Arrests	Charges	Cases Cleared	Rewards Authorized
579	19	66	33	\$5,800.00

The Crime Stoppers office is located at Sarnia Police Headquarters and is staffed 20 hours per week, Monday through Friday, but tips are taken 24 hours a day by calling 1-800-222-TIPS(8477) or online now at [www.p3tips.com](http://www.p3tips.com).





## Victim Services of Sarnia Lambton



The Sarnia Police Service understands the significant impact of crime and tragic circumstance on the victims, witnesses, and families impacted most. The Sarnia Police Service is proud of the collaborative partnership shared with Victim Services of Sarnia Lambton, a non-profit organization located within the Sarnia Police station. Victim Services of Sarnia Lambton assists victims of crime and tragic circumstance following crisis situations. With compassionate and trauma-informed staff, as well as trained and empathetic volunteer Crisis Responders, Victim Services is available to provide immediate assistance on-scene at the request of first responders.

2020 was a year of unprecedented and unique challenges. However, even in the wake of a global pandemic Victim Services remained operational and available to the community in their time of need. In 2020 Victim Services supported over 1100 victims of crime and tragic circumstance. Sarnia Police Service's referrals equalled 60% of all referrals from law enforcement agencies.

Sarnia Police Service values the 30 year working relationship with this invaluable organization. We look forward to many more years of combined effort to ensure that all victims of crime receive the support that they require.



## Media Relations Branch

The Media Relations Branch is dedicated to transparent and responsible communication. The public is provided with timely information regarding Sarnia Police

As of 2020, there were over 18,000 Facebook followers and over 12,700 followers on Twitter. This has allowed for a dramatic increase in the exchange of information between the Sarnia Police Service and the community. This path of communication has, for example, helped in identifying suspects, effectively notifying the public regarding closures, and locating missing people.

The COVID-19 Pandemic required some changes in ways we can deliver information to our community. Due to restrictions in place, our normal methods of sharing and gathering information with the community have been limited. We have learned to embrace other means; for example, the use of video conferencing via Zoom and Microsoft Teams applications has proven to be effective with news conferences.





## Departures and Arrivals 2020

As in any mature organization, the Sarnia Police Service experienced both the loss of dedicated and valued employees and the gain of well-prepared and well-qualified new hires.

The Sarnia Police Service would like to wish all those who have left our organization and their families a very happy and prosperous future.

As for all the new officers and civilians, the Service would like to welcome you and hope that you will be able to achieve your career and life goals through providing police service to the community.

The aim in 2020 was, as always, to maintain the staffing level by balancing retirements and other vacancies with new officers and civilians. In this way, we strive to ensure that the policing needs of our city are met continuously.





# Who Retired in 2020?

## Officers



**S/Sgt Scott Clarke**



**S/Sgt. Brent Patterson**



**Sgt. Carson Wilson**



**Inspector Jeff Hodgson**





## Who Retired in 2020?

### Civilians



**Cal Gardner (Emergency Management Co-ordinator)**

### Civilian Hires for 2020

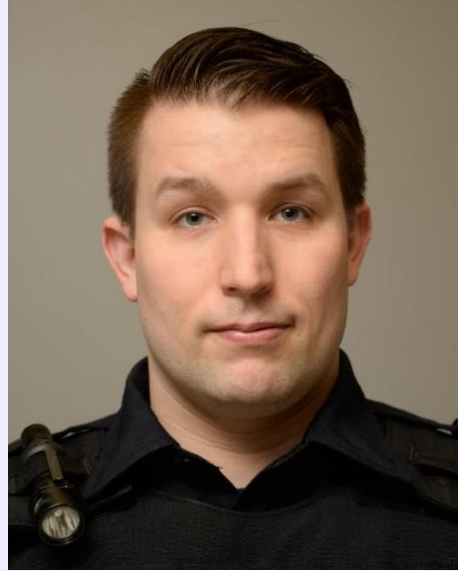
<b>Jenna Rops</b>	<b>(Data Entry)</b>
<b>Jenna Reintjens</b>	<b>(Data Entry)</b>
<b>Liam Leger</b>	<b>(IT Technician)</b>
<b>Austin Veenstra</b>	<b>(Court Security)</b>
<b>Jake Wright</b>	<b>(Court Security)</b>



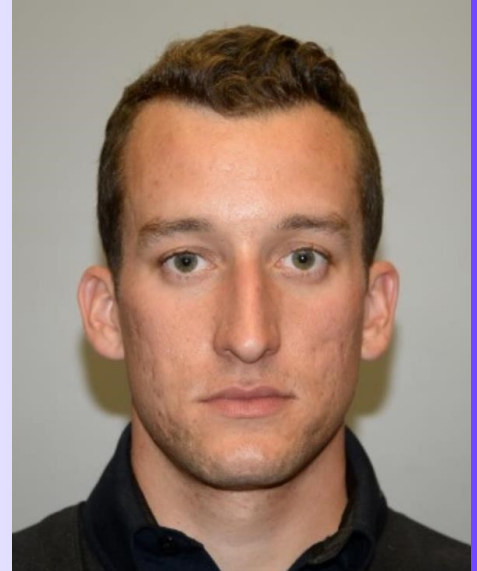
## Officers Hired in 2020



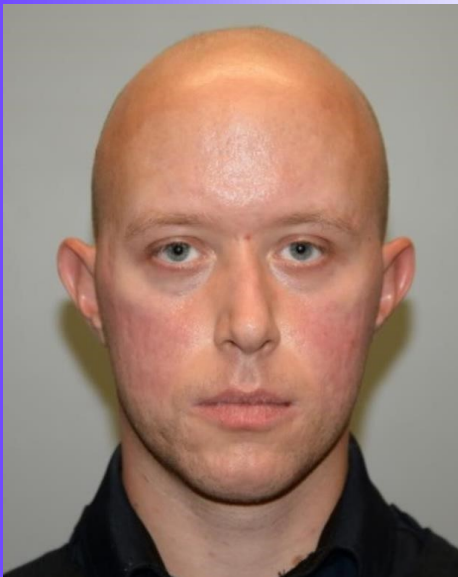
**PC Philip Veal**



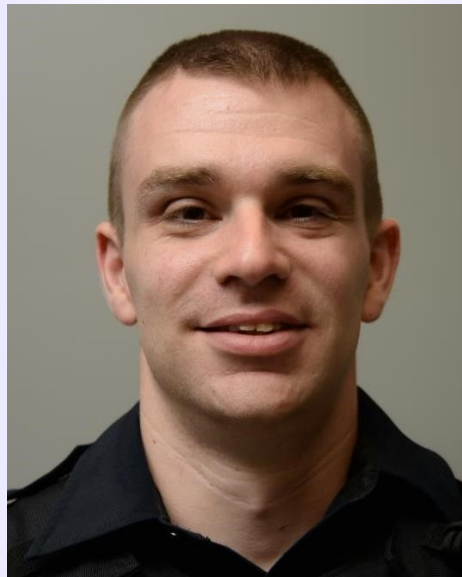
**PC Patrick Smith**



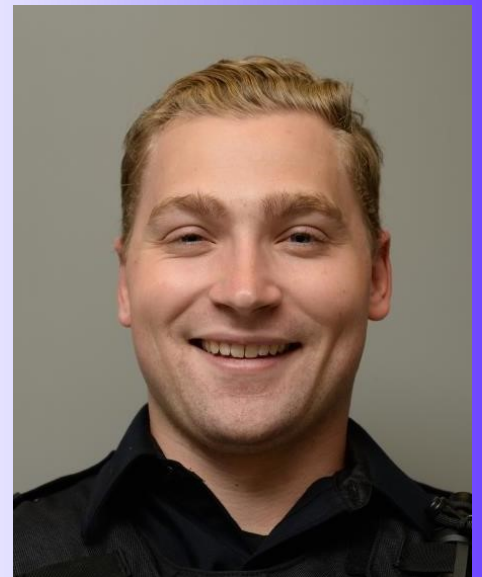
**Calvin Hughson**



**PC Zachary Douglas**



**PC Jordan Armstrong**



**PC Aiden Fraser**







## 2020 Sarnia Police Service Organizational Chart

### Sarnia Police Service Organizational Chart

Authorized Complement  
 Sworn Personnel 111  
 Civilian Personnel 45  
 Civilians (Part Time) 25  
  
 Total 181

