



The New Westminster Police

2009 Year In Review

The Changing Faces of the New Westminster Police Service



Cst.'s Crowston, Masson, Corazza, Heath



Cst.'s Callaghan, Thom, Hagen



Ms. Puddle



Cst.'s Raymond & Florido



Cst. Wise

Cst. Chung

Cst. Hodak



Ms.' Cottam, Matthews, Renyard, Sanford

Table of Contents:

Internet Child Luring	2
New Westminster Pipe Band	3
Man Charged in Shooting	4
Man Pulled From River	4
Constables Save Youth	5
Person Arrested in Assault	5
Explosives Found	6
Volunteers Make a Difference	7
Flag Consecration Ceremony	8

The Strategic Priorities of the New Westminster Police Service (NWPS) are

- (1) to be known as a #1 police employer,
- (2) to be leaders in innovative crime reduction,
- (3) for a greater sense of safety for all New Westminster citizens,
- (4) to be a modern and effective police agency,
- (5) to be the most trusted community leader in New Westminster, and
- (6) to achieve mutual success from strategic partnerships.

In order to achieve these goals, we recognize that our officers, civilians and volunteers are our greatest assets. Employees do not just bring their skills to a work-

place, but they also bring ideas, creativity, commitment, innovation, and motivation.

The NWPS would like to welcome the employees hired in 2009, as listed above.

They have become a part of a highly motivated team, serving a wonderful city that is rich in culture and diversity.

The NWPS is committed to providing a healthy, respectful, and safe place to work. The personal growth and satisfaction of our employees is of utmost importance. We work hard to ensure that our employees have the environment, tools and training they need to do their work safely and effectively.

"Serving Since 1873"



Mayor Wayne Wright

New Westminster Municipal Police Board



Ms. Carol-Ann Hart



Ms. Karen Foss



Mr. Ron Basran



Mr. Kim Husband

Senior Management Team



Assisting Chief Constable Lorne Zapotichny (top of page 3) on the Senior Management Team are (from top left) Deputy Chief Constable Dave Jones, Inspector Laurin Stenerson (I/C Patrol), Inspector Doug Walcott (I/C Support Services), and Mr. Mark Wilson (Comptroller).

Message From the Police Board Chair

As Mayor of New Westminster, one of my roles is to Chair the New Westminster Police Service Board. It's a privilege and honour that I have enjoyed fulfilling for the past seven years. During this time, I have consistently been impressed with the efforts of uniformed and civilian staff of our police service, along with the volunteers and members of the Police Board, and their collective commitment to keeping our citizens safe.

If the statistics are any measure, our community can be justifiably proud of our police. Calls for service have been on the decline for the past three years with a nine per cent reduction in 2009 coming on the heels of a four percent

decrease in 2008. These figures, combined with NWPS' continued commitment to The Royal City, whether through participation in civic events and festivals or through programs such as the annual NWPS soccer camp in Queen's Park, are proof that we have one of the best police forces in the country.

Staying current with new crime prevention initiatives and through the use of additional resources such as the Police Marine Unit and Mobile Command Unit, our Police Service employs innovative technology and techniques to respond to crime and keep New Westminster a vibrant and safe community. On behalf of all citizens of New Westminster, I'd like to express heartfelt gratitude to the NWPS, its members, staff and volunteers, for another great year.

International Child Luring Investigation

The New Westminster Police Major Crime Unit concluded a seven month Internet Child Luring Investigation with an arrest in Australia.

The NWPS has a full-time investigator who specializes in offences against children, including internet child luring and child pornography investigations. This particular investigation began in February 2009 after the member, acting in a covert capacity as a 14 year old female, was contacted on an internet chat site by an adult male believed to be residing in Australia.

It is alleged that over the course of the next seven months, this male, believing the officer was a 14 year old female, exposed his genitals to the officer on multiple occasions, and attempted to make arrangements to have the young girl come to Australia.

The New Westminster Police contacted the Australian Federal Police who were able to locate and arrest this individual. The 44 year old male is now charged under Australian law with one count of using a carriage service to groom a person under 16 years of age, and one count of using the internet to expose indecent matter to a child under the age of 16 years.

Officer Assigned to "Air One"

Cst. Sean Hackman was delighted to get the job as tactical flight officer for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on the police helicopter Air One. He says, ***"I love my new gig! I get the opportunity to do dynamic duties with different policing agencies and sections everyday."***

It was his extensive knowledge of the geography of the lower mainland gained as a Brinks guard and as a park ranger which helped him get the job, which started full time in August.

Const. Hackman is able to use his observations from the helicopter to help police find suspects, vehicles, lost or injured persons, as well as give advice on where best to place resources in the case of major inci-

dents. The helicopter covers the area from Hope to Pemberton.

Const. Hackman stated New Westminster is included on most of his patrols. He says ***"I have assisted or monitored numerous files, from attending large house parties to disperse youths with my flashlights, to following stolen vehicles and searching for theft suspects using a thermal imaging camera."***



Reprinted with permission of The Record / Larry Wright

2009 saw a year of continual progress for the New Westminster Police Service in pursuit of our Strategic Priorities. Some of our accomplishments included the addition of a School Liaison Officer for our Elementary and Middle Schools, a new Command Trailer, the consecration of our new Ceremonial Flag, one of our officers being honoured by the Lt. Governor for his Meritorious Service to our community, and a continuation in the decline in Criminal Code offences that have occurred in our City.

We know that our citizens want a visible presence, a familiar face and a prompt response from their Police Service. We also recognize that the presence of uniformed police officers is a major

contributor to a feeling that order and safety prevail in the community.

We are committed to staying focused on operational policing that affects our community from a local and global perspective. We continue in forging strong relationships with our community, municipal and law enforcement partners in order to positively influence the state of our local environment.

Maintaining our success in reducing crime within the context of a visible, accessible and focused policing style continues to promote public confidence for the citizens of New Westminster. We are committed to continuing this in 2010; maintaining our spotlight on providing "Excellence in Policing".



Chief Constable
Lorne Zapotichny

New Westminster Police Pipe Band



The New Westminster Police is proud of its connection and history, and hopes to build on the accomplishments of the New Westminster Pipe Band. Formerly known as the Maple Ridge Pipe Band, the band has evolved from a group of only three pipers and five drummers into a community fixture of the Pacific Northwest. It has entertained audiences with its enchanting pipe and drum melodies for over 60 years. Founded in 1948, the band originally practiced its tunes in the cow fields of Maple Ridge. Right from the beginning the band has been a changing mix of pipers and drummers. One of its inaugural members in 1948 was Major Willie Campbell, retired piper to her Majesty Queen Victoria. Until his death in the 1960's, Major Campbell

was known as the band's honorary Pipe Major.

Over the years, the band has competed at competitions throughout British Columbia, Washington State, California, Oregon, and around the world. Many of the band's pipers and drummers have won several individual trophies and awards. In addition to competing, the New Westminster Police Pipe Band has also performed at innumerable parades, weddings and other social events. One of the band's more popular functions has been its own annual Robbie Burns dinner, now heading into its 62th year of celebration.

Several of the band's members are former grade one pipers and drummers, musicians who have

competed at the top levels of piping and drumming in both Canada and overseas. Pipe Major Angus MacPherson, a piper for over 30 years, is well known throughout the Scottish community in B.C. as the past-president of the B.C. Pipers Association. He has also been the chairman of the B.C. Highland Games for the past seven years. A former instructor to the renowned Vancouver Ladies Pipe Band, MacPherson competed several years as a solo amateur and professional piper.

The pipe sergeant of the band is Jack Cairney. Jack played for twenty years with the top Grade One bands in B.C. including the City of Port Moody, Triumph Street, and the Abbotsford Police Pipe Band. Jack is well regarded as an instructor, judge, and solo player. Cam Dodson is our new lead drummer. Cam took over the drum section in July, 2008, and did a great job leading the drum corps in Maxville and Montreal.

A true cross section of the community, the remaining members of the New Westminster Police Pipe Band come from every walk of life. With the bands vast experience and true professionalism, the New Westminster Police Pipe Band would be a welcome and unforgettable addition to any gathering.

Man Charged in Shooting

In the early hours of October 4th 2009, New Westminster Police received a call from Emergency Health Services (EHS). They advised that they had received a call from a male who was passing the 22nd Street Skytrain Station and could hear someone screaming like they were in extreme pain. EHS and NWPS attended the area and located a young male with a gunshot wound to this hand. The victim and his associate were not overly cooperative but provided a story about being shot by some males associated to a white vehicle with Washington State license plates. The victim was taken to Royal Columbian Hospital accompanied by police, while the associate went home. The injuries were not life threatening and no crime scene was located.

Later that morning members were able to obtain the address of the original 911 call to EHS. It was found to be in the 2200 block of 8th Avenue. Members attended that resi-

the caller
"could hear
someone
screaming like
they were in
extreme pain"

dence and conducted a door knock. Another young Indo-Canadian male advised he had been out with a male who had a similar name to the victim but not the same. This witness was again somewhat uncooperative. After speaking to this individual, members located a pool of blood and a mask in the resident's driveway.

As a result of these findings, a police canine dog search was deployed. A further blood trail was located that went through a parking lot across the street from the 2200 block of 8th Avenue. Another large amount of blood was located, as was a balaclava and 2 guns, including a rifle. The scene at Connaught Heights was secured, and Major Crime and Forensics were called out.

A male suspect was later arrested and charged in the shooting.

Did You Know?

Up to 90% of crashes involve human error. Here's how to avoid them:

- Follow at a safe distance
- Slow down; don't speed
- Don't drink and drive
- Be extra careful in an intersection.
- Focus on the road, use a hands-free device for your cellphone



Cops for Cancer

Cst.'s Hackman and White participated in last year's Cops for Cancer fundraiser. Together they raised \$18,454.99 for pediatric cancer research and support programs for children with cancer and their families.

New School Liaison Officer (SLO)

In the spring of 2008, a member on "light duties" due to injuries was temporarily assigned as a SLO to the elementary and middle schools. This trial was very successful, and with the support of the School District, a new position was created for the start of the 2009/10 school year. This position provides information and education that are paramount in the prevention of crime and/or criminal behavior. It also helps to foster a positive relationship between youth and police.

During the year, the officer was called to a school to speak to some students who were making some bad choices. The principal commented **"he was able to give them a shot of reality which helped them take a turn for the better."**



Man Pulled From Fraser River

At approximately 1700 hours on Sunday, February 15th, NWPS received several calls from residents of the Jamieson Court area reporting a male floating downstream in the Fraser River approximately 100 meters north of the Pattullo Bridge. Members responded and spotted the male clinging to an overturned 17' aluminum car-topper boat. Constable Oliveira rushed to Sea Link Marine Services on Front Street where she was fortunate to locate a tug tied up at the dock with a crew nearby. Constable Oliveira boarded the tug and with the Captain and his deck hand they quickly went to the victim's aid.

Constable Oliveira and the tug crew were able to pull the fifty-year-old Surrey man onboard and he was then rushed to the dock to an awaiting ambulance. The subject was hypothermic and at RCH it was learned that his core temperature had dropped almost 10°C. The subject was very intoxicated and it appears that he boarded his boat somewhere near the Port Mann Bridge. He apparently started upstream from there, however, for some reason the boat began taking on water.

It is highly unlikely that the victim would have been able to hold onto his boat much longer as he was slipping in and out of consciousness. The victim ended up going into a coma for almost a week and we were pleased to learn once he came out of the coma that he had not suffered any brain damage. Of note, the attending paramedics were very complimentary of the tug crew, and in particular of Constable Oliveira, who wrapped the subject in her patrol jacket until he was loaded into the ambulance.

"If it was not for your quick response and skill, my son would not be here today."

In the early afternoon of January 29, 2009, New Westminster police Constables Dyck and Maglio had just finished checking a vehicle near Moody Park when a youth ran up to them asking for help. His friend had just collapsed in the park. The Constables quickly came to the aid of the fifteen year old who was lying on the grass.

Constable Dyck found the youth had no pulse and was not breathing, so the officers immediately started CPR and radioed for an ambulance. The two Constables continued CPR until an Ambulance Services Advanced Life Support Unit arrived.

Upon arrival at Royal Columbian Hospital the youth again went into full cardiac arrest however, thankfully hospital medical staff were

able to revive and stabilize him.

The young man's mother had already rushed to the Park when one of her son's friend's had come to tell her that her son had collapsed. She was taken to Royal Columbian Hospital by Constable Oliveira.

The young man remained in critical condition for several days; but has now made a full recovery from what turned out to be a problem with his heart.

In a note to the Constables involved, the youth's mother wrote "Thank you for not giving up on (my son). If it was not for your quick response and skill, my son would not be here today. You will never know how grateful we are to you, you saved his life."

Emergency Response Trailer



The City of New Westminster now has an Emergency Response Trailer that is capable of being used as a command post to facilitate an effective and coordinated response to any emergency.

The Emergency Response Trailer is highly mobile and can be taken close to any emergency site. This ensures that there is a location at an incident site to conduct planning and operational briefings, as well as providing a communication link back to the Emergency Operations Centre and/or the various first responder agencies.

The trailer is available for use by New Westminster Fire/Rescue, the Police Service, Engineering Department, Emergency Social Services and other departments for emergency responses.

Person Arrested In Sexual Assault Cases

In the early morning of August 5th, a complainant called in regarding a female screaming from behind 121 – 10th Street. Members immediately attended the scene, however no female was found. Constable Bowyer located a male in the area who was sweating profusely and attempting to evade her check. Constable Bowyer took the male into custody as he matched the description of a suspect in a sexual assault which had occurred on Quayside drive earlier in the summer. Minutes later, a female victim called dispatch and advised that she had been attacked in a field beside John Robson School. Constable Long attended and transported the victim to the station for an interview. Due to the seriousness of the case, our Major Crime Section was called out.

As a result of the investigations, a fourteen year old suspect has now been charged with a number of offenses relating to this incident and the one on Quayside Drive.



Police Services hosted their annual Soccer Camp this past summer. Over 300 children took part in this unique recreational event, designed to bring together police officers and youth for a fun filled week. The coaches included police officers and volunteers, as well as community soccer players and graduates of the soccer school. The soccer school was first introduced in 1981 and has become a flagship community program for the police service.

World Police Fire Games

The New Westminster Police was well represented in the World Police Fire Games (WPFG) held in the lower mainland from July 31 to August 9, 2009.

Of the 10,000 athletes from 55 countries, over 40 participants represented NWPS in curling, soccer, Grouse Grind, ice hockey, biathlon, triathlon, tennis, bench press, 5 km run, shot put, discus, javelin, wrist wrestling, rugby, half marathon, adventure race, bike, 10 km cross country, downhill mountain bike, golf, and police dog tracking.

Cst.'s Popke and Fortier each won bronze and silver metals at these games. Cst. Popke has been representing NWPS in WPFG events held around the world since 1989, and Cst. Fortier since 2003.

Congratulations to all competitors!



Constable A. POPKE
Bronze Medal – Bench Press
Silver Medal – Wrist Wrestling



Constable C. Fortier
Silver Medal – 10km Cross
Country Race
Bronze Medal – Individual Biathlon
Bronze Medal – Team Biathlon

Explosives Found

In what could have been a very dangerous incident, New Westminster police were able to ensure the safety of tenants of an apartment building in the 200 block of Royal Ave.

Police received information in the evening of March 24th, alerting them to the possibility of dangerous substances, including explosives, in one of the suites in the building.

At the suite in question, officers discovered various chemicals. The Hazardous Materials team, New Westminster Fire Services, and the RCMP Explosives Demolition Unit (EDU) were all called to the scene.

Meanwhile, the road was blocked to traffic and the residents of the building were evacuated as a precaution. The Victims Assistance Unit helped in the evacuation and organized a bus to safely transport the tenants to a nearby hotel.

The EDU were able to ascertain the chemicals were indeed explosive and were able to dispose of them safely.

More explosives were found in a storage locker belonging to the 30 year old male occupant of the suite. These were also disposed of safely by EDU. The 30 year old male, who has mental health issues, has been charged with a number of criminal code offenses related to this matter.

2009 Statistics

GENERAL STATISTICS	2009	2008	%CHG
Total Calls for Service	24977	27443	-9
PERSONS OFFENCES *	2009	2008	%CHG
Homicides	0	0	n/a
Sex Assault	29	26	26
Assault - Comm/Tresp	312	398	-22
Robbery	91	131	-31
TRAFFIC—SPECIFIC TYPES *	2009	2008	%CHG
Bylaw - Other	173	265	-35
Bylaw - Noise	534	484	10
Domestic Dispute-No Assault	796	752	6
Suspicious Person/Occurrence	1125	1070	5
False Alarms	1565	1593	-2
Recovered Stolen Vehicle	164	134	22
Impaired Operation (Alcohol)	133	112	19
Collision - Non-Fatal Injury	175	228	-23
Collision - Property Damage	638	659	-3

CDSA (Drug Related stats are influenced by enforcement initiatives) *	2009	2008	%CHG
Total Drug offences	301	414	-27
Other Crimes	2009	2008	%CHG
Breach/Bail Violation	152	213	-29
Breach Probation-Adult	107	135	-21
Cause a Disturbance	763	856	-11
Counterfeit Currency	18	26	-31
Indecent Acts/Exposures	20	20	0
PROPERTY CRIMES *	2009	2008	%CHG
Break & Enter Business	325	331	-2
Break & Enter Residence	255	230	11
Break & Enter Other	55	53	4
Motor Vehicle Theft	404	344	17
Theft from Motor Vehicles	748	718	4
Theft Other Over \$5000	13	14	-7
Theft Other Under \$5000	465	535	-13
Mischief	736	877	-16
Fraud Related	242	253	-4

* The report produced reflects the most current data available. Year 2009 data is preliminary.

- Early one morning an 18 year old teenager came down stairs to find her mother slumped over a chair, deceased. Mother and daughter live alone and have no family in BC. The daughter was completely overwhelmed with shock, grief and fear. Over time, the Victim Assistance Unit (VAU) caseworker is able to connect the young woman with her natural support system, including friends, the school and out of province family members. Beyond supporting the emotional needs of this client, the caseworker guides her through the myriad of responsibilities she now must attend to, including making funeral arrangements for her mother.
- At 1:00 am on a rainy winter night VAU was called to find a safe place to stay for a woman, who speaks minimal English, and her 2 young children. Police advise she was beaten and threatened with a knife by her husband, who fled the scene. The family was bundled into a van and taken to a Transition House. The caseworker continues to support this woman through the court process, and connects her to community agencies that help her stay safe as she rebuilds her life.
- VAU and Emergency Social Services (ESS) were called to assist evacuees of an apartment building fire. Out on the street, approximately 50 people are worrying and wondering if and when they would be able to go home. A number of them were elderly people and people with young families. Some needed medication for asthma and diabetes. Others couldn't find their family pets and feared the worst. A bus was arranged where people could more comfortably await word when the fire was out. Our volunteers provided coffee and refreshments to help calm the mood. Support workers circulated among the evacuees, talking to everyone and assessing special needs. When the building was finally cleared, all but 2 families could return. For those whose suites sustained damage, vouchers for food, emergency clothing and shelter were provided.
- A couple in their mid 80's, visiting from Alberta, were shopping for T-shirts for their grandchildren. They were having trouble finding sizes when a woman, claiming to be a clerk, helped them rummage through the shirts on the table. Coming up empty handed, the 'clerk' headed to the stockroom. When she didn't return, the couple went to the cashier to buy what they could. When the lady opened her purse, she found the wallet missing, along with her ID, \$200.00 and credit cards. The wife told VAU *"we never should have left rural Alberta; we are afraid of big cities; I had a dream our money was stolen"*. The caseworker helped cancel credit cards, arrange transportation home and contacted family in Alberta. Although they were very upset, and their holiday was ruined, they were kind enough to call when they returned home to thank VAU for helping them.
- During a Citizens Crime Watch Patrol (CCWP) shift in March 2009, two volunteers patrolling the Queensborough area came upon a vehicle that was having problems staying in its lane. With the driver swerving on the road and causing great concern for safety, the volunteers immedi-

ately called 911 reporting what they initially thought might be an impaired driver. The volunteers were directed by 911 operators to keep their distance and wait for Police to arrive. The vehicle was successfully stopped, only to discover that the driver had gone into a diabetic shock and needed immediate medical attention. Once Emergency Services had arrived on scene and had stabilized the driver, he was taken to the hospital where his worried wife met him. This event could have turned out tragically, but thanks to the keen eyes and good sense of our Crime Watch volunteers, the driver was able to go home the same night.

- Two New Westminster residents started volunteering with Crime Prevention Services with a goal to recover 300 stolen vehicles. Each time these two volunteers went out on a volunteer shift, they checked upwards of 3000 plates on the police database. Once they had located a stolen vehicle, they would report it to the Police and wait for them to arrive. Once the responding officers had wrapped up the scene, these two volunteers would offer the officers licorice. They are affectionately known as, the *Licorice Ladies*. At the end of 2009, and 10 years of dedicated volunteer service, these two veteran volunteers boast over 300 stolen vehicles/plates recovered on behalf of New Westminster Police.



Artwork by Erin-Elizabeth A. Durham

One Wednesday morning, a 95 year old woman walked blocks to Church thinking it was Sunday. She was sitting patiently on the doorstep of the Church waiting for the front doors to open. When a police officer noticed her there, they called our

VAU, who promptly arranged for a volunteer to drive her home.

- In November 2009, CCWP volunteers noticed a vehicle entering a busy Queensborough parking lot. They decided to check the vehicle's plates in the police database and as a result they got a "hit" that the vehicle might be stolen. As the volunteers called in the stolen plates, the occupants left the vehicle and headed into a merchant building nearby. The volunteers continued to communicate and update the 911 operator and kept a safe distance from the vehicle waiting for police to arrive. When Police arrived on scene, Crime Watch volunteers notice the driver now exiting the nearby building and heading towards the stolen vehicle, at which point the volunteers immediately notified the Police Officers on scene, and arrests were made. As further investigation was conducted, it was determined that the vehicle was stolen and the suspects had outstanding warrants for their arrest.

MAIN OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

555 COLUMBIA STREET
NEW WESTMINSTER, BC V3L 1B2
FAX: 604-529-2401

Non-Emergency Reporting and

General Information	604-525-5411
Prevention Services	604-529-2528
Crime-free Multi-Housing	604-529-2494
NWPS School Liaison	604-529-2443
Victim Services	604-529-2525
Police Board (Message Line)	604-529-2413

We're on the web!
www.nwpolice.org



On November 19, 2009, Constable Bruce Ballingall (back row, centre) was recognized by the Lieutenant-Governor at the Police Honours Night in Victoria, BC. Cst. Ballingall received the prestigious Meritorious Award for his significant contribution to policing and community service to the citizens of New Westminster for over 30 years. Cst. Ballingall says he was humbled to accept the award, saying his accomplishments have been part of a community endeavor. He is quick to state that he could not have done it without community support and partnerships.

Flag Consecration Ceremony



On May 23, 2009, the Lt. Governor of British Columbia, the Mayor of New Westminster, other dignitaries, the members of the New Westminster Police Service, the New Westminster Police Service Pipe Band as well as citizens of New Westminster gathered in Queens Park, New Westminster B.C. to honour the newly developed New Westminster Police Service ceremonial flag.

The consecration ceremony demonstrated the New Westminster Police Services' commitment to this long standing military tradition. The ceremony also demonstrated the loyalty of this city's police members to the residents of New Westminster.

The New Westminster Police Service members may now take this flag to many functions, such as Remembrance Day ceremonies and other official events. On these occasions, they may now fly the Canadian flag, British Columbian flag and New Westminster Police Service flag.

Consecration of the Colours

From the legacy and history of military brothers
We regard our flag with reverential pride.

As a symbol of the honour and devotion to our sovereign,
To our country and our service, there abide.

We're reminded of our duty, and ideals and traditions,
And our dedication now won't be denied.

Make us worthy of our calling and protect us from all peril
And we'll show our Colours proudly far and wide.

Now we're privileged to witness such a rare and special service
Bringing consecration, blessing and a prayer,

May it strengthen and inspire us with fellowship and courage
And the fundamental values that we share.

Come and compliment our Colours as we escort them with pleasure
On parade with pride and military flair,

We are pleased that New Westminster can share new historic moments
We are stronger when our emblems show we care.

Susan McLeod (Local Resident)



"Serving Since 1873"