



Brandon Police Service

1020 Victoria Avenue
Brandon, Manitoba



Annual Report 2020

Brandon Police Board Members



Rick Chrest
Mayor



Barry Cullen
Councillor



Shawn Berry
Councillor



Deb Arpin



Marycia Kruk



Liz Roberts



Tim McFadden



Susan Meighen



Dean Hammond
Acting City Manager



Message from Board Chair

Marc Casavant
Chair - Brandon Police Board

The Brandon Police Board is the oversight body that is responsible for the police services in Brandon. The Board's authority is established by Section 26 of the Manitoba Police Services Act.

The Chief of Police is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the police service, and the Chief and senior staff meet with the Board to discuss the best delivery of policing in the community of Brandon.

The Brandon Police Board is primarily responsible for the following:

- Board Strategic Goals and Monitoring of the Outcomes
- Board Policy Manual
- Approving a Budget to go to Council
- Annual Evaluation of the Chief of Police
- Regular Evaluation of the Police Board

Highlights of the Board's work in 2020:

- Created a plan to complete tasks associated with the roles and responsibilities of the Police Board
- Met with a consultant about Balanced Scorecards (a tool that can be used to focus on strategy and improve

performance)

- Provided training to new Police Board members
- Met with the Minister of Justice and Attorney General to discuss challenges associated with detaining civilians and the change in practice introduced during the pandemic
- Met with the Chief and his staff throughout the year determining needs for 2021 and to ensure an effective budget was prepared for City Council
- Evaluated the Chief of Police based on core competencies for the position

The Board supports the Chief and his staff as they work to provide the best possible service in our community. The year 2020 has presented significant challenges for the Police Service/Police Board to overcome. Using a collaborative approach combined with staff experience and clear vision, we have been able to successfully navigate the challenges presented and continue a trajectory of success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marc D. Casavant
Chair - Brandon Police Board



Troy Tripp
Finance Analyst

Greg Hebert
Inspector

Wayne Balcaen
Chief

Randy Lewis
Deputy Chief

Mike Pelechaty
Inspector

Meagan Warken
Executive Assistant

Message from the Chief

I am once again honored to bring my message from the Chief of Police on behalf of the sworn members, civilian staff and all of our volunteers at Brandon Police Service (BPS).

The year 2020 has been extremely trying for everyone as we face a worldwide pandemic and BPS was not immune to these challenges. From the outset of COVID-19, our service has implemented many enhanced protocols and processes in order to continue to deliver high quality policing to our community.

One significant change in our Service delivery came at the end of March when, due to COVID-19, the Police Service was tasked with prisoner detention. In order to prevent the spread of COVID-19, correctional facilities in Manitoba no longer allowed direct admission of prisoners. BPS responded quickly to this challenge and was able to manage all prisoner detentions until a judicial release could be facilitated or the individual was deemed able to care for themselves. This new process did present staffing challenges as police staff were dedicated to guarding. As we move into 2021, contracted guarding services will be undertaken allowing police officers to return to their previous duties.

BPS stuck to its vision of “Community First” throughout 2020, providing a significant presence at uplifting events during this global pandemic. Starting in April, BPS along with Brandon Fire and Emergency Services (BFES) to provide birthday drive-bys for the youth in our community. This initiative was developed to brighten the days for youth who could not celebrate their special day with family and friends due to the pandemic. Between April 6th and May 31st, a total of 156 drive-bys were completed. Between April 23rd and May 7th, BPS partnered with the Brandon School Division and escorted twelve school parades through their respective catchment areas. On December 23, BPS along with BFES and City of Brandon Operations (Transit and Public Works) participated in drive-bys of personal care homes and the Brandon Regional Health Center to provide a show of support for our seniors and frontline healthcare workers who were all deeply impacted by COVID-19. I am convinced that the efforts of our staff brought positivity to the community during the challenges of this pandemic.

Although 2020 was a difficult year on so many fronts, our dedicated staff and volunteers met the challenges head-on while continuing to deliver professional service to our community. I am proud and honored to lead Brandon Police Service and know we remain focused on our Core Values of “Respect, Professionalism and Integrity” while following our mission of “Committed to Community Safety”.

Stay well and stay safe,

Wayne Balcaen
Chief of Police

Detention Area

COVID-19 has caused a paradigm shift in society. For Brandon Police Service (BPS), this shift occurred in April of 2020 when direct admission of prisoners at the Brandon Correctional Center was suspended. BPS was tasked with this new duty and had a very short timeframe to initiate its plan.

After examining and rejecting numerous alternative spaces, a detention space was set up in our temporary holding facilities within BPS. Modifications were made to our facility to meet these new demands and BPS pivoted quickly to ensure detainee safety. BPS officers were reassigned from their regular duties to take on the task of guarding detainees. In time, some officers were able to return to their previous assignments, leaving 12 officers to ensure the safety of the detainees. Work is underway to contract guarding services and return the remaining officers to their previous duties.

The Province hired a consultant and worked with BPS staff to set in motion the building of six additional cells in a specially designed structure placed at the rear of BPS headquarters. This temporary detention facility will be complete in the first quarter of 2021 with funding provided by the Province of Manitoba.

Since April 1, 2020 we have safely detained 1566 people at BPS, due in large part to the dedicated women and men who have stepped in and provided this service.



COVID-19 Impacts

In 2020, Brandon Police Service was presented with many challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic. Like other Police Agencies across the country, we saw a number of additional demands put upon us. Employee and public safety were quickly made a priority and appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) was provided to employees and continually upgraded as safety “best practices” changed throughout the pandemic. Work spaces were inspected and renovated to improve employee safety. Throughout the pandemic, public access to the Police Service and services offered were adjusted to remain in line with provincial restrictions.

Our frontline members were tasked with enforcing both provincial and federal COVID-19 regulations and isolation orders which brought them into contact with COVID-19 positive individuals. Both police officers and civilian employees were subject to mandatory isolation due to illness and contact tracing measures. Employees who were able to complete their job function remotely were encouraged to work at home. Weekly COVID-19 meetings were held with the Police Executive Team and supervisors to seek input and strategize responses to ensure the maximum safety of our employees.

2020 Partnerships

Office of the Fire Commissioner Urban Search and Rescue K-9 Team

Brandon Police Service (BPS) has partnered with the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) CANTF-4 Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR) for many years; providing a select number of members to participate in USAR training and rescue deployments across Manitoba. For the first time since the inception of our partnership, a Brandon Police Service member was selected for the USAR Dog Handler Training Course and will form one of four USAR K-9 Teams for the Province of Manitoba. The USAR K-9 Teams are trained to track and search for missing and lost persons. Of significant note, the BPS USAR K-9 team will receive additional drug detection training, which will enable the team to be utilized for Brandon Police Service drug enforcement

purposes. In early 2021, the BPS USAR K-9 Team will complete training and be deployed on a full time basis in the Operational Support and Crime Suppression Unit. In addition to participating in Crime Suppression strategies, the K-9 Team will be available to track and search for lost and missing persons in non-criminal situations and conduct drug detection searches upon request. BPS values our partnership with the OFC which has proven to benefit both organizations by enhancing resources to accomplish our purposes in both realms of public safety.



K9 Blink

National Weapons Enforcement Support Team - NWEST

The National Weapons Enforcement Support Team (NWEST) is part of the Canadian Firearms Program. It is an integrated unit consisting of the RCMP and Municipal Police Services in the Western region which includes BC, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

NWEST is designed to combat gun crime, firearms

smuggling, and to support law enforcement agencies during firearms investigations. It was established to support front line police agencies in the gathering of evidence in order to assist in successfully prosecuting persons involved in the illegal movement and criminal use of firearms. Some of the services provided to police agencies by NWEST include:



- Assist with charge recommendations.
- Assist with the classification of firearms.
- Assist with obtaining affidavits for firearm licenses and registered firearms from the Canadian Firearms Office.

- Assist with firearm trace reports from the Canadian National Firearms Tracing Centre (CNFTC).
- Assist with firearm Public Safety Seizures with or without warrant, and Criminal Code search warrants for firearms.
- Assist with the Application for Prohibition Orders.



NWEST members are available to the policing and law enforcement community to enhance best practices in areas where experience is not yet in place as a day to day tool. In Manitoba, NWEST Members were predominantly located in Winnipeg, comprised of Members of the RCMP and Winnipeg Police Service. For the first time, 2020 brought an opportunity for Brandon Police Service (BPS) to select and provide one of our members to participate in the Manitoba NWEST program. The BPS NWEST Member has been placed in the Brandon Police Service

building which not only provides BPS with immediate weapons enforcement support and expertise, it offers more efficient and readily available assistance to our policing partners in the southwest region of Manitoba. BPS is grateful for the opportunity to participate in the NWEST program and very proud to offer a Member with exceptional weapons expertise to combat crime involving Firearms.

BEEPS

Circa 1970's, Brandon Police Service (BPS) had two mascots by the names Cautious Cal and Safety Sal. These mascots have been retired since the early 1990's and since that time, BPS had been without a mascot to assist us with public outreach.

School Resource Officer, Constable Alice Potter, decided it was time for a new mascot to join the ranks of the Service. It was determined a horse would be the best choice, reflecting the one that is on our police service crest. In April, Constable Myran Hamm posted a video on BPS social media seeking the public's input on naming the new mascot. We were very grateful of the public engagement and support generated from the video and had many fantastic names to choose from.

In November, Constable Hamm made an announcement through another video on BPS social media notifying the public our new mascot had finished training and would be named Officer BEEPS! This name was chosen as it was gender neutral, reflects BPS, and can be used as an acronym for "Brandon's Engaging Educational Police Stallion".

Although Officer BEEPS was unable to attend community events in 2020 due to COVID-19 restrictions, BPS felt it was important to get the name identified and share some positive news during some not so positive times. Officer BEEPS is excited to help build relationships between the police and the community in a proactive and friendly way.



Staff Allocation

Promotions	Promoted To
Carla Stevenson	Clerical Support Assistant Supervisor
Constable Michael Kulchyski	Sergeant

New Hire	Position
Ravyn Duncan	Clerical Front Desk Attendant
Arlene Cairns	Clerical Front Desk Attendant
Quin Hercina	Constable
Alec Anderson	Constable
Kristofer Hearn	Constable
Tess Manning	Bylaw Enforcement Officer

Retirements	Position	
Marc Savy	Constable	21 years
Bonnie Yeomans	Clerical Support Assistant Supervisor	8 years
Kelly Pettinger	Special Constable	34 years

Awards

40 Year Exemplary Service

Marc Alain

20 year Exemplary Service

David Andrew

30 Year Exemplary Service

Kevin Mclean
 Guy Roberts
 Michael Pelechaty
 Edward Conway
 Greg Anderson

12 Year Distinguished Service

Erin Mahoney
 Jason Gudnason

Crime Statistics

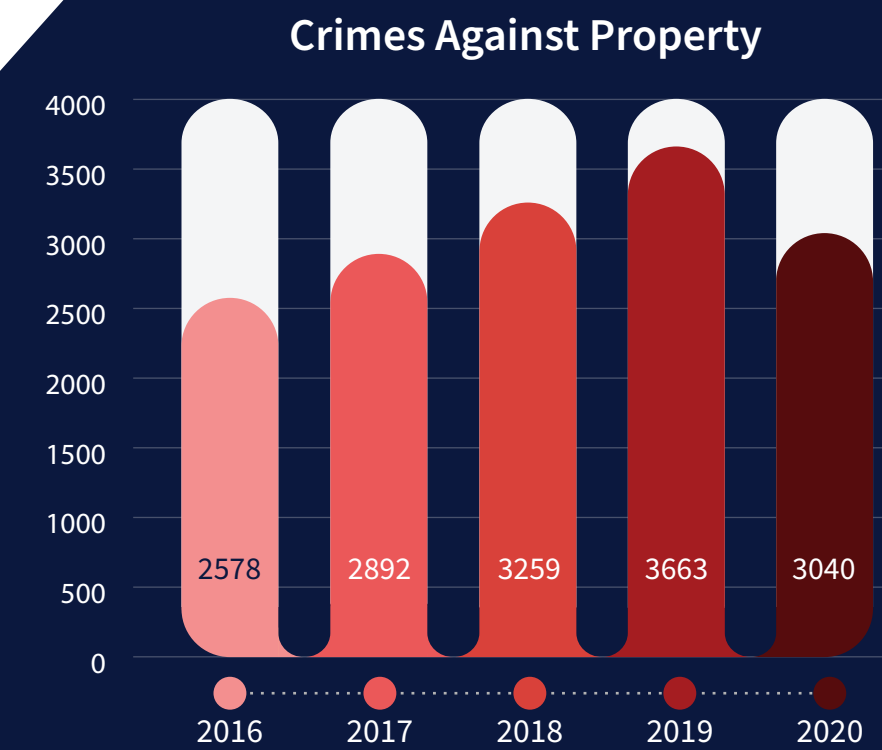
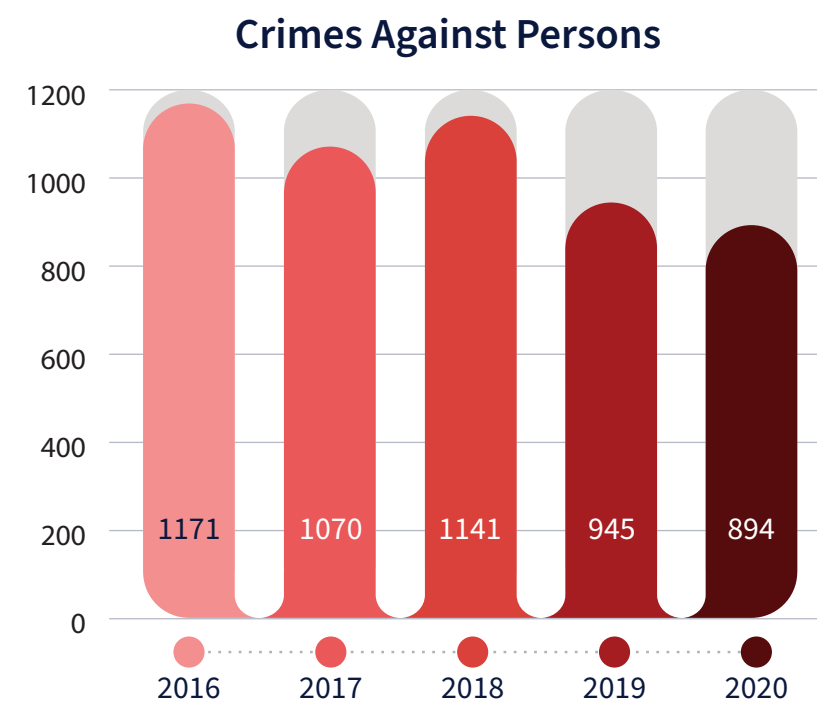
Crimes Against Persons	894
Homicide	0
Attempted Murder	0
Sexual Assaults	123
Assaults	582
Robbery	64
Other Violent Crimes	125
Crimes Against Property	3040
Arson	12
Break & Enter	392
Theft Over \$5,000	7
Theft of Motor Vehicle	89
Theft Under \$5,000	1081
Possession Stolen Property	142
Fraud	490
Mischief	827
Traffic Violations	95
Dangerous Operation Vehicle	29
Impaired Driving	66
Controlled Drugs	149
Possession	69
Trafficking	80
Other Crimes	1638
Moral Offences (Pornography, etc)	20
Offensive Weapons	307
Youth Criminal Justice Act	43
Other Criminal Code Offences	1268

Total Criminal Code Violations 5,816

Federal Statute Offenses 43

* Please note that the Brandon Police Service statistical totals may be subject to change to more accurately reflect our Records Management System. Enquiries regarding these changes can be directed to the Brandon Police Service.

Crime Stats



Budget

	Budgeted	Actual
Revenues	\$ 17,198,271	\$ 17,138,681
City of Brandon Operating Grant	\$ 14,638,731	\$ 14,638,731
Provincial Funding	\$ 1,413,400	\$ 1,724,310
Federal Funding	\$ 225,000	\$ 139,193
Tickets & Fines	\$ 567,500	\$ 286,687
User Fees	\$ 343,340	\$ 331,048
Other	\$ 10,300	\$ 18,711

	Budgeted	Actual
Expenses	\$ 17,198,271	\$ 17,138,386
Regular Salaries	\$ 14,024,129	\$ 14,083,056
Overtime	\$ 734,400	\$ 716,876
Reserve Appropriations: Equipment & Vehicles	\$ 634,719	\$ 634,719
Fleet Maintenance, Fuel, Insurance & Leases	\$ 536,780	\$ 464,877
Contract Services	\$ 471,485	\$ 271,117
Parts & Materials	\$ 218,798	\$ 235,642
Equipment Purchases	\$ -	\$ 213,072
Professional Development, Travel & Police Board	\$ 116,090	\$ 209,612
Benefits	\$ 216,615	\$ 100,355
Utilities	\$ 116,370	\$ 94,650
Capital Contributions - Temporary Cells	\$ 96,146	\$ 93,649
Grants & Public Relations	\$ 32,7400	\$ 20,761

2020 Surplus **\$294**

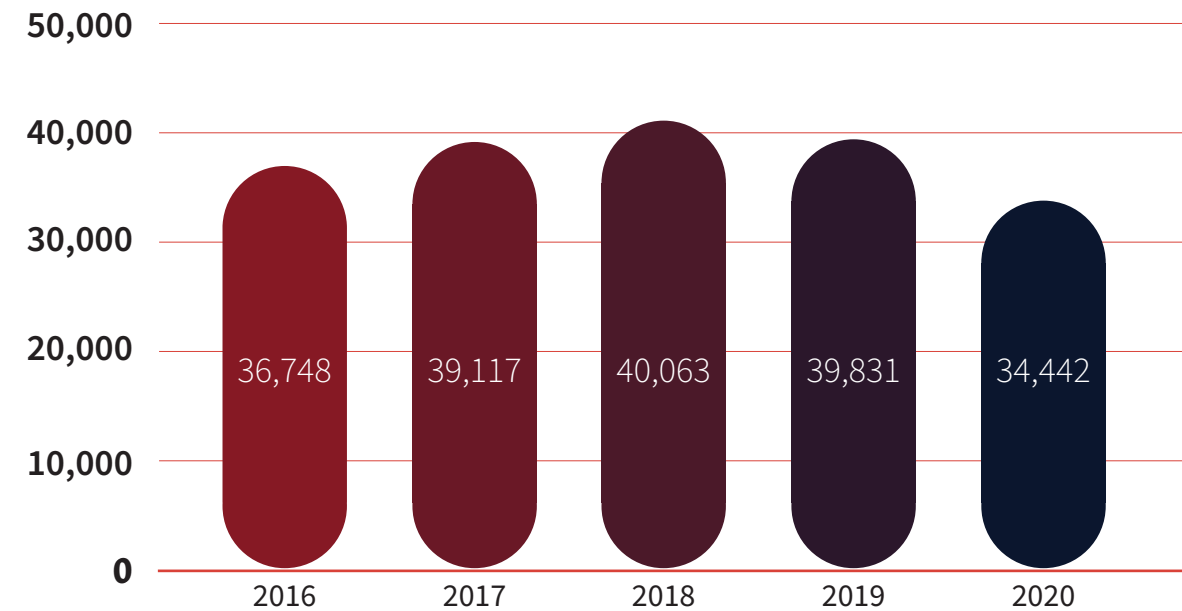
Authorized Complement

92 40

Sworn Civilian

The average number of calls per Sworn Officer in 2020 was **374**.

Calls for Service



Funding Received

	CPF	FPOC
2016/2017	\$166,503	-
2017/2018	\$135,924	\$47,905
2018/2019	\$109,017	\$65,200
2019/2020	\$133,100	\$377,190
2020/2021	\$162,259	-

Criminal Property Forfeiture (CPF) is a process through which property and proceeds from illegal activity are seized. The proceeds from the sale of forfeited property are then distributed to victims of crime as well as law enforcement for specialized equipment and community initiatives. In addition, a separate fund is maintained for proceeds from federal offences known as **Federal Proceeds of Crime (FPOC)**. For more information, visit gov.mb.ca/justice/commsafe/cpf.

Cases of Interest

Drug Seizure

In July, a member of the Brandon Police Service conducted a traffic stop on #1 Hwy, just east of the city limits and became involved in an Unlawful Transportation of Liquor in a Motor Vehicle investigation, contrary to the provisions of the Liquor, Gaming and Cannabis Control Act.

During the course of the investigation, a large quantity of illicit drugs was discovered within the vehicle. In total, 76 kilograms of illicit drugs, later identified to be 50 kilograms of MDMA, commonly known as Ecstasy, and 26 kilograms of a substance containing Fentanyl, packaged in 1 Kilogram quantities, were located and seized from the cargo area of the vehicle.

Two males from Ontario were charged with Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking MDMA (Ecstasy) and Fentanyl, contrary to the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act.

The estimated wholesale value of the seizure was in excess of three million dollars if sold by the kilogram. The “street value” of the seizure

may potentially be five times that amount. This seizure represents the largest single incident seizure in the history of the Brandon Police Service.

In addition to local efforts, the Brandon Police Service participates in province wide crime reduction strategies and specialized training through the Province of Manitoba, Department of Justice. These initiatives involve a collaborative enforcement effort with other Police agencies in Manitoba including the RCMP, Winnipeg Police Service, Morden Police Service, Winkler Police Service, Manitoba First Nations Police Service and Rivers Police Service with the goal of taking a proactive approach to crime reduction across the Province of Manitoba.



Illegal Tobacco Seizure

In September, a lengthy joint agency investigation involving the Brandon Police Service, the Manitoba Finance Taxation Special Investigations Unit and the Ontario Ministry of Finance Investigations concluded after the involved agencies identified a group of Manitoba residents who were smuggling illegal tobacco into Manitoba from a First Nations community in Ontario.

The investigation led to targeted traffic stops and a total of 5 residential and commercial search warrant executions within the City of Brandon which yielded a total seizure of over 4 Million contraband cigarettes and stolen tools valued at approximately \$50,000. A pickup truck and transport trailer were also seized as crime related property.

Four Brandon men, ranging in ages from 46 to 60 years old, were charged

under Section 121.1(1) of the Criminal Code; Possession of Unstamped Tobacco, Section 80(2)(a) of The Tax Administration and Miscellaneous Taxes Act; Possess greater than 25 Units of Unmarked Tobacco and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime.

The Manitoba Finance Taxation Special Investigations Unit believe the seizure represents over 1.5 Million dollars in lost tax revenue and the suspects subsequently face a potential “triple tax” penalty under the Provincial Tax Acts of nearly 5 Million dollars. The total seizure is also believed to be the largest single incident illegal tobacco seizure in Manitoba to date.

Community Compliments



“I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to the Brandon Police Service for recovering my stolen property. A special thank you for making certain said property was safely and directly returned to me in person. The officer’s professionalism in helping with the safety and well-being of this community and its people is something to be admired. Thank you again for your superior service!”

I just wanted to pass along this story that was relayed to me by my neighbour. This happened yesterday, at a Brandon School.

Her son is in Grade 4 (9 years old). Two BPS officers responded to false alarm nearby and then saw the outdoor gym class happening. They asked if they could join, and hung out with the students for a bit, in essence joining their gym class.

She says it’s something her son won’t forget anytime soon. These positive community interactions are often overlooked, but are incredibly important. Please send along kudos to the officers involved.

Thank you.

Police responded to a “wellness check” I requested on my client. The Officer called me prior to going, to identify my concerns. I was impressed by this “pre-assessment”. The Officer provided me with a report on my client after The Officer had made contact with him.

I am so appreciative of the thorough and professional manner in which the Officer handled this request. It’s not easy dealing with individuals who have a mental health issue and an addiction issue.

Thank-you so much!

I would just like to formally extend my gratitude to the officers and dispatchers involved in responding to two separate alarm breaches on my vacant house. They were there within minutes each time, they were efficient and gave me a thorough update on what was happening. The officers both times really eased my mind that they had the situation handled so quickly. So thank you, BPS officers, your efforts are appreciated more than you know.

“

Brandon Police Service responded to a call downtown from one of our participants. The Constable met with the participant and called me as per the participant’s request. The Constable was very kind, patient and helpful during the call and then brought the client to our office and stayed to help “counsel” the client. The Officer really went above and beyond and I wanted to say “Thank you”.

“

Today my son and I were getting out of our car in the parking lot of our condo in the West end when an officer, driving by slowly in a patrol car, waved and smiled to us. This nice and simple gesture, which seems to be the general rule among BPS officers, made us feel really great and proud of our police. We somehow wanted to let the officer know how nice that was and how much we appreciated that. We also wanted to show our appreciation and support to all BPS officers and staff during this period of growing criticism against the police. Regardless, we know you guys are always there when we need you. Thank you so much for your service! You guys are awesome!!!

BPS/ACC Partnership

In 2006, the Brandon Police Service (BPS) and the Assiniboine Community College (ACC) began a partnership in the training of potential police recruits through the Police Studies Program. This partnership has proven beneficial to BPS and ACC, as well as to several public safety agencies across Manitoba and Canada. In our partnership, ACC provides the infrastructure and BPS provides the industry specialists. 2020 witnessed high quality instruction and hands on training despite the global pandemic. The 2020 graduation provided BPS with three police recruits, and Manitoba First Nation Police with five recruits. Another two graduates were hired by agencies outside of the Province of Manitoba.

Public Health orders have changed the way of delivering the training for the 2020/21 class. Training staff now employ blended delivery, consisting of both in-person and online training. This ensures a safe environment for the recruits and utilizes social distancing and PPE use while on campus.

The partnership between BPS and ACC is not limited to recruit training. ACC provides a unique opportunity for BPS to conduct in-service and continuing education training 12 months a year. Utilizing the Public Safety Training Center at the Victoria East Campus, BPS houses our training simulator and, additionally, has access to the nearly 6,000 square feet of indoor training space, 7 days a week.

To date, 39 Brandon Police Service employees are graduates of the ACC Police Studies Program, all of which serve as a testament of the successful partnership between BPS and ACC.





Brandon Police Service

1020 Victoria Avenue
Brandon, MB

Emergencies dial 911

Non-Emergencies dial 204-729-2345