



2021

# ANNUAL REPORT



# Meet The Board

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**Rick Chrest**  
Mayor



**Barry Cullen**  
Councillor



**Shawn Berry**  
Councillor



**Tim McFadden**  
Vice-Chair



**Marycia Kruk**  
Member



**Tim Silversides**  
Member



**Shannon Brichon**  
Member



**Ron Bowles**  
City Manager

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



**Deb Arpin**  
Chair - Brandon Police Board

The Brandon Police Board has had many changes in 2021 with the resignations and terms expiring. The Board would like to recognize Dr. Casavant, Ms. Liz Roberts, Ms. Susan Meighan and Mr. Dean Hammond for their contributions during their time on the Board.

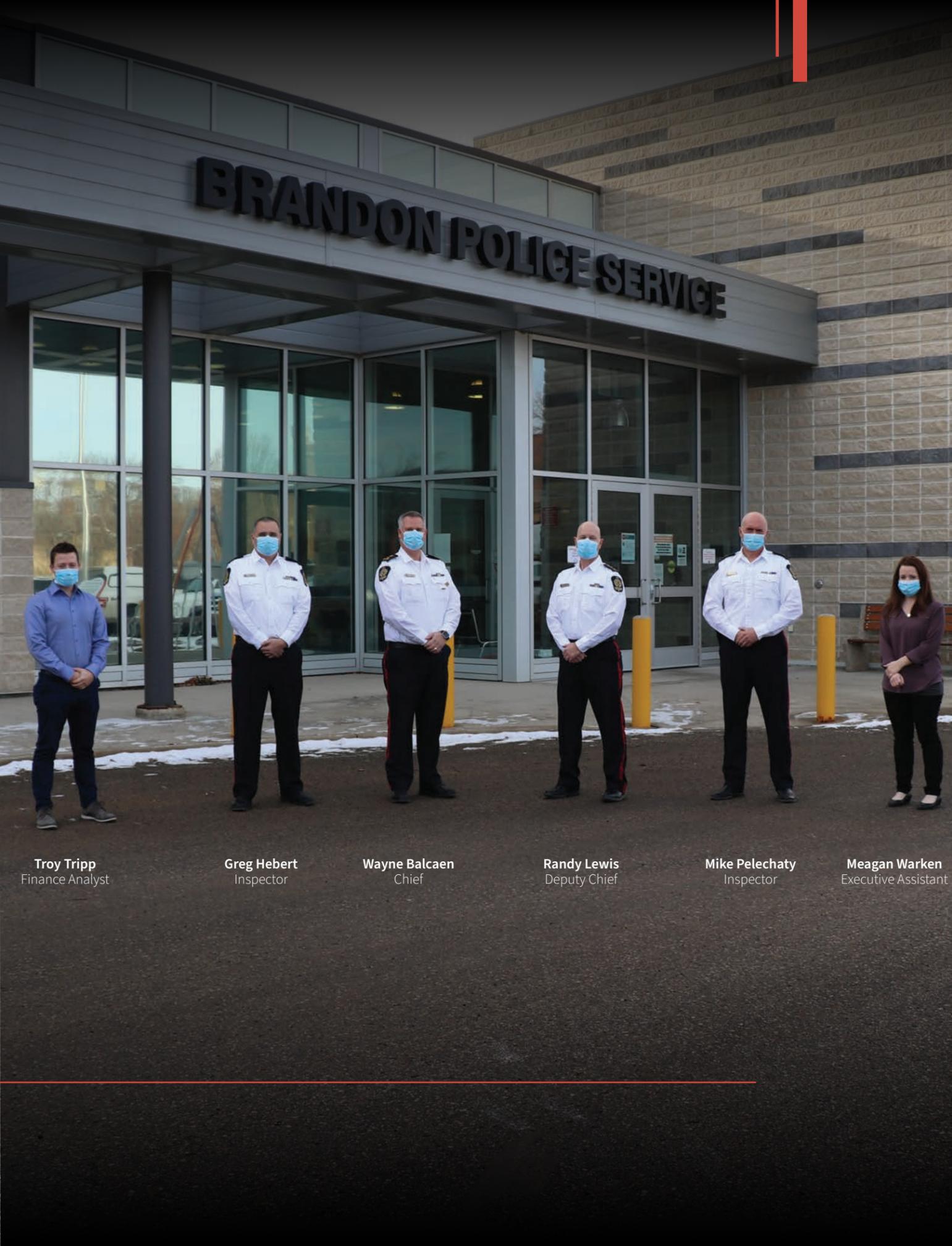
The continuing Coronavirus pandemic presented ongoing challenges during 2021. The Board had to adapt to the constant changes of the Provincial Public Health Orders. Meetings were held virtually to protect the Board and Public. Westman Communications Group was invited to stream the meetings for the public to view.

In 2021 the Board continued to work on the Board Policy Manual, budgeting for the coming year, Police Chief evaluation and new member training and refresher training for present members. The Board also considered all issues brought forward by the Chief of Police.

The Brandon Police Service encountered many obstacles in 2021. One of the biggest challenges is the evolution that has resulted from the termination of the previous detention agreement with Brandon Correctional Centre (BCC). Detainees were no longer authorized to be transferred to BCC and are now held at the Police Service. The temporary holding cells that are located onsite were utilized and through Provincial Government funding and dedicated staff, the situation has been successful. The Board announced a new permanent detention area will be established on site in the near future.

The Board continues to work closely with the Chief of Police and his Senior Staff to ensure the delivery of effective policing in the community. The Board is pleased with the overall performance of the Police Chief, his Senior Staff and all employees of Brandon Police Service.

As we move into 2022, the Board is looking forward to continuing to work closely with the Police Chief and his Senior Staff to ensure the continued success of the Brandon Police.



**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

2021 was another unique year for the Brandon Police Service (BPS). Our staff continued to bring outstanding policing services to our community in spite of the challenges that policing in a global pandemic can bring. I am extremely proud of how our employees have been able to adapt quickly and forge forward during these everchanging times. I have been told many times, there is no playbook written for pandemic policing, however, our employees continue to write chapter after chapter of the "how to" for the future should anyone ever need to look back and glean best practices.

Throughout 2021, BPS continued to work with our community and solidify working relationships with partner agencies. Recently, a BPS police officer was seconded to work with the Manitoba Criminal Intelligence Centre. This new relationship will help enhance real time intelligence sharing and assist in combatting organized crime within our region, province and across the country. BPS also renewed our partnership with Assiniboine Community College and have a police officer assigned to teach the Public Safety Course which forms the educational component of our recruit training. Our Community Policing unit

grew by one member and a new vision for community engagement is being fostered by this unit of our Police Service. The Brandon Police Service also started a multi-year project to build permanent detention facilities onto our existing headquarters building footprint with financial support from the Province of Manitoba. Our Police Service has enhanced our Criminal Record Check process by establishing an online format that allows applicants to obtain a criminal record check from the comfort of their home or business. Although the global pandemic threw many curve balls at us in 2021, we still managed to move the Police Service forward in a positive, community minded fashion.

Each year it is with immense pride that I author the Chief's message for our annual report. In doing so I have the privilege of sharing the incredible efforts put forward by the 136 employees of your Brandon Police Service. On behalf of our Executive Team and all staff of the Brandon Police Service, please enjoy our annual report.

Thank you, Merci, Miigwetch, stay safe, stay healthy and keep well.

Wayne Balcaen  
Chief of Police

Forrest Green

## ONLINE CRIMINAL RECORD CHECKS

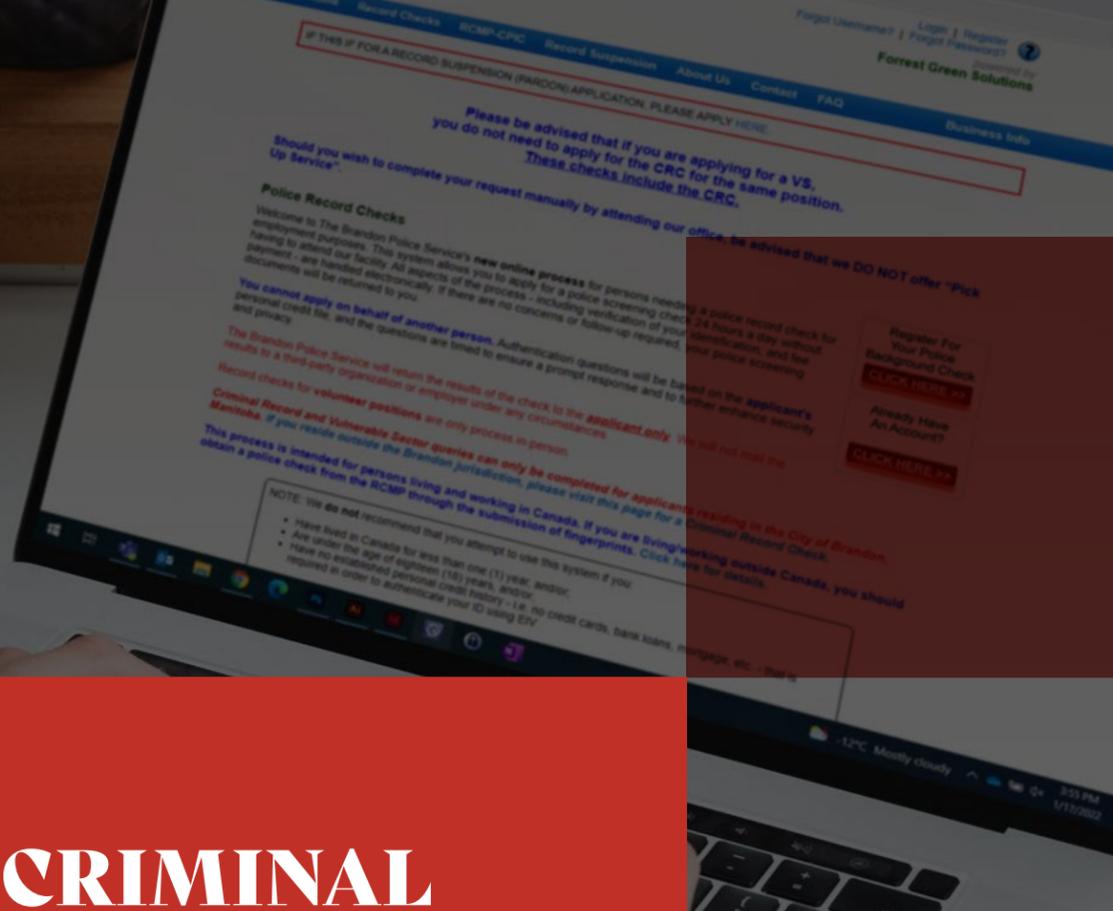
While always endeavoring to improve the service provided to the Community, BPS sought out a better way for members of the public to be able to get criminal record checks done through the Police Service. BPS partnered with the company Forrest Green, which provides members of the public the ability to get a criminal record check using online services provided by this company. The client is able to share their necessary personal information through this secure portal which allows the check to be done and shared through the Police Service.

The implementation of online Police Record Checks has been a game changer for both the employees of BPS and the public we serve. The Forrest Green platform allows the public to apply for a record check 24 hours a day without ever having to step foot inside the Police Service, reducing wait times and personal contact. All aspects of the process are handled electronically,

including verification of identification and fee payment.

Members of the public can easily access this online service through the Brandon Police Service Website, which includes links to the various types of checks we can perform Criminal Record Check (CRC), a Police Vulnerable Sector Check (PVSC) and there is also the option to complete a Record Suspension/Pardon application. In order to verify the applicant's ID, authentication questions will be based on the applicant's personal credit history, and the questions are timed to ensure a prompt response and to further enhance security and privacy.

"We are very happy to be able to offer online police record checks to our community. This will not only offer conveniences and flexibility, but enhanced safety for both our citizens and police staff". – Deputy Chief Randy Lewis



Disclaimer: this image shown is for illustration purposes only and may not be an exact representation of the cells.

## DETENTION FACILITY

On April 1, 2020, the process of housing arrestees at Brandon Correctional Centre was terminated after over 40 years. The City quickly released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a design-build of a temporary cellblock, which the Province funded. This was put into service in February of 2021.

Also in February of 2021, the City of Brandon awarded a three-year contract to the Commissionaires Corp of Manitoba to provide guard services for all the arrestees housed in our Detention Unit. To manage the Detention Unit, the Brandon Police Service created a supervisor's position that is staffed by a sergeant. This sergeant oversees the day-to-day running of the newly created unit including scheduling remand hearing and arranging transportation for remanded persons.

This contract allowed BPS to return 12 police officers, who were assigned to guarding duties, to their previous assignment. These officers included members from School Resource, Community Resource, Traffic, and Training units.

The temporary cellblock will remain in operation until the permanent expansion is complete. The design phase is nearing completion as we work with our architects and engineers, we are expecting to break ground in the spring of 2022 with an estimated completion date of September 2023.

# POLICE SERVICE DOG

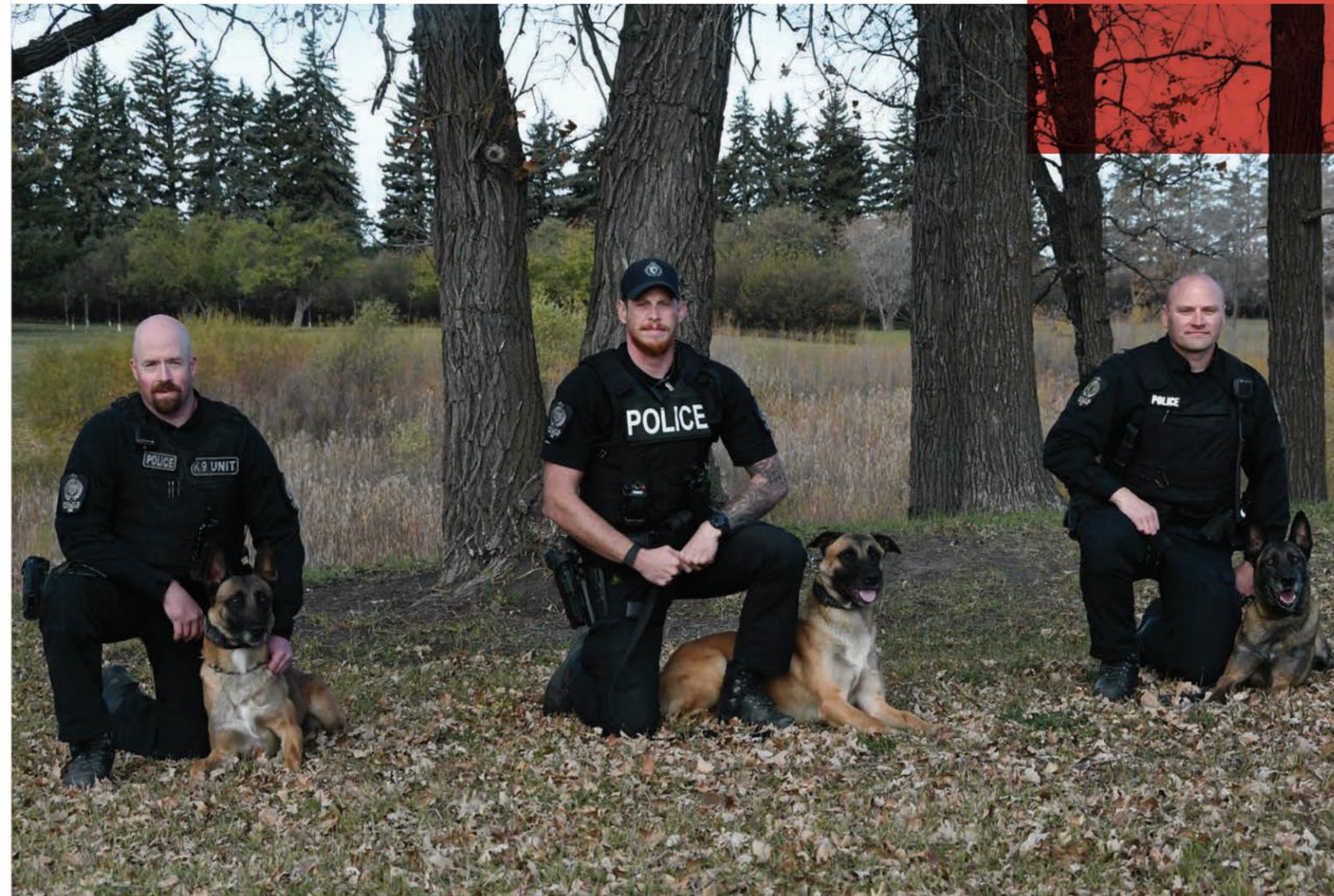
## “Change of the Guard”

The Brandon Police Service saw a “change of the guard” for the Police Service Dog Unit (PSDU) in 2021. After 7 years of service in PSDU, the K-9 team comprised of Cst. Friesen and Police Service Dog (PSD) Karma retired from the Unit. Constable Friesen was selected for a PSDU position in 2013 after which he was paired with a potential PSD purchased from the Winnipeg Police Service. Cst. Friesen successfully reared the potential PSD and attended the Winnipeg Police Service Dog Handlers Course in 2014. During the rearing process, the potential PSD was named “Karma”; a name proposed by the winner of a youth contest to name the new PSD. The team was put to work in PSDU in the fall of 2014, with Karma being the 12th BPS PSD. Constable Friesen and PSD Karma served diligently in PSDU and were responsible for numerous criminal apprehensions resulting in the successful conclusion of multiple investigations. The team also assisted with Emergency Response Team deployments to critical incidents over those years. At the age of 8, retired PSD Karma will remain in the care of Cst. Friesen for the years to come and

continue to protect Friesen’s home and family.

Prior to their retirement, Cst. Philpott was selected to replace Cst. Friesen in PSDU and was paired with potential PSD “Zeus” who was sired by current BPS PSD “Storm”. Cst. Philpott attended and successfully completed the Office of the Fire Commissioner’s Police Service Dog Training Course in Brandon over the summer months and was put to work in PSDU in late August, Zeus being the 14th BPS PSD. The new team was mentored by the current PSDU team, Cst. Haggarty and PSD Storm who came to PSDU in 2017. Storm and Zeus, the “father – son” PSD duo, will serve the City of Brandon for many years to come.

In 2020, the Brandon Police Service was also fortunate enough to have acquired a third Service Dog through our partnership with the Office of the Fire Commissioner’s Urban Search and Rescue Team (USAR). Cst. Artibise and USAR Service Dog “Blink” were trained to locate missing persons and detect illegal drugs. The team is on duty, full time, and are currently attached to the Crime Suppression Unit.



Left to Right: Constable Haggarty & Storm, Constable Philpott & Zeus, Constable Friesen & Karma



# FRONT DESK RENO

The front desk renovation was a project many years in the making. The actual work started in March of 2021 and is very close to completion.

The renovations allow for more work space for the Clerical Front Desk Attendants. It will allow for additional CFDA's in the future. It will also enable our CFDA's to better serve the citizens of Brandon with their calls for service, allowing two computer screens at each terminal and more privacy for citizens

because the work spaces have more separation between them.

A new space was created for the Criminal Record Check office which allowed for an enclosed office for the call takers to use for more privacy when citizens come in with very private matters and allows greater confidentiality. It is easily accessible for people with physical disabilities with a large door and ample room for a wheelchair or other device.

# STAFF ALLOCATION

PROMOTIONS	PROMOTED TO
Russell Paterson	Sergeant

NEW HIRES	POSITION
Selena Samagalski	Recruit Constable
Dominc Picard	Recruit Constable
Laura O'Hagan	CFDA
Meagan Warken	CSA (Transfer)
Trevor Farmer	Bylaw - Temporary
Kelsey Popien	CSA
Jill Levandoski	CSA
Lorette Delaurier	Executive Assistant

RETIREMENTS	POSITION	YEARS OF SERVICE
Mike Melanson	Sergeant	23 Years

# AWARDS

## 30 Year Exemplary Service

Wayne Balcaen  
Darren Creighton  
Bruce Ewanyshyn

## 12 Year Exemplary Service

Mike Baranyk	Michel Latreille	Earl Johnson
Jordan Barbeau	Meghan Puteran	Marc Dedecker
Alice Potter	Dustin Russill	
Jason Medwechuk	Shawn Haggarty	

## 20 year Exemplary Service

Kirby Sararas  
Shanna Bird  
Mike Kulchyski  
Paul McBeth  
Trent Karvonen  
Russell Paterson  
Lucien Ethier  
Dana McCallum

**St. Johns Life Saving Award** - Jason Medwechuk

**Excellence in Law Enforcement** - Jason Dupuis

**Manitoba LETR** - Myran Hamm

**MACP Health IM** - Amanda Conway

**Commendation from Ukraine Chaplaincy** - Bruce Ewanyshyn

**Canadian Institute for Public Safety and Research (CIPSRT)'s Champions of Mental Health Award** - Amanda Conway

# CRIME STATISTICS

## CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS

**942**

Homicide	-
Attempted Murder	-
Sexual Assaults	101
Assaults	644
Robbery	45
Other Violent Crimes	152

## CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

**3,282**

Arson	14
Break & Enter	453
Theft Over \$5,000	7
Theft of Motor Vehicle	96
Theft Under \$5,000	1,120
Possession Stolen Property	133
Fraud	639
Mischief	820

## TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

**88**

Dangerous Operation Vehicle	25
Impaired Driving	63

## CONTROLLED DRUGS

**118**

Possession	49
Trafficking	69

## OTHER CRIMES

**1,447**

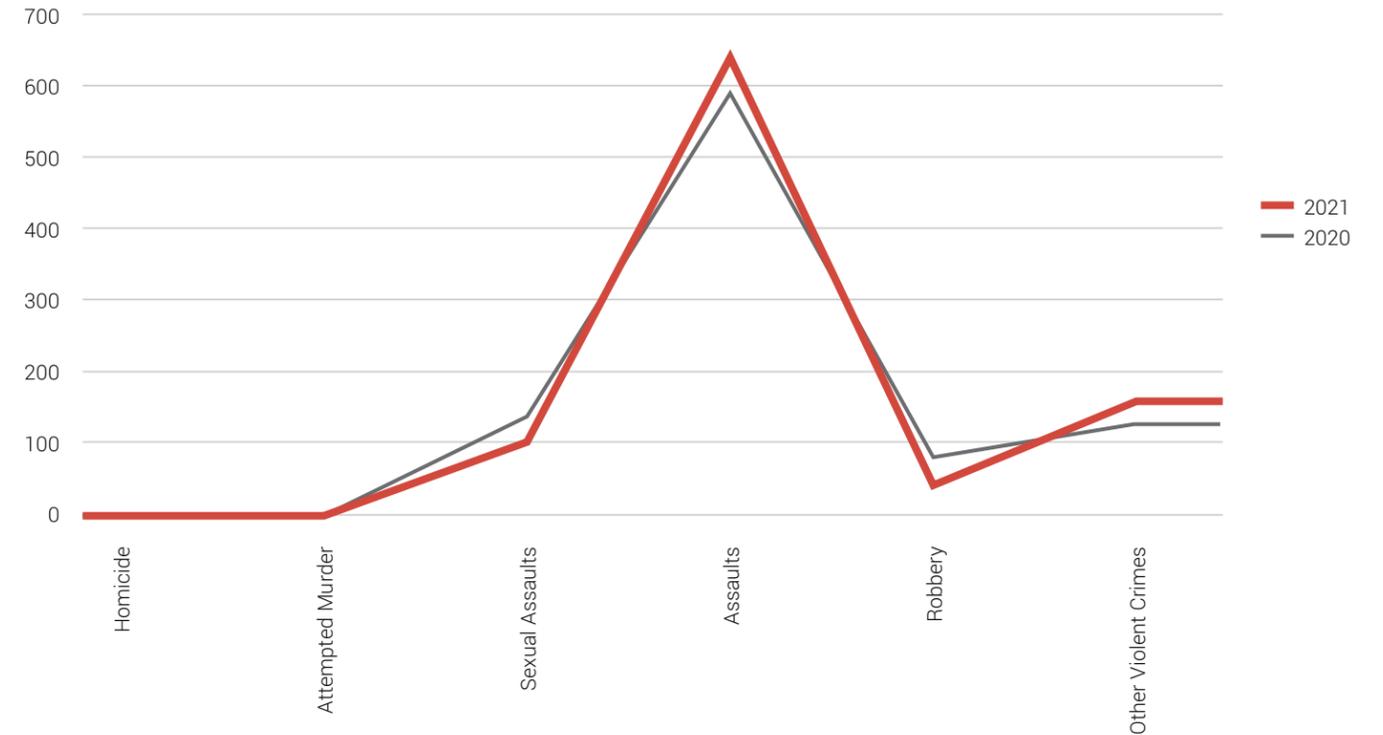
Moral Offences (Pornography, etc.)	33
Offensive Weapons	231
Youth Criminal Justice Act	10
Other Criminal Code Offences	1,173

**Total Criminal Code Violations 5,877**

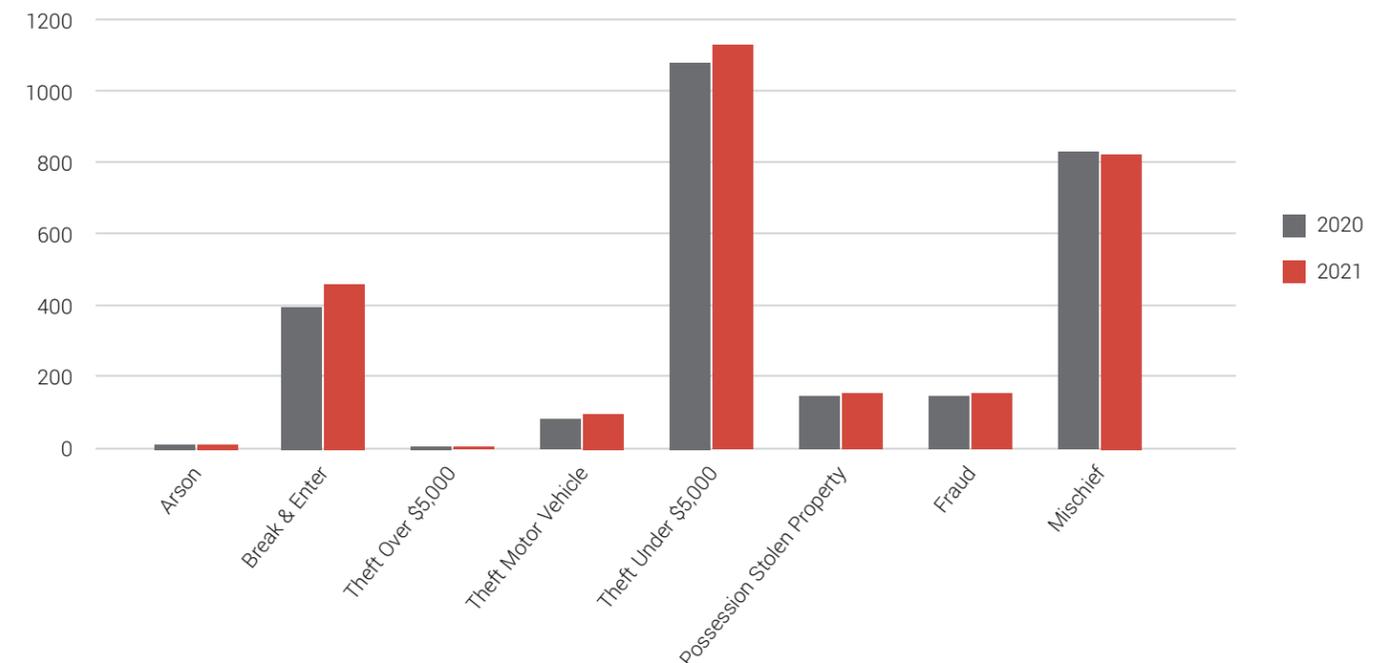
**Federal Statute Offences 1,173**

\* 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.

## Crimes Against Persons



## Crimes Against Property



# BUDGET 2021

REVENUES	BUDGETED	ACTUAL
City of Brandon Operating Grant	\$ 15,249,180	\$ 15,249,180
Provincial Funding	\$ 1,450,750	\$ 2,473,670
Federal Funding	\$ 315,000	\$ 489,831
Tickets & Fines	\$ 539,910	\$ 406,358
User Fees	\$ 349,735	\$ 312,565
Other	\$ 11,800	\$ 21,109
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$ 17,916,375</b>	<b>\$ 18,952,713</b>

EXPENDITURES	BUDGETED	ACTUAL
Regular Salaries	\$ 14,650,674	\$ 14,739,659
Overtime	\$ 792,240	\$ 1,634,921
Reserve Appropriations: Equipment & Vehicles	\$ 436,574	\$ 526,405
Fleet Maintenance, Fuel, Insurance & Leases	\$ 551,050	\$ 552,361
Contract Services	\$ 704,156	\$ 647,024
Parts & Materials	\$ 265,399	\$ 285,964
Professional Development, Travel & Police Board	\$ 212,020	\$ 105,695
Benefits	\$ 110,875	\$ 106,047
Utilities	\$ 70,697	\$ 68,719
Grants & Public Relations	\$ 23,190	\$ 16,740
Equipment Purchases	\$ 99,500	\$ 149,823
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 17,916,375</b>	<b>\$ 18,834,358</b>

## 2021 SURPLUS

**\$ 118,355**

94

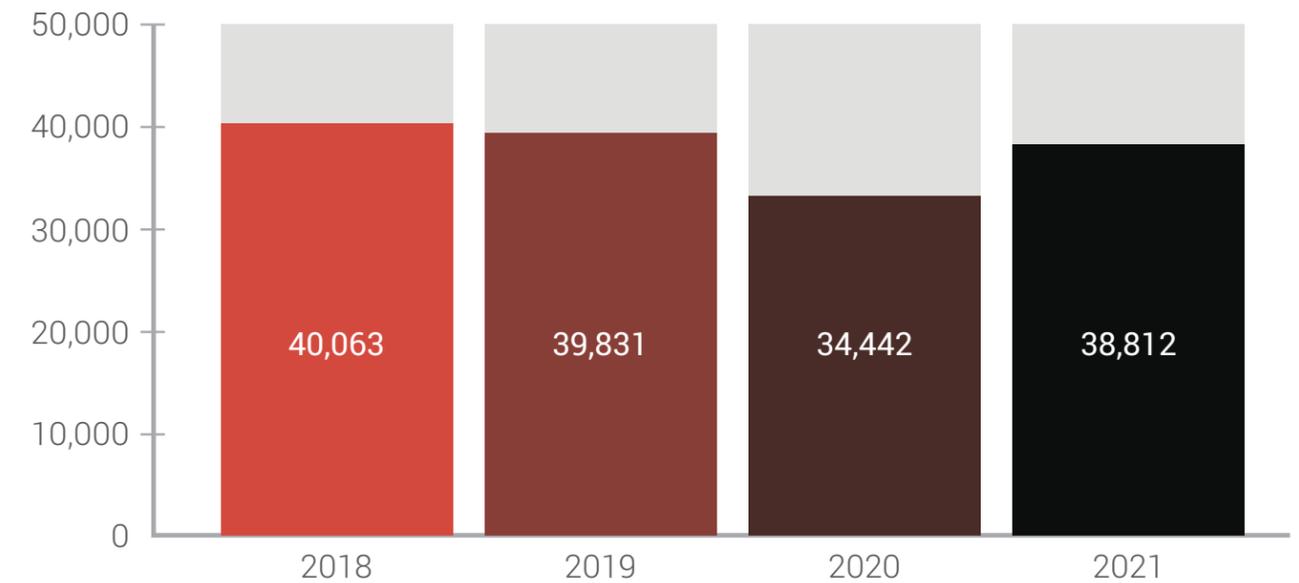
Sworn

42

Civilian

The average number of calls per Sworn Officer in 2021 was **413**.

## Calls for Service



## Funding Received

YEAR	CPF	FPOC
2016/2017	\$166,503	\$0
2017/2018	\$135,924	\$47,905
2018/2019	\$109,017	\$65,200
2019/2020	\$133,100	\$377,190
2020/2021	\$162,259	\$0
2021/2022	\$215,862	\$0

## 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](http://gov.mb.ca/justice/commsafe/cpf)

# CASES OF INTEREST

## Project Brazen

In early 2020, the Brandon Police Service Organized Crime Section identified a drug trafficking network operating in Brandon. This drug network was believed to be acquiring illicit drugs at the kilogram level and trafficking the illegal substances in Brandon and other communities in the surrounding area. As a result, the Brandon Police Service initiated a long term Controlled Drugs and Substances Act investigation, entitled **Project Brazen**. Among other investigative partners, Project Brazen investigative strategies led to gaining valuable assistance from the Winnipeg Police Service, D Division RCMP, the Province of Manitoba Crown Attorney's Office and the Province of Manitoba Criminal Property Forfeiture Unit.

After approximately 16 months, Project Brazen came to a conclusion which involved the execution of multiple search warrants at 7 locations in the City of Brandon. The searches resulted in the seizure of over 4 kilograms of cocaine (a street value of approximately \$400,000), approximately \$120,000 Canadian currency and numerous items believed to be instruments of crime. A total of 11 individuals were charged with numerous offences including Trafficking Cocaine, Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking Cocaine, Conspiracy to Traffic Cocaine, Possession of Proceeds of Crime and Conspiracy to Possess Proceeds of Crime.

**Project Brazen** successfully dismantled a prominent drug trafficking network and brought those responsible for distributing illicit drugs in our community to justice.

This investigation was a true test of patience, resourcefulness, ingenuity and commitment on behalf of our investigative teams, not only to our Police Service but more importantly to the community we serve.



**11**  
individuals were  
charged



**5**  
agencies  
involved



**4**  
Kilograms of  
Cocaine seized



**\$520,000**  
drugs and cash  
seized



# CASES OF INTEREST

## Project Baskin

In response to a rash of residential and commercial break and enters over the course of 2021 in Brandon and the Westman area, the Brandon Police Service Major Crimes Section (MCS) launched **Project Baskin**, a property offence related, multijurisdictional, investigation involving the theft and fencing of predominantly power tools. MCS identified the suspects coming into possession and fencing the stolen property for sale to points as far west as Edmonton, Alberta.

The investigation concluded in December which resulted in the execution of multiple search warrants at several locations in the City of Brandon. The search warrants yielded the seizure of up to \$50,000 worth of stolen power tools and other property originating from from business, job sites and residential break and enters. Three main targets were subsequently arrested and charged with property related criminal offences and Possession of Methamphetamine.

# CASES OF INTEREST



## Proceeds of Crime Currency Seizure

On June 16, 2021, a member of the Police Service Dog Unit conducted a traffic stop near Highway #1 and 18th Street North. Upon conversation with the operator of the vehicle, the officer observed a single package of unstamped tobacco cigarettes in the middle console. The operator was arrested for possession of unstamped tobacco and as a result of a subsequent search the vehicle, incident to arrest, three additional packages of unstamped tobacco were located.

While continuing to search the vehicle for contraband tobacco, the astute officer observed several anomalies within the vehicle's back hatch area which gave rise to suspicion of the existence of an after-market hidden compartment. After further examination, a sophisticated hidden compartment door was activated via an electric motor and two hydraulic actuators. Once open, the officer observed multiple vacuum sealed bags containing Canadian currency. The operator, who was the sole occupant, was arrested for Possession of Proceeds of Crime.

44 vacuum sealed packages containing banded Canadian currency was located and seized as a result of the search. The packages contained a combined total of approximately 2.2 million dollars. The operator failed to justify the origin of the currency and was subsequently charged with Possession of Proceeds of Crime and Possession of Unstamped Tobacco.

The currency and vehicle were used as its conveyance was forfeited to the Province of Manitoba Justice Department through the actions of the Province of Manitoba Criminal Property Forfeiture Unit (CPF). This investigation resulted in the largest currency seizure for the Brandon Police Service and is the largest currency amount forfeited in a single case by CPF. Thanks to the investigator's skills and training, these proceeds of crime have been forfeited to CPF and will eventually be disbursed to law enforcement agencies to fund initiatives and programs which reduce crime and promote safer communities.

# COMMUNITY COMPLIMENTS

“

This evening around 8pm I was waiting on a bus at the downtown bus mall. Cop pulls up in a ghost vehicle, starts talking to a guy laying on the sidewalk. I thought he was going to arrest him but I was pleasantly surprised to see him all of a sudden give the man 3 bottles of water and send him on his way instead. Really nice to see our police helping out people like that!

”

“

I wanted to share a very positive experience we had with your officers related to a situation with one of our participants. A participants living with autism had a rough day in August and his staff required assistance from the Brandon Police Service. Officers attended to the scene, and I was able to speak with one constable by phone and his demeanor, patience with me and the situation and his obvious empathy to our participant was very evident to me and was also reported to me by staff on site. Staff on site also advised that all 3 officers handled the situation with respect for staff and for our participant. I wanted to ensure that I expressed our appreciation to you and to these officers. Thank you. ”

These two officers had to deliver bad news to me. They were the BEST two officers you could have sent to me. They helped me feel better about a terrible situation and made me feel at peace. The compassion and understanding they showed was above and beyond their job limitations. These officers need to know who much they are appreciated. Their kindness will stay with me forever.

I just wanted to send a thanks to the officer who took the time to make a detour after our 4 year old waved at him in the Original Joes parking lot to come show her his car, flash the sirens and give her some stickers. She was weirdly shy (she is NOT shy she's like a Tasmanian devil) but she has gone on and on about it since then. Thank you so much!!!

I can't let go the opportunity to once again thank BPS for their excellent work last night in probably our most stressful case of our son running away for hours, in this case way out of town into the late-night hours.

Special thanks to one constable who was our primary contact, and he asked very sharp and context-sensitive questions. And he was extremely gracious and professional with us up to the very moment we had our son returned to our doorstep. You can imagine how flustered we were about the repeat occurrences of this, and he put us very much at ease over that. We are both very grateful to have BPS and their officers in our city.



Brandon Police Service  
1020 Victoria Avenue  
Brandon, MB

Emergencies dial 911  
Non-Emergencies dial 204-729-2345