



Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Agenda

Date: **Wednesday, September 21, 2022**  
Time: **3:00 pm**  
Location: **Council Chambers, Town Hall**

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	Pages
<b>1. Call To Order</b>	
1.1. Amendments to Agenda	
1.2. Approval of Agenda	
1.3. Approval of Minutes	
1.3.1. May 18, 2022	1 - 1
1.3.2. April 13, 2022	2 - 4
<b>2. Business Arising</b>	
2.1. NSCPA / NSAPG Conference	5 - 6
<b>3. Discussion / Information Items</b>	
3.1. Capital Budget Update	7 - 8
3.2. Homelessness Issues	9 - 12
3.3. Tour Dates - Verbal Discussion	
<b>4. Reports</b>	
4.1. Chief's Report	13 - 16
<b>5. Next Meeting</b>	
<b>6. In Camera</b>	
6.1. Approval of Agenda	

6.2. Approval of Minutes - April 13, 2022

6.3. MGA 22(2)(h) - public security

6.4. MGA 22(2)(h) - public security

6.5. MGA 22(2)(h) - public security

7. Adjournment

**Town of Amherst**  
**Amherst Board of Police Commissioners**  
**Minutes**

**Date:** May 18, 2022  
**Time:** 3:00 pm  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Town Hall

**Members Present** Commissioner Sandy Fairbanks, Chair  
Commissioner Hal Davidson, Vice Chair  
Commissioner George Baker  
Commissioner Lloyd Bruce

**Members Absent** Commissioner Sheila Christie  
Commissioner Holly MacDonald

**Staff Present** Dwayne Pike, Chief of Police  
Tim Hunter, Deputy Chief  
Kim Jones, Municipal Clerk  
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

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**1. Call To Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

- 1.1 **Approval of Agenda**  
**Moved By Commissioner Baker**  
**Seconded By Commissioner Bruce**  
**That the agenda be approved as circulated.**

**Motion Carried**

**2. Presentations**

- 2.1 **Amherst Police Department 2022-23 Operating Budget**  
2.2 **Amherst Police Department 2022-23 Capital Budget**

**Moved By Commissioner Davidson**  
**Seconded By Commissioner Bruce**  
**That the proposed 2022/23 operating and capital budgets as presented for the Amherst Police Department be forwarded to Amherst Town Council for approval.**

**Motion Carried**

**3. Adjournment**

**Moved By Commissioner Baker**  
**To adjourn the meeting.**

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Kimberlee Jones, Municipal Clerk

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Sandy Fairbanks, Chair

**Town of Amherst  
Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
Minutes**

**Date:** April 13, 2022  
**Time:** 3:00 pm  
**Location:** Council Chambers, Town Hall

**Members Present** Commissioner Sandy Fairbanks, Chair  
Commissioner Hal Davidson, Vice Chair  
Commissioner Sheila Christie  
Commissioner George Baker  
Commissioner Lloyd Bruce  
Commissioner Holly MacDonald

**Staff Present** Dwayne Pike, Chief of Police  
Tim Hunter, Deputy Chief  
Kim Jones, Municipal Clerk  
Natalie LeBlanc, Deputy Clerk

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**1. Call To Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**1.1 Amendments to Agenda**

**Moved By Commissioner Christie**

**Seconded By Commissioner Baker**

**To amend the agenda to move the In Camera portion to the end of the meeting.**

**Motion Carried**

**1.2 Swearing In of New Commissioners**

Chief Pike swore in new Commissioners Holly MacDonald and Lloyd Bruce.

**1.3 Approval of Agenda**

**Moved By Commissioner Christie**

**Seconded By Commissioner MacDonald**

**That the agenda be approved as amended.**

**Motion Carried**

**1.4 Approval of Minutes - January 26, 2022**

**Moved By Commissioner Baker**

**Seconded by Commissioner MacDonald**

**That the minutes of the January 26, 2022 meeting be approved as circulated.**

**Motion Carried**

**3. Discussion / Information Items**

**3.1 Intersection Study - Church/Victoria and Victoria/Havelock/LaPlanche**

Chief Pike reviewed his report included as part of the agenda package.  
Information item only; no direction given or action required.

**3.2 Mandatory Staff Training Status of Compliance**

**Moved By Commissioner Davidson**

**Seconded By Commissioner Christie**

**That staff be directed to provide a report to the Commission on the status of training, that is mandatory or essential by law, policy, or collective agreement as well as an update on when current certifications expire.**

**Motion Carried**

**3.3 ABPC Bylaw Amendment Request**

**Moved By Commissioner Davidson**

**Seconded By Commissioner Bruce**

**That staff be directed to bring a recommendation to Council to amend the Bylaw Respecting the Amherst Board of Police Commissioners to include the following statement:**

**“The Town of Amherst is an inclusive and equitable organization. We value inclusivity & diversity in all areas of the workplace, including the Amherst Board of Police Commissioners. We encourage membership from members of groups who are typically underrepresented and with historical and/or current barriers to equity.”**

**Motion Carried**

**4. Reports**

**4.1 Chief's Report**

Chief Pike reviewed his report included as part of the agenda package.  
Information item only; no direction given or action required.

**4.2 Procurement of APD Capital Equipment Status Update**

**Moved By Commissioner Davidson**

**Seconded By Commissioner Christie**

**That staff be directed to write to the Chief Administrative Officer on behalf of the Board expressing their concern with the one year delay in issuing the RFP for Hard Body Armour, and request that Council be updated on this issue.**

**Motion Carried**

5. **In Camera**  
**Moved By Commissioner Baker**  
**Seconded By Commissioner Davidson**  
**To go in camera.**

**Motion Carried**

6. **Adjournment**  
**Moved by Commissioner MacDonald to adjourn the meeting.**

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Sandy Fairbanks  
Chair

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Kimberlee Jones  
Municipal Clerk



# NS Chiefs of Police Association & NS Association of Police Governance



*Registration Form – Fall Conference 2022*

*October 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022*

## Conference Venue: Inn on Prince Street, Truro, NS

Please call room reservations 902-895-1651 to book, group rate \$119.00 for single or double (cut-off date Sept 7,2022)

NSAPG/NSCPA Member (\$250 + HST)

Golf + cart fee (\$90 - includes HST)

Cheques payable to: Truro Police Service - conference 2022

Title/Rank			<b>PAYMENT</b>  Total Amount \$ _____  <u>Please make cheques payable to:</u>  Town of Truro-conference 2022		
Name					
Company					
Address					
City	Province	Postal Code	<p><i>For catering purposes, check below if you will be attending the following events;</i></p> <p>Meet &amp; Greet, Wed. evening Oct 5th    <input type="checkbox"/>yes    <input type="checkbox"/>no</p> <p>Banquet/Reg Dinner Thurs. evening Oct 6th    <input type="checkbox"/>yes    <input type="checkbox"/>no</p> <p><b>If yes:</b></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Starter is a fresh garden salad</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Choice of one of the following</p> <p>Roast Turkey Dinner_____ <b>OR</b> Roast Beef Dinner_____</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Assorted desserts will be available</p> <p><b>Additional banquet ticket(s) @ \$50:</b>    <input type="checkbox"/>yes    <input type="checkbox"/>no</p> <p><b>If yes:</b></p> <p>Roast Turkey Dinner_____ <b>OR</b> Roast Beef Dinner _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>**Please identify any special/dietary needs*****</b></p>		
Phone#	Fax #				
Email					
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>To register for Golf</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> YES, I would like to golf.    <b>(PLEASE COMPLETE GOLF FORM)</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No thank you</p> <p><b>Golf \$90 includes HST (green fees &amp; cart)</b></p> <p><b>Meal (ordered from menu at additional cost)</b></p>					
<p><b>SEND COMPLETED REGISTRATION TO:</b></p> <p><a href="mailto:vmunroe@truro.ca">vmunroe@truro.ca</a> or fax (902)897-3270</p> <p><b>Cheques payable to: Town of Truro - 2022 Conference</b></p>					



# NSCPA + NSAPG

*Fall Conference*



## 2022 Shirlen Seamone Golf Tournament Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>

The 2022 Shirlen Seamone Golf Tournament will take place on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at the Truro Golf Club located at 86 Golf Street, Truro.

Registration for golf is \$90.00 -Including HST per person, which includes a round of golf and a shared power cart (food and beverages are not included). You may enter as a team or as an individual and a team will be arranged for you.

Golfers will be assigned a tee time, with a tournament start time of 1:00 P.M. At the conclusion of play, the Club dining room will be open for any players who wish to order a meal from the menu.

Golfers -check out the course/facility at [www.trurogolfclub.com](http://www.trurogolfclub.com)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Registering as individual? \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_no

Registering with a team?: \_\_\_ yes Please list teammates below:

Teammate 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Teammate 3: \_\_\_\_\_

Teammate 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward by September 9<sup>th</sup> to:

2022 Fall Conference  
C/O Truro Police Service  
776 Prince Street  
Truro, NS B2N 1G9  
Or email to:  
[vmunroe@truro.ca](mailto:vmunroe@truro.ca)

Please make cheques payable to Town of Truro -2022 Conference

**Early registration is encouraged!**

# MEMORANDUM

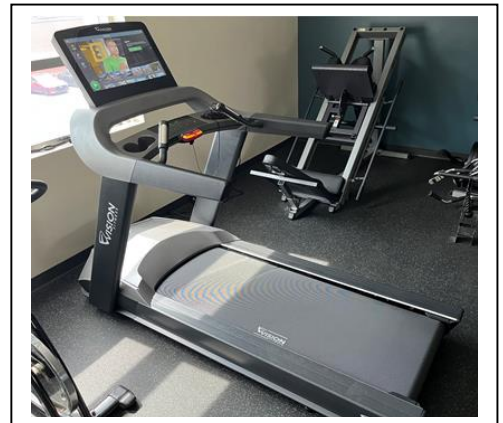
TO: Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
From: Dwayne Pike, Chief of Police  
Date: September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022  
Subject: Capital Budget Update

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**Hard Body/Ballistic Armour:** The approved budget for this purchase was \$21,000 and 15 sets of hard body armour were ordered, delivered and have been issued to staff at a total cost of \$20,633.00. At this time, 12 sets have been issued to our carbine team members (10 of whom are assigned to Patrol) and 3 extra sets are available for the Patrol Section/other staff. These sets have a 5-year warranty and we have earmarked the dates for our capital budget planning to ensure that the next order will be received in advance of their warranty expiry and will be prioritized during capital budget preparations.



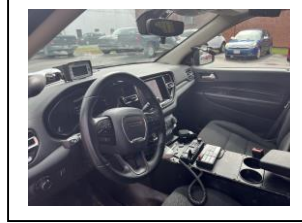
**Treadmill:** A decision was made to purchase a T600E Vision treadmill for the Amherst Police Department Fitness Room. We had an approved budget of \$8000 and spent \$6569. The main benefit to this purchase is the commercial warranty which includes 5 years on all parts and motor, two years labour and a lifetime on the frame. This is the same model as purchased by Cape Breton Regional Police for use in their ERT Program and in their gym and has many different useful programs and options including visuals and access to social media and multiple applications. The treadmill was delivered on August 10<sup>th</sup> and was assembled a few days later. It has been in use since that date by members and staff.



**Interactive Board:** The interactive board has arrived and is currently being installed in the Francis Smith Community Room. This system includes a large monitor for the front of the room as well as a second monitor which has been placed in the middle of the room and allows for audio/video conferencing. The new system will greatly enhance the training experience for our members, staff and others who use the room and also be an asset during major incidents or EMO events. The approved budget amount for this project was \$27,000 with actual costs coming at at \$26,679.00.



**Patrol Car #3:** With an approved budget of \$65,000, Patrol Vehicle #3 was ordered last year and was delivered in April 2022 when the new fiscal year started. Actual cost of the vehicle, which is a 2021 Dodge Durango Police Package, with equipment was \$64,566.00. The new vehicle is equipped with a push-bar, Watchguard in-car video system and Radar.



# MEMORANDUM

TO: Amherst Board of Police Commissioners  
From: Dwayne Pike, Chief of Police  
Date: September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022  
Subject: Homelessness

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Over the last few months, our department has been responding to complaints related to the homelessness issues more and more each day. In August alone our members responded to 140 complaints that had some connection to homelessness. Over the summer evidence of homelessness has been very visible, with people sleeping in public areas or in encampments around town, most notably in the downtown area and in many cases on privately owned property. We are all very aware that we cannot police our way through the homelessness problem. Homelessness is a very complex social problem and Police, as the agency of last resort, often have to deal with it. Police are not equipped with the resources required to tackle the core problems driving this issue, we can assist and often deal with some of the problems *associated* to homelessness, but the core issues often relating to, and causing homelessness is not within our wheelhouse. Homelessness is not caused by a single issue, but is the result of a combination of factors that can include:



- Poverty
- Unemployment and/or precarious employment
- Lack of affordable or suitable housing
- Lack or shortage of community supports in the areas of health and social welfare
- Substance-use disorder
- Mental illness and related issues
- Discrimination (of all kinds)
- Health problems

To be clear, to be homeless does not mean that you have a mental illness, that you suffer from substance use disorder or that you are a criminal. But, if you have any of these issues, your odds of finding yourself homeless is certainly increased. We know that many times, these issues easily go hand-in-hand with one reinforcing the other.

A recent report out of Cape Breton Regional Municipality had some key takeaways (August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022):

- More than half of those identified as experiencing homelessness aged 16 or older were living with mental illness and/or addiction.

- 42 per cent were receiving income assistance.
- The gender of those surveyed was nearly the same, with 49 per cent identified as female and 47 per cent identified as male.
- Roughly 32 per cent were between the ages of 16 and 29. The next largest age group was 30 to 39 years old at 29 per cent.
- A disproportionate number (14 per cent) of those surveyed were Indigenous.

When your basic needs are not being met, shelter, food, etc, the effects of homelessness, which include psychological distress, social exclusion and loneliness can be overwhelming. As a result, many of the people that we have been in contact with have been victims of a downward spiral that is very difficult to break without strong and consistent community and health supports. Many have layers of trauma that have complicated their situation. Our role includes respecting the privacy and the rights of everyone, regardless of their situation, while keeping our community safe.

Health and housing are a provincial responsibility, but at this time, these resources are overwhelmed and in short supply. It is not a problem that is new, nor is it an Amherst problem. It has just gotten worse since the pandemic, rising costs of living and the lack of available community supports and resources. All communities are dealing with the same issues and are looking for solutions with no clear path in sight.

As police, and one of the very few 24/7 agencies, we are left to deal problems that are associated to homelessness especially as those suffering get more desperate.

Some Examples:

- Trespassing;
- Causing a disturbance
- Tenting/Occupying Private/Town Property
- Damage to property, Littering
- Thefts
- Requests for assistance - Hospital drives, meals, lodging etc.

Our members have been actively working with our partners and the community to address the many concerns people have. In many cases we have removed people, or advised them that they are not permitted to be on private property and have had to enforce trespassing legislation. We need to remember that homelessness is not a crime and we need to understand and guard ourselves ‘the criminalization of homelessness’ as many homeless people are looking for means of getting by and surviving, which is often reported to police.

Police services, courts, and correctional facilities are not equipped to address the issues that are unique to people experiencing poverty and homelessness, nor can they be substitutes for health and social services. Police officers may not be properly trained or have the time and resources to deal with the complex needs of persons experiencing homelessness and individuals with mental illnesses. In many cases, police authorities under provincial mental health laws are limited. Despite their situation, people still generally have free will and the right to make decisions for themselves. In many communities, police are forced to take on the role of mental health worker when such resources are unavailable or overwhelmed.

Without immediate intervention, this problem is likely going to get much worse. It is not uncommon for people to come to our office and ask to stay in our foyer as the only agency that is open 24/7, we are left to deal with such problem while other agencies do not offer 24-hour service. This causes a drain on our available resources for core policing issues. We are often fielding all these calls as mental health, community services and EHS are not readily available, even though they are the agencies much better equipped to deal with many of the core issues that are driving the homelessness issue. This is a huge problem for us as police agencies who generally do not have the capacity or the resources to manage these kinds of complex issues.

Our department, primarily through our Crime Prevention Coordinator, has been working closely with our community partners such as the YMCA, youth development centre, the Salvation Army, Community services, mental health and addictions, the withdrawal management unit in Springhill and other resources to assist in alleviating these issues and providing some support to those who need it, but in many cases, these are temporary solutions.

2022 – Homelessness Files (associated to)

Date	# Files associated to homelessness	Total complaints for the day	Scoring
August 1	2	14	Trespass/Suspicious persons
August 2	2	22	Susp person/Property Check
August 3	2	27	Trespassing
August 4	3	19	Trespass/Susp person/mischief
August 5	4	27	Susp person, property check
August 6	3	14	Trespass/Other
August 7	2	17	Susp person
August 8	2	14	Susp person/Property check
August 9	6	19	Trespass/Crime Prevent/Susp person
August 10	2	26	Mischief/susp person
August 11	1	21	Susp person
August 12	3	16	Trespass/Suspicious person
August 13	3	15	Trespass/Suspicious person
August 14	2	14	Trespass/mental health
August 15	7	29	Trespass/disturb peace/
August 16	2	24	Trespass
August 17	9	34	Wellbeing/trespass/liquor act
August 18	5	23	Assault Police/Trespassing/threats
August 19	7	31	Wellbeing check/trespass/disturb the peace
August 20	4	26	Ass with weapon/trespass/susp person
August 21	2	23	Susp person/trespass
August 22	9	20	Mental health/Trespass/susp person
August 23	10	26	Breach of Peace/Trespass/susp person
August 24	7	28	Wellbeing check/mischief/trespass
August 25	5	23	Susp person/disturb peace/trespass
August 26	6	27	Trespass/disturb peace/wellbeing check
August 27	6	27	Trespass/liquor act
August 28	2	16	Assistance/Abandoned property
August 29	10	30	Trespass/susp person/wellbeing check
August 30	3	23	Theft/trespass
August 31	9	19	Abandoned property/threats/assaults

**Chief's Report**  
**Amherst Board of Police Commissioners**  
**September 21, 2022**

This report covers the month of June, July & August 2022



**TRAINING**

**Use of Force – Instructor Training – June 20<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>** – Cpl Walsh and Cpl Hebert attended the Atlantic Police Academy for the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of the Use of Force Instructor training which focused on High-Risk Vehicle Stops, building searches and high-risk arrest procedures. This training is to be provided to our members over the next year.

**Drug Recognition Expert:** From June 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup>, D/Cst Jeff Goodwin attended and completed his DRE certification in Jacksonville, Florida which includes doing in-person assessments of persons who are under the influence of various drugs and controlled substances. This course is paid for by the Department of Justice.

**Crisis Intervention Team Training:** This training was postponed due to covid restrictions several times but was scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> 2022. It provided certification for up to 8 APD members and members of the Cumberland RCMP. The training was hosted at the Amherst Police Department, with instructors provided by NS Mental Health and the cost shared between APD and Cumberland RCMP.

**First Aid:** With the assistance of Halifax Regional Staff, who provided the training, all members received first aid training during the week of June 13<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup>. Due to the type of police response, the training had an extra focus on treatment and techniques that can be specific to police officers. Guards and Crossing Guards also received first aid training courtesy of Halifax Regional Police on August 31<sup>st</sup>.



**Firearms/Carbine Training:** All members are scheduled to complete firearms/carbine training throughout the month of September. This includes annual qualifications for Carbine/9mm and Shotgun

**PERSONNEL**

**Executive Assistant Position:** On June 1<sup>st</sup>, Nancy Guilderson, who has been our Executive Assistant since June 1, 1992 (30 years) gave notice of her intention to retire in December 2022 with her last day being December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Nancy has worked with APD through 4 different Chiefs and 5 different Deputy Chiefs and has been responsible for the supervision of all of our civilian staff. Her responsibilities are almost too numerous to count and the task of finding a replacement was challenging. As a result of her intentions, and following a competition, we have hired **Monica Ettinger** as Nancy's replacement, who will work alongside Nancy over the next 3 months to learn the job. Monica completed her PROS training during the week of September 12th.

**OPERATIONAL**

**Drop-in Ball Hockey – July 5<sup>th</sup> to August 4:** Over the summer, the Amherst Police Department hosted “Drop-in Ball Hockey” with the assistance of the Town of Amherst Recreation Department. Ball hockey was held with different age groups on Tuesdays and Thursdays and was free. On a couple of occasions, as a result of high daily temperatures, ball hockey was replaced with softball and foam fights!!!

**Impaired Driver - Albion/Church Street** – A 38-year-old male has been arrested and charged with Impaired driving and failing to remain following an accident at the intersection of Albion Steet and Church Street. A property owner called police and advised that a vehicle had come through the intersection at that location and struck the building, smashing the window before fleeing the scene. The vehicle, which sustained damage to its front end was located by police minutes later on Prince Arthur Street and the driver was arrested. He is scheduled to appear in court at a later date.

**Assault - Amherst Centennial Walking Trail** – A 24-year-old male is facing numerous charges in relation to an incident that happened along the Amherst Centennial Walking Trail on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The male is alleged to have been operating a side-by-side off-highway vehicle on the trail when he was stopped by 2 senior citizen pedestrians who were walking on the trail. The male allegedly grabbed the senior male and then pushed him into the bushes and then also pushed the female partner into the bushes. Both sustained scratches and injuries. With the help of witnesses, the suspect was identified and arrested and his OHV was seized. The male was later released but is facing numerous charges relating to the operation of the OHV, damage to property and the assault against the 2 pedestrians who were using the walking trail. He is scheduled to appear in court on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

**Damage to Property and Weapons Charges:** Amherst Police have charged a 24-year-old Amherst man with mischief/damage to property in relation to destroying flowerbeds in the downtown area. The male is also facing additional charges that include uttering threats, fail to comply with release conditions and weapons charges. Avery Grassing was arrested by police on the morning of September 6<sup>th</sup> and made a brief court appearance later that day and was held in custody for a bail hearing on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022. He remains in custody and is scheduled to appear again on October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022 for appearance/plea.



**Amherst Walking Trail:** Over the last few months there have been many concerns voiced about the issues of Off-Highway-Vehicles on the Amherst Centennial Walking Trail that runs from Laplanche Street to Derby Street along the edge of the Marsh. In response to the complaints, staff met on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the issues and possible solutions for this problem. This included a walk-through of the portions of the path that are commonly used by Off-Highway-Vehicles. The work being done to address the issues on the Walking Trail follows many of the suggestions in the Memo to Council on this same issue dated June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and includes: Posting of signs along the trail indicating that OHV's are not permitted, Signs indicating that portions of the trail are covered by cameras, the use of physical barriers to hinder the use of OHV's while allowing mobility scooters access to the trail, and Education and social media information posts relating to the trail and OHV usage.



**Lock-Up Inspection Report:** On July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 Ben Woosley, DOJ, attended APD and did an inspection of our lock up facility and on July 25<sup>th</sup>, provided a report on his inspection of the facilities. From the inspection, there were 10 recommendations made which included updating policies to ensure that they address special considerations for transgendered persons, use of privacy screens or digitally superimposed privacy screens, update policy and prisoner forms to cover the use of 'strip searches' as per R. v. Golden, ensure the regular review of the lock up policies, perform minor maintenance and painting in the cell block and provide first aid training for jail guards to ensure such training is kept up to date. At this time, several of the recommendations have already been completed, including the change in pol

**Cops and Community BBQ – August 11<sup>th</sup>:** On August 11<sup>th</sup> staff and members of the Amherst Police Department partnered with the YMCA and had a great time serving up hamburgers and hotdogs in Victoria Square. We had an AMAZING turn out, and it was an excellent chance to connect with our community.

**NSCPA & NCAPG 2022 Fall Conference:** The 2022 Fall Conference is being held in Truro on October 5<sup>th</sup> to the 7<sup>th</sup> at the "Inn on Prince". For those interested in golfing, tee-off times start at 1:00pm at the Truro Golf Club. The conference starts on the morning of the 6<sup>th</sup> with opening remarks and various speakers/topics. On Thursday evening, the Gala Dinner will be held with the conference resuming on Friday morning. At mid-morning the groups will separate to hold their individual business meetings. Registration forms are now available to register for the conference.

**Stats Canada – 2021 Stats Canada Releases:** Stats Canada recently released the 2021 statistics related to policing. These stats relate to the number of complaints police receive, crime severity stats and clearance. The **Crime severity index** takes into account both the volume and the seriousness of crime. The index is calculated with weight assigned to each offence that are derived from average sentences handed down by criminal courts. The more serious the average sentence, the higher the weight for that offence. As a result, more serious offences have greater impact on changes in the index. All criminal code offences are included in this index. As an example, the ‘weight’ assigned to an attempted murder is 1695.69, while an aggravated assault has a weight of 491.28. Common assault is assigned a weight of 26.39 and frauds are assigned 121.72. Because CSI is also dependant on the population, a very serious crime in a smaller town can have a dramatic effect on the calculated CSI. Some stats are converted to ‘rates per 100,000 population’ to show how departments compared to one another. This is done by dividing the number of incidents (or staff members etc) by our population and then multiplying by 100,000. This makes it possible to easily compare departments in specific categories. We are very often compared to 3 other municipalities who have their own police departments in relation to crime, incidents and policing because of our population and structure.

### **Crime Severity**

In regard to Crime Severity, Amherst had a crime severity index of 143.32 in 2021. This is the second highest compared to New Glasgow at 154.46, Truro at 83.90 and Bridgewater at 72.52. Amherst also came second in ‘violent crime severity’ at 179.01, while New Glasgow was 205.80, Truro was 150.75 and Bridgewater was 89.73. We were second with the ‘non-violent crime severity index’ of 130.14 as compared to New Glasgow (135.63), Truro (59.75) and Bridgewater (66.17).

### **Incidents and incident Rate**

Stats Canada tracks the number of criminal incidents that police departments report and respond to. In 2021, APD members responded to a total of 1,397 criminal incidents. New Glasgow responded to 1,627. Truro and Bridgewater responded to 959 and 690 respectively. Taking into consideration our population, Amherst had the highest incident rate of 14,353, followed by New Glasgow with 13,624 and then Truro and Bridgewater with 7,269 and 7,631 respectively.

### **Police officers to Population**

When compared to the other 3 municipalities, Amherst remains the lowest police to population of all 4. With an authorized full-time number of 24 police officers, our police to population rate is 251.7. New Glasgow has the highest ratio with 35 authorized members and a ratio of 302.9. Truro has 36 officers with a ratio of 278.3. Bridgewater, with the smallest population of the 4 municipalities has 25 members and a ratio of 282.3.

### **OPERATIONAL STATS – June 2022**

Occurrences:	581	Criminal Code Charges:	67
Impaired by Alcohol:	4	CDSA:	0
Impaired by Drug:	1	CBCA:	1
Traffic Tickets:	39	PPA:	1
HPA:	0	Traffic Written Warnings:	18
Vehicle Checks:	144	LCA:	3
Foot Patrol Hours:	24 hrs 26 min	Bike Patrol Hours:	0

### **OPERATIONAL STATS – July 2022**

Occurrences:	562	Criminal Code Charges:	64
Impaired by Alcohol:	3	CDSA:	0
Impaired by Drug:	0	CBCA:	0

Traffic Tickets:	39	PPA:	2
HPA:	0	Traffic Written Warnings:	14
Vehicle Checks:	98	LCA:	1
Foot Patrol Hours:	16 hrs 45 min	Bike Patrol Hours:	0

**OPERATIONAL STATS – August 2022**

Occurrences:	683	Criminal Code Charges:	70
Impaired by Alcohol:	3	CDSA:	1
Impaired by Drug:	0	CBCA:	0
Traffic Tickets:	1439	PPA:	0
HPA:	0	Traffic Written Warnings:	7
Vehicle Checks:	82	LCA:	3
Foot Patrol Hours:	17 hrs 36 min	Bike Patrol Hours:	0

