

## Saint John Police Force

#### **Overview**

Saint John Police Force (SJPF) is one of nine municipal/regional police forces in the province of New Brunswick. The SIPF employs 151 full time officers, 26 civilian support staff and have a compliment of 20 voluntary auxiliary officers. There are zero officers suspended and ten officers who have been off duty for more than thirty days due to medical reasons. SJPF does not employ part-time officers. Chief John Bates is in his second year as chief of police.

Pursuant to paragraph 1.1(2)(c) of the New Brunswick Police Act, the Minister of the Department of Justice and Public Safety (JPS) may establish a system of inspection and review of police forces. The Policing Standards - New Brunswick are issued as ministerial directives pursuant to subsection 1.1(3) of the Police Act. The Standards set out the police force Quality Assurance (QA) program in ORG 5 with the current QA Program in place since 2013.

While the QA program follows a cyclical process, it is flexible enough to respond to any newly identified risk activities facing municipal police forces. The program examines facts and realities facing modern day law enforcement agencies to identify gaps as well as best practices.

## Objective

The purpose of the QA review is to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of the policing services provided by the police force by examining areas of common risk to police agencies on behalf of the Minister.

The report is intended to summarize the data collected from the police force, analyze the findings, identify gaps and good practices, and present recommendations and any observations that could improve police service to the residents of Saint John and its surrounding areas.

## Scope

The QA Program operates on an annual cycle, beginning in the fall when the provincial priorities are given to the chiefs of police by the PSCM review team. The 2016 provincial priorities were:

- Operational records (general occurrence management);
- Traffic (road) safety; and

Memorandums of understanding / agreements

The chiefs of police, in collaboration with the PSCM review team conducted a fall risking exercise that examines the provincial priorities as well as establishing force specific risks requiring review. The police force risking template was completed during this exercise well in advance of the December 31st, 2016 deadline for submission.

For 2016, SJPF identified the following risk activities as areas for self-review:

- Detainee Care and Control;
- Civilian Performance Assessments;
- Traffic (Road) Safety; and
- Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)/ Agreements

In January, police forces are expected to begin their reviews using either review guides created by the PSCM review team or developed by the police force. The police force can also employ any other review technique they deem appropriate. All documentation was to be submitted to the PSCM review team by the end of February. SJPF's documentation was not completely submitted until May 31, 2017 and while the final submission did not meet the assigned diary date, there was clear communication on the circumstances for the delay.

Further, in February 2017, the New Brunswick Association of Chiefs of Police (NBACP) and IPS added sexual crime investigations as an additional risk activity for every New Brunswick police force. The scope of the review was to examine occurrences of sexual crimes reported to police from 2010 to 2014 with a focus on all occurrences with a file disposition of unfounded and a sampling of all remaining occurrences.

Responding to calls for assistance of individuals experiencing a mental health crisis is a responsibility police forces have under the Mental Health Act. This area was identified during the fall risking exercise by one police force that created the review guide and matrix to accompany their review. Based on the results gathered by the reviewing police force, the PSCM review team determined it should be evaluated by all police forces. All police forces who received an on-site visit had this review completed by the PSCM review team. Those police forces who did not receive an on-site visit completed this examination in-house with results being submitted to the PSCM review team. Overall municipal police force provincial results will be shared with the NBACP.

## Findings of the SJPF self-review

#### **Detainee Care and Control**

The SJPF HQ opened in 2013 and the new building included detention facilities. The monitoring of detained persons is contracted out to the Corps of Commissionaires who have specific training to carry out their duties. Handling of all detainees for court purposes is done by either members of the SJPF or the PNB sheriffs. A secure underground pedway connects the detention facility with the courthouse.

SIPF maintain written directives on the care and handling of detainees as well as standing orders for the search procedures of any booked detainee. The police force utilizes an Emergency Restraint chair in accordance with the manufacturer's directions when circumstances support its use to reduce opportunity for self-inflicted injury. The provincial Operations manual for policing maintained by PSCM does not contain directives relating to the use of restraint chairs for in custody detainees however the issue is in the queue for discussion by the Policing Standards Policy Committee to which SJPF Chief Bates is a committee member.

## **Memorandums of Understanding**

SIPF conducted a complete review of 35 operational / administrative MOUs or Agreements with other public safety agencies. The review results were captured on the PSCM review guide P147, Form 78-1000007 (01-17). SJPF did not have a process for reviewing MOUs or other agreements but going forward will establish a system for periodic review.

The requirement under the *Policing Standards* for NB, section RR 5.4 is for SJPF to provide JPS with details of any contract, MOU or agreement for specialized police services that involve a fee for services or cost recovery.

Mr. Brian Malone, the SJPF Director of Knowledge Management Services and coordinator for RTIPPA discussed the requirement with the review team and advised that only two of the MOU's / Agreements fit into the category. Mr. Malone expressed his concerns with sharing MOU's and Agreements with third parties, notwithstanding the authority of the Minister.

Chief Bates will be forwarding copies of the two agreements to JPS once he has communicated that intention to the two police agencies involved.

#### **Civilian Performance Assessments**

In 2015 the SIPF addressed the issue of performance assessments within the sworn police officer cadre and achieved compliance with SJPF policies to almost 100 percent. In 2016 a similar examination of civilian performance assessments revealed shortfalls that needed to be addressed. In October 2016 training in the performance management software "Taleo" was rolled out for managers/supervisors of civilian members with a goal of 100% completion. Results in the first half of 2016 showed significant gains in the completion of civilian performance assessments (roughly 50%) and SJPF are on track to meet targets by 2018.

#### Traffic (Road) Safety

The review for this risk activity was carried out on site by the PSCM review team with support from Mr. Malone and analyst Angela Totten for data relating to traffic enforcement. Results are provided later in this report.

## PSCM on-site visit and tracking of recommendations

In the spring, the PSCM review team conducted an internal risking exercise to identify municipal police forces that would be scheduled for an on-site visit. SJPF was identified for on-site follow up by the PSCM review team that was conducted from June 27-29, 2017.

The following areas of risk were reviewed by the PSCM review team from June 27-29, 2017:

- Traffic (Road) Safety (including a review of impaired driving files);
- Sexual Crimes Investigations; and
- Mental Health

SJPF participated in a debriefing session. This report documents observations and recommendations by the PSCM review team.

The focus of any review is to ensure the management of selected risk activities is in compliance with the Policing Standards - New Brunswick, the Municipal/Regional Police Forces Operational and Administrative Manuals (Operational Manual and Administrative Manual, respectively) and legal requirements. An action plan will be developed for each recommendation and monitored by the PSCM review team until completion.

A snapshot of the reviewed activities is summarized in this report (see table 2) and includes a rating based on the following scale (table 1):

TABLE 1					
Rating	Description				
Needs Improvement (NI)	Practices and controls are not adequate to ensure the objectives are achieved effectively in this activity.				
Meets Expectations (ME)	The activity's management meets current provincial policing requirements. Any issues/opportunities for improvement noted are not major in that they do not affect the ability to achieve its objectives.				
Good Practice (GP)	ctice (GP) Practices within the activity reviewed are noteworthy and should be recommended for implementation in other police agencies.				

Sui	Summary of findings of the on-site review							
	TABLE 2							
NI	NI ME GP Comments							
			NI – Needs Improvement	ME - Meets Expectation	GP - Good Practice			
Tra	ffic (	(road)	safety	the flexibility is the second				
	The police force have a dedicated traffic unit that is well equipped and trained to deliver an enhanced traffic safety program in the City of Saint John. There is a healthy and balanced approach to education and enforcement and the unit works in collaboration with other public safety stakeholders. SJPF are well prepared for the legalization of cannabis in Canada and the possible increase in driving while impaired by a drug.  See observation #1							

Mental h	ealth assistance					
	The strong partnership between SJPF and the Mobile Mental Health unit means that the citizens of Saint John are receiving an enhanced level of care, more suited to their needs than strictly a police response. Very few individuals detained under <i>MHA</i> ; less likely that officers will need to attend hospital.  See observations #2, 3, 4					
Sexual crimes investigations						
	All police forces conducted a review of sexual crimes resulting in provincial recommendations that all police forces will comply with. No additional recommendations. Investigations are well articulated and handled by the specialized Family Protection Unit.  See observation #5					

## Findings of the PSCM review team on-site review

## Traffic (road safety)

## Objective:

To determine if: a strategy and / or a plan is in place to reduce traffic collision deaths and injuries; annual analysis is conducted to review education, enforcement and collaboration efforts; complex collision investigation is conducted by trained accident investigators / specialists; enforcement activities are designed to address high risk drivers; education activities are designed to raise awareness and increase voluntary compliance; coordinators have been appointed for breath analysis instruments and approved screening devices; and participation in Canada Road Safety Week and Operation Impact occurs.

## **Findings:**

SJPF selected road/traffic safety as an activity for self-review; however through conversations with the PSCM review team it was decided that the review activity would be conducted during the on-site visit.

In preparation for the on-site visit, SJPF provided the 2016 traffic statistics as found in table 3:

TABLE 3			
2016 SJPF traffic statistics			
Approved screening devices (ASD) tests administered	85		
Approved breath analysis instruments (BAI) tests administered	120		
Average BAC	Unknown		
Impaired driving relates charges under the Criminal Code	107		
POPA tickets issued under Motor Vehicle Act	1618		
POPA tickets issued for seatbelt violations	41		
POPA tickets issued for use of handheld electronic devices	68		
Verbal warnings issued	770		

The PSCM review team examined twenty-four randomly selected impaired driving files using a PSCM matrix. These results are in table 4 below:

TABLE 4				
Impaired driving				
Sample of SJPF impaired driving files	24 IRs	review	ved	
A STATE OF THE PROPERTY OF THE	A LOUISING	7 4-5	1 V V	
	Total	M	F	
19-30	9	7	2	
31-40	3	1	2	
41-50	3	2		
51-60	6	5	1	
61+	3	3	0	
Time of day				
00:01 - 04:00		9		
04:01 - 08:00		4		
08:01 – 12:00		1		
12:01 – 16:00	3			
16:01 – 20:00	3			
20:01 - 00:00	4			
ASD result				
Pass		0	photosis .	
Warn				
Fail				
Not applicable	13			
Average BAC		at ear		
	Total	M	F	
Average BAC (BAI)	156	160	140	
Average BAC (Blood only) – only 1 test	320			
Impaired driving evidence				
	Yes	No	NA	
Driving evidence exists	15	9	0	
Care & control of the vehicle only	ly 0 24		0	
Refusal (ASD or BAI)	5	15	4	

50% of impaired driving files were self-generated

Overall, the articulation in the impaired driving files is solid with respect to description of officer involvement on file and steps they take in their investigations. It is not always clear whether fingerprints and photographs are taken although at times it is articulated in the file. This was discussed with SJPF's Gary McFadyen regarding a potential solution for easy verification.

SJPF Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Coordinator Cst. Travis Jones was interviewed by PSCM review team police consultant Jennifer Smith regarding the DRE and Standard Field Sobriety Tests (SFST) programs and status of officers within SJPF. Cst. Jones is also a DRE instructor and teaches regularly. There are currently 6 DREs at SJPF. With the impending cannabis legislation, Cst. Jones feels that 10% of SJPF officers (or approximately 15 officers) should be trained as DREs. Cst. Jones noted the lack of a provincial DRE coordinator to coordinate the collection of statistics, ensure recertification and the availability of trained DRE instructors to facilitate the former, and assist in the coordination of ongoing training.

Cst. Jones recently attended the 23rd Annual IACP Training Conference on Drugs, Alcohol and Impaired Driving in Maryland in August 2017. Cst. Jones will is a valuable resource with respect to DRE and the PSCM review team will look at to Cst. Jones as a subject matter expert as we move towards the cannabis legislation, development of policing standards and the operational manual policy.

Cst. Tammy Spence was interviewed by PSCM police consultant Rick Votour. Cst. Spence has a wide range of police experience and has been with the Traffic Services team since March of 2016. The unit is comprised of a Sergeant in charge with one administrative support employee and three front line traffic specialists at the constable rank. The SJPF have solid partnerships with the JPS Commercial Vehicle Enforcement (CVE) unit, the JPS Contraband Enforcement Unit (CEU), Kennebecasis Regional Police Force (KRPF) as well as both MADD and TADD groups. Traffic education is delivered through child car seat clinics and the Kids and Cops program. The traffic services unit is well equipped and this includes marked motorcycle units. Presently three different shifts cover periods from 07:00 to 21:00. Their SIPF focus for the traffic program is not solely enforcement but rather an evidence-based approach to be working in the right places at the right time for the greatest impact.

#### Observation # 1:

SJPF give verbal warnings at roadside and while this is captured and can be measured in a query of the CAD call narrative field, the police force may be missing out on a source of intelligence and data captured in the use of form 78-4097, the provincial warning and compliance ticket.

## Mental health assistance calls

#### Objective:

To ensure that Appropriate policies, protocols, standards and legislation are followed and documented on the handling of persons requiring care or treatment at a medical facility.

## **Findings:**

SJPF Analyst Angela Totten completed a detailed and thorough analysis of the mental health calls for service responded to by the force. Ms. Totten's analysis included a search from the incident report narratives for the words "Mental Health" or "MHA", which included those circumstances where mental health was a contributing factor to the occurrence. In this analysis, Ms. Totten found that in 2017, SJPF has generated 27% more files than the previous year and that this pace could result in an overall 18% increase over last year, which would result in the highest number of mental health related files SJPF has generated in a calendar year.

Ms. Totten then examined those files scored as "Mental Health Act" and identified a similar increase. This supports the previous analysis projection and indicates again that continuing a similar pace of responding to mental health calls, could result in a 28% increase over last year. In 2016, SJPF responded to 430 calls of this type.

The PSCM review team, using the statistical sampling table, identified 29 random files for review. The examination of mental health assistance calls was completed by the PSCM review team using the PSCM review guide and matrix. The results are found in table 5

TABLE 5				
Findings: mental health assistance calls	291	29 IRs reviewed		
Age of subject	44.1.1	1010-00	APLANA.	
0-12		1		
13-18		4		
19-50		15		
51-65		6		
65+	2			
Unknown	1			
Officers at medical facility	FUL SYR	distri	TEAT HE	
Average # of officers required at medical facility	1.9			
Average length of time officers spent in medical facility	67.7 minutes			
Subject circumstance, medical facility	607		And the same	
	Yes	No	NA	
Subject held in police holding facility	5	24	NA	
Subject detained in accordance with Mental Health Act*	7	3	19	
Rights read to subject	2	3	24	
Calls for assistance originated from hospital	1	28	NA	
Subject under influence of alcohol or drugs		21	NA	
Mobile crisis unit (or similar) utilized		13	5	
Use of force report required		29	NA	
Refusal of medical examination due to alcohol or drug impairment		7	22	
Subject seen by physician / psychiatrist within 3 hours		0	22	
Subject admitted to medical facility	3	1	25	

#### Table 5:

- While the month of the occurrence was recorded, there was not a sufficient sample to conclude any significant findings;
- There were 13 male subjects and 16 female subjects;
- Articulation is an issue with respect to detailing rights given to subject;
- The police stations was of the most common places for the Mobile Mental Health (MMH) Unit to conduct their assessments; MMH's response appeared timely; it would appear that the utilization of the MMH Unit resulted in reduced hospital visits and police time spent at hospitals;
- 6 incidents could have been scored as something other than "Mental Health Act"; and
- In reports in general, reviewers did not see officers articulating the facts surrounding detainee transport, i.e. time and mileage.

The PSCM review team also met with Nora Gallagher with Horizon Health Network's Addition & Mental Health Services. She is responsible for the Saint John Mobile Crisis Services and they work closely with SJPF. There are two registered nurses (RNs) trained in mental health on shift at one time, with one primarily being responsible for visits to the emergency room (ER) at the Saint John Regional Hospital and one primarily responsible for the mental health clinic and the mobile crisis unit. These nurses can be dispatched to the hospital, clinic or mobile unit depending on need. Ms. Gallagher estimates there are 25-30 direct police contacts monthly. The mobile crisis unit staff will attend lock-up or the client's home, or wherever they need to in order to complete a comprehensive screening, within a ninety (90) mile radius. They operate from 08:00-midnight; after midnight, all calls go to

Tele-Health where their nurses are trained to complete a mental health screening. Ms. Gallagher was unsure what kind of mental health training the Tele-Health nurses are given however does feel that the screening would be quite structured. Ms. Gallagher was unsure what other regions do with mental health calls after hours.

With respect to feedback from police Ms. Gallagher felt it was all mostly positive in that the mobile mental health units provide a good service, are well trained and competent, and they enjoy a regular and close working relationship with police. She believes the police would say that they wished the service was offered 24 hours a day, as was previously done, however a study completed by Horizon Health Network a number of years ago indicated it was not feasible.

All individuals are triaged through the ER to identify any possible physical issues prior to a mental health screening. In Saint John, psychiatrists are on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Without examining the calls specifically, Ms. Gallagher feels that police would still average between two and two and a half hours in the ER waiting for the individual to see a psychiatrist.

Ms. Gallagher indicated that they did a recent audit that covered a three month time frame to identify their response time to police calls. She indicated that on average, their response time would be less than 30 minutes.

The Mental Health Act has been amended to include community support orders which as issued by the physician and agreed to by the patient and allows for care and treatment of the patient in their community. The Supervised Community Care is the model for the New Brunswick community support orders. These should come into effect November 1, 2017.

#### Observation #2:

Officers need to ensure that when detaining someone under the Mental Health Act that compliance with legislation is well articulated in the incident report and that the subject's right to counsel is documented. Members could further strengthen their articulation by noting time spent with the subject, in transport and at hospital. Overall the SJPF members provide a critical and important service to clients who are in crisis and their actions are both compassionate and professional at all times.

#### Observation #3:

There appears to be a strong working relationship between SJPF officers and the mobile crisis unit which is resulting in the appropriate level of care and response for the community.

#### Observation #4:

SJPF is on track to record the highest number of mental health assistance calls generated in a calendar year. While it is too early to determine if this is a trend or a one year anomaly, the additional police resources and pressure on front line responders due to rising mental health calls could be considered at the SJPF fall risking meeting.

## Sexual crimes investigations

## Objective:

To ensure that appropriate investigative procedures and established protocols are followed, documented and that where appropriate, charges laid in cases surrounding sexual crime incidents.

## **Findings:**

The scope of the review was to examine occurrences of sexual crimes from the UCR 1300 series reported to police from 2010 to 2014 with a focus on all occurrences with a file disposition of unfounded and a sampling of all remaining occurrences. Initially SJPF examined the sexual assault (1330 UCR only) without identifying sexual crimes from the remaining UCR 1300 series. Chief Bates directed his selected reviewer to extend the scope to include sexual assault files for 2015 and 2016. This resulted in a sizeable amount of files to review considering the size of the police force and the fact that UCR code 1330 comprised the majority of sexual crime files.

From 2010-2016, the SJPF recorded 813 sexual assault files, with an initial 366 files being cleared as unfounded. Sgt. Deborah Easton completed a thorough review of all 366 files using the matrix supplied by the PSCM review team. After reviewing these 366 files, Sgt. Easton determined that two hundred and twenty-four (224) files needed to be changed to another clearance status, leaving SJPF with 142 unfounded files. This resulted in a significant reduction to the overall unfounded rate as measured in percentage of files.

Sgt. Easton found that the high rate of unfounded files was largely a result of the clearance type being incorrectly applied at file conclusion and her review did not reveal substandard investigations. Sgt. Easton recommended the following:

- Training and educating the supervising members responsible for reviewing and finalizing file dispositions;
- · Creating a designated group of supervisors whose role is specifically designed to review and case manage files only;
- Creating clear process documentation to set out the exact steps required; and
- Periodic internal audit or some combination of these.

The PSCM review team met with Sgt. Deborah Easton who completed the initial review of the sexual crimes occurrences to gain some perspective on file management principles in general at SJPF and discuss the initial high rate of unfounded. It was very clear that UCR scoring rules were not properly applied especially in the period of 2010 to 2012. Files after 2013 had less classification errors and files in 2015 and 2016 showed a marked improvement.

Sgt. Easton was diligent in her review of sexual crimes, her final report was comprehensive and presented in an objective and professional manner; however in order to compare relevant statistics with other police forces, it was important to review the remaining sexual crime incidents from the UCR 1300 series (excluding the sexual assault incidents (UCR 1330) that Sgt. Easton already reviewed. This resulted in an additional 340 sexual crime incidents, of which 110 were originally closed as unfounded for the period of 2010-2016.

The PSCM review team examined all 110 unfounded sexual crime incidents and removed those files where there were scoring errors in offence classification, those that were duplicates or had already been removed by Sgt. Easton, and those files that had been cleared as unfounded but should have been cleared either as inactive or otherwise. The remaining 24 unfounded files were reviewed by the PSCM review team using the PSCM review guide and matrix. The findings in table 6 below include the numbers from the overall review by the SJPF and the PSCM review team.

	TABLE 6							
	Findings: sexual crime files		321	IRsı	eviev	wed	New Y	
im		Unfounded		led	Founded			
		(128 IRs)			(193 IRs)			
		#			#			
	Children		102		111			
vic	Adults	1 2	26			82		
Reported victim	IPV files	0			0			
por		Y	N	NA	Y	N	NA	
Rei	Victim statement obtained or attempted	112	16	NA	182	11	NA	
445	Medical attention required	0	28	100	2	181	10	
	Victim service or Social Development referral	102	20	6	137	55	1	
# 11	Complainant/victim kept updated	111	17	NA	141	52	NA	
	Investigator has specialized sexual crime training	121	7	NA	183	10	NA	
ä	Exhibit handling	19	5	104	23	1	169	
Investigation	Relevant medical records obtained	5	3	120	4	13	176	
tig	Crime scene examined; evidence seized	1	3	124	4	15	174	
ves	All witness statements obtained or attempted	66	62	NA	73	120	NA	
l l	Other avenues of investigation pursued	28	100	NA	167	26	NA	
	ViCLAS booklet submitted	17	23	88	67	125	1	
-	Suspect arrested	6	27	95	12	147	34	
Reported suspect	Suspect statement obtained or attempted	28	100	NA	141	52	NA	
epo	Victim notified or suspect release and any conditions	3	1	124	4	5	184	
× ,	Charges recommended to Crown	1	127	NA	10	183	NA	
S		Un	found	ded	Fo	ound	ed	
Clearance CCJS		#			#			
ıce	Cleared by charge	0		1				
rar	Cleared otherwise	0		164				
lea	Inactive	0		28				
Ü	Unfounded	128		0				
1-46		Unfounded		Founded				
p		#		#				
Factors unfounded	Evidence indicates no sexual crime occurred			0				
Factors	Complainant/victim recantation			855				
Fa	False accusation			0				
2	Misleading police							
-	Other	15		0				

Subsequent to the review, supplemental data was requested from all police forces with respect to only the unfounded cases. The additional information is included in table 7.

	TABLE 7		
Finding	s: sexual crime files - UNFOUND	ED	120 IRs reviewed
	Investigation		
tion officers 18-48 No.	Third party compla		and the street of
		rd party complaints	105
	Source of third party co		
	Department of Social		40
		School	10
		Family or friend	35
		Other	20
	Length of time	BEN ME SERVICE	in action of the
	Avg. time b/w: incident occurred an		213 days
	Avg. time b/w incident reported and	concluded by police	69.6 days
	Age		
Age range	Reported victim	Repor	ted suspect
0-12	66		2
13-18	31		14
19-40	22		55
41-60	1		31
61+	0		4
Unknown	0		14
	Gender		
	Reported victim	Repor	ted suspect
Male	30		98
Female	90		10
Other	0		0
Unknown	0		12
	Ethnicity		
	Reported victim	Repor	ted suspect
Caucasian	76		80
Black	0		7
Aboriginal	00		0
Other	1		0
Unknown	43		33
	Disabilities		
	Reported victim	Report	ted suspect
Mental	12	5	
Physical	1		1
	Polygraph		
	Reported victim	Report	ed suspect
	0		5
	Other		
	Reported suspect known		105
	Keported suspect informed by pol	ice of investigation	34

Additional observations from the PSCM review team:

- SIPF obtains statements in almost every serious and complex case;
- Reported incidents where a sex crime is committed is actioned and followed up on by the SJPF Family Protection Unit (FPU);
- SIPF documentation is above average;
- 476 sexual crime investigations were reviewed either by Sgt. Easton or by Policing Consultants Jennifer Smith and Rick Votour;
- SIPF has a police-based victim assistance coordinator on staff that works with victims of sexual violence;
- The FPU is comprised of trained and/or experienced investigators in the handling of serious and complex cases of intimate partner violence and sexual violence; while primary response units handle the initial response, the investigation is forwarded to the FPU;
- The taking of witness statements is a strong area of performance by SJPF officers and was done in almost all of the reviewed files; however SJPF are not always obtaining a disclosure statement in cases where the incident is reported by a third party;
- Pursuing additional avenues of investigation are another strong area of SJPF performance and generally speaking, they did this in most of the files reviewed;
- It was noted that in a few cases that the Crown was consulted very early in a file and the file particulars were discussed over the phone as opposed to the Crown having a completed court package to consider; and
- 70.5% of all sexual crime incidents at SJPF are scored as sexual assault (UCR 1330) with 29.5% making up the remaining sexual crimes (UCR 1300 series).

#### Observation #5:

All municipal police forces participated in the review of this risk activity that has resulted in the "Sexual Crimes Review Municipal Police Forces" report. The municipal police force report contains recommendations that will impact all New Brunswick municipal police forces and as such, no additional recommendations will be made in this report relating to this risk activity.

## **Concluding summary**

Overall results for the 2016 QA examination of risk activities support the findings of last year that SIPF is a modern, effective and progressive police force focused on providing quality police service to the City of Saint John.

The PSCM review team received exceptional cooperation and collaboration starting with the fall of 2016 risking exercise and through to the on-site review conducted in June of this year. Special thanks go to Mr. Brian Malone, Director of Knowledge Management and Ms. Angela Totten, crime analyst for SJPF. The review team were provided office space to conduct their work, given access to needed information and afforded opportunity to interview key personnel.

Chief Bates places a high value on the SJPF approach to quality assurance and the recent examination of sexual crimes reported to his agency over multiple years demonstrates both his leadership and his stewardship in identifying an anomaly with the classification of "unfounded" incidents within the records management system. More specifically, the assignment of Sgt. Debbie Easton by Chief Bates to a deep review of SJPF sexual assault files points to the strength of the entire internal SJPF QA program. The work of Chief Bates and Sgt. Easton in supporting the provincial review of sexual crimes was appreciated and contributed significantly to the Sexual Crimes Review Municipal Police Forces completed on October 3, 2017.

SJPF show leadership on several different fronts in the province of NB and in doing so have advanced training, knowledge and procedures for the apprehension of drivers on roadways under the influence of a drug. With the predicted legalization of cannabis in 2018 in Canada other police forces will continue to seek advice and establish guidelines to investigation based on best practices of the SJPF.

#### Date of report:

October 24, 2017

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