



VERNON NORTH OKANAGAN DETACHMENT

3rd Quarter (July to September) 2024

QUARTERLY POLICING REPORT

Committed to preserve the peace, uphold the law and provide quality service in partnership with our communities.

Superintendent Blake MacLeod

Officer in Charge

POLICING ACTIVITY REPORT ~ 3rd Quarter 2024

The Vernon North Okanagan Detachment is committed to our four priorities of *Public Safety*, *Vulnerable Victims*, *Community Outreach* and *Employee Excellence* to ensure our communities remain a safe place to live. We are dedicated to providing an outstanding police service by developing strong mental health and resiliency in our members, and building and maintaining trust through timely and accurate communication. We work collaboratively with our partners to assist vulnerable persons in the community. Most importantly, we foster safer communities through evidence based, targeted and collaborative enforcement.

PRIORITY ONE: PUBLIC SAFETY

The Vernon North Okanagan RCMP's primary focus is on the safety of the public within the communities we police.

Operations

The table below highlights the total number of calls for service for the 3rd quarter of 2024 as well as previous totals from 2023 and 2022 for comparison. The percentage changes are compared to the same quarter from the previous year.

| Total Calls for Service – Quarter 3 | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Area | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Vernon | 5770 | 5698 | 5083 | 4959 | -1.24% | -10.79% | -2.43% |
| Coldstream | 525 | 443 | 378 | 405 | -15.61% | -14.67% | +7.14% |
| Vernon Rural | 543 | 478 | 544 | 484 | -11.97% | +13.8% | -11.02% |
| Armstrong | 278 | 329 | 348 | 336 | +18.34% | +5.77% | -3.44% |
| Enderby | 654 | 704 | 549 | 645 | +7.49% | -22.01% | +17.48% |
| Falkland | 267 | 205 | 272 | 252 | -23.22% | +32.68% | -7.35% |
| Lumby | 418 | 318 | 305 | 342 | -23.92% | -4.08% | +12.13% |
| Spallumcheen | 417 | 423 | 399 | 322 | +1.43% | -5.67% | -19.29% |
| Westside | 368 | 379 | 329 | 341 | +2.98% | +3.6% | +3.64% |
| Total | 9237 | 8977 | 8025 | 8086 | -2.81% | -10.6% | +0.76% |

The number of total calls for service will not equal the values reported below due to the location of where the offence occurred as it may be unknown or outside our policing jurisdiction.

Criminal Code Offences

The table below highlights the total number of Criminal Code offences for the 3rd quarter as well as previous totals from 2023, 2022 and 2021 for comparison; percentage changes are compared to the same quarter from the previous year. Total Criminal Code offences include persons and property offences.

| Criminal Code Offences– Quarter 3 | | | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Area | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Vernon | 1562 | 1646 | 1638 | 1725 | +5.37% | -0.48% | +5.31% |
| Coldstream | 111 | 111 | 86 | 115 | 0% | -22.52% | +33.72% |
| Vernon Rural | 77 | 64 | 109 | 82 | -16.88% | +70.31% | -24.77% |
| Armstrong | 83 | 92 | 67 | 67 | +10.84% | -27.17% | 0% |
| Enderby | 205 | 215 | 119 | 105 | +4.87% | -44.65% | -11.76% |
| Falkland | 43 | 41 | 34 | 45 | -4.65% | -17.07% | +32.35% |
| Lumby | 109 | 115 | 50 | 66 | +5.5% | -56.52% | +32% |
| Spallumcheen | 98 | 101 | 63 | 50 | +3.06% | -37.62% | -20.63% |
| Westside | 89 | 113 | 96 | 73 | +26.96% | -15.04% | -23.95% |
| Total | 2377 | 2498 | 2262 | 2328 | +5.09% | -9.44% | +2.91% |

Criminal Code Offences include Founded Files Only.

Violent Offences

The table below highlights the total number of violent crime offences for the 3rd quarter as well as previous totals from 2023, 2022 and 2021 for comparison; percentage changes are compared to the same quarter from the previous year. Total violent crime offences include homicides, assaults, sexual assaults, uttering threats and criminal harassment.

| Violent Offences – Quarter 3 | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Area | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Vernon | 258 | 303 | 302 | 310 | +17.44% | -0.33% | +2.64% |
| Coldstream | 29 | 27 | 26 | 26 | -6.89% | -3.7% | 0% |
| Vernon Rural | 28 | 18 | 29 | 20 | -35.71% | +61.11% | -31.03% |
| Armstrong | 21 | 19 | 23 | 26 | -9.52% | +21.05% | +13.04% |
| Enderby | 40 | 41 | 36 | 35 | +2.5% | -21.19% | -2.77% |
| Falkland | 10 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 0% | 0% | -40% |
| Lumby | 19 | 22 | 11 | 12 | +15.78% | -50% | +9.09% |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Spallumcheen | 19 | 19 | 19 | 14 | 0% | 0% | -26.31% |
| Westside | 17 | 15 | 21 | 30 | -11.76% | +40% | +42.85% |
| Total | 441 | 474 | 477 | 479 | +7.48% | +0.63% | +0.41% |

Total Violent Offences (Founded Files Only) Include: (1000 Series UCR - Crimes Against Person) Murder, Robbery, Assault, Harassing Communications, Utter threats against Person.

During this quarter, the Vernon Serious Crime Unit assumed conduct of a suspicious death investigation in July and two homicide investigations – one in July and one in August. All three remain under investigation.

Targeted Policing assumed conduct of the investigation into a residential shooting incident where the suspects fired several rounds into a residence in Vernon.

Property Crime

The table below highlights the total number of property crime offences for the 3rd quarter as well as previous totals from 2023, 2022 and 2021 for comparison; percentage changes are compared to the same quarter from the previous year. Total property crime offences include break and enter, theft, mischief, arson, fraud, and possession of stolen property.

| Property Crime – Quarter 3 | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Area | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Vernon | 975 | 1001 | 883 | 981 | +2.66% | -11.78% | +11.09% |
| Coldstream | 59 | 69 | 37 | 59 | +16.94% | -46.37% | +59.45% |
| Vernon Rural | 39 | 47 | 54 | 42 | +20.51% | +14.89% | -22.22% |
| Armstrong | 31 | 34 | 31 | 28 | +9.67% | -8.82% | -9.67% |
| Enderby | 76 | 56 | 63 | 55 | -26.31% | +12.5% | -12.69% |
| Falkland | 17 | 16 | 17 | 27 | -5.88% | +6.25% | +58.82% |
| Lumby | 62 | 48 | 29 | 39 | -22.58% | +39.58% | +34.48% |
| Spallumcheen | 29 | 44 | 26 | 27 | +51.72% | -40.9% | +3.84% |
| Westside | 38 | 49 | 48 | 32 | +28.94% | -2.04% | -33.33% |
| Total | 1326 | 1364 | 1188 | 1290 | +2.86% | -12.9% | +8.58% |

Total Property Crime (Founded Files Only): Include B&E (Residential, Business, Other, Seasonal Residence), Theft Over \$5000, Theft Under \$5000, Theft of MV, Theft from MV, Possession of Stolen Property, Fraud, Mischief, Arson.

During this quarter frontline officers responded to a break and enter in progress at a business in the 7800 block of Hwy 97 and arrested three suspects. As well, police responded to a commercial alarm at a business in the 3000 block of 31st Street and obtained a description of the suspect. A suspect was located a short distance away and arrested for possession of stolen property.

Targeted Policing

During this quarter Targeted Policing completed an investigation into a drug trafficking operation where the suspects involved were utilizing seasonal rental properties in the area to trafficking drugs which resulted in the arrest of four subjects and seizure of fentanyl, cocaine, methamphetamine and prescription pills. The investigation continues.

Prolific Offender Unit

A Prolific Offender is identified as an adult or youth offender with an established pattern of persistent Criminal Code and/or Controlled Drugs and Substances Act offenders, identified by current intelligence to be criminally active and assessed by police and partner agencies as medium to high risk to re-offend. These offenders reside within our detachment area and are capable of causing a disproportionate amount of crime in the community.

At the conclusion of this reporting period, there were 13 Prolific Offenders identified for monitoring in the Vernon North Okanagan. Of those, 9 are currently in custody and four are not in custody. Of the 4 not in custody, 1 resides or is known to frequent the City of Vernon, 1 resides in Armstrong and 2 relocated outside of our jurisdiction.

Repeat Violent Offender Initiative (ReVOII)

ReVOII is a coordinated multi-agency initiative designed to intervene and address repeat violent offenders in communities across BC. The program is comprised of dedicated Crown prosecutors, probation officers, correctional supervisors, and includes enhanced investigation and monitoring of repeat violent offenders by police agencies. There are currently four subjects identified in the Vernon area with two in custody and two out of custody with one residing in the Vernon area.

Downtown Enforcement

During this reporting period the Downtown Enforcement Unit (DEU) liaised with the street entrenched population, provided referral information and conducted enforcement action. During the course of their duties DEU executed 34 warrants of arrest and recommended six investigations for charge approval including several incidents of failure to comply with release conditions and driving while prohibited.

Road Safety

The Vernon North Okanagan frontline officers contribute to safer roads through documented contacts with motorists to enforce the Province of British Columbia Motor Vehicle Act which include disobey traffic control device, distracted driving and speed related offences.

| Traffic Contacts – Quarter 3 | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Area | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Vernon | 549 | 663 | 583 | 620 | +20.76% | -12.06% | +6.34% |
| Coldstream | 141 | 123 | 169 | 147 | -12.76% | +37.39% | -13.01% |
| Vernon Rural | 19 | 32 | 21 | 13 | 68.42% | -34.37% | -38.09% |
| Armstrong | 102 | 101 | 48 | 38 | -0.98% | -52.47% | -20.83% |
| Enderby | 39 | 37 | 35 | 88 | -5.12% | -5.4% | +151.42% |
| Falkland | 66 | 30 | 22 | 20 | -54.54% | -26.66% | -9.09% |
| Lumby | 104 | 122 | 40 | 49 | +17.3% | -67.21% | +22.5% |
| Spallumcheen | 135 | 206 | 198 | 87 | +52.59% | -3.88% | -56.06% |
| Westside | 47 | 35 | 14 | 103 | -25.53% | -60% | +635.71% |
| Total | 1202 | 1349 | 1130 | 1165 | +12.22% | -16.23% | +3.09% |

Total Traffic Contacts include violations tickets and written warnings.

PRIORITY TWO: VULNERABLE PERSONS

The Vernon North Okanagan RCMP works collaboratively with partner agencies to assist vulnerable persons in the community who are in the greatest need and are at risk of harm or exploitation.

Domestic Violence Unit (DVU)

In high-risk intimate partner violence investigations the Domestic Violence Unit assists frontline investigators, conducts file reviews as well as facilitates Integrated Case Assessment Team (ICAT) meetings to support a high-risk victim through the process. During this quarter DVU opened 11 new ICAT files and currently has an additional 10 previous ICAT files requiring file management, monitoring and victim support.

Sex Crimes

During this quarter the BC Integrated Child Exploitation Unit (BC ICE) advised of 18 reports of possession of child pornography. Each investigation requires a significant amount of time to complete production orders, execute search warrants and, where the evidence supports, prepare charge packages for Crown Counsel.

As a highly trained interviewer the Sex Crimes investigator conducts all interviews with vulnerable child victims of crime. From October to December Sex Crimes conducted 11 victim interviews with regards to sexual assault or sexual interference crimes against children.

Mental Health Calls

The Integrated Crisis Response Team is comprised of a regular member partnered with a nurse from the Interior Health Authority who responds to calls for service involving persons in crisis. This quarter ICRT responded to 230 calls for service and assisted frontline officers with follow up on an additional 31 investigations.

| Vernon/ Coldstream | MENTAL HEALTH FILES – Quarter 3 | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Mental Health Files | 339 | 261 | 328 | 480 | -23% | +25.6% | +46.34% |
| Acting under the Authority | 200 | 158 | 167 | 176 | -21% | +5.69% | +5.38% |
| Emergency Apprehension Section 28 | 47 | 44 | 47 | 38 | -6.38% | +6.81% | -19.14% |
| Form 21, 10, 4 Apprehension | 21 | 25 | 34 | 30 | +19.04% | +36% | -11.76% |

| North Okanagan Rural <i>(Armstrong, Enderby, Falkland, Lumby, Spallumcheen)</i> | MENTAL HEALTH FILES – Quarter 3 | | | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------|------|------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2021-2022 % change | 2022-2023 % change | 2023-2024 % change |
| Mental Health Files | 88 | 89 | 82 | 85 | +1.13% | -7.87% | +3.65% |
| Acting under the Authority | 58 | 46 | 45 | 40 | -20.68% | -2.17% | -11.11% |
| Emergency Apprehension Section 28 | 14 | 6 | 4 | 8 | -57.14% | -33.33% | +100% |
| Form 21, 10, 4 Apprehension | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 0% | -66.66% | +200% |

Toxic Drug Crisis Response

Frontline officers in the Vernon North Okanagan work to improve service for people suffering from addiction issues which often lead to an increased involvement in criminal behaviour. Through partnership with Interior Health, Mental Health and Substance Use and the BC Centre for Disease Control, the Vernon North Okanagan RCMP offer Naloxone kits to those at risk of overdose. During the course of their duties, frontline officers provide referral to and information regarding local harm reduction services within the community.

PRIORITY THREE: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Vernon North Okanagan RCMP work to build and maintain relationships within our communities to increase public trust and confidence.

Youth Connection

The School Resource Officer is an effective part of the School District 22 team, collaborating with teachers, administrators, parents, students and other community partners to enhance safety and security in our schools. Due to staffing shortages on the frontline the School Resources Officer is re-deployed to general duty for the 2024-2025 school year in order to assist with the response to calls for service. Nonetheless, the Vernon North Okanagan detachment remain committed to assisting with lock-down drills, providing school presentations and are planning to offer the Constable Jean Minguy Memorial RCMP Youth Academy in May 2025.

Community Engagement



Over the Canada Day weekend our officers provided a police presence at the Funtastic Ball tournament venue with regular foot patrols and site security, as well as attended various family friendly Canada Day celebrations in the communities. Throughout the summer our officers were seen on the local waterways conducting boat patrols and vessel safety checks. Over the Labour Day long weekend frontlines officers provided a police presence to the 123rd Interior Provincial Exhibition & Stampede.

Community Safety Office (Vernon)

The nine active volunteers of the Community Safety Office (CSO) assisted 1139 members of the public, fielded 164 phone calls and returned over 259 Police Information Checks. The CSO coordinator conducted presentations to the community including 'Hug a tree & survive', De-escalation, Frauds & Cons and Personal Safety as well as conducting two Crime Preventions through Environment Design (CPTED) audits of businesses and residences. In addition, the volunteers were involved in community events including the NOYFSS Community BBQ, Cops for Kids Charity Ride landing and the International Overdose Awareness Day event. As well, volunteers ensured 340 entries were made to the Operation Cat's Paw pawn program data base. The CSO Anti-tag Team focused on identifying, documenting and removing unwanted graffiti in the city, the majority of which were discovered around Vernon on BC Hydro boxes, Canada Post boxes and commercial dumpsters.

Vernon RCMP Volunteers

During this past quarter the 29 volunteers provided a total of 707 hours through their participation with the Vernon RCMP Volunteer Program. They drove 762 kilometers, worked 43 Community Safety Patrol shifts and ran 959 licence plates on the Stolen Auto Recovery program. Over the past three months volunteers spent 126 hours conducting 33 Speed Watch operations to slow down 4600 vehicles.

With summer boating underway, volunteers spent 18 hours over three days to conduct pre-safety checks of 12 vessels and, fortunately, did not locate any invasive mussels. In addition, volunteers participated in the Sun Valley Cruise In during the July 6th & 7th weekend and the Vernon Volunteer Fair in September.

[Lumby RCMP Volunteers](#)

The Village of Lumby and Electoral Area D supports a small RCMP volunteer program consisting of four operational volunteers. These dedicated volunteers conduct Speed Watch operations and is facilitated by the Village of Lumby Community Safety Officer.

[PRIORITY FOUR: POLICING EXCELLENCE](#)

The Vernon North Okanagan RCMP is committed to supporting our police officers and support staff to build confidence, resiliency and empower our employees to reach their full potential.

[Detachment Level Training](#)

The Vernon North Okanagan is committed to providing local training opportunities for our police officers in order to enhance their skillset. During this quarter local subject matter experts from the Missing Persons Unit, Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit, North Okanagan Youth and Family Services, Integrated Forensic Identification Unit, RCMP Victim Services, City of Vernon Fire Rescue and Vernon Crown Counsel attended to police briefings to share their knowledge.

[Pacific Regional Training Centre \(PRTC\)](#)

During this quarter four regular members attended to PRTC for Operational Skills Training, two Municipal Employees attend the Advanced Disclosure course and two Public Service Employees attended for training on detachment procedures including specialized computer training.

[Human Resources - Established Levels](#)

Vernon North Okanagan Detachment is currently at 107 Regular Members: 60 City of Vernon; 30 Provincial; 4 City of Armstrong; 7 District of Coldstream; 4 Township of Spallumcheen, 1 Splotsin First Nation and 1 Okanagan Indian Band (OKIB).

RCMP MISSION, VISION, VALUES

Our Mission:

To preserve the peace, uphold the law and provide quality service in partnership with our communities.

Our Vision:

The RCMP is a healthy and inclusive organization trusted by employees, partners and the public that keeps Canada safe by consistently delivering exceptional policing services and continually striving to grow and improve.

Our Values:

- **Act with integrity:** We conduct ourselves ethically, and do so with honesty, dignity and honour.
- **Show respect:** We treat all people with fairness. We value and promote reconciliation, diversity and inclusion by being considerate of the democratic rights, history and lived experiences of others.
- **Demonstrate compassion:** We care for each other and the communities we serve by approaching each situation with empathy and a genuine desire to help.
- **Take responsibility:** We are transparent about our decisions and actions and hold ourselves accountable for the results and impacts.
- **Serve with excellence:** We commit to continuous learning and work collaboratively with colleagues, communities and partners to provide and support innovative and professional policing services.