

# G A N A N O Q U E P O L I C E S E R V I C E



**ANNUAL**  **REPORT**

**2019**



## **“Serving our community since 1863”**

The Gananoque Police Service completed its 156th year of service to the Town of Gananoque in 2019, and as the Chief of Police I am proud to share the 2019 Annual Report on behalf of all members of the Gananoque Police Service.

The report will highlight many of the successes of the Service over the year. All these successes would not have been possible without the commitment and dedication of all members of the Service.

2019 was an exceptionally busy year for the Gananoque Police Service as we recorded a 20% increase in calls for service over 2018. This obviously added significant extra workload to the members of the service, even more so given that we were operating 10 months of the year with 2 members unable to complete front line duties.

I would like to commend the staff for their exceptional dedication to their community in performing their duties under pressure, always answering the call to attend work to backfill vacant positions morning and night.

As part of the Health IM initiative the Gananoque Police Service continues providing a mental health crisis worker for 16 hours per week to assist the officers when dealing with persons suffering from a mental health crisis. This has proven to be of great benefit in reducing time officers are spending in the field dealing with distressed persons. This program continues to be funded through a provincial grant program through 2022.

In 2019 there was a continued focus on reducing crime through a commitment to being more proactive and as a result of this effort our clearance rate for crimes solved was 58%. This would not have been possible without the continued support that the Service receives from its community members and the dedication of our staff.

I would also like to mention the retirement of our longest serving member of the Gananoque Police Service. Sgt Rhonda Sherboneau called it a career in late 2019 after serving with the RCMP and the Gananoque Police Service for 28 years. Her professionalism and knowledge were appreciated by all who served with her and the community alike. I would like to wish her well as she moves on to the next chapter.

Finally, the successes of the Gananoque Police Service would not be possible without the committed efforts of the Gananoque Police Services Board and the continued support of all our community stakeholders. It ensures that the Gananoque Police Service remains the best police service in Ontario. Our police service is only as strong as the community it proudly serves.

Regards,

Garry E. Hull  
Chief of Police



It is truly an honor to serve as your Chair on the Gananoque Police Services Board.

As the Chief noted, 2019 presented us with many challenges.

I am very confident that our Police Service stands ready to serve the residents of Gananoque.

Both our uniformed officers and our staff are highly skilled, committed and diligent.

Furthermore, our Chief is a terrific leader.

As 2021 approaches, your Police Services Board is prepared to meet the challenges arising from a variety of factors. We will work hard for you, our constituents, to provide a safe community in which you and your families are able to thrive. We do this by establishing priorities, objectives and policies for our Police Service and monitoring the performance of the Service.

From 1969 to 1981 my Grandfather, Basil Bickerton served in this seat at what was then the Gananoque Police Commission. As 2021 approaches, I assure you that I, like him, will work tirelessly with my fellow Board members, Police Service and residents/constituents of Gananoque to continue to build the excellence of our Police Service and its reputation and service to our community. It is an honor to serve you in this position as your Chair.

Sincerely,

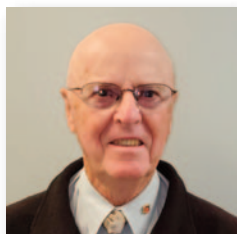
Rob Bickerton,  
Chair of the Board

## Gananoque Police Services Board Members

2019



*Rob Bickerton  
Chair*



*Alfred Read  
Vice-Chair*



*David Anderson  
Board Member*

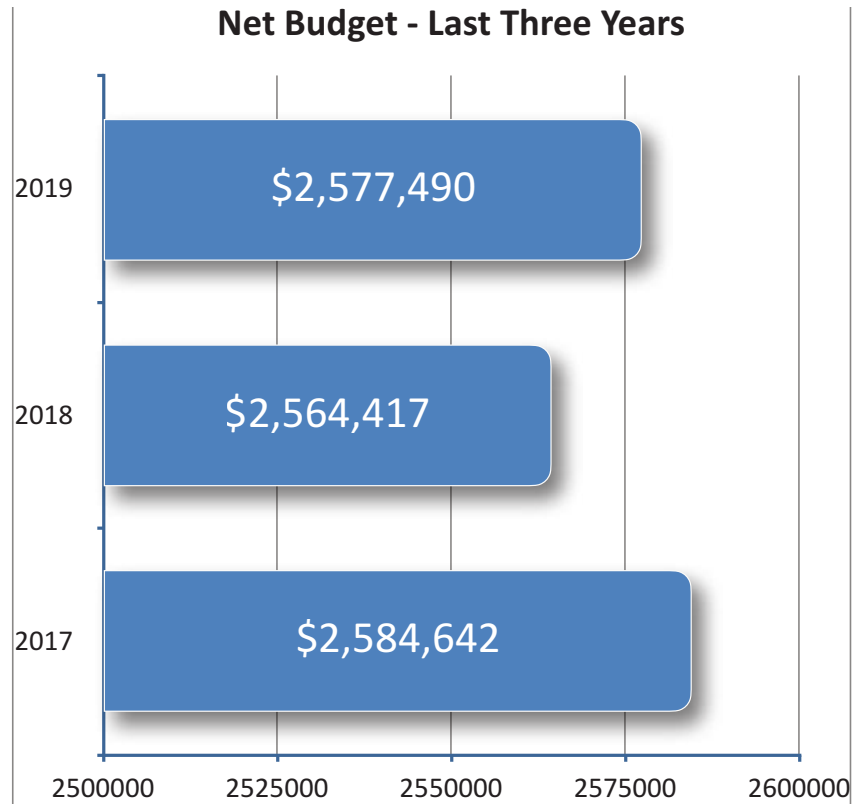


*Adrian Haird  
Board Member*



*Tom Haney  
Board Member*

## Budget



The net budget for 2019 increased by \$13,073 from 2018.

## Staff

There were a couple changes to the GPS staff in 2019.

In April 2019, Police Communicator Nancy Delaney completed her final shift at Gananoque Police and retired after being with the Service for 20 years.

Sgt. Rhonda Sherboneau also retired at the end of 2019 after 20 years with the Service.

Two of our Special Constables resigned their positions to pursue other interests. Mary Shultz and Chad Mandigo continue to serve as Special Constables, along with two Special Constables from Brockville Police filling in when needed.



### Full Time Staff

Chief of Police:	1
Sergeants:	4
Administrative Assistant:	1
Police Constables:	9
Police Communicators:	5

### Part-time Staff

Police Constables:	1
Special Constables:	3
Police Communicators:	3
Backcheck Clerks:	2
Cell Monitors:	2

In 2019, the Gananoque Police Service began using Axon Evidence Management, a cloud-based digital evidence management solution, used by agencies across the world to easily create, store, search and share case files. – minus the hassle of paperwork, couriering DVDs and evidence bags. Axon software can find and blur commonly redacted objects to cut the time it takes to redact videos. Looking forward, there may be a time when we can eliminate policing paperwork altogether, which would free officers to spend more time doing what they signed up for – being on the street and protecting their communities.

Currently, patrol officers and police dispatchers are able to send community members a link where they can add digital evidence such as pictures, screen shots, voice messages and videos, with all of the information is protected for police use only. Officers are now taking recorded witness statement on scene, using the mobile Axon app and taking pictures of evidence, crucial to investigations and the process of cases through court trial.

Case files are created in niche RMS and sent to the Courts electronically through a program called SCOPE. SCOPE allows the Ministry of Attorney General (MAG's) 54 Court locations to receive electronic disclosure which is part of a larger eSolutions initiative that also includes Criminal e-intake. SCOPE rolled out to us here at Gananoque Police Service in June 2019 and this allowed GPS to file Electronic Briefs (E-Briefs) submissions directly to the Crown Attorney's Office. The transition to E-Briefs is a Province-wide initiative involving MAG, Niche RMS and Versadex agencies. GPS had to prepare its service infrastructure for the project along with training officers and certain civilian staff. We successfully submitted 140 e-briefs through SCOPE to the Brockville Crown Attorney's office from our start date of June through to December 2019. SCOPE has now become a vital process for both the Gananoque Police and the Crown Attorney's Office.

## AXON Evidence Management

*A/Sgt. Landon Lackey-Ruwald*



## SCOPE (Scheduling of Crown Operations Prepared Electronically)

*Carole Steacy*



## Traffic Enforcement Statistics

	2019	2018	2017
Criminal (Impaired, etc)	17	13	33
HTA and CAIA Charges	629	377	453
HTA and CAIA Warnings	596	339	411
Bylaw Tickets	167	207	156

# Community Service

Sgt. Scott Gee

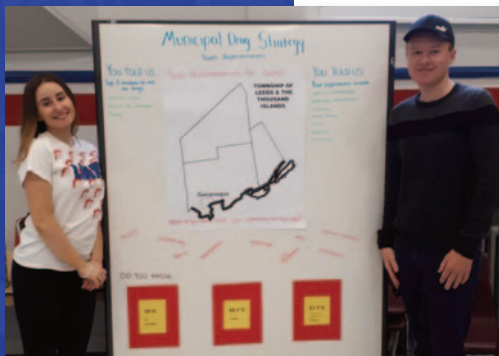
## The Youth In Policing Initiative Program



The Gananoque Police Service is actively engaged in numerous community policing initiatives. The Gananoque Police Service conducts several crime prevention initiatives throughout the year in relation to fraud prevention, youth engagement, and elder abuse.

The Youth In Policing Initiative, also known as "YIPI", which is a summer job program funded by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services for teens 15 to 18 years of age, who are attending school full time in the fall. In 2019 the program hired 4 students for the summer of 2019. The program provides and promotes participation and exposure to the work environment through diverse, educational and productive work assignment while helping bridge the gap between the police agency and the young person. The YIPI program has been a successful program for the last 10 years in Gananoque. The Gananoque Police hire the students for the 8 weeks of the summer and they work alongside police staff. They work as Town Ambassadors assisting with local events, participating in fundraising initiatives as well as getting exposure to a career in policing.

## Municipal Drug Strategy



The Gananoque Police Service is actively engaged in the Towns Municipal Drug Strategy (MDS). The MDS is Municipal based strategy that coordinate multi-sectoral initiatives that are based in a four pillar approach; Prevention, Harm Reduction, Treatment & Enforcement. The MDS aims to reduce the harms associated with alcohol and drugs, including prescription drugs. Several public education events and youth engagement around the 4 pillars were achieved during 2019.



2019 police continued in building community partnerships. Officers with The Gananoque Police Service organized and travelled with students in grades 7-12 from Gananoque to Brockville to attend Stingers. Stingers is youth centre with a focus on recreation and a safe and healthy lifestyle. The youth participation was so overwhelming, funding was secured from a grant to assist in the payment of transportation.

## Community Patrol

	2019	2018	2017
Total Patrol (hrs)	6103	5792	7333
Foot Patrol (hrs)	492	353.5	546
Community Service (hrs)*	531	448	412
Paid Duty**	—	107	46
(* includes presentations, funerals, etc) (**includes R.I.D.E.)			

For the school year of 2018-2019, the Gananoque Police Service Community officer, A/Sgt. Lackey-Ruwald, or “Officer Landon”, completed another fantastic year with the grade 5 and 6 students at Linklater Public School and St. Joseph Catholic School.

D.A.R.E., is an effective multicultural curriculum that is developmentally appropriate and based on the powerful Social Emotional Learning approach. This curriculum teaches the foundational skills that youth need to be safe, healthy, and responsible in leading drug-free lives.

The D.A.R.E program consist of the following:

- Ten 45-minute lessons
- Designed for 5th-6th grade students
- Evidence-based
- Delivered by Certified D.A.R.E. Officers
- Deep dive into material link

Unfortunately, we did not get to celebrate the end of the program with our traditional graduation due to COVID-19.

Every spring, officers also take part in the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics. With the assistance of officers from the local O.P.P. detachment, the officers run from one end of town to the other, collecting donations for Special Olympics.



## D.A.R.E. Program

*A/Sgt. Landon Lackey-Ruwald*

# D.A.R.E.®

## Special Olympics

## Ride to Remember

*A/Sgt. Joel Harding*

Once again, Gananoque Police Service has participated in “The Ride to Remember” – an organized bicycle event in which participants pay tribute to Canadian Peace Officers that have fallen in the line of duty. The ride starts out at the Ontario Police College in Aylmer Ontario, spans over 700 kilometers, ending up on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on the eve of the National Peace Officers Memorial. Participants consist of members of Law Enforcement agencies across Canada. Gananoque Police Service has participated in the event in 2016, 2017, and 2019. The event began with 3 founding police officers 20 years ago and has grown to approximately 175 riders. Each year the event raises a significant amount of money donated to the charity fund which helps support family of the fallen officers.



## Community Outreach Program

A/Sgt. Joel Harding

Created in 2018, Gananoque Police Service continues to work in partnership with Lanark Leeds and Grenville Addictions and Mental Health in providing a Community Outreach Program. The program responded to 57 referrals in 2019. Many of these referrals result in assisting community members with addictions counselling, mental health support, housing support, hoarding solutions, and many other types of counselling and support. This partnership has been well received by community members in their times of need. It has been funded by a provincial grant which allows for a Mental Health and Addictions counsellor to work alongside police officers 2 days a week.



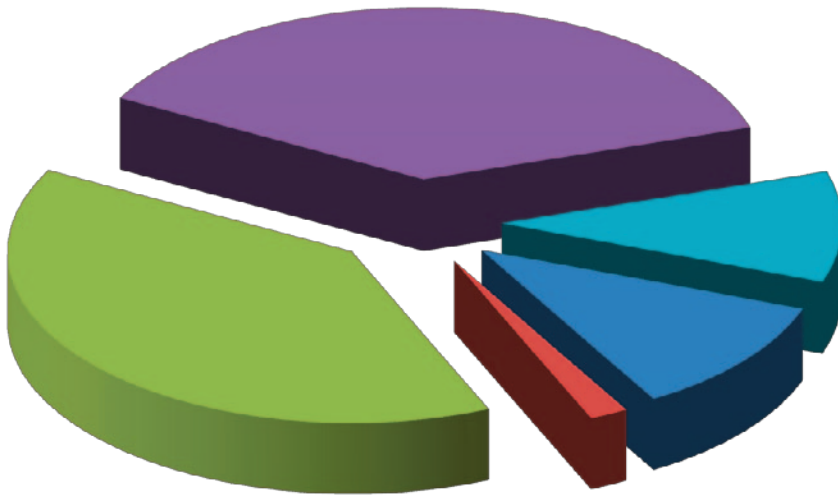
***In 2019 The Gananoque Police handled 58 Mental Health related calls. This is up from 51 calls in 2018, and 47 calls in 2017.***

## Cram-A-Cruiser Campaign

The Cram the Cruiser campaign was another successful event in 2019. Each year, a couple weeks before Christmas, officers receive generous assistance from the community in packing the cruisers full of food at the local No Frills and Metro grocery stores. Everything received goes to the local food bank.



## Charges and Warnings



Criminal Charges-Adult	Criminal Charges - Youth	Provincial Charges	Provincial Warnings	Bylaw Charges
178 (11.1%)	29 (1.8%)	629 (39.3%)	596 (37.3%)	167 (10.4%)

## CIICC

In January 2017, Ontario Regulation 58/16 came in to effect. The **Collection of Identifying Information in Certain Circumstances** replaced former Street Checks.

The Gananoque Police Service did not conduct any CIICC occurrences in 2019.

## Criminal Incidents and Clearance Rates

	2019	Clearance Rate	2018	Clearance Rate	2017	Clearance Rate
<b>Violent Crime</b>	93	84.9%	74	93.2%	66	97%
<b>Property Crime</b>	228	24.6%	226	27.4%	182	19.8%
<b>Drug Crimes</b>	10	90%	14	100%	13	100%
<b>Traffic Crimes (Impaired, etc)</b>	17	100%	13	100%	33	100%

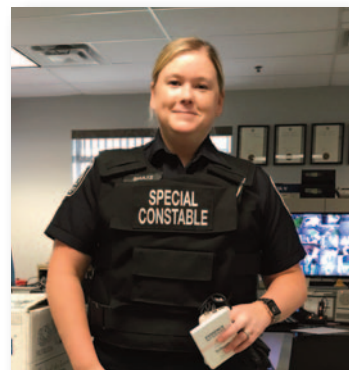
There were 5 Use of Force reports generated in 2019 for 3 separate incidents: These incidents included a Suicidal Subject who was combative, a High Risk Motor Vehicle stop involving 2 suspects with a firearm present, and a foot pursuit of a suspect who fled after a vehicle pursuit. Of the Types of Force used, 2 involved pointing of firearm, and 3 involved use of CEW.

In 2018, 7 reports were generated, and in 2017, 1 report was generated.

## Use Of Force

## Special Constables

The Special Constables are used to assist officers in security duties such as prisoner escorts to court and hospitals, as well as attending bail and remand hearings at court. In 2019, the Specials logged 2686.5 hours in completing these tasks. In 2018 they logged 2027.5 hours, and in 2017 - 2125.5 hours. The Gananoque Police has an agreement with Brockville Police in sharing the Special Constables for these tasks.



## Communications

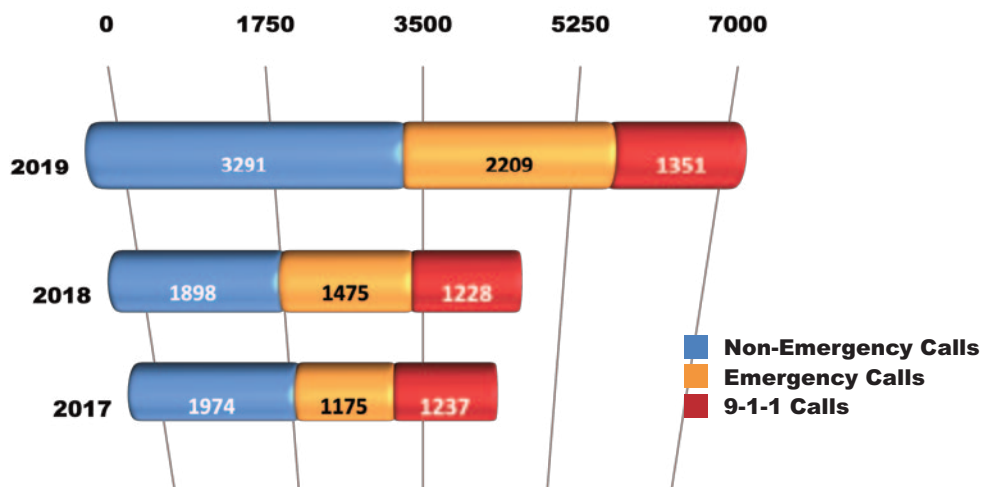


The Gananoque Police Communications Centre is a 9-1-1 Call Centre for the Gananoque area. The Communicators also handle radio dispatch for the Town's Police, Fire, Board of Works and Public Works. There are 5 Full-time and 3 Part-Time Communications staff who are responsible for handling all telephone and front counter traffic for the Emergency Services Building. They also handle all radio communications, building surveillance, initial report generation and data management of various computer systems.

In 2019, the Communications Centre generated 6851 calls-for-service for the Town of Gananoque. These consisted of 3291 non-emergency calls and 2209 emergency calls. Of the 2209 emergency calls, 1351 were from 9-1-1 calls.

## Calls For Service

### Calls For Service - Last 3 Years



The income generating Backcheck Program has been increasing steadily over the last few years. Criminal Background requests from various companies across Canada are received from Sterling Talent Solutions (formerly known as BackCheck), and completed by Communications staff, as well as two part-time Clerks. Staff completed 234,880 background checks in 2019.

## Criminal Background Checks

**Sterling**  
Talent Solutions

## Freedom of Information Requests

2019	2018	2017
15	8	0

## F.O.I Public Complaints

## Public Complaints

2019	2018	2017
0	0	1

The Gananoque Police website had 6300 users visit the site in 2019, an increase of 10.5% over 2018.

Police Communicator Mary Jess manages the Facebook and Twitter accounts for Gananoque Police. In 2019, an Instagram Account was activated. These accounts are used regularly to post everything from news releases to found dogs to traffic updates.

## Social Media



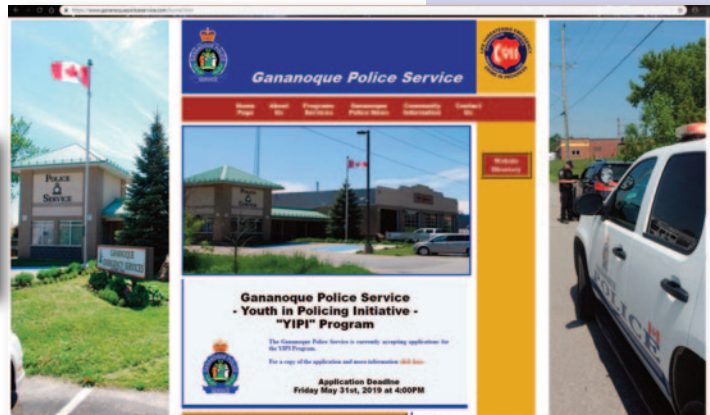
Facebook  
2758  
Followers



Twitter  
2149  
Followers



Instagram  
500  
Followers



Retired members (police officers and civilians) of the Gananoque Police Service, maintain a relationship with the Service through the Gananoque Police Pensioners Association. Established by retired police officers in 2008, the Association members meet socially each month, and are also members of the Police Pensioners Association of Ontario.

At present the membership consists of six retired officers and one retired civilian member. Through the fellowship of the Association retired members maintain the strong bond established as colleagues, support each other in their retirement years, and promote the rich history of the Police Service. The retired members benefit from the support and participation of Chief Hull in Association activities and social gatherings.

## Gananoque Police Pensioners Association

*Sgt. Bill Sheppard (Retired)*

