



BE THE DIFFERENCE

# ANNUAL REPORT

# 20 22



# VISION

TO CONTINUALLY IMPROVE COMMUNITY SAFETY

# MISSION

AS PART OF THE COMMUNITY, WE WILL PROVIDE SERVICE BASED ON EXCELLENCE TO ENSURE A SAFE AND SECURE ENVIRONMENT

# VALUES

HONESTY | INTEGRITY | COMPASSION | FAIRNESS  
COMMITMENT | RESPECT | PROFESSIONALISM

# CHIEF'S MESSAGE



**Chief Troy Cooper**

I am pleased to present the 2022 annual report for the Saskatoon Police Service. The past year has seen some exciting new programs launched as well as some amazing results in terms of criminal investigations. One of the things we are most proud of is the fact that we have been named one of Saskatchewan's top employers for a tenth straight year! Our reputation as an employer has helped attract and retain the incredible staff who are the key to our success. I am sure you will find this report informational but please check out our website and follow us on social media to receive important news throughout the year.

As the world returned to normal business and travel schedules last year our calls for service volumes also went back to pre-pandemic levels. Social issues relating to homelessness and addiction have been the primary drivers of police activity over the last few years and that was certainly the case in 2022. Responding to the opioid crisis and increased homelessness meant that partnerships and new enforcement tools were necessary. We were able to solidify partnerships with the Saskatoon Fire Department, Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Services and with many local service providers to offer a community response to these complex issues. Our Alternate Response Officers were made a permanent program last year and their contribution to addressing social disorder in the downtown and Riversdale neighbourhoods was invaluable. These special constables have some enforcement authority, but they are primarily focused on directing individuals to sources of support in order to attain longer term results.

Some of the other programs launched in 2022 include the creation of Saskatchewan's only Hate Crime Unit and the development of a Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review process for sexual assault investigations which did not result in criminal charges. Both of these innovative programs will serve Saskatoon better and allow for community input into how the organization responds. Our Body-Worn Camera Program is another example of innovation that is leading the province and reforming our industry.

I am proud of these initiatives but certainly I am most proud of the officers and staff that serve here with such compassion and dedication. In 2022, we saw a very busy Communications Center rise to meet the demands of additional calls, and we saw our Major Crime and Victim Services Units bring families support and closure. We saw a large-scale catalytic converter theft file result in multiple arrests, and once again we saw many drug and firearm investigations taking dangerous offenders and products off of our streets. These are just a few examples of the difference our staff made in 2022, and the reason we enjoy such strong community support. Thank you for your interest in our annual report.

# SASKATOON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

The Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners provides objective oversight of the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS) and serves as a conduit between the Service and the public.

The mission of the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners is to strengthen the culture of community safety in Saskatoon. **The Board has three goals:**

- 1** To provide effective and objective oversight of the SPS.
- 2** To be a highly effective conduit between the public and the SPS.
- 3** To strengthen the culture of community safety through effective and efficient Police Commission governance and operation.

## NEW TO THE BOARD

**Hillary Gough** was appointed to the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners in 2022. She has been a member of city council since 2016.

The SPS would like to thank the past Board members for their service to the citizens of Saskatoon.



# 2022 COMMISSION MEMBERS:



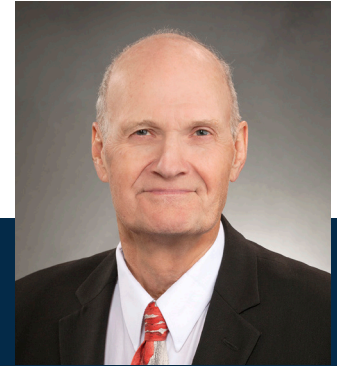
Commissioner  
**J. Custead, Chair**



Commissioner  
**Mayor C. Clark**



Commissioner  
**S. Greyeyes**



Commissioner  
**K. Healy**



Commissioner  
**Z. Jeffries**



Commissioner  
**B. Penner**



Commissioner  
**H. Gough**

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The Board hears frequently from members of the community. Anyone wishing to address the Board at one of its public meetings can contact the Board by email at [board@saskatoonpolicecommission.com](mailto:board@saskatoonpolicecommission.com) or by letter addressed to:

Secretary, Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners, c/o Saskatoon City Clerk,  
**222 3rd Ave N, Saskatoon, SK  
S7K 0J5**

For more information on the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners, **please see their website:** <https://saskatoonpolicecommission.com/>



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# STRATEGIC THEMES

In accordance with the 2020-2024 SPS Strategic Plan, the strategic themes of Crime and Safety, Our People, Partnerships, Communication, and Innovation guided police work throughout 2022.

**The following table outlines the themes and goals contained in the 2020-2024 SPS Strategic Plan:**

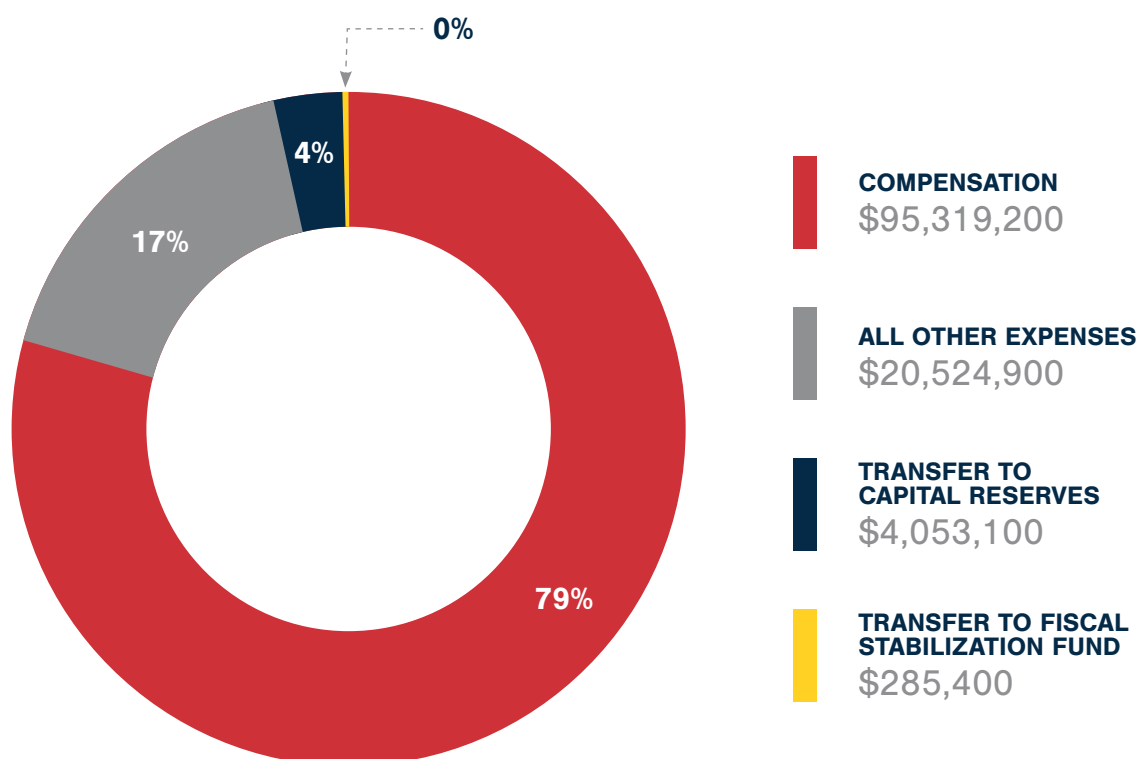
STRATEGIC PLAN THEMES	GOALS
<b>CRIME AND SAFETY</b>	<p>Develop and implement effective prevention, intervention, and suppression strategies to combat the changing facets of crime and its cause;</p> <p>Maintain core policing operations and address community concerns that affect public safety.</p>
<b>OUR PEOPLE</b>	<p>Promote a healthy work environment and a culture of learning to ensure members reach their full potential;</p> <p>Resource a growing and diverse city to ensure our members are effective and safe.</p>
<b>PARTNERSHIPS</b>	<p>Enrich the relationships between the Saskatoon Police Service and the many diverse communities that we serve;</p> <p>Work with all levels of government to develop solutions to address community safety, health and social challenges.</p>
<b>COMMUNICATION</b>	<p>Ensure accessibility and enhance communications with the public, utilize communication to maintain transparency and public trust;</p> <p>Foster a culture of engagement and collaboration through improved internal communications.</p>
<b>INNOVATION</b>	<p>Ensure sustainability by developing leading practices and maintaining an innovative service;</p> <p>Utilize technology to increase effectiveness and efficiency.</p>

# BUDGET

In late November 2022, the Saskatoon Board of Police Commissioners presented the 2023 operating and capital budget to City Council for approval. Some of the key highlights of the approved budgets include:

- Five extra positions (four sworn and one civilian) were funded by the provincial government to enhance the Internet Child Exploitation section and to create the Saskatchewan Trafficking Response Team.
- Six positions were approved for Alternative Response Officers helping with community interactions and support, and allowing for appropriate call response in a defined geographic area, freeing up Patrol Constables to do other work.
- The SPS fuel budget was increased by \$250,000 to help with the inflationary pressures faced in 2022 and continuing into 2023.
- Funding was approved in the capital budget to replace SPS's Voice over Internet Protocol phone system.
- Additional funding was approved for the Body-Worn Camera pilot project.

## 2022 FISCAL RESULTS





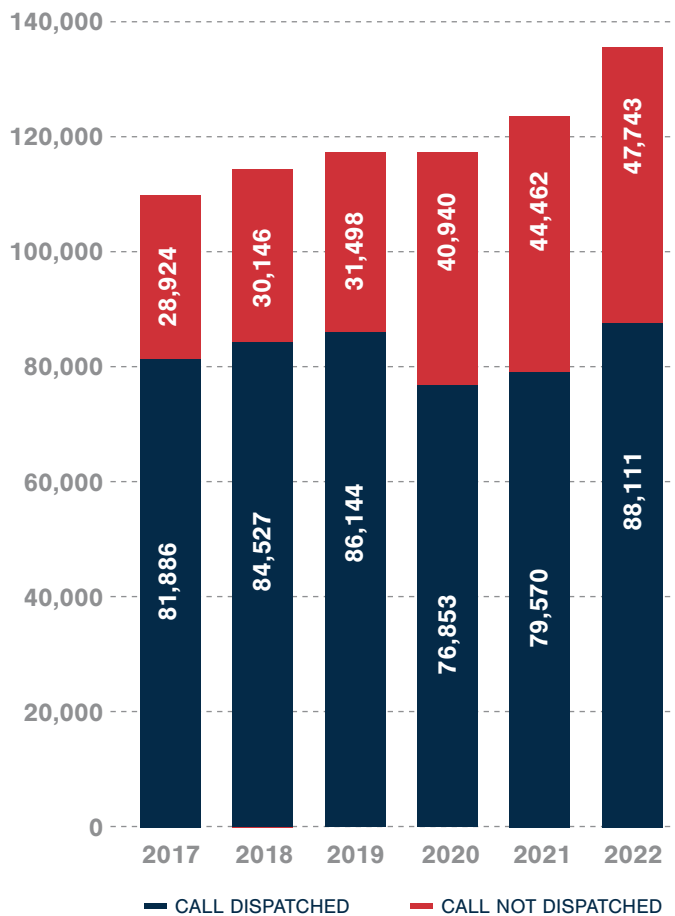
# CRIME OVERVIEW

The factors affecting crime and safety change continually and the police monitor changes and trends to distribute resources accordingly. Efforts continued in 2022 to both work in partnership with community organizations like the Saskatoon Fire Department and Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service, and offer alternative responses to social disorder concerns. Officers from all areas of the organization, remain busy investigating crime and addressing community concerns.

## STATS OVERVIEW

Most incidents start with the police receiving a call for service. In 2022, we received a total of 135,854 calls for service, a 9.5 per cent increase, mostly through 911 and our non-emergency line. Special Constables in Communications receive the information and decide the most appropriate response for the call. These efforts resulted in 64.9 per cent of calls being dispatched, while the remainder were handled by other means. For instance, depending on the type of call for service, call takers may transfer to Medavie, Mobile Crisis, or the SPS Telephone Reporting or Call Back Units to provide a response.

### ANNUAL CALLS FOR SERVICE

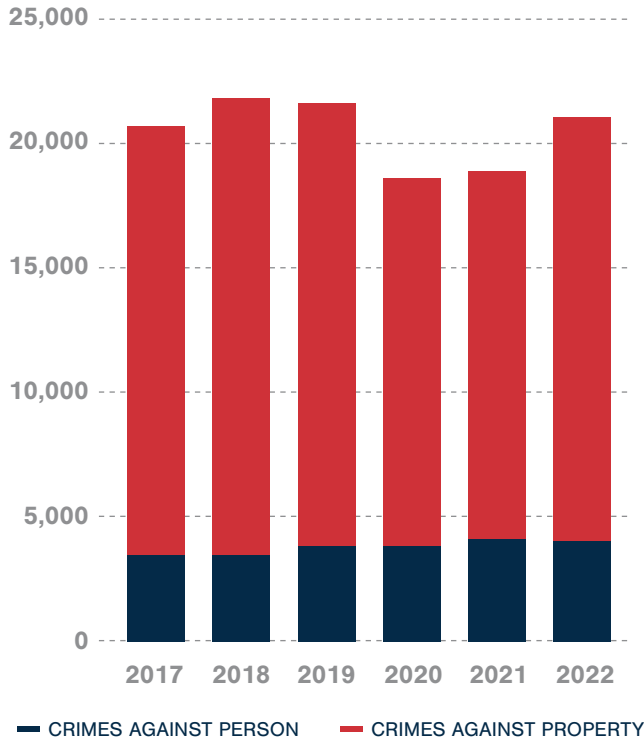


### THE TOP 5 MOST COMMON TYPES OF CALLS FOR SERVICE RECEIVED BY THE SPS WERE:

	2022
Need Ambulance	24,138
Suspicious Person	16,670
Disturbance	14,336
Domestic	8,184
Missing Persons	5,615

In cases that a call for service results in confirmation that a criminal code offence has taken place, an occurrence is recorded. In 2022, 20,920 occurrences were recorded, equating to a three per cent increase over the previous five-year average.

## CRIMINAL OCCURRENCES



### 2022 OCCURRENCES BY NUMBERS:

#### CRIMES AGAINST THE PERSON\*

	2022	2021	2017-2021 AVERAGE
Homicides	12	7	11
Attempted Murder	5	6	6
Sexual Violations	423	454	427
Commodification of Sex Activity	20	12	46
Assaults	2,482	2,422	2,194
Armed Robbery	240	188	198
Robbery	125	129	138
Criminal Harassment/Stalking	192	202	144
Uttering Threats	441	509	451
Kidnapping/Hostage Taking/Abduction	67	79	67
Other Violent Crimes	108	98	68
<b>Total Crimes Against the Person</b>	<b>4,115</b>	<b>4,106</b>	<b>3,749</b>

#### PROPERTY CRIMES\*

	2022	2021	2017-2021 AVERAGE
Arson	125	98	99
Break & Enter - Residential	893	907	940
Break & Enter - Residential - Detached Building	482	570	561
Break & Enter - Non-Residential	1,155	873	1,011
Break & Enter - Firearms	12	13	15
Theft Over \$5,000	253	164	137
Other Theft Under \$5000	7,299	6,068	7,061
Theft of Motor Vehicle	1,101	966	998
Possession of Stolen Property	401	338	483
Fraud	2,193	1,847	1,984
Graffiti	261	368	640
Mischief/Willful Damage	2,630	2,501	640
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>16,805</b>	<b>14,713</b>	<b>16,442</b>

#### OTHER CRIMINAL CODE VIOLATIONS\*

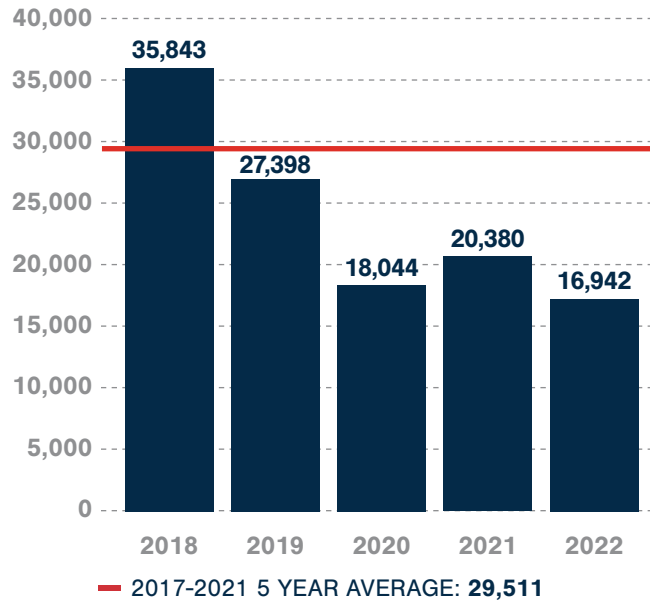
	2022	2021	2017-2021 AVERAGE
Controlled Drug and Substance Act (CDSA)	524	784	889
Weapons Possession Contrary to Order/Conceal	817	977	847
Firearms Related	30	34	27
Other Criminal Code	7,601	7,152	7,844
Criminal Code Traffic Violations	741	784	751
<b>Total Other Criminal Code &amp; CDSA</b>	<b>9,713</b>	<b>9,731</b>	<b>10,358</b>

\*Statistics on record as of May 16, 2023, taken from Saskatoon Record Management System. Click [here](#) for a better understanding of Saskatoon Crime Statistics. Crime statistics are constantly being updated due to new information being received, changed in reporting procedures and ongoing investigations. As a result, data may differ from previously published reports.

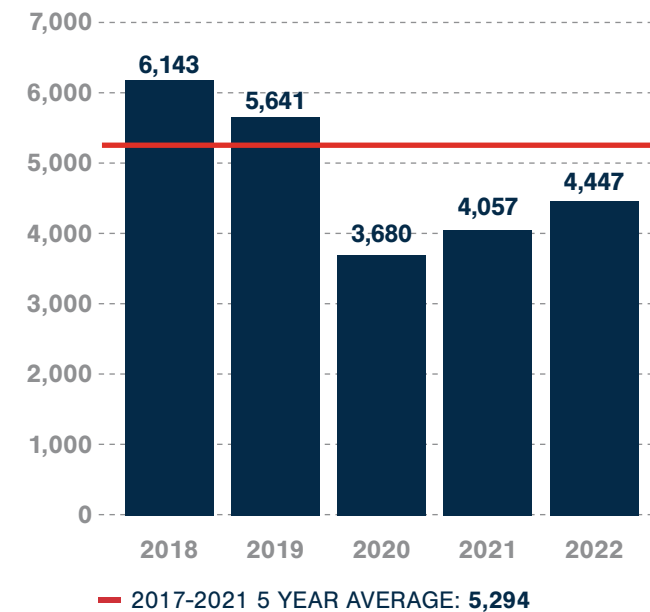
## TRAFFIC COLLISIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

Traffic Collisions and enforcement make up a large part of community safety as we all share public streets and sidewalks. As the community returns to pre-pandemic habits, an increase in traffic collisions and damage was observed in 2022, however the number remains below the five-year average.

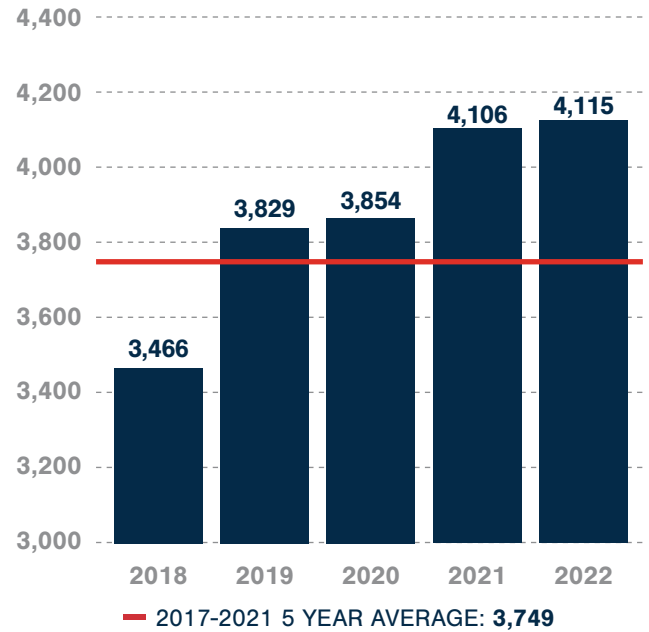
### TOTAL TICKETS ISSUED BY YEAR



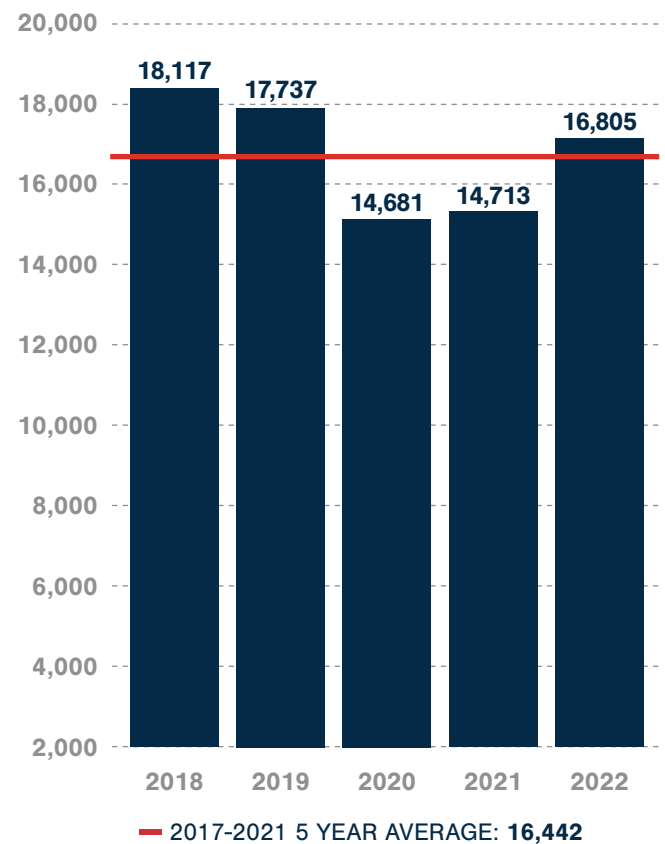
### ACCIDENTS



## VIOLENT CRIME, SASKATOON 2018 - 2022



## PROPERTY CRIME, SASKATOON 2018 - 2022



## STREET CRIME UNIT

While all areas of the SPS are involved in drug enforcement and seizures, the Street Crime Unit alone seized a significant quantity of drugs in 2022, including:

- 15,933g of methamphetamine
  - 146g of Fentanyl
  - 8,795g illicit cannabis
  - 3,936 Xanax pills
- In 2022, SPS identified 155 occurrences where a firearm was the most serious weapon present during a violent crime. This is an 11 per cent decrease when compared to the previous year. Most common occurrences for these offences were armed robberies.
  - When looking at occurrence data where a firearm was the most serious weapon present, there were 57 incidents where firearms were discharged. This represents an eight per cent decrease when compared to 2021. Over half of all incidents involving discharged firearms resulted in injury or death (66 per cent).

### FIREARM OCCURRENCES

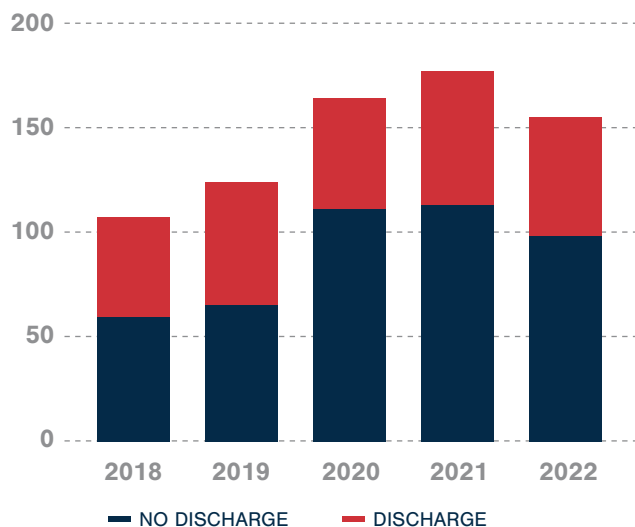
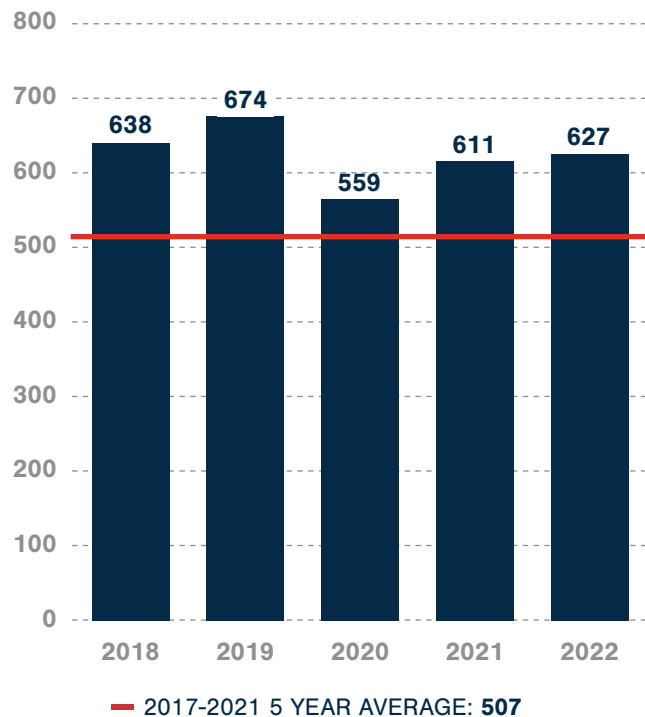


Figure 1: Number of Occurrences where the Most Serious Weapon present was a firearm, both when it was discharged and not.

- In 2022, there was a total of 627 firearms seized by the SPS. After a reduction during the COVID-19 pandemic, the numbers are trending upwards again, returning towards pre-pandemic levels.

### NUMBER OF SEIZED FIREARMS 2018-2022



## CRIME REDUCTION TEAM

The provincially-funded Saskatoon Crime Reduction Team focuses on investigating gang violence, illegal firearms, drug trafficking, property crime, and rural crime. In one of their noteworthy investigations, officers arrested a 37-year-old Saskatoon man suspected of trafficking cocaine in a dial-a-dope operation at an address in the 2,000 block of Main Street East. He was charged with a number of offences relating to drug trafficking, proceeds of crime, and possession of forged documents.

Following the execution of a search warrant, officers seized:

- \$350 CAD
- 87.4 grams powdered cocaine
- 8.7 grams crack cocaine
- Forged identification documents
- Paraphernalia consistent with drug trafficking



## CATALYTIC CONVERTER INVESTIGATION



Catalytic converters control vehicle exhaust emissions and reduce noise coming from your vehicle but are increasingly a target for theft due to their precious metal components. Twenty-nine were reported stolen in 2019, compared to 610 in 2021.

In March 2022, with the support of SGI, the General Investigations Section, along with members of the SPS Break and Enter Unit, Break and Enter Comprehensive Action Program, and Patrol began an investigation into the rise in thefts of catalytic converters in Saskatoon. Efforts in March and April resulted in eight people being arrested and collectively face 43 criminal code charges including; Theft of Catalytic Converters, Possession of Break and Enter Tools, Mischief Under \$5,000, Possession of Stolen Property, Attempted Theft of catalytic converters, Possession of a Forged Document, Breach of a Court Order, and Possession of a Controlled Substance. Police were also able to execute four warrants on behalf of outside agencies and had four judicial authorizations granted.

Through investigation, two search warrants were conducted in May, resulting in the seizure of 66 catalytic converters, financial documents, and various electronic equipment. A 30-year-old Saskatoon man was consequently arrested and charged with Possession of Stolen Property for the Purpose of Trafficking and Possession of Proceeds of Crime.

## PROJECT GREYHOUND



Project Greyhound was an eight-month investigation by the SPS Guns and Gangs Unit that resulted in a large weapons seizure and numerous charges.

In September 2021, police began an investigation into a suspect believed to be trafficking firearms and drugs. The suspect was arrested in May 2022 during a traffic stop and police located a bag under the driver's seat that contained a loaded handgun and cash. Search warrants were executed in Saskatoon as well as at a residence in Marcelin, SK. Investigators seized eight rifles, four loaded prohibited firearms (converted flare guns), three loaded handguns, and a shot gun. Officers also seized thousands of rounds of ammunition, high capacity magazines, silencers, evidence of gun modifications which included sawed gun barrels and stocks, as well as miscellaneous gun parts. Additional articles recovered included crossbows, body armor, a conducted energy weapon, and a small amount of cocaine.

The 23-year-old was charged with a number of offenses including Trafficking Firearms, Trafficking Cocaine, Unauthorized Possession of Firearms, Unsafe Storage of Firearms, Possession of Firearms in a Motor Vehicle, and Carrying a Concealed Weapon.

## GUNS & GANGS 3D PRINTING



Dedicated to disrupting and dismantling gangs, and addressing violence through prevention, intervention, and enforcement, the Guns and Gangs Unit was kept busy in 2022.

On January 26, 2022, a search warrant was conducted in the 200 block of 23rd Street East where several firearms and firearm parts, including 3D printed components were seized. A 46-year-old man was charged with Manufacturing Firearms, Possession of Firearms for the Purpose of Trafficking, and Possession of a Prohibited Device. Illegally manufactured weapons have no serial number and are a concern because they cannot be traced, if used in a crime. The SPS is committed to removing these illegal weapons from our community.

# MEGAN GALLAGHER INVESTIGATION

Significant developments were made in 2022 in the Megan Gallagher investigation. As a result of dedicated investigative and awareness efforts, Megan's remains were located and nine people were charged in relation to her murder.

Megan was last seen alive on September 20, 2020, but despite continued investigation, police had been unable to locate her remains.

On the second anniversary of her disappearance, on September 20,

2022, her family joined members of the SPS Major Crime Section at a news conference announcing the first charge relating to murder (four people had earlier been charged with Indignity to Human Remains).



Police also announced a coordinated multi-agency effort to search the South Saskatchewan River, near St. Louis, SK, for Megan's remains. On the first day of the search, human remains were located, and on November 8th, were confirmed to be those of Megan Michelle Gallagher. It was also established that she had been the victim of homicide.

On January 9, 2023, charges were laid against the ninth, and final, person in relation to the investigation.

Throughout the investigation, the SPS Major Crimes Section and SPS Victim Services worked closely with the Gallagher family to both gather information and keep Megan's

memory alive. This included dedicated work from Missing Persons Liaison Dorteia Swiftwolfe. The over two-year investigation included a vast number of investigative hours and a wide range of detectives from the Major Crime Section, including the Missing Persons Unit.

# SOCIAL DISORDER CALLS FOR SERVICE

## ALTERNATIVE RESPONSE OFFICERS



Launched in June 2021, Alternative Response Officers (AROs) are an additional tier of law enforcement, focusing on areas with high volume and helping to connect people with support services. ARO's receive special 11-week training including de-escalation processes, community engagement strategies, defensive tactics, and culturally-informed policing. These unarmed officers normally walk downtown or in other specific areas experiencing increased social disorder calls. Walking small geographic areas allows them to get to know the public and respond quickly to incidents. They assist in various activities including transporting arrested persons and taking complaints from citizens. This supporting role increases the availability of regular police officers to respond to more serious calls for service. The AROs can be distinguished from regular police officers by their grey uniforms and a distinctly marked van.

### 2022 ARO NUMBERS

Life Saves (Narcan/Basic Trauma Life Support)	8
Outreach (Direct Delivery and Referrals)	521
Charges Laid	92
Warnings Given	1,735
Tickets Issues	255
Business Contacts	1,398
Crime Scene Guarding	19
Court Transports	358

Working in collaboration with colleagues from other human service agencies and their regular police officer peers, this new tier of public safety professional offers an alternative level of enforcement, administrative, and outreach activities in a cost-conscious manner. The creation and success of this unit demonstrates SPS' commitment to community and innovation.



## POLICE AND CRISIS TEAMS

The Police Service continues to see an increase in calls regarding an individual suffering from a mental health crisis. These types of calls for service are best served by the combined response of a police officer and a social worker. The strategic response of the Police and Crisis Team (PACT) enhances the safety and results for everyone involved, providing comprehensive community support. PACT is a client-centered community safety model developed through the collaboration of three agencies:

- Saskatoon Police Service
- Saskatoon Health Region
- Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service, Inc.

The PACT teams provide immediate police response to persons experiencing significant mental illness and/or addiction issues, designed to de-escalate situations and reduce arrests of people in crisis. They also connect people to community supports diverting people suffering from mental health crises from cells and the emergency department (ED), resulting in more appropriate treatment and economic savings. In 2022, PACT was dispatched 38% more than the previous year, reaching 2,614 dispatches and were able to divert people from arrest or ED 513 times.

## CALL TRANSFER PROTOCOL

In January 2022, the SPS and Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service (SCIS) announced an alternative response to mental health calls. The new “Mental Health & Suicide Intervention Call Transfer Protocol” means when a caller contacts the SPS with a situation that meets certain requirements and includes aspects mental health or suicide intervention, the call may be transferred to SCIS. This call transfer connects the caller to professionals with expertise in mental health. In its first year, 210 calls were transferred from the SPS to the SCIS; reducing the demand on police resources for response to non-criminal concerns and helping people get appropriate support through crisis workers. SCIS also participates in the PACT program. The call transfer protocol is another example of how the SPS’s partnership with SCIS serves those community members who may be experiencing a mental health crisis with the appropriate support.



# NEW INITIATIVES

## LAUNCH OF VICTIM ADVOCATE CASE REVIEW

In partnership with the Saskatoon Sexual Assault & Information Centre (SSAIC) and the Improving Institutional Accountability Project, the SPS launched a new process of reviewing sexual assault files called the Violence Against Women Advocate Case Review (VACR) in 2022. This is a Canadian version of what is known as ‘The Philadelphia Model’ that has seen success in other Canadian police services.

There continues to be an upward trend of sexual assault reports over the last five years, creating an opportunity to re-evaluate these types of investigations in order to develop and strengthen relationships, and improve investigative outcomes.

VACR allows frontline sexual violence specialists, independent of police services, to review sexual assault investigations that did not proceed to charges. Through transparency and file sharing, it invites those familiar with the experiences of sexual assault survivors into the police processes to help identify issues/concerns related to individual cases or investigative processes to assist in problem solving.

“The adoption of a VACR process enhances the accountability of these investigations in a number of areas including improved confidence in police, stronger investigations, and improved collaboration between partners,” explains Superintendent Patrick Nogier, Criminal Investigations Division.

The VACR Review Team reviewed 172 occurrences in 2022. Case review has also resulted in increased trust, collaboration and communication between SPS and SSAIC, improved service delivery related to sexual assault files and insight into systemic barriers for victims pursuing cases. Through the 2022 review, some files were reopened, ensuring thorough investigation but none resulted in charges.

## CREATION OF HATE CRIME UNIT

The Hate Crime Unit was introduced in 2022 to ensure that hate motivated crimes get comprehensive and thorough investigations as required by each case. Having a dedicated and experienced Sergeant lead this specialized unit increases the service’s ability to respond to files on a case-by-case basis including but not limited to investigating, intelligence gathering, community outreach and education. Hate crimes are often complex and require cultural understanding, research and dialogue. Ensuring appropriate responses to these incidents is essential to safeguarding community trust and security. There are also extra considerations to be taken when hate crimes are initially reported, so the unit created a specific online portal to allow some hate crimes to be reported online.

Some of the unit’s duties include:

- Reviewing and investigating complaints that have been reported as being motivated by hate, bias, or prejudice.
- Collecting and collating data regarding hate incidents and occurrences to develop proactive strategies aimed at reducing hate motivated crime.
- Providing certain data that has been collected and collated to intelligence units to monitor and target persons/groups involved with extremism.
- Internal and External consultation of situations that are aggravated by hate, bias, or prejudice.
- Education and relationship building both within the Service and in the community.

Presently, hate crimes are not defined by Criminal Code, however, there are a variety of offences that fall under the term Hate Crime, including hate motivated incidents, hate motivated crimes, and hate propaganda. The below guidelines may help understand how some incidents are being categorized:

Criminal	with	Hate	=	Hate Crime
Offence Criminal	without	Hate	=	Criminal Offence
Hate	without	Criminal Offence	=	Hate Incident

## RAPID RELIEF TEAM



The SPS often interacts with the public when they are going through difficult times and the police service continually looks for ways to support the community's most vulnerable people when interacting with them. The SPS receives support from Rapid Relief Team, a volunteer driven non-profit which donates "Family Food Boxes" and "Snack Packs" which are distributed by School Resource Officers, PACT, Bikes and other units. These boxes serve as an emergency food bank and help to alleviate one source of stress by providing food.

The boxes include items such as:

- Canned beans, meat, pasta or fruit
- Rice
- Snacks such as granola and chocolate bars or apple sauce
- Crackers

# BODY-WORN CAMERAS



In March 2022, after considerable research and preparation, the SPS implemented the Body-Worn Camera (BWC) program, deploying 40 cameras to front-line officers in the Patrol, Traffic, Foot Patrol, Bike and Community Mobilization Units, and Alternative Response Officers. These cameras provide a new level of accountability and transparency and have proven to be useful tools as law enforcement agencies across the globe adopt BWCs.

The goals of equipping front-line officers with BWCs are to:

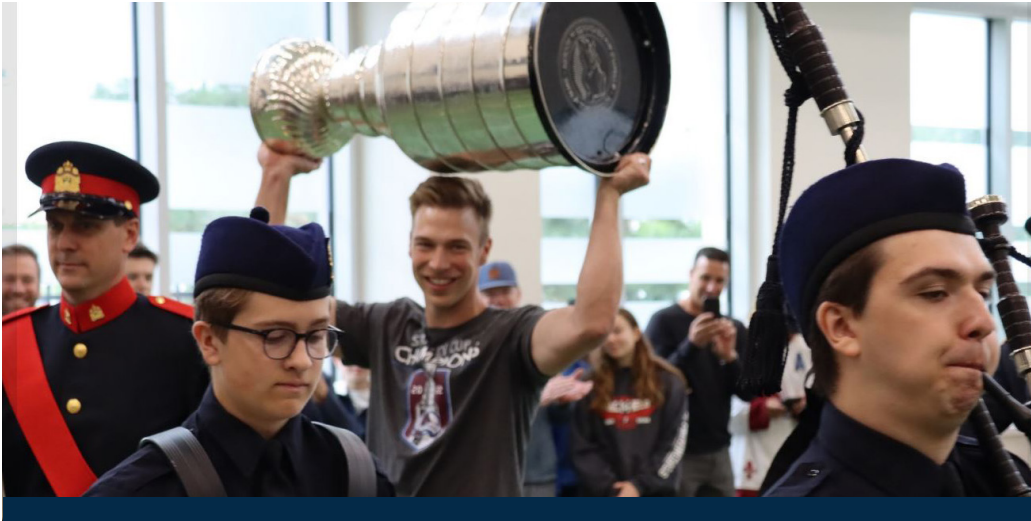
- Provide additional evidence for investigations
- Support early case resolution in legal matters and public complaints
- Provide a record of police encounters with the public

- Increase public trust and confidence
- Increase police transparency and accountability, and
- Provide additional training and leadership tools

BWC's are intended to support law enforcement duties and aid in capturing certain incidents. They are not intended for continuous recording. Officers are trained to be aware of interactions with the public that may be sensitive in nature, such as when children are present, during a sexual assault, or domestic violence investigation. BWC's are openly displayed to the public and show an illuminated red LED light notifying the public when the camera is recording. Two video technicians are responsible for the removal/redaction of privileged, sensitive or clearly irrelevant content prior to the disclosure or release of a copy of a BWC recording. The project aims to balance privacy with transparency and accountability, and has two more planned phases of expansion for 2023.

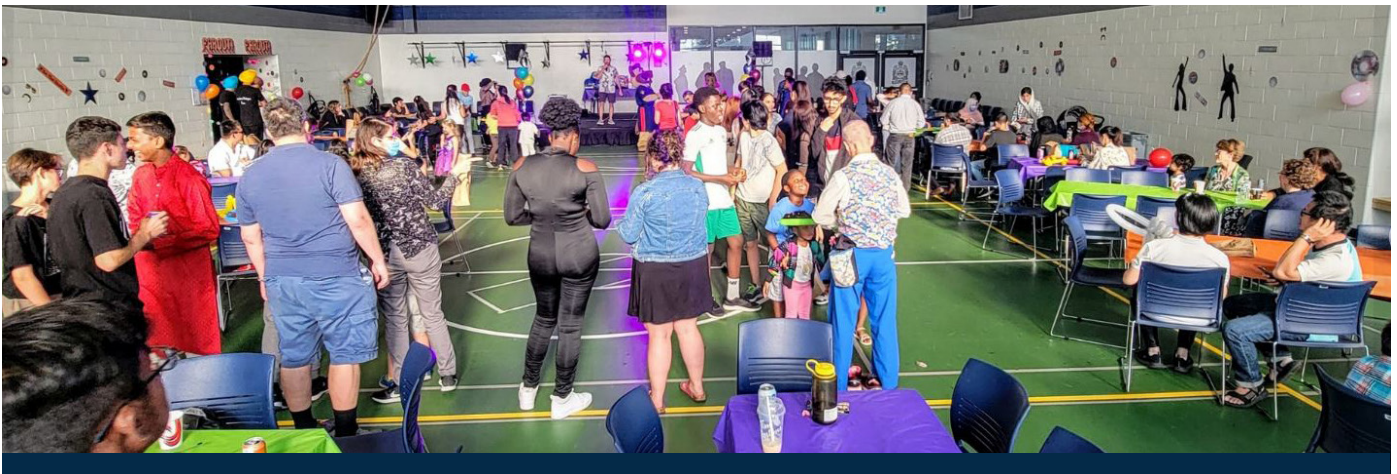
# EVENTS

## VISIT FROM THE STANLEY CUP



The Stanley Cup is one of the most coveted trophies in sports, and SPS staff were fortunate to be able to spend a few hours with it at police headquarters thanks to Colorado Avalanche goaltender and Stanley Cup champion Darcy Kuemper, son of SPS Sgt Brent Kuemper. Hundreds of staff and their families lined up to get autographs and take pictures with Darcy and the trophy.

## DIVERSITY DISCO



On August 24th, 300 people attended the third annual Diversity Disco, a whole-family dance party celebrating diversity in our community. The event is held collaboratively between the SPS, Saskatchewan Intercultural Association, Global Gathering Place, International Women of Saskatoon, Saskatoon Open Door Society along with the Truly Alive Youth and Family Foundation. Live musical and dance performances by members of various cultural and ethnic communities are featured along with games for kids and food. Attendees were

treated to a pizza supper, a photobooth from True North Photo Booth Co. and swag bags.

The event aims to create strong community connections and a safe space for the participants to make fun memories and new friendships. Our organizations aim to promote harmony amongst all people, and these are values we distill within our programs, our staff and all our clientele. It is held at the end of the summer camp season as a final goodbye to summer.

## CADET ORIENTATION POLICE STUDIES PROGRAM (C.O.P.S.)



The C.O.P.S program is an eight-week police study program hosted by the SPS. Students in grades 11 and 12 from E.D. Feehan High School, Mount Royal Collegiate, and Bedford Road Collegiate learn about professionalism, teamwork, communication, mentorship, volunteerism, challenging decision making, and other topics while practicing respect, making friends, and learning about the police.

Fourteen students graduated from the 2022 C.O.P.S. program. The diverse group of youth showed consistent dedication, teamwork, and professional growth throughout the program.

# OUR PEOPLE

## AWARDS

The SPS relies on its hard-working members to fulfill their duties and recognizes their dedication to their work and community. The following members were recognized at the Annual Exemplary Service Awards on May 5th, 2022.

### TWENTY-YEAR MEDAL

Inspector Tonya Gresty  
Sergeant Jodi Earl  
Sergeant Sharlene Kobelsky  
Sergeant Henry Ly  
Sergeant Brock Lynden  
Sergeant Rob Sampson  
Sergeant Mikael Ziola  
Constable Taya Klath  
Constable Dwayne Slywka

### THIRTY-YEAR BAR

Staff Sergeant Darcy Shukin  
Sergeant Terry Brake  
Sergeant Kevin Montgomery

### CHIEF'S AWARD OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Lee Cowles  
Amra Martin  
Bryan Melnychuk  
Candice Nolin

### THIRTY YEARS' SERVICE

Tammy Kreller-Noehring  
Gloria Kyowski-Bzdel  
Sonya Weightman

### SUPERINTENDENT'S AWARD OF COMMENDATION

Special Constable Kathy Richards

### TWENTY YEARS' SERVICE

Jaime Gipman  
Julie Montgomery  
Sharon Schaan  
Carol Sies

### CHIEF'S AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Deputy Chief Mitch Yuzdepski  
Inspector Darren Pringle  
Constable Brooke Anderson  
Constable Andrew Bodnarchuk  
Constable Jonathan Doerksen  
Constable Jody Levesque  
Constable Joshua MacFarlane  
Constable Mallory Shalovelo



**INSPECTOR ERIN COATES**

### **DORTHEA SWIFTWOLFE**

was presented with a Lifetime Achievement award at the 2022 FSIN Strength of Our Women Awards Gala. Dortehea's dedication to helping all First Nations at the community, regional, national, and international level is unrelenting and inspiring. Dortehea is one of three Missing Person Liaisons in the province and the only one in the city of Saskatoon. Dortehea's commitment to the community and her incredible work ethic come together in a way that she has dedicated her life, any and all hours of the day, to supporting families of the Missing. Dortehea would be the first to tell you that the support she provides is status blind, and it is, but the work she does for the Indigenous community through her work shows true dedication to the people, community, culture, and traditions that she loves.

### **INSPECTOR ERIN COATES**

was awarded the "Leadership Award" by the Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police for displaying leadership, passion and professionalism in her career. She has been with the SPS since 2000, and has a Bachelor of Science degree, majoring in Criminal Justice with a minor in Sociology. She has worked in the Integrated Drug Unit, Integrated Proceeds of Crime Unit, Sex Crimes Unit, Divisional Section within Patrol and the Major Crime Unit. Erin currently serves as the Inspector for the Specialized Uniform Operations Division.

### **CONSTABLE SHANNON PARKER**

received the SACP "Excellence in Performance Award" for her exemplary work and innovation in the area of cyber and cyber security investigations for the SPS and for Canadian law enforcement.

### **VAN DE VORST FAMILY AWARD**

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Saskatoon awarded 12 Saskatoon Police Officers the Van De Vorst Family Award in 2022 to recognize their efforts in dealing with impaired drivers. Between them, these officers took over 200 impaired drivers off the streets through criminal charges and administrative suspensions.

- Cst. Lincoln Nedjelski
- Cst Ryan Crawford
- Cst. Mike Graver
- Cst Daimion Houston
- Cst. Patrick Foster
- Cst. Raymond Robertson
- Cst. Nathan Gawryluk
- Cst. Melanie Olafson
- Cst. Robert Blake
- Cst. Tara Cummine
- Cst. Guillaume Lenormand
- Cst. Jonathan Doerkesen
- Sgt. Mikael Ziola
- S/Sgt Patrick Barbar



## COMMUNICATIONS SPECIAL CONSTABLE POSITIONS

In 2022, four Special Constables in Communications were promoted to supervisory positions, replacing the previous Sergeants who oversaw the shifts. This transition provided many qualitative and quantitative benefits for the SPS, including:

- As Sergeants typically rotate positions, replacing them with Special Constables reduces the knowledge loss that happens with these transfers;
- New staff tend to experience a steep learning curve due to technological advancements, as well as internal and external relationships. Special Constables provide more stability in these positions to ensure continuity; and
- This change provided an opportunity for promotion and professional growth for Special Constables. Previously, there were limited management positions available and it is expected that this transition will improve morale by providing a long-term career path for Special Constables.

It is expected that this change will realize an annual savings of over \$100,000 by 2024, and nearly \$500,000 over the next decade.

## OUR MEMBERS, BY THE NUMBERS

At years' end, the SPS employed 730 people among our sworn and civilian staff.

Executive (Chief, Deputy Chiefs, Superintendents, Inspectors, Executive Director, Directors)	19
Supervisors (Staff Sergeants, Sergeants)	127
Constables	353
Special Constables	75
Alternate Response Officers	6
Exempt Civilians	41
CUPE 59 Civilians	109
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>730</b>

SPS strives to ensure staff represent our community. Of our employees, there are:



## WE HIRED A TOTAL OF 38 SWORN MEMBERS:



**63%** OF NEW HIRES WERE FROM AN EMPLOYMENT EQUITY GROUP

# SPS TOP EMPLOYER

FOR 10TH YEAR



**SASKATCHEWAN'S  
TOP EMPLOYERS**

Once again, the Saskatoon Police Service has been named a Saskatchewan Top Employer, an honour bestowed on the organization annually for the past decade. Employers are compared to other organizations in their field to determine which offers the most progressive and forward-thinking programs. Competition winners are chosen based on several factors including; physical workplace; work atmosphere & social; health, financial & family benefits; vacation & time off; employee communications; performance management; training & skills development; and community involvement.

“We have always prioritized our members health and well-being, but an increased focus was necessary as our members braved the front lines of the pandemic over the last two years,” says Chief of Police Troy Cooper. “Our Human Resources Division especially stepped up to make sure members were informed and supported as they navigated exposures and positive test results that impacted not only their physical well-being but their mental health as well.”





**SASKATOON** 

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**POLICE SERVICE**  
BE THE DIFFERENCE