

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

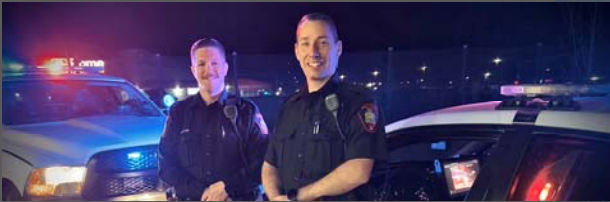
TABER POLICE SERVICE



# TABER POLICE SERVICE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. TABER MUNICIPAL POLICE COMMISSION
2. CHIEF OF POLICE
3. MISSION STATEMENT
4. CORE VALUES
5. ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
6. HUMAN RESOURCES
7. FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN
8. BUDGET 2020 & FUNDING EXPENSES
9. PATROL SERVICES UNIT
  - i. POLICE OCCURRENCES
  - ii. CLEARANCE RATES
  - iii. PROPERTY OFFENCES
  - iv. TRAFFIC SAFETY
9. PATROL SERVICES UNIT (Cont'd)
  - vi. PRISONERS
  - vii. USE OF FORCE
  - viii. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
10. COMMUNITY STANDARDS UNIT
11. SCHOOL RESOURCE UNIT
12. COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT
13. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
14. AUXILIARY OFFICER PROGRAM
15. SOCIAL MEDIA
16. RECOGNITIONS
17. LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE/TPS POLICE ACADEMY



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM THE POLICE COMMISSION



TABER  
MUNICIPAL  
POLICE  
COMMISSION

### TABER MUNICIPAL POLICE COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON JOHN A. MACDONALD

I am currently serving you as Chair of the Taber Municipal Police Commission.

We are an independent organization established by Town Council. We live and operate through our Mission and Vision Statement, supported by our Core Values.

**Mission Statement:** To work in partnership with citizens to ensure transparent, effective and responsive policing throughout the municipality.

**Vision Statement:** To be a leader for municipal stakeholders in civilian oversight of policing.

**Core Values:** Respect - Accountability - Honesty - Integrity.

We all live and work in a safe community. Your Police Commission works for all residents in the Town of Taber, in an open, transparent, and inclusive manner.

Best regards,



John A. MacDonald



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE



### CHIEF OF POLICE

2021 was a challenging year as the police officers and staff of the Taber Police Service worked through Covid and the impacts and pressures that arose due to the pandemic. These challenges were complex and difficult to contextually balance in the ever-changing application of the Orders of Public Health and the blurring of the lines between the law and individual rights. I can honestly say that the professionalism and compassion of our staff and the common sense approach to these challenges were fine examples of just how community policing should be done. Although Covid will most likely not go away, if we are required to deal with these matters once again, I know that our officers have the experience and trust of community to meet our public safety obligations.

The challenges of addictions, especially around crystal methamphetamine and its prevalence in southern Alberta, has impacted our own community. We know that that it will take a community effort to work with those suffering from addictions, while at the same time the police have a role in ensuring public safety by trying to enforce our laws and dealing with those who would profit from poisoning our neighbors and fueling these addictions. Our officers work tirelessly to try to do our part but know that law enforcement alone won't stop this societal issue. We will work even harder to try and partner with those to address the root causes of addictions in our community, focusing on community wellness and safety.

2021 also brought challenges around finding training to meet our needs through the pandemic and we took the risk to host our own police academy in partnership with the Lethbridge College. I can't say enough about the police officers and staff of the Taber Police Service who took it upon themselves to make that program a great success and it was a true privilege to watch the 12 graduates march across our stage and receive their badges in early 2022. This was a first for our police service and one I am most proud of.

Our role in communications and dispatch is expanding as we offer our assistance to the regional peace officers who need more support in their law enforcement duties. The adaptability and professionalism of our communications operators are even more far reaching as they assist the public in the chain of survival and ensuring our officers are safe.

I am now entering my 7th year as the Chief of Police of the Taber Police Service, and I couldn't be more proud of the accomplishments, dedication, and commitment to the community of police officers and staff. Public safety is in good hands in Taber, and we appreciate the support of Commission, Council and the community in this endeavour.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## MISSION STATEMENT

We are the Taber Police Service established in 1904.

We strive to Inform, Involve and Protect the community of Taber.

We, the members of the Taber Police Service, believe that:

- Police work is performed through relationships; there needs to be a partnership between the police and the community;
- We exist to serve and are, therefore, accountable to the community;
- The citizens of Taber are the ultimate consumers of police services and should be provided the opportunity for input into our priorities; we must determine community concerns and be proactive in the community to address those concerns;
- Every effort must be made to inform the community of what we are doing and the results of our efforts.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## CORE VALUES

**HONESTY:** We believe in an honest work environment that encourages trust and respect of fellow employees, as well of that of the community

**INTEGRITY:** We believe that our actions should be based on an internally consistent framework of principles and furthermore, that everything we do as a police service or as individuals is based on our defined set of core values

**COMPASSION:** We believe that we should treat each other as employees, as well as those in the community for which we serve, with kindness and empathy

**ACCOUNTABILITY:** We believe that our actions as a police service and individuals should be transparent and that we are responsible for our decisions and policies. We understand that we are accountable and answerable to the community of Taber and our governing body

**PROFESSIONALISM:** We believe that we should adhere to the highest standards of professionalism and that we should maintain our standards through reflection, review and audits

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



TABER POLICE SERVICE

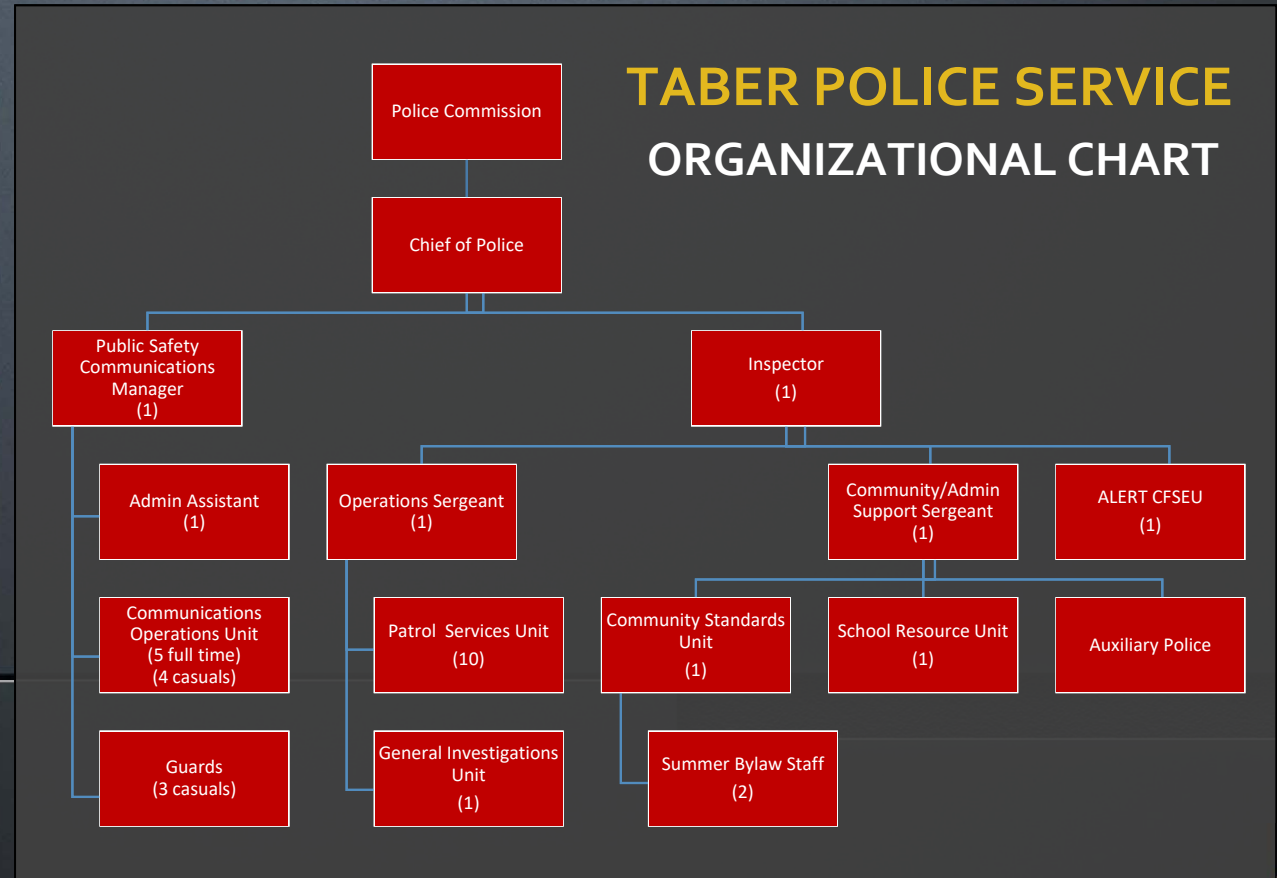




# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



POLICE  
HUMAN  
RESOURCES

## Operational Strength:

18 (Authorized)

16 (Actual)

## Demographics:

14 male

2 female

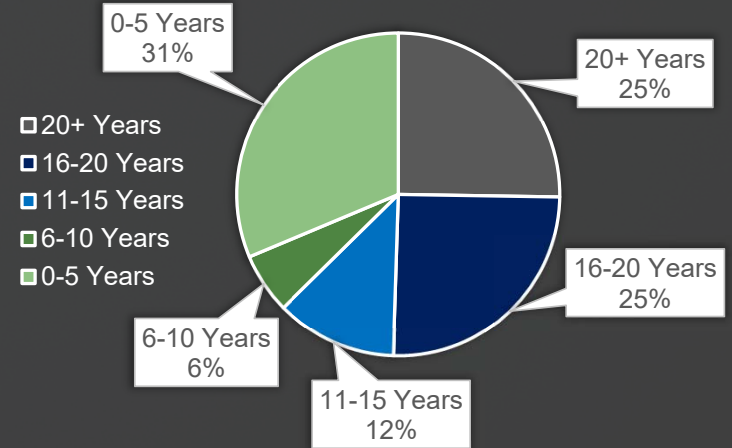
## Background of Officers:

1 FNMI

2 Asian

13 Caucasian

## Members Years of Service



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## CIVILIAN HUMAN RESOURCES

1 Public Safety Communications  
Manager

Communications Operators:

5 Fulltime

4 Casuals

1 Administrative Assistant

2 Community Standards Bylaw  
Officers (Summer)

4 Cell Block Guards

Numerous Volunteers





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

In September 2020, the Taber Police Service commenced a review of our priorities and established our goals in the creation of a new five-year strategic plan.

The plan was created following a community survey, focus group sessions and input from the Taber Municipal Police Commission and Taber Police Service staff.

Core services and key strategic priorities were identified within the new strategic plan. The five-year plan is divided into four phases. Each phase contains several goals that are to be obtained within a specific time frame.

The strategic plan is reviewed quarterly with the Taber Municipal Police Commission. A report card is provided at that time to monitor the progress in achieving these goals. Our progress will appear in the 2022 Annual Report.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

### CORE SERVICES

- Policing Services
- Public Safety Dispatch & Support
- Community Support

### KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Community Safety
- Community Collaboration
- Community Awareness
- People & Technical Professionalism

Refer to 2021-2026 Business Plan for further details.





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

### COMMUNITY SAFETY GOALS

1. Public Safety
2. Safety of Property
3. Safety of Police
4. More Police Operational Briefings

### COMMUNITY COLLABORATION GOALS

1. Maintain Auxiliary Program
2. Strengthen Partnership With C.O.P.
3. Bring More Cultural Awareness & Diversity into the Service
4. Recruit & Attract New, Diverse Background Employees
5. Maintain Highly Recognized SRO Program
6. Increase Community Collaboration & Response to Sexual Assault
7. Increase Community Collaboration & Response to Domestic Violence

Refer to 2021-2026 Business Plan for further details.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

### COMMUNITY AWARENESS GOALS

1. Increase Police Profile Through Social Media
2. Develop a Community Camera Registry Program
3. Report the Number of Citizen Contacts and Complaints to the Taber Municipal Police Commission

### PEOPLE & TECHNICAL GOALS

1. Provide Adequate & Effective Dispatch Services
2. Maintain Health & Safety Program
3. Develop a Critical Incident Stress Management Program
4. Ensure All Staff Receive Yearly Performance Assessments
5. Ensure Dispatch Clients Provide Feedback
6. Maintain 911 Alberta Standard Compliance

Refer to 2021-2026 Business Plan for further details.





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## BUDGET 2021 FUNDING AND EXPENSES

FUNDING	2021
Tax Supported	\$2,903,945
Government Grants	\$703,051
Fine Revenue	\$485,775
Sales & User Fees	\$147,215
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,239,986</b>

EXPENSES	2021
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,404,622
Contracted & General Services	\$286,159
Amortization	\$196,105
Materials, Goods, & Supplies	\$161,500
Purchases From Other Governments	\$76,000
Internal Charges	\$115,600
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,239,986</b>

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## PATROL SERVICES UNIT

The Taber Police Service - Patrol Services Unit is the largest and most visible component of the Taber Police Service.

Comprised of 10 members, the Patrol Services Unit's core function is to provide professional Policing Services 24 hours a day, every day, in the form of proactive and preventative Public Safety services. They are the initial responders to self generated and caller-based complaints to assist, defend or protect the general public and their property.

The Patrol Services Unit plays many policing rolls such as creating a visual presence throughout the Town of Taber, proactive policing, primary investigators for all calls for service such as break & enters, frauds, assaults, traffic collisions, domestic disputes and other Criminal Code investigations.

The Patrol Services members carry investigative files from the onset of the complaint all the way through to the laying of charges and the creation of disclosure packages for prosecution services in Court.



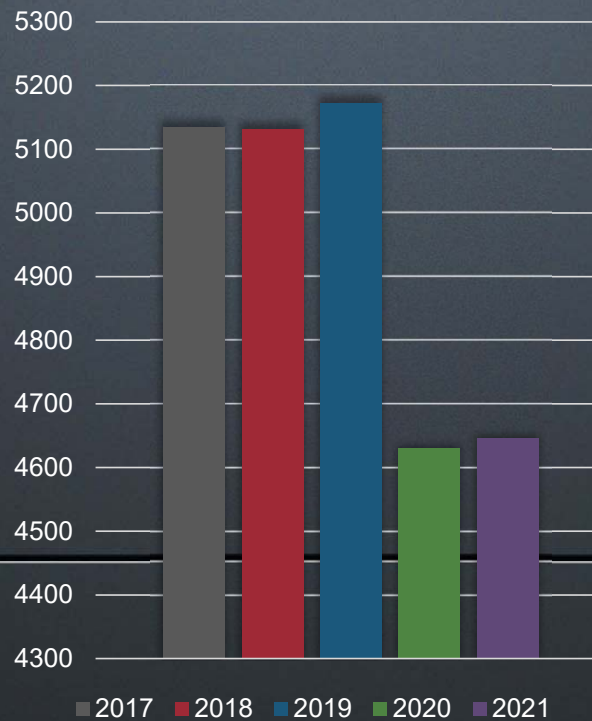
# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

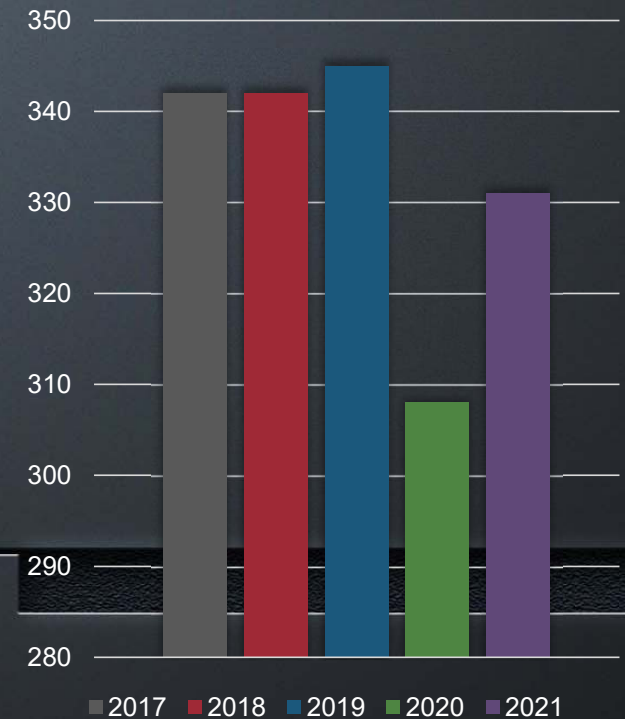


### POLICE OCCURRENCES

Number of Police Occurrences



Police Occurrences Per Officer



TABER POLICE SERVICE

These charts illustrate the number of Police Occurrences investigated over a 5 year period and the number of occurrences dealt with per Officer.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



Statistics	Weighted clearance rate <sup>7, 8</sup>				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<b>Geography<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Number</b>				
Camrose, Alberta, municipal [48015]	58.11	55.75	55.39	48.98	44.41
Lacombe, Alberta, municipal [48052]	39.73	41.08	53.88	48.51	49.54
Taber, Alberta, municipal [48088]	61.61	58.82	59.86	55.38	48.95
Brooks, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal [48708]	53.83	48.36	54.50	42.20	40.47
Taber, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, rural [48826]	48.72	39.48	39.03	33.22	40.63

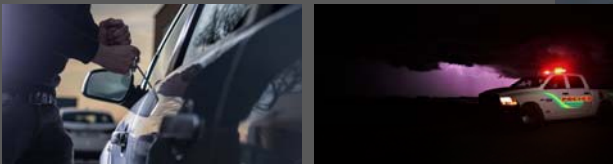
## CLEARANCE RATES

The Taber Police Service clearance rate is 15 % above the Provincial Average of 34.09%.



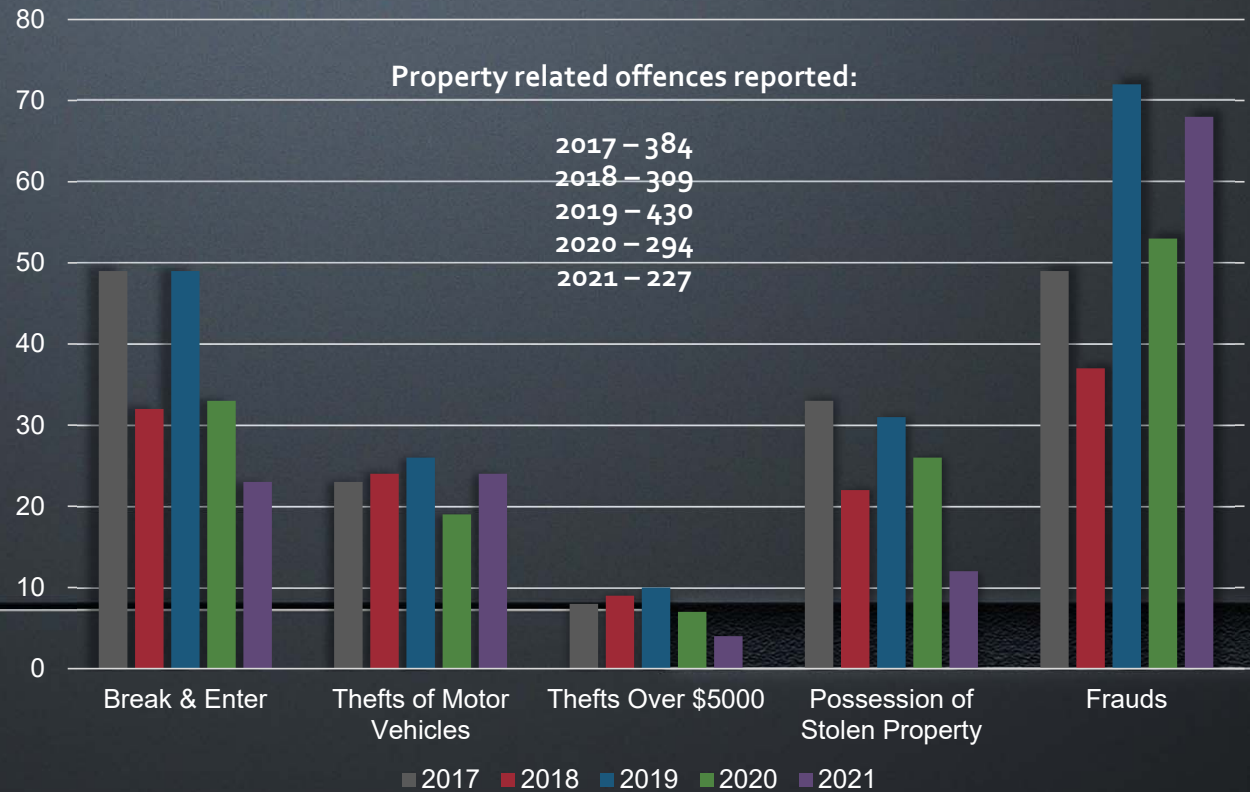
# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



### PROPERTY OFFENCES

### Property Offences 2017 to 2021



There was a 23% decrease in total property offences in 2021 following a 32% decrease in 2020.

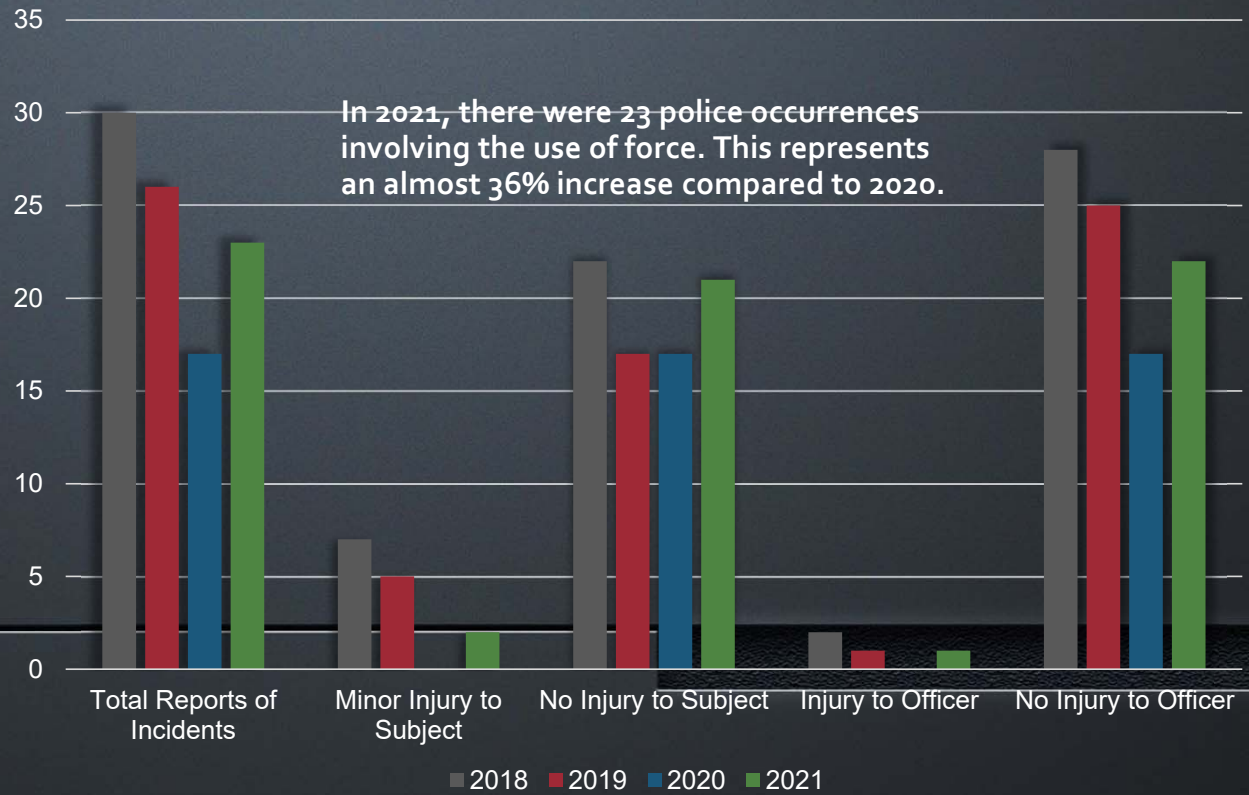


# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



### Control Tactics Reports



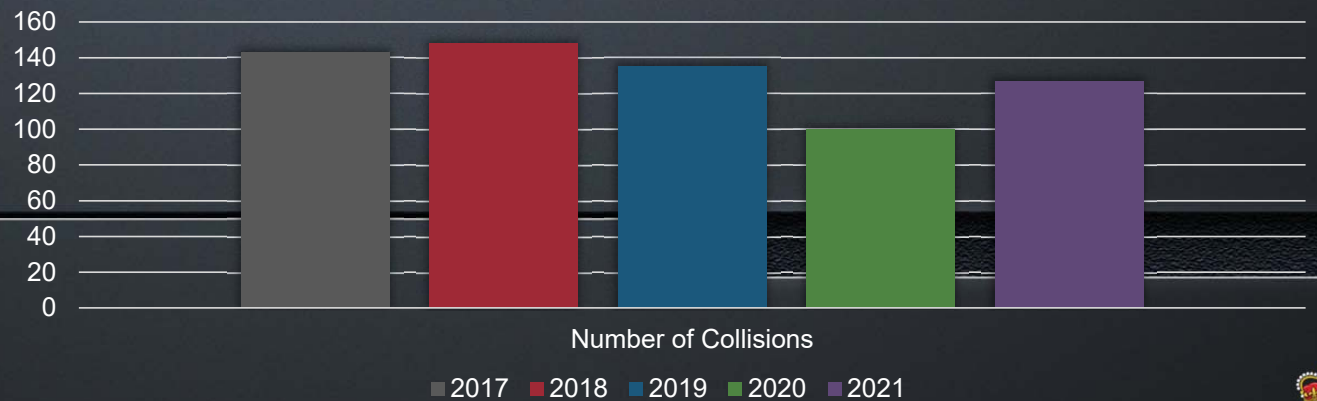
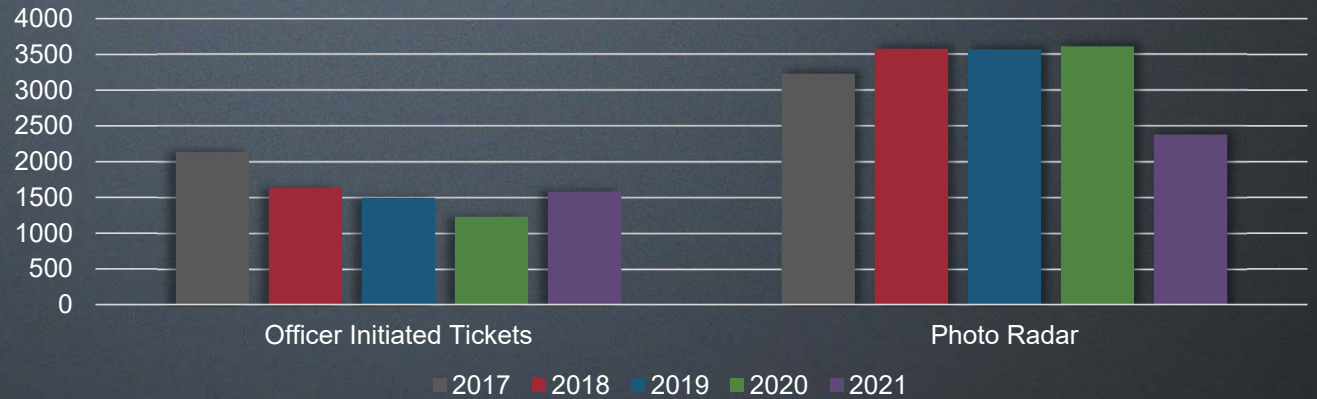
## USE OF FORCE

Reports of Assault on Police officers decreased slightly in 2021. There were 6 reports in 2020 and 5 in 2021.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



## TRAFFIC SAFETY

There was an 28% increase in Officer Initiated traffic enforcement in 2021.



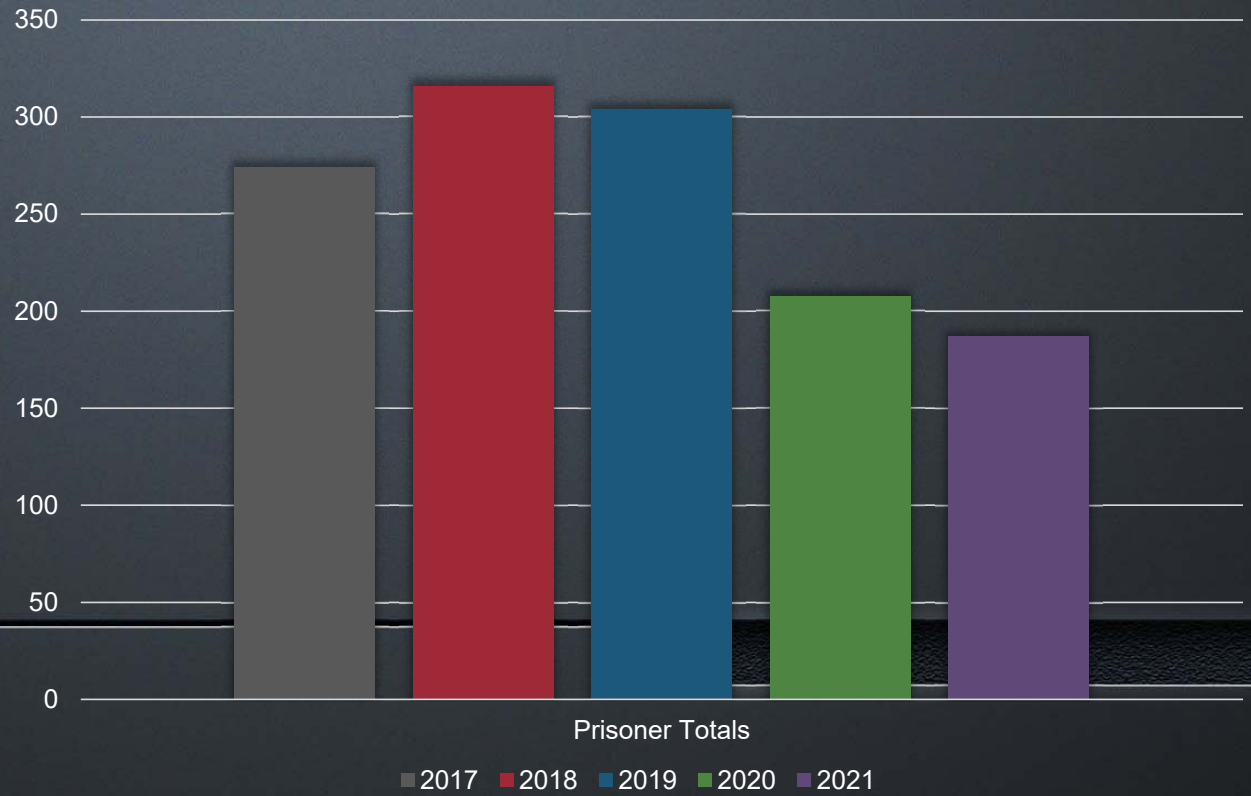
# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



### PRISONERS

Number of Persons Held in Police Custody



Following a 32 % decrease in 2020, the number of persons held in custody decreased 11% in 2021.





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

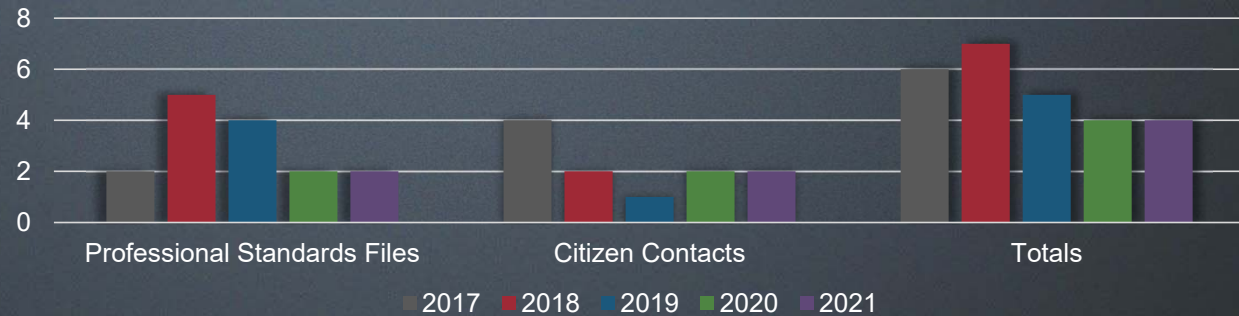
In 2020, the Taber Police Service received a total of 2 Professional Standards Files.

Citizen contacts, which are informal concerns raised by a member of the public, are resolved through discussion and mediation. In 2021, there were 2 citizen contacts that were resolved informally.

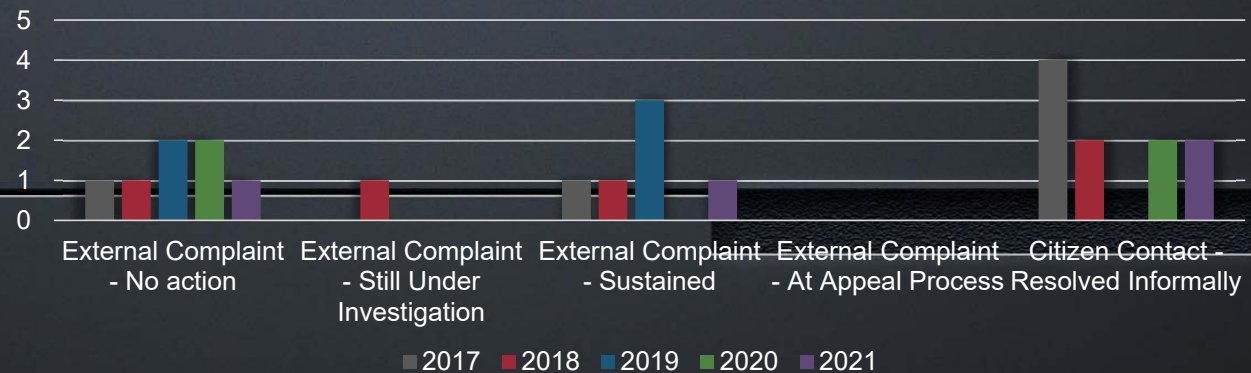
Allegations that are serious or sensitive in nature are sent to the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team or the originating agency. We had no complaints of this nature.

### PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

### Police Complaints



### Dispositions



Public complaints may be received from the public or initiated internally and can be criminal/statutory in nature and/or identified as an officer misconduct or complaint against police under the Police Act.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



TABER POLICE SERVICE





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



2021 marked the fourth full year of existence for the Community Standards Unit. The mandate of the Community Standards Officer (CSO) includes enforcement of community standards issues and provincial traffic offences. Although not their primary function, the CSO has full authority under the Criminal Code and applicable provincial statutes to enforce criminal and provincial offences.

During the summer months, the Community Standards Unit is supplemented with two summer students, generally Criminal Justice students from the Lethbridge College, to assist in their duties.

## COMMUNITY STANDARDS UNIT

CSU Monthly Stats – 2020	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2021
Calls for Service	10	26	23	25	33	40	43	32	19	21	24	3	289
Municipal Bylaw – Other	0	2	0	1	4	4	5	13	1	1	4	0	35
Bylaw Parking Offences	6	7	4	3	0	7	5	5	3	3	4	0	47
Items Lost and Found	0	1	2	3	4	2	8	5	3	0	1	0	29
Provincial Moving/Non-Moving	12	13	13	6	10	8	7	13	13	16	19	1	131
Total Notices issued	9	30	12	20	156	139	90	65	26	15	10	11	583





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## SCHOOL RESOURCE UNIT

The Taber Police Service - School Resource Unit was established in 1999 in partnership with the Horizon and Holy Spirit School Divisions in the Town of Taber.

The School Resource Unit provides eleven Taber schools with a dedicated School Resource Officer (SRO).

The primary focus of the SRO is to offer schools a variety of problem-solving resources, to provide law enforcement information and advice to students, parents and staff and to provide a positive Police presence within each of the schools.

The School Resource Unit promotes building positive relationships within the schools and the community.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## School Resource Officer Survey 2019

100 %

Satisfaction with the SRO's professionalism

85.2%

Satisfaction with the impromptu attendance of the SRO

96.3%

Satisfaction with timely communication with SRO

81.5%

Satisfaction with the participation of the SRO in school events/meetings etc.

SCHOOL  
RESOURCE  
UNIT

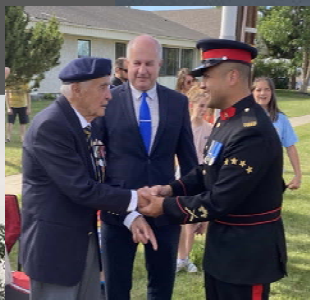
Due to COVID-19, in-person learning was disrupted in March of 2020 and on numerous occasions thereafter when classes resumed in the fall of 2020.

Once again, classes in 2021 felt the ramifications of COVID-19 and unfortunately an SRO survey was not completed for 2021. An SRO survey will be conducted late fall of 2022.





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



@TABERSRO



TABER POLICE SERVICE



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT

Our Communications Operators are supervised by the Public Safety Communications Manager (PSCM). The PSCM reports to the Chief of Police

Our regional E911 communications center receives calls for service from the citizens of the Town of Taber and the M.D of Taber, they dispatch the Taber Police Service and local and regional fire services, and they forward ambulance calls to the Alberta Health Services Southern Communications Centre based out of Calgary. They also forward police calls for service to the RCMP when the incidents are not within the Town of Taber. Communications Operators are also responsible for the monitoring of seven Community Peace Officer organizations as well as call taking/monitoring for a private security company.

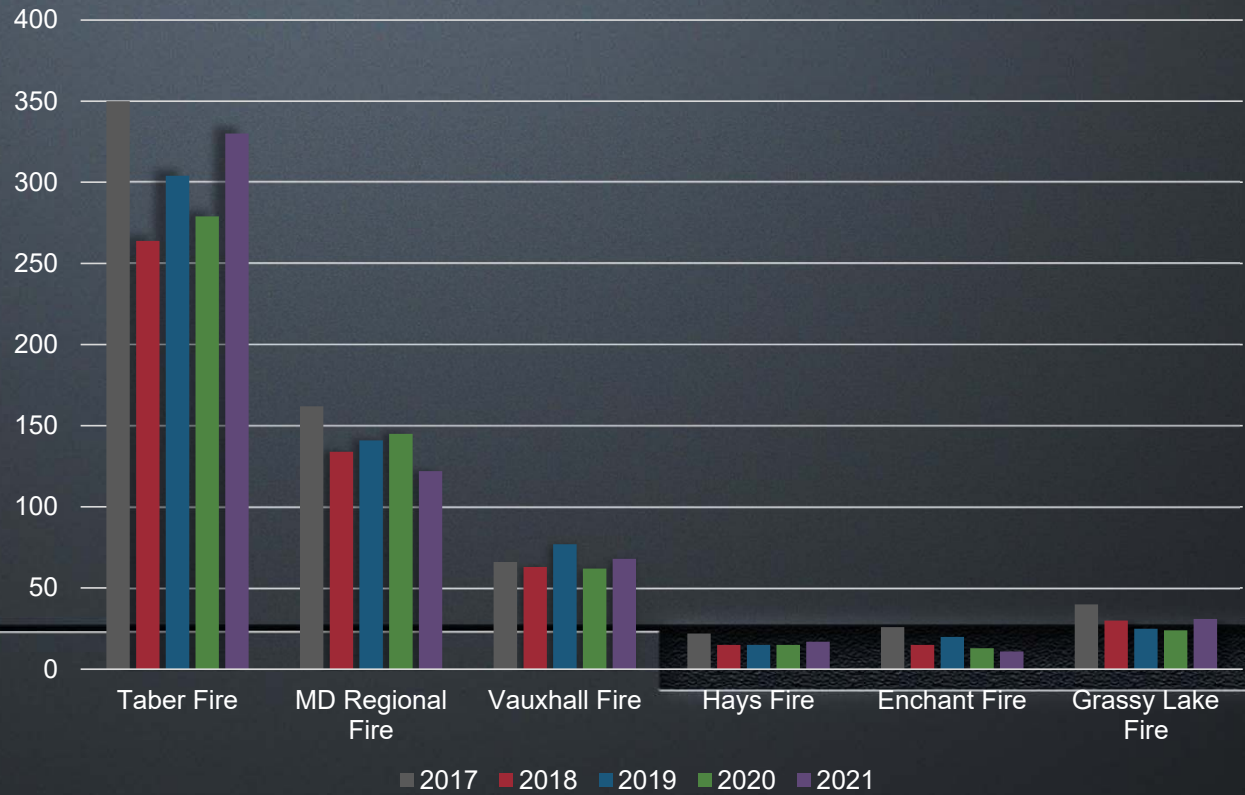
Taber Police Service Communications Operators' responsibilities do not end with the dispatch function. Their responsibilities also include administrative support of Taber Police Service members through file creation, court/release document preparation and data information gathering to name a few.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT

### Total Dispatched Calls

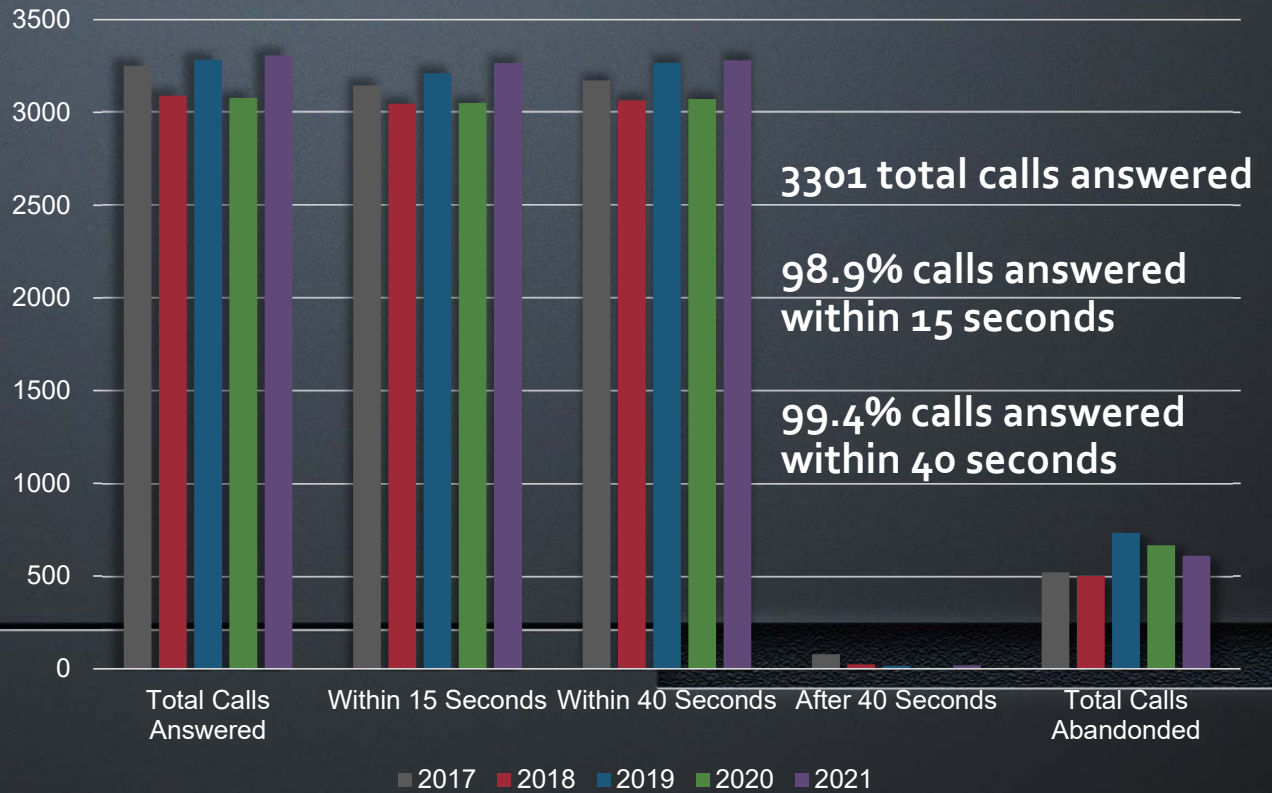


# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT

### 911 Call Answering



NFPA Standards require that 95% of alarms received on emergency lines be answered within 15 seconds and 99% of alarms shall be answered within 40 seconds.





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The staff of the Taber Police Service pride themselves in being part of the community of Taber. Being part of the community means being involved, both on and off duty.

This commitment to Taber is the backbone of the community policing philosophy. We believe that without having this relationship with our community we would not be as effective in solving crime and maintaining Taber as being one of the safest communities in Alberta to call home.

Challenges from 2020 remained in 2021, with the COVID pandemic greatly reducing the number of community involvement opportunities for our members. Our members adapted and got involved in new and unique ways, ensuring our connection to the community continued.

The following is a list of examples of what the Taber Police Service members have committed to within our community.

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Legion Ceremonies

Taber Minor Football

Taber Rebels Football

Apex Youth Awards

Horizon Victim Services

Air Cadets

Citizens on Patrol

Justin Hall Memorial  
Committee

Special Olympics Law  
Enforcement Torch Run

Family Violence Awareness  
Walk

Coldest Night of the Year

Veterans' Birthday Parades

COP Cards

Crimestoppers

Taber Community Against  
Drugs

Taber Community Action and  
Prevention Society

Taber Public Library

Safe Haven

Sea to Sea for PTSD

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

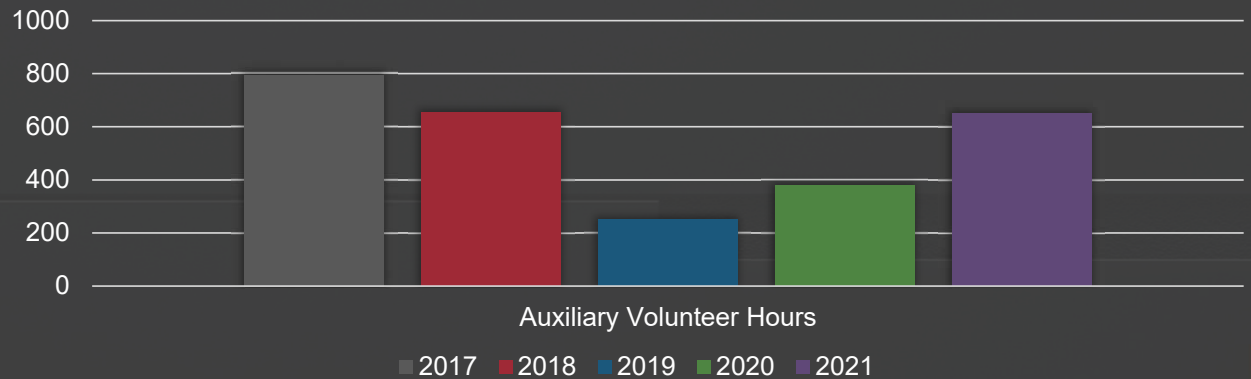


## AUXILIARY OFFICER PROGRAM

One of our volunteer initiatives that fosters community involvement and partnerships is the Taber Police Service Auxiliary Officer Program. This program compliments our members by providing an extra set of eyes and ears and allows for positive community contact.

The three 2021 auxiliary officers, all residents of the Town of Taber, included an employee at a local agriculture business, a retail worker and a teacher. It should be noted that the teacher was successful in TPS recruitment and was selected to enter the first ever Lethbridge College/TPS Police Academy.

This program was a recipient of a 2019 Alberta Justice and Solicitor General Community Justice Award for service enhancement.



Despite the complications and challenges arising from the Public Health Measures due to COVID-19, our Auxiliary Officers accumulated 34% more hours in 2020 compared to 2019.

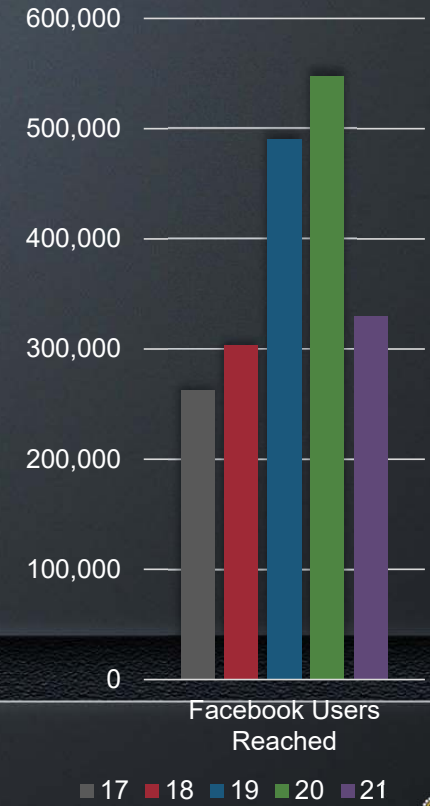
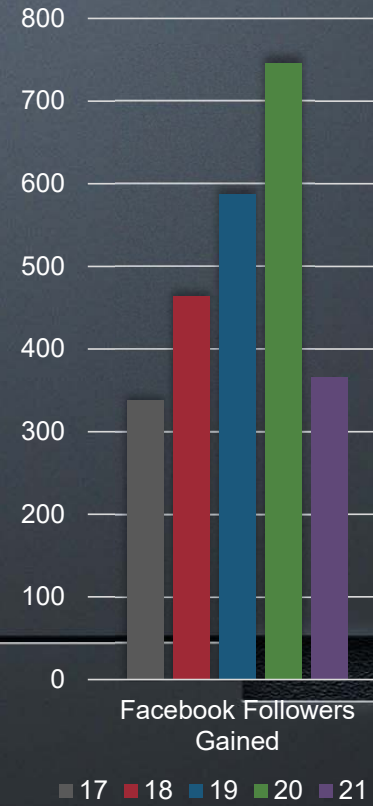
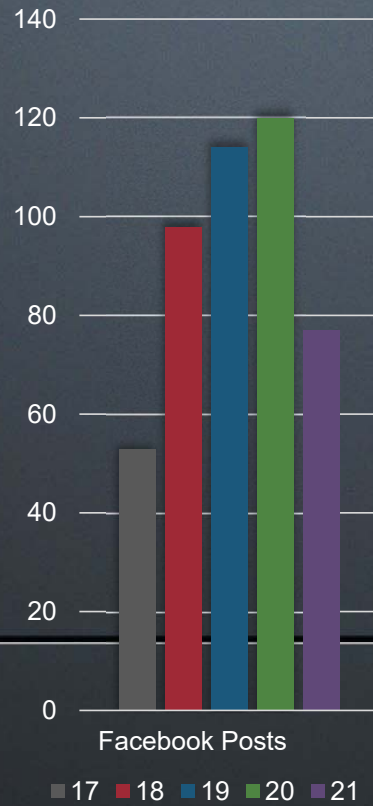




# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## SOCIAL MEDIA



TABER POLICE SERVICE

The Taber Police Service Instagram page was launched on February 22, 2019. By the end of 2019, we had 773 followers. That number increased to 1086 at the end of 2021, a 40% increase in followers.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## 15 Years With TPS/ Town of Taber

Linda Hall

## 20 Years With TPS/ Town of Taber

Dana Bell

Lindsey O'Grady



## PROMOTIONS

Inspector Dave Gyepesi



## RETIREMENTS

Inspector Howard Kehler

## RECOGNITIONS

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



## LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE/TPS POLICE ACADEMY

November 1, 2021, marked the beginning of the 23 week Lethbridge College Police Cadet Training Academy, for the first time hosted by the Taber Police Service, in Taber.

The Academy consisted of 12 cadets from various backgrounds; 2 were sponsored by the Taber Police Service, 5 by the Blood Tribe Police Service, 3 by the Canadian Pacific Police Service and 2 by the Manitoba First Nations Police Service.

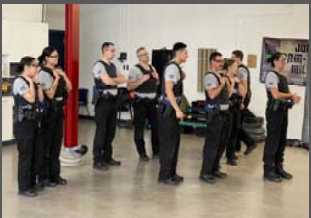
Academy instructors consisted of members from the Taber Police Service, Lethbridge Police Service, Blood Tribe Police Service, Medicine Hat Police Service, CP Police Service, Calgary Police Service, Tsuu T'ina Nation Police Service, Alberta Sheriffs, Lethbridge College and many others.

The interactive learning and experiences they gathered from this opportunity will provide them with the tools, skills and knowledge to effectively serve the citizens of the communities where they will police.

The cadets will graduate on April 22, 2022.



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



LETHBRIDGE  
COLLEGE/TPS  
POLICE ACADEMY

Throughout the Police Academy, the Cadets will receive instruction in the following courses:

- Cadet Wellness & Physical Fitness
- Client Centered Service
- Crimes Against Persons 1
- Crimes Against Persons 2
- Criminal Code Driving Offences
- Criminal Code Offences 1
- Criminal Code Offences 2
- Criminal Code Property Offences
- Drill, Dress & Deportment
- Emerging Public Safety Issues
- Economic Crime
- Emergency Vehicle Operations
- Firearms
- Provincial Offences
- Reasonable Officer Response & Control Tactics
- Sudden Death Investigations



# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



TABER POLICE SERVICE





# ANNUAL REPORT 2021

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



For more information regarding this report, please contact the Chief of Police at (403) 223-8991 or at [gabela@taberpolice.ca](mailto:gabela@taberpolice.ca)



HONESTY

INTEGRITY

COMPASSION

ACCOUNTABILITY

PROFESSIONALISM

TABER POLICE SERVICE

Taber Police Service Annual Report 2021 completed by Sergeant Steve Meggison & Constable Christopher Nguyen.

