

ANNUAL REPORT 2022



TABER POLICE SERVICE

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**TABER
MUNICIPAL
POLICE
COMMISSION**



TABER MUNICIPAL POLICE COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON JOHN A. MACDONALD

Up to recently the Commission was made up of 7 appointed residents by your Town Council. Two of the seven also serve you as Town Councillors as well. Recently the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency services passed the new Provincial Police Act. With that legislation the Minister is to appoint two commissioners. One was appointed just prior to the election call. We would expect the second appointee right after the election.

Our Mission and Vision statement along with our core values, provides a pathway for effective service and transparency. We are called to be leaders for municipal stakeholders in Civilian oversight of policing. Core values Respect, Accountability, Honesty, and Integrity provide how. This allows us to strive for openness, transparency and inclusivity.

Your concerns are heard at the Alberta Association of Police Governance meetings as well as the Canadian Association of Police Governance as well as The Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT); CAC, civilian oversight.

Keeping Taber safe is job one. We are continuing our work on our bylaws and Policy Manual so all changes from the Government are instituted in the best way possible. We do have a safe Community. You have a professionally led Police Service. You have a professional, responsible, accountable Police Service. You have a professional, responsible, accountable 911 Emergency service. Your Commission works very hard to maintain and improve, in collaboration with all of our Partners. I am very proud to be associated with the Commission. They serve, lead, prepare and plan for the future, serving you with pride. Thank you for your Faith, and Trust.

Best regards,



John A. MacDonald





CHIEF OF POLICE

It has now been 7 years since I was given the privilege to lead the Taber Police Service as the Chief of Police. The challenges of 2022 mostly emerged from the community getting back to “normal” from the impacts of the pandemic. The impacts of Covid were large and I can tell you that policing and the justice system in general was impacted greatly by the closures of Courts, staffing issues and the like. Interestingly, as in many communities, the crime rate fell in Taber during Covid, so a silver lining of sorts was produced by everyone staying home and there being less cars on the roads. We are now also seeing crime rates increasing as the winter of Covid is mostly over and we are working hard to be intelligence led as we deal with those who make our citizens victims of crime.

The community of Taber is changing, with more diversity, cultures, and people now living in our community. I am happy to report that the challenges of migration and immigration have been handled well by the Taber Police; we have developed new partnerships with the Town of Taber working with the Alberta Advantage Immigration Program, and introduced our own program where we will personally meet every new Canadian that comes to Taber. We feel this is important as the democratic policing principles we follow in Canada are not the same world over. We know that future years will bring much investment to our region and more people, and I want to thank Taber for being welcoming to our new residents.

With the support of the Commission and our partners, TPS policing services expanded in 2022 to create the Regional Community Standards Unit to help supplement RCM Policing services in the MD of Taber. We now have dedicated police officers that looks after community standards work in the MD of Taber and the Village of Barnwell has seen the success of this program and has now also reached out to the TPS for support.

Policing is a people business, and I can't say enough about the people who work at the Taber Police Service. Each and every day I see their commitment to safety and wellness through their work in the community. In my mind, there is simply none better and I want to thank them for what and how they do policing and communications in Taber.

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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.

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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

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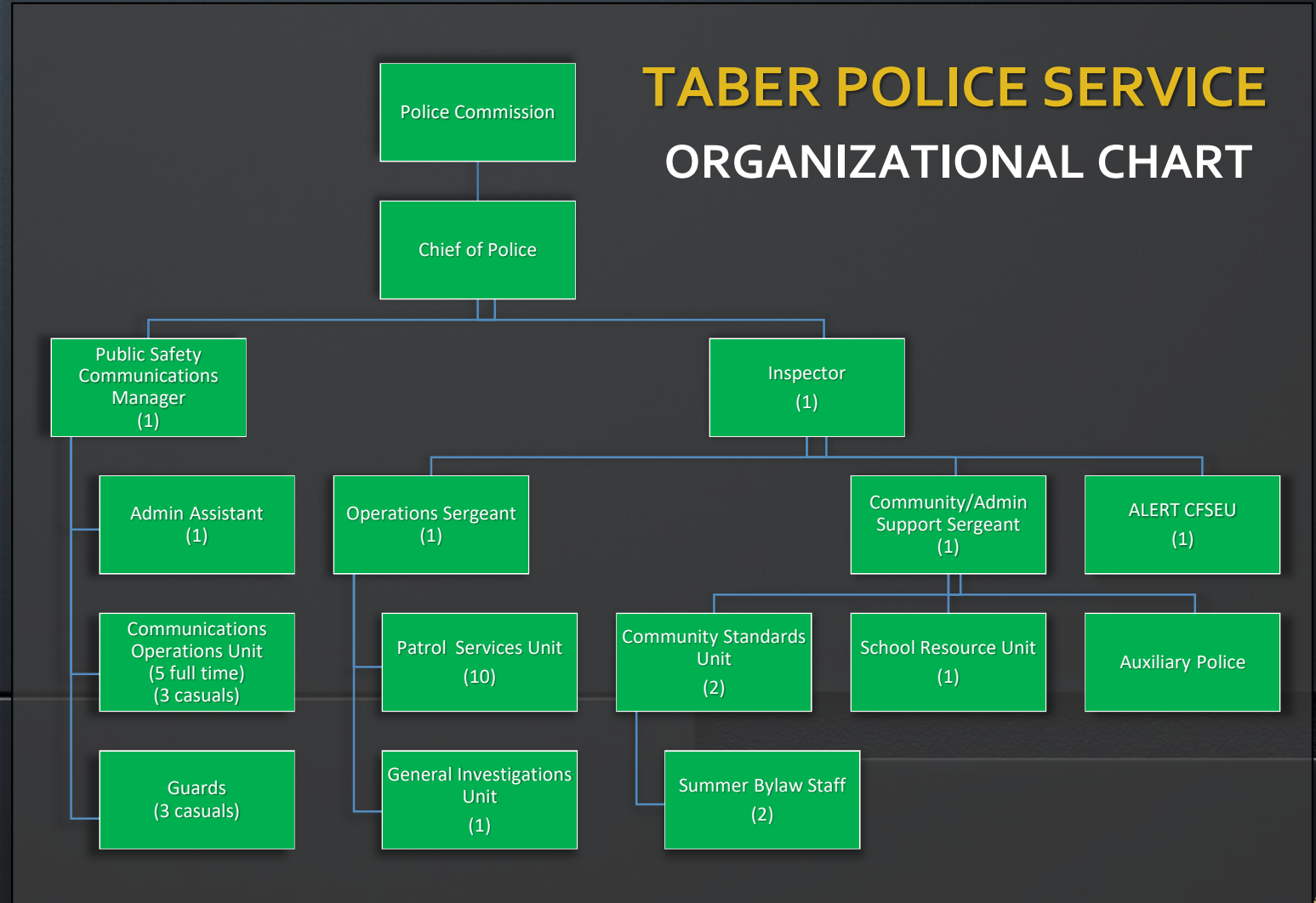
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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



TABER POLICE SERVICE



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POLICE HUMAN RESOURCES

Operational Strength:

18 (Authorized)

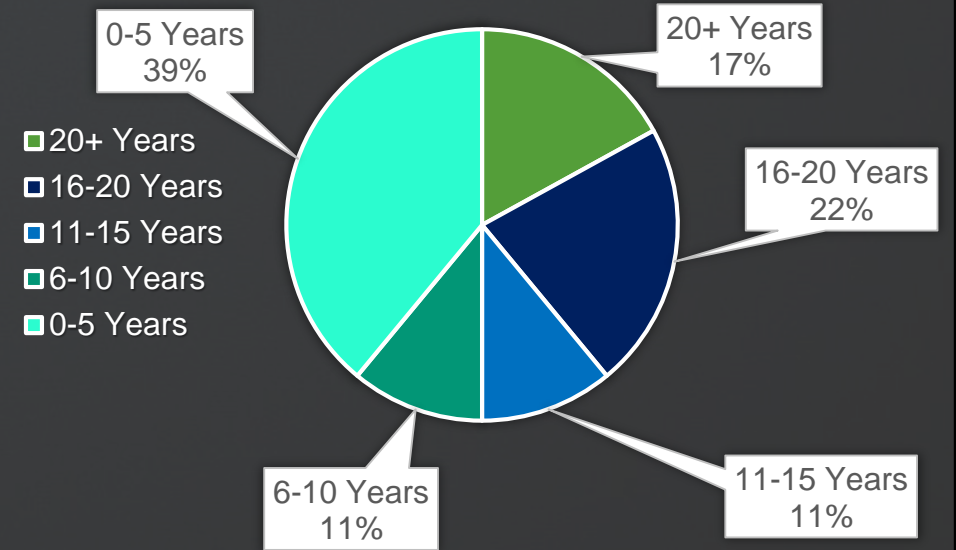
Demographics:

16 male
2 female

Background of Officers:

1 FNMI
1 Asian
16 Caucasian

Members Years of Service



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CIVILIAN HUMAN RESOURCES

1 Public Safety Communications
Manager

Communications Operators:

5 Fulltime

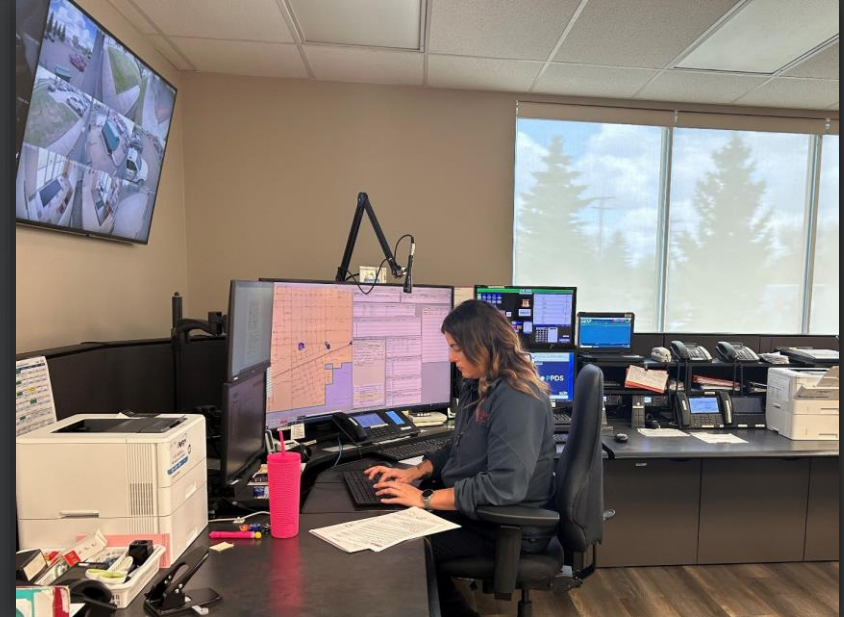
3 Casuals

1 Administrative Assistant

2 Community Standards Bylaw
Officers (Summer)

4 Cell Block Guards

Numerous Volunteers



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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.

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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.



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FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

COMMUNITY SAFETY GOALS

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

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.



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BUDGET 2022 FUNDING AND EXPENSES

FUNDING	2022
Tax Supported	\$3,058,282
Government Grants	\$850,461
Fine Revenue	\$485,775
Sales & User Fees	\$184,315
Other	\$191,500
Total	\$4,770,333

EXPENSES	2022
Salaries & Benefits	\$3,596,300
Contracted & General Services	\$482,619
Amortization	\$201,514
Materials, Goods, & Supplies	\$298,300
Purchases From Other Governments	\$76,000
Internal Charges	\$115,600
Total	\$4,770,333



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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.

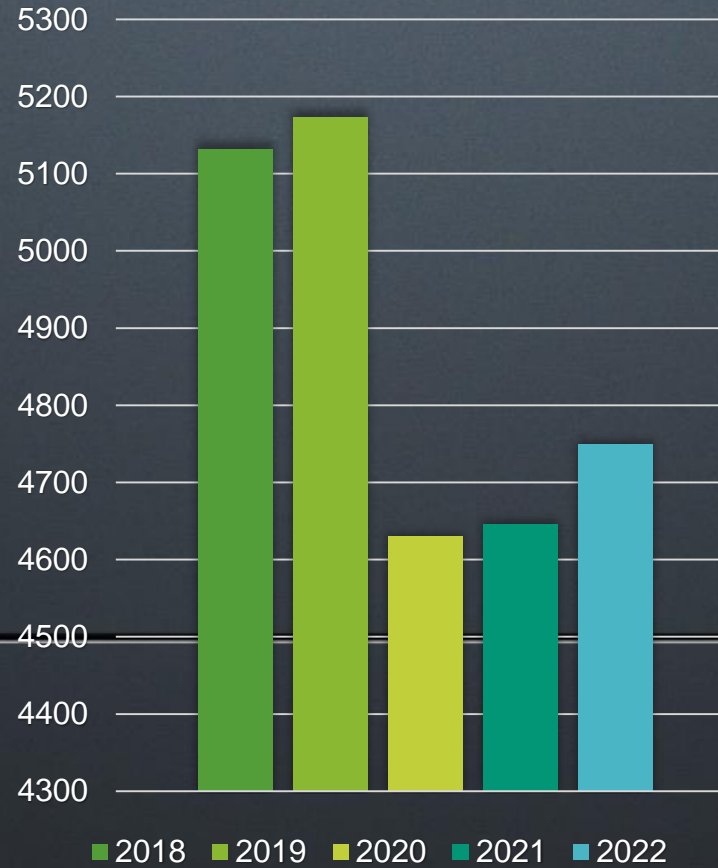
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OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



POLICE OCCURRENCES

Number of Police Occurrences

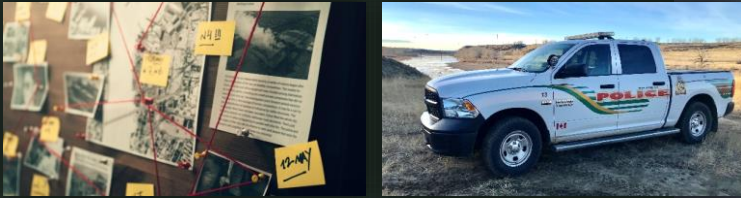


Police Occurrences Per Officer



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



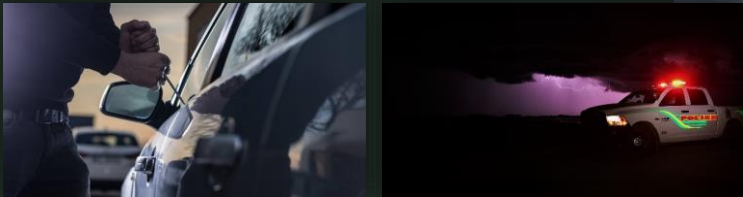


CLEARANCE RATES

Statistics	Weighted clearance rate ^{7, 8}				
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Geography⁶	Number				
Alberta [48] (map).	35.97	35.84	33.30	34.37	34.45
Camrose, Alberta, municipal [48015] (map).	55.75	55.39	48.98	44.48	44.57
Lacombe, Alberta, municipal [48052] (map).	41.08	53.88	48.51	49.99	34.71
Taber, Alberta, municipal [48088] (map).	58.82	59.86	55.38	49.37	45.04
Brooks, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal [48708] (map).	48.36	54.50	42.20	39.14	44.73
Taber, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, rural [48826] (map).	39.48	39.03	33.22	40.50	35.88

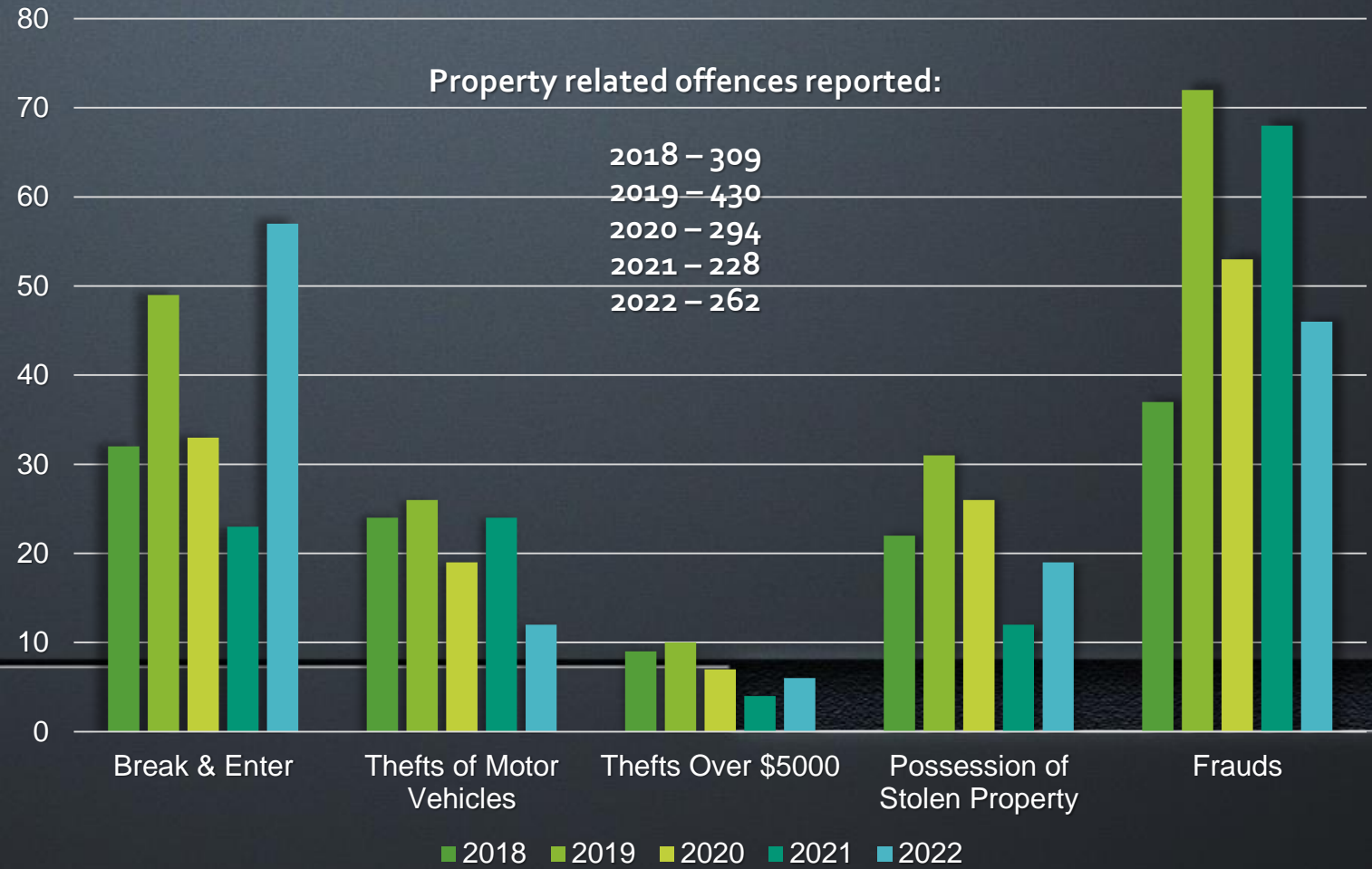
The Taber Police Service clearance rate is 10 % above the Provincial Average of 34.45%.





PROPERTY OFFENCES

Property Offences 2018 to 2022

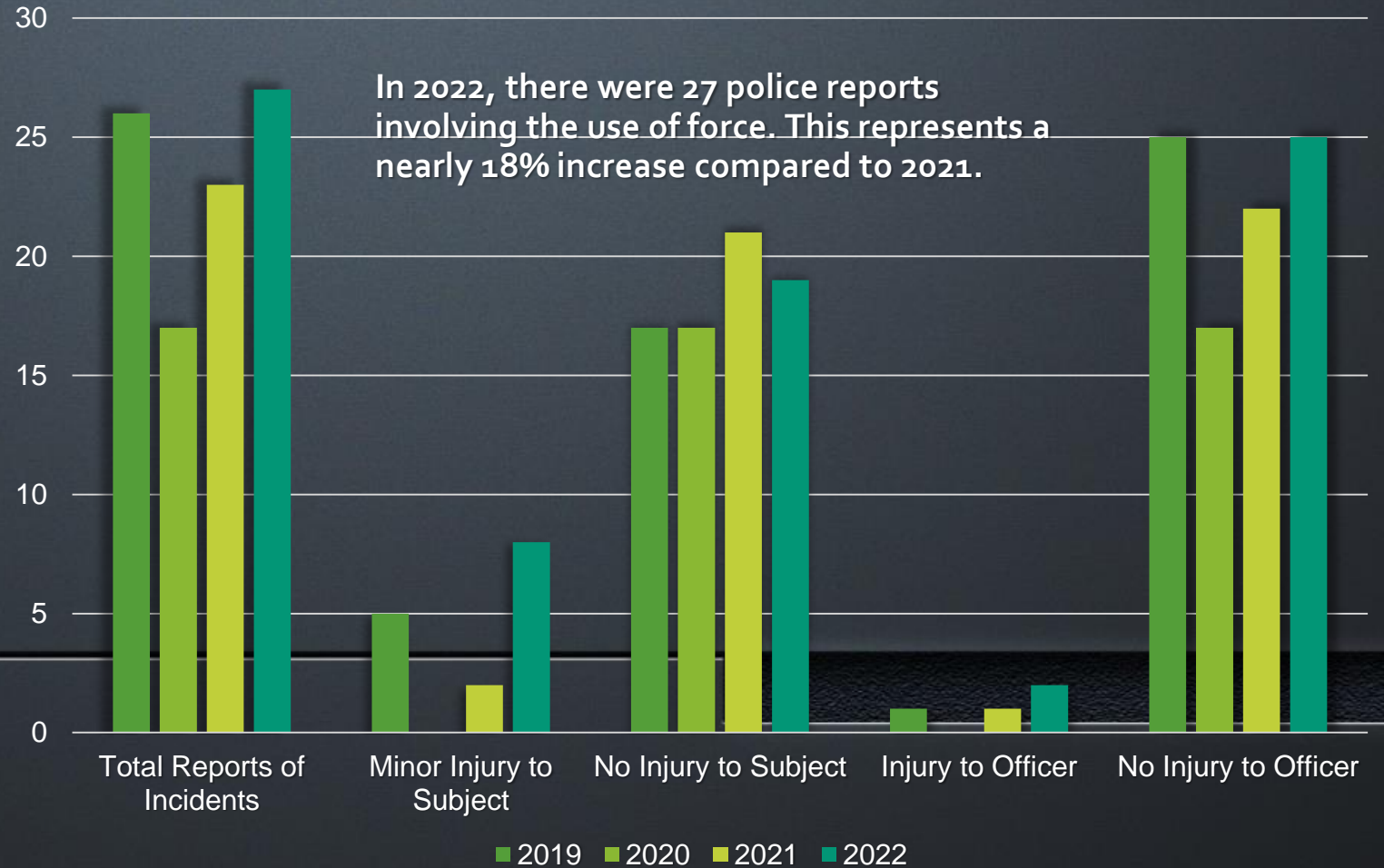


Following a 23% decrease in 2021, there was a 15% increase in total property offences in 2022.





Control Tactics Reports



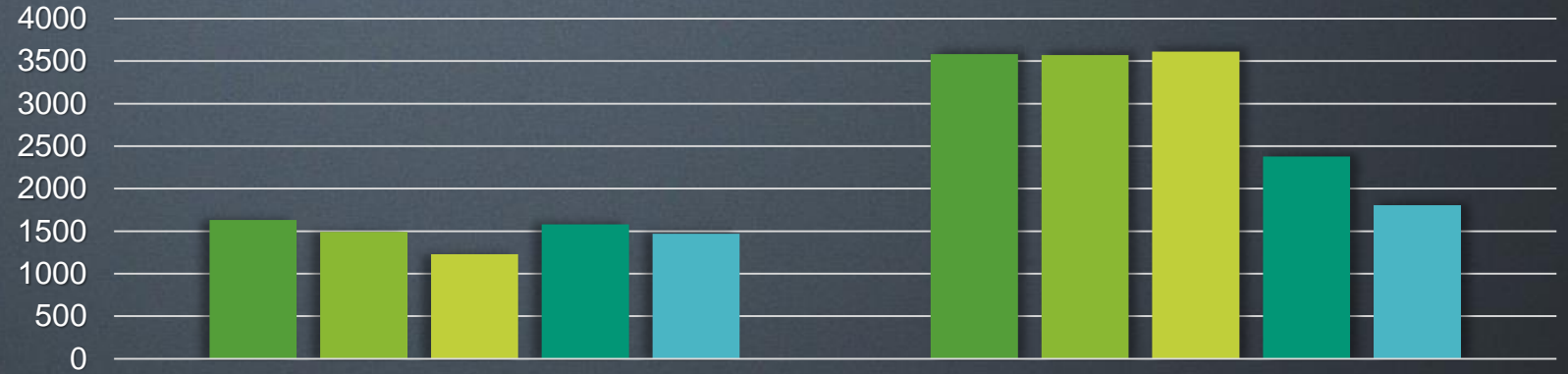
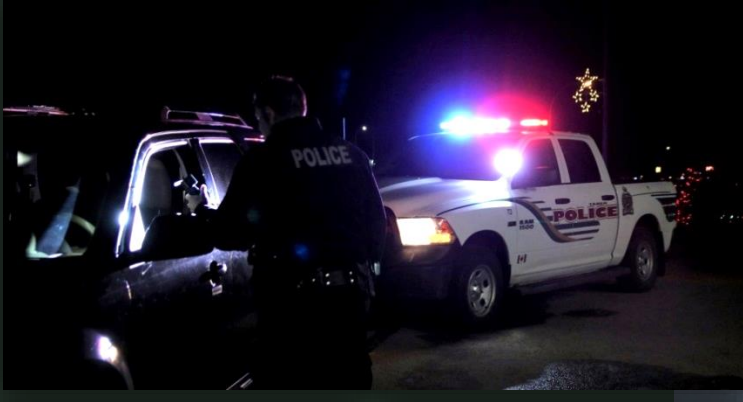
USE OF FORCE

Reports of Assault on Police officers increased by 60% in 2022. There were 8 reports in 2022 and 5 in 2021.



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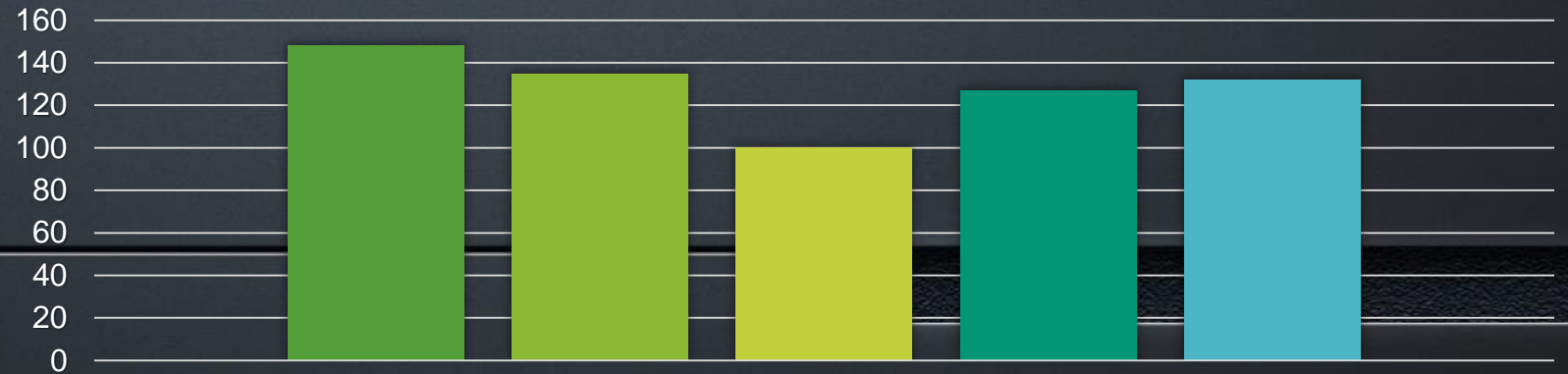
OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



Officer Initiated Tickets

Photo Radar

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



Number of Collisions

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

TRAFFIC SAFETY

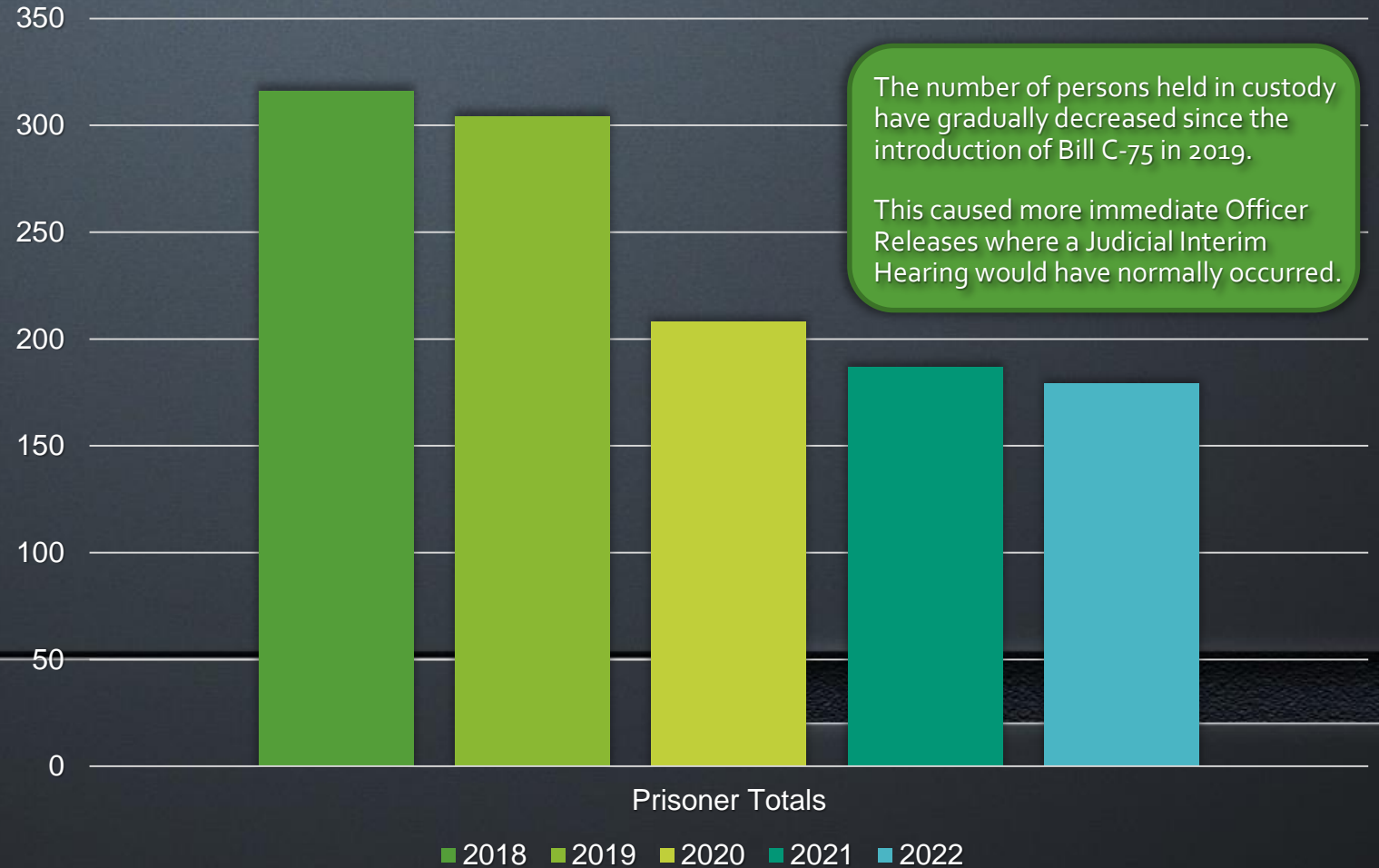
There was an 61% decrease in Photo Radar traffic enforcement in 2022.

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Number of Persons Held in Police Custody



PRISONERS

Following a 11 % decrease in 2021, the number of persons held in custody decreased 4% in 2022.



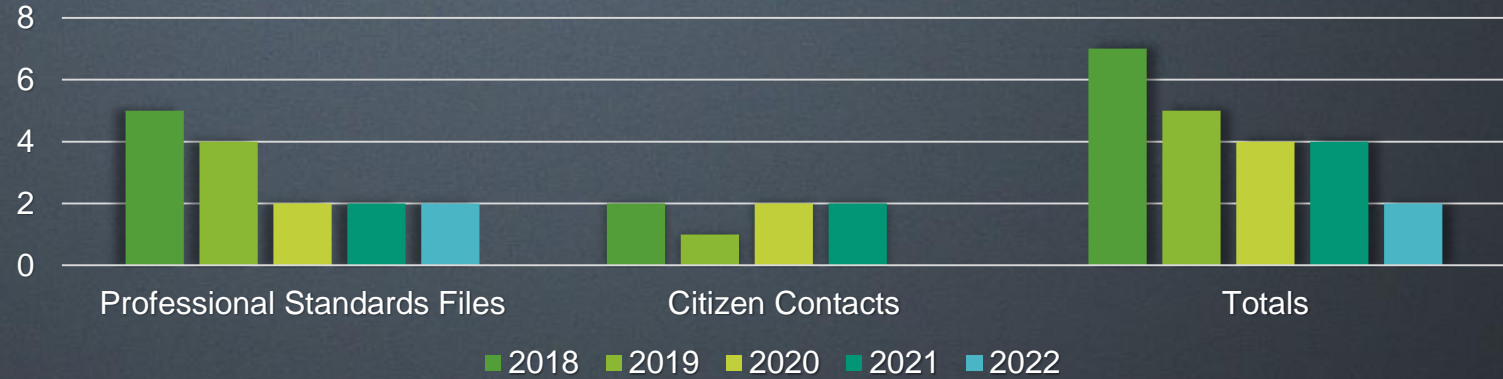
In 2022, the Taber Police Service received a total of 2 Professional Standards Files.

Citizen contacts, which are informal concerns raised by a member of the public, are resolved through discussion and mediation. In 2022, there were 0 citizen contacts that were resolved informally.

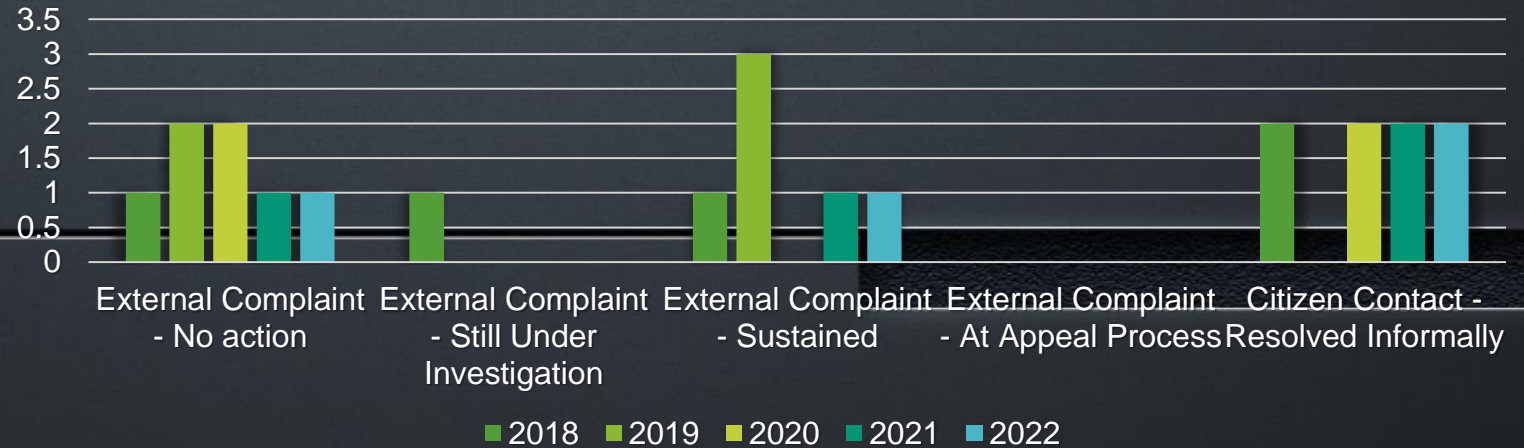
Allegations that are serious or sensitive in nature are sent to the Alberta Serious Incident Response Team or the originating agency. We had no complaints of this nature.

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.



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2022 marked the fifth 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.

Due to a CSO vacancy, from January to May 2022, the CSO position was filled by a previous summer bylaw student. The CSO position was filled with a sworn member in May of 2022.

In October 2022, the CSU entered into a partnership with the Municipal District of Taber to provide bylaw enforcement to the M.D., including the hamlets of Enchant, Grassy Lake and Hays

COMMUNITY STANDARDS UNIT

CSU Monthly Stats – 2022	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Calls for Service	61	56	62	38	26	22	29	294
Municipal Bylaw – Other	59	41	50	28	24	14	22	238
Bylaw Parking Offences	0	3	4	1	0	1	2	11
Items Lost and Found	2	5	5	7	1	1	1	22
Assist General Public	0	7	1	0	0	2	0	9
Bylaw – Traffic	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Provincial Moving/Non-Moving	5	0	1	2	1	4	5	18
Notices issued	62	62	53	33	8	18	32	268



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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.

School Resource Officer Survey 2022

99.1%

Satisfaction with the SRO's professionalism

97.2%

Satisfaction with the scheduled attendance of the SRO

89.7%

Satisfaction with timely communication with SRO

99.1%

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

**SCHOOL
RESOURCE
UNIT**

Due to COVID-19, 2022 was the first survey conducted since 2019.

The satisfaction of the SRO Program remains extremely high.



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Rule the campus

TABER POLICE
School Resource Officer

@TABERSRO



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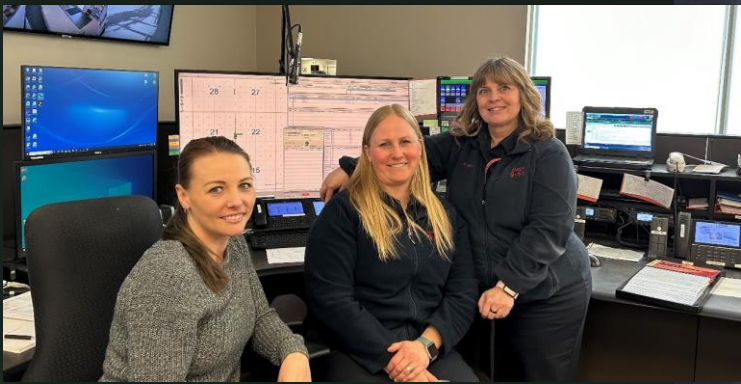
COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT

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 call taking/monitoring of one Community Peace Officer (CPO) organization and a private security company as well as the monitoring of five other CPO organizations.

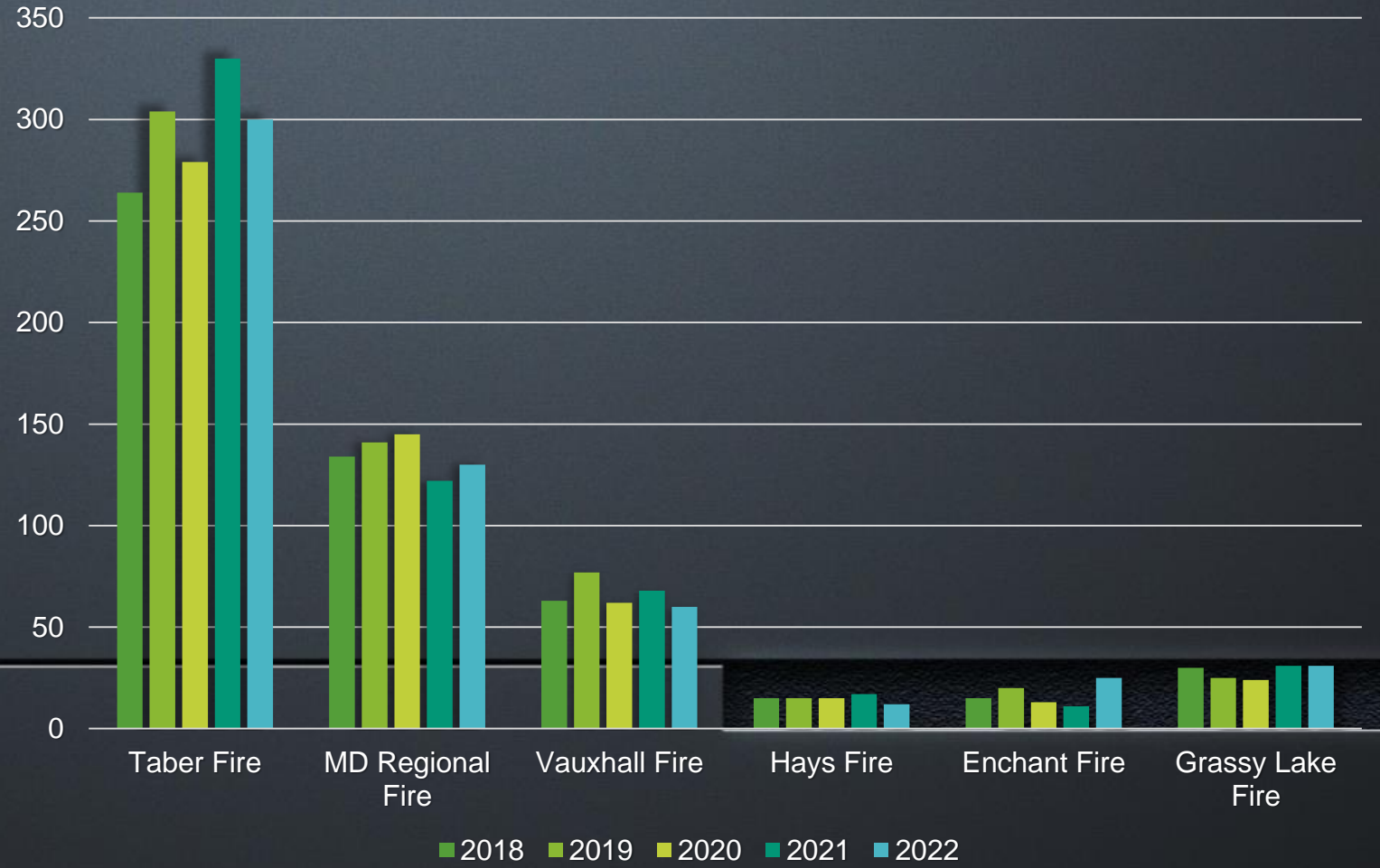
Taber Police Service Communications Operators' responsibilities do not end with the dispatch function. Their responsibilities also include administrative support of Taber Police Service members through file creation, court/release document preparation and data information gathering to name a few.

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COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT

Total Dispatched Calls

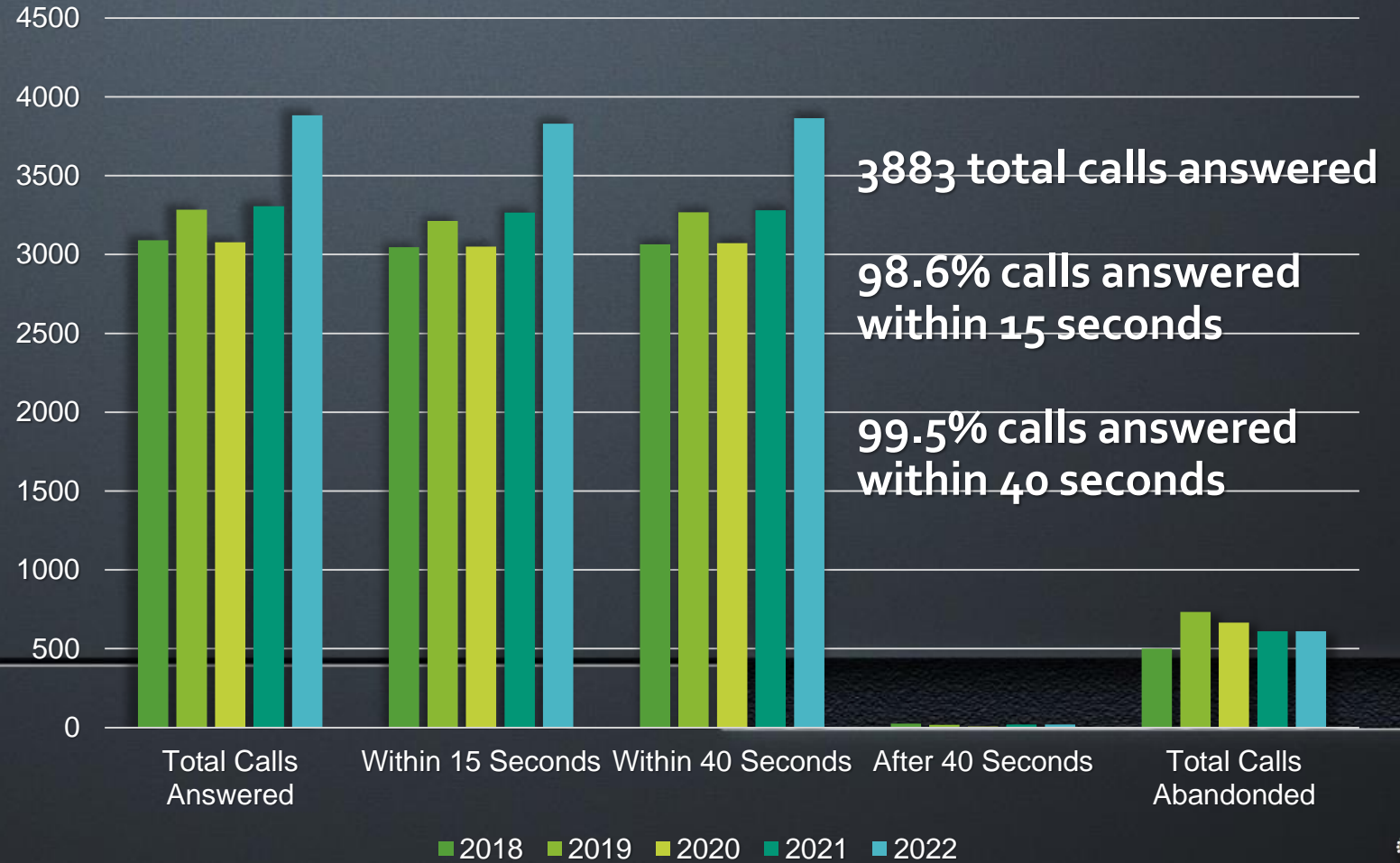


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COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS UNIT

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.



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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.

As in 2020 and 2021, challenges with the COVID pandemic affected part of 2022, 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.

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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

COP Cards

Crimestoppers

Taber Community Against Drugs

Taber Community Action and
Prevention Society

Taber Public Library

Safe Haven Pizza in the Park

Tim Horton's Smile Cookie

Taber Soccer

McHappy Day

Dairy Queen Blizzard Day

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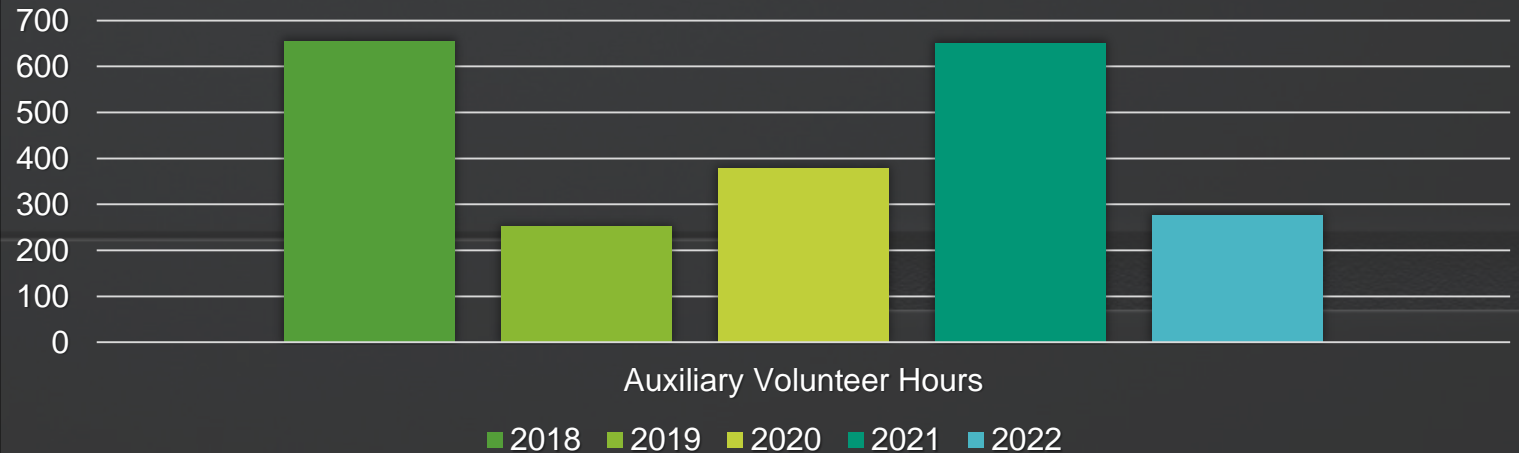


AUXILIARY OFFICER PROGRAM

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 program suffered some resignations and as such only one auxiliary officer remained for the majority of 2022. A new Auxiliary was recently hired and a push for recruitment is underway.

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



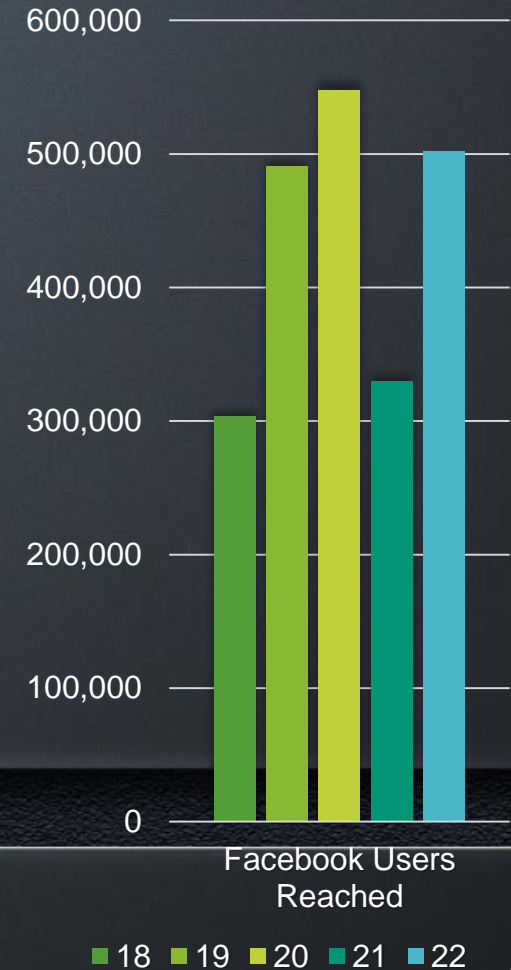
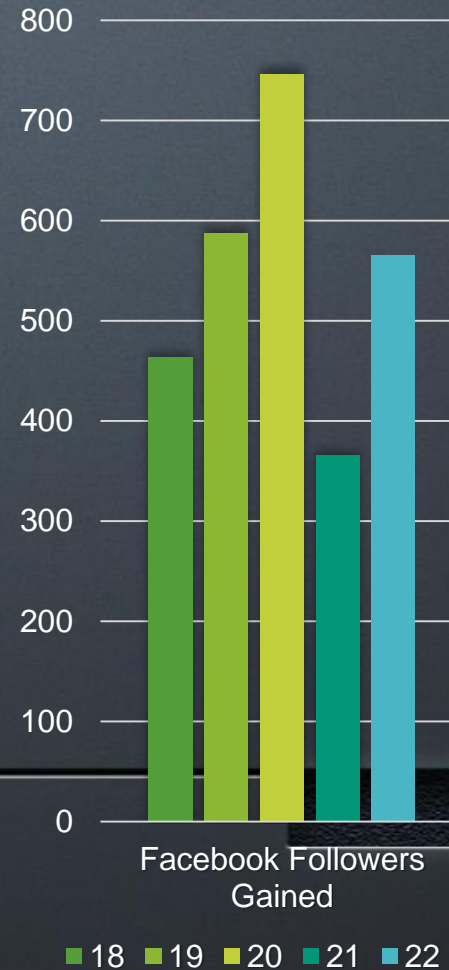
Despite having only 1 Auxiliary Officer, he accumulated almost half the hours as compared to 2020.



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SOCIAL MEDIA



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The Taber Police Service Instagram page was launched on February 22, 2019. By the end of 2020, we had 1023 followers. That number increased to 1185 at the end of 2022, a 15% increase in followers.



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Chief's Commendation

RSM Christopher Nguyen – TPS/LC Police Academy
Sergeant Steve Meggison – TPS/LC Police Academy

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Chief Graham Abela
Inspector Dave Gyepesi
Constable Christopher Nguyen

C.O.P. Liaison Officer of the Year

Constable Mike Kitto

Promotions

Sergeant Tim Johnson
Detective Sergeant Mathieu Champagne



RECOGNITIONS

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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.

All 12 cadets graduated on April 22, 2022.

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LETHBRIDGE COLLEGE/TPS POLICE ACADEMY

Throughout the Police Academy, the Cadets received 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 & Department
- Emerging Public Safety Issues
- Economic Crime
- Emergency Vehicle Operations
- Firearms
- Provincial Offences
- Reasonable Officer Response & Control Tactics
- Sudden Death Investigations



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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



HONESTY

INTEGRITY

COMPASSION

ACCOUNTABILITY

PROFESSIONALISM

TABER POLICE SERVICE

Taber Police Service Annual Report 2022 completed by Sergeant Steve Meggison & Constable Christopher Nguyen.

