

Table of Contents

	Page
1. Taber Municipal Police Commission Message	3
2. Message from the Chief of Police	4
3. Mission Statement / Core Values	5
4. Taber Police Service Strategic Plan	8
5. Organizational Chart / Human Resources	11
6. Budget	16
7. Operational Highlights – Policing	17
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Property Offences• Clearance Rates• Traffic Safety• Control Tactics	
8. Operational Highlights – Community Standards Unit	23
9. Operational Highlights – Communications	25
10. Operational Highlights – School Resource Officer	28
11. Professional Standards	30
12. Community Involvement / Partnerships	32
13. Social Media	37



TABER MUNICIPAL POLICE COMMISSION

The Taber Municipal Police Commission is governed by the Police Act of Alberta. In turn, the Commission has the critical role to oversee policing in our community. In today's world, the need for a greater focus on all aspects of policing is critical. New and challenging drug issues are at the forefront of concern. In turn, an increase in property and violence offences becomes a bi product, not to mention public and officer safety. This is just a small sample of the continued need for ensuring policing is done well, in line with the governance model, and finds the correct balance between prevention and enforcement. As a Commission, we fully believe that the Taber Police Service is utilizing all possible resources available to them and providing a solid policing product to the Town of Taber and surrounding area. Through dedicated concerned members, great leadership, and a second to none dispatch center, the required focus is being achieved. As always, we are in turn grateful to the involvement and support of the community, as all is done to make Taber safe, protected, and a wonderful place to live. Contents of this report are evidence of this over the past year and a testament of how we will continue to move forward.

Ken Holst

Chairman

Taber Municipal Police Commission



Taber Police Commission Members; 2018

Joe Strojwas John MacDonald, Chair Ken Holst, Jack Brewin, Wanda Osburne-Campbell, Secretary Corey Armfelt, Wanda Renner

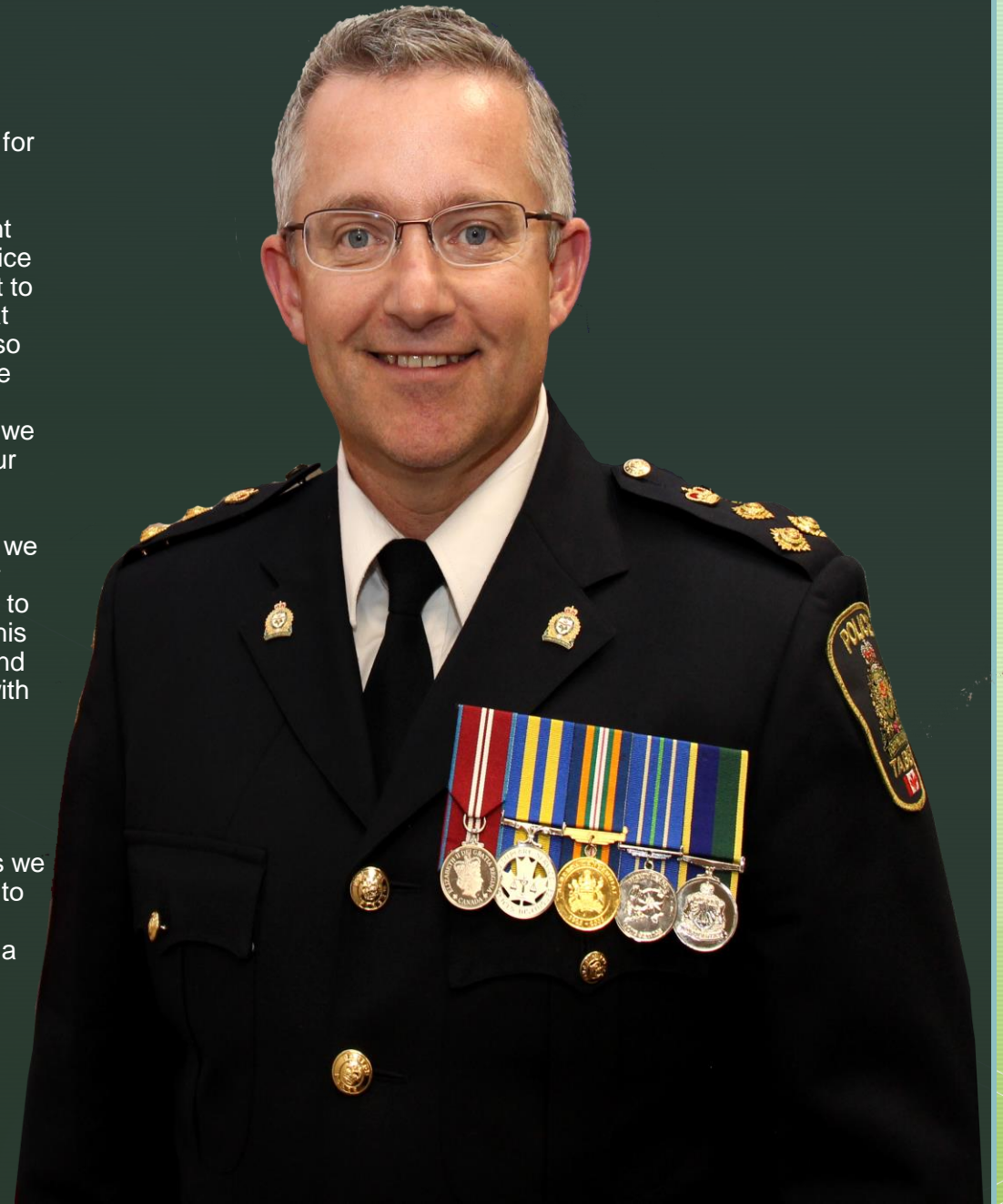
CHIEF OF POLICE DR. GRAHAM ABELA

The Taber Police Service continues to be a leader in community policing in the Province of Alberta and I am proud to lead a group of dedicated staff who provide for public safety in our community.

Each year, we report to the community the culmination of our efforts in a document that I am happy to share. Police efficacy is difficult to measure, however, as a police service we undertook strategic planning at the commencement of my appointment to Chief, and I relied upon information gathered from community to lay out a plan that described our mission, value, core functions, strategic priorities and goals. We also demonstrate within our own plan how the Taber Police Service goals align with the Town of Taber and every 3 months I provide a report card to the Taber Municipal Police Commission to let them know how we are doing. I am happy to report that we are on target, achieving our goals, and trying our best to ensure public safety in our community.

These successes don't come without challenges. As we examine our crime data, we recognize that there has been an increase in crystal methamphetamine use in our community and we know it is impacting families and those who make the decision to use and abuse this highly addictive drug. There is community impact related to this illegal activity and we need to support victims who are subjected to the violence and criminality this activity breeds. The Taber Police Service is committed to partner with others to examine this trend and investigate ways to support those who need us most.

The community of Taber supports our police service well, and we appreciate and understand the confidence you have placed in us to put each dollar we receive to good use. Our Police Commission and Council make sure we have the resources we require, and we are here 24/7/365 to help if you need us. Our staff's commitment to our calling is real and each day I put on my uniform I absolutely recognize I am fortunate to have the people around me who make the Taber Police Service such a great organization and an awesome place to be the Chief of Police.



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 not performed in a social vacuum;
- 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.



CORE VALUES

These are the core values of the Taber Police Service in which we believe we should, as an organization and as individuals, consistently try to apply in order to achieve excellence in policing.

Honesty

We believe in an honest work environment that encourages trust and respect of fellow employees, as well as 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

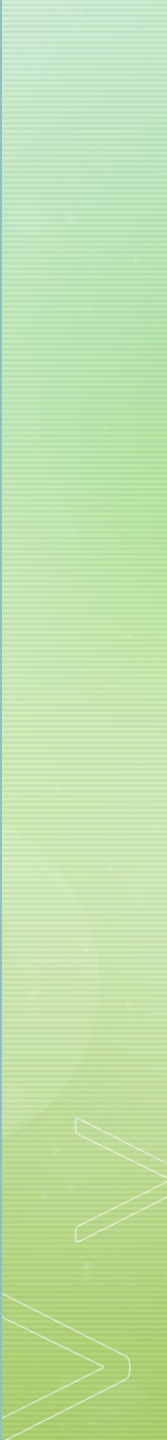
We believe that we should treat each other as employees, as well as those in the community for which we serve, with kindness and empathy.

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.





5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN (2016-2021)

In 2016 the Taber Police Service conducted a 5 year strategic plan to review our priorities and establish our goals for the next 5 years. The strategic plan was created following a community survey, focus group sessions and input from the Taber Municipal Police Commission and the Taber Police membership. Core services and key strategic priorities were identified within the strategic plan. This 5 year plan is divided into 4 phases that each contain several goals that are to be obtained within a certain time frame.

The strategic plan is reviewed quarterly with the Taber Municipal Police Commission. A report card is provided at that time to monitor our progress in achieving these goals.

CORE SERVICES

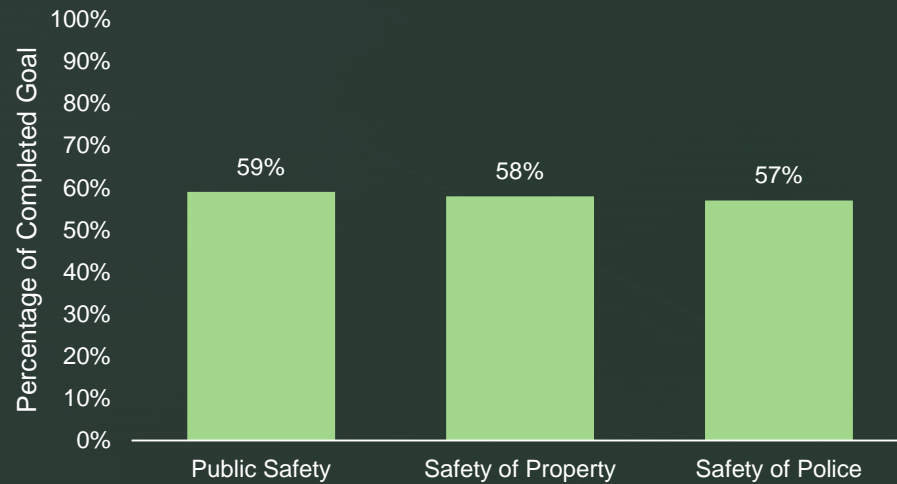
- Policing Services
- Public Safety Dispatch and Support
- Community Support

KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

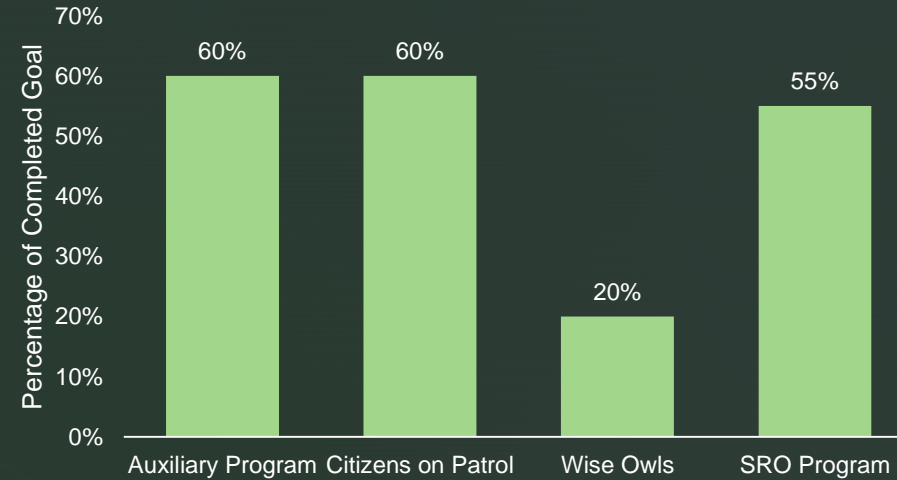
- Community Safety
- Community Collaboration
- Community Awareness
- People and Technical Professionalism

5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

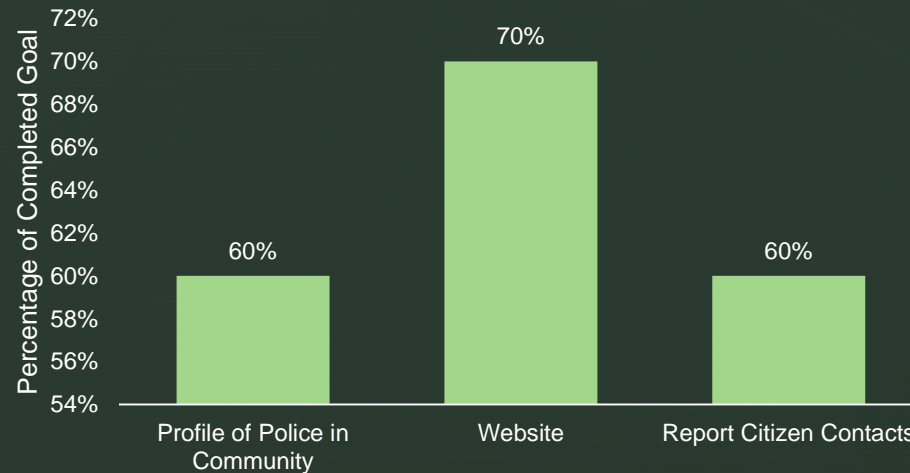
Community Safety Priorities



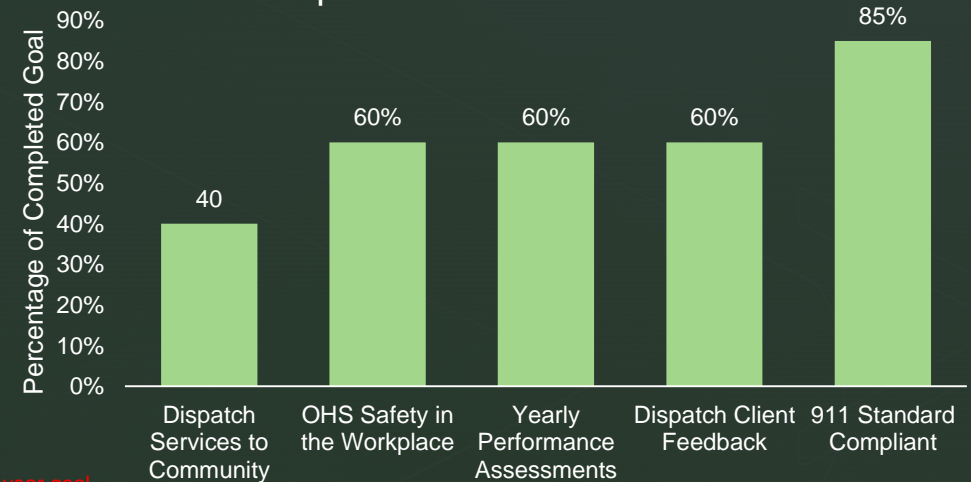
Community Collaboration Priorities



Community Awareness Priorities



People and Technical Priorities



Each graph represents percentage completed of 5 year goal.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



HUMAN RESOURCES

Police Operational Strength

- 15 (Authorized)
- 15 (Actual)

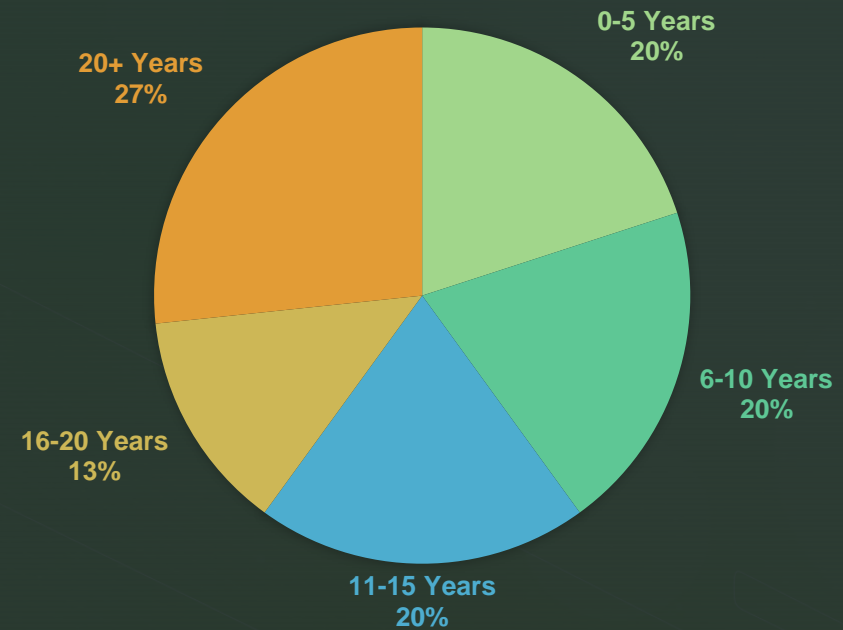
Demographics – Gender

- 2 Female
- 13 Male

Background of Officers

- 12 Caucasian
- 2 Asian
- 1 FNMI

MEMBERS YEARS OF SERVICE



HUMAN RESOURCES

Staff

- Public Safety Communications Manager -1
- Communications Operators
 - Fulltime position – 4
 - Casual position – 3
- Administrative Assistant - 1
- Community Standards Unit Support
 - Part time Students – 2
- Guards (Casual) – 4
- Numerous Volunteers



HUMAN RESOURCES

Alberta Emergency Service Medals

- Linda Hall – Communications Operator – 12 Years Service
- Sandra Jackson – Communications Operator – 12 Years Service

Town of Taber Milestones

- Sgt. Steve Meggison – 20 Years
- Sgt. Howard Kehler – 20 Years
- Sr. Cst. Mat Champagne -15 years
- Sr. Cst. David Dube – 10 Years

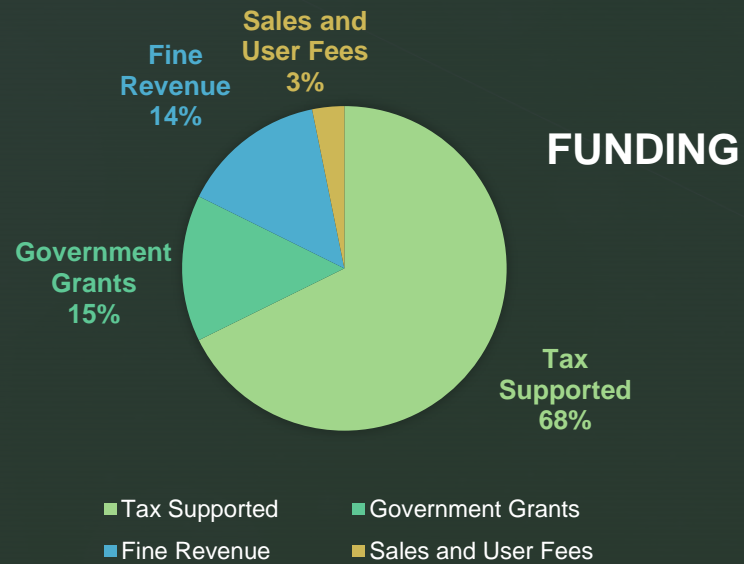




BUDGET 2018

FUNDING

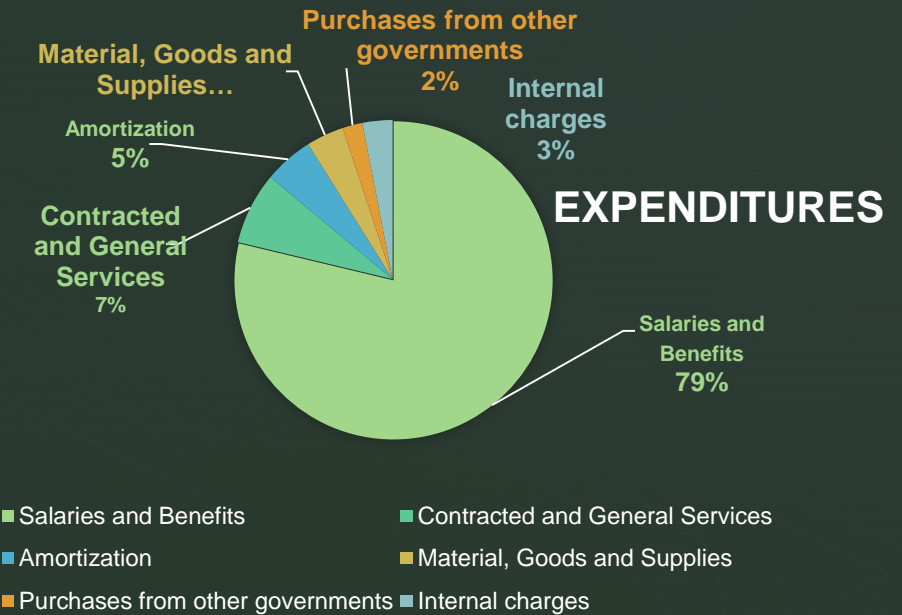
Tax Supported	2,557,946
Government Grants	551,832
Fine Revenue	547,500
Sales and user fees	120,584
Total	3,777,862



EXPENSES

Salaries and Benefits	2,974,522
Contracted and general services	277,039
Amortization	190,001
Material, goods and supplies	144,700
Purchases from other governments	76,000
Internal Charges	115,600
Total	3,777,862

In 2018 the Taber Police Service actual expenses were \$3,564,874 which was \$212,988 under budget.



OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS - POLICING

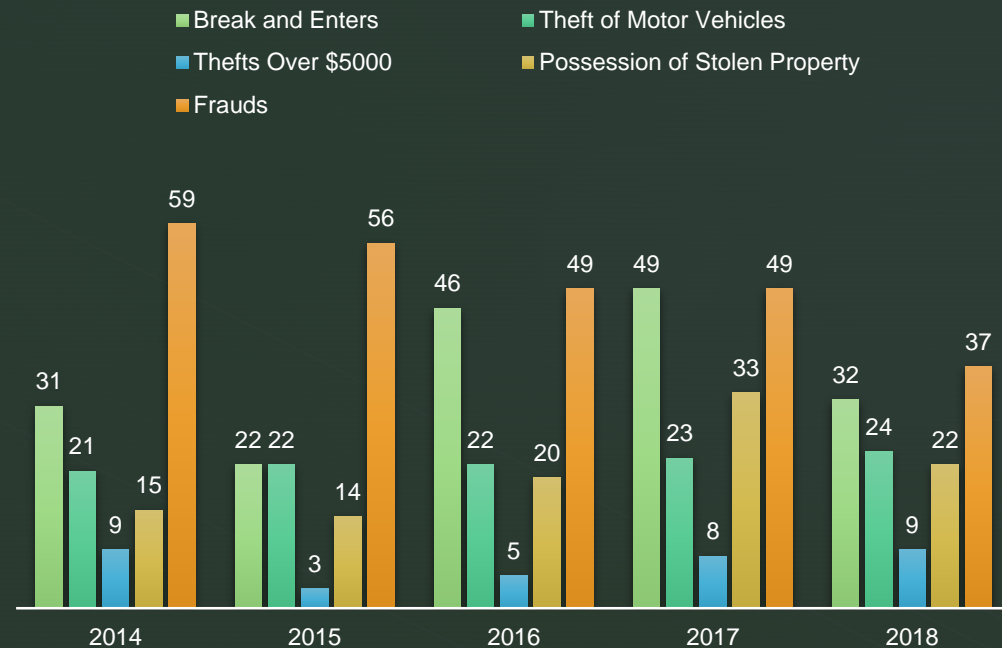
The Taber Police Service provides 24/7/365 policing to the Town of Taber. We have provided several pages of operational reports and statistics for your consideration. The first chart shows the number of occurrences investigated, the number of people held in custody and the average number of occurrences each officer dealt with in 2018.

	2016	2017	2018
Number of Police Occurrences	4816	5135	5132
Number of Persons Held in Police Custody	327	274	316
Police Occurrences Dealt With Per Officer	344	342	342

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS- PROPERTY OFFENCES

There was an overall 20% decrease in Property Offences in 2018, which followed a 20% increase in 2017. The previous two year period represented a 49% increase in Property Offences. This year marks the first year in a three year period where this offence category has observed a decline in numbers. There were 320 property related offences reported in 2016, 384 reports in 2017 and 309 reports in 2018.

Property Offences 2014 - 2018



OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – CLEARANCE RATES

Clearance rates are often used as an indicator of how efficient a police service is at solving reports of crime. There are many limitations to only using clearance rates as an indicator, but for our purposes the following chart provides the community with a report as to how the Taber Police Service is doing compared to other small communities.

Weighted Clearance Rate, By Police Service, in Alberta. CANSIM Table 252-0088 (Selected). Statistics Canada.

Geography ⁴	Statistics	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
		Number				
Camrose, Alberta, municipal [48015]	Weighted clearance rate ^{5 6}	60.46	62.10	56.01	58.11	55.91
Lacombe, Alberta, municipal [48052]	Weighted clearance rate ^{5 6}	48.13	40.65	40.82	39.73	41.27
Taber, Alberta, municipal [48088]	Weighted clearance rate ^{5 6}	61.64	59.97	60.57	61.61	59.73
Brooks, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal [48708]	Weighted clearance rate ^{5 6}	53.82	52.84	58.51	53.83	47.96
Taber, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, rural [48826]	Weighted clearance rate ^{5 6}	51.02	53.63	63.08	48.72	38.44

The weighted clearance rate is based on the same principles as the Police Reported Crime Severity Index (PRCSI), whereby more serious offences are assigned a higher “weight” than less serious offences. For example, the clearing of homicides, robberies, or break and enters would represent a greater contribution to the overall weighted clearance rate value than the clearing of minor theft, mischief or disturbing the peace.

The weighted clearance rate is not available for police services or detachments with populations less than 1,000. Data for police services or detachments with population less than 5,000 should be used with caution.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – TRAFFIC SAFETY

Traffic safety education and traffic enforcement are priorities for the Taber Police Service. The Taber Police Service remains engaged in the Alberta Transportation Selected Traffic Enforcement Program which is a targeted enforcement and educational traffic safety initiative whose priority changes from month to month. Taber Police Service officers continue to be diligent in enforcing the Traffic Safety Act and other traffic related statutes, and investigate collisions.

The Taber Police Service continues to utilize Automated Vehicle Enforcement, otherwise known as photo radar. The following chart provides you with the results of our traffic safety program.

TRAFFIC SAFETY	2016	2017	2018
Police Officer Initiated Tickets	1635	2134	1633
Photo Radar	4429	3230	3581
Photo Radar Average Speed Over Speed Limit (kph)	18	18	17
Number of Collisions	126	143	148



OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – CONTROL TACTICS

Tracking police reports of incidents involving the use of controlled tactics is a manner by which police services can study its membership and their application of force. Evaluation of control tactics reports, and statistics, allow police to conduct oversight of applications of force that have occurred to allow for the identification of required training to improve officers' force responses in varying situations.

- In 2018 there were 30 police incidences involving force. Of these incidences, 7 resulted in an injury to the subject, while 2 resulted in an injury to the officer. All of the injuries sustained were minor in nature and did not require treatment with the exception of one where a subject required treatment due to broken glass on scene. The numbers for 2018 are elevated from 2017.





OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – COMMUNITY STANDARDS UNIT

2018 marked the first full year for the Community Standards Unit after its initiation in March of 2017. The mandate of Community Standards Officer (CSO) includes enforcement of community standards issues and provincial traffic offences. The CSO has full authority under the Criminal Code of Canada and applicable federal statutes to enforce both criminal and provincial acts.

During the summer months, the unit is supplemented with two summer students to assist in their duties. These students are generally criminal justice students from the Lethbridge College and they are employed through the step program.



Community Standards Unit Statistics – 2018

CSU Monthly Stats – 2018	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	2018
Calls for Service	23	23	25	21	39	42	39	48	19	25	21	23	348
Municipal Bylaw – Other	3	3	4	1	3	7	4	6	0	2	0	0	33
Bylaw Parking Offences	3	1	1	0	0	0	5	2	2	1	2	0	17
Items Lost and Found	2	2	1	1	1	3	0	3	2	3	3	1	22
Bylaw – Traffic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provincial Moving/Non-Moving	6	5	5	4	7	1	7	8	6	13	12	12	86
Total Notices issued	16	55	12	4	81	174	211	90	5	5	1	1	655



OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS - COMMUNICATIONS

Communications Operators are essential in emergency services. We have a dedicated group of Nationally Certified Emergency Police and Fire Dispatchers that provide communications and dispatch services to the Taber Police Service and many fire departments located with the MD of Taber.

Our Communications Operators do much more than simply dispatch. They are the first contact the Taber Police has for people making complaints, asking questions, or wanting help 24/7/365. Communications Operators are also responsible for handling complaints from the public, answering Town of Taber emergencies calls, all aspects of data entry and maintenance of police records systems, assisting the police in the laying of charges and creating court packages, etc.

Our Communications Operators are supervised by the Public Safety Communications Manager who reports to the Chief of Police.



OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS COMMUNICATIONS

911 Communications Center	
Total 911 calls	3090
Total Dispatched Calls	
Taber Fire	264
MD Taber Regional Fire	134
Vauxhall Fire	63
Hays Fire	15
Enchant Fire	15
Grassy Lake Fire	30

These statistics are from data captured from the Taber Police Service records management system, computer-aided dispatch system and manual accounts for 2018.

	Total Calls Answered	Answered within 15 Seconds		Answered Within 40 Seconds		Answered After 40 Seconds		Total Calls Abandoned
		Calls	%	Calls	%	Calls	%	
TPS 1	3090	3047	98.6	3065	99.2	25	0.8	500

NFPA Standards require that **Ninety-five percent** of alarms received on emergency lines shall be answered within 15 seconds, and **Ninety-nine percent** of alarms shall be answered within 40 seconds.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

The Taber School Resource Officer Program has been established in partnership with the Taber Police Service, Horizon School Division, and Holy Spirit School Division. The program provides schools within the community of Taber with a School Resource Officer (SRO) whose sole responsibility is to provide a variety of problem solving resources, provide law enforcement information and advice to students, parents and staff, and provide a positive police presence within each school. The program focuses on building positive relationships between police and members of the school community. The Taber School Resource Officer Program was developed to assist the Taber Police Service with its commitment to community-based policing. The daily duties of the SRO include: to provide a visible presence within the schools, focus on building positive interpersonal relationships between the police and individuals within the schools, maintain lines of communication with the school staff, students, parents, the community, and the police, identifying and resolving problems between students, the school staff, and the community. The regular duties of the SRO include, but are not limited to, providing presentations relating to social, legal, police-related subjects, drug trends and prevention, alcohol abuse, impaired driving, social media safety, bullying, and several other topics. The SRO will act as a mentor to many students as well as interact with students in a manner that will foster a positive relationship. The SRO will partner with teachers, counselors, parents and other community social groups when required to conduct risk assessments and threat assessments.

Cst. Nguyen is currently in the position as of September 2018.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

In 2018 the Taber Police Service received a total of 5 Professional Standards files.

Citizen contacts, which are informal concerns raised by a member of the public, are resolved through discussion and mediation. In 2018, there were 2 citizen contacts that were both resolved informally.

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 Alberta Police Act.

Allegations that are serious or sensitive in nature are sent to the Solicitor General's Alberta Serious Incident Response Team or the originating agency. We have had no complaints that have been investigated by this team.

POLICE COMPLAINTS	2016	2017	2018
Professional Standards Files	5	6	5
Citizen Contacts	4	4	2
Totals	9	10	7

DISPOSITIONS

- The 2 citizen contacts were resolved informally
- 1 External Complaint is at the appeal process
- 1 External Complaint resulted in no action
- 1 External Complaint is still under investigation
- 1 External Complaint was sustained in part

CRIMINAL/STATUTORY COMPLAINTS

- 1 External Complaint was withdrawn





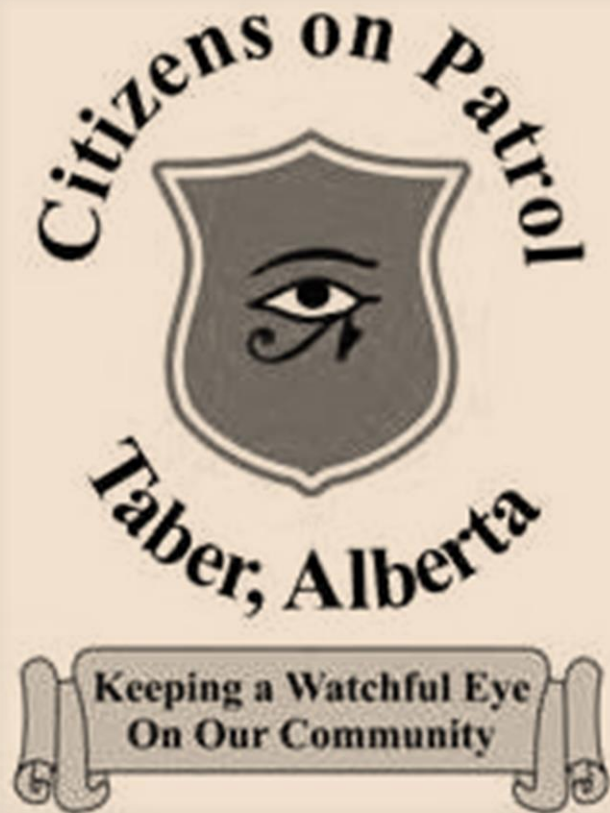
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

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 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. The list of examples of what members of the Taber Police Service are involved with is lengthy and ever growing.

GROUPS WE ARE INVOLVED WITH

- Legion Ceremonies
- Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR)
- Taber Minor Football
- Taber Rebels Football
- Taber Police Association's Annual Policeman's Ball
- The Veterans Dinner
- Clearview Lodge Dinner
- Apex Youth Awards
- Little Cops Camping
- Notagawa Society
- Wise Owls
- The Coldest Night of the Year
- Taber/Vauxhall Victims Services
- Taber Community Against Drugs
- Taber Community Action and Prevention Society
- Safe Haven: Board Member
- COP Cards
- Crime Stoppers
- Taber and District Soccer Association
- Apex Youth Awards
- Air Cadets
- Speech Judging Contests
- Citizens on Patrol

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



Partnerships are essential in providing adequate and effective policing in a community. At the Taber Police Service, we work collaboratively with governmental and community organizations to tackle various community concerns and investigations.

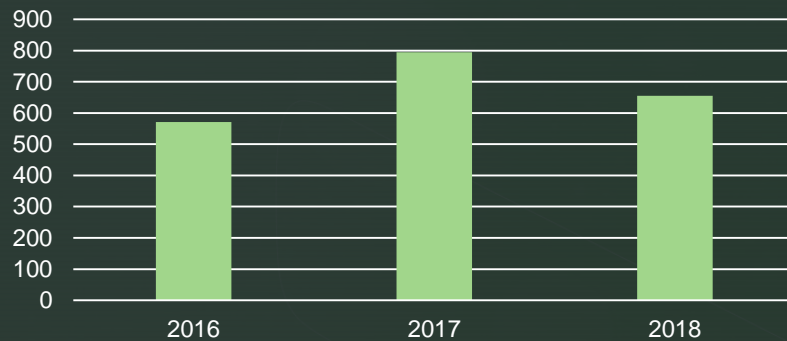
One of the community groups that fosters community involvement and partnerships is the Taber Citizens on Patrol Program (COP). The current Taber Citizens on Patrol Association (COP) consists of 16 active members that play an integral role in assisting the Taber Police Service with crime detection and prevention.

The Taber COP is the only COP Association in Alberta that is attached to a municipal police service. All other COP Associations in Alberta are associated with their local RCMP detachments. This provides a unique opportunity for the members of the Taber COP. Taber COP members participate in community patrols, volunteer events, fundraising and recruitment activities among several other community activities.

Cst. Valgardson is currently assigned the responsibility of working along side the Taber COP Program as the TPS liaison. Cst. Valgardson regularly attends COP meetings where he provides them with training and insight into crime hot spots within the Town of Taber where they can focus their patrols.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Total Auxiliary Volunteer Hours



One of the community groups that fosters community involvement and partnerships is the Taber Police Service Auxiliary Officer Program. This program is an opportunity for the Taber Police Service to complement our established member strength. It also allows for positive contact with members of the community. Auxiliary officers participate in police training alongside regular patrol members. The current complement of auxiliary officers are citizens of the Town of Taber who are employed as a teacher at a local Taber school, a trades persons who works within our community, a manager of a financial institution, and a Provincial employee.

Sr. Cst. Dube is currently assigned the responsibility of supervising the auxiliary officer program. This supervision requires the scheduling of shifts, arranging of required training, and equipping these members with the tools and uniform required for their duties.

The 4 TPS auxiliary members completed approximately 655 combined volunteer hours in 2018.

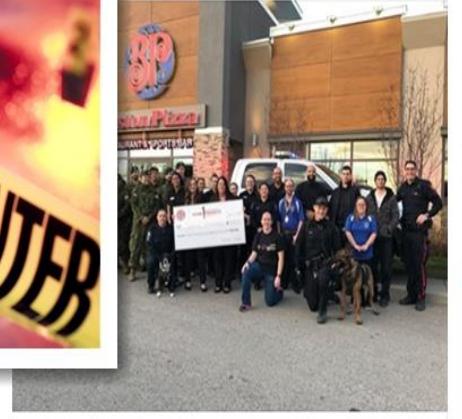
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



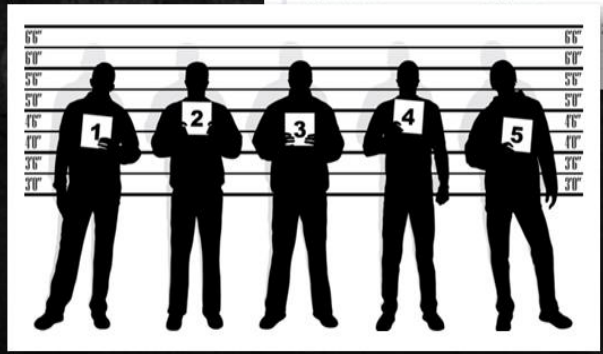




3,010 People Reached 885 Engagements



1,935 People Reached 399 Engagements



BREAKING NEWS

ip as meth-fuel... Boost Post

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media is an effective way to spread messages quickly throughout our community when the time arises. Messages pertaining to high-profile incidents, public safety concerns or community involvement activities are regularly posted to keep the public informed of our actions.

TPS Facebook Activity	2017 (JUN 1 – NOV 30)	2018
Total users reached	262,381	303,420
Total combined likes	6,068	11,541
Total followers gained	338	464
Total posts	53	98

TABER POLICE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT

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

