



TABER POLICE SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



TABLE OF CONTENTS

■ 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
	■ 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

There are many hats you have to wear as the Chair of the Taber Municipal Police Commission, but before I talk about our police commission, I would like to first take off my hat to thank long term serving Police Commissioner and Chair Ken Holst. Chair Holst served for 9 years and his dedication to the police service and the many volunteer hours he spent governing are a credit to him as a person. Your leadership on Commission will be missed.

As can be seen above, 2019 was a transition year for the Commission; we welcomed a new Commission member and one moved away. It was my first year, and with the departure of Mr. Holst, I was elected to represent the Commission as the Chair and the Public Complaints Director. I have enjoyed the learning and understanding that I have gleaned as a new Commissioner, and have come to respect the complex structures of policing, governance, and the operations of municipal policing in Alberta. Although the Taber Police Service is the smallest police service in Alberta, everything that crosses the desk of our Chief is the same as our fellow agencies next door. For this, the business of policing, policy development, funding, and leadership all need to be in place. I commend Chief Abela and his team for keeping our community safe, not only in what they do, but also in the special way in which they police this community.

The five public members of our Police Commission are volunteers and take time out of their busy schedules to act in this important role. I thank Wanda Osburne-Campbell, John MacDonald, Terry Zucht, and Danny Remfert for their contribution. I would be remiss if I did not also thank the Commission Secretary, Mr. Armfelt and Ms. Kerr for their support and administrative services they provide the Commission. I also want to thank our two members of Council assigned to our Commission. Councillor Brewin and Councillor Strojwas share with our other elected officials the successes and pressures our police service faces in the complex challenges of modern day policing.

I look forward to the coming year and congratulate the Taber Police Service for achieving their goals as found within our strategic plan in 2019. You have done so professionally, within budget, while keeping our community safe. I look forward to 2020!

Martin Sorensen
Chair
Taber Municipal Police Commission



2019 was a year of growth for the Taber Police Service. Relying on our business plan, data, and the challenges of reacting to the pressures of addiction in our community, the Commission recommended to Council an increase to the compliment strength. As a result, two officers will be hired in May of 2020 to ensure we maintain the services we provide our community.

Another celebration for 2019 was the Taber Police Service provincially funded participation in the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) Combined Forces Special Operations Unit (CFSEU). The Board of ALERT approved this position in November of 2019, and the Taber Police will second an officer to that unit around April of 2020. Our input into the day-to-day operational activities in ALERT in our region may significantly impact rural crime in and near our community.

There are certain drivers of crime and we know that the influx of crystal methamphetamine in Taber has had a negative impact on our community. Thefts and frauds commonly escalate as addiction to powerful stimulants increase in communities. This also affects police response, especially use of force incidents when police deal with people intoxicated by meth. As the Taber Police, we work with our community partners to address the concerns on addiction. Taber Community Against Drugs and the Taber Community Action and Prevention Society are excellent policing partners and strive to build community capacity around community wellness and safety. I can't say enough about all of our volunteers and partners that contribute to the mission of the Taber Police, our Auxiliary Police, Wise Owls, Citizens on Patrol, and Victims Services.

It is without hesitation that I contribute the successes of the Taber Police Service to the people who work for this organization. Our Communication Operators are the lifeline to community and police safety and do an awesome job getting police and fire resources to where they are needed. Our police officers are well trained, professional and competent. I enjoy leading them as they go about their duties each day. Policing is all about attitude and I believe we have found the right attitude, within our community policing philosophy, to ensure we keep our community safe.

Dr. Graham Abela
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

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

TABER POLICE SERVICE



2018 Taber Police Association Ball



5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

2016

In 2016 the Taber Police Service conducted a 5 year strategic plan to review our priorities and establish our goals for the next five 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 Service membership.

2021

Core services and key strategic priorities were identified within the strategic plan. This five year plan is divided in to four 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 progress in achieving these goals.

5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

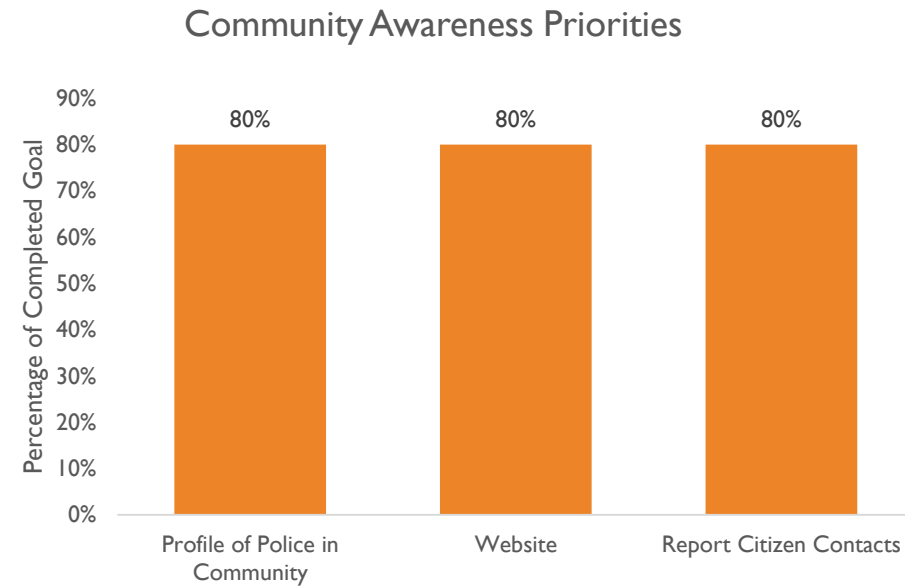
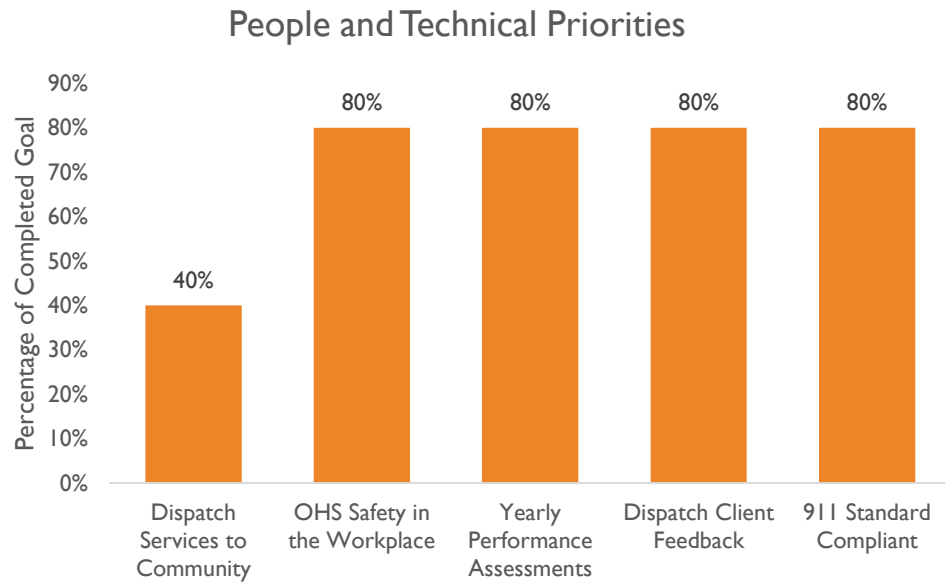
CORE SERVICES

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

KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

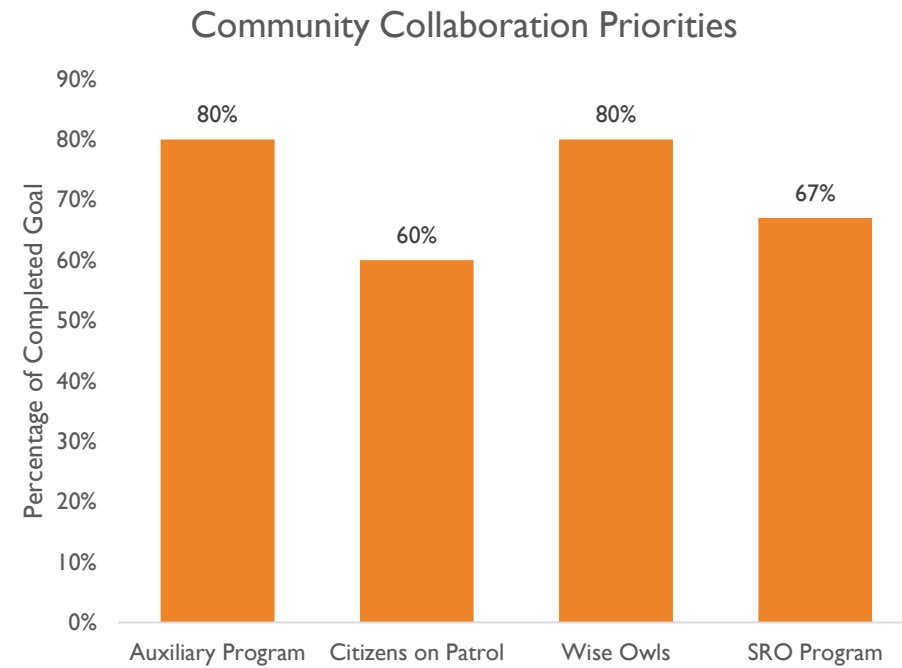
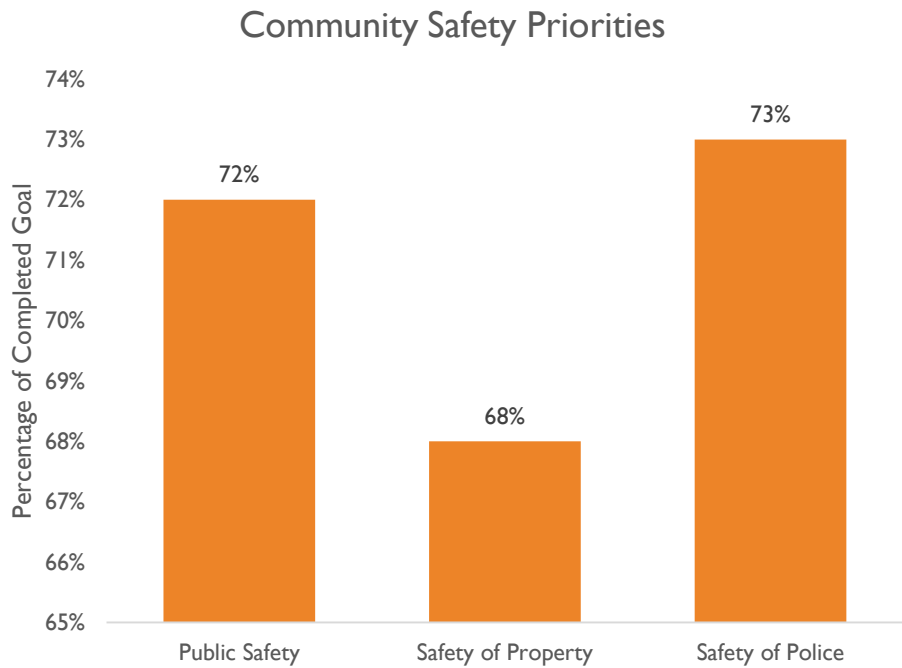
- Community Safety
- Community Collaboration
- Community Awareness
- People and Technical Professionalism

Refer to 2016-2021 Business Plan for details



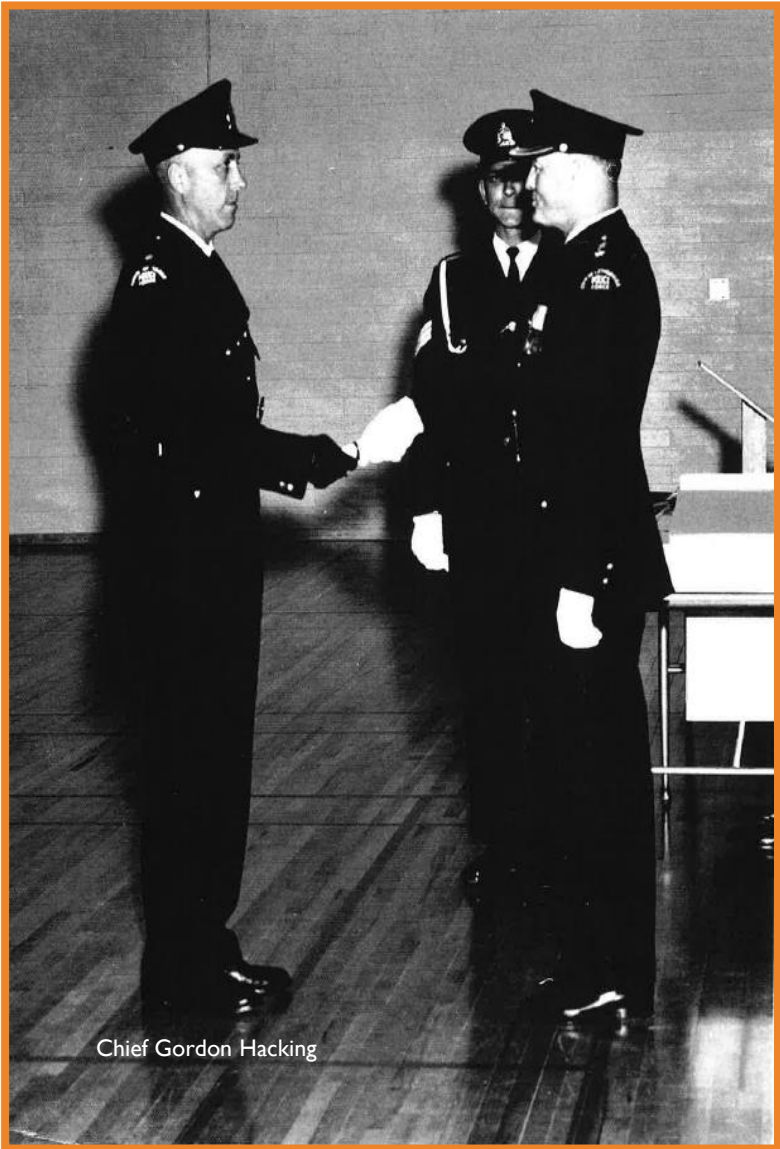
Each graph represents the percentage towards completion of the 5 year goal.

5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN – KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



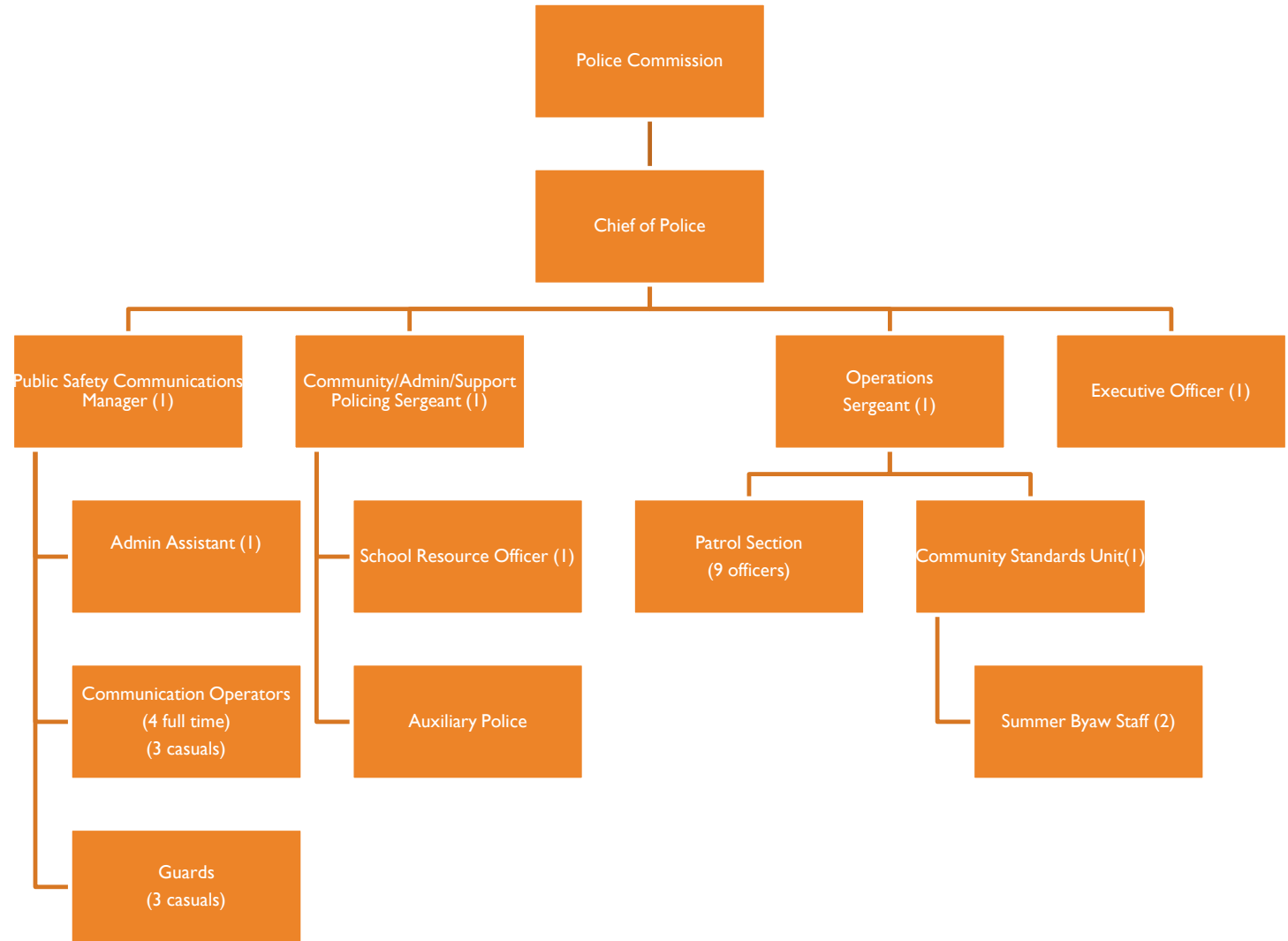
Each graph represents the percentage towards completion of the 5 year goal.

5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN – KEY STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



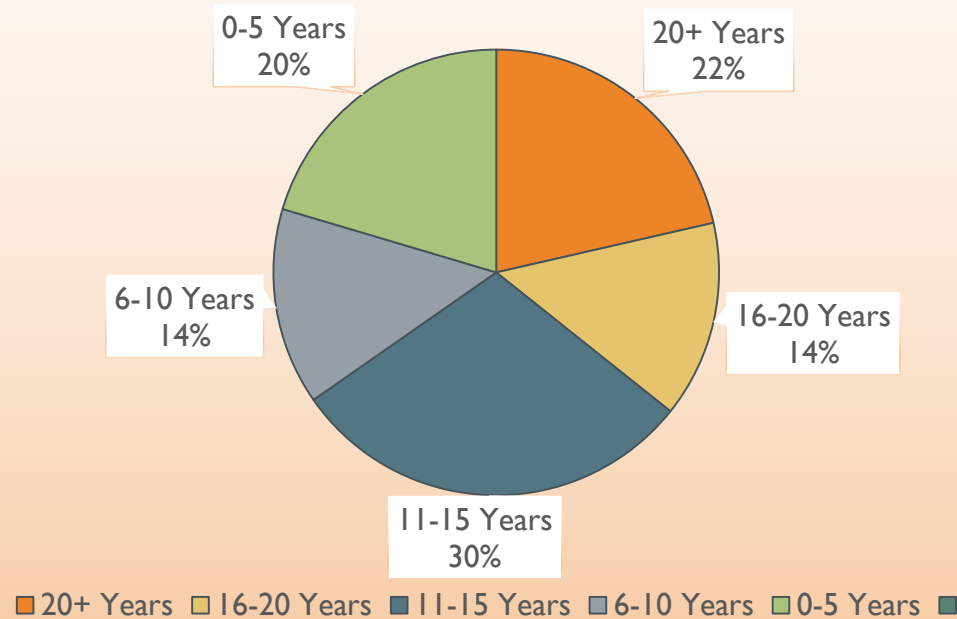
Chief Gordon Hacking

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



HUMAN RESOURCES

Members Years of Service



Police Operational Strength

15 (Authorized)

14 (Actual)

Demographics – Gender

2 Female

12 Male

Background of Officers

1 Caucasian

2 Asian

1 FNMI

30%

Of the TPS officers are between
11-15 years of service



CIVILIAN STAFF

Public Safety Communications Manager I

Communications Operators

Fulltime position 4

Casual position 3

Administrative Assistant 1

Community Standards Support

Part time students 2

Guards (Casual) 4

Numerous Volunteers



HUMAN RESOURCES

Alberta Emergency Service Medals

32 Year Award

Sgt. Howard Kehler

22 Year Award

Sgt. Steve Meggison

Sr. Cst. Nick Kutanzi

Sr. Cst. Dave Gyepesi

12 Year Award

Sr. Cst. Andrew Evanson

Sr. Cst. Jason Vowles

Sr. Cst. Tim Johnson

Cst. Christopher Nguyen

Retirements

Sr. Cst. Nick Kutanzi



Chief Abela



Medal Presentation



Taber Police Commission

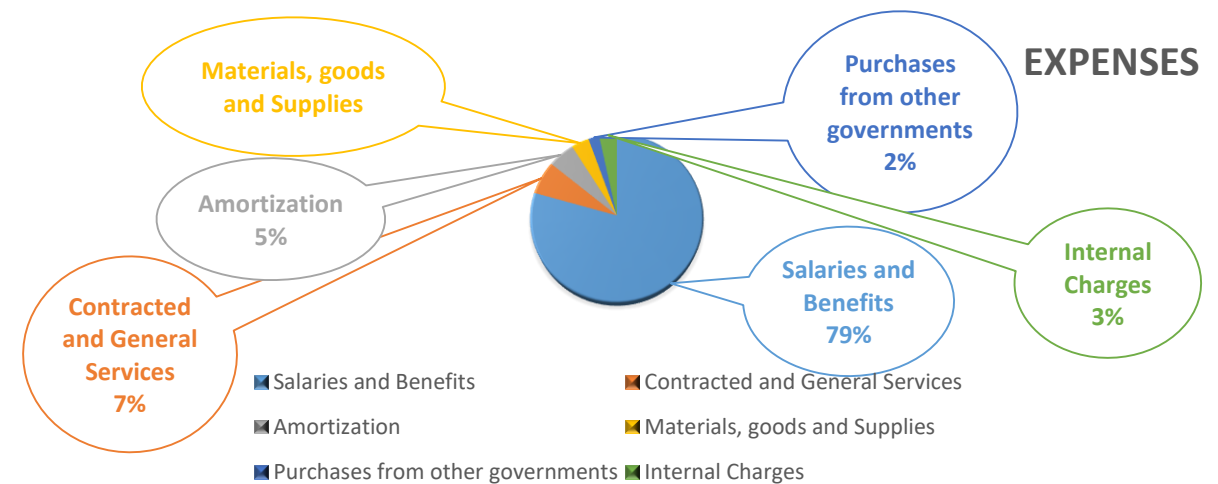
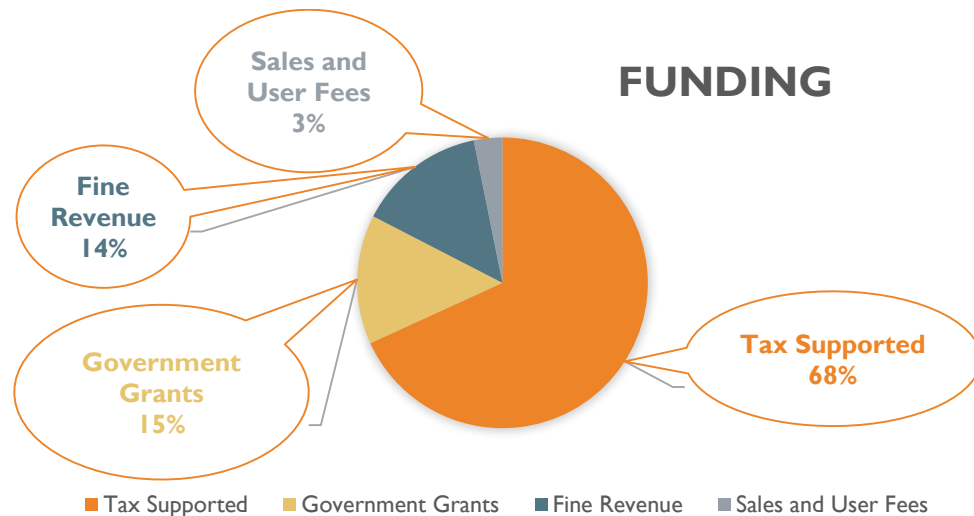


BUDGET 2019 – FUNDING AND EXPENSES

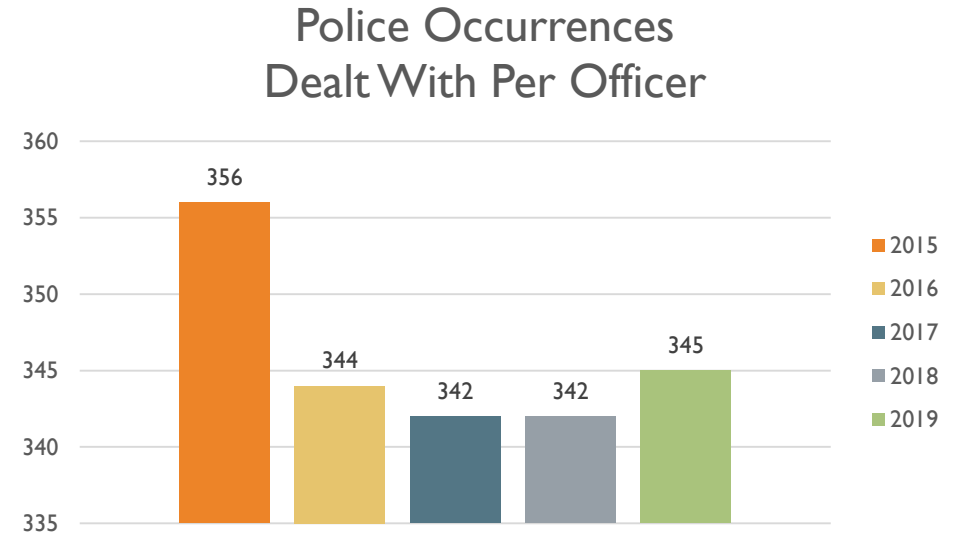
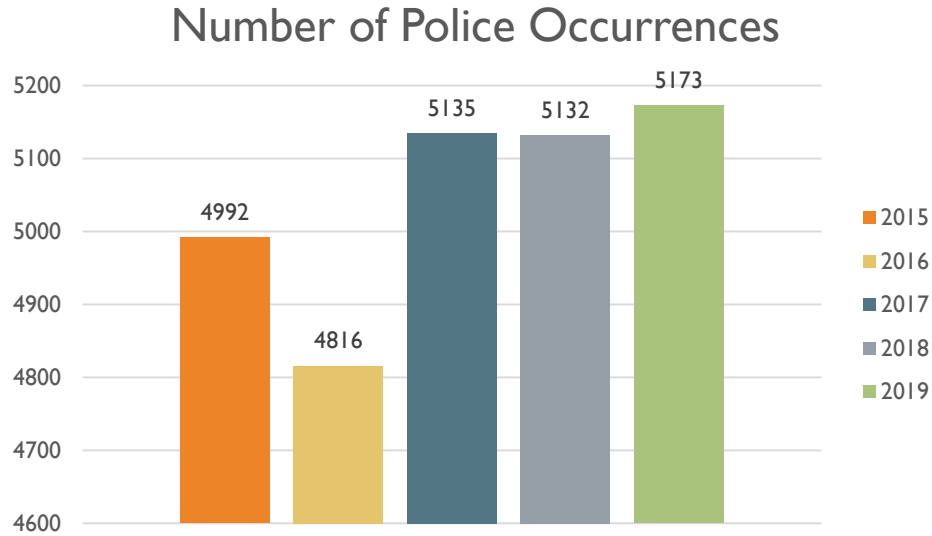
Funding	2019
Tax Supported	2,617,221.00
Government Grants	552,332.00
Fine Revenue	547,500.00
Sales and User Fees	121,733.00
Total	3,838,786.00

Expenses	2019
Salaries and Benefits	2,829,189.00
Contracted and General Services	230,317.00
Amortization	185,557.00
Materials, goods and supplies	123,204.00
Purchases from other governments	75,222.00
Internal Charges	121,384.00
Total	3,564,873.00

* In 2019 the Taber Police Service actual expenses were 3,753,296.00 which was under budget by 85,490.00



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. These charts show the number of police occurrences investigated over a five year period and the number of occurrences dealt with per officer.



Cornfest Joint Services Patrol



2019

Charge Outcome	Number of Charges
Accused Admitted Guilt	16
Cases Withdrawn / Plea Bargains	98
Found Not Guilty / Charge Dismissed	2
Found Guilty by Provincial Court Judge	9
Guilty Plea to a Lesser or Other Offence	10
Plea - Guilty	456
Stay of Proceedings / No plea / Not Guilty	20
Process Transferred	115
Still Before the Courts	680
Total	1408

Clearance rates represent the amount of criminal incidents solved by the police. The charge disposition is what has happened with the charge once it has been to the court system.

A Stay of Proceedings means the legal process has been halted for up to one year.

67%

Persons found or plead guilty

33%

Charges that were Withdrawn or Stayed.

3.77

Average number of charges per case

62%

Canadian percentage of charges guilty pleas 2017/2018.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – CLEARANCE RATES

Geography ⁴	Weighted clearance rate ^{5 6}				
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
	Number				
Alberta [48] (map)	41.52	37.08	37.28	35.97	35.73
Camrose, Alberta, municipal [48015]	62.10	56.01	58.11	55.75	55.46
Lacombe, Alberta, municipal [48052]	40.65	40.82	39.73	41.08	54.26
Taber, Alberta, municipal [48088]	59.97	60.57	61.61	58.82	60.38
Brooks, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, municipal [48708]	52.84	58.51	53.83	48.36	54.85
Taber, Alberta, Royal Canadian Mounted Police, rural [48826]	53.63	63.08	48.72	39.48	38.60

60.38%

TPS - Highest Clearance Rate in Alberta

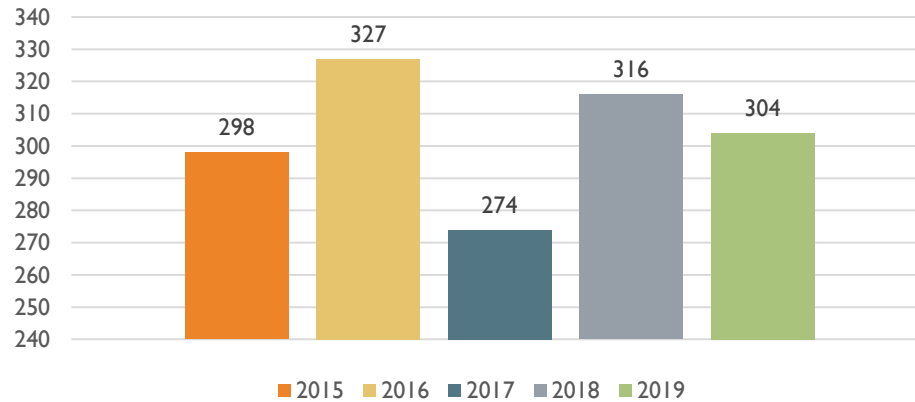


24.65%

Above Provincial Average

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS - POLICING

Number of Persons Held
In Police Custody

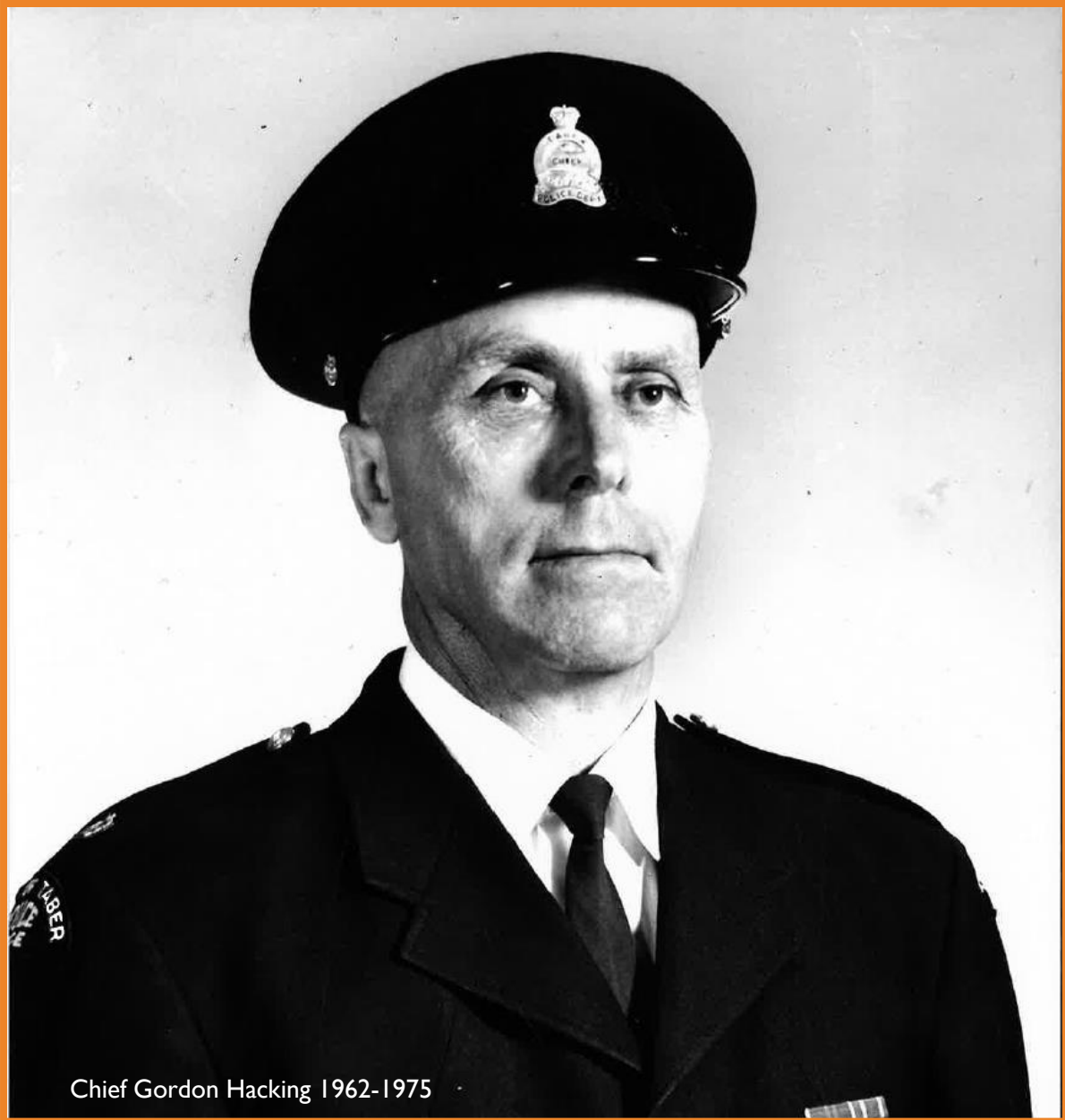


12

Reduction in the number of
persons in custody from 2018-
2019

1822

The number of people held in
custody over a 5 year period.
(2014-2019)



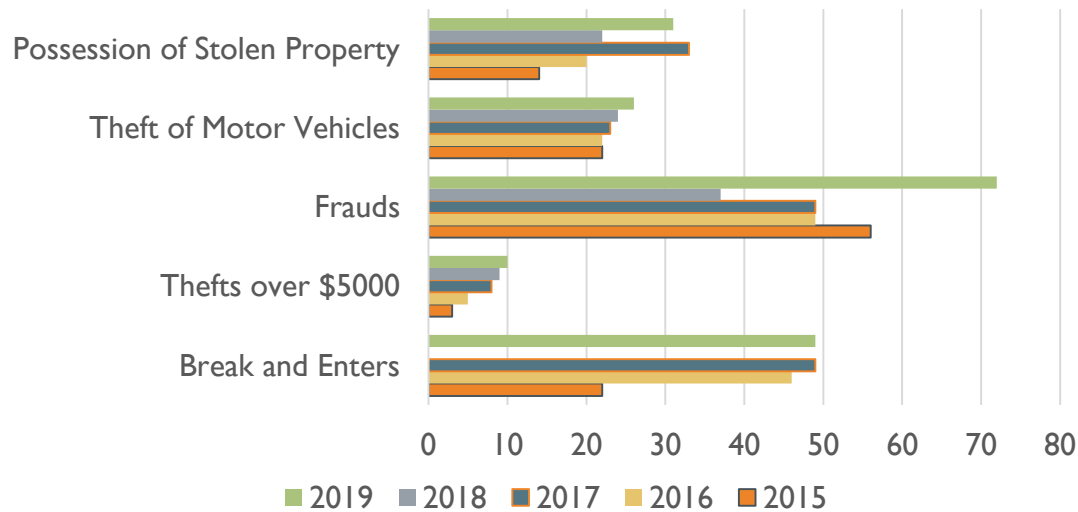
Chief Gordon Hacking 1962-1975



Chief Joseph Jackson – 1950-1951

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – PROPERTY OFFENCES

Property Offences 2015-2019



Property related offences reported:

2015 - 258
 2016 - 320
 2017 - 384
 2018 - 309
 2019 - 430



39%

Increase in all Property offences in 2019

95%

Largest increase - Frauds

8%

Smallest increase – Theft of Motor Vehicles

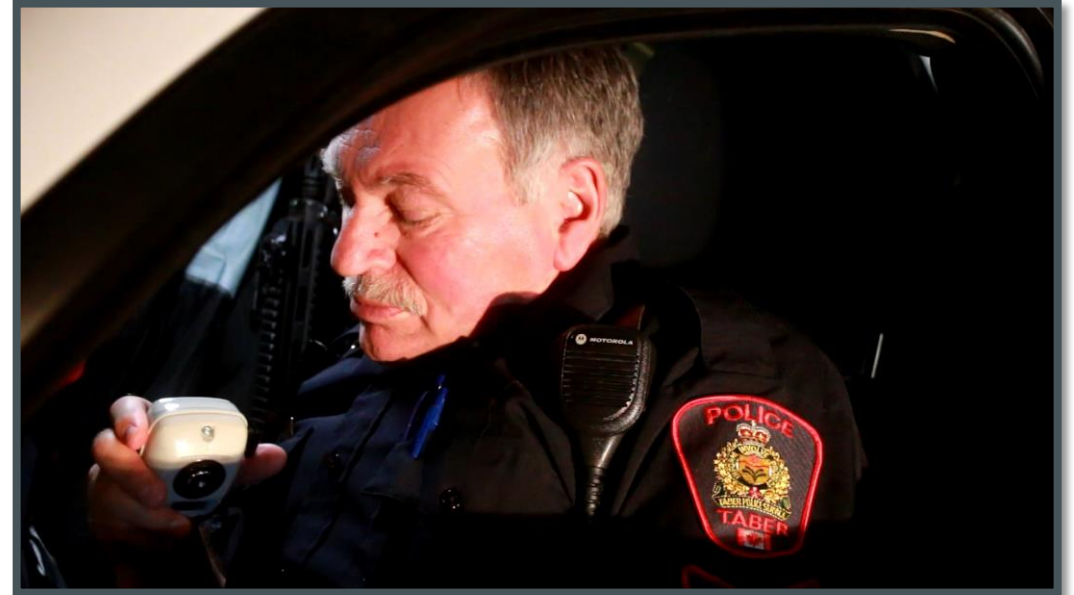
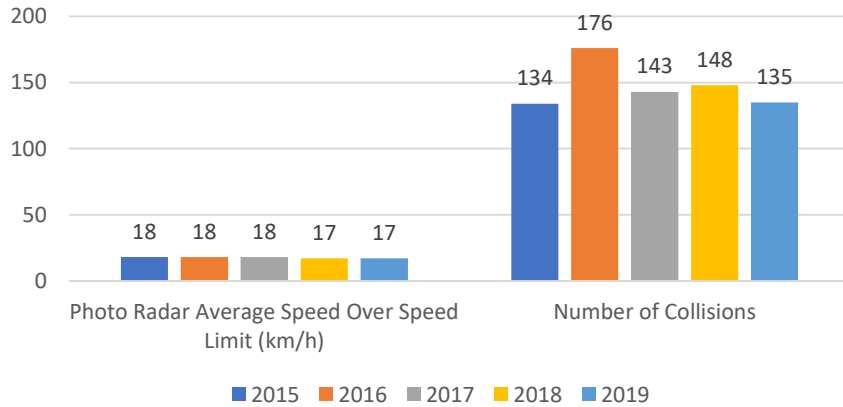
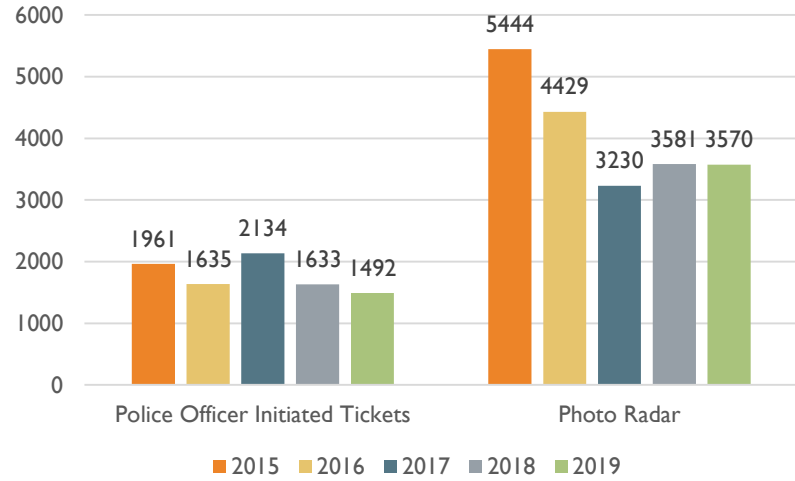
430

Offences reported 2019



2019 Special Olympics Polar Plunge

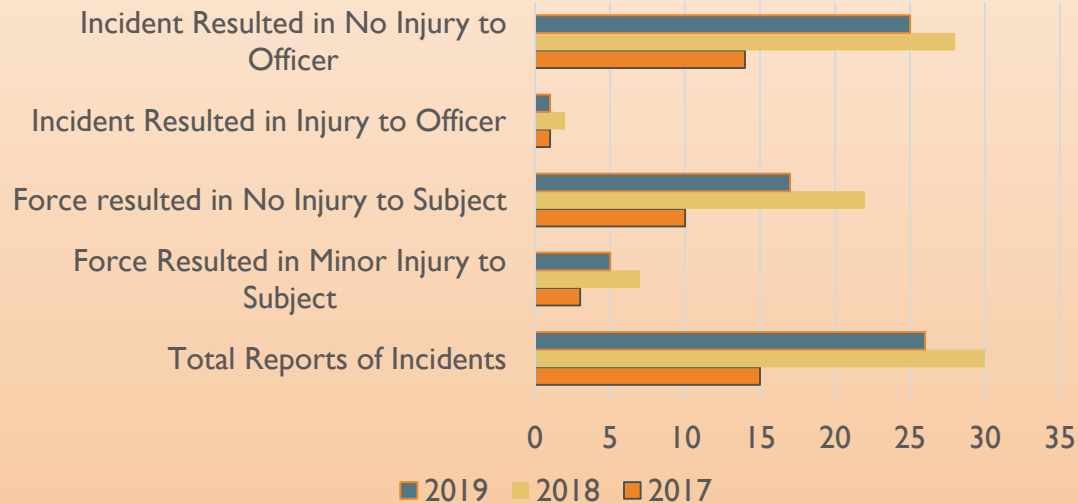




OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – TRAFFIC SAFETY

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – CONTROL TACTICS

Control Tactics Reports



In 2019 there were 26 police incidences involving force. Of these incidences, 7 resulted in minor injury to the subject, while 1 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 2.

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – COMMUNITY STANDARDS UNIT

CSU Monthly Stats – 2019	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	2019
Calls for Service	27	24	20	32	45	57	55	58	42	23	29	15	427
Municipal Bylaw – Other	0	1	2	6	5	5	4	1	1	2	2	2	31
Bylaw Parking Offences	1	1	2	1	4	5	2	10	2	6	3	3	40
Items Lost and Found	5	3	2	4	4	11	13	5	4	1	10	5	56
Bylaw – Traffic	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provincial Moving/Non-Moving	8	4	5	2	3	6	4	14	9	17	20	9	101
Total Notices issued	4	12	1	7	99	64	58	46	18	2	26	16	289



19%

Increase In Calls for Service 2018-2019

43%

Increase in Bylaw Parking Offences 2018-2019

15%

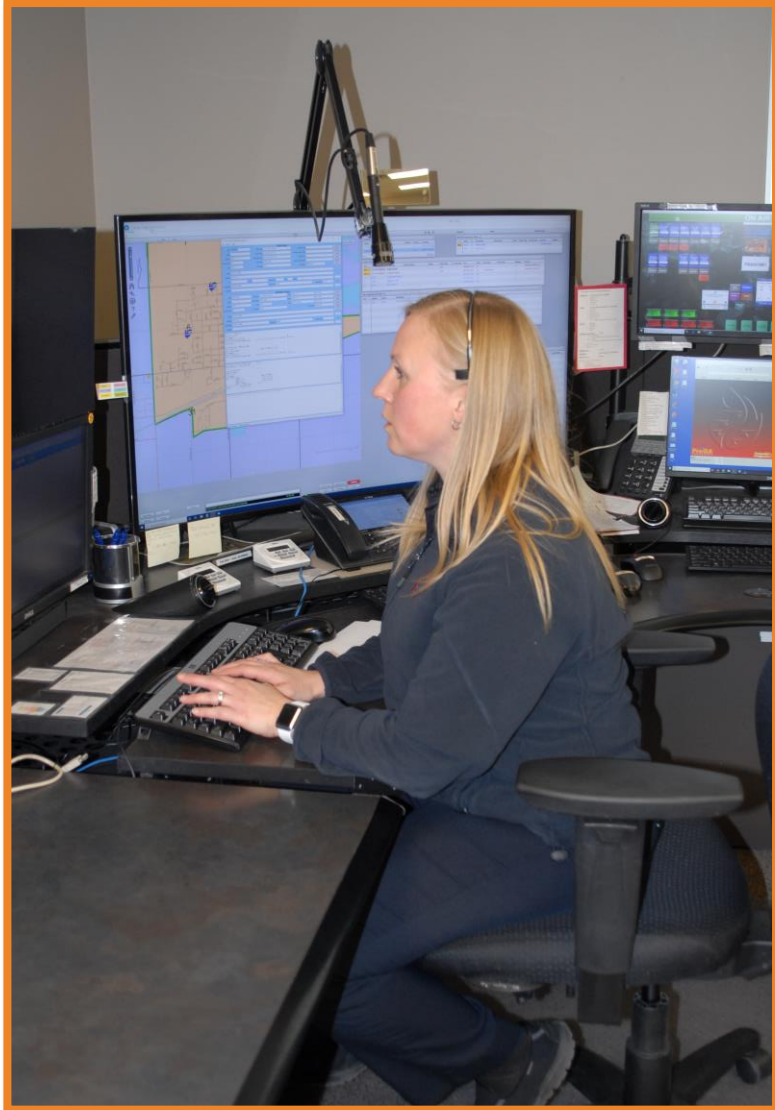
Increase in Provincial Moving Offences 2018-2019

56%

Decrease in Total Notices Issued 2018-2019

2019 marked the second 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, but this is not their primary function.

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.



OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS - COMMUNICATIONS

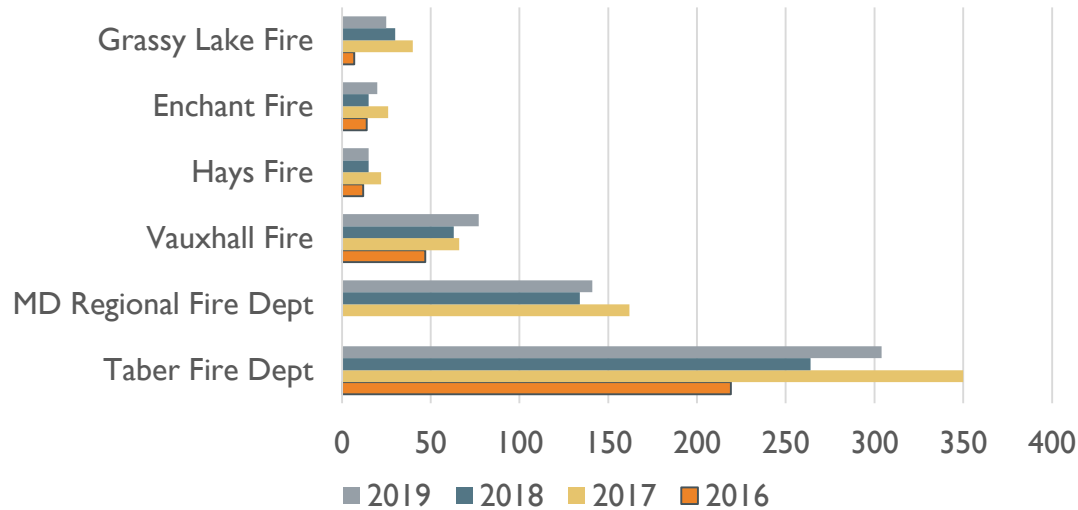
Communication Operators are essential in 911 and emergency services. We have a dedicated group of nationally certified emergency police and fire dispatchers that provide communications and dispatch services to the Taber Police Service, Municipal District Community Peace Officers, Private Security partners and many fire departments located within 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 answering Town of Taber emergency 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.

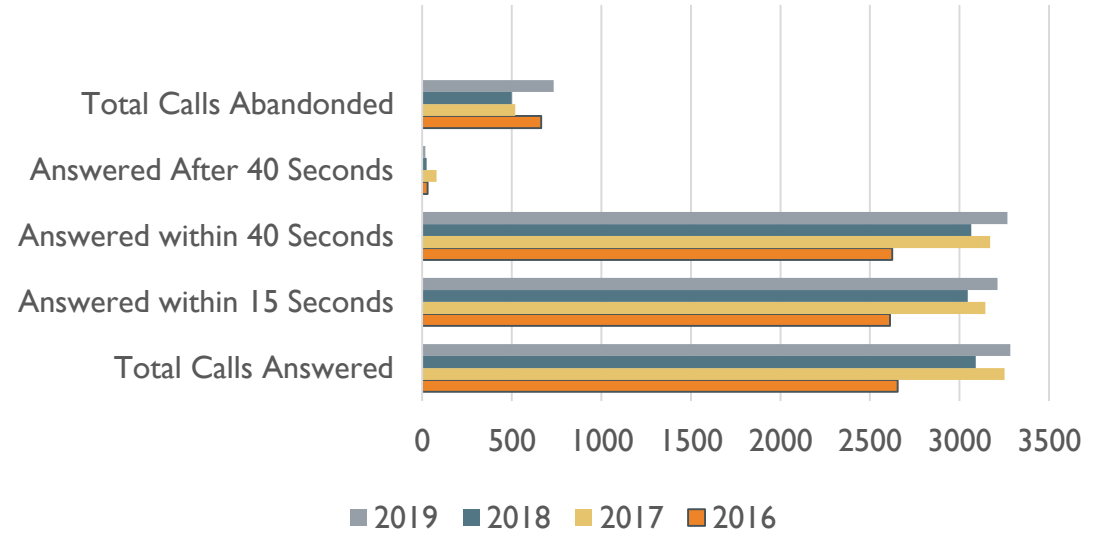
Our communications operators are supervised by the Public Safety Communications Manager who reports to the Chief of police

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS – COMMUNICATIONS

Total Dispatched Calls



Call Answering



These statistics are from data captured from the Taber Police Service records management system, computer-aided dispatch system and manual accounts for 2018 and 2019.

97.8%

Answered Calls Within
15 Seconds

99.5%

Answered Calls Within
40 Seconds

2019

.005%

Answered Call After 40
Seconds

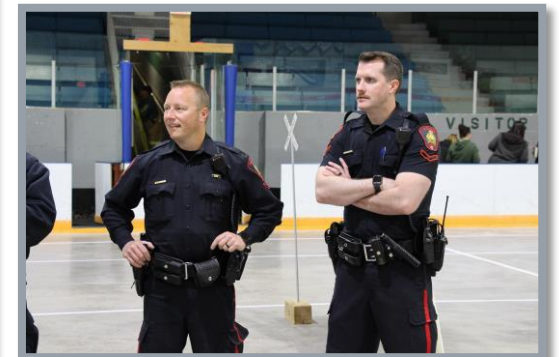
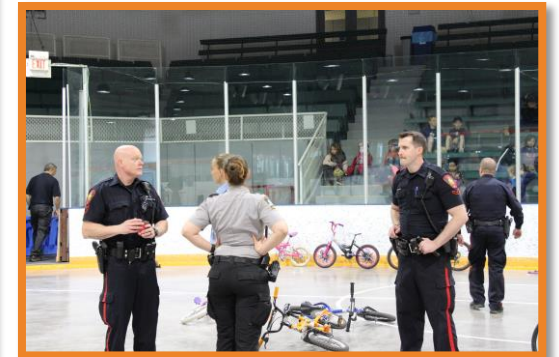
3284

Total Calls Answered

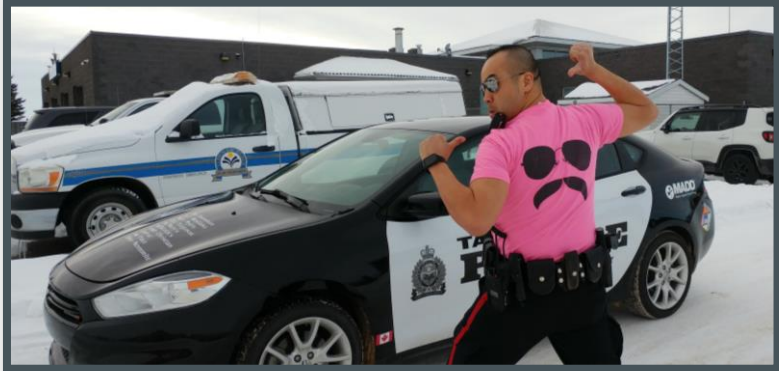
NFPA Standards require that 95% of alarms received on emergency lines shall be answered within 15 seconds, and 99% of alarms shall be answered within 40 seconds.



2019 Annual Bike Rodeo



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER





School Resource Officer Survey 2019



These statistics have been retrieved from a survey disseminated to school teachers and administrators in April 2019. Based on 29 respondents representing 10 schools within Taber.

2019

100 %

Satisfaction with the SRO's professionalism

85.2%

Satisfaction with the promptu attendance of the SRO

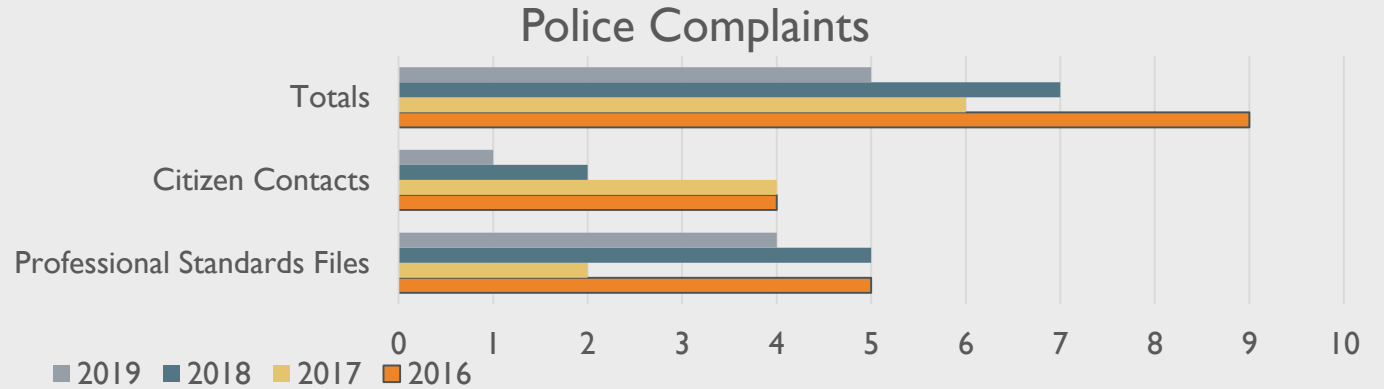
96.3%

Satisfaction with timely communication with SRO

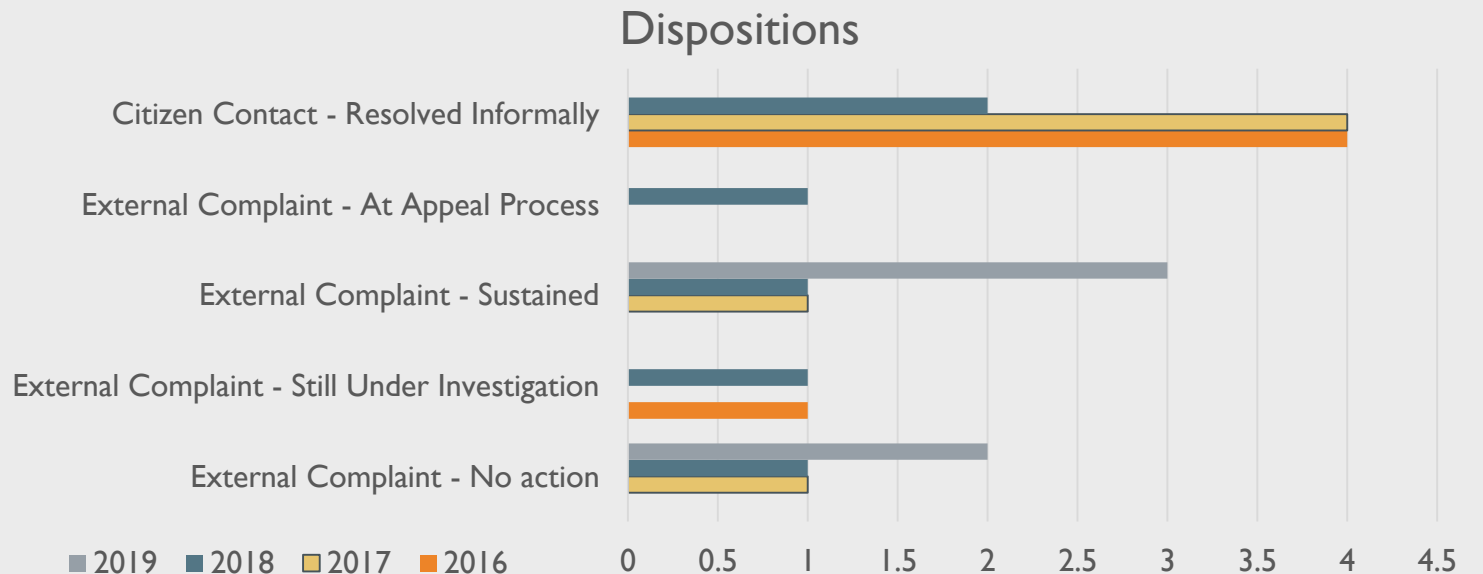
81.5%

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

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS



In 2019 the Taber Police Service received a total of 4 Professional Standards Files. Citizen contacts, which are informal concerns raised by a member of the public, are resolved through discussion and mediation. In 2019, there was 1 citizen contact that was 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 Solicitors General’s Alberta Serious Incident Response Team or the originating agency. We have had no complaints that have been investigated by this team.



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.

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



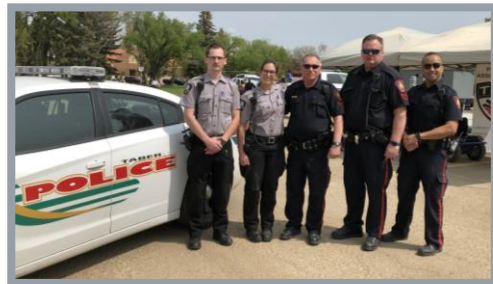
Little Cops Camping



Cops, Pops and Pizza – Special Olympics



Alberta Police Memorial



2019 Spark Fair



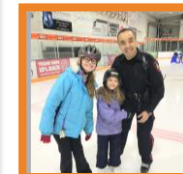
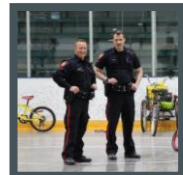
225 RCACS - Taber Comet (Air Cadets)

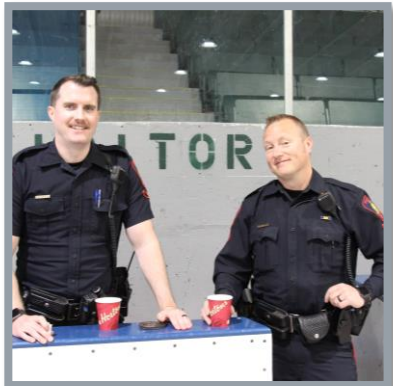
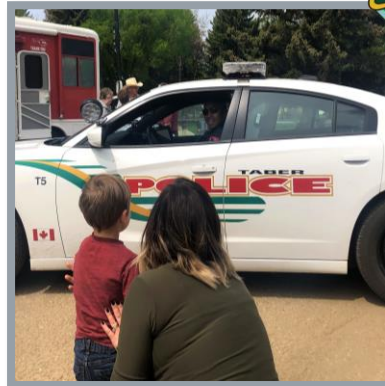


2019 Easter Egg Hunt

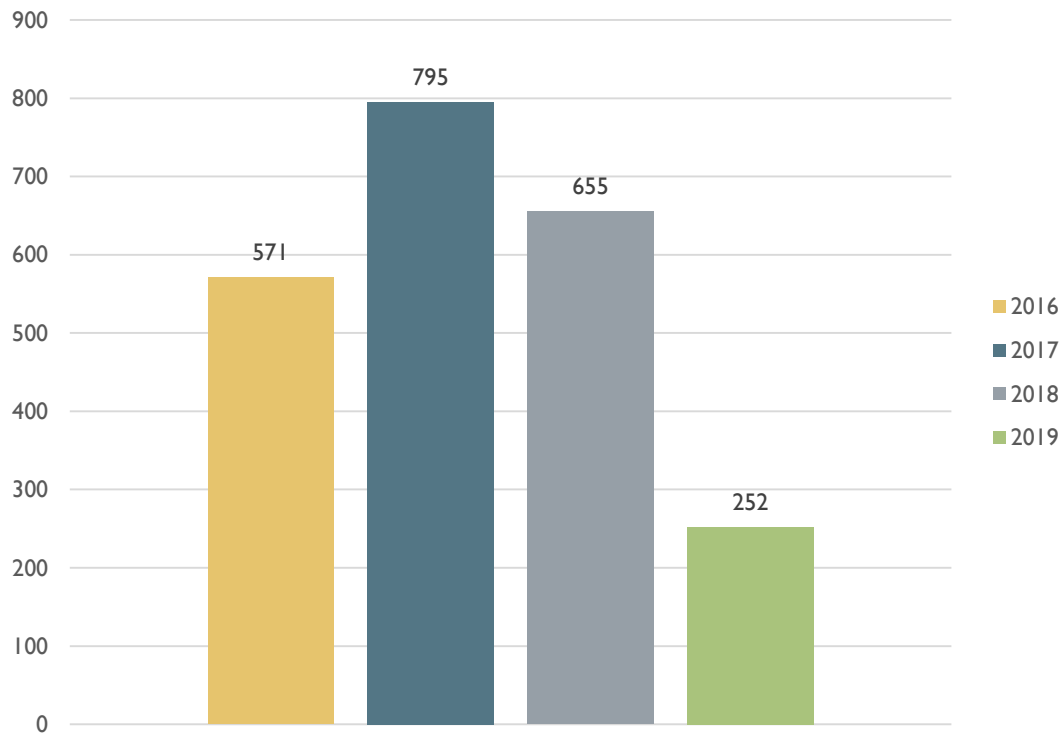
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT – GROUPS WE ARE INVOLVED WITH

- Legion Ceremonies
- Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run
- Taber Minor Football
- Taber Rebels Football
- Taber Police Association Annual Police Officer Ball
- The Veterans Dinner
- Clearview Lodge Dinner
- Apex Youth Awards
- Little Cops Camping
- Notagawa Society
- Wise Owls
- Speech Judging Contests
- Coldest Night of the Year
- Horizon Victim Services
- Taber Community Against Drugs
- Taber Community Action and Prevention Society
- Safe Haven Board Member
- COP Cards
- Crime Stoppers
- Taber and District Soccer Association
- Vipers Swim Club
- Apex Youth Awards
- Air Cadets
- Citizens on Patrol





COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS – AUXILIARY OFFICER PROGRAM



- 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, a provincial employee, an employee at a local agriculture business and a pastor at a local church.
- The program was a recipient of a 2019 Alberta Justice and Solicitor General Community Justice Award for service enhancement.
- The 4 auxiliary members completed approximately 252 combined volunteers hours in 2019.



2019 PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION CATEGORY
Taber Police Service Auxiliary Policing Program
 Town of Taber

The Taber Police Service Auxiliary Policing Program has been operating as a volunteer service since the 1980s. In 2018, auxiliary officers volunteered a total of 655 hours to serve their community. These officers are college students, parents, health care professionals, teachers, bankers and electricians; they come from all walks of life.

Auxiliary officers bridge the gap between police and the public; they volunteer their time to keep the community safe and prevent crime. They not only enhance community policing and crime prevention, but also engage in community building activities, including community events, fundraisers and activities geared toward Taber's youth.



Several former auxiliary constables have followed their passion for policing and have become sworn members of the Taber Police Service and other law enforcement agencies. They are true pillars of the community.

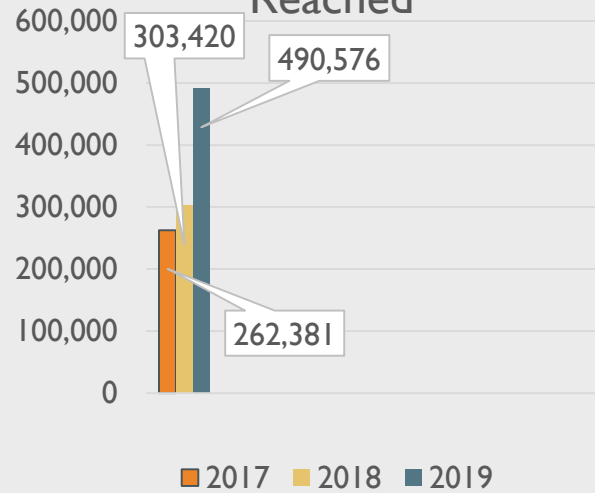


Regular Members of the Taber Police Service with Auxiliary Policing Program Participants and Trusty the Mascot.

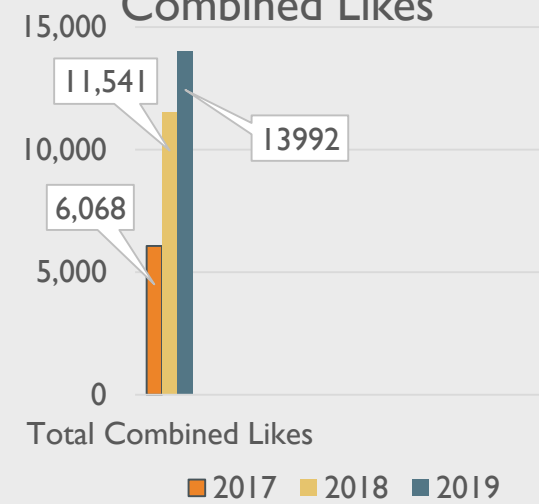
SOCIAL MEDIA



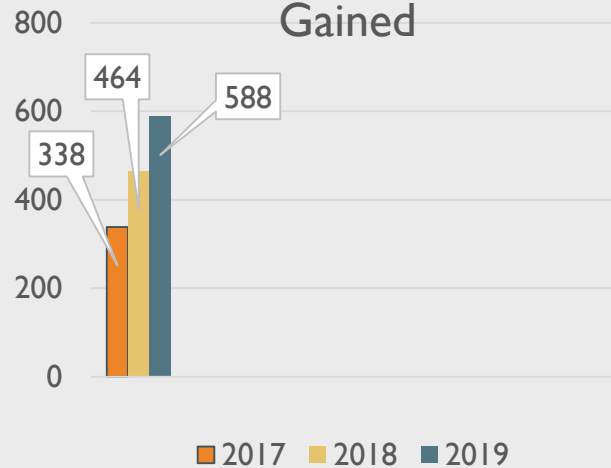
Facebook Total Users Reached



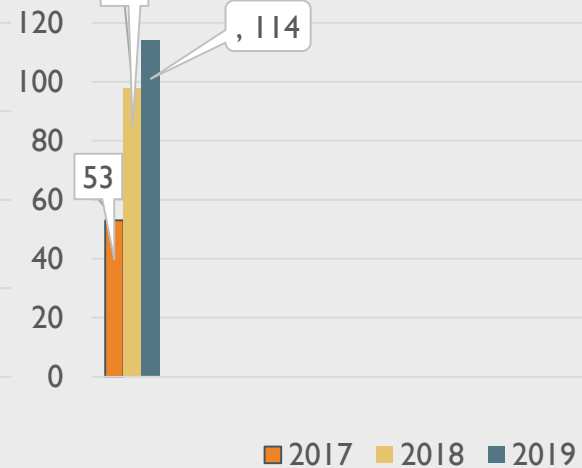
Facebook Total Combined Likes



Facebook Total Followers Gained



Facebook Total Posts

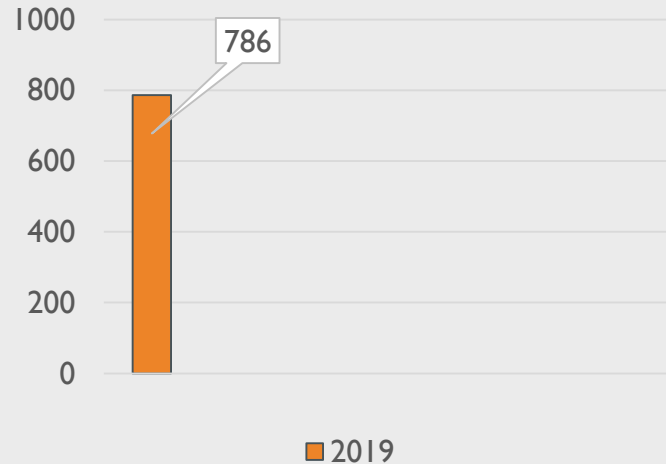


SOCIAL MEDIA

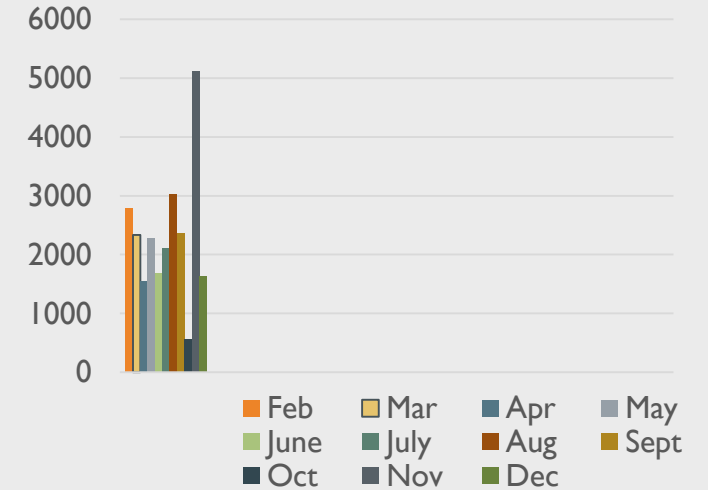


The Taber Police Service Instagram page was developed and the first post was sent on February 22, 2019. The following statistics have been obtained regarding followers, reach and demographics.

Instagram Total Followers



Instagram Total Reach





TABER POLICE SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT

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