



# **Bridgewater Police Department Annual Report**

2005-2006

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Pursuant to a directive of the Department of Justice, Policing and Victim Services Division, I hereby submit my report on the operations of the Bridgewater Police Department for the year ended 31 March 2006.

R.M.Brent.Crowhurst  
Chief of Police

## **Our Mission**

Our Mission is To Provide and Promote a Safe Community by Quality Police Service.

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## Introduction

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Report to the Bridgewater Board of Police Commissioners as required in the policy of the Department of Justice, Policing and Victim Services Division.

The issues that must be addressed are:

- Vision, Strategy and Business Plan for the upcoming year
- Demands for Service
- Actual Cost of Police Service
- Public Complaints
- Infrastructure Requirements and Deficiencies
- High-risk Issues
- Crime Prevention Programs and Initiatives
- Victim Assistance
- Major Cases

There have been many significant changes in the level and style of service delivery by the Bridgewater Police Department brought about as a result of external factors in the past year.

The strategic plan, which had been adopted 3 years ago, completed its final cycle in April 2006. The Board of Police Commissioners has undertaken a process to draft a new strategic plan by means of contracting a private consultant. The new strategic plan will be the result of input from the entire Board of Police Commissioners and police managers. This is a departure from our past experience, but clearly reflects the requirements of the new Police Act, which requires that the Board of Police Commissioners be an active participant in the establishment of a strategic plan reflecting the community needs.

One of the most exciting events in this reporting period is the approval for a new police facility that had been identified as the major deficiency for the Bridgewater Police Department over the last several years.

As can be seen later in this report where deficiencies are identified, the entire process of housing and guarding prisoners required examination. In order to mitigate the liability, the Board of Police Commissioners entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the RCMP to take over our prisoner lock-up function at their Bridgewater office in Cookville, Lunenburg County. This contract, at a cost of \$68,500, is an excellent example of integration in policing services, which capitalizes on existing resources and infrastructure to the benefit of all concerned.



One of the major issues to be dealt with in the coming fiscal year is the renegotiation of the Police Association of Nova Scotia (PANS) Collective Agreement. It is important to note that approximately 83% of the operating budget is comprised of staff compensation costs.

Tied in with the Collective Agreement is the whole notion of attracting and retaining new police officers. In the past 5 years 15 junior officers have joined our department and left within a matter of months to move on to other departments offering better pay and full time employment. In order to provide stability and economy, the current round of contract negotiations is critical in order to resolve this issue.

Another exciting program that began in January 2006 was the partnership between the Bridgewater Police Department and the Province of Nova Scotia, which provided for a two-person criminal intelligence unit as an enhancement to the Provincial Bureau of the Criminal Intelligence Service of N.S. As a result of significant provincial funding, six of these units were established in municipal police agencies in Sydney, New Glasgow, Truro, Amherst, Kentville and Bridgewater. Each of the municipal police agencies provided a senior investigator on a three-year secondment to partner with a senior investigator from the RCMP in the noted areas. Office space for these integrated units has been supplied, in most cases, by the municipal police agency in the partnership.

The secondments are being completely funded by the Province of NS and in our case, once a junior Constable was hired to replace the senior investigator, there were resulting funds realized for new projects such as our salary funding share of the proposed school liaison officer.



## Our Community – Our Services

Well known as the largest commercial centre on the South Shore, Bridgewater is home to a diverse number of thriving major manufacturers, technology industries, retail and service businesses. Bridgewater remains a strong service provider for a primary market population of 50,000. Bridgewater also houses most major Federal and Provincial government offices.

The Bridgewater Police Department is dedicated to providing policing services to all residents and visitors to our town as indicated in our mission statement.

### Town Statistics

<b>Population in 2004</b>	<b>7,972</b>
Land area (sq.km.)	13.61
% of the population ages 15 and over*	84.1
Median age of the Pop.*	41.3
Average earnings *	24,214
Avg. earnings (worked full year full time)*	34,490
Median Family Income*	44,228
* Based on 2001 census.	

### Municipal Police Resources and Population

Location	Population	Police Officers	Population Per Officers	Operating Expenditures\$	Per Capita Costs\$
Bridgewater	7,972	20	399	1,899,337	238
Amherst	9,583	20	479	1,968,610	205
Kentville	5,844	15	390	1,358,600	232
New Glasgow	9,495	23	413	2,384,384	251
Truro	11,654	33	353	3,08,658	265

*N.S. Towns with population over 5000 policed by Municipal Police Agencies.*



## Deficiencies of Service

Over the last several years there have been studies and reviews of our existing facilities that clearly indicated that there is a need to acquire additional, modern space. The existing police facility is approximately 20 years old. The new facility will be completed in the fiscal year 2006-2007 and will address all facility concerns for at least the next 25 years.

The first formal documentation of this issue was in January of 2003 when the Board of Police Commissioners received correspondence recommending the immediate needs in order to reduce some of the liability. Authority was granted to expend \$25,000.00 in order to mitigate these deficiencies as a stopgap measure.

A proposal was put forth in September 2003 suggesting a two-floor expansion of the Town Hall to effectively double the available workspace of the Police Department. The two-floor expansion grew to a proposal for a three-floor expansion. The third floor would have provided much needed space to alleviate the overcrowding experienced by other departments in the Town Hall.

The next option was to find a suitable piece of land currently owned by the Town and consider building a police facility similar to the new (2005) Kentville police building.

It was at this time that the Board of Police Commissioners was asked for their input and it became important to only consider building a police facility in the so called core bounded by King, Victoria, High and Dufferin Streets.

The next step was to seek expressions of interest from proponents to build for purchase or lease in various forms, a facility built to suit our needs in that core area.

In a police facility, there are certain required core work areas such as Breathalyzer rooms, interview rooms and offices for specialized sections, etc. Once all of those core elements are provided, additional growth in staff can easily be accommodated in the two areas where it would most likely occur. In the Constables general office, there will be two additional work stations built in, which would accommodate (because of shift work) up to an additional eight patrol officers. In the General Investigation Section (GIS), there is provision for at least two more detective constables. This potential growth should take us well past the 25 year anticipated service life of a police facility.

Below is a list of the current deficiencies that are being addressed in the new facility.

- Insufficient space and facilities to properly handle exhibits
- No secure bay for seized vehicles – fingerprint dusting, lack of secure storage for ammunition, weapons, etc.
- No quiet, immediate access for victims to VS/CP office.
- No storage facilities for Crime Prevention materials
- Insufficient, secure lockers for male and female staff.
- No female shower/locker room (currently 12 female staff).



- No secure room for lawyer consultation (Charter issue).
- Inadequate access to files.
- No long term secure storage for files and videotapes (case law).
- No training/meeting room
- No exercise area.
- No special projects room.
- No soft interview room.
- No office available for Operational secretary.
- No office available for Departmental Clerk.
- Lack of suitable storage.
- No video monitoring room.
- No suitable area to fingerprint and photograph subjects.

The police facilities upgrade has been an ongoing project and below is the chronology of the significant milestones:

- November 2002 police facilities discussed at Board of Police Commissioners meeting.
- January 2003 there was an emergency review of police facilities.
- September 2003 the first formal request made for additional space, two-story 40x40 expansion.
- June 2004 recommendation to Council to finalize purchase of Coughlan building (property next door to allow for expansion).
- April 2005 Board of Police Commissioners passed resolution to recommend to Town Council a Capital Budget of \$1,346,600 to allow a three-story expansion (two stories for police use).
- September 2005 results of proposed contractor tenders reported to Council and the two bids came in significantly over budget.
- September 2005 Town Council passed resolution that the Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater endorse the recommendation of the Police Commission that a green field site location for the Bridgewater Police Department facility of approximately 8000 square feet be pursued, subject to satisfactory facility design and site availability, and within the current budget of \$1.44 million including any costs related to land acquisition.





- October 2005 Town Council passed a resolution that Town Council for the Town of Bridgewater call for “Expression of Interest” for the construction of, and/or the provision of, a stand alone police facility.
- February 2006 two proponents answered the Request for Proposal for a new police station. Both proposals were for a stand-alone facility of approximately 10,000 square feet. Only one proposal offered to build the facility to Town specifications for purchase.
- April 2006 Bridgewater Town Council approved a contract with Donald Bondy Investments to construct the police facility at a contract price of \$1.95 million.

The second most pressing deficiency identified in last years annual report was the issue of our Dispatchers also being responsible to guard prisoners. Over the past several years there have been several deaths in jail cells throughout Atlantic Canada and one of the most recent incidents was reviewed at great length in the Bailey Inquiry held in Sydney. The resulting recommendations from that Inquiry made it very clear that guards and matrons should not have any additional duties beyond the security and well being of persons in custody. As of April 1, 2006, we have entered into a formal contract for the RCMP to house and guard all prisoners.

One outstanding deficiency that we are in the process of trying to address is the need for a Police Liaison Officer within the three schools in the Town of Bridgewater. Currently, there are more than 1900 students each school day that form part of the community we serve. In order to address this issue, it is being proposed that we enter into a one-year pilot project for the school year 2006-2007 in a funding partnership with the South Shore Regional School Board. The proposal, which has been recommended by the Board of Police Commissioners, is that a full time school liaison officer work exclusively in the three schools and devote his/her full attention to the needs of the student community. The Bridgewater School Liaison Project aims to build a trusting relationship between the police and youth in the hopes of assisting those youth at risk of offending and those at risk of being victimized before an opportunity presents itself. The focus is on being proactive rather than reactive. The program plans to combine education, counseling, crime prevention and community relations to meet the diverse needs of students and staff in the school community.

Two existing deficiencies that will need to be addressed over the next couple of years is the need for a dedicated drug enforcement investigator since the possession, trafficking and abuse of drugs continues to increase. Our current establishment does not provide for sufficient resource allocation to that problem. Any potential opportunity to capitalize on new government initiatives will be examined as well as possible partnerships with the RCMP.

The last resource deficiency that has been identified is the eventual need for a case manager at the senior NCO level. This position would be responsible for the monitoring and management of all operational files, court matters and also fill the role as exhibit custodian.



## Vision, Strategy and Business Plan

The strategic plan was drafted in November of 2003, commenced in January 2004 with a time line concluding April 2006. In view of the fact that this existing strategic plan has run its course, it is necessary to meet with the appropriate stakeholders in order to draft a new plan.

One interesting change that has occurred since the drafting of our existing Strategic Plan is the fact that the NS Police Act and Regulations now requires in Section 55 that “a Board shall ensure the chief officer establishes programs and strategies to implement the priorities, objectives and goals respecting police services”. This Section goes on to require the Board to “ensure a strategic plan and business plan is in place.” The Board of Police Commissioners has contracted a consultant to lead the Board and management of the police department through the process in September 2006 in order to develop a new three-year strategic plan.

### Strategic Plan

#### **Goal 1 Provide Service to our Community**

##### **1.1 Meet service expectations of our community and the policing standards industry**

###### **1.1.1 Measure our service to ensure it is meeting expectations**

This objective is met by means of an annual self-audit and there have been self-audits conducted in each of the three years identified in the strategic plan.

###### **1.1.2 Identify/maintain best practices in relation to SOP's, Case Law, industry Standards, etc.**

This objective is met by means of ongoing research accessing all materials available and consultation with subject matter experts provincially and nationally to ensure best practices are identified. As new best practices are identified those matters are reported to the Board for approval and thereafter revisions are conducted as necessary.

##### **1.2 Deliver Community Programs**

###### **1.2.1 Develop and deliver educational programs to the community**

We do this by means of formal endorsement of and involvement in programs such as MADD, Safe Communities, etc.

###### **1.2.2 Develop and create partnerships with our community to provide quality service**

The recent partnerships with all service clubs including the Canadian Legion, Lion's Club and several others has resulted in the “Heartsafe Program”, placing defibrillators in all or our patrol cars.



### **1.3 Deliver Business Programs**

1.3.1 Develop and deliver educational programs to the business community

This was done through a Business Fair and several business workshops. We also utilize an auto dialer to alert businesses of immediate risks.

1.3.2 Develop and deliver initiatives which will increase visibility in the business community

Officers have contacted almost all businesses in our jurisdiction (retail sector) and provided some crime prevention programs.

1.3.3 Develop and create partnerships with the business community to provide quality service.

The auto dialer was purchased with funds provided by Atlantic Wholesalers and the Bridgewater & Area Crime Prevention Association.

### **1.4 Deliver School Programs**

1.4.1 Develop and implement a school liaison program

The School Board has just agreed to propose funding for ½ a constable school liaison person for the school year starting September 2006. Our share of the salary funding comes from the remaining funds from a Provincial secondment of one of our senior officers.

School liaison has been tried in different ways and it is obvious the only suitable way to accomplish the goal is to have an identified resource dedicated full time to this function.

1.4.2 Develop and implement educational programs in our schools

The main program we deliver is the DARE program which regrettably was not available this school year 2005-2006 since our DARE officer had moved to another department.

Ad hoc educational programs are delivered when and as needed and identified.

### **1.5 Consult with our community to identify their policing concerns**

Business Community Surveys and continuing annual Client Satisfaction Surveys continue in order for us to receive that necessary feedback.

### **1.6 Succession Management: ensure qualified people are available for leadership and specialized positions.**

1.6.1 Identify and provide training opportunities

Constables have had a program (Hensen College Courses) identified to prepare them for promotion. Sergeants have also been provided a list of Hensen College courses that are prerequisites for promotion to the Deputy Chief role. Detective Constables are



sent to the Canadian Police College for Major Crime Investigator courses as well as other specific training offered in Nova Scotia.

1.6.2 Identify and provide development/learning opportunities

Various forms of learning opportunities have been accessed including courses at the Canadian Police College, Atlantic Police Academy, E-learning through Hensen College and a variety of local training courses.

1.6.3 Develop and implement a performance management system

We have adopted a process using performance logs, annual appraisals and when absolutely necessary the Regulations of the Nova Scotia Police Act to measure and deal with performance management issues. The NS Town Chief's Committee is planning to adopt a standardized promotional routine.

1.6.4 Develop and implement recruitment, hiring, and retention strategies

A protocol has been developed and adopted by the Board of Police commissioners for the prerequisites to hiring. The list of prerequisites was compiled and adopted by all Town Police Chief's.

**Goal 2 Prepare a Business Plan for Facility Expansion**

The new police facility plan has become a reality with construction expected to begin during the summer of 2006.

**Goal 3 Meet Provincial Policing Standards**

The provincial deadline for completion of this goal was April 2006. We currently do meet and/or exceed all standards. Department of Justice, Policing and Victim Services Division had identified these standards in 2002 with a target date of April 2006. A significant focus for us has been meeting that target date in all identified areas.



## Demands for Service

As reported last year, we have adopted a new records management system by means of contracting an entire program from the RCMP. We are one of ten municipal departments in Nova Scotia who have been using the Police Reporting and Occurrence System (PROS) since April 2005.

		2003		2004-05		2005-06	
		Cases	%Cleared	Cases	%Cleared	Cases	%Cleared
<b>Reported Criminal code</b>	<b>Persons</b>	165	66	149	77	172	75
	<b>Property</b>	436	31	383	36	336	51
<b>Self-generated Enforcement</b>							
<i>Motor Vehicle</i>		673		847		783	
<i>Liquor Control</i>		99		163		137	
<i>Drugs</i>		40		39		27	
<i>Impaired Driving</i>		42		47		39	
<i>MV Collision</i>		136		135		124	
<b>Total calls for Service</b>		3418		3503		4416	

As can be seen from the chart, our calls for service have increased by 26%, which may be to some degree, a result of the use of a new computer program. The new records management system is much more robust and sophisticated which could account for the significant increase in the recording of calls for service. As shown in previous reports, the percentage of cases cleared not only relates to charges laid, but also provides credit for cases solved so long as sufficient evidence to warrant a charge was available.

It is important to note that the clearance rate for property type offences has risen significantly and over time the accuracy of this statistic can be measured.



# Policing Costs

2006/2007 BUDGET

Pg	2006/07					2005/06			2004/05 Actual
	BUDGET	\$ Amt	% +/-	\$ Amt	% +/-	BUDGET	Forecast Actual	Variance	
<b>PROTECTIVE SERVICES</b>									
<b>Police Commission</b>									
	Commission Expenses	20,000	200.0%	17,076		10,000	12,924	-2,924	5,748
	Legal Services	30,000				6,500	6,803	-303	5,929
	Board Expenses	5,000	-15.0%	-1,500	-23.1%				
	Strategic Planning	1,000							
	<b>Commission Expenses</b>	<b>36,000</b>	<b>118.2%</b>	<b>16,273</b>	<b>82.5%</b>	<b>16,500</b>	<b>19,727</b>	<b>-3,227</b>	<b>11,677</b>
	Administration								
	Police Chief	102,900	19.7%	16,900	19.7%	86,000	86,000	0	79,590
	Police Chief's expenses	1,500	50.0%	200	15.4%	1,000	1,300	-300	722
	Consultant		0.0%	0				0	450
	Administrative assistant	44,000	15.8%	6,000	15.8%	38,000	38,000	0	64,090
	Departmental Clerk	36,700	ERR	36,700	ERR				
	<b>Administration</b>	<b>185,100</b>	<b>48.1%</b>	<b>59,800</b>	<b>47.7%</b>	<b>125,000</b>	<b>125,300</b>	<b>-300</b>	<b>144,852</b>
	Crime Investigation, Prevention & Protection								
	Deputy Chief	81,400	7.1%	5,400	7.1%	76,000	76,000	0	74,680
	Secretary	36,700	3.7%	1,300	3.7%	35,400	35,400	0	441
	Dispatchers	181,200	8.4%	14,100	8.4%	167,100	167,100	0	149,191
	Community Policing / Victim Services	41,800	2.2%	1,266	3.1%	40,900	40,534	366	39,342
	Community Policing Projects		ERR	-9,704	-100.0%		9,704	-9,704	20,035
	Travel	5,000	233.3%	3,000	150.0%	1,500	2,000	-500	597
	Investigational Expenses	3,500	0.0%	0	0.0%	3,500	3,500	0	3,058
	Special Investigations (unspent \$ to reserves)	7,500	0.0%	1,500	25.0%	7,500	6,000	1,500	9,856
	Constables								
	Regular salary	1,043,600	-0.6%	22,632	2.2%	1,049,600	1,020,968	28,632	1,014,090
	Part-time constables	98,800	4.6%	-1,200	-1.2%	94,500	100,000	-5,500	75,727
	High Visibility Constable	4,144	ERR	4,144	ERR				
	School Liason Constable	17,996	ERR	17,996	ERR				
	Sub-total - Base salary/wage	1,164,540	-0.1%	21,432		1,144,100	1,120,968	23,132	1,089,817
	Contractual banked time (108 hr)	46,700	6.0%	2,652	6.0%	44,048	44,048	0	42,756
	Acting pay	5,100	2.0%	1,100	27.5%	5,000	4,000	1,000	2,529
	Statutory Holiday bank (80 hr)	30,300	-8.5%	-2,813	-8.5%	33,113	33,113	0	31,844
	Court Time	16,895	3.0%	-3,105	-15.5%	16,403	20,000	-3,597	20,630
	Call Out & Shift Replacement	72,100	3.0%	2,100	3.0%	70,000	70,000	0	77,004
	Shift Differential	11,500	0.9%	100	0.9%	11,400	11,400	0	11,172
	Sub-total - Overtime/Banked time/Extra pay	182,595	1.5%	34		179,964	182,561	-2,597	185,935
	Extra Constables	3,500	-6.7%	0	0.0%	3,750	3,500	250	2,166
	Vested sick leave allowance	6,000	0.0%	0	0.0%	6,000	6,000	0	1,000
	<b>Crime Investigation, Prevention &amp; Protection</b>	<b>1,713,735</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>60,468</b>	<b>3.7%</b>	<b>1,665,714</b>	<b>1,653,267</b>	<b>12,447</b>	<b>1,576,118</b>
	Training								
	Professional Development	20,000	23.6%	-1,644	-7.6%	16,176	21,644	-5,468	14,865
	Conventions	5,075	1.5%	649	14.7%	5,000	4,426	574	3,287
	Membership Fees	761	1.5%	-27	-3.4%	750	788	-38	681
	<b>Training</b>	<b>25,836</b>	<b>17.8%</b>	<b>-1,022</b>	<b>-3.8%</b>	<b>21,926</b>	<b>26,858</b>	<b>-4,932</b>	<b>18,833</b>
	Police Station Expenses								
	Office Supplies	11,000	20.0%	-102	-0.9%	9,165	11,102	-1,937	17,127
	Office Equipment Maintenance	6,090	1.5%	943	18.3%	6,000	5,147	853	
	Maintenance & Repairs	2,565	1.5%	-327	-11.3%	2,527	2,892	-365	2,179
	Electrical Services	10,800	25.0%	1,434	15.3%	8,640	9,366	-726	7,128
	Janitorial Services / Salary	13,000	15.6%	-617	-4.5%	11,242	13,617	-2,375	13,415
	Small equipment/office furniture	7,000	40.0%	2,115	43.3%	5,000	4,885	115	6,059
	<b>Police Station Expenses</b>	<b>50,455</b>	<b>18.5%</b>	<b>3,446</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>42,575</b>	<b>47,009</b>	<b>-4,435</b>	<b>45,908</b>
	Automotive								
	Communications								
	Radio & Equipment Repairs	7,700	8.8%	5,041	189.6%	7,077	2,659	4,418	9,353
	Automotive							0	
	Car # 101 2003 Ford Crown Vic	12,000	18.3%	-646	-5.1%	10,140	12,646	-2,506	8,721
	Car # 103 2006 Ford Expedition	9,000	116.3%	3,054	51.4%	4,160	5,946	-1,786	10,861
	Car # 105 2004 Chrysler Intrepid	10,000	28.2%	-1,538	-13.3%	7,800	11,538	-3,738	7,957
	Car # 107 2004 Ford CV	8,000	9.9%	-981	-10.9%	7,280	8,981	-1,701	7,409
	Car # 102 2003 chev impala	9,000	15.4%	-3,918	-30.3%	7,800	12,918	-5,118	5,155
	Insurance	18,139	7.8%	1,344	8.0%	16,827	16,795	32	15,452
	Car # 109 leased	8,504	6.2%	-1,164	-12.0%	8,008	9,668	-1,660	7,970
	<b>Automotive</b>	<b>82,343</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>1,192</b>	<b>1.5%</b>	<b>69,092</b>	<b>81,151</b>	<b>-12,059</b>	<b>72,878</b>
	Detention and custody of prisoners	68,500	2640.0%	66,706	3718.3%	2,500	1,794	706	2,206
	Other								
	Clothing & Kit	28,000	15.4%	-3,987	-12.5%	24,264	31,987	-7,723	23,529
	Clothing Allowance	4,600	0.0%	3,440	296.6%	4,600	1,160	3,440	4,347
	Uniform Cleaning	410	1.5%	69	20.4%	404	341	63	232
	Small police equip & repair	5,131	1.5%	192	3.9%	5,055	4,939	116	6,556
	Crime prevention	1,000	0.0%	199	24.8%	1,000	801	199	628
	Private Duty	4,000	0.0%	-4,000	-50.0%	4,000	8,000	-4,000	5,425
	Telephone	11,200	0.0%	-795	-6.6%	11,200	11,995	-795	11,712
	<b>Other</b>	<b>54,341</b>	<b>7.6%</b>	<b>-4,882</b>	<b>-8.2%</b>	<b>50,523</b>	<b>59,223</b>	<b>-8,700</b>	<b>52,429</b>
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>2,216,311</b>	<b>11.2%</b>	<b>201,982</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>1,993,830</b>	<b>2,014,329</b>	<b>-20,499</b>	<b>1,924,901</b>

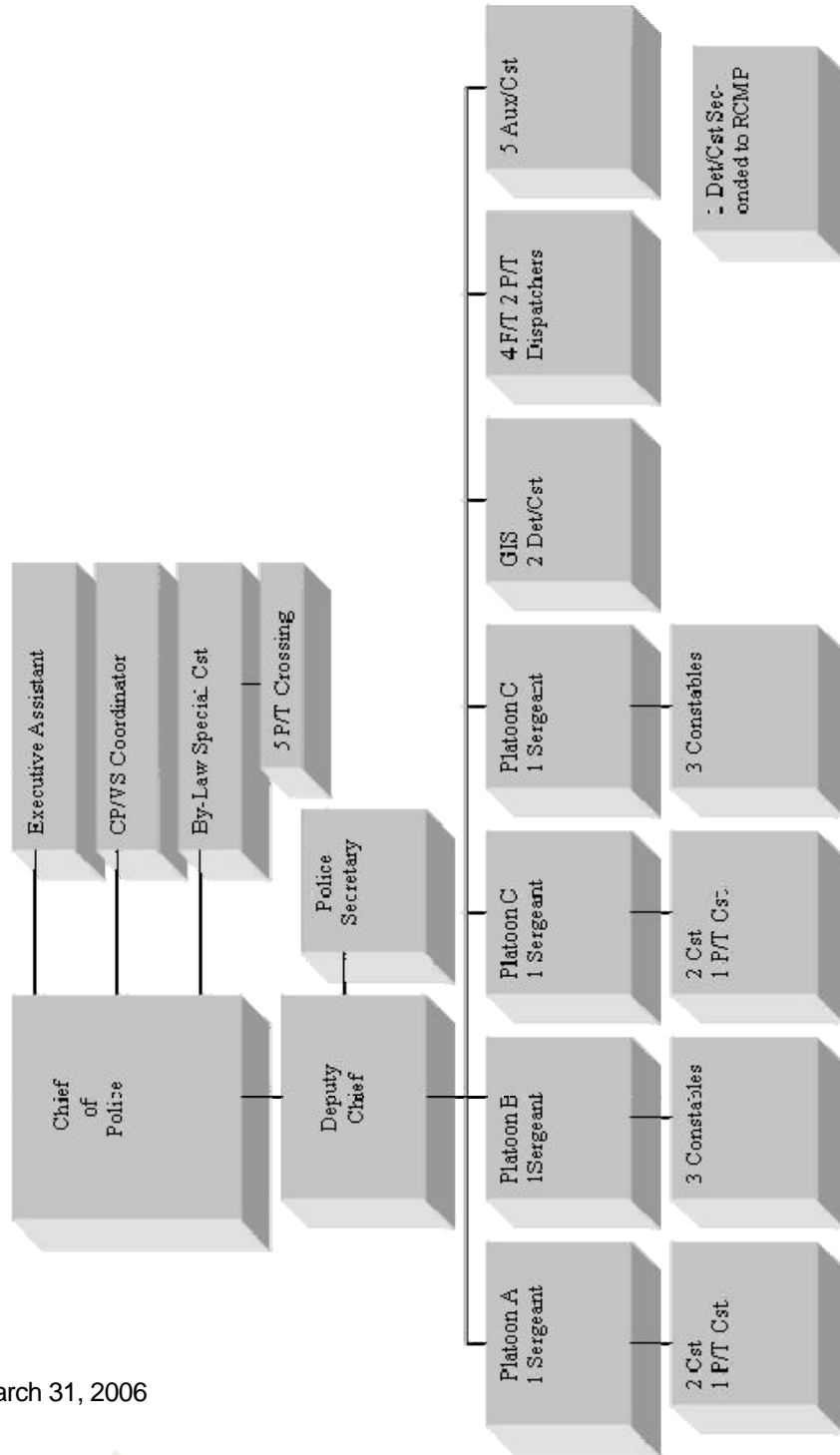
**2006/2007 BUDGET**

Pg	2006/07					2005/06			2004/05
	BUDGET	Variance with 2005/06 Budget		Variance with 2005/06 Forecast		BUDGET	Forecast	Variance	Actual
		\$ Amt	% +/-	\$ Amt	% +/-		Actual		
Law Enforcement									
Administration									
PROS (RCMP) Membership	7,119	339	5.0%	339	5.0%	6,780	6,780	0	1,140
DNA testing	2,228	0	0.0%	7	0.3%	2,228	2,221	7	1,114
Other	2,000	0	0.0%	-439	-18.0%	2,000	2,439	-439	1,564
	<b>11,347</b>	339	3.1%	-93	-0.8%	<b>11,008</b>	<b>11,440</b>	<b>-432</b>	<b>3,818</b>
Prosecuting Attorney									
Prosecuting Attorney	9,000	4,000	80.0%	0	0.0%	5,000	9,000	-4,000	2,800
Law Enforcement	20,347	4,339	27.1%	-93	-0.5%	16,008	20,440	-4,432	6,618
<b>Total Police Commission Expense</b>	<b>2,236,658</b>	226,820	11.3%	201,889	9.9%	<b>2,009,838</b>	<b>2,034,769</b>	<b>-24,931</b>	<b>1,931,519</b>



# Personnel

## Organizational Chart



As of March 31, 2006





Members

Chief Brent Crowhurst	P/T Cst. David Gallant
Deputy Chief Bob Smith	Special Cst. Luc Laliberte
Sgt. Richard Milbury	CP/DV Coordinator Dale Saulnier
Sgt. Alfie O'Quinn	Executive Assistant Patty Sleep
Sgt. John Collyer	Operational Secretary Toni Swim
Sgt. Al Cunningham	Comm. Technician Kathie MacDonnell
Cst. Jerome Richard	Comm. Technician Sharon Mitchell
Cst. Wade Keddy	Comm. Technician Paula Cardinell
Cst. Ward Beck	Comm. Technician Kim Lunn
Cst. Ron Graves	P/T Comm. Technician Dannie Seaman
Cst. Christine Bonnell	Aux. Cst. Craig Veinot
Cst. Scott Feener	Aux. Cst. Kevin Clayton
Cst. Terry Brekker	Aux. Cst. Darren Hamper
Cst. Paul Rogers	Aux. Cst. Stephen Seney
Cst. Danny MacPhee	Aux. Cst. - Vacant
Det.Cst. David Ramey	
Det.Cst. Trevor Mitchell	D/V Volunteer Sherry Veinot
Cst. Jennifer Russell	D/V Volunteer Pat Mount
P/T Cst. Monica Garland	D/V Volunteer Janet Tipert

*As of March 31, 2006*



## Public Complaints

In the calendar year of 2005, there were five (5) complaints from the public about members of our Police Department. All five complaints were investigated by means of a senior officer being appointed as an independent investigator. One public complaint was deemed by the Nova Scotia Police Commission to be invalid. Two of the investigations resulted in the complainants withdrawing their allegations.

Department	2002		2003		2004		2005	
	PC	ID	PC	ID	PC	ID	PC	ID
Amherst	12	2	8	2	19	3	10	1
Annapolis Royal	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Bridgewater	6	0	4	0	1	1	5	0
CBRPS	30	4	29	13	30	9	26	3
HRPS	62	15	85	11	46	13	31	12
Kentville	1	0	0	0	3	0	4	0
New Glasgow	7	0	14	0	4	0	9	1
Springhill	4	0	1	0	1	0	3	1
Stellarton	3	0	5	1	3	0	3	0
Trenton	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
Truro	13	8	8	3	8	5	8	4
Westville	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	140	30	160	30	117	31	99	22
Note: PC – Public Complaint; ID – Internal discipline <i>Numbers provided by NS Police Commission</i>								

Another public complaint was investigated and determined to be unfounded. The last public complaint has achieved some notoriety since the complainant has gone to the media, both locally and provincially. This matter was investigated fully by the Deputy Chief and determined not to have merit. The complainant in this matter chose to exercise his right to request a Review by the Nova Scotia Police Commission. The Hearing Review Board has since rejected the complaint.



## Crime Prevention Programs and Initiatives

### Goals

The Bridgewater Police Department Crime Prevention Program works as a partnership between the police and the community. Continually striving to improve effectiveness of crime prevention and policing in Bridgewater, our goals and objectives are:

- To bridge community and police relations and to enhance community involvement in crime prevention efforts.
- To reduce crime and the fear of crime in our community.
- To increase police effectiveness by addressing specific community problems and concerns.
- To provide educational opportunities to community members in regards to crime prevention strategies.

The Crime Prevention Program has provided training to residents on topics such as:

- Internet safety
- Cyberbullying
- Date rape
- Personal and home safety
- Driver safety

And to businesses on:

- Counterfeiting
- Shoplifting
- Internal theft
- Security

Through the Crime Prevention Program we have also continued to conduct surveys allowing us the opportunity to improve our overall service. This past year we conducted a Satisfaction Survey in respect to the PROS system and officer feedback to complainants. The information we hoped to garner from this survey was whether the officers were completing the PROS reports with sufficient information in regards to the calls.

The results of the survey demonstrated that 96% of clients are satisfied with the overall service provided by the Bridgewater Police Department.



## Community Involvement & Initiatives

The Crime Prevention Program continues to reach out to community organizations by providing liaison between groups and police. Organizations we are actively involved with are:

- MADD
- South Shore Safe Communities (we sit on both the Steering committee as well as the Bullying sub-committee)
- Lunenburg County Multi-service Round table
- Crime Prevention Society of Nova Scotia

We are frequently responding to invitations for involvement in new programs in our community as well. A few programs we are presently interested in are PARTY Program (Prevent Alcohol Related Trauma in Youth), and Asist (suicide prevention).

## New Initiatives we have participated in:

- FASD (Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Disorder)
- Senior Advocacy
- Safe Communities Planning
- Car Seat Safety
- Atlantic Crime Prevention Conference
- Heartsafe Program – two new defibrillators were donated to the Department by the Lion's Club of Bridgewater and there are now defibrillator units in each of the four patrol cars.
- New Horizons for Seniors – we have been approached by a representative of the South Shore RCMP Veterans group to house and monitor a video surveillance system for the new Veteran's Memorial Park. In light of the complaints of vandalism and damage in this area, we are pleased to partner in such a program since it promotes crime prevention and community involvement. This partnership links us with the RCMP Veterans Association and the Canadian Legion to help protect a very significant community asset which recognizes community veterans.



# Bridgewater Police Department Web Site

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE AND PROMOTE A SAFE COMMUNITY BY QUALITY POLICE SERVICE.

[ [Home](#) ] [ [Links](#) ] [ [Site Index](#) ] [ [Search](#) ] [ [Police Commissioners](#) ] [ [Annual Report](#) ]

## Bridgewater Police Department

This is the **Canadian Code A**

Welcome to the Bridgewater Police Department web site.



The Bridgewater Police Department, located in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia, is made up of 21 officers, 1 special constable, 5 auxiliary constables and 8 civilian members. The Police Department provides foot patrols, bike patrols and vehicle patrols.



[Three bicycles in our possession, could one of them be yours?](#)

[Around the Department](#)

- Home
- Chief's Message
- Our History
- News and Events
- Community Events
- Crime Stoppers
- Crime Prevention
- MADD
- Personnel
- Special Services
- Youth and Teens
- Community Policing
- Surveys

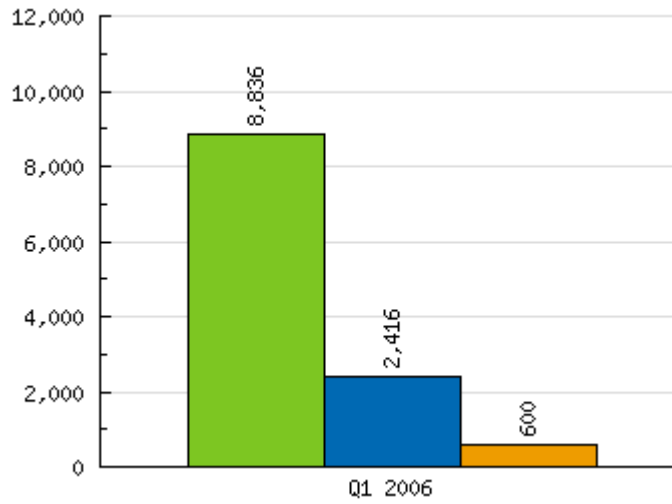
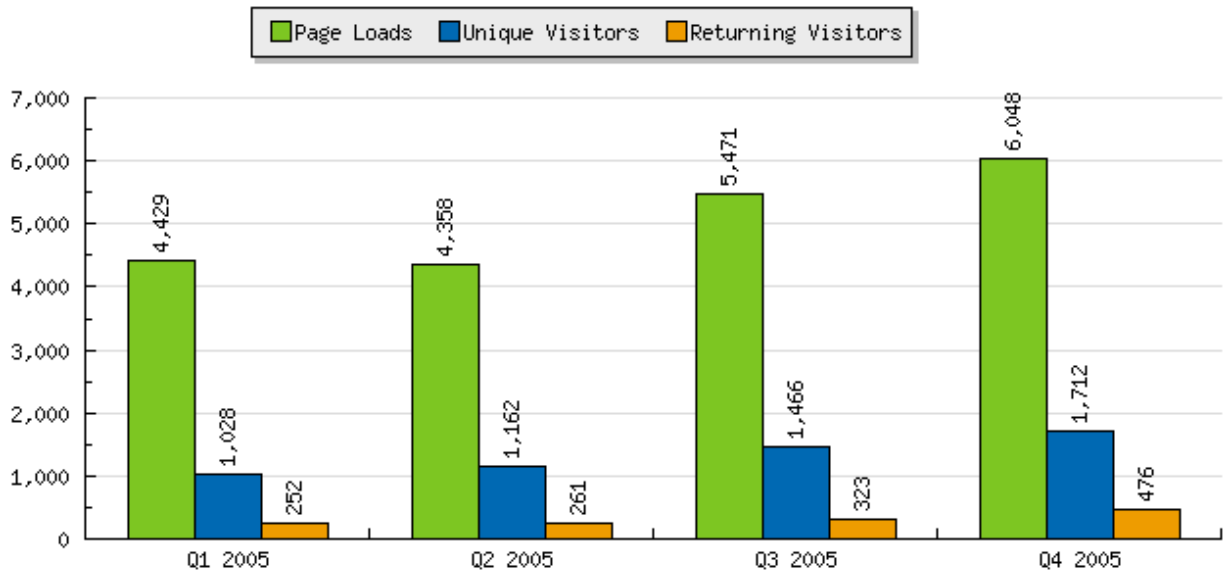
The Bridgewater Police Department website offers an online bicycle registration, anti-bullying information and links for youth, CrimeStoppers Bulletins, News Releases, a community events page for crime prevention related local groups and Crime Prevention tips for the general public.

The site has become a source of information for many residents and businesses in the area and we have also attracted visitors from as far away as British Columbia, Northwest Territories and foreign countries such as Lithuania, Argentina and Malaysia.

Last year, 2005, was the first full year for the website. The following chart indicates that we received over 5000 unique visitors for the year. Some of these visitors called our department with information regarding CrimeStopper bulletins, requested information on group safety presentations and invited us to attend other crime prevention related activities in the community.



## BPD Website Visitor Statistics



The first quarter of 2006 shows that our visitor numbers are steadily increasing.



## Victim Assistance

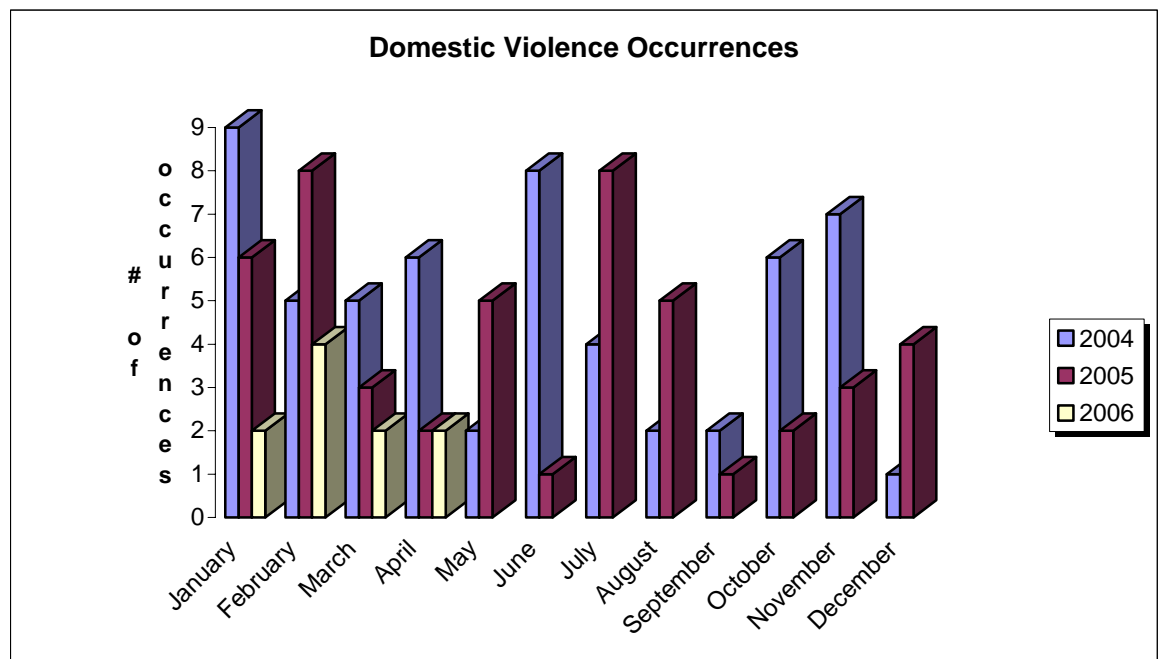
In the majority of violent spousal relationships, the violence is not an isolated incident. Overall, half of those who self-reported spousal violence in a current or previous relationship stated that the violence occurred on more than one occasion.(54%)

Statistics Canada: Family Violence in Canada 2005

The Domestic Violence Intervention Act came into effect April 2003. Since that time we have continued to treat all domestic violence cases as high priority assaults and follow through on all cases whether they have been assessed to be high risk for lethality or not. We continue to use the services of our volunteers to make contact with all victims of domestic abuse so as to provide guidance and support them through the legal system.

We have been working in partnership with other concerned agencies to produce a High Risk Case Coordination Protocol Framework. This framework is intended to bring all those who have an interest in domestic violence, such as Family Services, transition houses, RCMP, Public Prosecution Services, etc. together to discuss and formulate strategies for dealing with high risk for lethality cases. This Framework is nearing completion and we should have the Protocol in place this year.

This year the Bridgewater Police Department dealt with 44 domestic violence cases; 10 of those were assessed to be high risk and referred to the Provincial High Risk Case Coordinator. Charges were laid in all but four of the cases and dropped in another five cases. In circumstances where criminal convictions are not expected, the Public Prosecution Service may determine that the case should not proceed. Eight of the cases were repeat occurrences for the couples involved.



## Major Cases

On April 10<sup>th</sup> 2005, Bridgewater Police received two separate complaints regarding counterfeit VLT pay out slips that had been presented for cash. This became a joint investigation with our GIS Section, Halifax Regional Police and New Glasgow Police Service concerning a group of fraud artists travelling around the province falsifying winning VLT tickets. This organized travelling group defrauded two local businesses in excess of \$2500. Three individuals were apprehended and charged with several offenses.

A home invasion in May 2005 resulted in the victim needing hospital treatment. Two males entered an apartment on King Street in an intoxicated condition and asked the resident about an individual that did not reside there. The resident did not know the person they had asked for. Not believing the resident to be telling the truth, one of the perpetrators attacked the resident causing him minor injuries. One adult male has been charged in this case.

Another home invasion occurred on Aberdeen Road in June 2005. A small amount of money and drugs were stolen in this offense. Two of the individuals are presently in custody serving time for their role in the robbery while a third male failed to appear in court as directed and consequently a Canada Wide Warrant was issued. This third individual has since been apprehended, accused of a robbery in Toronto, and will be returned to Nova Scotia to face the charges arising from this incident.

A narcotic search warrant was executed at an Alexandra Avenue residence in July 2005 where a small marijuana grow operation was seized. Eight growing marijuana plants and a supply of dried marijuana was located. One male was charged with marijuana production and possession of a controlled substance. He has since pleaded guilty.

Our GIS unit continues to investigate an attempted robbery that occurred at the Tops' Tavern in August 2005. A male wearing a black ski mask, blue coveralls and carrying a baseball bat entered the premises, intimidating several employees who were standing at the bar. Employees were able to make their way to the office where they barricaded themselves with two other employees who were already inside. Police were called but the suspect had already fled. The police tracking-dog was called in with negative results as the scent ran out. This file is still under investigation and to date no suspects have been identified.



In early February 2006, an investigation began after a fight, which had occurred on King Street, was displayed on the Internet. Suspects were identified from the video as well as two previously unknown victims. At present two adult males face a total of six criminal charges







The case is unique in that it is the first local example of offences being video taped and then being made available over the Internet for whatever reason. Our investigators seized two computer systems, which provided evidence of criminal activity. This group of individuals had identified themselves as a gang and was, at the time, under active investigation by our plain-clothes section relative to other criminal activities since October of 2005. The most interesting facet of this investigation is that the evidence to support criminal charges was provided by persons who were associated to the event and later made the recording available on the Internet.



## Conclusion

This annual report identifies many changes in the past year for the Bridgewater Police Department. On the service delivery side we have experienced an increase in calls for assistance in excess of 25%. The trends in reported cases are consistent with other jurisdictions in Nova Scotia.

The support we continue to experience, not only from the Board of Police Commissioners, Town Council and the community, has helped immeasurably in providing an enhanced level of service. We continue to call upon groups and individuals to partner with us. Many new initiatives could not even be considered without the level of support that continues to be offered to our Police Department each year. In fiscal year 2005-2006 the Department of Justice has purchased for us a \$12,000 computerized Breathalyzer device as part of the Provincial anti-drinking and driving campaign. We also received \$8000 from the Department of Justice to pay for an electronic radio device, which allows us to communicate directly with the RCMP on their radio system.

This past year has brought about many successes as well as challenges for our department and it is acknowledged that the officers and staff play a key role in allowing this community to enjoy the service of a modern, dedicated police department. This annual report seeks to identify the many issues facing the police department while at the same time reflecting our need to be accountable to those we serve.

Respectfully submitted



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Chief R.M.B. Crowhurst

