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DATE JUNE 05, 2019 For Information

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DATE: May 23, 2019

SUBJECT: **2018 PERSONS AT RISK ANNUAL REPORT**

FROM: Dale Mumby, A/Deputy Chief, Investigative Services Command

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the 2018 Persons at Risk Annual Report be received as information.

**REPORT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse
- Domestic Violence Occurrences
- Youth Crime Report
- Internet Child Exploitation

**DISCUSSION**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board with a summary of distinct fields related to Persons at Risk. The reporting categories set out in this Report relate to the following five (5) areas:

- i) **Child Abuse and Neglect** – reporting area, Special Victims Unit
- ii) **Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse** – reporting area, Community Mobilization and Well Being
- iii) **Domestic Violence Occurrences** – reporting area, Family and Intimate Partner Violence
- iv) **Youth Crime Report** – reporting area, Youth Engagement
- v) **Internet Child Exploitation** – reporting area, Internet Child Exploitation Unit

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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

## CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

### **Background**

One of core responsibilities of the Peel Regional Police (PRP) Special Victims Unit (SVU) is to conduct thorough investigations into allegations of child abuse (children under 18) by caregivers, a category which includes, but is not limited to parents, babysitters, teachers, daycare providers, child youth workers and foster parents.

All investigations in SVU are conducted in accordance with the PRP Criminal Investigation Management Plan and the Region of Peel Child Abuse Investigation Protocol in partnership with the Peel District School Board, Trillium Health Partners, Peel Children's Centre and Peel CAS. The Inspector in charge of SVU has participated in the review of the Region of Peel Child Abuse Protocol which will be formally updated in the spring of 2019.

The Region of Peel Sexual Assault Emergency Response Protocol is no longer valid. Effective February 2019, it was replaced with the Enhanced Violence Against Women Protocol which was spear headed by the Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (PCAWA). Peel Regional Police were actively involved in the protocols development.

Certain designated offences are mandated by the Solicitor General and has been since 1995, to be investigated in accordance with Ontario Major Case Management System established guidelines. Officers within SVU are trained to a level that meets or exceeds the necessary investigative skills; they receive on-going training, participating in courses such as:

- Sexual Assault Investigators Course
- Major Case Management Course
- Powercase Course
- Investigating Offences Against Children Course
- Forensic Interviewing Course
- Search Warrant Course
- Preparation, Engage, Account, Closure and Evaluation (PEACE) Interviewing Course

Child abuse investigations where young victims suffer serious, life threatening injuries are usually complex and will often hinge on medical evidence. Over the last several years, SVU has on average, investigated 10 of these serious child abuse cases per year.

SVU liaises and works cooperatively with numerous social services and community agencies within the Region of Peel. The relationships are guided by the Region of Peel Child Abuse Investigation Protocol. Participating agencies include the following agencies:

- Trillium Health Partners
- Peel CAS
- Crown Attorney's Office
- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- Ministry of Attorney General – Peel
- Peel Children's Centre
- Peel District School Board
- William Osler Health System

The Protocol communicates the required reporting, investigative and legal responsibility processes related to incidents of child abuse with the goal of ensuring the safety and well-being of children in Peel Region. The protocol directs that incidents of a criminal nature be investigated jointly by the PRP and the CAS, working together.

## Findings

In 2018, SVU received 693 calls for assistance from the CAS. The calls for assistance were either a query for information or a consultation on an incident they were investigating, with some of these incidents leading to a joint investigation. The review of referrals is an ongoing joint process between PRP and CAS to maintain and refine the reporting criteria and achieve a consistent method of evaluating occurrences.

Calls for Assistance Received from the CAS					
2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
976	923	1055	880	773	693

## Special Victims Unit Child Abuse Investigations

The table below lists the number of physical, sexual and neglect investigations undertaken in the Region in relation to children (<18) where the suspect is a caregiver.

	Abuse Types					2017-18 Change
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
Sexual Offences Against Children	87	116	111	123	145	15%
Physical Assaults Children	221	231	226	230	226	-2%
Neglect	7	1	2	0	3	100%
<b>Total Investigations</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>6%</b>

## Partnerships

The Officer-in-Charge of SVU sits on numerous committees representing PRP. These include:

Child Abuse Review Team (CART) – mandated by the Family and Child Services Act of Ontario, this team reviews incidents of child abuse ensuring the protection of children and improving police and related agencies response.

Children's Aid Liaison (CAL) - The purpose is to meet on a quarterly basis to discuss new initiatives and policies in both organizations. The opportunity is also used to bring forward any incidents both positive and negative in order to maintain a progressive working relationship.

Victim Services of Peel (VSOP) - the Officer-in-Charge of SVU represents PRP as the police liaison officer on the Board of Directors.

The Peel Crown Attorney's office has a strong relationship with SVU investigators and ensures support, as may be required, through the investigative process and criminal prosecution.

SVU is well positioned to continue to effectively fulfill their investigative mandate. The assigned officers are currently well trained and will continue to receive the training required to develop and maintain the skills necessary to effectively manage the complex and sensitive nature of child abuse investigations.

PRP are recognized for the ability to work collaboratively with other agencies within the Region of Peel. Our Child Abuse Investigation Protocol has been recognized as a standard for the Province, and is a working document that is a testament to our commitment to children and families within the Region of Peel.

## **ELDER AND VULNERABLE ADULT ABUSE**

### **Background**

The following provides information about the mandate of the Peel Regional Police (PRP) Elder Abuse and Vulnerable Adult Coordinator ("Regional Coordinator") and the number of related investigations that were undertaken in adherence to Ontario Policing Standards LE-021.

### **Definition:**

*Elder abuse/vulnerable adult abuse refers to any act or behaviour that harms or threatens to harm the health or well-being of an elderly or vulnerable adult. The abuse is often caused by someone in a position of trust or authority that the elderly/vulnerable adult relies upon for their basic needs. Forms of abuse include, but are not limited to physical, sexual, financial and psychological abuse and neglect, whether active or passive.*

The age of 60 years has historically been used by Peel Regional Police as a benchmark for collecting data with respect to incidents involving possible or actual elder abuse, and is the standard amongst police services throughout Ontario.

### **Number of Persons 60 Years of Age and Over in Mississauga & Brampton**

2018 population estimates for the Cities of Mississauga and Brampton are as follows:

Total Population	1,400,275
Population 60+	269,274
Percentage of population 60+	19.2%

*Source: Region of Peel Planning Department*

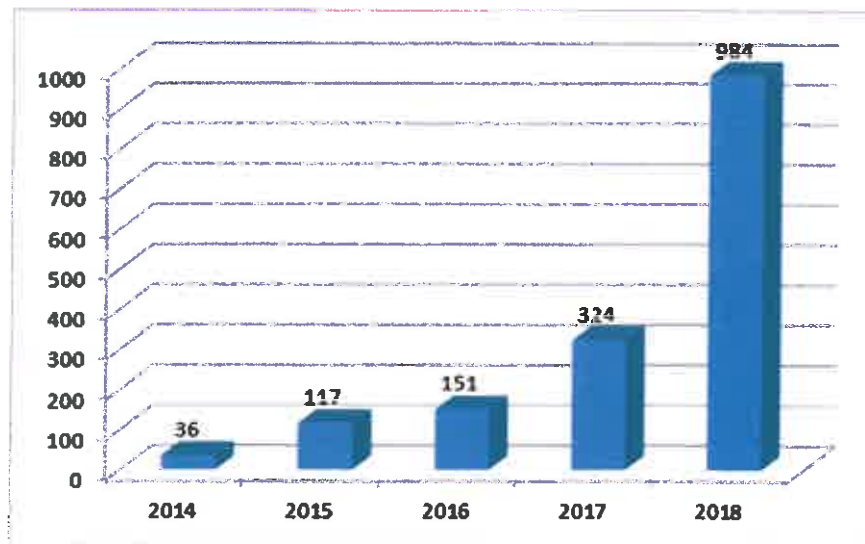
## Findings

Between January 1, 2018 and December 31, 2018, the Regional Coordinator reviewed 2,567 occurrences that involved persons 60 years of age or older. Of these, 984 incidents were further investigated for signs of elder abuse. This represents a significant increase from the 324 related occurrences that were investigated in 2017.

This increase can be attributed to the following;

- Ongoing education, information and awareness of Elder Abuse that promotes the reporting of such incidents, and;
- Changes were made to the coding of PRP domestic related occurrences in September, 2017. In an effort to capture more expansive data of Elder Abuse related occurrences, all domestic incidents that directly or indirectly involve persons 60 years of age or older are now coded both as “Domestic” and potential “Elder Abuse.” Previously, these occurrences were coded only as domestic occurrences and did not capture the elder component.

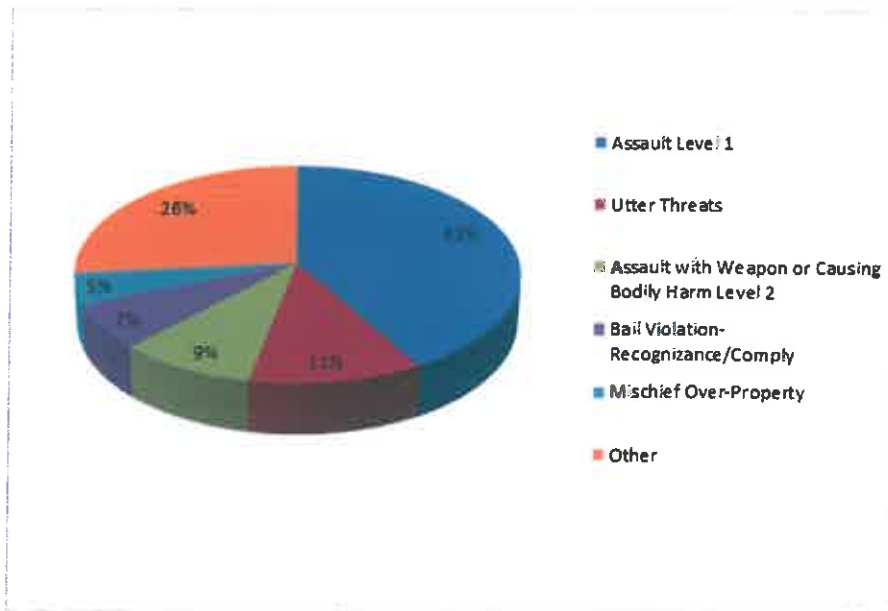
Number of Incidents Identified as Potential Elder Abuse 2014 – 2018:



In 2018, the 984 occurrences that were investigated for signs of elder abuse were resolved as follows:

- 132 were cleared by charge,
- 721 were solved but deemed non-criminal,
- 29 were unsolved pending the receipt of additional information,
- 52 were unfounded, and
- 50 cases are on-going at the time of this report.

### Breakdown of Incidents Cleared by Charge - 2018:



#### **Presentations:**

In 2018, the Elder Abuse Coordinator provided 32 presentations to various personnel including: newly promoted sergeants, recruit officers, officers attending the Domestic Violence and Intimate Partner course, Communications Bureau personnel and Victim Services staff. The Elder Abuse Coordinator also delivered 18 external presentations to community members comprised of emergency medical services, community agency workers, long term care service providers, residents, caregivers, elders living in their own home, volunteers and neighbourhood associations. The presentations are designed to raise awareness and educate participants as to the issues surrounding elder and vulnerable person's abuse.

#### **Elder Abuse Committee Involvement:**

The Regional Coordinator sits on four committees in the Region of Peel related to elder and vulnerable persons' issues. The role of the Regional Coordinator on these committees is to provide interpretation, direction and guidance from a police perspective. These committees are:

- Law Enforcement Agencies Protecting Seniors (L.E.A.P.S.)
- Peel Elder Abuse Prevention Network (P.E.A.P.N.)
- P.E.A.P.N. Management Team
- Making Our Seniors Matter (M.O.S.M.)

As the elder population in Peel Region grows, our organization, through the Regional Coordinator, will continue to collaborate with community partners to raise awareness, identify trends and coordinate resources that provide quality service to the elderly. This supports the 2017-2019 Strategic Plan to *strengthen community engagement and provide assistance to victims of crime.*

## FAMILY AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE UNIT

### Background

The Peel Regional Police (PRP) Family and Intimate Partner Violence Unit (FIPV) plays a key role in ensuring compliance with both internal and external legislation governing our service's response to matters involving family and intimate partner violence. FIPV is staffed by a Regional Coordinator and is not an investigative unit. The Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that officers are effectively trained and kept apprised of evolving legislation with the goal of ensuring that PRP complies with provincial adequacy standards and emerging best practices.

FIPV is the policy centre for the following PRP directives:

<b>Issue Number</b>	<b>Subject</b>
I-A-602 (F)	Criminal Harassment
II-A-213 (F)	Project Guardian - Pilot Project
I-B-713 (F)	Family and Intimate Partner Violence

The majority of domestic incident calls received by PRP are investigated by Divisional front line uniform personnel. While many of these calls are non-criminal in nature, others may be more complex and potentially indicative of a threat to a person's safety. In complex cases, respective Divisional Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) takes carriage of the investigations.

### Findings

#### Adequacy Standard LE-024 – Training Models

Commencing January 2001, all police services in Ontario were required by Adequacy Standard LE-024 to train Domestic Violence Investigators (DVI's) and to select a police response model for the investigation of domestic cases. The four models of service delivery offered were:

1. Ensuring that an adequate number of patrol officers are designated as DVI's, or;
2. Establishing a specialized unit of DVI's responsible for undertaking, managing, or reviewing all domestic violence investigations, or;
3. Designating a domestic violence occurrence as a threshold occurrence, thereby requiring that the investigation be undertaken or managed by a criminal investigator, or;
4. Designating patrol supervisors as DVI's, responsible for undertaking, managing, or reviewing all domestic violence investigations.

## **Domestic Violence Investigator Training**

The Domestic Violence Investigator's (DVI) Course is an extensive four day course held twice yearly at the Emil V. Kolb Centre for Police Excellence. Upon completion, officers are awarded the DVI designation. Historically, priority was given to supervisors and acting supervisors, however, PRP has since adopted a more inclusive approach and includes front line officers and those in investigative bureaus who are exposed to these types of investigations. PRP currently has **830** officers with the DVI designation.

## **Divisional Domestic Violence Coordinators**

Each PRP Division has a designated Divisional FIPV Coordinator. These Coordinators augment the training needs of front line officers through platoon/parade training.

The Regional FIPV Coordinator liaises regularly with the Divisional FIPV Coordinators and hosts quarterly meetings. These meetings provide an opportunity for ongoing support, to answer inquiries from investigators, provide mentoring and identify quality control and NICHE tasking deficiencies. Additionally, by meeting as a group, concerning trends are identified and brought to the attention of managers. Coordinators continue to focus on the needs/safety concerns of the victim, which may include liaising with the Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel Committee (ReVAMP) described later in this document.

## **Domestic Violence Investigations**

Peel Regional Police is in compliance with the charging guidelines of the Province of Ontario. The Service has comprehensive directives that speak to family and intimate partner investigations. These directives include detailed steps on how domestic related investigations are documented to ensure that officers are conducting a comprehensive investigation.

Directives require officers to video record interviews and when not readily available, to take a written statement followed up by a video statement. A KGB statement is to be taken when criminal charges are anticipated<sup>1</sup>.

In providing follow-up to the post court judicial process, the PRP Offender Management Unit is the policy centre for the Federal and Provincial Sex Offender Registry and high risk individuals. The local courts utilize the Partner Assault Response Program (PAR), a program offering various supports including rehabilitation, healthy relationship education and anger management for offenders found guilty of domestic violence offences. There are two court approved PAR providers in Peel Region: Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin (serves Brampton) and Family Services of Peel (serves Mississauga). The John Howard Society of Peel offers a Healthy Partners Program for offenders.

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<sup>1</sup> A KGB statement refers to *R v B (KG)* - a 1993 Supreme Court of Canada decision serving to guide police process in relation to the admissibility of prior inconsistent statements as proof of the truth of their contents.



## **Safety Issues and Public Awareness**

### ***a) Peel Children's Aid***

Peel Regional Police takes a precautionary approach in dealing with matters where a child is likely to be exposed to domestic violence. These incidents are reported directly to the Peel Children's Aid Society (CAS). Peel CAS has two Domestic Violence Teams solely dedicated to providing support for children who have been exposed to intimate partner violence. This practice exceeds the requirements of the Child and Family Services Act.

### ***b) Project Guardian – SupportLink***

In December 2017, Victim Services of Peel (VSOP) launched Project Guardian which replaced the previous personal alarm system (Domestic Violence Emergency Response System - DVERS). Project Guardian is a pilot project sponsored by VSOP. This project provides victims who are at high risk of life-threatening violence with a portable, personal Global Positioning System (G.P.S.) locator device. Each recipient is provided with a small pendant which is carried by the individual. When the recipient is faced with immediate danger of physical harm, he/she depresses the SOS button on the pendant. This automatically calls Northern911 Emergency Centre through 2-way hands-free voice technology who in-turn notifies the appropriate police service.

Criteria and suitability for the program is determined by VSOP. The criterion includes: the accused does not reside with the client; the incident is reported to police; there is a court order of protection (restraining order, peace bond, recognizance etc.) in place; and, the individual is at high risk of being the victim of physical violence.

In 2018, 8 clients benefited from the program, which will continue to be piloted through 2019.

### ***c) Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel (ReVAMP)***

Peel Regional Police has been involved in developing and implementing a comprehensive and collaborative response strategy for dealing with intimate partner violence. The Risk Evaluation and Management Committee (ReVAMP) was developed to address the ongoing safety needs of high-risk victims of intimate partner violence.

This review committee is co-chaired by PRP and is comprised of justice partners including Police, Peel Crown Attorney's Office, Brampton Probation and Parole, Mississauga Probation and Parole, Victim Witness Assistance Program, and Peel CAS (when children are involved). A representative from the PRP Offender Management Unit was also added to the committee. Non-justice partners (shelters, VSOP etc.) can make referrals to the ReVAMP committee. Twenty-five new cases were reviewed by ReVAMP in 2018.

#### ***Public Education and Awareness:***

The Family and Intimate Partner Violence unit uses a victim-centred approach. Its highest priority is education by promoting awareness and facilitating access to appropriate resources. Presentations by PRP in public forums often focus on "Understanding the Police Response to Domestic Violence". In order to achieve these goals, the following changes were implemented in 2018:

- Safety planning tips and suggestions were made available to the public on the PRP FIPV webpage.
- The “Family and Intimate Partner Violence Pamphlet” was created, providing current and relevant information to our community in multiple languages spoken in Peel Region.

### **Presentations to PRP and VSOP Staff (Appendix I)**

Incorporated into the four day PRP DVI training course are presentations from PRP’s multiagency partners who work with victims of IPV on a daily basis. In 2018, 69 personnel received training in Domestic Violence and/or Victims’ Issues through the Domestic Violence Investigator’s Course.

### **Community Partnerships / Committees (Appendix II)**

The Regional FIPV Coordinator is an active participant on various external committees. PRP continues to maintain long standing, working relationships with several community/social services agencies. These agencies focus primarily on the needs of victims and the families of victims impacted by Family and Intimate Partner Violence.

In 2018, an initiative was developed to proactively address recurring domestic calls for service which consistently involved the same individuals. With the assistance of a Crime Analyst, an address dashboard was created to monitor and predict repeat calls for service and provides the Regional FIPV Coordinator with insight into ongoing repetitive problems. The FIPV Coordinator works closely with the Community Mobilization and Well-Being Unit who then reach out to these individuals in a non-enforcement manner. The purpose is to intervene before situations escalate to assaultive or more destructive behaviour by trying to determine the root cause of the issue. Once determined, appropriate supports and assistance are offered through the various community partnerships utilised regularly by Community Mobilization and Well-Being. This represents both proactive and preventative measures employed by PRP. Presently, data is captured based on address information; however in 2019, this process is expanding to individual identifiers to allow for more accurate and timely intervention.

### **Statistical Information**

2018 FIPV statistics have shown an increase in the number of intimate partner criminal charges laid when compared to 2017, as well as the number of intimate partner verbal disputes and non-intimate partner calls.

This increase could be attributed in part to the following:

- An increase in population.
- Education and awareness of intimate partner violence within the community.
- An increase in internal training on Family and Intimate Partner Violence and engagement of the Divisional Coordinators to continue supporting and educating officers at the divisional level.
- PRP has worked closely with community partners and stakeholders to build relationships, assist with their internal training and create strategies and forums that encourage victims to come forward and report violence.

The Family and Intimate Partner Violence occurrence categories are defined as follows:

**a) Intimate Partner Occurrences (Total Cleared)**

Statistics for this category relate to occurrences of intimate relationships involving persons who are married, living common-law, same-sex couples and dating relationships, whether past or current. These figures identify the number of occurrences cleared by charge or cleared otherwise:

Intimate Partner					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Cleared	2,137	2,199	2,407	2,402	2,706
Cleared by Charge	2,105	2,150	2,347	2,329	2,660
Cleared by Other	32	49	60	73	46

Source: OCCDIV 2014-2018

**b) Intimate Partner Occurrences (Intimate Partner: Verbal – No Charges)**

These statistics involve intimate relationship verbal disputes where no criminal charges have been laid:

Intimate Partner					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No Criminal Charges	5,970	6,310	6,521	7,024	7,253

No Criminal Charges = Actual - Total Cleared

**c) Family Dispute Occurrences (Total Cleared)**

These statistics involve family incidents (non-intimate partner), including child, parent, siblings, cousins etc. where occurrences were either cleared by charged or cleared otherwise.

Family Dispute					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Cleared	935	958	1,019	1,001	1,090
Cleared by Charge	769	793	868	788	880
Cleared by Other	166	165	151	213	210

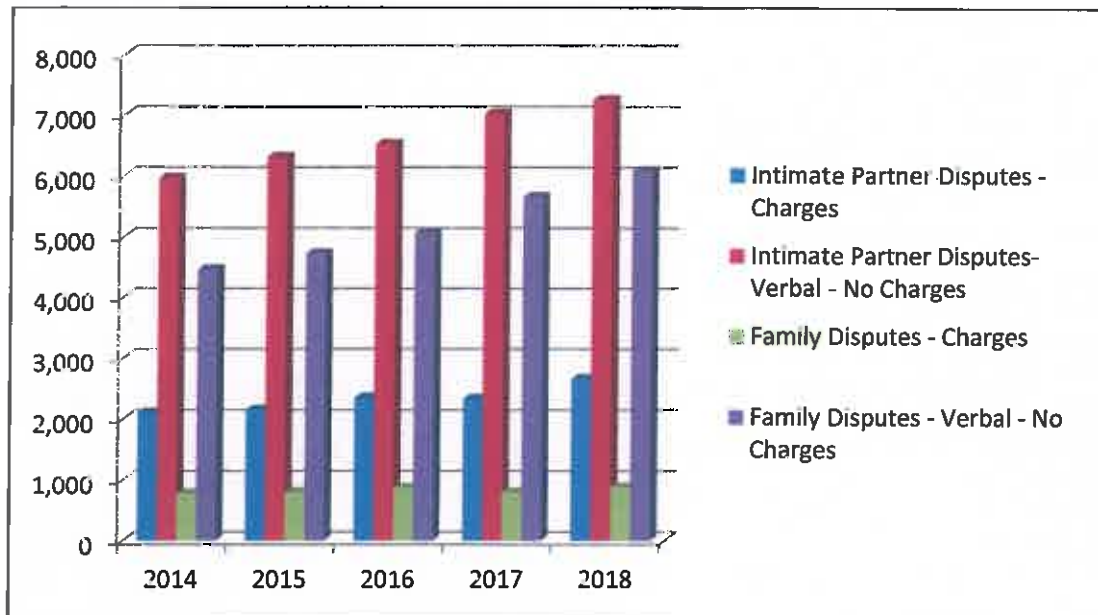
**d) Family Dispute Occurrences (Verbal – No Charges)**

These statistics relate to verbal family disputes (parent/child, siblings etc.) where no criminal charges were laid:

Family Dispute					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No Criminal Charges	4,463	4,727	5,066	5,660	6,082

Source: OCCDIV 2014-2018

**Graph illustration of the statistics provided on pages 14 and 15**



The response of PRP to matters of Family and Intimate Partner Violence continues to meet, and in some cases, exceed the requirements of established adequacy standards. PRP exceeds the levels set out in the 2016 National Framework for Collaborative Police Action on Intimate Partner Violence.

The PRP Family and Intimate Partner Violence Unit continues to work collaboratively with operational divisions to ensure that training needs are met and that best practices are adhered to. This is in keeping with our 2017-2019 Strategic Plan's *Strategic Objective in providing assistance to victims of crime and maintain public trust, confidence and satisfaction by delivering quality services and ensuring transparency and accountability*

## **YOUTH CRIME**

### **Background**

The following provides an overview of crime statistics and trends as they relate to young persons investigated by Peel Regional Police. The statistics that are cited in this report were provided by Corporate Planning and Research.

The Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA) defines a young person as someone between the ages of 12 and 17. The YCJA came into effect in April 2003 and includes guiding principles that promote the protection of society while also striking a balance between the need for a meaningful consequence for youth who contravene the law and addressing underlying causes to facilitate rehabilitation.

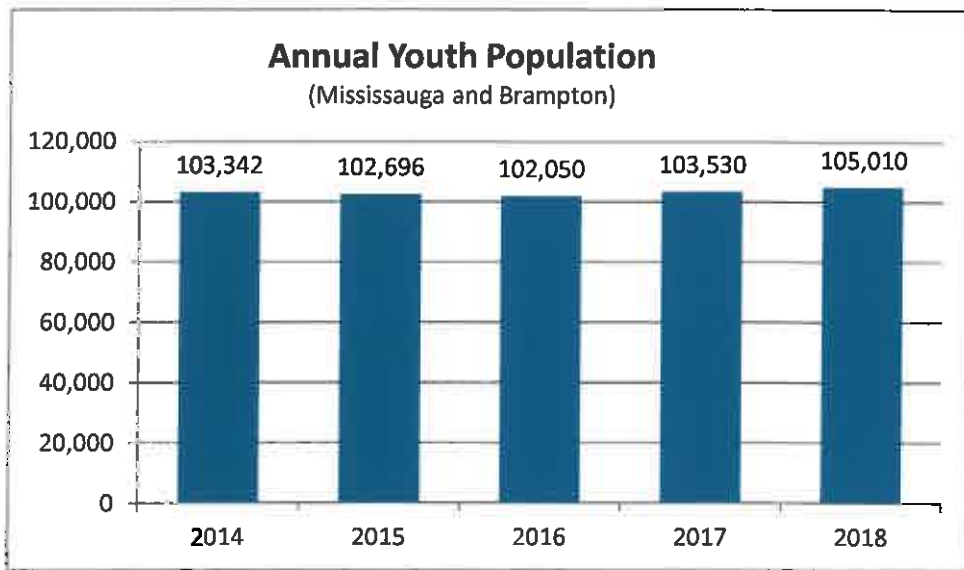
In 2008, an increase in gun violence amongst youth prompted a study and subsequent release of a report titled, "The Review of the Roots of Violence". The analysis revealed several

underlying issues that required a structured and sustained response. In 2012, Ontario's "Youth Action Plan" was presented to address those issues through evidence-based initiatives that provide opportunities to youth and strengthen community capacity. Recognized as essential to the Plan was the requirement to provide early positive intervention in a young person's life, to better coordinate multi-agency efforts and the adoption of a long term sustained approach focused on positive outcomes.

### a) Population

In 2018, as stated above, the combined population of the cities of Brampton and Mississauga was 1,400,275; 105,010 of which were young persons (1.4% increase from 2017). In 2018, young persons represented 7.7% of the area population.

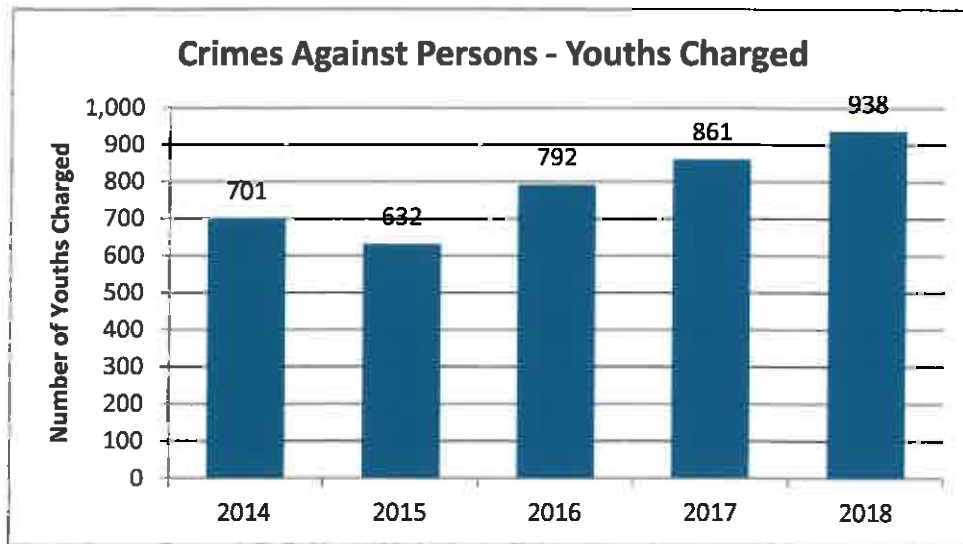
Figure 1



### b) Crimes Against Persons

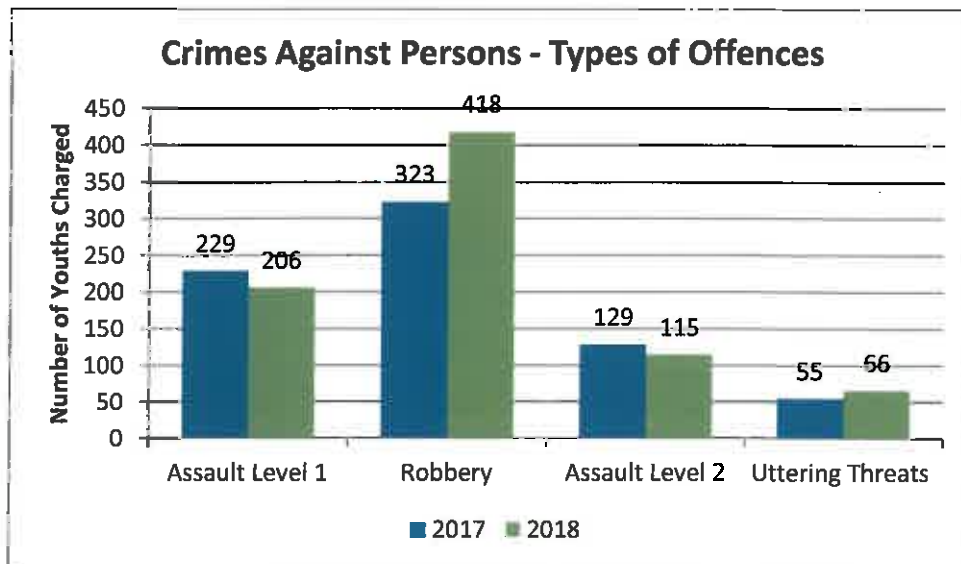
Crimes against persons include offences such as assault, robbery, sexual offences, criminal harassment, and threatening. In 2018, 938 young persons were charged with one of the noted offences. This represented an increase of 77 young persons (8.9%) in comparison to 2017.

Figure 2



The four most frequently occurring incident types for crimes committed by youths against persons were robbery, assault level 1, assault level 2 and uttering threats.

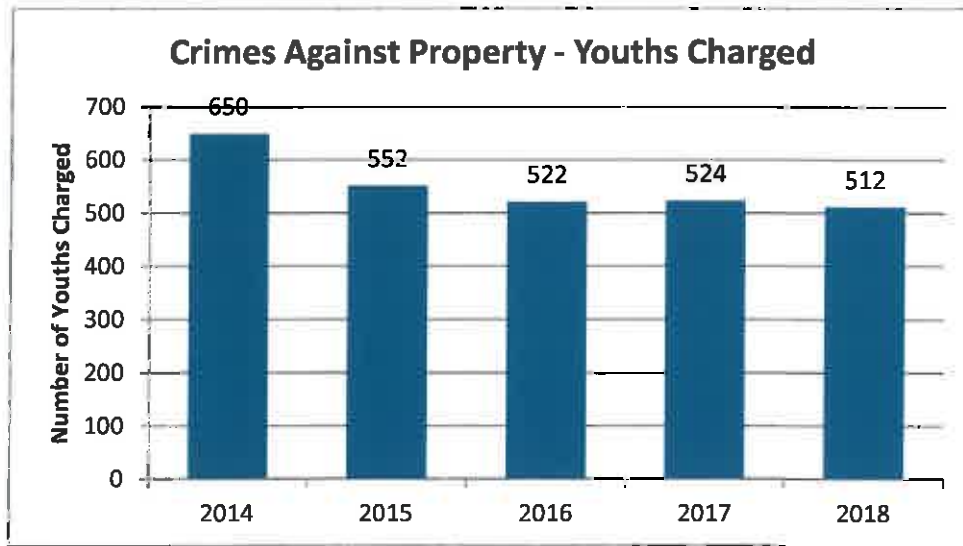
Figure 3



**c) Crimes Against Property**

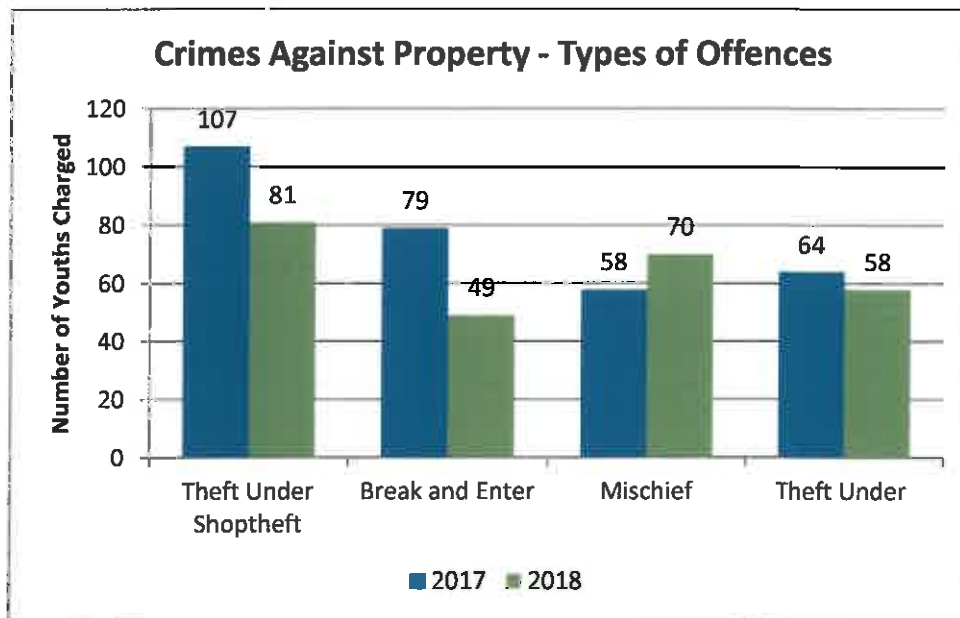
Crimes against property include offences such as break and enter, theft, possession of property obtained by crime, fraud, mischief and arson. In 2018, 512 young persons were charged with one of the noted offences. This represented a decrease of 12 (2.3%) in comparison to 2017.

Figure 4



The four most frequently occurring incident types for crimes against property were theft under \$5000 (shop theft), break and enter, mischief, and theft under \$5,000 (other).

Figure 5



**d) Criminal Driving Offences**

Criminal driving offences include offences such as dangerous driving, fail to remain at the scene of an accident, driving while impaired and street racing. In 2018, 21 young persons were charged with one of the noted offences, a decrease of 4 (16%) from 2017. The majority of the charges were related to dangerous driving. There were no youth charges in 2018 for impaired operation of a motor vehicle by drugs.

Figure 6

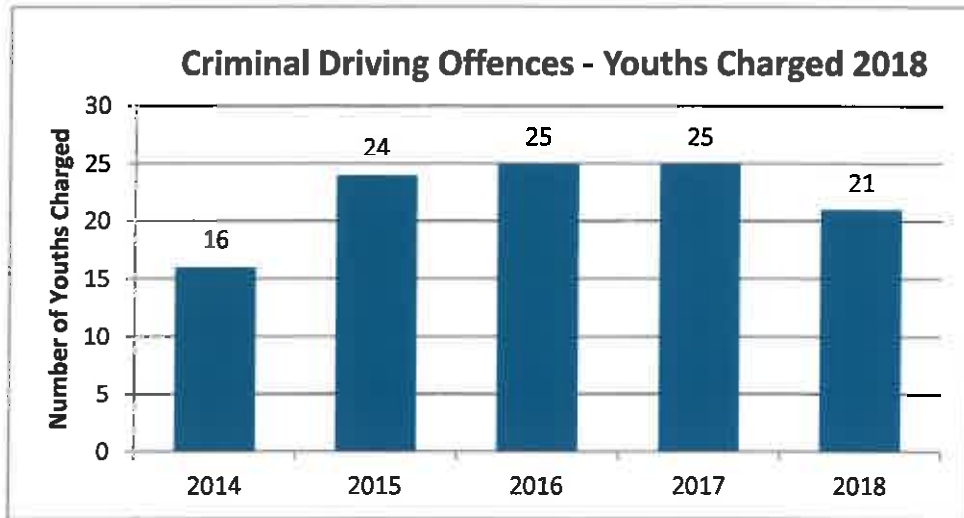
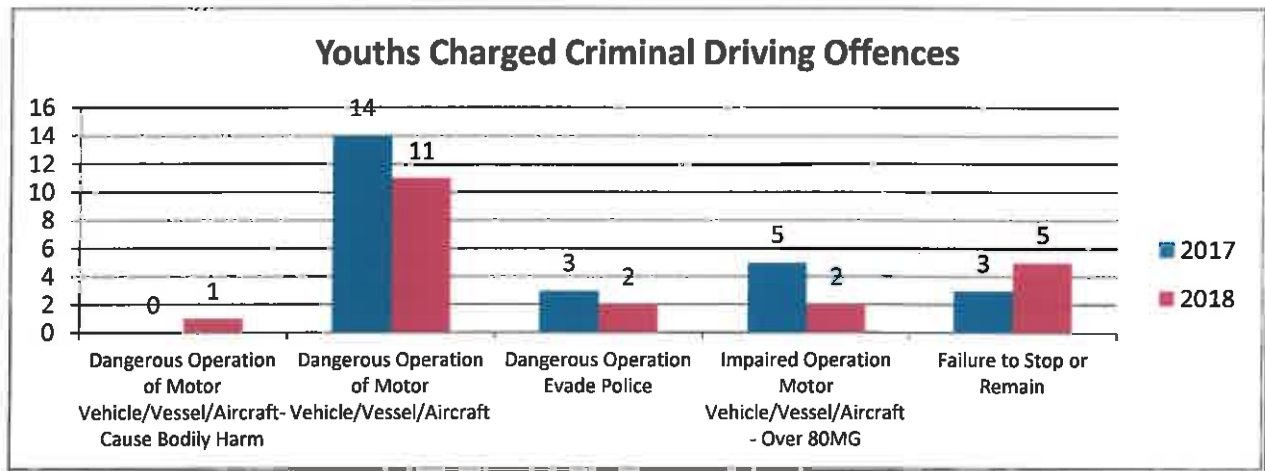


Figure 7

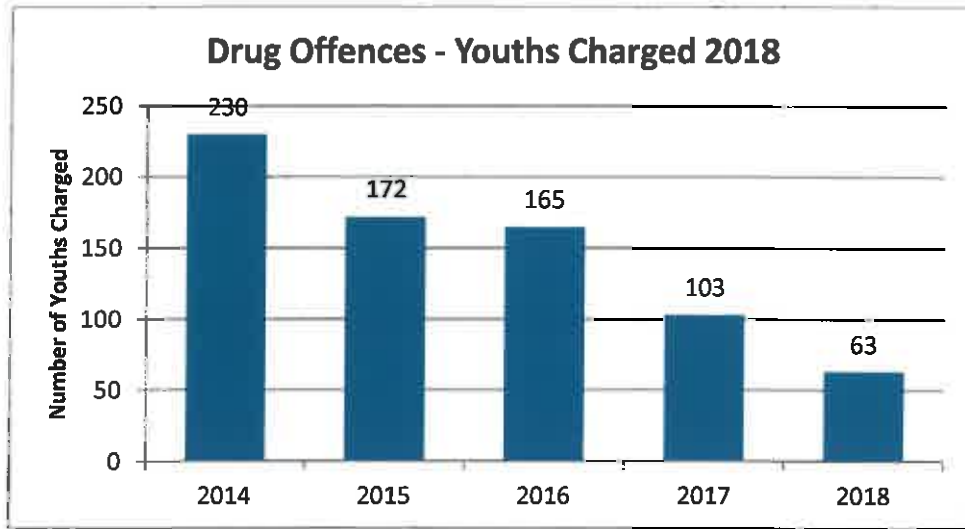


**e) Drug Offences**

Drug offences include possession, trafficking, and other related crimes. In 2018, 63 young persons were charged in relation to one of these offences. This represented a decrease of 40 (38.8%) from 2017.



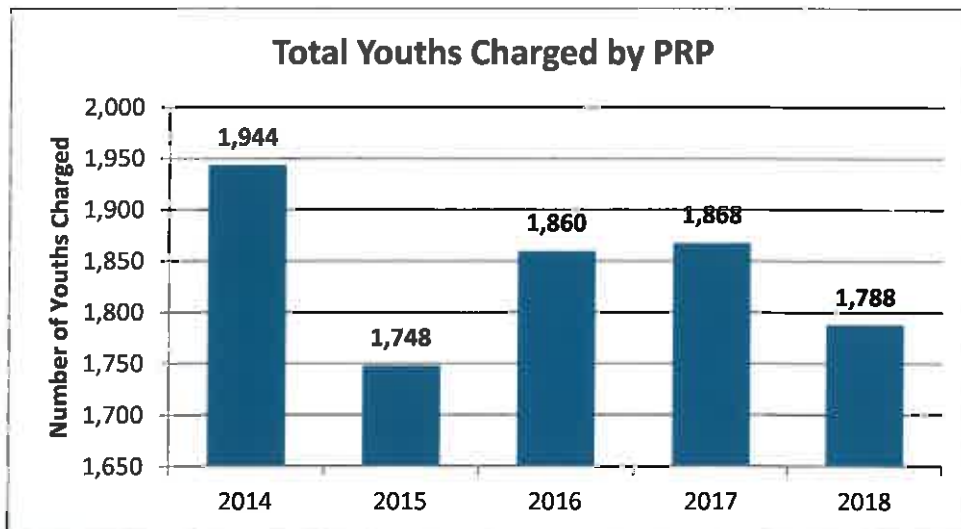
Figure 8



**f) Total Young Persons Charged**

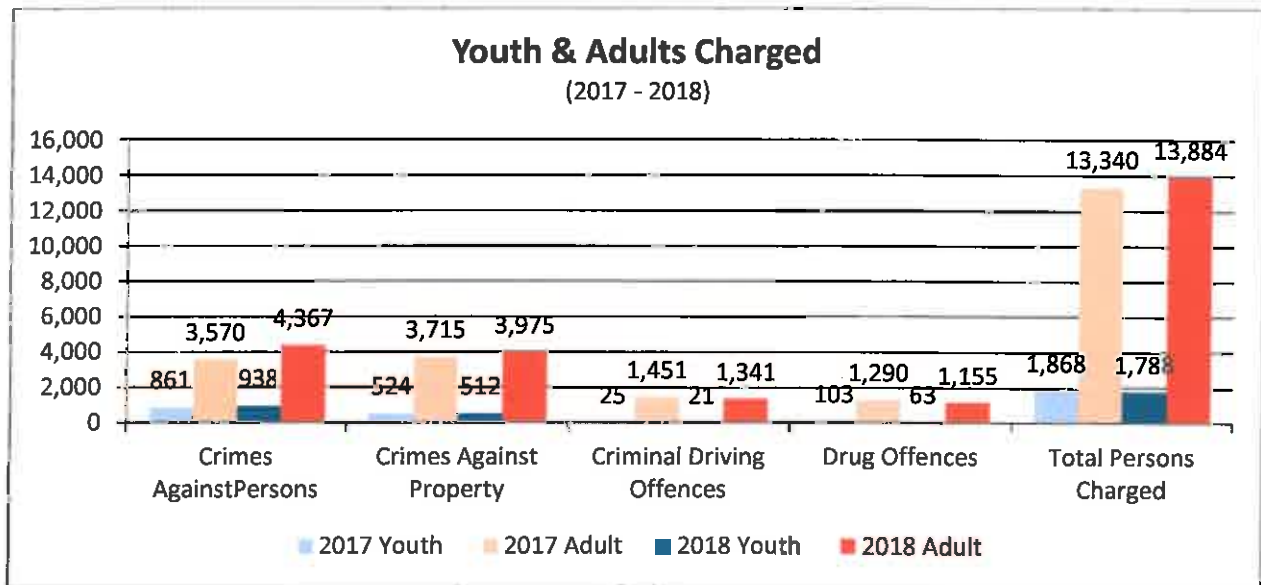
In 2018, a total of 1,788 young persons were charged by police, a decrease of 80 (4.3%) from 2017.

Figure 9



Young persons represented 11.4% of all persons charged by the Peel Regional Police in 2018. The following chart summarizes the comparative analysis of both youth and adult offenders, related to 2017 and 2018.

Figure 10



## Findings

In general terms, there was a decrease in youth crime reported in 2018 as compared to 2017. As identified in Figure 9, the total number of criminal charges involving youth for 2018 decreased by 80, or 4.3%. While the frequency of charges as shown in Figure 10 shows a decrease in the overall criminal involvement of young people, the incidents of crimes against persons increased by 8.9%, while drug offences decreased by 38.8%.

## Pre-charge Diversion

A significant component of the Youth Criminal Justice Act is the application of Extrajudicial Measures, a means by which young people are diverted away from the criminal justice system while still ensuring that they are held accountable for their actions. The legislation directs that extrajudicial measures for youth be considered before a charge is laid. Where appropriate, police will refer youth who have committed a criminal offence to the 'Pre-charge Diversion Program' administered by Associated Youth Services of Peel (AYSP).

In 2018, 435 cases were referred by police to AYSP, compared to 578 referrals in 2017. This represented a decrease of 143 cases (24.7%). Each month, the Pre-charge Diversion Program Coordinator analyzes referrals compared to cautions. In 2018, 53% of all occurrences that met the criteria of the diversion program were referred to AYSP. This represents a decrease from the 61% referrals that were made in 2017.

Minor cannabis possession is no longer a divertible offence due to the new cannabis legislation. Although it is still illegal for anyone under 19 years of age to possess cannabis, it is now a provincial matter rather than a criminal one, thus, making it an ineligible offence for the pre-charge diversion program. This will likely have an impact on the overall number of referrals being made by officers to the program going forward.

Monthly analysis is conducted on the recidivism rate of youth in comparison with the same period of the previous year. Of the youth who successfully completed the program in 2018, only

10% committed another crime within a one year period. For those who did not complete the program, the recidivism rate was considerably higher at 24%.

The Pre-charge Diversion Program enabled 435 young people to have a second chance to learn from their mistakes, rather than entering into the criminal justice system.

### **Neighbourhood Policing Units / School Resource Officers**

Neighbourhood Policing Unit officers (School Resource Officers) are assigned to every secondary school in Mississauga and Brampton. The relationships these officers have established with students and staff continue to help maintain a safe environment for young people, teachers and visitors. Officers have continued to balance enforcement with the development of meaningful and impactful relationships, enabling them to serve as positive role models for the students. Neighbourhood Policing Unit officers have spent countless hours in fundraising, sports, and other volunteer school activities which allow for mentoring opportunities between the students and officers.

School officers investigated 1,992 daytime incidents during 2018, a decrease of just 1.6% from 2017. Many of the criminal charges laid against youth in our region were laid by school officers.

### **Youth Education**

The Youth Education Bureau is responsible for safety-related presentations to elementary school students. These officers provided the *Reduce Abuse in Drugs* (R.A.I.D.) program to 23,261 students along with Bullying Awareness, Internet Safety, Youth and the Law, Street Proofing, Drug Abuse Prevention, and Youth Gangs presentations to 89,550 youths in 2018.

In the summer of 2018, the Peel Children's Safety Village underwent extensive renovations and did not provide the Pedestrian Pedal Power (P3) days on pedestrian and bicycle safety. However, officers were able to attend various summer camps, daycares, and local agencies where they provided catered lessons to 624 youths on summer safety and community helpers.

Also in the summer of 2018, the Peel Children's Safety Village provided a summer camp experience to youths aged 5-8 from priority neighbourhoods at no cost to the participants. Officers welcomed 130 youths who received safety presentations and learned about community helpers including Paramedics, Fire Department, CN Police, and the Peel Regional Police K9 unit.

### **Drug Education**

The Drug Education Unit is responsible for delivering police-related education to secondary school students. In 2018, 7,932 students received drug education presentations on topics such as street level drugs, the effects of drugs on the body and the importance of making positive choices.

Students also received the Identifying Vulnerabilities in Youth (IVY) presentation. This presentation focuses primarily on human trafficking, online safety, sexting and is delivered in conjunction with the presentation on drug awareness. In 2018, 11,382 students received this presentation.

## **Youth in Policing Initiative (YIPI)**

During the summer of 2018, the Peel Regional Police employed 25 young people in a mentoring relationship for a period of eight (8) weeks. The Ministry of Children and Youth Services provided funding for 20 students while the Peel Police Services Board provided funding for 5 students.

The Youth in Policing Initiative (YIPI) program was structured to ensure a meaningful employment and mentorship experience for the students. As part of this opportunity, the students worked in groups to create a video outlining their experiences with the YIPI program. Students presented their videos to their fellow students and officers from the Youth Education Bureau, with the winning video being broadcast during their graduation ceremony.

For the second year, the YIPI Team Leader position was utilized. This is a partnership with the United Way and Safe City Mississauga. This YIPI Team Leader position was hired through Safe City Mississauga to work alongside Peel Regional Police for the eight-week YIPI program. It places a university/college-aged youth from the community in a mentorship role for the YIPI students and serves as a liaison between the students and officers. This individual assisted our officers in planning and organizing events for the students. All participants found it to be very valuable and it will be continued in the 2019 YIPI program.

Overall, the number of youths charged with a criminal offence in 2018 decreased slightly (4.3%) from the previous year. While the number of youths charged with crimes against persons has gone slightly up (8.9%), the number of youths charged with drug-related offences has gone down (38.8%). Peel Regional Police will continue to deliver programs in a continued effort to reduce those offences and build positive relationships with youths in the community. We will also continue with partnerships that adhere to Ontario's Youth Action Plan to contribute to a safer community for our youth in line with our *Strategic Objective to Enhance youth programs and partnerships*.

## **INTERNET AND CHILD EXPLOITATION**

### **Background**

The function of the PRP Internet and Child Exploitation (I.C.E.) Unit is to identify, investigate and prosecute persons involved in the online victimization of children. Both reactive and proactive investigations are undertaken.

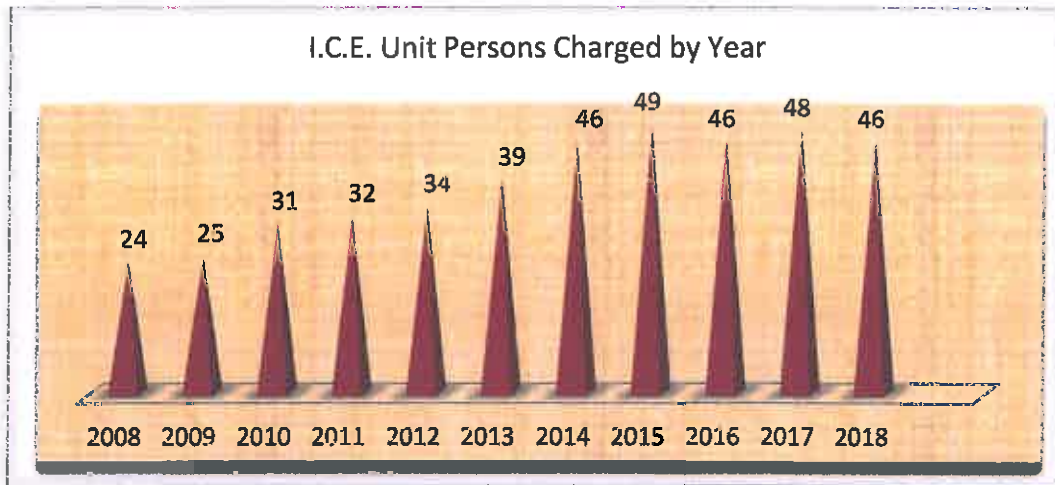
As internet crime has no geographical boundaries, the PRP I.C.E. Unit regularly works with Law Enforcement Partners around the world. In 2018, some of those agencies included; INTERPOL, United States of America Department of Homeland Security (H.S.I), Canadian Border Services Agency (C.B.S.A.), Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.), R.C.M.P., Ontario Provincial Police (O.P.P.), and 26 other Municipal Police Services that make up the Provincial Strategy. The Provincial Strategy is a multi-disciplinary, coordinated province-wide approach to combat internet crimes against children.

External to the Law Enforcement Community, the PRP I.C.E. Unit works closely with several Non-Governmental Organizations (N.G.O.'s). One of these is the Canadian Centre for Child Protection (C3P) in Winnipeg which operates Canada's national tip line for online exploitation. The Centre also provides resource material that has been federally approved for dissemination in schools. By connecting the Centre with PRP's Youth Education Bureau, age appropriate information regarding online exploitation has been distributed to Peel's Youth.

Finally, as all ICE investigations strive to rescue the victims of online exploitation, one of our most important community partners is the BOOST Child and Youth Advocacy Centre. BOOST offers a counselling program supported by the Provincial Strategy that is made available to the victims (and their siblings and parents) of child sexual exploitation. All identified victims are referred to this program where they receive immediate service that is paid for by the Strategy.

## Findings

The PRP I.C.E. Unit has continued to grow its capacity, and enforcement within the Unit has remained steady in 2018. The below graph captures the historical performance of the PRP I.C.E. Unit:



Last year's success was not accomplished without challenges. The PRP I.C.E. Unit was under operational strength throughout the year as there was a significant turn over within the Unit due to unforeseen retirements.

Challenges with judicial authorizations for organizations outside Canada (Google, Dropbox, etc.) continue. Investigators also need to rely on the time consuming Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT) process or soliciting the participation of American law enforcement agencies with requests for subpoenas to obtain basic subscriber information from the United States of America (U.S.A.), which adds to delays.

Collectively, C3P in Winnipeg, which operates Canada's national tip line for online exploitation, and the National Child Exploitation Coordination Centre, operated by the R.C.M.P., sent 166 reports to the PRP I.C.E. Unit in 2018 for investigation.

Previous case law, *R. v. Jordan*, 2016 SCC 27 Decision, continues to put strains on investigators with respect to hard disclosure timelines. With the ever growing technology in the criminal subculture, PRP I.C.E. investigators have seen an increase in storage devices which can cause a considerable back-log in the investigations. PRP I.C.E. investigations have yielded upwards of 5 terabytes of data seized in one investigation. (Estimated 85,899,345 word documents or 310,000 images in 1 terabyte of data)

## Proposed Direction

Regarding the technological challenges currently being encountered, history has shown that technological solutions can often be found. Through the collective efforts of Law Enforcement and Non-Government Organizations (Canadian Centre for Child Protection-C3P), we are confident that will continue. Due to the nature of information sharing within the Provincial Strategy, the PRP I.C.E. Unit will receive any investigative solutions benefiting investigators.

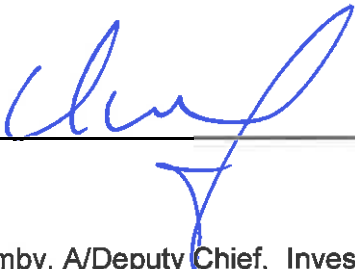
Future endeavors include exploring opportunities to increase efficiency through technology. As a large component of most investigations involves the categorization of seized data, new categorization software has been developed and is currently being utilized by the PRP I.C.E. Unit. The categorization tool called "Semantics 21" is used to categorize images and videos of child pornography. This has resulted in a decrease in the amount of viewing time required to go through the cases while expanding the ability to search for victims and offender created material.

The PRP ICE Unit demonstrated success throughout 2018. Despite some operational pressures, the number of persons charged with child sexual exploitation charges remained consistent. The PRP I.C.E. Unit contributes to the Strategic Plan by protecting our community through effective investigations and enforcement.

## CONCLUSION

This report is the product of five (5) combined annual area statements previously reported upon separately. All five areas continue to convey positive progression, stand by the goals stated within the strategic plan and are positioned well for continued success into 2019.

### Approved for Submission:



Dale Mumby, A/Deputy Chief, Investigative Services Command

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Authored By: *Superintendent Angelia Twiss*

**APPENDIX I****Presentations: From PRP's Multiagency Partners who work with victims of IPV - 2018**

<b># of Courses</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b># of Attendees</b>
2	Domestic Violence Investigators Course	69 attendees
1	Auxiliary Officers Course	17 attendees
3	Post OPC Recruits	91 attendees
3	New Call Takers (Communications)	25 attendees
1	Victim Services of Peel Volunteers	28 attendees
2	Field Training Officers	66 attendees

**Topics Covered include:**

- Domestic related offences
- Mandatory policies - charging and reporting
- Cycle of Abuse
- Effects of abuse on Victim/Children
- May/Illes and Hadley inquest implications
- Aim of police investigation
- Enhanced investigations
- Post arrest support for victim/witness
- Victim's safety and other victim issues
- Criminal Harassment related domestics
- Firearms and Weapons in domestics
- Identifying the Primary Aggressor
- Risk Factors
- Police Perpetrated Domestic Violence
- Strangulation Investigations
- Cultural Issues
- Interpreter Services
- Court Orders and Child Custody
- Community based support
- Mental Health and Domestic Violence
- Review applicable legislation e.g. Family Law Act

**APPENDIX II****Community Partnerships / Committees - 2018**

The Family Violence Unit has a community partnership and/or committee membership with the following agencies:

- Armagh House
- Brampton Probation and Parole
- Catholic Cross- Cultural Services of Peel
- Catholic Family Services of Peel-Dufferin
- Domestic Violence Court Advisory Committee (DVCAC)
- Family Justice / Child Advocacy Centre (Safe Center of Peel) (SCoP)
- Family Services of Peel
- Hope 24/7 Crisis Line
- India Rainbow Community Services of Peel
- Interim Place North
- Interim Place South
- Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
- Multilingual Community Interpreter Services (M.C.I.S.)
- Peel Children's Aid Society (CAS)
- Peel Committee Against Women Abuse (P.C.A.W.A.)
- Peel Crown Attorney's Office
- Probation and Parole (Brampton and Mississauga)
- ReVAMP (Risk Evaluation and Management in Peel) (*Co-chair*)
- Ontario Domestic Violence Coordinators Network (ODVCN)
- Salvation Army Family Life Resource Centre
- Trillium Health Centre (Chantel's Place)
- Victim Services of Peel (VSOP)
- Victim Witness Assistance Program (VWAP)