

RCMP-GRC



ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE • GENDARMERIE ROYALE DU CANADA

Newfoundland and Labrador Annual Report 2022



Photo courtesy of Sergeant Oliver Whiffen


Committed to Policing Excellence



Royal Canadian
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale
du Canada

Canada



ISSN: 2817-6502 Catalogue: PS61-52E-PDF

© 2023 HIS MAJESTY THE KING IN RIGHT OF CANADA
as represented by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police

Connect with Us

Follow RCMP NL for information on public safety,
police investigations, traffic enforcement, and more.



@RCMPNL



Facebook.com/rcmpnl



@RCMPNL



RCMP

Newfoundland and Labrador Annual Report 2022



Table of Contents

Message from the Commanding Officer	2
Your RCMP NL at a Glance	3
Core Policing Criminal Operations	4
RCMP Provincial Districts	5
Operational Support Services.....	6
Traffic by the Numbers	8
RCMP NL and Reconciliation	9
2022 Highlights	10
RCMP NL Federal Policing.....	11
In Your Community.....	12
How You Can Help.....	13

Message from the Commanding Officer



**Assistant Commissioner
Jennifer Ebert**

The RCMP has been working to keep Newfoundland and Labrador safe for more than 70 years. Our highest priority is to safeguard the residents and communities of this province. I am proud to lead an exceptional team of employees whose dedicated service and commitment to policing excellence are critical to every facet of what we do.

In 2022, RCMP Newfoundland and Labrador delivered on its mandate to protect public safety, enforce the law, and ensure the delivery of priority policing services in Newfoundland and Labrador. This was not without challenge, of course, particularly with some vacancies on our front lines and large geographic areas of the province to be covered, as is the case in many other areas of Canada. Our dedicated senior management team deployed our resources to the right places at the right times to best meet the needs of communities. These decisions were based on ongoing analyses of factors such as patterns of crime, demographic information, data on highway collisions, call volumes and the health and safety of employees.

I extend great appreciation to our many partners, including the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, Federal Government agencies, the bands and councils of the communities in which we serve, crime prevention organizations and community groups, among others. To the people of Newfoundland and Labrador, your continued support of the work of our employees in your communities is much appreciated and needed.

I am especially thankful for the guidance I receive as Commanding Officer from the RCMP Black Engagement Steering Committee, the Indigenous Advisory Committee and other groups external to the RCMP who help us engage and connect with the communities we serve.

Looking forward to 2023, the RCMP will mark a major milestone with 150 years of service to Canadians and to the security of our country, with 73 of those years including service to this province. This major historical milestone provides an opportune time to reflect on our past and where we are going as a modern and more inclusive police force.

In the coming year, the RCMP in Newfoundland and Labrador will continue to make evidence-based decisions to ensure the delivery of priority policing services; we will strengthen our recruitment strategies; and, we will continue to serve with unwavering commitment to the safety and security of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada.

Assistant Commissioner Jennifer Ebert
Commanding Officer
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Newfoundland and Labrador

Your RCMP NL at a Glance

RCMP NEWFOUNDLAND
AND LABRADOR EMPLOYS

799*
PEOPLE

262
NON-UNIFORMED
EMPLOYEES



\$130 Million**
BUDGETED FOR RCMP NL
in 2022-23 fiscal year

**80% of the landmass and
54% of the population**

of Newfoundland and Labrador is
policed by the RCMP

42 Detachments across the
province, in addition to specialized
units and RCMP NL Headquarters
in St. John's

POLICE OFFICERS 537



FEMALE 18%



INDIGENOUS 13%

Duties of RCMP NL police officers

Conduct
investigations
and operations



Attend
sudden
deaths



Respond to
Mental Health
Act calls



Respond to critical
and high-risk
incidents to protect
public safety



Conduct
patrols
and traffic
enforcement



Attend
court



Make arrests and
pursue charges



Investigate
reports of
missing people



Enforce court
orders, including
arrest warrants



*Excludes commissionaires, temporary and casual employees. **Includes federal and provincial contributions











Core Policing Criminal Operations

The dedication and expertise of RCMP Newfoundland and Labrador's employees are critical to our response to calls for service and our delivery of priority policing services to communities throughout the province.













Chief Superintendent Pat Cahill
Criminal Operations Officer

Top 10 Calls for Service

1	Moving Traffic		10753
2	Mischief - Obstruct enjoyment of property		6258
3	Mental Health Act - other activities		3930
4	False Alarms		3691
5	Non-Moving Traffic		2936
6	Assault		2738
7	Disturbing the peace/ Causing a disturbance		2523
8	Theft under \$5,000		2230
9	Mischief - Damage to property		1735
10	Assist the general public		1729

Top 10 Criminal Code Violations

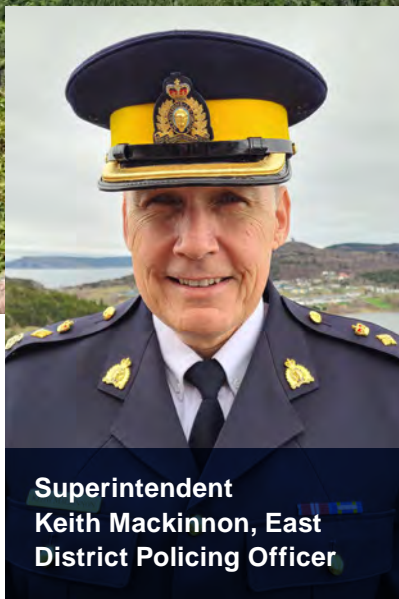
1	Mischief - Obstruct enjoyment of property		5827
2	Disturbing the peace/ Causing a disturbance		2436
3	Assault		2244
4	Theft under \$5000		1835
5	Mischief - Damage to property		1617
6	Uttering threats against a person		1180
7	Failure to comply with order		791
8	Assault with weapon or causing bodily harm		571
9	Fraud (money/property/ security) less than or equal to \$5000		467
10	Harassing communications		457

*Traffic collisions excluded – see *Traffic by the Numbers* in this report.

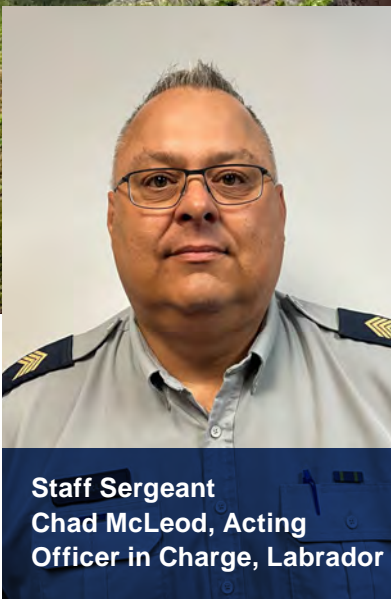
*Calls for service do not equate to violations.

* Traffic violations excluded.

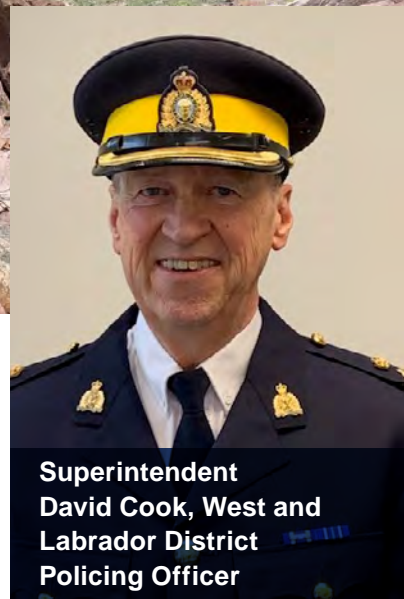
RCMP Provincial Districts



**Superintendent
Keith Mackinnon, East
District Policing Officer**



**Staff Sergeant
Chad McLeod, Acting
Officer in Charge, Labrador**



**Superintendent
David Cook, West and
Labrador District
Policing Officer**

RCMP NL East District

spans from the Avalon Peninsula, excluding the city of St. John's and metro area, to the Lewisporte and Gander Bay Areas, with 17 Detachments.

RCMP NL West and Labrador District

covers the western half of the island from Grand Falls-Windsor west to Channel-Port aux Basques and north to St. Anthony, not including the city of Corner Brook, and all of Labrador except for Labrador City, Churchill Falls and Wabush. There are 15 Detachments on the island portion of the District and 10 in Labrador.

General Investigation Section (GIS):

Police officers in GIS work collaboratively with Detachments and other units, providing support on investigations as required and conducting complex and serious crime investigations that could include the following:

Robberies and strings of break and enters

Complex sexual assaults

Aggravated assaults

Street level drug trafficking

Operational Support Services



**Superintendent Kent Osmond -
Officer In Charge**



Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT):

The Crisis Negotiation Team is composed of highly-motivated regular members with above-average interviewing, communicating and listening skills who provide crisis intervention in:

- Hostage takings
- Kidnappings
- Barricaded persons
- Emotionally distraught individuals



Digital Forensic Services (DFS):

Digital Forensic Services provides technological investigative support to RCMP units, other police forces and law enforcement agencies, for crimes facilitated by digital devices or computers, including:

- Collecting, analyzing and providing information and criminal intelligence to requesting units
- On-site electronic media examination/analysis
- Providing expert testimony in court proceedings



Emergency Response Team (ERT):

The Emergency Response Team is a group of highly-trained RCMP members capable of employing specialized weapons, equipment and tactics to resolve extremely high-risk situations, including:

- Armed and barricaded persons
- High-risk searches and arrests
- Aircraft or marine interventions
- VIP and witness protection duties
- Covert surveillance and intelligence gathering
- Rural tracking operations



Forensic Identification Services (FIS):

Forensic Identification Services provides support to frontline police officers across Newfoundland and Labrador. Responsibilities include:

- Identifying and collecting exhibits
- Detecting, examining, recording, collecting and preserving physical, biological, and/or other trace evidence that can be sent for scientific analysis.
- Bloodstain pattern analysis



Integrated Internet Child Exploitation (IICE) Unit:

The priority of IICE is to combat internet related exploitation of persons under the age of 18. To accomplish this, IICE combines enforcement and public education initiatives to combat:

- The transmission of child pornography
- Luring and/or extortion of children
- Posting by children of sexualized images of themselves online



Major Crime Unit (MCU):

The Major Crime Unit investigates serious crimes including:

- Homicides and suspicious deaths
- Death or injury of a member caused by firearms
- Discharge of a firearm by members causing injury or death
- Suspicious missing persons



Operational Communications Centre (OCC):

The OCC works behind the scenes 24 hours a day, 365 days per year, with the work of telecommunications professionals including:

- Providing critical operational support to police officers in the field
- Processing calls from the public requesting police assistance – in 2022, the OCC received 85,919 calls
- Assessing services and supports required, with priority placed on public and police officer safety



Police Dog Services (PDS):

Police Dog Services provides investigative support to RCMP Units, and partner police and law enforcement agencies. RCMP dogs are cross-trained for narcotics or explosives detection, as well as:

- Search and rescue operations
- Locating missing persons
- Tracking suspects and searching crime scenes
- VIP protection



Special Victim Section (SVS)

The SVS is composed of the National Sex Offender Registry, Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System, Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) Co-ordinator and Sexual Assault Investigation Coordinator. Priorities include the following:

- Monitoring and analysis of violent offenders
- Supporting investigative quality through oversight of all sex crimes and IPV investigations
- Ensuring a trauma-informed and victim-centered approach to victims of violence



Tactical Services Group (TSG):

The Tactical Services Group is a team of regular members who deploy for tactical or critical functions such as:

- Major incidents requiring a public order response
- Riots and unlawful assemblies
- Rapid deployment for natural or human caused emergencies
- Supplemental resources for major event policing and community safety patrols



Traffic Services

The priorities of Traffic Services Units East, Central, West and Labrador are improving road safety and reducing the number of fatal and serious collisions through education and strategic enforcement initiatives targeting high risk driving activities, including the following:

- Aggressive driving
- Distracted driving
- Impaired driving
- Lack of seatbelt use



Underwater Recovery Team (URT):

The Underwater Recovery Team provides assistance on a wide variety of police operations that require underwater investigation, including:

- Missing persons
- Evidence retrieval
- Search and recovery

Traffic by the Numbers

Reducing serious injury and fatal collisions is an ongoing priority for RCMP Newfoundland and Labrador.

 **Total vehicle collisions 3683**

Tickets issued for lack of seatbelt use



675

Tickets issued for distracted driving



422



Tickets issued for aggressive driving

3025

Impaired driving charges laid

288



Fatalities in 2022



37

Fatal motor vehicle crashes



21

Fatal off-road vehicle incidents



12

Deceased not wearing a seatbelt



7

Deceased off-road vehicle operators without helmets



6

Vehicles checked at checkstops



9514

Many serious injury and fatal crashes are entirely preventable. Please remember to:

Buckle up



Drive sober



Follow the speed limit



Put your phone down



Report suspected impaired drivers. It is an emergency.

CALL 911

RCMP NL and Reconciliation

Reconciliation and continued strengthening of relationships with the Indigenous Peoples of Newfoundland and Labrador is an ongoing priority for RCMP NL. We acknowledge the truths and pain of the past and are committed to building and maintaining strong, positive relationships through mutual trust and respect, now and for generations to come. Our commitment is furthered through multiple initiatives, with highlights below:

Strengthening Relationships

- Commanding Officer's Indigenous Advisory Committee
- Engagement by the RCMP NL Indigenous and Community Policing Unit with Indigenous partners and communities
- Participation in restorative justice in collaboration with Indigenous partners and restorative justice committees throughout the west coast and central areas of the island, with plans for expansion and additional police officers trained in 2023
- Sweat Ceremony held at the Sweat Lodge located on the grounds of RCMP Headquarters, in Fall 2022, conducted by Qalipu First Nation Elder Kenny (Mutchie) Bennett and Mi'kmaw Knowledge Keeper, Arlene Blanchard-White
- Information video on the purpose and benefits of a Sweat Ceremony produced with interviews by Bennet and Blanchard-White
- Wood cutting by police officers for Elders in Natuashish
- Toys for the North, an initiative with the Canadian Forces that sees Christmas gifts transported to every Labrador community, ensuring every child receives a gift
- Eagle Feathers available in Detachments for swearing legal oaths, provided by the Newfoundland Aboriginal Women's Network



RCMP NL Indigenous Summer Student Program

- Community engagement through employee attendance at Powwows, the Sisters in Spirit Vigil and other community ceremonies and events

Employee Education and Awareness

- Employee participation in training and other activities on Indigenous culture and history, including National Indigenous Peoples Day, National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, Sweat Ceremonies, Powwows, and the Moose Hide campaign, among others
- Restorative justice training for police officers in the central and west areas of the island, with further training planned for 2023
- Installation of Indigenous artwork by local Mi'kmaq artist Marcus Gosse at Bay St. George Detachment and RCMP Headquarters

Increased Representation of Indigenous Persons in the RCMP

- Continued promotion and operation of the RCMP NL Indigenous Summer Student Program in partnership with the Qalipu and Miawpukek First Nations; the program began more than 20 years ago and has resulted in many of the students becoming RCMP police officers
- Participation in the national Indigenous Pre-Cadet Training Program, where Indigenous young adults ages 19-29 spend three weeks at the RCMP Academy in Regina, Saskatchewan to learn about the training required to become a police officer

2022 Highlights

The **RCMP-RNC Joint Force Operation West (JFO WEST)**, comprised of dedicated police officers from the RCMP and RNC, was formed in March of 2022 to target **drug trafficking and organized crime** on the province's west coast.

In 2022, JFO West executed 14 search warrants at homes in the Deer Lake and Corner Brook areas. Drugs, drug paraphernalia, cash and weapons were seized. Nineteen individuals were arrested and 60 charges laid, the most common charge being possession for the purpose of trafficking a controlled substance. Other charges included firearms and weapons offences, among others.

MADD Canada awarded RCMP NL police officers in June 2022 for their dedication to reducing drivers on the road impaired by alcohol and/or drugs. They were inducted into the Nick Coates Impaired Driving Team, a MADD Canada program named for Nicholas Coates, who was killed by an impaired driver in 2013.

Project Badminton:

Human Trafficking Charges Laid

A 30-month investigation led by RCMP NL Federal Serious and Organized Crime culminated in human trafficking charges being laid for the first time by the RCMP in Newfoundland and Labrador in September, 2022. Investigative partners included the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, JFO West and the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada (FINTRAC), among others. The work of investigators also significantly disrupted a drug trafficking network funneling cocaine and other drugs from British Columbia and Ontario into Newfoundland and Labrador, particularly to the West Coast and Northern Peninsula.

Natuashish Fly-In Model

In 2022, the RCMP changed the way it provides policing services in Natuashish to better serve the community and to better support the wellness of our police officers. A rotational Fly-In Model was implemented, which has been successful in other remote parts of the country. Previously, six police officers were stationed at the Natuashish Detachment, with a two-year posting commitment required; positions



were hard to fill. To enhance community engagement, build trust and improve the consistency of a police presence, the new model has 11 police officer positions assigned to the Detachment on a rotational basis, with three- to five-year posting commitments. All 11 positions have been filled. The model is proving to be better for the community and better for the wellness and work life balance of our police officers.

Hurricane Fiona struck the island's south west coast on the morning of September 24, 2022. The most impacted areas were the communities of Burnt Islands, Channel-Port aux Basques and Margaree, with heavy rainfall and high winds that caused **tidal waves and catastrophic flooding**. The impacts were devastating, with homes destroyed, roadways flooded and one life tragically lost. Additional RCMP police officers were deployed to assist the Channel-Port aux Basques Detachment, including officers from neighbouring detachment areas, Traffic Services Units and the RCMP NL Tactical Services Group.

Police worked closely with many partners and were involved in the evacuation of homes and businesses, traffic control, and assistance to various search and rescue teams, along with response to priority calls for service. Over a 48-hour period, the RCMP NL Strategic Communications & Media Relations Unit ensured communications were maintained with the public with response to 45 media inquiries from local, national and international media; nine media interviews conducted; two news releases and multiple social media posts issued.

RCMP NL Federal Policing



Project Badminton News Conference: Human Trafficking Charges Laid

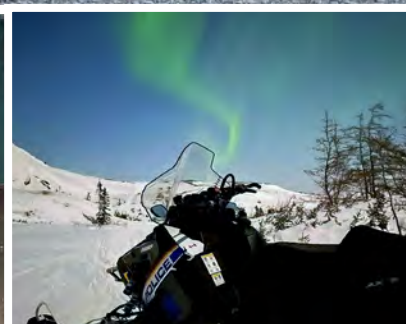
The dedicated employees of RCMP NL Federal Policing address the most **serious and complex criminal threats** to the safety and security of Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada. These threats can involve national security, cybercrime, transnational and serious organized crime, such as high-level drug trafficking networks, financial crime, human trafficking and Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs. Federal Policing in Newfoundland and Labrador is made up of a variety of sections with specialized expertise in many areas, including the following:

- Intelligence gathering and analysis
- Undercover operations
- Digital forensic investigation involving computers, cell phones and other digital devices
- Explosives detection and disposal
- Money laundering and other financial frauds

A recent high-profile investigation by the **Federal Serious & Organized Crime** section, Project Badminton, resulted in the laying of human trafficking charges for the first time by RCMP NL and significant disruption of an organized crime drug trafficking network channeling cocaine and other illicit drugs into the province.

Federal Policing also includes the **Criminal Intelligence Service Newfoundland and Labrador (CISNL)**. CISNL is a strategically-focused multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional unit with a mandate to ensure the timely production and exchange of criminal information and intelligence among 30 CISNL provincial partners and agencies of Criminal Intelligence Service Canada, in support of the provincial effort to detect, reduce, disrupt and prevent organized and serious crime affecting Newfoundland and Labrador and Canada.

Other duties of Federal Policing involve international policing activities, upholding Canada's border integrity and Protective Policing Services.



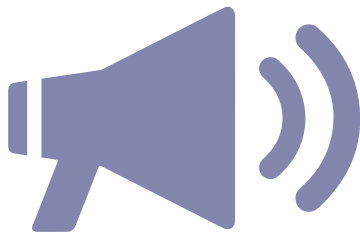
In Your Community

Connection with community is at the heart of policing – our employees live, work and raise families in the communities in which they serve and contribute. They pay taxes and purchase homes. Their children attend local schools. In addition to seeing our police officers at traffic stops, on patrol, at Detachments and in court, you'll find them at food drives, local hockey games, school concerts and community events.



How You Can Help

RCMP Newfoundland and Labrador is committed to keeping our communities safe but we can't do it alone. We all need to work together to solve and prevent crime.

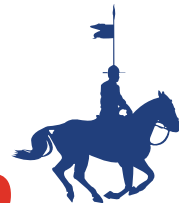


If you have information on a crime, **report it to police** as soon as possible



Call 911 in emergencies and urgent situations

RCMP



1-800-709-RCMP



To remain anonymous, call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477(TIPS)

You can also submit a secure tip at nlcrimestoppers.com or download the P3Tips app.



Police must respond to urgent calls for service first.



We take all reports of crime seriously. Every report helps us identify crime trends and manage our resources effectively.



Are you the victim of a crime? Call your nearest local police detachment directly, or 911 in emergencies.



RCMP NL IS HIRING

WITH OVER 150 SPECIALIZATIONS, A CAREER WITH THE RCMP IS FULL OF OPPORTUNITY AND ADVENTURE. WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW RECRUITS AND EXPERIENCED POLICE OFFICERS TO JOIN US.

TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY AND YOUR COUNTRY,
EXPLORE WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER.

CONTACT US



NLRECRUITING@RCMP-GRC.GC.CA



Royal Canadian
Mounted Police

Gendarmerie royale
du Canada

Canada