

# **ANNUAL REPORT** 2022

POLICE

COBOURG POLICE SERVICE

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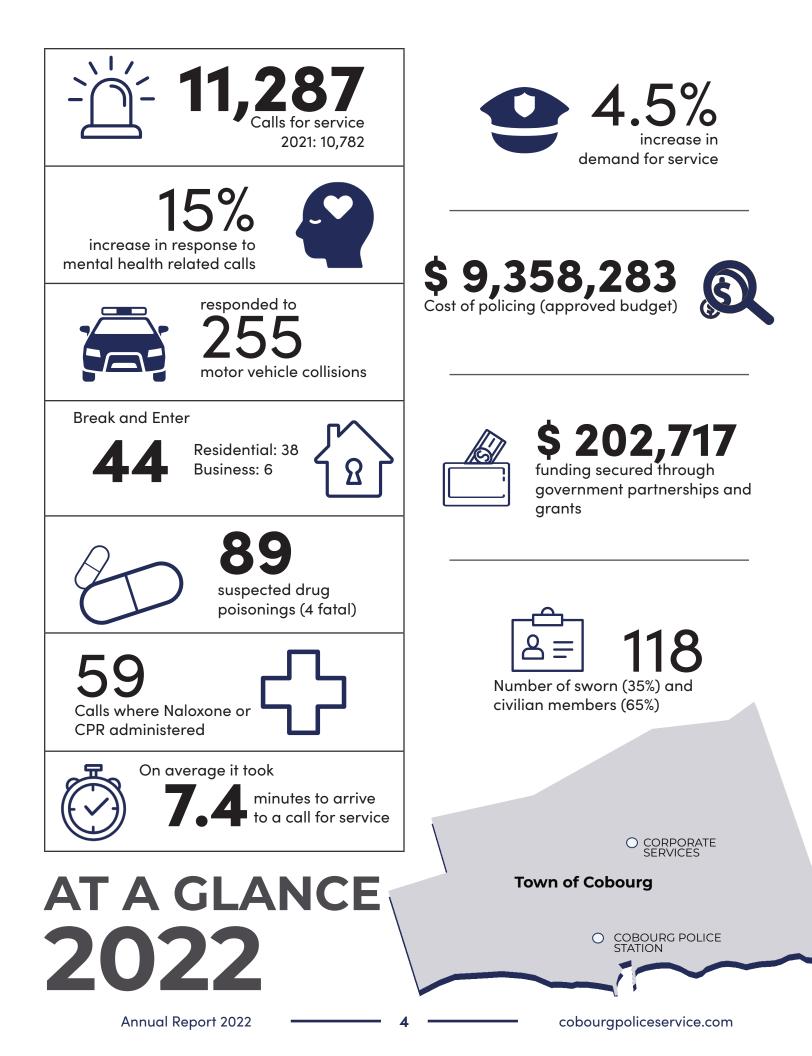


FRONT COVER photo credit: Natalie Fisher

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

#### **DR RON KERR**

On behalf of the Cobourg Police Services Board, I am pleased to introduce the 2022 Annual Report of the Cobourg Police Service.

Looking back on 2022, several highlights stand out in my mind. Each project required community collaboration and knowledge sharing to support strategic priorities, generating positive longterm outcomes and fiscal sustainability for the Service and the community. Service milestones included; finalizing our strategic plan, the implementation of the Officer Safety Program, which included the rollout of body worn cameras, the continued development of the CCTV strategy, and increased access to alternative funding sources to support community priorities.

We continue to discuss topics related to community safety and wellness and how



we can evolve to meet the expectations of community members, support our members and provide the highest service to our community.

This report represents transparency and accountability as well as a chance to showcase the work of the dedicated members. Thank you for taking the time to review the report and for continuing to play an active role in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. We look forward to the continued partnership with our community in 2023.

## VALUES

Community Professionalism Service



## VISION

Committed to excellence in policing and quality community service through our people, our partnerships, and our work.

## MISSION

An adaptive and trusted community partner in protecting the safety, security, and quality of life in the Town of Cobourg.

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

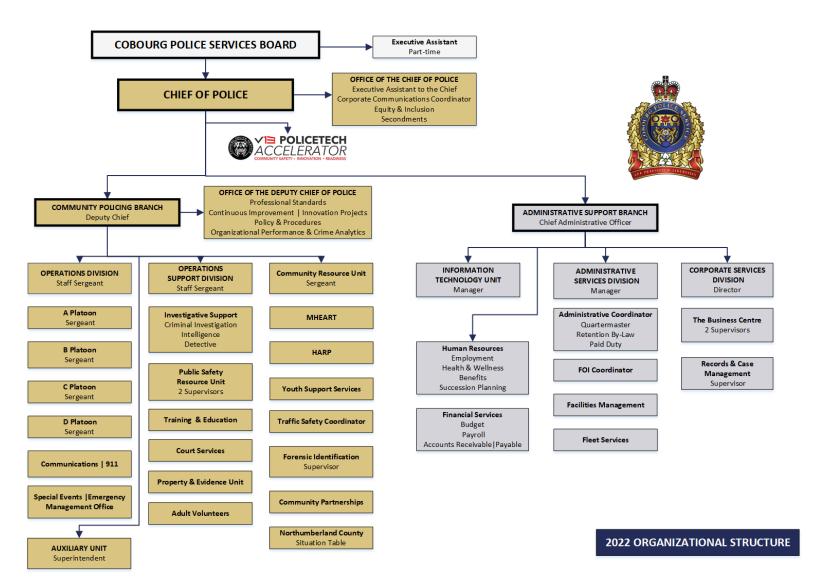
#### **PAUL VANDEGRAAF**

This report provides an overview of the activities and efforts of the Cobourg Police Service toward meeting the goals outlined in our 2022 – 2025 Strategic Plan.

Effective and responsive policing often involves pivoting to new methods and directions, and last year, with COVID-19 still a reality, our members demonstrated resilience, tenacity, and innovation in operations and initiatives to address public safety. The challenges we faced together strengthened relationships with our community partners, enhancing outreach, collaboration, and leveraging technological opportunities in response to community needs and priorities. In line with our strategic priorities, key focus areas included; crime, drugs, mental health, homelessness, and traffic enforcement.



As Chief, I am proud to serve our community alongside sworn, civilian, and volunteer members who exhibit integrity, professionalism, compassion, and respect as we work together to keep Cobourg a safe and inclusive community. I want to thank our community partners, the Cobourg Police Services Board, the Cobourg Police Association and you, the citizens of Cobourg, for the ongoing input and support. Together, we will ensure that the Town of Cobourg remains a safe, vibrant, and thriving community for all.



#### **NEW POSITIONS**

#### IT Manager

#### **SECONDMENTS**

Staff Sergeant Scott Bambridge Inspectorate of Policing

Sergent Marc Bellemare Ontario Police College

#### RETIREMENT

Sergeant Paul Legere

#### **AWARDS**

Sergeant Janice MacDonald & Constable Janet Bertrand Ontario Women in Law Enforcement Major Award in Innovation

#### PROMOTION

Sergeant Caitlin Bauer

Sergeant Rich Ferguson



### **RESPONDING TO CALLS**

In addition to the statistics and numbers provided in this report are the stories about our members and residents making a positive difference in our community.

In January 2022, upon arrival to a residential address in the Town of Cobourg, Tyler Wood's jumped into action to assist the police. By blocking the exit to a driveway with his snowplow, Tyler helped limit the space for escape, allowing police to safely make an arrest and bring a dangerous interaction to an end. Tyler's actions helped bring the matter to a close. Tyler Wood was presented with a Community Commendation at the Febraury CPSB Meeting.

In April 2022, police received a call of a suicide in progress. The caller had just spoken with his brother over the phone who threatened to kill himself. The caller attempted to call his brother back with no success. The caller was unsure where his brother now resided. A cell phone ping was completed providing officers with a 200 m search radius in an area of Cobourg. After an extensive door to door search, the man was located and transported to the hospital.

In May 2022, police received a report from a concerned resident that an injured dog was in the creek behind their residence. Police attended to locate the dog, who could not get out of the stream. Uniformed officers and special constables worked to get the dog safely out of the water. The dog was returned to its owner.

In August 2022, police were dispatched to the area of Marion Street after receiving a report of a suspicious person dressed in all black in possession of a gun. The police quickly arrived on the scene, located the male, conducted a gunpoint arrest and seized the BB gun on his person. The man was arrested and charged accordingly.

During a major winter weather event over the Christmas holidays in December 2022, officers became aware of a passenger train that had been disabled in Cobourg for over 15 hours. Multiple 911 calls were received from passengers looking to be rescued from the train. With train communications down, the police communications centre was able to advise the 911 calls originated from a geolocation near Burnham Street at Westwood Drive in the Town of Cobourg. On route to the train, officers located approximately 15 passengers that disembarked and walked eastbound to find shelter. Police found the train on the north tracks south of Daintry Crescent and coordinated emergency services for the stranded passengers.



### **PROPERTY THEFT**

August 2022, CPS uniform members entered an investigation after being notified that a complainant tracked their stolen computer to a residence in the Town of Cobourg. Responding officers determined that the laptop was in a vehicle in the parking lot of a home in Cobourg. On August 12, 2022, the CPS Criminal Investigations Branch obtained Judicial Authorization to search the vehicle. The search resulted in the seizure of dozens of stolen property items, including 13 laptops/tablets, numerous government-issued identification cards, cheques, and banking and tax documents not belonging to the owner of the vehicle. The value associated with the property recovered exceeded \$38,000. Collaborative investigation with CPS, the Durham Regional Police Service, and York Regional Police revealed that the property had been stolen during a string of "Smash-and-Grab" thefts from vehicles at several golf courses and thefts from mailboxes in the Durham and York Regions. As a result of the investigation an individual was arrested and charged accordingly. Property was returned to the rightful owners.



## **JOINT OPERATION**

In August 2022, the CPS Criminal Investigation Branch and uniform officers, in coordination with the Provincial Repeat Offender Parole Enforcement Squad and the Port Hope Police Service Criminal Investigation Branch, located and arrested a Cobourg resident who was wanted on a Canada Wide Warrant and at large since July. The man was arrested by CPS officers in the Greater Toronto Area.

#### **QUICK FACTS**

The Forensics Identification Services attended over 245 incidents, including mischief, arson, assault, armed robbery, and Controlled Drug and Substances Act search warrants.

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**332** Criminal fingerprints and photographs under the Identification Act



Sciences for analysis

**48** Convicted Offender DNA samples submitted to the National DNA Databank **13** DNA hits identifying individuals involved in major crime.

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### 2022 COST OF POLICING

CPS's 2022 Budget focused on maintaining an adequate standard of policing, while ensuring tax dollars were used efficiently and effectively. We continued to look for ways to streamline service delivery while meeting the needs of our community. Overall, the minimal increased cost to the taxpayer to fund policing were contractual, with new resources added in areas where an outsource relationship was no longer viable.

In 2022, we focused on a several priorities as identified in our Strategic Plan (2022-2025). Some of these are:

- 1) Align our service delivery model with community needs.
- 2) Enhanced response to mental health calls for service.
- 3) Enhance Internal Communication.
- 4) Promote a culture that embraces equity, diversity, and inclusion.
- 5) Enhance transparency and community trust with using data and technology.

Category	2021		2022		Change	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
	\$	\$	\$	\$	%	%
Police General	7,387,837	6,746,869	7,538,191	8,101,792	(2.04)	(20.08)
Court Services	862,876	1,198,114	1,107,892	1,209,274	(28.40)	0.93
Court Administration	234,294	295,604	387,432	351,561	(65.36)	(18.93)
Facilities	201,000	205,402	207,800	2,184,748	(3.38)	(6.35)
Police Services Board	88,072	84,469	116,968	185,158	(32.81)	(119.20)
Recoveries, Grants, and Transfers	2,300,789	2,057,166	2,704,042	3,411,991	17.53	65.86
Total Net Expenditure (Tax Levy Allocation)	6,473,290	6,473,292	6,654,241	6,654,424	2.80	2.80
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**Police Tax Levy** 

#### Increase



### Gross Operating Budget **\$9,358,283**

Materials 5703K – 7.52%

> ontracted Services \$478K – 5.12%

> > Facilities \$207 K – 2.22%

Compensation 7.8M – 83.89% Police Board \$116K - 1.25% **28.9%** COVERED BY RECOVERIES, GRANTS, AND TRANSFERS

The operational expenditures for 2022 were \$10.06M exceeding the Approved Budget by \$708K. However, this difference came from a number of other revenue sources including Grants and Provincial Transfers that were not initially budgeted. There was no additional impact on the Tax Levy from the original 2.80% ask.

### **GRANT FUNDING** In 2022, CPS secured \$202,717 in grant funding through several provincial partners.



Amount	Funding Partner	Grant
\$ 9,843	Ministry of the Solicitor General (SOLGEN)	Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (R.I.D.E.). These dollars are provided to support year-round spot checks and enhance measures to counter impaired driving and additional enforcement on Cobourg's roads.
\$ 25,994	SOLGEN	Close Circuit Television (C.C.T.V.). These dollars were provided to execute Cobourg's Next Gen Community Safety Strategy by enhancing our camera network.
\$ 7,820	SOLGEN	Criminal Intelligence Service Ontario (C.I.S.O.). These dollars are provided annually to address serious and organized crime that may be cross-jurisdictional in nature.
\$ 119,878	SOLGEN	Community Safety and Policing (C.S.P.). These dollars are used to implement initiatives that address policing needs and priority risks related to safety and well-being in the Town. We received funding from two (2) streams, that is, to address issues that have a local focus, and those that are provincial in nature.
\$ 39,177	Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services	Youth in Policing Initiative (Y.I.P.I.). These dollars are used to target youth employment within the summer and fall. Dollars are used to promote youth participation in a work environment while developing skills relevant to a possible future career in policing.

Note: Any automatically awarded grants that CPS receives are not included in the table above (I.e., Court Security, Provincial Transport). Some of the 2022 grants were spent in the first quarter of 2023 (these amounts will be reflected in the 2023 statements.)



## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

High levels of public trust and confidence in the police are essential features of a safe community. One of the ways we seek to earn public trust is by ensuring we have levels of oversight that hold our service and members accountable. The handling of discipline within the Police Service by the Chief of Police is therefore demonstrative of the CPS commitment to the safety and well-being of the community. As delegated by the Deputy Chief of Police, our Professional Standards Unit (PSU) has the authority to investigate and facilitate resolution of internally generated complaints (Chief's complaints) and public complaints generated through the Office of the Independent Police Review Director (OIPRD). The PSU has taken an active role in educating supervisors in resolving complaints. This allows for a better dialogue between complainants and supervisors and promotes a quicker alternative to resolving issues that arise during daily operations. Each type of complaint is classified according to the type of allegation that was made. The classification provides an idea of the types of situations that generate complaint investigations

Category	2022	change from 2021
Improper Conduct	4	None
Excessive Force	2	None
Neglect of Duty	3	-2
Policy/Service	0	0



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### **USE OF FORCE**

In 2022, the Cobourg Police Service continued providing Use-of-Force Training in house with qualified instructors in partnership with the Port Hope Police Service. This training involved Conducted Energy Weapon conversion to the new T7 platform, pistol conversion training, annual use of force refresher and requalification training in intermediate weapons and defensive tactics, immediate action rapid deployment, and C-8 Rifle training. The foundation of this program involves communication and de-escalation. All new recruits and experienced officers are provided with this foundational program which consists of classroom and scenario training with live role-play. Additionally, as part of annual use of force training, officers receive both academic and scenario training based on the concepts of incident management and its connection to de-escalating incidents. De-escalation training proved effective in reducing the total number of use of force reports from 15 in 2021 to 11 in 2022. Further the application of force decreased from 19 applications of force in 2021 to 17 applications of force in 2022.

Reason for Use of Force		<b>Race Data Collection</b>	
Effect Arrest	9	Black	0
Prevent Offence	1	East/Southeast Asian	0
Prevent Escape	2	Indigenous	0
Protect Public	3	Latino	0
Protect Self	7	Middle Eastern	1
		South Asian	0
		White	10

Under O. Reg. 267/18 of the Anti-Racism Act police services are required to collect information regarding the race of individuals included in a Use of Force Report.

## OFFICER SAFETY PROGRAM

In December 2021, the CPSB approved the rollout of the The Officer Safety Plan (OSP) by Axon at CPS for 2022. All costs associated with the OSP are funded by the CPS Corporate Services revenue for the five-year contract period at no cost to the taxpayers. This equips officers with the latest technology, streamlined digital evidence management and reporting capabilities.

#### The OPS includes

- TASER 7
- Virtual reality empathy training
- Axon Body 3 Camera
- Axon Evidence Management
- Axon Citizen
- Axon Record
- Hardware and software upgrades





### **BODY WORN CAMERAS**

The CPSB and CPS share a commitment to transparency and accountability to the community and strive to provide members with the tools to be successful in their role and deliver service excellence to those we serve. Through public consultation, sharing information, and learning from other police services in the province. In December 2021, the CPSB approved the Officer Safety Plan, including the body worn camera program. Body worn cameras are another tool that will help with investigations and build public trust as we continue to prioritize community safety in the Town of Cobourg. In June 24, 2022, the last group of Cobourg Police Service constables completed the training. Public-facing special constables and uniform officers are now equipped with body worn cameras.

#### The mission of the program:

- Accuracy and quality of evidence.
- Maintaining trust through transparency.
- Enhancing accountability.
- Procedures and training analysis.





## **2022** COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Every year, CPS members organize, host, and participate in a wide variety of events and programs. These events provide an opportunity to connect with our community, celebrate successes, and promote awareness of ongoing or current crime trends and safety information to prevent crime and better protect those we serve.

CPS is proud to participate in local events throughout the year, provide support, and contribute to our community partners and non-profit organizations to support the safety, health, and well-being of the Town of Cobourg



### **FROM THE COMMUNITY**

#### Thank you to this community member for taking the time to write in.

Messages are verbatim as they were received from the community member.

"On behalf of Rotary District 7070, thank you for a very informative presentation last night on human trafficking. I invited a guest who is currently developing a policy on anti-sex trafficking protocols for the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board. She found your presentation very helpful with her current work." -Beth Selby

"Thank you to the two dispatchers and the Sergeant for setting up assistance for me with Detective Egas...I appreciate it." – Community Member

"Was wanting to ... thank the Cobourg Police Service for putting up with me at the lowest part of my life even times when I was very rude and disrespectful didn't matter which officer, I was dealing with they all pretty well knew who I was and knew that that person was not the real true person that the addiction had taking over. A big thank you to Janet and Janice for sticking to their guns and keeping me and sending me to Lindsey if they hadn't done that then to be honest, I probably would be six feet under. A lot of people hate on the police but at the end of the day they do there best and are only looking out for the best for us."

"I'd like to thank Constable Amrit Gill for the help he provided for my family today. He was so professional in the face of a very sensitive situation, and his attention meant the world to us. Constable Gill demonstrated kindness, and an understanding of our situation that made us feel reassured. My family would like to extend our gratitude to Constable Gill, and the Cobourg Police Service. I can't thank you all enough for the service you provide to our community." – Community Member



## **CRAM-A-CRUISER**

The CPS Auxiliary coordinated monthly Cram-A-Cruiser food drives to help collect food and donations for Northumberland Fare Share Food Bank. With the continued impacts of the pandemic, many food banks were struggling to keep up with the increase in demand. The monthly Cram-A-Cruiser events helped fill a need to support community members who may be struggling with food insecurity. A total of ten events were completed in 2022, collecting a total of 23,360 lbs of food and \$23,632 in donations.







## HAMILTON TOWNSHIP BYLAW

In the summer of 2022, CPS provided parking and fire route bylaw education and enforcement on weekends in the Township of Hamilton. At the request of the Township of Hamilton Council, CPS oversaw this summer initiative, fully funded by the Township of Hamilton. The program fostered positive community relations while promoting awareness and adherence to posted bylaws in Bewdley, Harwood and Gores Landing. The CPS Tiered Policing model allowed the Service to shift service delivery to address emerging needs and provide coverage for community initiatives. The partnership between the Township of Hamilton and CPS helped ensure everyone could enjoy the areas in the summer. The partnership continues in 2023.





Community safety and crime prevention is a joint effort that can only succeed by working together. CPS works toward a safer community through enforcement and education, offering opportunities for the community to be proactive and help make Cobourg a safer place. The CPS Auxiliary Unit's primary responsibility is running crime prevention initiatives. In 2022, auxiliary members invested **4,276 volunteer hours** in community safety.



31 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design audits



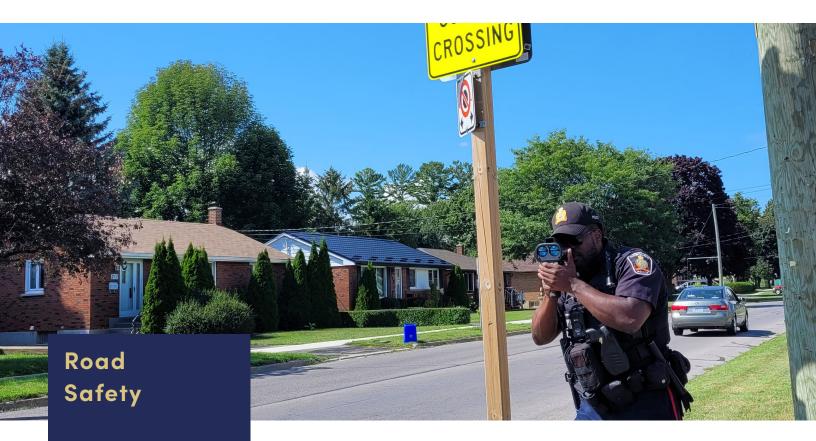
680 CARS checked during **17** Lock it or Lose it initiatives

27



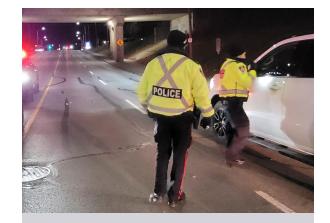
420 Downtown Foot Patrols

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Road safety continues to be a strategic objective for CPS. In 2022, CPS members worked to increase public compliance with safe driving measures to save lives and reduce injuries on roads through initiatives focused on eliminating impaired driving, distracted driving, speeding, aggressive driving, and other road safety concerns. In 2022, over 920 Provincial Offence Notices were issued for infractions,

including distracted driving, speeding, impaired driving, and other offences. In 2022, 13 road safety awareness campaigns were completed, including Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) programs, the Backto-school 'In the Zone' Campaign, National Teen Driver Safety Week, and support for Operation Red Nose through a partnership with YMCA Northumberland.



921 Provincial Offence Notices

28 -



### **VIOLENT CRIME STATISTICS**

CRIME RATE	REPORTED CRIME	CLEARANCE RATE
2022: 1,160	2022: 238	2022: 77% -12.5%
2021: 1,214	2021: 249	2021: 88%

Violent crime refers to those violations in the Criminal Code of Canada, identified as any crime where physical or verbal threats of violence are made against a person. This category includes offences such as homicide, assault, robbery, sexual assault, and uttering threats.

In 2022, there was a decrease in the overall volume (4%) of violent crime. There was a significant increase in harassing communications (+21), an increase in sexual offences (+7) and a decrease in reported assaults (-27). The overall crime severity (126 in 2021) is anticipated to increase due to the one homicide in 2022.

CPS cleared 77% of all violent crimes in 2022.

### **NON-VIOLENT CRIME STATISTICS**

CRIME RATE	REPORTED CRIME	CLEARANCE RATE
2022: 2,242 14.7%	2022: 460 15%	2022: 36%
2021: 1,954	2021: 401	2021: 43%

Non-violent crime includes both police-reported property-related offences and other Criminal Code offences. These crimes involve unlawful acts to gain property but do not involve violence against a person. Crime against property includes offences such as break and enter, theft, mischief, and fraud.

In 2022, non-violent offences increaseed by 15%. Fraud continues to trend high (2022:80), with 2022 fraud trends in Cobourg following what was seen across Ontario, including grandparent scams, Crypto currency scams, romance scams, and distraction thefts turning into frauds.

Property Crime, including theft from vehicles (2022: 66), theft (2022:428), and mischief (2022:150), also continue to trend high.

CPS cleared 36% of all non-violent crimes in 2022.



### DRUGS

Investigations and enforcement targeting illegal drug activity in our community continue to be a strategic priority and a focus for CPS. The CPS Criminal Investigation Branch and uniformed officers conducted 44 investigations related to illicit drugs circulating within the community, leveraging collaboration between departments and partner police services for positive outcomes.

These efforts resulted in 13 arrests linked to drug trafficking and the seizure of a large quantity of illicit drugs, including nearly 140 grams of fentanyl last year, which could have resulted in over 2,220 potentially lethal doses of the drug.

In 2022, police seized drugs with an estimated street value of over \$131,000, over \$12,000 in Canadian currency, and a loaded firearm.







### HARP

The Homelessness, Addiction Response Program (HARP) was piloted in the summer of 2021 and re-launched in October 2022 after receiving funding from the province to cover the cost of one full-time officer dedicated to the program. HARP established a consistent presence in the downtown core that allowed for continuous interaction and the build-up of trust between police and those experiencing homelessness, struggling with substance use, or experiencing mental health concerns. HARP has built essential partnerships with agencies in Northumberland County, sharing expertise and existing resources to support individuals and families in the community. From October to December 2022, HARP connected 54 individuals with services and relocated three homeless persons by reconnecting them with family and their hometown support network. The program helped one individual obtain housing and independent living.



### **MENTAL HEALTH**

In addition to being responsive to emergency calls for service and addressing crime trends, through our community policing strategies, CPS has been able to assist community members in times of need or struggle through collaborative partnerships. With each call being unique, officers work to make the appropriate referrals and connect community members to services. In partnership with Northumberland Hills Hospital, Mental Health Engagement and Response Team (M-HEART) enhance what police are able to provide to vulnerable populations or those experiencing a mental health crisis. The M-HEART team includes one officer and one mental health clinician.

Through funding from the Community Safety Policing Grant, a part-time FourCAST Addictions Counsellor joined M-HEART enhancing the program and bringing addictions and harm reduction expertise to the team.







The V13 Policetech Accelerator™ (PTA) is a joint initiative of the Cobourg Police Service (CPS) and Northumberland CFDC with a mandate to provide smart policing and community safety solutions that are scalable while assisting Canadian entrepreneurs to advance more rapidly on their new product commercialization path and drive community safety through transformative police technologies. In 2022 the PTA saw many successes:

**Community Safety and Policing Grant** - By leveraging the PTA, CPS was pleased to receive provincial support through the Community Safety and Policing Grant Program - \$859,285 over three years allowing CPS to expand capacity in three key strategic areas: Youth-specific Mental Health Engagement and Response Team (M-HEART) initiative. Establishing permanency to our Homelessness, Addiction Response Project. Moving forward initiatives to integrate an EDI strategic plan.

**Facial Recognition Technology Research Partnership** - FRT is a divisive topic. Through the PTA, we are investing in research and leveraging expertise and knowledge to ensure the highest level of accountability and transparency when deploying Facial Recognition Technology (FRT). A collaboration with Ontario Tech University and the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, we hope to further knowledge and police best practices in FRT. Study conclusions anticipated by 2024 will explore ways out of the current impasse over FRT use by police in Canada. The project aims to identify good models of public engagement that allow people to make meaningful contributions, and offer a governance model that everyone can have faith in.

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Pitch to the Chief™ returned in 2022 with the third edition. The event connects and engages local youth and start-ups in developing strategies for crime prevention and community wellness, offering opportunities for mentorship and real-world experience including pitching solutions that will enhance community safety and development, and improve overall operational efficiency and effectiveness of local policing. As part of the Third Edition of the popular competition local high school students and tech start-ups teams delivered unique and exciting technologies and services, addressing bottleneck issues faced by police services across Canada competed in presenting their ideas for community safety and development. High School Winner: Shaan Halaith won first place for his 'Tracker Hack' wearable device. Start Up Winner: Taylor McCubbin-Freer - ChimeraXR The PTA continues to engage the winners and all participants in the development of their ideas or technology for real word applications.

> Start-up winner, Taylor McCubbin-Freer from ChimeraXR





Thank you to all those who assisted in keeping Cobourg safe in 2022, including our fellow first responders, community partners, organizations, local businesses, and residents. Through partnerships with the community, we strengthen our approaches to enhance community safety, accountability, and trust. Thank you to each community member for working with us to ensure the Town of Cobourg remains a safe and vibrant place to live and work.



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