



The Notebook



The Newsletter of Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement / Bulletin Femmes dans l'application des Lois de l'Atlantique
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Prince Edward Island to Host 2013 AWLE Conference



Front row: Cst. Paula Raymond, RCMP *H* Division, Cst. Carolyn Nichols, Halifax Regional Police, Det./Cst. Sara McElman, Fredericton Police. Back row: Sgt. Sharon Warren, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, Inspector Suzanne Bill, Royal Newfoundland Constabulary, Cst. Beverly Bryant, RCMP *B* Division.

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From the Desk of the *Editor*

Welcome to another issue of The Notebook!

I hope that you enjoyed our last issue of the Notebook and would certainly welcome some feedback.

In planning for each edition, I strive to obtain articles of interest as well as gather current information pertaining to policing that will assist you in your everyday duties. It is a challenge with each issue to ensure we develop content that will both motivate and as well, captivate your interest. As the long-time members of AWLE know it has been a task to continue to make improvements to our newsletter and with the fast pace of today, time seems to have a momentum of its own so I understand when you are too busy to find the time to write an article. However, you do not have to always be the author of an article, you can ask others that have an expertise in the field of interest or forward an interesting article you have read so I can ask for permission to reprint. All articles are welcomed and although I may edit and/or determine that it does not meet our guidelines The Notebook belongs to the membership. I want you to have pride in our publication and I want you to own it. I believe we have made huge improvements however there is much more to do. I challenge you as part of the AWLE membership to get involved. I trust that there are incidents and challenges that occur daily in our Provinces that can



become teaching tools to the membership. There are good news stories that are waiting to be shared and wonderful accomplishments by our members that need to be celebrated.

As the cold winter months fade away and make room for spring, I hope we too, can look forward to new growth not only for the Notebook but for our membership.

Take care and be safe
Until next time
Sharon

**Have a story you would
like to see in this magazine?
Send it to
notebook-editor@awle.org**

Report from the President

Greetings, and welcome to the newest edition of The Notebook!

Last year we did not host a conference but we're pleased to announce we presented awards at a reception on November 30 at Government House in Halifax. The reception was hosted by the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, His Honour Brigadier - General the Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd) and was attended by management, coworkers, friends, and family of award recipients.

This year's AWLE conference will be held in Charlottetown, PEI. Co-chairs Cst. Tara McBride and Cst. Louanne McQuaid and their committee will be hosting a conference you will not want to miss. More information will be available in the near future so stay tuned.

The AWLE executive is looking for a Media Relations person. We would like to have someone named to the position as soon as possible. If you're interested, please let me know.

We're working hard to ensure the success of the organization. We have new brochures and a pull up banner that are available if you would like to use them. If you have any suggestions on how we can improve, or if you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact any executive member.

We hope to see you at the Charlottetown conference! Stay safe!

Paula

Cst. Paula Raymond
AWLE President

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Mes salutations et bienvenue à cette nouvelle édition du Notebook !

Nous n'avons pas organisé de conférence l'année dernière mais je suis heureuse de vous apprendre que nous avons remis des prix lors d'une réception qui s'est tenue le 30 novembre à la résidence du gouverneur à Halifax. La réception, à laquelle ont participé les collègues, la direction, les amis et la famille des récipiendaires, a été organisée par le lieutenant-gouverneur de Nouvelle-Ecosse et son Brigadier - Général, le très honorable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd).

Cette année, la conférence FALA aura lieu à Charlottetown, à l'Île du Prince Édouard. Les constables Tara McBride et Louanne McQuaid, ainsi que leur comité, vont organiser une conférence qu'il ne faudra pas manquer. De plus amples informations vous parviendront à temps voulu, donc tenez-vous informés.

La directrice de la FALA cherche une nouvelle media en chef. Nous aimerions avoir les nominations de personnes pour ce poste le plus tôt que possible. Si vous êtes intéressée, faites-le moi savoir.

Nous travaillons très fort pour pouvoir assurer le succès de cette association. Nous avons de nombreuses brochures et une bannière de publicité qui sont à votre disposition si vous souhaitez en faire usage. Si jamais vous avez des suggestions pour nous aider à nous améliorer ou si vous voulez avoir des informations sur notre association, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter.

Nous espérons vous voir toutes à la conférence de Charlottetown ! Prenez soin de vous !

Paula.
Constable Paula Raymond.
Présidente de la FALA.





Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement **PEI to host Annual Conference**

These past few months have seen a burst of activity in regard to the planning and hosting of the upcoming AWLE Conference in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. The planning for the AWLE 2013 Conference is well underway. The conference date is set for November 5-8, 2013 and is fast approaching. The venue for the conference will be the newly renovated Delta Hotel and Convention Centre which is set to open this summer. To date, we have received confirmation from a number of fascinating speakers, including a dynamic speaker who will speak on prosecuting internet child exploitation cases, presentation on a new interviewing technique and more. The

agenda will provide a variety of topics to allow for training for all aspects of policing and be sure to enhance your professional development and leadership skills. As with most conferences we will close the conference with an explosive case study in which two investigators from the Ontario Provincial Police will present a comprehensive presentation on the abduction, sexual assault and murder of 8 year old Victoria "Tori" Stafford. This is just a snap shot of the agenda. Watch for more details to be added and check out www.awle.org for all the latest confirmed speakers and events as there is sure to be some GOOD ISLAND FUN included as well.

International Association of Women Police

2013 will prove to be a year full of new challenges for the newly elected and appointed IAWP Board of Directors. The Board continues to strive to meet the Vision, Mission and Values which are the foundation of this organization. This article is a bitter sweet one for me. After dedicating 10 years to the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement Boards of Directors, I have decided to step down to focus on my role as Region 11 IAWP Coordinator. Starting as a member to secretary, treasurer and V.P, I have been fortunate to meet a number of great people and mentors. I have used some of the networking opportunities for my work as well. What I have gained with OWLE, I will forever take with me and pass on to future police leaders, and prospective officers. I undertake to promote women in policing focusing on the need for increasing the number of women from diverse communities to represent the communities we police. My goal is to remain an active member of the Board of Trustees and assist where needed.

During the past few months OWLE and AWLE have been putting together a new Board of Directors and I wish them both good luck and great success-“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.” ~ Margaret Mead

Since the last communication, I have aggressively communicated with a number of police organizations in various provinces both in French and English, promoting IAWP and its membership while spreading the word. I have been actively focusing on increasing the membership, gaining support for members from their organization and encouraging members to attend training conferences. Many good things are being done throughout Region 11, I welcome anyone member or not to forward their information to me. If you have an event coming, pass it on, information is only good if it is communicated and shared.

During the last few months a number of officers within Region 11 have been recognised for various achievements. On September 8, 2012, a number of officers (16) were presented with the Canadian Police Association Awards of Excellence. Some of these officers were Constable Susan McCormick and Constable Jeff Donovan of the Windsor Police Service and Peterborough Lakefield Community Police Service Emergency Response Team. A summary of their achievement can be found in the Fall 2012 PAO Magazine. On October 25th 2012 Ontario Provincial Police, Provincial Constable Patrick Armstrong



Detective Suzanne Byrnes

and Ontario Provincial Police Dispatcher Celeste Bailey were the co-recipients of the “Bill Elliott” Award. They were recognized as 2012 members of the year for their involvement and achievements with the “Dave Mounsey Memorial Fund”, more details can be found at www.oppa.ca.

On November 30th 2012 the Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement presented its Annual Awards at the Government House of Nova Scotia. As expected the event was well attended and graced by the presence of Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, his Honour Brigadier-General the Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd), Nova Scotia Minister of Justice the Honourable Ross Landry, Assistant Commissioner Alphonse MacNeil, The Commanding Officer of Nova Scotia R.C.M.P., Chief Jean-Michel Blais, Halifax Regional Police, Acting Chief of Police Leanne Fitch of Fredericton Police Force and Su-

Region Eleven Report

November 2012

perintendent Marlene Snowman representing New Brunswick R.C.M.P. Co-Workers, friends and family also attended to congratulate the recipients. Details outlining the award winners can be found in a separate article.

On the Quebec forefront, On November 15th 2012, the 14th Gala des Prix Policiers du Québec recognizing 31 officers was held in Montreal. This event was organised by members of the Conseil de Gouvernance. This group recognises the continuous commitment and exceptional work performed by officers throughout Quebec. Here are some of the recipients. Officers Tasha Adams, André Bacon, Guy Fortin and Yves Leblanc of the RCMP, along with Lieutenant Steve Dubé of the Sûreté du Québec, who were involved in Operation GRUE, and Bernard Gravel, who received an award on behalf of all officers in the division. U.S. Secret Service agent Sima Ghasghaichi also received an honorary Quebec Police Award for Project Grue and Cranium, for their work in solving a multi-million dollar counterfeit money operation, Constables Nadine Lefebvre and Sylvain Richard of the Sûreté du Québec for pulling a person out of a burning car. Sûreté du Québec constables Vincent Bouchard and Marie-Christine Labonne for their quick action in saving the occupants from a sinking car, Officer Annie Lavoie of the Sûreté du Québec for going beyond the call of duty for her work with the community of Matapédia, details of their achievements can be found at www.newswire.ca. A donation of \$5000.00 was made to Quebec Special Olympics.

On November 28th 2012, I was invited to attend the 1st Gala du Mérite Policier. I met a number of inspiring individuals including M. Denis Cote, president of la FPMQ, the Honourable Maria Mourani, Bloc Québécois Member of Parliament in the Federal riding of Ahuntsic, The Honourable Madame Chantal Deschamps, Mayor of Repentigny and many more. Jointly organised by the Federation for Municipal officers of Quebec, and the Association for officers of Montreal, this event recognized Quebec officers from Municipal police services. Both organizations contributed \$3000.00 to la Maison du Père. Amongst the winners were Officers Sébastien Martin and Luc Picard of L'Assomption/Saint-Sulpice Police Service, for their life saving efforts of a suicidal male, Sergeant André Coallier, officers Karine Giroux and David Pilote of Montreal City Police, for their life saving efforts of a suicidal female, Detective Sergeant Guillaume Jacques from Saint-Eustache City Police for his life saving measure of a suicidal male who set fire to his house, Officers from the intervention units from the Montreal City Police for their ef-

forts and professionalism during the students' protests which took place throughout the city, Officers from Saint-Jean-Sur-Richelieu for their continuous efforts and professionalism during the continuous and damaging floods in their region which destroyed houses, and property, Detective Sergeant Benoit Videant, Sergeant Claude Cuillerier, officers Julie Dupré, Yves Leclerc, and Jacques Feron of the Montreal City Police for their contributions, efforts, life saving measures and courage during the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. Details of their achievements can be found at www.fpmq.org

I do realise that the above mentioned names are only the surface of officers and civilians being recognized for their extraordinary achievements, commitment and dedication. I congratulate all of the recipients and wish them long and successful careers.

Upcoming events

The Indonesian Police are planning to host their 2nd Asian Region 15 conference in Jakarta. Tentative dates are being looked at in November of 2013. More information is to come.

The Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement are hosting their 2013 Conference November 5th to 8th 2013 in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. I encourage members of Region 11 to attend and support this organization.

The 51st IAWP Conference is taking place September 22-26 in Durban, South Africa. I am looking forward to visiting this great continent and support my sisters of Region 18. The Board meeting will take place on September 20th and 21st. Visit www.iawp.org (Conference Section). For those planning who have committed with an early bird registration, you should have heard from a Region 18 representative. Don't forget to visit your local International Travel Clinic to receive the required vaccinations.

This year promises to be very busy with travelling, in addition to my yearly vacation in the States, I will be attending the Early Board Meeting in Trinidad, the World Police and Fire Games in Ireland and the Annual Training Conference in South Africa. I am looking forward to visiting new and wonderful places and meeting and learning about new communities. I would like to bring IAWP issues members feel need addressing, so I invite you to forward any concerns-ideas and suggestions to me.

Looking forward to hear from you soon

Suzanne Byrnes
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ATLANTIC POLICE ACADEMY LEADERSHIP THROUGH FITNESS

Titus recipient of 2012 Award

Cadet Katie Titus was the recipient of the 2012 Atlantic Police Academy Leadership Through Fitness Award sponsored by the AWLE. Katie graduated from the academy on August 31, 2012.

Katie has been involved in playing a variety of sports throughout high school and university. She played on competitive high school soccer and basketball teams and participated in sports camps as a player and coach. She was also a member of the New Brunswick provincial basketball team and attended nationals on her university basketball team. Playing and being involved in sports provided Katie with life skills such as leadership, commitment, perseverance, hard work, organizational skills and time management.

After graduating from St. Thomas University in May of 2009, Katie went to work for the Department of Public Safety at the Saint John Regional Correctional Centre. While working there, she learned how to cope in stressful situations, adapt quickly and effectively with offenders. According to Katie, working in corrections was a great experience for her as she met staff who gave her training and knowledge to carry with her as she transitioned into her policing career.

Katie said "My goal to become a police officer has been with me since a young age. It has been a dream of mine for many years. The qualities and experiences I have attained up to this point of my life are valuable, and will be a part of me for the rest of my life. I cannot think of a time in my life when I didn't want to work within law enforcement. I would like to take the time to thank Atlantic Women in Law



Enforcement for the award presented to me.

Katie is currently employed at the Saint John Regional Correctional Centre and is an Auxiliary Constable with Rothesay Police.

Katie's parents, Donald and Tracy Titus of Sussex, NB and her three younger sisters, Maria, Jill and Laura are very proud of Katie's accomplishments. It was a pleasure for me to meet Katie and her family at the graduation ceremony to present her award. The AWLE congratulates Katie on her achievements and wishes her well in her promising career.



Supreme Court of Canada Make Ruling on Texting

In the case of *R. v. TELUS*, 2013 SCC 16 the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled that the police must obtain a Part VI wiretap authorization in order to obtain future text messages.

This case began in March, 2010 when the Owen Sound Police service obtained a Section 487.01 general warrant. The warrant named two TELUS wireless subscribers and required TELUS to provide all text messages sent by or addressed to the two subscribers during the first two weeks of April.

The majority of the Supreme Court ruled that in

order to obtain prospective text messages, the police need to meet the higher standard of obtaining a wiretap warrant as compared to the general warrant. In its judgment, the Court recognized that the text messages deserve the same protections as provided to other forms of communications.

Scott Hutchinson, Telus's lead lawyer for the case praised the Court for protecting the privacy of communications in an era where technology is constantly breaking into new terrain.

Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement Announces 2012 Annual Awards

The Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement (AWLE) presented its annual awards on November 30, 2012, at Government House in Halifax. Each year the AWLE recognizes the contributions of women (and in some cases their male coworkers) through the presentation of awards and this year it was an honour for the AWLE to have these awards presented at Government House of Nova Scotia at a ceremony hosted by the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, His Honour Brigadier - General the Honourable J.J. Grant, CMM, ONS, CD (Ret'd). Nova Scotia Minister of Justice, Honourable Ross Landry, attended and addressed the attendees. The ceremony was also attended by law enforcement management and personnel, coworkers, friends, and family of award recipients.

The following awards were presented:

Officer of the Year - Constable Patricia Kennedy, Halifax Regional Police

Constable Patricia Kennedy has been a police officer for six years and is currently in her fifth year as a Community Response Officer for the Greystone Drive public housing neighbourhood. She is a driven

individual in both her professional and personal life. She brings a passion to succeed and make the area she is assigned to a safer place for its residents. She displays a remarkable work ethic, and has shown experience beyond her years in policing in her work. She is actively involved within the community, developing community relationships, and assisting in establishing or identifying programming which will provide long term solutions. She quickly recognizes emerging problems and trends within the community and develops action plans to address them. She has worked tirelessly to build a trust within the community by immersing herself completely into the neighbourhood and local school. She co-created the Greystone stakeholder group in which police, school, Housing Authority, Salvation Army and other stakeholder groups meet to collectively work towards improving the community. Constable Kennedy sits on the Spryfield Addiction Awareness Committee, participates in Restorative Justice sessions and regularly attends Community Coffee houses. She is an excellent role model due to her professional success and work ethic. She provides guidance to the residents by identifying other government or non-government agencies for support or assistance to their problems. Constable Kennedy displays a keen knowledge of the criminal element and is a resource to other police officers. She forges valuable relationships with residents and stakeholders in the community. Constable Kennedy provides a balance of services for this community from enforcement and crime solving to crime prevention, education, and referral. Constable Kennedy epitomizes what we hope to get from our police officers.

Community Service – Constable Janet Smith, Fredericton Police Force

Constable Janet Smith has been the Fredericton Police Force Youth at Risk Coordinator since 2009. She was provided only with a conceptual framework that outlined the objectives in terms of identifying, intervening and processing youth at most risk of com-



Officer of the Year - Constable Patricia Kennedy

ing into, and remaining in contact with the police over long periods of time. The goal was to establish strong community partnerships, police force wide buy-in, and engage in proactive and strategic work to reduce crime, disorder and harm in the community. She successfully populated the conceptual framework, developed, sustained and nurtured external working committees, worked collaboratively with civilian staff, and established in-roads with her peer police officers to positively influence a new way of thinking about Youth Crime and Crime Reduction. Constable Smith



Community Service – Constable Janet Smith

is creative, dedicated and very passionate about making a difference in the lives of our youth and fully understands that this proactive approach is valuable and will continue to yield positive results for the community for many years ahead.

Excellence in Performance – Corporal Denise Roussel, 'J' Division Federal Operations West, St-Leonard Detachment, NB

In the fall of 2011, Corporal Denise Roussel was the primary investigator on a major organized crime investigation in North-West New Brunswick, involving a sophisticated group of criminals who were conspiring with individuals from the Montreal area in the sale and distribution of cocaine and synthetic drugs. Those criminally involved had been operating a very lucrative drug network for over five years and had garnished a reputation for being untouchable. This was a complex organized crime investigation which



**Excellence in Performance
Corporal Denise Roussel**

included judicial authorizations and partnerships with supporting police agencies. In the role as lead investigator, Cpl. Roussel was responsible for ensuring the speed, flow and direction of the project and was the surveillance captain for a five person team that was routinely deployed to cover events of significance to the investigation, and was responsible for overseeing strategic disruptions during the course of the investigation. She worked closely with intercept monitors over a period of four months to make important and timely decisions. Her judgment and experience led to some very critical disruptions which led to the proving of conspiracy against the accused. She planned and oversaw the surveillance efforts, arrest and search of the accused. Corporal Roussel and her team were responsible for the seizure of over one kilogram of cocaine and 10,000 methamphetamine pills. This investigation which started in the fall of 2010 was brought to a very successful conclusion in May of 2012. Multiple individuals were charged, including a prolific drug trafficker.

Leadership - Corporal Patricia Levesque, 'J' Division RCMP District 4

Corporal Patricia Levesque has provided exceptional leadership to the Mayor and Council of Sackville, NB, as well as the community in general. At a time of difficulty, the expectations were much higher in terms of service delivery and presence. She was able to develop good working relationships within the community by keeping all stakeholders informed, making suggestions to improve services in the community and also dealing effectively with all of



Leadership - Corporal Patricia Levesque

their concerns, notably noise complaints and issues with Mount Alison University. Corporal Levesque built a solid bridge between the Town and the RCMP through her positive interventions and helped establish a shared office between the RCMP and Mount Alison Campus Security which increased police presence and facilitated increased communication with the university students. She re-organized the Auxiliary Constable Program for District 4, ensuring the program continued to run according to established standards. She also assisted a fellow police officer in returning to work at full capacity from a gradual return to work program, through her interactions and close supervision. Corporal Levesque was asked to take on a temporary leadership role as Acting Sergeant of a unit which had been experiencing unhealthy workplace issues for some time. She quickly grasped the issues at hand and her style of supervision and management enabled her to make quick decisions and build good labour relations with the teams to ensure a healthy work climate in the future.

**Medal of Valour –
Constables Samantha McInnis, Jeff Smiley and
Shawn Fraser, and Corporal Dwight Doyle,
Fredericton Police Force**

On January 8, 2012, Fredericton Police Force Communications received a 911 call from a woman who reported she was trapped in her car in the Saint

John River and that her car was sinking. Constable Jeff Smiley and Constable Samantha McInnis were the first officers to arrive on scene within minutes of the 911 call. They very quickly saw that the vehicle had driven off the road and travelled about 30 meters across the ice before plunging into the open, frigid waters of the Saint John River with the front end of the vehicle completely submerged. Constable Smiley, tethered to Constable McInnis with a rope, rescue disk and life jacket, moved across the ice to the vehicle. As he neared, the ice gave way and he fell into the icy water where he broke out the car window and extracted the unconscious victim from her vehicle. Constable Smiley, succumbing slowly to hy-



Medal of Valour – Samantha McInnis



Medal of Valour – Jeff Smiley

pothemia, attempted to pass the victim over to Constable Shawn Fraser who was trying to grab a hold of her from the water but he repeatedly fell through the ice up to his waist. Cpl. Dwight Doyle arrived on scene and took over the rope from Constable McInnis. When relieved from the rope, Constable McInnis moved to assist Constable Fraser. In her efforts to assist Constable Fraser, Constable McInnis fell forward through the ice, submerging her head and upper body. Constable McInnis recovered herself and together with Constable Fraser, were both able to secure themselves and retrieve the unconscious victim from the water. Constable McInnis administered CPR until the victim gained a pulse and was able to turn the victim over to the EMTs. Constables McInnis, Smiley, and Fraser were treated for hypothermia and later released from the hospital. The victim, a 73 year old local woman, spent weeks in critical care, before making a full recovery at home.

The AWLE is a recognized affiliate of the International Association of Women Police (IAWP), and includes sworn officers representing federal, provincial, and municipal law enforcement agencies across Atlantic Canada, Ontario, and Quebec. AWLE award recipients will be nominated for IAWP awards that will be presented in 2013 in South Africa. More information regarding AWLE and AWLE awards can be located at www.awle.org.

Constable Paula Raymond
AWLE President



Medal of Valour – Shawn Fraser



Medal of Valour – Dwight Doyle

Become a Member of the AWLE Team

The Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement (AWLE) is an organization that was developed for women law enforcement officers. It has been providing opportunities for training and networking for police and peace agencies for over twenty years. The presence of female officers in a traditionally male dominated field was not as common as it is today and at the time the AWLE was begun women faced unique issues and challenges. The AWLE was a forum for these women to meet as a group to discuss their professions and it developed into a training opportunity. Although the issues may have changed over the years the need to address the unique challenges of female law enforcement officers still exists. The AWLE is currently serving the four Atlantic

Provinces and is an affiliate of the International Association of Women Police (IAWP).

The AWLE daily operations fall under the AWLE Board which consists of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Media Relations, Notebook editor/publisher, Treasurer and Membership Coordinator. These positions are voted on by the general membership and are for three year terms. This year the AWLE Board will offer up the positions of Membership Coordinator, Media Relations and Notebook editor/publisher to the general membership. Please take the time to consider becoming a part of the organization and volunteer to represent your profession as a member of the board.

Police and Peace Officers' National Memorial Day

Sgt Shawn O'Reilly
Inspections Officer
Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

In 1998, the Canadian Government proclaimed the last Sunday in September, of every year, as Police and Peace Officers' National Memorial Day. The designation of this Remembrance Day began 20 years earlier, on Sept 24, 1978, when a large group of police and peace officers gathered on Parliament Hill to honour their comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice. The annual day of remembrance continues to be recognized by police and peace officers since first coming together in 1978 and every year, since then, thousands of officers make the journey to Ottawa to pay their respects.

Since the early eighties, the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) has been represented at the national ceremony. For over 30 years, the association representing RNC members, known as the RNC Association (RNCA), has supported members attendance. Initially, the RNCA funded 2 members to attend the ceremony every year. In 2003, other RNC members, wanting to pay their

respects, came together and decided to raise funds to support the attendance of a larger guard of honour. In 2005, the RNCA saw the practicality of this initiative and directed their funding toward this effort. That was almost 10 years ago and the first honour guard numbered 6 members. Every year since then, the numbers have grown, and now on average, 25 members attend.

Attendance remains a grass roots effort. The RNCA still provides some assistance; however, the vast majority of funding is raised by the attending members. Each year, fundraising efforts usually begin in March, first with a ticket draw on a piece of NL artwork, followed in the summer with carwashes and other events. Sure, it would be easier if our police agency or provincial government paid the shot, but on the other hand we like it the way it is. Fundraising eliminates those who may want to jump on the bandwagon. Raising funds fosters teamwork, builds camaraderie and leaves members with a sense of accomplishment. Having worked toward the goal of attending, the members are filled with pride when they stand with other police and peace officers from Canada and the USA to honour their fallen comrades.





"Increasing Your Chances of Criminal Convictions for Sexual Assault Cases"

When one accepts the incorrect premise that there are more false allegations of sexual assault than of other crimes, it follows that many women are perceived as less than honest about being sexually assaulted. In the context of sexual violence, the criminal law has forced women to fit into rigid characterizations of the ideal rape victim. This ideal rape victim has been described as morally and sexually virtuous, cautious and unprovocative (Larcombe, 2002). These stereotypes often pervade the health care and legal system understanding of victims of sexual violence. While efforts to reverse this trend have been significant, change has been slow, and negative stereotyping continues to influence the manner in which sexual assaults are processed from health care through to investigation and prosecution.

In general, there is empirical support to the suggestion that good care has positive indirect effects on victims' readiness to engage with the criminal justice system (Campbell, Greeson & Patterson, 2011). Therefore, the importance of belief and validation cannot be overstated. Immediately following a sexual assault the victim's responses will be influenced by how others react to her. In the trauma of the moment, a victim who perceives medical personnel or law enforcement as being sceptical or judgmental, may react guardedly. Unfortunately, the fears that set in at that time can also make it very difficult for a victim to reconsider aspects of her story later (The Manhattan District Attorney's Office). Certainly this will negatively reflect on credibility. Other factors that affect perceived credibility may be the atypical reactions that some victims exhibit after the sexual assault, some being difficult to understand. Reactions, such as delaying in reporting the sexual assault, or being very unemotional when talking about the assault may appear so unusual that they cast doubt on the credibility of the victim's allegations. Because of this it is important that health providers, law enforcement and prosecution become familiar with sexual assault related emotional trauma, such as Rape Trauma Syndrome, so that such behaviour does not curtail investigation

or negatively influence a jury in their evaluation of victim credibility.

There is a growing body of literature that suggests that the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) programs are beneficial to the criminal justice system (Campbell, Greeson & Patterson, 2011; Logan, Cole & Capillo, 2007; The Manhattan District Attorney's Office). The most frequently mentioned benefit is the efficacy of SANE work above medical personnel without SANE training. Specifically, it relates to the high quality of evidence collected, maintenance of chain of evidence, and thorough documentation. The intensive physical exam undertaken by a highly trained SANE, beyond the medical aspect, is geared toward understanding the specifics of the assault and where to go to gather sufficient evidence. Semen DNA may not easily be captured, but SANEs are trained to expand the scope of evidence gathering to include swabbing bruises for DNA, and asking questions that could reveal where a suspect may have left DNA-producing saliva evidence. These functions have been attributed to increased prosecution, increased plea bargaining and increasing convictions.

Some thought should be given to expanding the window of time previously suggested for the acquiring of evidence. Could there be evidence collected that is useful in prosecution or is it a waste of time/money to collect evidence past 72 hours? Possibly. The very expensive yet highly sensitive Y-STR testing has revealed DNA profiles well beyond 72 hours when other DNA

testing is negative. Additionally, evidence collected today could reveal positive results when utilizing future technology. One US Prosecutors office sent 33 old sexual assault kits for newer DNA recovery processes, and 24 DNA profiles were developed using the more sensitive Y-STR technology (Ledray, 2010). Y-STR testing is not standard practice in Canada at this time, but can be requested for certain cases.

It would also be remiss to neglect the assailant as a contributor to the evidence bank. According to the



H alifa x, NS Foren sic Lab , very s eldom do the y get a pe nis s wabs f or tes ting. If you don't get a as-sailant's DNA from the victim, you might get the vic-tim's DNA off of the assailant. Certainly worth considering.

The benefits of collaborating with SANE as part of the investigation and prosecution process cannot be understated. The narrative of the sexual assault given to the SANE may support a victim's story even in the absence of more solid physical evidence. The state-ment made in court by a SANE that "the lack of in-juries was consistent with the victim's story," could be very telling in the face of no obvious physical injuries.

Narrative within the medical interview documentation may also provide information that can streamline the evidence kit processing by revealing the probative value of the samples submitted (Burg, Kahn & Welch, 2011). This information could shorten the time for pro-cessing by prioritizing analysis. Plus, the narrative the victim provides to the nurse may direct law en-forcement to associated evidence that may provide suspect DNA.

Other advantages include expertise is testifying. SANEs bring a unique body of knowledge to the in-terpretation of findings. The questions of "can it be a real sexual assault if there is no injury" or "why is there no semen," can be expertly explained in support of an assault without "evidence." In the study by The Manhattan District Attorney's office, when ADA's were asked to evaluate whether medical evidence had any effect on the outcome of the case, they responded "no" in

53.3% of the cases and "yes" in 39.3% of the cases. Given these findings it would appear that many aspects of a sexual assault, beyond the obvious evi-dence, are worth pursuing among those with expert-ise. Consider this interesting scenario: In Minneapolis recently, an assailant pled guilty when, after talking to the SANE, the prosecutor told the defense attorney that the positive DNA found anally could not have been from the "consenting" anal sex that occurred more than 48 hours earlier as the assailant claimed. Based on data collected by the SANE program, it could only have been from the anal rape 5 hours prior to the forensic medical exam, which the assailant de-nied occurred. (Ledray, 2005, p. 36).

Unfortunately, preparing SANEs for testifying is often neglected. An attorney cannot be fully equipped to formulate relative questions unless time is spent with the SANE reviewing documentation. Once these questions are formulated then medical information can be threaded into the questioning process on the basis of what is really known and should be explored.

Another important collaboration process is the shar-ing of case outcomes as a unique opportunity for learning. Because prosecutors, investigators, and SANEs come together in reviewing cases from multi-ple perspectives, they can identify strengths and weaknesses in each other's contribution to the case and learn from this for future cases.

Drug facilitated sexual assault (DFSA) is becoming an increasing issue, though many cases do not get rec-ognized as such. Because it is often used in conjunction with voluntary alcohol consumption, indeed the vehicle of ingestion is frequently alcohol, and since patient be-haviours frequently mimic that of alcohol intoxication, an assumption of drunkenness can be an easy mistake to

"Increasing Your Chances of Criminal Convictions for Sexual Assault Cases"

make. The difficulty remains that once it becomes evident that a DFSA might have taken place (person becoming more lucid) the window of opportunity for positive testing is rapidly closing. Some drugs will clear the system as quickly as 6-8 hours while others may leave traces in the urine for up to 96 hours. Thus, if there is any question of a DFSA (victim says she didn't have that much to drink, is amnesic, euphoric) medical attention and the collection of blood/urine becomes the priority over investigation. The results alone might make the case for lack of consent. There is an excellent YouTube video (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgqwLhtJDIE>) based upon the law enforcement and prosecutors perspective on DFSA that includes a police recording of a very interesting encounter with a DFSA victim.

Finally, the value of victim advocacy cannot be underscored. Efforts from law enforcement to provide advocacy, victim services and counselling may help victims

feel less alone and afraid about prosecution. It may be that victims are more likely to participate and less likely to recant if there is an availability of formal support while going through the criminal justice process.

At best, working on sexual assault cases can be difficult and frustrating. Additionally, when there is the tendency to rely only on visible physical injuries, which may not be present, or victim credibility, successful prosecution can be problematic. From this discussion, it would appear that working with individuals who are trained in both forensic evidence collection and documentation may be one of several strategies that can be used to strengthen a case.

Sue Robb, BN, RN, BEd, MN, SANE-A, SANE-P, owner of Forensic Nurse Consulting is a forensic nurse with specialties as a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE), a SANE trainer/certifier and a Legal Nurse Consultant.

AWLE Makes Donation to Adsum House

Each year the AWLE donates to a charity intended to benefit the community in which an AWLE Annual Training Conference is being held. There was no annual conference last year but an awards reception was held in Halifax in November. The AWLE executive decided to make a donation to Adsum House, Halifax, to assist with their programs.

Adsum House is a non-profit, community-based organization working to improve the quality of life for individuals and families who are marginalized. Their mission is to support women and children and female youth in a client-centered, non-judgmental way; to provide services and housing - from crisis to stability - through short and longer term housing, programs and resources that offer safety and an opportunity for growth; and to advocate for women and children and to work to eliminate poverty and the societal conditions that create homelessness. More information on Adsum House can be found at www.adsumforwomen.org.

The AWLE is pleased to support such a worthwhile organization.



Honor and Remember

We started our 2012 IAWP conference (held in St Johns, Newfoundland and Labrador, 9 -13 September) with a memorial observance honoring the officers that died in the line of duty since we held our last conference in Lexington, Kentucky August 2011.

The names of twenty-four female officers were read and a candle was lit to symbolize all the Fallen Officers. The candle remained lit throughout the conference and was present at every major gathering of the delegates.

The candle symbolizes the light of each member of law enforcement lost; for the souls who lost their lives in the line of duty. For the women and men whose lives were taken "In service" to their towns, country, the world and most honorably their fellow human.

Prior to our conference (in the past ten years) Canada lost six female police constables in the line of duty:

1. Police Constable Chelsey A. Robinson, RCMP, 2010, AB
2. Police Constable Mélanie Roy, Lévis Police Service, 2009, QC
3. Police Constable Robin Lynelle Cameron, RCMP, 2006, SK
4. Police Constable Valarie Gignac, Laval Police Department, 2005, QC
5. Police Constable Christine Diootte, RCMP, 2002, AB
6. Police Constable Laura J. Ellis, Toronto Police, 2002, ON

They will be greatly missed.

The men and women of the IAWP send out prayers and condolences to the family, friends and

Since our conference ended we have lost four woman warriors in the line of duty:

Police Constable Katia Hadouchi
(Quebec Provincial Police, Quebec, Canada)

Police Constable Fiona Bone
(Greater Manchester Police, Manchester United Kingdom)

Police Constable Nicola Hughes
(Greater Manchester Police, Manchester United Kingdom)

Correction Sergeant Mary Ricard
(Colorado Department of Corrections, United States)

as of March 2013

colleagues of these wonderful ladies.

On September 28th, 2012 in Australia and the South Pacific and September 30, 2012 in Canada and the United Kingdom a day of remembrance for fallen officers was observed. They remembered, recognized and honored their country's fallen law enforcement heroes.

Please join me in praying for all the loved ones these officers leave behind. I pray for peace and comfort for the survivors.

We want the survivors to know women and men worldwide are thinking of them and their hero. We respect the price they paid and they will not be forgotten.

Most importantly to all currently serving Officers, Please Stay Alert. Stay Safe and focus on coming home thankfully to your loved ones at the end of your watch (duty day).

I ask for blessing over all who are serving and have served in law enforcement throughout the world.

The women and men of IAWP and AWLE will continue to honor you and the fallen throughout the year.

IAWP Chaplain
Tamia Dow

RNC Recruits Supported by the Canadian Federation of University Women



The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) is pleased to announce that the Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) in St. John's had identified three current RNC female recruits to receive bursaries for their Police Studies university education.

The Canadian Federation of University Women is a non-profit, non-partisan, self-funded organization working towards the improvement of the status of women and girls, promotion of quality public education and advancement of human rights, justice and peace. The CFUW was founded in 1919 and consists of over 9,000 members throughout 110 clubs across Canada.

On Friday, April 12, 2013, representatives of the CFUW presented bursaries to the recruits currently established in the MUN/RNC Police Studies Program. Also in attendance were RNC Chief of Police; Robert Johnston, Inspector in Charge of RNC Training Section; Marlene Jesso and the entire RNC Recruit class.





DID YOU KNOW...

Membership has it's benefits!!!

Your \$25.00 membership entitles you to receive:

- 'The Notebook (<http://www.awle.org/documents/spring2011notebook.pdf>)' AWLE's newsletter twice yearly;
- A gift of appreciation for taking out membership.
- Opportunity to avail of the lowest conference registration rates with no increases;
- VOTE and provide feedback and suggestions at our Annual General Meetings.

Your membership allows us to:

- Professional Development Training Conferences within Atlantic Canada: This provides you the opportunity to learn from various speakers and educators and liaison/network with delegates from all over Atlantic Canada. Here's an example of the type of feedback (<http://www.awle.org/documents/conffeedbackrebeccabrawngreer.pdf>) we get from Conference Participants;
- Annual Recognition Awards: you have an opportunity to be nominated and recognized for the hard work you do. Winners of AWLE awards are also forwarded to the IAWP Association for potential recognition at the international level
- Newsletters: We can keep you up to date on articles of interest through our bi-annual newsletter. Have you seen the latest 'Notebook (<http://www.awle.org/documents/spring2011notebook.pdf>)'?
- Website: Maintaining an active website with the latest information, news, and updates

We exist for you and because of you! If you have any ideas, concerns, or suggestions you would like to pass along, contact me!

Beverly Bryant, A/Cpl
AWLE Membership Coordinator
membership@awle.org

Your Membership Fees of \$25.00 are now due!
Please make your cheques payable to 'AWLE'



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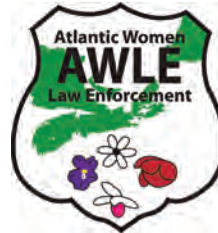
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St. John's, NL A1A 3T5
beverly.a.bryant@rcmp-grc.gc.ca

Mentoring Support Training



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The Atlantic Women in Law Enforcement represents the interest of Police/Peace Officers in the Atlantic Provinces and is committed to further enhancing our members skills through training, professional development and peer support. Join us and benefit from all our organization has to offer.

For further
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