

DAY 1 NOVEMBER 18, 2024

2024 Alberta Homicide Conference

0700-0815

Check in

Check in and receive lanyards for conference. This will occur in the hallway outside the ballroom.

0830-0845

Welcome & Land Acknowledgment

0845-1015

Leadership in Policing

Police Chief (retired) Roger Brown
Presented by retired Chief Roger Brown a 40 year policing veteran who served as Commanding Officer of the RCMP Academy (Depot Division) before becoming the 29th Commanding Officer of the RCMP in New Brunswick (J Division). He oversaw the investigation into the murder of three Moncton RCMP officers in 2014. Brown also served as Chief of Police for Fredericton until his retirement in 2022.

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1015-1030

COFFEE BREAK

1030-1200

James Rufiange Homicide

Presented by S/Sgt. Tyrone Brand, Cpl. Colin Harnish & Sgt. Derek Carlson (RCMP)

James Rufiange was murdered on November 25, 2020, in Red Deer, Alberta. Investigators had to navigate complex issues related to the disclosure of confidential source information, witness safety, and implied privilege, which nearly led to a stay of prosecution. This presentation will outline the difficulties encountered, the measures taken to prevent a potential crisis, and the critical importance of early engagement with the Crown.

1200-1300

LUNCH

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1300-1600

James Cree Nation Mass Murder

Presented Dr. Matt Logan & S/Sgt. Carl Sesely (RCMP)

A post attack behavioral analysis of the Saskatchewan James Cree Nation mass murder. S/Sgt. Sesely and Dr. Logan present the details of the multiple stabbings that took 11 lives and wounded 17 more. They do a Psychological Autopsy on the perpetrator that answers the why? why them, why now, and why in this manner?

1600-1700

Rapid DNA presentation

Presented by Staff Sergeant Brad Kline (EPS)

What is Rapid DNA Analysis? Who is utilizing the technology, what can be analyzed, what are the uses for Rapid DNA. Presentation includes an EPS case study where its use led to success.

1730-2000

Social Suite

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0830-1000

Ertale Lounge shooting

Presented by Detective Donna Cole (EPS)

On March 12, 2022, EPS members were called to Ertale Lounge at 118 Avenue near 124 Street, after reports of multiple shots being fired outside of the bar. Police officers and first responders were met by a devastating scene. Approximately 70 rounds had been fired into a crowd of people. Eight people had been shot. One of the victims, 28-year-old Imbert George, succumbed to his injuries. This case study will highlight handling a very demanding and complex investigation with a high volume of information.

1000-1015

COFFEE BREAK

1015-1145

Vida Smith Missing Person Investigation

Presented by Detective Scott Guterson (CPS)

On July 22, 2020, 70-year-old Vida Smith was reported missing by her family. Det. Guterson led this very unusual missing person investigation.

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1145-1245

LUNCH

1245-1415

Coutts Conspiracy to Commit Murder Investigation

Presented by Sgt. Aaron Ewert (RCMP), Sgt. Mike Klassen (RCMP), Aaron Rankin (Crown), Steven Johnston (Crown)

On January 29th, 2022, semi-truck drivers blocked the Coutts, Alberta – Sweet Grass, Montana, international border, preventing traffic from crossing and disrupting a major artery for the Alberta economy. The RCMP deployed a large contingent of police to deal with the blockade. An undercover operation was undertaken to infiltrate the leadership group. The investigation led to discovery of a plot by the group to prepare for a war against police. The escalation in the threat to both the police and public led to the arrest of 13 people on February 14, 2022, and the end of the blockade.

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1415-1430

Closing ceremony, remarks,
and travel

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