



**PUBLIC AGENDA
STREET ACTIVITY STEERING COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, May 18, 2016, 12:00 p.m.
Committee Room E, Ground Floor, City Hall
Members

Ms. S. Marchildon, Chair
Ms. V. Charles
Inspector R. Huisman
Mr. B. Penner
Mr. R. Pshebylo
Senior Planner E. Miller

Pages

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**
Recommendation
That the agenda be confirmed as presented.
3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
Recommendation
That the minutes of regular meeting of the Street Activity Steering Committee held on March 16, 2016 be adopted.
4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
5. **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**
6. **REPORT OF PROGRAM MANAGER**
7. **COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAM**
 - 7.1 **Report of the Supervisor (File No. CK. 5605-3)** 3 - 7
A report of the Supervisor, Community Support Program is attached.
Recommendation
That the information be received.
 - 7.2 **Police Commission Report - Public Intoxication (File No. CK. 5605-3)** 8 - 15

City Council, at its Regular Business Meeting held on March 21, 2016, considered the attached report of the Board of Police Commissioners regarding the above and resolved that a copy of the report be forwarded to the Street Activity Steering Committee, and the Riversdale, Broadway, and Downtown Business Improvement Districts Boards for information.

Recommendation

That the information be received.

8. ADJOURNMENT



May 18, 2016 - Street Activity Steering Committee Meeting Program Report for March and April 2016

1. Executive Summary

March 2016 – In March the Community Support Program (CSP) attended to an increase number of calls. With the warm weather there is always an increase in the number of people around. The CSP staff focused on connecting with the outlying businesses in the Riversdale BID completing a total of 116 locations throughout the month.

April 2016 – The program's quarterly meeting was held in April and included a review of the first quarter of the year as well as planning for the upcoming months. The marketing materials were finalized this month and the final phase of printing and installing the decals on the van was completed. CSP staff attended the community needle cleanup blitz this year. In addition to this event staff also focused efforts on needle cleanup throughout all three Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) and experiences an increase in calls from community members and businesses for the same.

CSP staff assisted with identifying, supporting, and connecting three high risk individuals to appropriate care. Businesses and community members reported either concern for these individuals or disturbances that were affecting the safety of the community and/or the business itself. With specifically identified issues the CSP was able to use this information to support their advocacy in getting the clients the care that they required such as mental health interventions, addiction support services, and appropriate medical care.

This reporting period there continued to be an increase in drug use on the streets; specifically IV drug use. Needle pick-up was also higher than usual with a total of 46 needles being safely disposed of. Patterns of behaviour including euphoria, increased energy and alertness, agitation, etc. indicate that drug use, as opposed to or in combination with alcohol use, are becoming more common. Several clients as well as new individuals disclosed they were now using drugs.

The other trend that continues to increase is the number of new people on the streets. During this reporting period the CSP encountered 29 new clients. In April the number decreased but staff will continue to keep an eye on the trend. During March and April the CSP Supervisor was able to ascertain that other services including shelters, addictions service providers, and other organizations providing services to vulnerable people reported the same type of increases.



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Lesley Prefontaine - Supervisor
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2. Statistics

Table 1 – Calls for Service

2016	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Current Period	YTD Total
Number of occurrences	121	101	155	156									311	533
Individuals served	148	123	201	184									385	656
Involvement	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Current Period	YTD Total
Business	112	89	149	120									169	582
Community	56	49	81	73									154	259
Vulnerable Person	140	115	186	171									189	612
Call Origin	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total	% of Total
Office	103	85	129	111									428	65%
Patrol	23	22	43	42									130	20%
Police Dispatch	10	8	18	22									58	9%
Self-initiated	12	4	11	9									36	5%
Follow-up	0	4	0	0									4	1%
Outcome	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total	% of Total
Successful*	98	81	151	127									458	70%
Could not locate	34	21	33	45									133	20%
Not able to assist**	16	21	14	14									65	10%
Bylaw	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Current Period	YTD Total
Information	53	57	62	103									165	275
Ticketed	4	8	15	7									22	34
Warned	1	2	3	0									3	6

* Successful includes identifying specific issue that exist at the time, assessing the scenario and assisting the individual(s) the supports they need (i.e. housing or shelter, mental health concerns, nutrition, transportation, etc.);

**Not able to assist includes a call in which an individual refuses service, Police or other services providers are in attendance, there is concurrent calls.



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Table 2 – Calls Attended & Action Taken

Call Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total	% of Total
Addictions	69	58	95	98									320	49%
Suspicious Person	18	14	29	28									89	14%
Disturbance	26	19	29	25									99	15%
Bylaw	8	15	25	12									60	9%
Housing	3	1	1	1									6	1%
Mediation	10	1	8	6									25	4%
Other	14	15	14	14									57	9%
Referrals	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total	YTD Total
On scene/immediate*	63	50	70	72									142	255
Independent**	20	15	16	12									28	63
Organization	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total	% of Total
City Police	43	15	29	32									119	23%
CSP	12	12	11	2									37	7%
Ambulance	7	6	10	6									29	6%
Larson House	17	14	19	19									69	13%
Lighthouse Shelter	2	2	2	3									9	2%
Lighthouse Stabilization	18	11	23	9									61	12%
Lighthouse transport	26	28	24	34									112	21%
Salvation Army	2	1	0	0									3	1%
Mobile Crisis	1	2	2	2									7	1%
MSS Income Security	1	1	2	1									5	1%
Transit Services	2	4	10	8									24	5%
Other	9	11	16	12									48	9%

* On scene/immediate referrals are contacts made directly on scene to assist an individual(s) with immediate needs;

**An independent referral occurs when staff recommends information about a service provider or contact information about the CSP to follow-up with after a call for service is completed, the referral is made with the understanding that the initiative is to be taken by the client.



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Table 3 – Patrol Statistics

2016	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
Directions	13	14	11	12									50
Business information	3	13	11	12									39
Program information	16	17	36	28									97
Business connection	69	90	116	39									314
Safety	4	2	4	3									13
Connections	447	390	645	583									2065
New person	15	24	20	9									68
Needles	4	25	43	3									75
Other	0	2	7	5									14

3. Key Indicator Update

Table 4 – Key Indicators

Business	
Business connections	155 business connections completed in Broadway BID and Riversdale BID
Collaborate with businesses to resolve issues	14 mediations completed
Vulnerable Persons	
Addictions	193 (29%) of calls received during the current period 46 needles properly disposed by CSP
Referrals	142 (37%) of individuals assisted cleared by the CSP
SPS involvement	58 (15%) required Police assistance
General Public	
Patrol statistics	23 individuals received directions 22 individual(s) received business information 64 descriptions of the CSP were shared
Presentations	3 presentations completed



4. Highlights & Challenges

The following highlights and challenges were in March & April:

- The CSP team continues to encounter new people on the street in Saskatoon and is working with service providers to assess the impact of the problem and connect individual(s) to the appropriate resources;
- A trend of increased IV drug use at the street level and the patterns of behaviour including euphoria, increased energy and alertness, agitation, etc. consistent with stimulants versus depressants are becoming more prevalent;
- The challenge of dealing with an individual(s) who are high on stimulants presents a unique set of challenges including more unpredictable behavior and difficulty getting them assistance because rest and a safe place is not realistic;
- With recent reports of increased calls for service to addictions, disturbances, and suspicious persons a meeting was called by the Action Accord leadership. The meeting included the CSP, Saskatoon Police Service (SPS), the Downtown BID, and a service provider group;
- On March 19 all staff completed defensive tactics training;
- Two team members attended and completed the Mental Health First Aid training conducted by the SPS and one staff attended mindfulness training for addictions and relapse prevention;
- Two staff members assisted with the community needle pick up held on April 12;
- On March 23 the CSP was featured on the Global Morning Live show to discuss the program as well as the trends that are affecting the Downtown, Riversdale, and Broadway BIDs.

4. Looking Forward

Based on the information gathered from the last reporting period the CSP will be focused on the following activities in addition to their regular duties. These activities will include:

- The marketing material is completed and staff are implementing a plan to distribute the new materials which will also include social media momentum to targeted enhanced public awareness;
- Following the Action Accord stakeholders meeting the CSP Supervisor will meet weekly with SPS to assess and support the individuals who are most frequently being dealt with; and
- CSP staff is working with SPS to receive updated radios and enhance communication as well as capture all calls for service.

5. Action Items

Nothing to report at this time.

SASKATOON BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Public Intoxication

Recommendation of the Board

That the information be received.

History

City Council, at its meeting held on September 28, 2015, considered a report of the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Development and Community Services dealing with the Community Support Program Pilot Project and a review for permanent status. City Council approved the recommendations of the Committee, which included a recommendation that the matter of public intoxication in Saskatoon be referred to the Board of Police Commissioners and Street Activity Steering Committee for a review.

The Board of Police Commissioners considered a report of the Chief of Police in this regard at its meeting held on February 17, 2016, and resolved that the information be received and forwarded to City Council for information.

Attachment

Report of the Chief of Police dated February 3, 2016.

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TO: Darlene Brander, Chairperson
Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Clive Weighill
Office of the Chief

DATE: 2014 February 03

SUBJECT: Public Intoxication

FILE #: 2011



ISSUE:

During City Council’s discussion regarding the continued funding for the Community Support Officer Program, the Police Administration was asked to prepare a report detailing the manner in which public intoxication is enforced.

RECOMMENDATION:

This report is received as information.

BACKGROUND:

Dealing with public intoxication is a concern for the City, the Business Improvement Districts (BID’s) and police. In addition to the police intervention, the Community Support Program (CSP) was introduced in mid-2012, with a staff of five, to patrol and respond to calls for service in the city centre where police are not necessarily required. Nonviolent intoxicated individuals are one of the calls for service the Community Support Officers (CSO) respond to.

DISCUSSION:

Community Support Program- Response

The CSO’s patrol and respond to calls for service in the three BID’s. They are either dispatched by the Police, called directly by the BID’s or generate occurrences by way of on views. CSO’s are not Peace Officers and do not carry use of force options. CSO’s most often deal with:

- Intoxicated persons
- Panhandling
- Injured persons or those requiring medical care
- Suspicious persons/loiterers
- Bylaw infractions

CSO’s have the time and resources, the police do not have, to deal with many of the social issues in the BID’s.

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Since its inception in mid-2012 the CSP has kept detailed statistical data on calls for service, responses and referrals. Lesley Prefontaine, CSO Supervisor, provided the following statistical data and narrative, where indicated in *italics*, on the Community Support Program for the past three years.

TABLE 1: CSP calls for service by call type (2013):

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Addictions	16	14	16	14	18	39	29	34	45	18	9	7	259
Disturbance	12	17	27	24	10	9	26	9	25	13	19	6	197
Suspicious Person	14	7	20	36	33	36	20	22	32	12	16	8	256
Total	42	38	63	74	61	84	75	65	102	43	44	21	712

TABLE 2: CSP calls for service by call type (2014):

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Addictions	38	28	106	48	91	58	73	45	56	81	24	34	682
Disturbance	25	19	15	36	48	11	31	29	35	16	17	36	318
Suspicious Person	23	27	32	40	61	15	51	8	51	25	13	10	356
Total	86	74	153	124	200	84	155	82	142	122	54	80	1356

TABLE 3: CSP calls for service by call type (2015):

Call Type	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Addictions	44	133	62	83	92	97	102	101	82	74	71	79	1020
Disturbance	42	73	64	48	49	40	45	59	23	32	58	39	572
Suspicious Person	20	39	14	31	23	26	25	25	42	25	21	24	315
Total	106	245	140	162	164	163	169	185	147	131	150	142	1904

The above tables (1, 2 & 3) are a representation of the number of incidents that the Community Support Program (CSP) staff attended as they relate to the issue of public intoxication. The table includes calls coded as Addictions, Disturbance and Suspicious Persons because these call types most often involve some type of substance use element to them. CSO’s saw an increase in calls for service relative to Addictions, Disturbances and Suspicious Persons of 90.4% from 2013 to 2014 and 40.4% from 2014 to 2015 with an overall increase of 167.4% from 2013 compared to 2015.

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TABLE 4: Responses generated by the CSP staff:

Bylaw Type	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
Defecation or Urination	3	8	12	23
Panhandling (Bus)	1	0	13	14
Panhandling (Clear Access)	4	18	22	44
Panhandling (Coercive)	5	5	14	24
Panhandling (Intoxicated)	3	8	2	13
Panhandling (Motor Vehicle)	2	4	4	10
Traffic (Jaywalking)	1	1	3	5
Spitting	3	0	1	4
Waste (Litter)	0	1	1	2
TOTAL	22	45	72	139

The above Table references additional factors that were taken into consideration ranging from informational or educational conversations to warnings and even issuing bylaw tickets for an infraction. This table speaks specifically to when CSP officers are at any intoxication call and are then confronted with a subsequent offence such as Defecation/Urination or Panhandling. Additional offences encountered by CSO’s upon arrival at a dispatched call for an intoxicated client have risen substantially in the three years represented; 2013 to 2014 increase of 104.5%, 2014 to 2015 an increase 60% with an overall increase from 2013 to 2015 of 227.3%.

Tables 5 and 6 refer to CSO’s calling on other service providers/agencies for assistance when dealing with an intoxicated person(s). The CSO determines the appropriate referral agency, such as Police, EMS etc. Table 5 indicates a first referral and/or involvement. Table 6 refers to subsequent referrals such as the police arriving to assist the CSO and then transporting the client to the Lighthouse. In this instance the Police are the first referral and the Lighthouse the subsequent or second referral. It is important to remember clients going to the Lighthouse do so voluntarily and often walk out shortly after arriving resulting in the possibility CSO’s and Police will deal with them again, shortly after dropping them off there.

TABLE 5: First Referral and/or Involvement:

First Referral	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
City Police	92	190	221	503
EMS	14	23	50	87
Housing	2	2	0	4
Larson House	74	97	39	210
Lighthouse shelter	1	3	26	30
Lighthouse Stabilization	15	103	120	238
Lighthouse Mobile Outreach	N/A	55	242	297
Mobile Crisis	4	4	6	14
MSS Income Security	1	3	0	4
Other	11	25	23	59
Salvation Army Shelter	6	3	1	10

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Saskatoon Transit	18	11	13	42
TOTAL	238	519	741	1498

Table 5 illustrates the top three initial referral agencies called upon by CSO’s are the Police - 503, Lighthouse – 565 and Larson House (Brief Detox) – 210. CSO’s use of the referral agencies rose over the three years studied. From 2013 to 2014 the increase was 118.1%, 2014 to 2015 the increase was 42.8% and an overall increase from 2013 to 2015 of 211.3%. This steady increase is indicative of the increase in the number of clients the CSO’s encounter from one year to the next.

TABLE 6: Subsequent Referrals and/or Involvement:

Subsequent Involvement	2013	2014	2015	TOTAL
City Police	29	72	68	169
EMS	15	8	17	40
Housing	0	2	0	2
Larson House	30	40	52	122
Lighthouse Shelter	3	1	4	8
Lighthouse Stabilization	3	44	71	118
Lighthouse Mobile Outreach	N/A	31	57	88
Mobile Crisis	9	10	5	24
MSS Income Security	9	3	0	12
Other	10	22	21	53
Salvation Army Shelter	2	1	4	7
Saskatoon Transit	14	12	9	35
TOTAL	124	246	308	678

Table 6 details the subsequent referral agencies most often used by the CSO’s. Again there is a steady increase in this type of referral with the Police, the Lighthouse and Larson House (Brief Detox) the most common subsequent referral. Second or subsequent referrals rose by 98.4% from 2013 to 2014 and 25.2% from 2014 to 2015, with an overall increase of 148.4% from 2013 to 2015.

With every call that the CSP staff attend there is always the potential to encounter multi-faceted issues. There is often a need to take into consideration the option of incorporating multiple agencies on any occurrence that is attended. Not all referrals are immediate or on scene responses and clients may be advised to seek further support once prepared and in an appropriate position to do so. The CSP is also not made aware of whether or not intended plans or recommendations are followed through once they disengage from a call or the individual(s) are taken into the care of another service provider.

The most notable numbers on these tables include the references for SPS and EMS. Both of these numbers have represented a steady increase. The referrals to EMS are particularly concerning as the CSP staff have witnessed and intervened in occurrences where the level of intoxication is so dangerous that individuals are not even conscious when they leave the scene. From 2013 to 2015 there was an increase of 257.1% in first referrals (14-50) to EMS by the

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CSO's. *Preceding an incident like this many potential risks are imminent for both the individual and the general public. As such the matter of public intoxication and the measures that are currently being utilized need to be reviewed for potential efficiencies for the safety of everyone in our community.*

Police Response

The Saskatoon Police Service deals daily with intoxicated individuals. If the intoxicated individual is nonviolent and is not in medical distress officers are required to determine if there is a satisfactory alternative to arrest and detention. To this end officers seek out;

- A responsible family member or friend (Must attempt to contact three) who can/will care for the individual.
- Determine if there is another agency - the Lighthouse or Brief Detox at Larson House that might take the individual in.

As a last resort an intoxicated individual will be brought to the SPS Detention Centre in order to have a safe place to sober up. Prior to being held in a police cell the individual is checked by the on duty EMS in the Detention Centre to ensure there are no medical concerns. This process for with an intoxicated person routinely can take the police one and a half to two hours. Once in a police cell the individual is physically checked every ten minutes by Detention staff. Some of the individuals who end up in police custody are repeat customers, often being arrested on a near daily basis.

The SPS prioritizes calls for service in six categories:

- Priority 1 –are “in progress” calls where life or personal safety is in jeopardy and an immediate police response is required.
- Priority 2 – calls which require a police response as soon as possible, such as a Break & Enter in progress.
- Priority 3 – calls where there is value in a timely police response but no need for a rapid response.
- Priority 4 – calls requiring a police response for information gathering and need for possible subsequent investigation.
- Priority 5 – all other calls.
- Priority 6 – Police generated calls.

Intoxicated persons are categorized as Priority 3 calls. Communications staff is aware of the need for a timely response to these calls in the three BIDS. The Beats and Bikes are the primary responders to intoxication calls in the BIDS. Depending on the circumstance, if a more rapid response than the Beats or Bikes can provide is required, a car will be sent. It is important to remember the cars in the BID areas (Central Division) are utilized for all calls for service outside the city core and all higher priority calls in the entire Division. Their availability to attend intoxicated persons calls will be dictated by other events/incidents occurring in the Division.

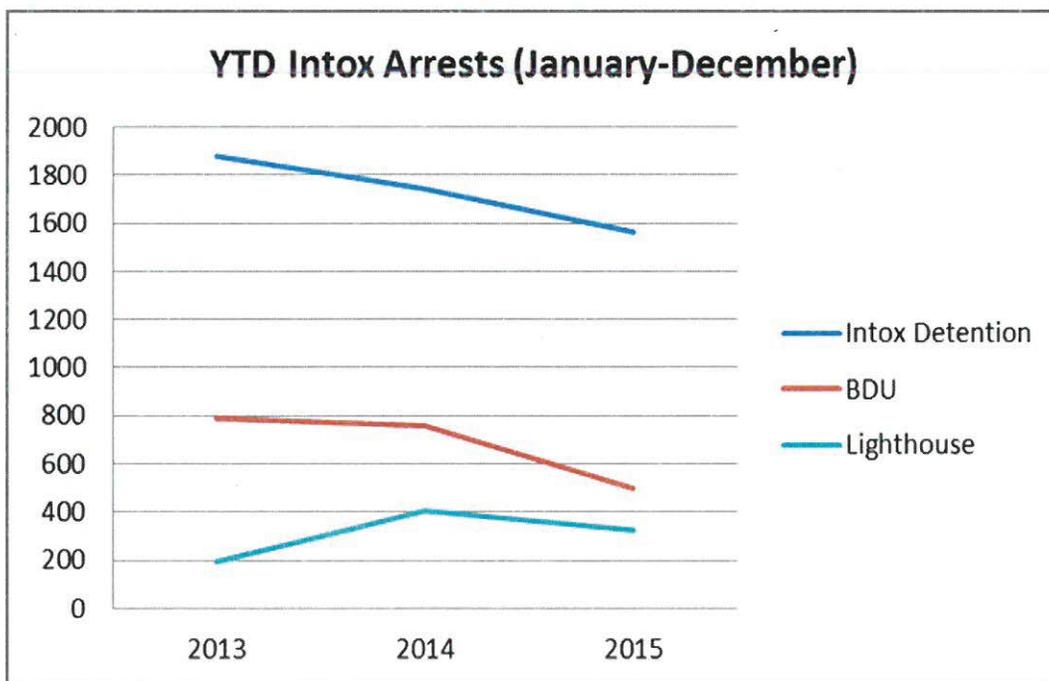
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Once on scene of an intoxicated person whether by dispatch or on view the police make a subjective decision about what type of approach is best suited for each situation. Prior to the police arresting an individual, for intoxication, there are criteria set out in the Summary Offence Procedure Act (SOPA), giving police the authority to take a person into custody, Section 52(2) of the Act deals with alcohol and Section 52(3) deals with drugs.

Section 52(2)

- (a) a police officer finds in a public place a person who the police officer reasonably believes:
 - (i) Is intoxicated due to the use of alcohol; and
 - (ii) If not detained, is likely to cause injury to himself or herself or be a danger or disturbance to others; and
- (b) there is, in the opinion of the police officer, no other person capable of and willing to take care of the person mentioned in clause (a);

the police officer may take the person into custody and deal with that person in accordance with this section in lieu of proceeding pursuant to section 139 of the *The Alcohol and Gaming Regulations Act, 1997* (AGRA) with respect to an offence against section 26 or 127 of that Act or a provision respecting intoxication in a bylaw.



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Year to Date Arrests (January - December)				
	Intoxication Arrests Detention	Sent To BDU	BDU Turned Away	Lighthouse
2013	1879	788	1049	192
2014	1742	761	420	404
2015	1566	498	656	325

The above chart and graph illustrate how many intoxication arrests were held in the SPS Detention Centre, how many individuals the BDU and Lighthouse accepted from the police and how many individuals the police took to the BDU that the BDU would not, for what ever reason, accept for the years 2013, 2014 and 2015. There has been a slight decline in the number of intoxicated clients the police have arrested and held in the Detention Centre. The drop from 2013 to 2014 was 7.3% and from 2014 to 2015 10.1%. There was a decrease of 16.7% in the number of intoxicated people held in the Police Detention Centre from 2013 to 2015.

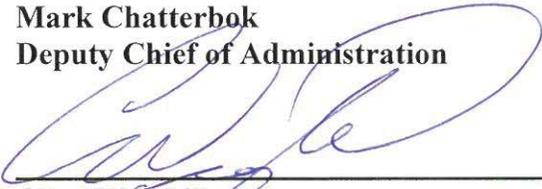
CONCLUSION:

The number of intoxicated clients held in the Police Detention Centre has declined in the past three years as has the number of intoxicated clients the Police have dealt with. However, there are still 1566 arrests that require being placed in our Detention Centre because there is no other facility to which they can be taken where they will be safe until sober.

There is no apparent easy or quick solution to the intoxicated person prevalence in Saskatoon. Individuals who suffer from alcoholism must be cared for in a humane manner and provided a safe sanctuary in which to rest until sober. It is impossible to arrest the problem of intoxication away. Unfortunately the Police Detention Centre, although not ideally designed for this, is often the only available facility to offer a safe surrounding for intoxicated individuals to sober up, receive much needed nourishment and be protected from the elements of nature while in an intoxicated state.

Written by: Grant Foster, Superintendent
Patrol Division

Approved by: Mark Chatterbok
Deputy Chief of Administration

Submitted by: 
Clive Weighill
Chief of Police

Dated: 
