Farewell from the Chief

Violent crime increased more than six per cent, drug offences were up almost eight per cent reflecting a more aggressive approach to enforcement, and other categories were up a combined total of 20.9 per cent.

We know that some of these statistics are being driven by a handful of criminals who commit the same offence over and over again. They go to jail for short periods and then get out and immediately re-offend.

In 2006, we created a Chronic Offenders Unit to target these worst offenders. We are trying to convince the courts to give longer sentences for these criminals who routinely plague our community.

We also launched another crime-fighting initiative in 2006 we call Compstat. A program that we successfully transplanted from the New York Police, Compstat involves monthly meetings where police leaders from each of the city’s four districts are held accountable for crime activity in their area. Information is shared among sections and even neighbouring departments in this innovative and effective program.

These initiatives are all part of our efforts to go Beyond the Call to provide the citizens of Vancouver with a high level of service. I am very grateful for all the assistance and support I have received from the Police Board, the media and the community. The old phrase that it takes a village to keep a child safe has never been more true today. We always see the greatest drop in crime in neighbourhoods where the community is actively engaged.

It is one of the reasons our Block Watch programs and our “Are You Helping Thieves?” campaign have been so successful. Over a 40-year policing career carrying a shield and a firearm, nothing has made me more proud than my last five years as Chief of this great police department.

The efforts of Chief Graham and his leadership have brought us closer to that vision of making Vancouver the safest major city in Canada and the VPD the best police department in the country. It is a vision that I fully endorse and will commit myself to achieving during my term as Chief Constable.

The details of how we will achieve that vision will become clear over time, but we have already taken great steps toward that goal and I intend to continue along that path achieving that vision. We will take the ongoing support of the Police Board and City Council, support I know I can count on. I am also confident that the men and women of the VPD can rely on the continuing support of the community.

Public safety will always be my priority and will guide our decisions and policies. The residents of Vancouver deserve to live in a city where they feel safe to walk anywhere at any time, without threat or fear. Our children deserve safe playgrounds without bullies or discarded needles. Homeowners should be able to sleep at night, secure and without worry.

It is the job of the VPD, along with the community and our partners, to help make Vancouver that type of city. The efforts of Chief Graham and his leadership have brought us closer to that vision. On behalf of a grateful department and a grateful city, I want to thank him for those efforts and assure him that we will carry on and will never be deterred in reaching that goal.

We wish him well.

>> Chief Constable Jamie Graham (right) passes command to incoming Chief Constable Jim Chu.
Message From Mayor Sam Sullivan
CHAIR OF THE VANCOURVER POLICE BOARD

On behalf of my colleagues on the Vancouver Police Board I want to thank our outgoing Board members, the Executive, offices and staff of the Vancouver Police Department who serve our city in an exemplary fashion every day.

2006 represented my first full year as your Chairman. It has been an honour for me to serve you.

We started 2006 with a commitment to strategic planning, policy oversight and increased public disclosure. We accelerated work on the strategic plan and implemented measures to make the Vancouver Police Department the most open and accessible in BC. We finished the year by securing additional resources for staffing, training and equipment.

In 2007, the Board looks forward to working with the VPD Executive toward the completion of the strategic renewal Plan. The Board will also partner with the Police Department, the City of Vancouver and other stakeholders in support of achieving the goals laid out in Vancouver's Project Civil City initiative - a plan that sets targets toward the elimination of homelessness, the open drug market and aggressive panhandling.

To complement this report, the Board publishes its first Annual Report which provides information about our mandate and highlights some of the major accomplishments in 2006. You may view the report at www.vancouvertopoliceboard.ca.

In conclusion I would like to thank Chief Jamie Graham for his years of service to Vancouver. 2006 represented his last full year of service to the VPD and many of the successes identified in the report are attributed to his leadership.

In the next year we will welcome Deputy Chief Jim Chu as VPD Chief Constable. From our initial discussions, I am confident that the future looks very bright for the department and our city.

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FINANCIAL RESULTS
(FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>05-06 % CHARGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>STAFFING</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries &amp; Benefits</td>
<td>$124,069</td>
<td>$131,307</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms &amp; Related Equipment</td>
<td>$1,080</td>
<td>$2,376</td>
<td>126%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel &amp; Training</td>
<td>$1,135</td>
<td>$1,032</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL STAFFING</td>
<td>$127,284</td>
<td>$134,715</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OPERATING COSTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>05-06 % CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Building &amp; Facilities</td>
<td>$4,107</td>
<td>$4,183</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel</td>
<td>$9,504</td>
<td>$9,917</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal Investigations</td>
<td>$1,729</td>
<td>$3,263</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Payment to Province</td>
<td>$2,125</td>
<td>$375</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal &amp; Consulting</td>
<td>$1,130</td>
<td>$1,542</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative &amp; Overhead Costs</td>
<td>$8,389</td>
<td>$7,099</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OPERATING COSTS</td>
<td>$23,053</td>
<td>$26,534</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REVENUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>05-06 % CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,437</td>
<td>$1,490</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NET EXPENDITURE</td>
<td>$148,065</td>
<td>$150,277</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AUTHORIZED STRENGTH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>05-06 % CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VPD sworn Members</td>
<td>1,174</td>
<td>1,214</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VPD civilian Members</td>
<td>281.5</td>
<td>305.5</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL POSITIONS</td>
<td>1,455.5</td>
<td>1,520.5</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CALLS FOR SERVICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>05-06 % CHANGE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>279,168</td>
<td>275,194</td>
<td>-1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dispatched</td>
<td>194,691</td>
<td>169,935</td>
<td>-17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The decline in dispatched calls can be attributed to a change in the Computer Aided Dispatch System and a reduction in the amount of alarm calls due to change in the alarm bylaw.

VANCOURVER POLICE BOARD

Jerry Adams, Dale Parker, Glenn Wong, Janet Pac, Lynne Kennedy, Mary McNeil, Peter Webster, Sam Sullivan, Kerry La Libert, Patti Marley.

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Block Watch Neighbourhoods
Boast Lowest Crime Rates

There is little argument on this matter. When neighbours are willing to be watchful for strangers, incidents out of the ordinary and things that just don’t look right, and then, most importantly, they are willing to report their suspicions to police, crime rates in those areas drop dramatically.

The Vancouver Police Department has a program to make those efforts easier. It’s called Block Watch. It has been known to reduce neighbourhood crime rates by as much as 40 per cent.

Constable Dave Krenz is in charge. His goal is to make Block Watch a part of every neighbourhood in the city. He provides training to Block Watch captains and information sessions for those wishing to start the program. In 2006, seven Block Watch classes were held and more than 140 captains and co-captains were trained. There are now 622 neighbourhoods participating across the city, with 1,400 Block Watch captains and 13,586 households.

“When citizens band together to act as support for the police and a barrier against criminals, it is a very important and effective tactic,” says Constable Krenz. “Some of the Block Watch captains have become crime-fighters in their own right.”

One of those neighbourhood crime-fighters is Kelly Baker, who has been a Block Watch captain for about six years, originally in a South Vancouver neighbourhood and most recently in a community on the east side.

“When I first started watching out in our neighbourhood, I saw a house where people were coming and going at all hours carrying multiple lightweight garbage bags,” says Ms. Baker. “One day in three hours I recorded 22 different license plates at the house.”

Her efforts were instrumental in the police shutdown of a large grow operation and drug ring.

“When she moved to her new neighbourhood she organized a program that involved 40 homes,” says Mr. Baker. “I think some people are still scared to say something, but the majority are watching out for each other.”

Any criminals or drug dealers who want to do business in Ms. Baker’s neighbourhood got a very decent and immediate response. In one case, when a drug dealer tried to avoid paying rents by doing business at the back alley, Ms. Baker installed web cameras in two bird feeder houses in the alley, which quickly captured her lease plate number so she could pass it on to police.

“He never came back,” she says with a smile. To find out more about Block Watch and how you can join, go to vpol.ca.

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The Youths Services Section School Liaison Unit made over 400 presentations to more than 50,000 students this past year. Topics included Internet safety, bullying, drug awareness, gangs, domestic violence and street racing.

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Did you know:

In 2006, more than 92 kilograms of cocaine were seized and $200,000 forfeited in drug arrests. The Grow Better team dismantled 134 marijuana grow operations, seizing $65.3 million worth of marijuana and $1.1 million worth of equipment. Also seized was $231,495 in cash.

---

Did you know:

In 2005, 63 and 200 kilograms of cocaine were seized and $200,000 forfeited in drug arrests. The Grow Better team dismantled 134 marijuana grow operations, seizing $65.3 million worth of marijuana and $1.1 million worth of equipment. Also seized was $231,495 in cash.
Special Unit Reduces Property Crime

Standoff Ends Safely

When the Call Went Out (Dec. 23, 2004, 12:03 a.m.)

The latest in a series of drug seizures continues today in Vancouver, as officers responding to a call about to lose one of the most expensive motorcycle engines in the world.

A drug-seized man was shot and killed by police. The victim was identified as Donald Sinclair, a series of drug seizures.

In the face of this latest high-profile operation, police continue to face a difficult task, calling for a high-speed officer and his police cruiser.

The police then managed to catch the main dans without further resistance or being injured. For some police officers, this was a reminder that a Christian mission should not necessarily be a joy.

Determined that his tactic was right, he and his colleagues and I commend him for his heroic and devastating effect.

The new campaign is designed to speak directly to individual citizens, particularly those who have a known record of drug use or a history of drug-related activity.

Did you know:

The Vancouver’s Untouchables: A by the Vancouver Police Museum, which houses stories and artifacts relating to the history of Vancouver’s police force.

Recruiting Vancouver’s Finest to Go Beyond the Call

The benefits of a law enforcement career with the Vancouver Police Department are

“I am going to take a look at what you want to do in your career and I am going to tell you what the rewards are for doing it.”

The love of Vancouver’s police department.

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