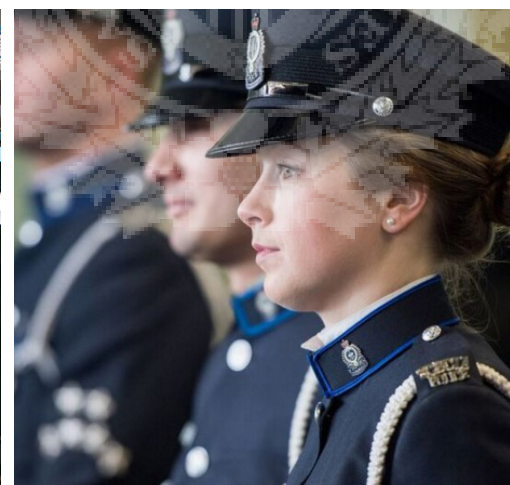




Transit Police 2016 Awards

Justice Institute May 3, 2016



Transit Police 2016 Awards

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Police Officer Commissions

On May 22, 2015, the Police Officer Commissions Regulation came into effect. The issuance of commissions is intended to be a provincial honour to recognize senior officers in the same spirit as commissions issued to members of the RCMP and other police elsewhere in Canada.

The new provincial commissions formally recognizes high-caliber, senior officers for their rank, professionalism and dedication to policing in British Columbia.



Photo: Deputy Chief Officer Ed Eviston; Deputy Chief Officer Barry Kross; Inspector Brian MacDonald and Inspector David Hansen

Deputy Chief Officer Ed Eviston

Deputy Chief Eviston has 34 years of policing experience in BC. He joined the Vancouver Police Department in 1981. Deputy Eviston joined Transit Police as Deputy Chief Officer in 2013.

Deputy Chief Officer Barry Kross

Deputy Chief Officer Barry Kross has been a police officer in British Columbia since 1987. He was a Vancouver Police Department member until 2012 when he joined Transit Police as the Deputy Chief Officer.

Inspector Brian MacDonald

Inspector Brian MacDonald has served as a police officer for over 35 years, beginning as a constable with the Burnaby RCMP in 1979. He joined Transit Police in January 2010 and has been an Inspector for six years.

Inspector David Hansen

Inspector Hansen joined the RCMP in 1988, followed by Transit Police in 2010. He has been an Inspector with Transit Police for six years.

Certificates of Appreciation

Jamie Allport

On December 18, 2015, SkyTrain Attendant Jamie Allport was working at Patterson SkyTrain Station when she observed a man at the ticket vending machines who seemed very frustrated.

Jamie approached the man and established a good rapport with him. During their conversation, it became apparent that he was considering self-harm.

Before the man could leave the station, Jamie obtained his name and immediately reported it to Transit Police. The man was apprehended under the Mental Health Act shortly afterwards and transferred to hospital where he was admitted. For using initiative in dealing with a high-risk situation which resulted in preventing serious injury or worse, Jamie Allport is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen and Jamie Allport

Corinna Zimmermann, Jake Steven Zimmermann and Sergio Lavaggi

On May 6, 2015, a man was walking from the Waterfront SkyTrain Station when he experienced a seizure and fell to the ground. Despite the fact that the man was semiconscious and was bleeding from his forehead, several passengers walked around him without offering assistance.

Three citizens: Sergio Lavaggi, Jake Steven Zimmermann Simmons and Corinna Zimmermann stopped to help. They immediately called 911, provided a safe space and administered first aid.

For providing immediate medical attention and preventing further injury, Sergio Lavaggi, Jake Steven Zimmermann Simmons and Corinna Zimmermann are presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Photo (left to right): Inspector David Hansen, Jake Steven Zimmermann Simmons, Corinna Zimmerman and Sergio Lavaggi

Constable Ali Gailus (VPD)

Vancouver Police Department Constable Ali Gailus has become an invaluable partner to Transit Police as the issue of homelessness began to affect transit property.

One particular matter took twelve months to address, due to its complexities. Cst Gailus was key to a positive and beneficial outcome for all concerned.

Constable Gailus assisted Transit Police in numerous situations, often on short notice, which resulted in a valued ongoing partnership that has become instrumental to success in addressing this increasing and challenging social issue.

For ongoing assistance and support which ensured that a sensitive situation was handled in a professional and compassionate manner, I am pleased to award Constable Ali Gailus with a Certificate of Appreciation.

Ryan Applejohn

On October 3, 2015, Transit Police responded to a call at the Surrey Central SkyTrain Station of a man who had been stabbed in the face. Sadly, the victim was unable to remember anything about the incident prior to the attack or provide a description.

Transit Police obtained video taken at the Surrey Central SkyTrain Station and a witness statement from Ryan Applejohn, a Customer Service Attendant, who spoke to a possible suspect prior to the incident taking place. The statement that Ryan Applejohn provided was instrumental in assisting the Surrey RCMP in locating the suspect.

For being alert and providing crucially important details which helped identify a suspect, Ryan Applejohn is presented with a Letter of Appreciation.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen and Ryan Applejohn

Robin Parade de la Feraude

On April 12 2015, Robin Parade de la Feraude, a CMBC yard supervisor at the Vancouver Transit Centre was checking buses when he located a bag that contained several medications.

Robin took the initiative to research the purpose of the medication and discovered that the medication was worth thousands of dollars and was used as part of treatment for a life threatening disease. He quickly turned over the medication to Transit Police.

Thanks to Robin's initiative, Transit Police tracked down the owner and returned the medications to her. For going above and beyond and taking initiative to return these medications to their rightful owner, Robin Parade de la Feraude is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen and Robin Parade de la Feraude

Rochelle Scrivener

On August 25, 2015, a young woman with a cognitive disability was visiting Vancouver when she became separated from her family.

After a few hours alone on the transit system, an unknown citizen observed the young woman crying on the Metrotown SkyTrain Station platform and guided her to the emergency phone.

SkyTrain Attendant Rochelle Scrivener responded to the call and for nearly an hour stayed with the frightened young woman.

She eased the young woman's anxiety by providing a safe and reassuring presence until the rest of her family could be brought to the scene.

For exhibiting compassion which greatly assisted Transit Police in successfully reuniting this young woman with her family, Rochelle Scrivener is presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen and Rochelle Scrivener

BC Hydro Library & Archives Department

In December 2005, Transit Police became the first-ever police service in Canada dedicated to public transit.

In preparation for our tenth anniversary celebrations, BC Hydro Library and Archives staff assisted Transit Police greatly in researching our origins, facilitating several visits to their archives and reviewing information for release.

Research revealed our origins date back over 100 years of transit security and law enforcement in British Columbia.

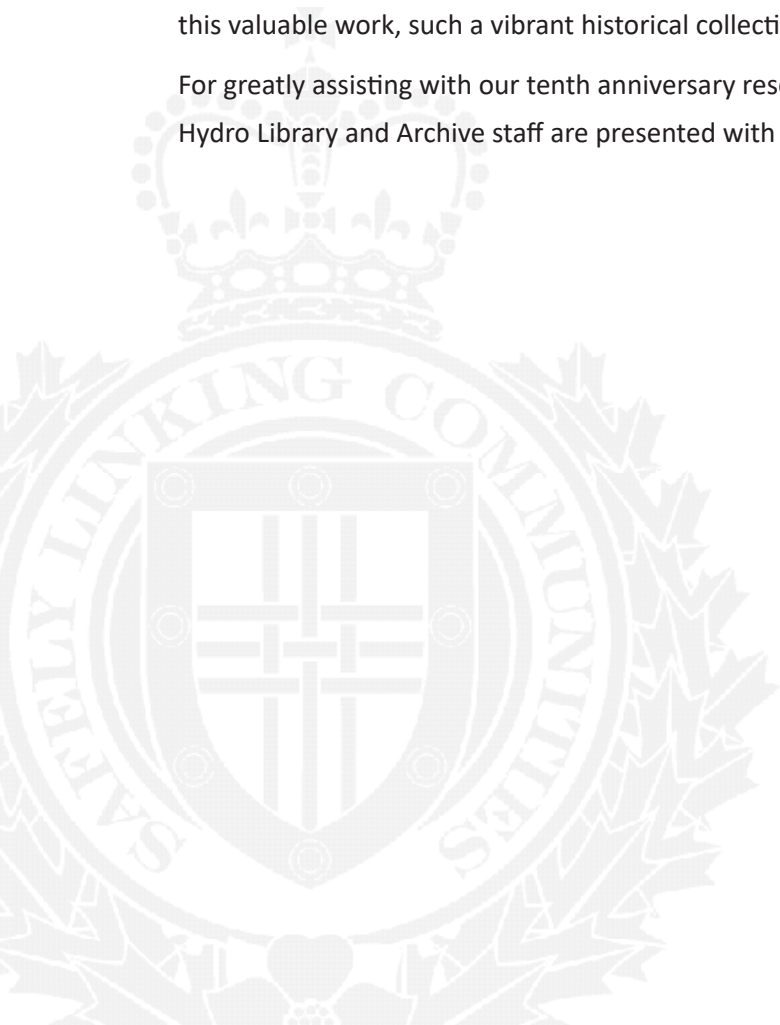
Transit Police recognizes the BC Hydro Library and Archives Department as well as both present and past employees from BC Electric

Railway, BC Electric and BC Hydro. These employees worked diligently to preserve our history. Without this valuable work, such a vibrant historical collection would not exist.

For greatly assisting with our tenth anniversary research and the diligent preservation of our history, BC Hydro Library and Archive staff are presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



*Photo: Inspector David Hansen, Greg Kozak, Patricia Crawford
Shirley Ma and Rhona McElwain*



Inspector's Commendations

Constables Al Clapp and Donna Deis

Over the past few years, an individual with several behavioural disorders and mental health issues has regularly reached out for help from many first responders by making inappropriate 911 calls.

In 2014, this individual called 911 on 94 occasions.

In 2014, Constables Al Clapp and Donna Deis began an extensive investigation in an effort to obtain the support that this person so obviously needed.

As a result of their efforts, this individual went before the Community Court and was provided court conditions that subsequently reduced this behaviour considerably.

For demonstrating diligence and dedication throughout an ongoing investigation that greatly enhanced the effectiveness of police, fire and ambulance, Constables Al Clapp and Donna Deis are presented with an Inspector's Commendation.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen, Cst. Donna Deis and Cst. Al Clapp.

Sergeant Jason White and Carolyn Reilly

On July 8, 2015, a Transit Police colleague and her husband from a different police agency were experiencing extreme emotional distress resulting from a traumatic personal experience.

Sergeant Jason White coordinated with the Regional District Officer of the RCMP, the Burnaby Detachment Commander and the Penticton RCMP to ensure that grief counseling and victim support services were made available while they were away from home dealing with an unfortunate incident.

Carolyn Reilly, despite being on her day off, spent many hours communicating with her Transit Police colleague in an effort to support her.

For exhibiting exceptional compassion to colleagues in need, far above the expectations of supervisors, Sergeant Jason White is presented with an Inspector's Commendation.

For going above and beyond her supervisory duties and keeping in constant contact with an employee experiencing extreme personal distress, Carolyn Reilly is presented with an Inspector's Commendation.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen, Carolyn Reilly and Sergeant Jason White

Sergeant Jason White

Throughout 2015, Sergeant Jason White was actively involved in the roll-out of Compass project. Sergeant White's operational insight was key in establishing standard operating procedures and for the implementation of the Hand Held Unit (HHU) training materials.

These responsibilities were in addition to his Squad NCO duties which directly supported the East Division Operations Inspector.

Sergeant White's input assisted Transit Police in reducing risk and seeking positive resolutions to operational and training issues. He created numerous reference documents and led the roll-out of the new Compass business rules and training materials to front-line sworn members.



Photo: Inspector David Hansen and Sergeant Jason White

For outstanding and tireless dedication to the operational roll-out of the Compass program in the Transit Police environment in 2015, Sergeant Jason White is presented with an Inspector's Commendation.



Community Bravery Awards

James Paulger

On December 3, 2015, James Paulger was operating a Coast Mountain Bus, on Clarke Road in Coquitlam. Approximately 20 passengers were on board the bus, including a man who was standing near the front and close to the operator. The man appeared to be disturbed.

As another transit bus approached in the opposite direction, the man suddenly grabbed the steering wheel of the bus and steered it over the centre line, directly toward the oncoming bus. Bus operator James Paulger wrestled control of the bus back from the passenger and brought it safely to a halt. The man fled and was later apprehended after a stand-off with police.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and James Paulger

For acting quickly and preventing what could have been a serious incident with a potentially life threatening outcome, James Paulger is presented with a Community Bravery Award.

Phaer Bianco

On March 31, 2015, SkyTrain Attendant Phaer Bianco was on duty at Metrotown SkyTrain Station when she was advised of a distraught man standing on the ledge above the bus loop. Phaer immediately attended the scene where she observed a man standing on top of the cement wall, outside of the railing.

After calling police, Phaer engaged the man in conversation and began to build a rapport with him. Despite the man admitting that he wanted to harm himself, Phaer exhibited courage by maintaining a calm and compassionate demeanor.

Phaer's strong interpersonal and communication skills led to a successful outcome. The man was apprehended and received the medical attention that he required.

For commitment to communication, genuine compassion and preventing what could have been a tragic outcome, Phaer Bianco is presented with a Community Bravery Award.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and Phaer Bianco

Deputy Chief Officer Commendations

Transit Police Operations Communication Centre (OCC) B Squad

On March 20, 2016, the OCC fielded a call from a man who had overheard a conversation between four people on a bus discussing a recent murder.

The man was unwilling to provide his name or a call back number however, the staff in the OCC acted quickly and strategically.

The call taker quickly obtained all of the pertinent information and kept the caller engaged for thirty minutes, until he could be transferred to the Vancouver Police Department (VPD).

The Team Lead took charge of the situation by contacting: E-COMM to request a phone number of an investigator and also the Coast Mountain Bus Communications Centre (T-COMM) to enquire about bus operators who may have traveled in the same area as the murder.

Transit Police officers were later able to facilitate a statement for the VPD from the bus operator who remembered the suspects from their descriptions as a result of the work initiated by the OCC staff.

As a result of the quick and decisive work in the OCC, two suspects were taken into custody.

For outstanding teamwork and the ability to coordinate cross-agency efforts in a high-stress situation, the OCC's B Squad is awarded with a Deputy Chief Officer's Unit Commendation.



Photo: Deputy Chief Officer Ed Eviston and Sara Dhailwal

Constables Andrew Leaver and Steven Shaw

On August 13, 2015, Constables Andrew Leaver and Steven Shaw were first to respond to a report of a distraught woman who had been hit by a train at the Olympic Village Canada Line Station.

When Constables Leaver and Shaw arrived on the scene, they discovered that the train, full of passengers had run over the woman, causing her serious but non-life threatening injuries.

The woman began yelling for help from beneath the mid-section of the stationary train. Once the power had been turned off, Constables Leaver and Shaw entered the guideway and crawled under the train to reach the woman. The woman's left foot was badly injured and bleeding heavily. Both constables stayed under the train with the woman to assist paramedics. Once the woman was stable, Constables Leaver and Shaw assisted in the rescue process.

For exhibiting courage, a profound sense of duty and compassion to a distraught and injured woman, despite the risk, Constables Andrew Leaver and Shaw are awarded a Deputy Chief Officer's Commendation.

Constable Doug Francis

On May 8, 2015, Transit Police officers were engaged in an incident involving a very distressed man. This man was on the platform standing at the edge of the guideway at Lougheed Town Centre SkyTrain Station. The officers were fearful that the man was intending to jump into the path of a train.

Several Transit Police officers were in attendance however, the man responded favourably to Constable Francis. Constable Francis negotiated with the man and he was eventually able to convince him to move away from the platform edge and from immediate danger. The man was subsequently taken into custody and transported to hospital.

For successfully helping a person in crisis and preventing serious injury or worse, Constable Doug Francis is awarded with a Deputy Chief Officer's Commendation.



Photo: Deputy Chief Officer Ed Eviston and Cst. Doug Francis

Constable Bruce Shipley and Marta Lammond

Constable Bruce Shipley and Marta Lamond volunteered to take the Road to Mental Readiness (R2MR) training program. The intention was to assess the initiative and consider how it might add value to the Transit Police commitment to mental wellness in the workplace.

After completing the train-the-trainer program, they agreed to take on the challenging task of delivering this training to all sworn and civilian staff by the end of 2015. This was made even more challenging given their existing responsibilities and the time frame for delivery. In total, Bruce and Marta conducted six training sessions for 25 supervisors and 98 constables.

Their delivery of this training on schedule is a testament to Bruce's and Marta's commitment to the organization and to supporting mental health initiatives in policing.



Photo: Deputy Chief Officer Barry Kross and Marta Lammond

For developing a program that had a substantial effect on the operations of Transit Police, Constable Bruce Shipley and Marta Lamond are awarded a Deputy Chief Officer's Commendation.

Constable Jas Chahal

As a member of the Transit Police Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team, Constable Jas Chahal is accustomed to providing assistance to his colleagues who experience trauma.

On July 8, 2015, Constable Chahal responded to a call on his day off. This call involved a colleague and a police officer from a different agency who were experiencing extreme emotional distress resulting from a traumatic personal experience. Concerned for their safety, Constable Chahal offered to drive them to their destination which was several hours away. Even though the ride was declined and fearing for their welfare, Constable Chahal stayed in constant contact by text message and by phone until they arrived at their destination. He also continually offered his support until they had access to resources which could assist them in person.

For going above and beyond the role of CISM Team member, Constable Jas Chahal is presented with a Deputy Chief Officer's Commendation.

Chief Officer's Commendations

Sergeant Dave Olson

Client Support Sergeant Dave Olson is being recognized for his significant contributions toward advancing two operational priorities: reducing frontline workplace assaults and helping vulnerable people in crisis. Sergeant Olson has worked tirelessly to reduce the risk to individuals living with mental illness, the public, frontline transit staff and police. Through these efforts, Sergeant Olson has sought out and established mutually beneficial relationships with other police agencies, mental health working groups, Crown Counsel, probation officers, government agencies and community service providers.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and Sgt. Dave Olson

Sergeant Olson has also successfully raised awareness about violence in the workplace with frontline staff from across the TransLink Enterprise in order to reduce the incidents of assaults on staff.

For outstanding personal effort and dedication, Sergeant Dave Olson is awarded with a Chief Officer's Commendation.

Constables Sean Lightburn and Dave Bunderla

On May 1, 2015, Constables Sean Lightburn and Dave Bunderla were on patrol at Waterfront SkyTrain Station when they were advised of a man who had collapsed on the floor. Quickly, they assessed the man and found him to be unconscious and gasping for breath.

Without hesitation Constable Bunderla began chest compressions while Constable Lightburn obtained vital medical and background information from the man's wife.

Both constables continued to assist the man until the Vancouver Fire Department and Emergency Health Services took over.

For playing a key role during a medical emergency while demonstrating the highest standard of professionalism, Constables Dave Bunderla and Sean Lightburn are awarded with a Chief Officer's Commendation.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard, Cst. Dave Bunderla and Cst. Sean Lightburn

Constables Ken McGonigal and Mike Valente

On July 5, 2015, Constables Ken McGonigal and Mike Valente were driving across the Cambie Street Bridge when they noticed a woman standing on the outside of the railing facing the water and apparently preparing to jump.

They quickly stopped the car while devising a plan of how to safely rescue the woman.

Constable Valente managed concerned bystanders and isolated the incident while Constable McGonigal took responsibility for dealing with the woman.

As a ship was passing under the bridge, the woman called out that she was going to jump. Constable McGonigal had been able to get close enough to immediately take hold of the woman's waist while Constable Valente grabbed her arm pulling her to safety.

For demonstrating the highest standards of humanitarianism and police conduct, Constables Ken McGonigal and Mike Valente are awarded with a Chief Officer's Commendation.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and Cst. Mike Valente

Constables Ernesto Domingo and partner

On April 6, 2015, Constable Ernesto Domingo and his partner were alerted by a SkyTrain Attendant to a distraught woman standing against the fence outside of King George SkyTrain Station.

When they approached the distraught woman, she pulled a knife out of her handbag and held it to her own throat and also began to make cuts to her hands.

Despite their attempts to deescalate the situation, the woman remained distraught. When the woman closed her eyes and began to cut her throat, both constables quickly took action to disarm her.

For acting decisively and preventing a life threatening injury, Constables Ernesto Domingo and his partner are awarded with a Chief Officer's Commendation.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and Cst. Ernesto Domingo

Constable Cory Maydiniuk

On December 19, 2008, while off duty, Constable Cory Maydiniuk observed a man next to a pick-up truck who appeared severely intoxicated. The man immediately got into the truck, drove away and then collided with another vehicle causing minor damage. The pick-up truck did not stop.

Constable Maydiniuk followed the pick-up truck, noting it was being driven dangerously and at high speed and called 911 for assistance. After losing sight of the truck, he observed the vehicle stopped on the side of the road.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and Cst. Cory Maydiniuk

He approached, identified himself as a police officer and advised the driver that he was under arrest. As he reached into the vehicle to switch the ignition off, the driver grabbed him, punching him twice. The driver set the vehicle in motion dragging Constable Maydiniuk for 10 meters until he fell from the vehicle.

As he fell, the vehicle drove over his left elbow and only came to a halt after hitting a concrete median. Despite his injury, Constable Maydiniuk pulled the impaired driver out of the truck. On duty police officers arrived soon after to assist with the arrest. The driver was later convicted of impaired driving and failing to stop at the scene of an accident.

For demonstrating outstanding dedication in the performance of duty, I am pleased to award Constable Cory Maydiniuk with a Chief Officer's Commendation.

Constable Richard Manning

On May 11, 2015, Constable Richard Manning was working alone in a Mobile Response Unit. He was advised that Burnaby RCMP had reported a robbery had recently occurred near the Edmonds SkyTrain Station and that the subject had stabbed the victim in the chest. Constable Manning quickly responded to the area and soon observed a person matching the subject's description.

Upon seeing police, the suspect immediately ran. Constable Manning attempted to block his path with the police vehicle while broadcasting information to other units. When the subject failed to stop and despite knowing that the subject was likely armed with a knife and had just stabbed someone, Constable Manning apprehended the suspect while he continued to actively resist. He maintained control of the suspect until other officers arrived.

For demonstrating outstanding courage in apprehending this violent offender before he could endanger others, I am pleased to award Constable Richard Manning with a Chief Officer's Commendation.



Photo: Chief Officer Doug LePard and Cst. Richard Manning





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