

## HAMILTON POLICE SERVICES BOARD

### - INFORMATION -

**DATE:** 2020 July 23

**REPORT TO:** Chair and Members  
Hamilton Police Services Board

**FROM:** Eric Girt  
Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** *Year-End Report: Crime Prevention Branch – CMD Volunteers - Auxiliary Unit – 2019*  
*PSB 20-053*

#### **BACKGROUND:**

The Crime Prevention Branch, Community Mobilization Division (CMD) Volunteers, and the Auxiliary Unit are closely affiliated and together they foster a strong partnership which results in meaningful work for Hamilton Police Service volunteers and enhanced programming for the community.

Some of the Volunteer programs coordinated through the Crime Prevention Branch are: Lock-It-Or-Lose-It, Speedwatch, Red Light Runner, Crime Alerts, CPTED and Safeguard Audits, and participation in numerous community events. Volunteers also engage with the community through support programs like used clothing drives and elementary school 9-1-1 presentations.

The Crime Prevention Branch coordinates several large scale events every year including Police Week, Crime Prevention Week, Take Our Kids to Work Day, Citizens' Police College, March Break Cop Camp, Coffee with a Cop and the School Safety Patroller Program.

The Auxiliary Unit currently consists of 80 members. In 2019, members of the Auxiliary Unit and CMD Volunteers performed 20,380.5 hours of volunteer service.

The Auxiliary Members participate in various programs that are coordinated by the Auxiliary Coordinator through the use of an online scheduling system.

The Auxiliaries perform CPTED Audits and participate in traffic events, RIDE lanes, Immediate Rapid Deployment training and recruiting presentations. In addition, they regularly participate in ride-a-longs within the three Divisions. The Auxiliaries provide a valuable resource when the Service is faced with staffing issues related to large scale

public and sporting events. Having a robust Auxiliary Unit has also assisted the Service in its recruiting efforts, as 16 of the members have successfully been recruited as Police Constables and Special Constables in 2019.

Attached is the Crime Prevention Branch – CMD Volunteers - Auxiliary Unit 2019 Annual Report. All three Units continue to coordinate and operate the Hamilton Police Service volunteer programs. It is this partnership which provides an efficient, cost effective delivery of existing programs, while continuing to develop new solutions to address quality of life issues for the citizens of Hamilton.



Eric Girt  
Chief of Police

EG/W. Mason

Attachment: *2019 Crime Prevention Annual Report*

cc: Ryan Diodati, Deputy Chief – Support  
Will Mason, Superintendent – Community Mobilization Division

# 2019 Crime Prevention Annual Report



Sgt Jonathan Curtis - Crime Prevention Coordinator

Cst Meagan Ryan - Volunteer / Auxiliary Coordinator

Hamilton Police Service

Community Mobilization Division

(905)546-4900

## Overview – Crime Prevention Branch

The Crime Prevention Branch is responsible for promoting and implementing community-based Crime Prevention initiatives within our diverse community. These initiatives are geared towards engaging our community through a variety of unique events including:

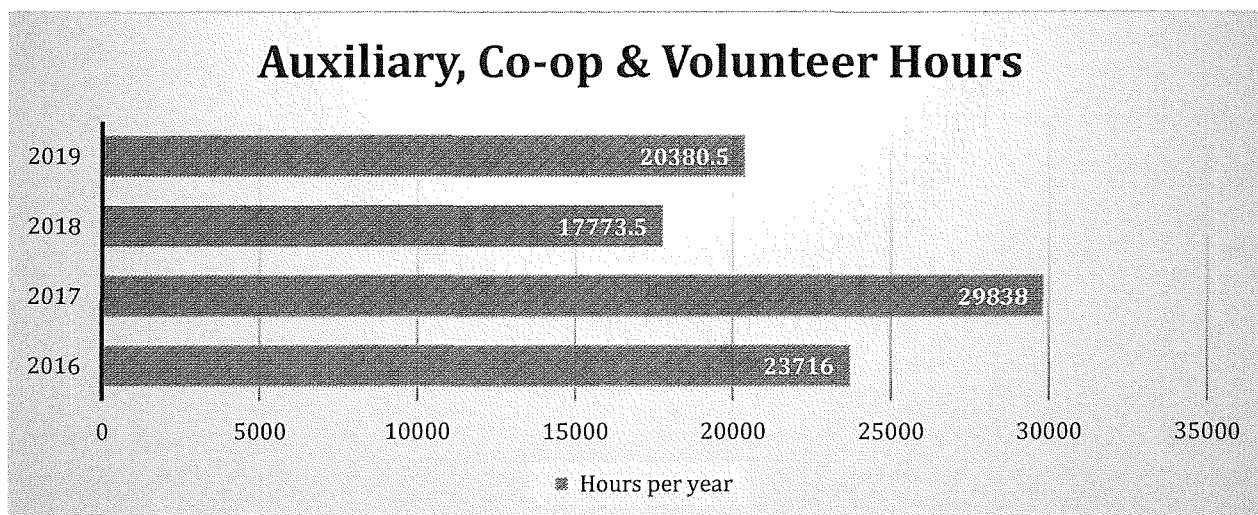
- Police Week,
- Crime Prevention Week;
- Cop Camp;
- School Safety Patroller Program;
- Citizens' Police College and;
- Take Our Kids to Work Day

These events allow our Service to interact and build bridges with the community, instruct citizens about the role of police and raise safety awareness while educating the public. Crime Prevention Officers (CPOs) are the Service's experts on home, business and personal safety. CPOs routinely performs security audits at businesses, residences and places of worship. In addition, they provide presentations on a number of Crime Prevention initiatives to various agencies and community groups upon request. Crime Prevention has also heavily increased its social media presence as a way of connecting to an even bigger audience in our city and beyond.

## Overview – Auxiliary, Co-Op and Volunteer

The Auxiliary & Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for Auxiliary Officers and Police Volunteers, Coop Students and the administration of these collective volunteer programs. Our Police Service and the community benefited from **20,380.5** hours of volunteer service in 2019, an increase of **2,607** from the total in 2018. (17773.5 hours)

In 2019 with the Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch saw the addition of **20** Co-Op students. These students added to our existing compliment of volunteers and shared the same duties as our volunteers throughout the year. The volunteer pool saw a small decline going to **14** members in 2019, from **19** in 2018. Additionally, **16** members of our unit found employment in their chosen career. This was the primary reason for resignations within the Unit in 2019. As a result, the Auxiliary count was reduced to just **58** sworn members by year end. In October 2019 Hamilton Police began training **22** new Auxiliary who were sworn in January 2020. These members will continue to have a significant impact within our Police Service and Community, and will be given meaningful opportunities to engage our community. Currently there are **80** Auxiliary Members, **20** Co-Op members and **14** volunteers.



## Overview - Unit Goals

The Crime Prevention Branch and the Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch use the Hamilton Police Service 2019-2021 Business Plan as a framework for setting their goals at the beginning of the year. As a result, they were able to strategically work on several projects and events throughout the year using the Business Plan as a guideline. These goals were successfully achieved with a commitment to making a positive impact through crime prevention, traffic safety and community engagement.

## Goals - Auxiliary, Volunteer & Co-Op Coordinator

### Community Safety

*Implement effective prevention and enforcement to improve traffic safety*

Auxiliary Officers continued to prioritize RIDE Lanes and other traffic safety initiatives in our community. These members volunteered a total of 863 hours to RIDE Lane events at all 3 Divisions. An additional 565 hours of support was provided towards traffic control at major road races, parades and festivals.

#### Performance Measures

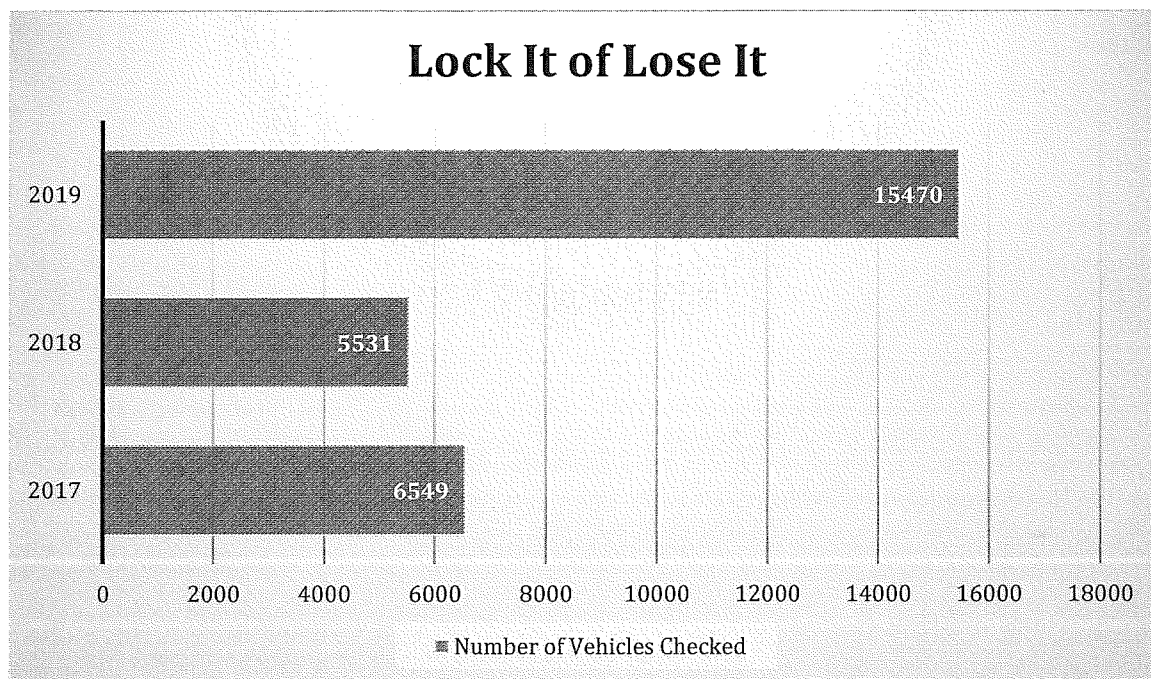
- 1,428 hours in 2019 (2,068 hours in 2018)

*Address community concerns that affect public safety*

Auxiliary Officers completed 5 residential audits and 19 business audits. These members, in collaboration with our volunteers also conducted 15,470 vehicle checks in support of the Lock It or Lose It program. This is compared to 5,531 in 2018, and 6,549 in 2017. In 2019 we saw an increase of 9,939 checks over 2018 a 279% increase.

## Performance Measures

- 24 audits, 15,470 LIOLI vehicle checks and 313 hours in 2019



## Engagement & Partnerships

Foster effective relationships with all of our communities

Provide meaningful volunteer opportunities and continue the development of future ambassadors for the Hamilton Police Service. Auxiliary Officers and volunteers continued to be involved in a multitude of activities.

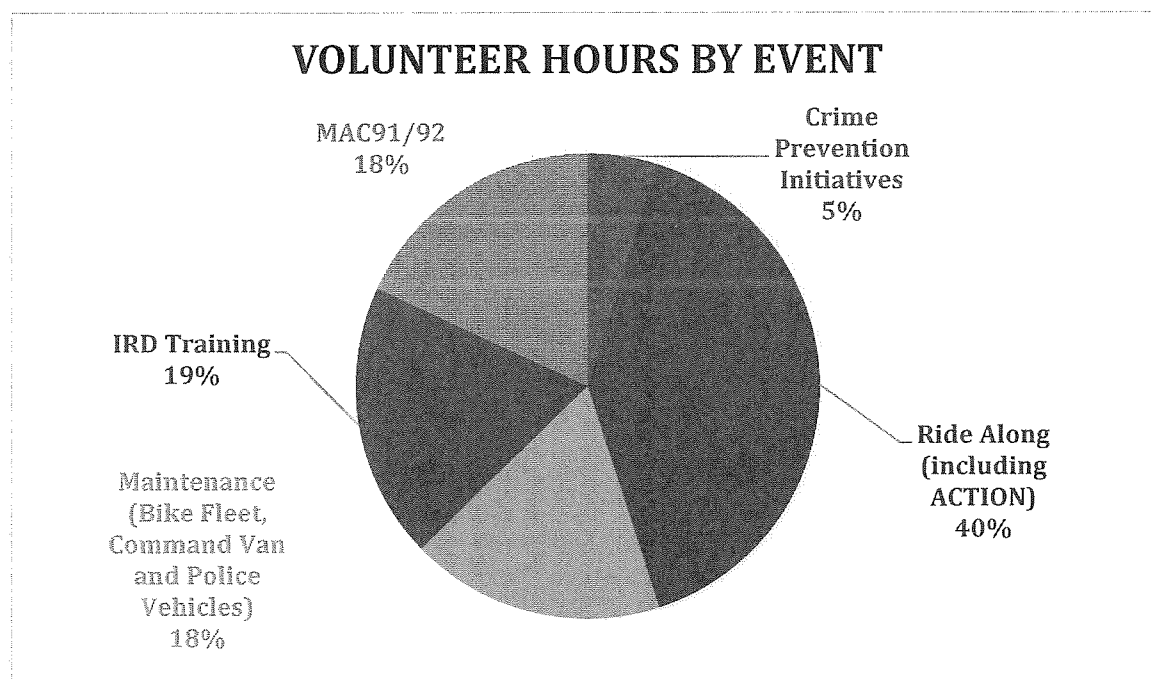
These opportunities included, community events, traffic events, prevention activities and crime prevention initiatives such as:

- Lock it or Lose It,
- Ride-Along,
- RIDE Lanes,
- Mounted Patrol Unit training,
- ACTION Ride-Along,
- Immediate Rapid Deployment,
- CCTV monitoring,
- Records counter assistance,
- MAC 91/92 patrols,
- Station tours,
- Recruiting events,

- Command Van maintenance,
- Bike Fleet maintenance,
- Divisional patrol vehicle audits.

#### Performance Measures:

- 13 Crime Prevention Displays, Presentations and Proactive Crime Responses for 163 hours, in 2019 (4 in 2018), 17 Station Tours in 2019 (17 in 2018) for 133 hours.
- 1,108 hours in 2019; 132 ride-along patrols (1,916.5 hours in 2018)
- 253 hours of ACTION patrol in 2019 (620.5 hours in 2018)
- 599 hours of Command Van Maintenance, Vehicle Audits and Bike Fleet Maintenance completed in 2019 (512 hours in 2018)
- 651 hours over 369 IRD Training events in 2019 (644 hours in 2018)
- 611.5 hours and 65 events Mac 91/92 patrols (422 hours and 33 events in 2018)



## People & Performance

Increase organizational capacity and effectiveness by attracting, developing and retaining our members.

Implement effective delivery of internal and external training

The Auxiliary Officers and volunteers continued to be well-trained and prepared for service. A total of **4,451** hours (2,969 in 2018) of training was provided to our members through initial in-service sessions to our Auxiliary recruits, mandatory training, and ongoing opportunities that were available to all members.

Training for all 24 new Auxiliary members including:

- Health & Safety and Infection Disease Exposure,

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- Wellness, Social Media, Quality Service Standards,
  - Crime Scene Management & Protection,
  - Naloxone,
  - Domestic Violence and Harassment,
  - Communications & 911 System,
  - Harassment, Discrimination and Workplace Violence,
  - Notebooks,
  - Powers of Arrest,
  - Road to Mental Readiness,
  - Ethics,
  - Collection of Identifying Information (C.O.I.I.),
  - Traffic Direction,
  - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED),
  - Use of Force,
  - Marching Practices.

All Aux Officers attended annual use of force requalification as well as, Human Trafficking Awareness Day, Marine Unit, K-9, POU, Crisis Negotiator, Tech Crime, ERU, BEAR etc.

## Milestones

### Employment

Members of the Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch continued to find employment in their chosen field of law enforcement this year at impressive levels which speaks to the quality of our Auxiliary Officers and the skills and experience that they develop through their volunteerism;

- 9 with Hamilton Police Service as Police Constables
- 1 with Hamilton Police Service as Cadet Officer
- 1 with Toronto Police Service as a Police Constable
- 1 with Toronto Police Service as a Special Constable
- 1 with Waterloo Regional Police Service as a Police Constable
- 1 with Peel Regional Police Service as a Police Constable
- 1 with Ontario Provincial Police Service as a Police Constable
- 1 with Canada Boarder Services

### Performance Measures:

- 16 members gained employment in 2019 (21 members in 2018)

### Years of Service/Retention

In 2019, many of our Auxiliary Officers and volunteers were recognized for their significant years of committed service;



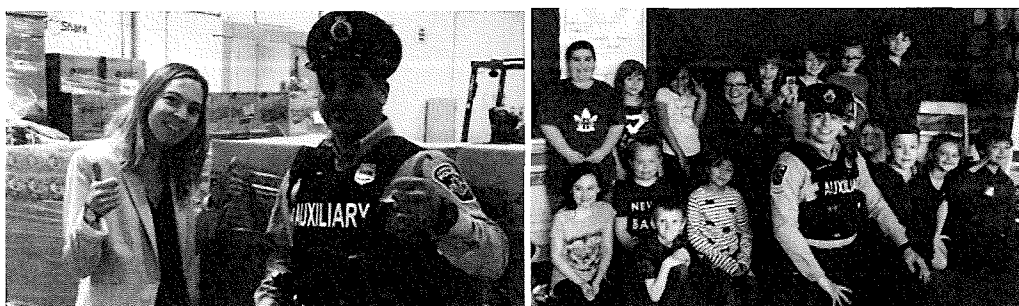
- 1 member attained 20 years of service
- 6 members attained 5 years of service

### **Fitness PINS**

- 12 Auxiliary Officers received their Ontario Fitness PINS in 2019; this is a voluntary achievement (11 in 2018)

### **Recruiting of New Members**

- 24 Auxiliary Officers (26 Auxiliary Officers in 2018)
- 12 Co-op students



### **RBC Canadian Open**

RBC Canadian Open- June 5-9, Hamilton Golf and Country Club.

Performance Measures:

- 44 events, 873 hours including Command Van, Driving Range, Main Entrance, Spectator Entrance, Staging Area, Traffic, ACTION, and the Concert

## **Goals - Crime Prevention Branch**

### **Community Safety**

Maximize communication with our community as it relates to services and supports, as well as crime prevention, public safety and harm reduction while addressing community concerns that affect public safety.

**Performance Measures:**

- Exceeded 100 social media posts relating to crime prevention information in 2019
- Developed crime prevention cards and PDFs to be used at crime prevention events and social media posts
- Condense content from 30 flyers to 15 while ensuring relevance and accuracy
- Social Media strategy was developed in January and currently being used as a framework for social media in Crime Prevention
- Twitter – 210 posts / 412.9k impressions / 4512 profile visits and 169 new followers in 2019 (772 total)

## **Engagement & Partnerships**

### **To foster effective relationships with all of our communities**

Crime Prevention has continued to enhance communication with our communities to promote information sharing and mutual respect while engaging in strategic organizational partnerships.

#### **Performance Measures:**

- Three New Programs were developed to further enhance community engagement (Coffee with a Cop, Citizens Police College (revamped) , Crime Prevention Social Media strategy)
- Participated in 3 Pro Action Cops & Kids events throughout the year in strategically identified neighbourhoods (Fortis Vitam Project, Blue Line Challenge and ProAction Baseball Game)
- Social Media groups were developed consisting of community members, BIA, stakeholders for the purpose of information sharing, engagement and creating two way dialogue between community and Hamilton Police Service through social media

## **Technology & Asset Management**

### **To ensure we have the necessary plans in place to address facilities, fleet and technology needs**

Research and implement social media strategy and provide adequate training to member of the Crime Prevention Branch for this purpose

#### **Performance Measures:**

- Social media strategy completed and implemented
- 3 members have received Social Media in Communications training (Toronto PS) and 1 person attended international Social Media in Law Enforcement Conference

## **Milestones and Events**

### **March Break Cop Camp -March 11th-14th, 2019**

Over 200 students ages 9-12 years old attend the East End Station for 4 single day camps exposing them to various specialty units within the Hamilton Police Service including, K9, ACTION, ERU and Mounted Unit.

## Police Week - May 13th - 17th, 2019 “Proudly Supporting Our Police”

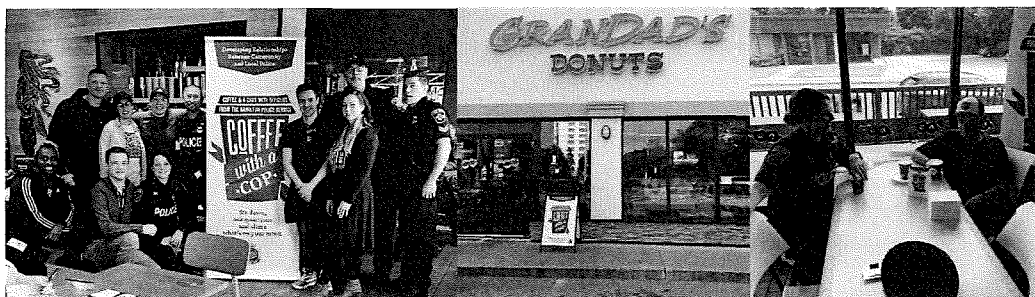
- Awards Night, Monday May 13th, Theatre Aquarius
- Coffee with a Cop, Tuesday May 14th, Café Oranje, 312 King St. E, Hamilton
- Chief for a Day, Grade 6 essay contest, Wednesday May 15th, Central Station, 155 King William St., Hamilton
- Cram A Cruiser, Wednesday May 15th, Various Schools, food drive
- Police in the Park, Thursday May 16th, Bayfront Park, over 1500 Community members attended including 1000 from local elementary schools

### Coffee with a Cop



HPS Crime Prevention hosted 8 Coffee with a Cop events at various locations throughout our Community. This event has quickly developed into a flagship event for Crime Prevention with several positive stories of community engagement and relationship building on display.

- 287 community members attending over 8 events.
- Events held in Hamilton, Downtown, Central Mountain, Dundas, Barton St E, Westdale and the North End.



## School Safety Patroller Training - October 7th-10th

The Hamilton Police Service offers this valuable CAA safety initiative to all elementary schools within the Hamilton Public and Catholic School Boards. Crime Prevention facilitates the School Safety Patroller Training annually on behalf of the Canadian Automobile Association. The program provides an opportunity for our Service to interact with youth and gives youth a chance to develop leadership skills. The training requires them to perform duties which enhance the safety of their fellow students when travelling to and from school. Each patroller receives classroom training from our officers as well as practical training on an actual school bus. Forty local schools participated in half day training sessions, with a total of 534 students attaining certification. The CAA presented the Hamilton Police Service and Sgt. Barry Mungar with a prestigious ‘Award of Achievement’ for dedication to the School Safety Patroller Program over the past decade.

**Performance Measures:** 534 students in 2019 (582 in 2018)

## **Citizens Police College**

Hamilton Police Service is one of the first police services in Ontario to offer this type of program to its community members. Thousands of citizens have participated since Citizens' Police College opened its doors in 1997. Citizens' Police College is designed for any individual interested in learning about policing. This year 52 students received in depth presentations on:

- Victim Services
- Auxiliary Police Branch
- Vice & Drugs
- Emergency Response Unit
- Homicide
- Marine Unit
- Traffic
- Forensic Services
- Major Fraud
- BEAR
- Crisis Response Branch & Crisis Intervention Team
- Internet Child Exploitation
- Tech Crimes
- Mounted Patrol
- Recruiting
- K9
- Crimestoppers

## **Security Audits - Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)**

Audits are a critical component of safety planning for certain members of the community. The Crime Prevention Branch is trained in CPTED principles in order to provide crime reduction strategies. Crime Prevention conducted 66 audits to Businesses, Places of Worship and Residential properties throughout Hamilton.

**Performance Measures: 66 total security audits (CPTED) in 2019 (114 in 2018)**

## **Graffiti Prevention**

Most incidents of graffiti occur on public property and are typically reported to the City Contact Centre (CCC) at 905-546-CITY. The City of Hamilton handles these incidents by tasking Public Works clean-up crews. Many of these graffiti occurrences are never reported to the police since they do not meet the requirements for mandatory police reporting. The three criteria for police reporting are: hate bias graffiti, gang related graffiti and politically motivated graffiti. In 2019, 22 of the 775 total graffiti incidents reported to the CCC were diverted to the HPS for follow-up (2.8%).

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
<b>Total Calls Taken by the CCC</b>	775	854	374	475	1632
<b>Total Calls Diverted to HPS</b>	22	51	34	18	24
<b>% of Calls Diverted to HPS</b>	2.8%	5.9%	9.1%	3.8%	1.5%

In 2019, the Hamilton Police Service received a total of 172 graffiti reports compared to 184 the previous year. One hundred and Fifty (150) of these were reported by the public and the remaining 22 reports were received from the City Contact Centre. Of the 172 total occurrences, 19 were cleared by charge, 10 were cleared as "otherwise", resulting in a clearance rate of 16.9%. One occurrence is not cleared and still under investigation while 37 were completed as unsolved.

### **Year to Year Comparison**

Year	Occurrences	Cleared by Charge	Cleared Other	Clearances	Not Cleared	Clearance Rate
<b>2019</b>	172	19	10	29	143	16.9%
<b>2018</b>	184	18	4	22	162	12.0%
<b>2017</b>	148	6	8	14	134	9.5%
<b>2016</b>	125	7	4	11	114	8.8%
<b>2015</b>	136	8	8	16	120	11.8%

## Clearances

	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	Total
<b>Cleared by Charge</b>	19	18	6	7	8	<b>58</b>
<b>Clr Other: Complainant Declines to Lay Charges</b>	3	1	2	1	4	<b>11</b>
<b>Clr Other: CSC Involved in Other Incidents</b>	0	1	0	0	1	<b>2</b>
<b>Clr Other: CSC Under 12 Years</b>	1	0	0	1	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Clr Other: Departmental Discretion</b>	6	2	6	2	3	<b>19</b>
<b>Clr Other: Diversionary Program</b>	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Complete - Unsolved</b>	37	154	126	110	114	<b>541</b>
<b>Not Cleared (continuing)</b>	1	8	8	4	6	<b>27</b>
<b>Unfounded</b>	0	0	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Insufficient Evidence to Proceed</b>	87	0	0	0	0	<b>87</b>
<b>Open/Still Under Investigation</b>	18	0	0	0	0	<b>18</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>766</b>

A total of 19 adult individuals were arrested for graffiti crimes, compared to 18 arrests in 2019.

*\*2019 crime statistics are based on crime information which is preliminary in nature and subject to change for a variety of reasons. Offence types and clearances often change during the investigative process. The information is therefore provided only as a general overview of crime trends in the City of Hamilton.*

**Performance Measures: 19 charges in 2019; a 16.9% clearance rate**

### **Crime Prevention Officer Presentations**

Crime Prevention Officers delivered 150 community presentations to a wide variety of organizations. Presentations include:

- personal safety,
- criminal law,
- interacting with the police,
- traffic law and domestic violence were provided to large groups of Canadian newcomers.
- Crime Prevention conducted presentations for seniors, community groups, businesses, international students, City staff and government institutions.

**Performance Measures: 150 total community presentations by Crime Prevention Officers in 2019 (94 in 2018)**

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## **Conclusion**

The Crime Prevention Branch and the Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch continued to engage the community in 2019. We provided strategies to reduce or prevent crime, and improved traffic safety, all while supporting our members with various tasks.

During 2019, the Crime Prevention Branch increased public interaction with community groups, newcomers and special needs groups. By teaching citizens about the role of police and relaying key safety messages, we raised awareness and reduced victimization. Crime Prevention embraced technology by developing and implementing a social media strategy. This strategy uses social media to further engage the community and provides our officers with expert training to do so.

The Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch members of the Hamilton Police Service dedicated more than 20,000 hours to various activities over the past year. These members allowed our Service to facilitate an array of valuable community programs that wouldn't otherwise been possible. At the same time, the program continued to provide its members with meaningful opportunities that allowed them to gain valuable skills. As a result, these members are finding success in their chosen fields.

Looking ahead, the Crime Prevention and Auxiliary & Volunteer Branches look forward to continued engagement with our community partners in 2020!