



A Message from the Chief Constable

February 2022

Last week I had the honour of presenting badge number 200 to an experienced police officer who has just joined Surrey Police Service (SPS). This Frontline Constable brings six years of policing experience to SPS as well as a unique and valuable perspective after having worked in one of Canada's Indigenous police services. I know that he and the other 19 officers who received their badges last week will be great additions to the SPS team. Collectively, this group brings over 185 years of policing experience to Surrey.

We continue to grow each month as our phased hiring continues, in alignment with the target number of SPS officers to be deployed into policing operations this year. The Surrey Policing Transition Trilateral Committee (SPTTC), made up of representatives of the three levels of government, has agreed to a target of 175 more deployed SPS officers in 2022. This is in addition to the first group of SPS officers who began their deployment last November. By the end the year, we anticipate having 225 SPS officers providing direct policing services to Surrey residents. The Surrey RCMP remain in command of policing for Surrey during this first phase of the policing transition.

You can read more about the deployment plans for 2022 in our [recent news release](#). Further details on the upcoming deployments and corresponding demobilization of RCMP officers will be determined as part of the joint SPS-RCMP Human Resources Strategy and Plan, which is currently being developed. You can also find updated information on the continuing [development of SPS](#) and [Surrey's policing transition](#) on our website.

We recently released our first strategic plan, which will guide our work at SPS throughout 2022. Using input from

our community consultation, our staff and the Surrey Police Board, three strategic priorities were identified: Organizational Development, Employee Development and Wellness, and Community Policing Model Development. You can see the specific areas of development that have been identified, and the associated actions and metrics in our [2022 Strategic Plan](#).

One significant area of development for this year is technology. We are actively building our IT platforms, which is one of the biggest and most complex pieces of work that SPS must complete. We are growing our team of IT professionals and are working to complete all critical IT infrastructure by the end of 2022.

Continuing our community consultation is another area of focus. Engagement with the community is already a daily part of our work at SPS. Much of our engagement is currently focused around getting to know the local services, understanding the public safety concerns in each town centre, and introducing ourselves. On February 26th, a team of SPS employees will be participating in the [Coldest Night of the Year](#) walk in Surrey and raising funds for the Cloverdale Community Kitchen. This annual event supports people experiencing homelessness, hurt and hunger in our community, and we are proud to be a part of it.

My sincere thanks to everyone who has taken the time to meet with us, share ideas, and say hello to our officers.

Chief Constable Norm Lipinski

Surrey Police Service

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