



To: Dr. David Swann, MLA Calgary Mountain View

From: [REDACTED]

Date: 2017-03-03

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As per your request, please see below for Calgary Police Service data relating to fentanyl. Unfortunately, we only have limited data currently available specific to fentanyl. We are in the midst of developing more robust means for tracking opioid-specific information. Once these reporting mechanisms are formalized CPS will be better positioned to provide more comprehensive and regular reporting on calls for service, investigations and costs relating to opioids.

#### **Overdoses**

In 2016, the Calgary Police Service began tracking all overdose calls suspected to be fentanyl-related. These calls involved victims that were either unconscious or unresponsive or deceased. Police do not attend every overdose event as such, the numbers presented below are most likely lower than the actual number of Calgary fentanyl overdoses. The most accurate overdose statistics are provided by Alberta Health Services who complete the toxicology assessments.

Our 2016 data shows:

- CPS responded to 223 fentanyl-related overdose calls
- Victims ranged in age 18-60+
- 76% were males
- 13 incidents involved multiple victims
- 12 incidents involved victims with a history of overdoses
- In 30% of the incidents the victim was revived before they went to hospital and in one incident the police provided Narcan

#### **Crime**

The tables below show in 2015 there was a significant increase in the number of charges laid in relating to fentanyl charges and the trend continues into 2016. This increase corresponds to the significant increases in the number and rate of property crimes in Calgary, particularly break and enters and vehicle-related crimes<sup>1</sup>. It is estimated that the vast majority of our prolific offenders have addiction

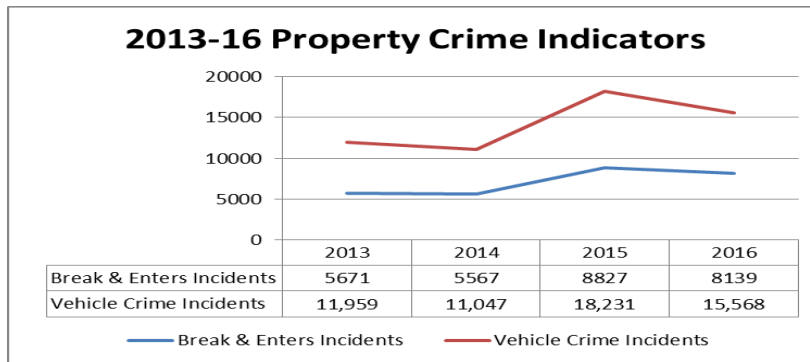
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<sup>1</sup> Source: Volume Crime and Disorder Monthly, January 2017. Unit of count: Occurrence, most serious violation

issues (not just opioids) and are committing crimes to support their habits. These individuals typically focus on property crimes as they are deemed less risky than person-related crimes. That said, there has been a recent shift where many of these offenders are engaging in higher risk crimes including, robbing banks and commercial premises. When arrested, offenders have declared their addictions as the primary driver for their crimes.

**2010-16 Drug-related charges<sup>2</sup>**

	Methamphetamine	Fentanyl
2010	59	0
2011	36	0
2012	69	1
2013	124	2
2014	221	11
2015	373	108
2016 (Jan-Oct) <sup>3</sup>	454	111



There are prolific offenders engaged in offender management programming that have indicated their desire for addictions treatment but by the time the treatment bed and/or addiction programming is available the window of opportunity for these offenders has often closed and as a result, they have reverted back to committing crimes. In addition, discussions with the Calgary Drug Treatment Court indicate that they do not have the resourcing required to support the volume of offenders who qualify for the diversion programming. CDTC reports an increasing number of women in their programming who are at “high needs”, some of whom have children.

<sup>2</sup> Source: Sentry & PIMS

<sup>3</sup> Conversion to new RMS has delayed drug charges reporting