

THE 2014 HRM ROUNDTABLE REVIEW ON VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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OVERVIEW OF PRESENTATION

- MANDATE FOR THE REVIEW
- THE SITUATION IN 2006-08
- THE SITUATION IN 2012-2013
- HOW THE REVIEW WAS CARRIED OUT AND STRUCTURED
- OVERVIEW OF VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY
- THE THREE “NEW” DIMENSIONS
- THE FIVE KEY DIMENSIONS OF THE 2008 REPORT

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THE MANDATE FOR THE REVIEW

- WHAT WAS DONE RE THE RECS OF 2008
- WHAT HAVE BEEN THE TRENDS IN VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY OVER PAST 5 YEARS
- WHAT NEW ISSUES HAVE EMERGED
- WHAT RECS COULD BE VALUABLE TO ADVANCE NOW

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THE SITUATION IN 2006-08

- DOWNTOWN VIOLENCE
- SWARMING AND ROBBERIES
- YOUTH VIOLENCE
- PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF PUBLIC SAFETY PROBLEMS CONGRUENT WITH FACTS
- HIGH RANKING OF HRM FOR VIOLENCE AMONG CANADIAN CITIES

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THE SITUATION IN 2012-13

- GUNS AND THE DRUG MILIEU
- SEXUAL ASSAULT AND BULLYING
- SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH
- AT WORST, PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF NO CHANGE IN VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY
- MUCH POSITIVE CHANGE THROUGH LENS OF POLICE, PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND OTHERS

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HOW THE REVIEW WAS CARRIED OUT

- THE KEY DIMENSIONS WERE IDENTIFIED
- THE COLLABORATING TEAM WAS FORMED
- THE ARRANGEMENT
- INTERVIEWS AND SECONDARY DATA ANALYSES COMPLETED
- SIMILAR FORMAT FOR EACH DIMENSION
- THE REVIEW'S PERSPECTIVE ON RECS

COLLABORATING TEAM

- KIT WATERS
- CHRIS MURPHY
- VERONA SINGER
- STEPHEN KIMBER
- DON SPICER
- JOHN PEACH
- STEPHEN SCHNEIDER

FORMAT OF THE REVIEW

- INTRODUCTION
- THE 2008 REPORT RECS AND WHAT WAS IMPLEMENTED
- TIME LINE ON SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS
- ANALYSES OF INTERVIEWS AND SECONDARY DATA
- KEY ISSUES
- RECOMMENDATIONS

PERSPECTIVE ON RECOMMENDATIONS

- KEEP THE RECS TO A MINIMUM
- DON'T REINVENT THE WHEEL BUT CONSIDER HOW TO ENHANCE EXISTANT PROGRAMS, POLICIES AND PROJECTS
- ADVANCE RECS THAT ARE STRATEGIC MORE THAN SPECIFIC WHERE POSSIBLE
- THIS IS A HRM-MANDATED REVIEW SO EMPHASIZE RECS BEARING IN MIND THE MUNICIPALITY'S MANDATE, RESOURCES AND CAPACITY

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OVERVIEW OF TRENDS IN VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY

- SIGNIFICANT DECLINE IN VIOLENCE AND PROPERTY CRIME
- ESPECIALLY IN RECENT YEARS AND CAUSAL FACTORS +VE RE FUTURE TRENDS
- COMMENSURATE POSITIVES RE PUBLIC PERCEPTION
- EXCEPTIONS

THREE CENTRAL ISSUES NOW FOR VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY: GUNS

- GUNS, SHOOTINGS AND THE DRUG MILIEU
- HOMICIDES AND ATTEMPTED HOMICIDES
- LINKS TO FIREARMS AND TO THE DRUG MILIEU
- VARIATION IN CORRELATES AND PATTERN IN HRM
- LINKED TO SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND LEGACY
- POSITIVES INITIATIVES, RECOMENDATIONS

THREE CENTRAL ISSUES NOW FOR VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY - GENDER

- GENDER VIOLENCE: IPV / SEXUAL ASSAULT / SEX WORK
- IPV: DOWNWARD TREND BUT
- SEXUAL ASSAULT: NO DECLINE / MORE RISK
- SEX WORK: MAJOR CHANGES
- RECS

THREE CENTRAL ISSUES NOW FOR VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY-SOCON

- SOCIAL CONSTRUCTION ISSUES IN 2006-08
- IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH (“TECTONIC SHIFT”)
- “HOT ISSUES” AND CHALLENGES FOR VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY AND POLICY
- NEW VIOLENCE / OFFENDERS & VICTIMS
- RECS – MUNICIPAL CAPACITY / PSO

KEY DIMENSIONS IN 2008 FOR VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY:HRM

- THE MANDATE AND ROLE OF MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT WERE THE FIRST 9 RECS
- IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES (NO AUDIT, LIMITED SAP, LOCATION OF THE PSO)
- ACCOMPLISHMENTS / CONSENSUS
- RECS
- FURTHER EXAMINATION FOR THE REVIEW (KIT WATERS)

THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE

- CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL REVIEW
- ELEMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE PSO FOR HRM
 - LOCATION
 - FUNCTIONS
 - RELATIONSHIP WITH REGIONAL COUNCIL
 - PARTNERSHIPS
 - FUNDING

KEY DIMENSIONS IN 2008 FOR VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY:DNTN

- THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DOWNTOWN FOR VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY
- THE RECS AND WHAT HAPPENED
- ACCOMPLISHMENTS / CONSENSUS
- RECS
- FURTHER EXAMINATION FOR THE REVIEW (CHRIS MURPHY)

The Future

- Maintain and improve public safety in core bar area- current p&s strategies and address remaining issues
- Broaden focus of policing and public safety beyond bar area- encompass whole of downtown -
- Develop broad downtown public safety vision and strategy to provide a positive and secure basis for commercial and residential development (i.e.. lighting- CPED design-policing and security etc.,)
- Create partnership among stakeholders to design and manage the development of a lively and diverse -safe and secure new Halifax downtown –for all !

KEY DIMENSIONS IN 2008 FOR VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY:HOUSING

- THE CENTRALITY OF HOUSING IN ROUNDTABLE REPORTS
- THE 2008 RECS AND THEIR IMPLEMENTATION
- THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DEVELOPMENTS SINCE 2008 – POSITIVE CHANGES AND NEW PARTNERSHIPS AND COMMITMENTS
- LEVEL THREE HOMELESSNESS
- RECS AND FURTHER EXAMINATION FOR THE REVIEW (DON SPICER)

KEY DIMENSIONS IN 2008 FOR VIOLENCE & PUBLIC SAFETY:OFFR

- DEALING WITH SERIOUS AND REPEAT OFFENDERS IN HRM – ISSUES AND 2008 RECS
- LEVELS OF RECIDIVISM
- RACE-ETHNIC VARIATION
- ENFORCEMENT / REINTEGRATION
- RECS: LEVERAGE AND ADVOCACY

VARIATIONS IN VIOLENCE AND VICTIMIZATION

- AGE, RACE-ETHNICITY AND NEIGHBOURHOOD
- YOUTH: LESS DECLINE, FEWER DOING MORE
- RACE-ETHNICITY: NO DECLINE IN OVER-REP
- NEIGHBOURHOODS: CONTINUITIES
- SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS IN ALL THREE FOCI
- RECS

CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- MANY POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS RE VIOLENCE AND PUBLIC SAFETY HAVE OCCURRED AND PROJECTS AND POLICIES IN PLACE TO ACHIEVE MORE POSITIVE RESULTS
- SOME SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES TO THE POSITIVE OVERALL TREND
- THE PRIORITY OF MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY – UWH QUOTE