

- 1826** | **September 21** - Colonel By made his plans for the preparation of the building of the canal, in the area now known as Ottawa.
- 1827** | The Earl of Dalhousie approved the name of Bytown, for a small settlement near the canal under construction.
 Captain Andrew Wilson succeeds Colonel By as Bytown's Magistrate. Wilson petitions the Governor to appoint regular civilian magistrates or justices of the peace, to enforce the peace and order. Civilian authority led to the introduction of special constables who were appointed by the magistrates. Utilizing civilian constables introduced the common law tradition of the amateur citizen constabulary introduced into Upper Canada. As Bytown's constabulary force developed, the magistrates voluntarily relinquished their law enforcement duties and confined themselves to deciding questions of law.
 Bytown's first constable, Alexander Fraser was appointed.
- 1832** | Construction of the canal was completed.
May 24 - A small steamer became the first vessel to traverse the full length of the Rideau Canal, marking the official opening of the canal.
- 1835** | **October 20** - A voluntary armed association was formed known as the 'Bytown Association for the Preservation of the Public Peace' came into being.
- 1836** | Bytown gets its first newspaper the 'Bytown Independent and Farmer's Advocate'. It was later re-named the 'Bytown Gazette and Rideau Advertiser'.
- 1837** | **January 2** - A riot took place at a tavern over an election for the town clerk's position. The disturbance was such that a magistrate who was present swore-in special constables to keep the peace but they were still not sufficient to maintain order.
February 7 - Bytown became the capital of a new district called Dalhousie.
March 14 - Leading up to St. Patrick's Day many special constables were sworn in by the magistrates in anticipation of the growing friction between Protestant and Catholics within the city. Fortunately no acts of violence occurred.
- 1840's** | 'The brawling, rioting and lusting community of Bytown' gained the reputation as the most feared community in all North America.
- 1842** | Minor cases were judged in Bytown by the magistrates in a vacant room in Magistrate Fraser's store.
- 1843** | **August 13** - during a visit to Bytown by Governor General Lord Metcalfe, tension grew between the Protestants and Catholics of Bytown after the Orangeman erected an arch entwined with tiger lilies, a symbol of their cause, over Rideau Street. Magistrates ordered the removal of the arch after a riot occurred when the city's Catholics were forced to walk under the arc on their way to church. Peace was restored only by the presence of soldiers. After the riot, the magistrates were criticized for not having enough appointed special constables.

- 1844** 'The Packet' newspaper was established in Bytown.
- 1845** **February** - a petition was submitted requesting the Village of Bytown to be incorporated as a town in order that a municipal authority and a Board of Police to be established.
- 1846** **September 25** - Approximately 'fifty able-bodied strong, reckless men' held special constables hostage in a house after delivering an arrest warrant to a young man who lived at the house. The militia had to be called out for the arrest of the offender and the rescue of the constables.
- 1847** Bytown formed its own town council. Up till this date, appointed civilian magistrates performed the duties of a 'city council'. The Attorney General of Upper Canada declared Bytown to be a town 'by reputation' and 'by the number of houses and population'. However, official incorporation did not come until 1950.
July 28 - The Town of Bytown was 'incorporated'. However, Her Majesty Queen Victoria disallowed this incorporation on October 12th, 1847. Recognized incorporation would not be granted until 1850.
September 17 - A riot known as 'Stoney Monday' occurred in the market area of Lowertown between members of the Reform Party and the Conservatives during a meeting to discuss how the Governor General's visit to the town should be celebrated. The governor general was visiting to consider Bytown as a possibility for the capital of Canada. After sticks and stones found in the market square had been used for ammunition, one person was killed and over 30 injured. However, the situation was defused when the Royal Canadian Rifle Regiment arrived and aided in the arrest of four or five parties carrying muskets with bayonets. The incident proved that Bytown had a police force, which had to depend on the militia to restore peace and order.
October 2 - The first constables of Bytown were Matthew Gorman, R. Watchhorn, William Silcox, Oliver Hawkshaw, John Wynns, Frances Curry, Thomas Green, Denis McGrath and William Riley.
October 27 - Action was taken to create a 'Police Force' when Aldermen Bedard, Blasdell and Friel, with Mayor J. Scott, formed a committee to regulate the new force. This led to the town being policed by nine constables under the direction of a High Constable, Isaac Berichon. This group would become the Grandfather of the Ottawa Police. The Bytown constables had no official uniform and as such, lacked any outward sign of authority. They appear to have been armed only on special occasions. Constables were also paid fees for service, for each task he performed, rather than a regular salary.
- 1849** **May 30** - The General Act granted the authority to City Council 'to organize a police force for the maintenance of good order'. Since Bytown felt it was a 'town' since 1847, Council believed it had been entrusted to create its own 'police force'.
- 1850** **January 1** - Bytown was officially incorporated as a town by virtue of the General Act for the Incorporation of Municipalities.
January 20 - High Constable Isaac Berichon leaves his role as High Constable to be elected as Alderman for Centre Ward.

- February 25** - D. Bourgeois becomes High Constable. (First name unknown).
- April 15** - By-law number 8 was passed to regulate the duties of the Officers of the Corporation and the duties of the High Constable.
- July 22** - High Constable D. Bourgeois submitted his resignation as head of the Bytown police. No reason was given as to why Bourgeois resigned.
- July 29** - Michael Fitzgerald was appointed High Constable.
- 1851** 'The Packet' had its name changed to the citizen.
- April 28** - By-law number 50 was passed which amended By-law number 8 and increased the salary of the High Constable.
- 1853** Councillor David Bourgeois announced at the Town Council meeting that he would introduce a By-law at the next Council meeting to establish a permanent and salaried police force in the Town of Bytown. This was not a reality until the year 1866, as the proposed By-law was never introduced.
- April 28** - Town Council authorized the offer of one hundred pounds as a reward for any information that would lead to the arrest and conviction of the parties who, on the night of the 28th, attempted to blow up with gunpowder and set fire to the premises of E. Varin.
- May** - A special committee of the Council was organized to investigate the conduct of High Constable Fitzgerald in reference to the money he received for keeping lamps burning on Sussex Street. The committee cleared him of all allegations.
- 1855** Due to an influx of business and merchants within the market, a Market Constable named John Little was appointed.
- January 1** - Bytown was incorporated as a city and adopted the name Ottawa.
- January 22** - High Constable Fitzgerald failed to be re-appointed by City Council as High Constable for another year.
- Roderick Ross becomes the new 'Chief Constable', as the position was now known, and therefore the first Chief Constable of the 'Ottawa' Police.
- May 8** - Under Chief Ross, law was strictly enforced as was seen when Judge Armstrong was brought before the city Police Magistrate and fined ten shillings for trotting his horse over Sappers Bridge.
- December 25** - The Oxford, the first train arrived linking Bytown by rail with Toronto and Montreal and the larger centers of the United States.
- 1857** Queen Victoria chose the City of Ottawa as the Capital of Canada.
- 1861** A Police Committee was formed to oversee the work of the Police.
- 1863** The 'Board of Commissioners of Police' was created.
- January 19** - Councillor Scott introduced By-law number 192 regarding the appointment of Police Magistrate Hammett Hill as 'Commissioner of Police' for the City of Ottawa. He now had the added responsibility of chairing the new organized 'Board of Police Commission' (Board of Commissioners of Police).
- January 23** - Chief Constable Roderick Ross steps down as Chief Constable to continue his role as High Bailiff because City Counsel

decided the two positions could no longer be held by one person.

January 29 - The first Board of Commissioners of Police, free from any direct, political influence was created

February 3 - The Board of Police Commissioners appointed Thomas Langrell as Chief Constable. The title of Chief of Police was also adopted at this time.

- 1864** E.J. O'Neil becomes the first detective for the Ottawa Police. A few years later in 1866, he was suspended by the Board of Commissioners of Police for interfering in the election of a City Councillor.
- 1865** The first police station, with two and later five cells, was established in the wings of city hall located on the east side of Elgin Street, between Queen and Albert Streets.
September - The Board submitted to City Council their requirement that every man excepting the detective be annually equipped with a suit of uniform police clothes, cap boots and gloves and an overcoat every two years.
- 1866** The Board organized a salaried police force for the City of Ottawa where constables no longer were no longer paid a fee based on the number of arrests made of services provided.
Constables were organized into a full-time organization receiving a salary that was not based on the fee system.
February 5 - Alderman Friel presented to City Council the duties of the constables as 'the ordinary preservation of the peace and order; to exercise watchfulness over disorderly characters; and also to carry out sanitary precautions as recommended by the Board of Health'.
May 29 - This date may well be recognized as the official birth date of the Ottawa Police as on this day, By-law 235 was passed establishing a full-time salaried police force in Ottawa.
- 1867** First Dominion Day. Confederation united the two provinces of Canada with Nova Scotia and New Brunswick into one Dominion under the name Canada.
- 1868** Population of Ottawa was 20,305.
Thomas D'Arcy McGee, one of the founding Fathers of Confederation of Canada and leading spokesman against the Irish-American Fenians, (an American secret revolutionary society set on destroying British power in Ireland and in the British Empire) was assassinated in Ottawa in front of his home, at 71 Sparks Street. Patrick James Whelan, a Fenian, was charged with the murder. Whelan was found guilty on circumstantial evidence and was executed in the gallows of the Nicholas Street jail, which was the last public execution in Canada, Five thousand people watched him die.
By-law number 261 was introduced by Council to provide for the public health for the City of Ottawa. Its main goal was the prevention of contagious diseases.
- 1869** The police also became helpful in the control of fires when every policeman in the city was given a key to a signal fire telegraph box so in the event of a fire, the constable on patrol (from which the acronym

'COP' was derived), could open the signal box and could give an alarm indicating to City Hall which district the fire was located.

August 2 - It was finally decided by City Council that payments be made to certain members of the Ottawa Police Force as an intended gratuity in consideration of the increased duties to which the officers were subject on the occasion of the murder of McGee.

- 1870** **January 10** - The Court House and county offices of the County of Carleton were completely destroyed by fire as a result of a defective stove.
- 1878** Due to deteriorating conditions the 'Old City Hall' that housed the police station was finally demolished. The Ottawa Police was forced to move into the 'Old Baptist Church' located across Elgin Street, at 64 Queen Street, which was rented for a term of five years at an annual rental fee of three hundred dollars.
Members of the Ottawa Police personnel were sent out to quell a disturbance at the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway Depot when members of the Catholic Union had assembled to prevent the Orange Young Briton delegation from Montreal from boarding the train. All that could be done by the police was to partially keep them apart and to make a number of arrests for breach of the peace.
- 1879** **April 5** - Arthur Percy Sherwood at the age of twenty-five was appointed Chief of the Ottawa Police.
- 1880** **February 29** - The entire Ottawa Police Force was disbanded on the charge of insubordination in ' the signing of the address of sympathy with Constable Hugh McKenna, who declined to give evidence in a case against a city restaurateur, charged with entertaining a police officer while on duty. The force was disbanded; however, the Chief was sustained in his position. After the Board's meeting, however, it was decided that the Ottawa Police officers could make application to be re-engaged, provided 'they did not endorse the sentiments expressed in the address'. All of the officers with the exception of Constable Davitt, who found himself another job as a miller, applied for re-engagement. Of all the officers who applied for re-engagement, seven were not re-appointed for reasons best known to the Commissioners themselves.
- 1882** **June 30** - The Board of Commissioners of Police authorized the installation of a telephone at Chief Sherwood's private residence where he would be at the city's disposal on a twenty-four hour basis.
October 27 - Chief Constable Sherwood resigned from the Ottawa Police after taking another position as Superintendent of the Dominion Police, which was then organized to protect the federal buildings in Ottawa. The Dominion Police merged with the North West Mounted Police to become the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in 1920.
November 2 - Donald Masson Grant becomes Chief of Police.
- 1884** **September 21** - Twelve special constables were appointed for eight days and employed by the Ottawa Police during the Ottawa Exhibition. The force was too small to deal with the influx of people who descended on the city.

- 1885** **January 14** - Inspector Bowes assumes command of the Ottawa Police after Chief Grant left for Florida in the hope that the drier climate would help him deal with his tuberculosis.
April 5 - Former Police Chief Donald Masson Grant died in the Presbyterian Hospital in New York after battling with tuberculosis.
June 11 - Detective William McVeity was appointed Chief of the Ottawa Police.
- 1889** Even after numerous complaints of unsanitary conditions were made regularly by Police Chiefs it was not until Chief McVeity's administration that the Ottawa Police finally moved into new headquarters, located on the south east corner of Queen and Elgin Streets, near the new city hall. It is often referred to as the 'Old Elgin Street Police Station' when in actuality; its address was 2 Queen Street.
March 5 - \$730 was stolen from the safe in the clerk's office in the Police Court.
- 1891** **September 2** - The Board of Police Commissioners ordered that the Chief of Police and members of the Ottawa Police be appointed to act as truant officers for the city.
- 1896** **April 25** - Allegations of misconduct made against Chief McVeity led to an investigation into his conduct. After a hearing by the Board of Commissioners of Police where several witnesses took the stand testifying they saw the Chief and a lady engaging in lewd behaviour while resting along the Rideau River, the Board found that the charge of misconduct against the Chief of Police was not proven but that 'the investigation disclosed sufficient reasons why 'Mr. McVeity' should not be continued as Chief of Police...he acted very foolishly'.
May 1 - McVeity's resignation was demanded.
August 27 - William F. Powell becomes new Chief. William Powell served with the 43rd Regiment in Ottawa in the year 1866.
October 1 - the first bicycle was used as transportation for police officers. Their use discontinued in 1957.
- 1900** Population of Ottawa was 58,193.
April 27 - A huge fire raged through Hull and spread into Ottawa.
September 11 - The first automobile made its appearance in Ottawa on Sparks Street.
- 1901** **July 1** - McVeity's request for a patrol wagon was finally accepted by the Board and made its appearance on this date.
- 1902** **Jan 4** - Chief Powell was forced to issue Order Number 1, dealing with alcohol intoxication while on duty.
March 26 - Inspector Moylan was suspended for drunkenness and ordered to send in his resignation and was dismissed on April 1, 1902.
- 1904** **November 29** - Chief Powell suddenly resigned from the Ottawa Police.
December 24 -Major Stuart E. de la Ronde was appointed Chief Constable of the Ottawa Police. He was the only Ottawa Chief who retained his military rank.

- 1905** **September** - The cooperation of police forces resulted in the birth of the 'Chief Constables' Association of Canada'.
- 1909** Janeville was incorporated as the Village of Eastview (Vanier).
- 1910** **February 22** - Chief de la Ronde resigned from the Ottawa Police.
February - Alexander Moffat Ross was appointed Chief Constable to the Ottawa Police.
March 2 - Chief Ross issues an order 'Constables, whilst on duty, must be civil, courteous and orderly in their conduct towards the public, but at the same time perform their duties with decorum, patience and discretion...Remember ever that the eye of the public is upon you and the Force will be judged by your conduct'
- 1912** The town of Eastview, later to be renamed Vanier, employed a single constable, Harry Walker, who would patrol the streets on a bicycle. The first patrol car, a model 'T' Ford was purchased. Chief Ross created a new branch in the Detective Section, a team of specialized detectives' he called the 'Morality Branch', which dealt with 'houses of ill-repute', gambling of various kinds, infractions of the liquor laws and violations of the rug traffic laws.
- 1913** The village of Eastview was incorporated as a Town. A short time after its first Chief of Police, H.C. Prior, was appointed.
September 9 - In what is to be believed as the first of the Ottawa Police's unsolved murders, the hacked body of a bookmaker's clerk named Abe Rubenstein, alias Charles Robinson, was discovered at 384 Somerset Street West. Robbery was believed to have been the motive for the crime.
November 13 - Members of the Ottawa Police were first issued their warrant (police identification cards), which they were required to carry while in plainclothes, on or off duty.
December 31 - A five class system for the constables was introduced from Class A to Class G on
December 31 - Florence Campbell became the Ottawa Police's first policewoman.
- 1915** The horse-drawn wagon was phased out
Chief Ross divided the city into two sections for the purpose of patrol service, Division 1 and Division 2.
May - Constable Thomas Folkard a German immigrant refused to attend a memorial service on Parliament Hill for Canadian Soldiers who had died in the service of their country and as a result was asked to resign. He complied.
May 1 - An order passed by the Board of Police Commissioners that no member of the Ottawa Police was to remain in service after having attained the age of sixty years, became effective on this day. This order affected Deputy Chief Vizard, three Sergeants, and one Constable.
May 31 - Chief H.C. Prior retired from the Eastview Police.
July - Chief Ross introduced Order Number 36, which specified and listed the proper conduct of the members of the Ottawa Police. The Chief's Order was a model used for every other Ottawa Police Chief in

monitoring the conduct of the Force.

- 1916** The first motorcycle had been purchased
Chief Ross introduced police candidate tests.
The Main Parliament Building was destroyed by fire. Parliament temporarily sat in the Victoria Memorial Museum until a new Parliament Building was constructed.
July 19 - Chief Ross introduced innovations to the traffic officers' summer uniform. He introduced a short sleeve khaki shirt and a straw hat - Panama style.
August 31 - In front of the Park Hotel on York Street, James Covey, a farmer from West Templeton, was killed in a fight by off duty Ottawa Police Sergeant Patrick Maloney.
September 6 - The jury found Maloney struck the blow that killed Covey and that no provocation had been shown. Maloney was given an eight-year sentence on the charge of manslaughter.
- 1917** **December** - Constable George H. Whitelaw, age 29 years, was killed in action while fighting in the First World War.
- 1918** **April** - General Order Number 62 was issued which prohibited members of the Ottawa Police from joining a union on the pain of dismissal from the Force.
April 15 - Constable Arthur P.S. Borthwick, age 30 years, died of wounds received in action while fighting in the First World War.
April 16 - The Ottawa Police Association was formed under the intent to protect the benefit and retiring fund.
April 19 - Twenty-one constables and three sergeants were dismissed as a result of General Order Number 62. However, shortly after, in May, seven of the constables who had been dismissed were re-hired.
- 1919** **July** - Employees of the Ottawa Electric Company went on strike. It was the first major disruption that the Ottawa Police were to monitor.
November 18 - Sergeant Major Berigan and Sergeant Barlow were suspended in regard to the death of Sarah Maria Shipman while in custody.
November 25 - It was recommended to City council that a new police station should be built, as well as a new city hall and fire station.
December 1 - Both Sergeants were reinstated after the Boards inquiry into the death of inmate Sarah Maria Shipman. It was found that the woman was not intoxicated but had suffered from apoplexy that led to her death.
- 1920** Population of Ottawa was 110,738.
A near riot almost occurred in Ottawa as a meeting of Sinn Fein supporters was held in Ottawa where the goal of obtaining self-government in Ireland was discussed. Apart from a few minor clashes, nothing serious developed, and only a few arrests were made.
February 2 - the Parliament Buildings were officially reopened.
- 1923** **February 11** - Matthew Joseph Maloney, 27 years old, a city fireman was murdered after an altercation led to him being fired upon and dying the next day from internal bleeding.

- March 5** - a raid on a Norman Street house resulted in the arrest of a 43-year-old man, Frank Trimboli, and his subsequent prosecution and conviction for the murder of fireman Maloney.
- 1927** The Ottawa Senators defeated Boston and won the Stanley Cup for the last time!
- 1929** **April 25** - Three members of the Board of Commissioners held a meeting. A unanimous decision was reached that patronizers of charity bazaars having the use of gambling devices would not be arrested and prosecuted.
- 1931** **July 14** - Alderman Kirby Bangs moved for the abolition of the Committee and the control of all traffic in Ottawa be transferred to the Police Department. The motion failed.
July 18 - Chief Ross resigns over the controversy with the Board of Control Civic Traffic Committee.
August 26 - Inspector of Detectives, Emile Joliat, with thirty-six years service as a member of the Ottawa Police, was appointed Chief of Police. One of his sons Aurele Joliat, would go on to become one of Canada's outstanding professional hockey players for the Montreal Canadiens.
December 12 - Paul E. Lavigne, a twenty-four year old gas station attendant received a gunshot wound during a robbery. The finding of the murder weapon led to the identification of William Seabrooke, age 22, as the killer.
- 1932** **May 14** - William Seabrooke was found guilty of murder and sentenced to hang.
October 20 - On appeal, a new trial was granted for Seabrooke but in the end, was sentenced to hang again.
- 1933** **January 10** - William Seabrooke was finally hanged. The second man to be hanged at the Nicholas Street Jail.
May 22 - A small fire occurred at the Police Headquarters.
October 11 - Twenty very senior police officials met at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto and founded the Ontario Police Association.
- The Police Association of Ontario called upon the provincial government and the Attorney General to establish a central police school where police officers would receive police training. The request was ignored.
- 1935** One-way station-to-car radios were installed in the 'proowler patrol cars'.
May 31 - With over twenty-one years of service, the Ottawa Police's only female police officer, Florence Campbell, resigned. With her resignation the position of policewoman was abolished.
October - Detective Tissot tendered his resignation after being suspended indefinitely by Chief Joliat for being involved in anti-Semitic propaganda - actions unbecoming a police officer.
- 1936** **April 3** - Members of the Board approved the employment of a policewoman.
July 3 - Alice R. Goyette aged 37 was appointed as a probationary policewoman for a period of six months.
December 13 - A petition signed by several members of the 'Chinese Colony' in the city was sent to the mayors office requesting police

presence in the community because of 'the deplorable' consequences of the illegal operation of Chinese gambling houses in the city.

- 1937** **January 1** - Policewoman Goyette successfully completed her required period of six months probation and was permanently appointed to the position.
May 1 - Chief Joliat retires at 68.
- Deputy Chief Joseph Patrick Downey, age fifty-four, is appointed to the post of Chief of Police.
- 1938** **May 14** - Six members of the Ottawa Police assisted the Ontario Provincial Police in raiding a residence on Beechwood Avenue, thought to be a gambling den. Fifty people were arrested including two off-duty constables from the Ottawa Police.
May 25 - Chief Downey determined the actions of the two officers at the Beechwood Avenue raid unbecoming a police officer and ordered their dismissals.
- 1940** **April 3** - Eugene Larment and Albert Henderson who would later go on to murder Detective Thomas Stoneman, the first officer to die in the line of duty, were involved in an armed robbery in the town of Prescott.
- 1941** Police vehicles were equipped with two-way radios.
- 1942** **March 14** - The Board approved the appointment of a second female constable.
May 1 - Constable John McMullen retired. He was 75 years of age, had completed 49 years of service, and was the oldest serving member of the Ottawa Police.
- 1943** **June** - Herman Goering a 23 year old Luftwaffe, prisoner of war was being held in Canada escaped from the Monteith Internment Camp.
August - Goering is recognized by Detective Edgar Kedey and taken in to custody at the Union Station where he was waiting to take a train to Pembroke.
- 1944** **January 1** - Members of the Ottawa Police were granted three weeks holidays.
- 1945** **September 5** - Igor Gouzenko, a cipher clerk of the Soviet Embassy, left the embassy premises with over a hundred documents containing coded spy messages and documents which would later go on to uncover a vast spy network that would have repercussions around the world. Included in the network were Canadian MPs, employees within the British High Commission and the External Affairs Department. Ottawa Police played an important role in keeping a watchful eye on Gouzenko during the following days, who fearing for his life, was certain that the NKVD - the Soviet Secret Police might know of his actions and kill him.
October 1 - David Huard, a prisoner in custody at the county jail awaiting trial on a charge of robbery with violence, escaped from custody.
October 22 - A number of firearms were stolen from the Canadian War Museum that would later be used in the murder of Detective Stoneman

October 24 - Detective Stoneman, age 37, a member of the Force for fourteen years, was shot when he attempted to question three suspicious males, Eugene Larment, Wilfred D'Amour, and Albert Henderson, on O'Conner St where they were suspected of breaking into automobiles in the parking lot and service station on O'Cononor Street, between Slater and Albert Streets. He died from his injuries five days later.

October 29 - Detective Stoneman was the first member of the Ottawa Police to be killed in the line of duty.

November - The Board of Commissioners of Police decided to purchase a fully equipped police ambulance to be used in emergency calls.

November 1 - The first official police service funeral was held on November 1st, 1945, for Detective Stoneman.

November 17 - Detectives Cavan and Bayne received information that a wanted man whom escaped from custody a month earlier had been seen in a large, dark coloured sedan. After a high speed vehicle pursuit ending in Carleton Place, the wanted man was fatally shot in a cornered-in, dead end street. For their actions Cavan and Bayne both received the King's Police and Fire Services Medal (K.M.).

1946

Chief Downey instructed officers in the Traffic Department to attend all of the primary schools in the city to instruct the children 'traffic safety'. This program was instrumental in establishing the 'School Patrol Section' of the Ottawa Police.

January 1 - Chief Downey and the Board of Commissioners of Police introduced a system of 'Good Conduct Awards' to constables below the rank of sergeant at the rate of ten cents per diem for a period of five years.

January 23 - Eugene Larment, charged in the murder of Detective Stoneman, was found guilty and sentenced to be hanged.

February 6 - Henderson and D'Amour, acquitted of the crime of murder, pleaded guilty to charges of breaking and entering, the theft of an automobile and to ten other criminal charges. Henderson was sentenced to 29 years in Kingston Penitentiary and D'Amour to 27 years.

March 27 - Eugene Larment, sentenced for his roll in the death of Detective Stoneman was the last man to be hanged at the Nicholas Street Jail.

May 20 - Edna Harry became the Ottawa Police's second female constable.

November, 21 - Constable Belmore Chartier at the age of 41 died of an apparent heart attack while walking his beat on Wellington Street.

December - City counsel introduced the five-day workweek for the civic service employees of the City of Ottawa.

1947

January 11 - Detective-Sergeant John Ambrose "Ab" Canvan and Detective Robert Bayne received the King's Police and Fire Services Medal (K.M.) at a ceremony at the Coliseum. The two officers were granted the award for their part in the two-and-a-half hour chase of an escaped convict over icy roads in November 1945.

1948

January 1 - Chief Constable Downey retires with forty-one years service.

- Acting Chief Duncan MacDonell fills The vacancy of Constable Chief.

June 14 - A man brought into station appearing drunk as a result of

diabetic coma, posing a life threatening situation, could have been diffused had the officers properly searched the prisoner and found a medical card outlining his condition. Chief MacDonell was forced to issue an order relating to the searching of all prisoners brought to the police station cellblock.

November 5 - The Ottawa Police Association was formed.

1950 A uniform for policewomen was first introduced. Edna Harry was the first woman to wear the uniform of the Ottawa Police.

January 1 - The City of Ottawa, in its largest annexation of suburban territory, expanded to include thousands of acres from Nepean and Gloucester Townships. As a result the city expanded to approximately three times its previous area.

July 31 - With an arbitration award brought by the Ottawa Police Association, compensation for court attendance for members of the Ottawa Police was allowed.

1951 The Grey Cup was stolen in Toronto and recovered in Ottawa.

1953 **February 4** - A Grand Jury inspected Number 1 Police Station and reported the conditions of the Station as 'disgusting' and should be closed immediately. This led to the Headquarters being moved to 60 Waller in 1957.

August - Former member of the Ottawa Police, Terrance D'Arcy Driscoll, age 23, forced to resign due to 'unsatisfactory performance of duties', was involved in the armed robbery of five thousand dollars of payroll at the Bruce Coal Company. Driscoll was arrested in Houston, Texas and was returned to Ottawa.

September - Three men broke into the garage of a reserve army officer and stole two 'Bren' machine guns and three thousand rounds of ammunition. The trio responsible was members of the RCAF and after an investigation by Detectives Kenneth Duncan and Harold Fawcett the machine guns were recovered in Montreal and the trio arrested.

1954 **November** - Constable George Constantineau, died from injuries suffered after his police motorcycle struck a center boulevard under construction on Sussex Drive.

1955 **January** - Two armed offenders attempted to break into the Brinks Express Company safe on Sparks Street but were held at gunpoint and arrested by a lone constable, Thomas Flanagan, who had entered the building by a fire escape.

August 7 - Ottawa Police Association Credit Union Ltd. was incorporated by the Ministry of Financial Institutions

September 30 -The Board of Commissioners of Police set this date as a deadline for any members, who were tenants and not property owners who lived outside the city limits, to move to the city. The order had been complied with.

1957 The Gloucester-Nepean Police Department was formed.

May - The Township of Nepean requested from the Board of Commissioners of the Ottawa Police to have the Force police a rural area of approximately thirty-two square miles. A difference in by-laws and

difficulties in recruiting led to the recommendation that Nepean make their own arrangement for police protection.

August - An underwater search and recovery squad was formed in response to increased instances of drowning in and around Ottawa.

August 25 - Assistant Inspector Raoul Desjardins, age 48, plowed his cruiser through the front of the IGA Capital Fruit store located on Bank Street at Lisgar Street and was later discovered by the coroner that he died of an apparent heart attack.

August 28 - A police funeral was held for Inspector Desjardins.

1958

March - St the request of the Ottawa Police Association, Catholic and Protestant Chaplains labeled, 'Police Padres' were appointed by Chief MacDonell

April 23 - Constable Thomas Flanagan saved the life of Ernest Ladouceur, 18 years old and mentally handicapped, from plummeting over the Rideau Falls on a homemade raft while he was on a frog hunting expedition. Constable Flanagan jumped into the cold water and dragged the young man to shore while negotiating the swift current and the distance to the falls. For his prompt action without the regard for personal safety Flanagan received the Star of Courage.

May - Boat of adequate size with a moderately powered motor and fitted trailer was purchased for the Squad at a cost of over seven hundred dollars.

- Scooters were purchased due to the high cost and maintenance of the Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

June 2 -City Council approved that all of the space at 413 Churchill Avenue be made available to the Ottawa Police for the Number 2 Police Station.

December - Chief Axcell, with his military background, believed that the Ottawa Police had grown to the point where the appointment of a Senior Non-Commissioned Officer, would be justified.

December 3 - Chief MacDonell retires at the age of 64.

- Deputy Chief Reginald J. Axcell M.B.E. becomes Chief Constable. A veteran of the Second Great War, Axcell was awarded the Order of the British Empire in 1943 for meritorious service as a conducting officer and combat instructor.

1959

A Demerit point system was introduced for traffic violations.

The Breathalyzer was first introduced to measure the amount of alcohol consumed, doubling the arrests for impaired driving.

October - The underwater Squad is called to the scene where a car was recovered from the bottom of the Rideau Canal after one of the swing bridges short-circuited and opened without warning plunging the car into the water.

1960

April 1 - To address the increasing problem of parking enforcement, Chief Axcell appointed female 'police officers' better known as 'Meter Maids' to enforce the parking regulations. They, however, did not carry the title of Policewoman. Instead their rank was 'Ottawa Police Women Auxiliary'.

April 1 - Up until this date the Ottawa Police only had two women who held the rank of Policewoman.

- 1962** Aylmer was chosen as the site for the Ontario Police College.
A long service medal was adopted by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police for presentation to municipal police forces' members who had completed twenty years of police service.
- 1963** Ottawa Police has a force of ten motorcycles.
January 1 - The Vanier Police Force was formed when the community of Eastview was incorporated as a City and changed its name to Vanier.
November - Jurisdictional confusion resulted in discussions of regionalization after local police took over twenty-five minutes to respond to a scene where a 13 year-old boy drowned near the Gloucester-Osgoode Township border.
December 23 - Three people were slain at the Christ the King Roman Catholic Church on downtown Argyle Street after two brothers attempted to rob collections from the Sunday masses. In the end, one of the brothers took his own life and the other was talked into surrendering by Detective Thomas Flanagan.
- 1964** Three Electric Speed Timing Devices (RADAR) were purchased to assist in controlling high speed traffic
January 1 - The Gloucester-Nepean Police Department splits into two distinct police forces.
April 16 - The Youth Liaison Section was introduced to combat the increase of juvenile delinquency, to promote understanding and constructive treatment of juveniles and to foster respect for the image of law enforcement to young offenders.
December - Police Chief Axcell was named the Eastview-Ottawa 'Man of the Year' for his devotion to the community through policing.
December 21 - Traffic Officer David Tuckey, age 31, received extensive head injuries which left him off work for over a year and a half after he was thrown from his motorcycle when he collided with a car on Nicholas Street near Hurdman Road. At this time constables were not required to wear a helmet. He died five years after the accident while on duty in Traffic Court, after he collapsed from a heart attack.
- 1965** The Ottawa board of Commissioners of Police created an award to be presented to police officers who have performed an outstanding feat in the line of duty. The first recipient of this award was Sergeant A.D. McConnell.
The Ottawa Police Criminal Intelligence Section was created with the purpose of identifying persons involved in organized crime and maintaining records on criminal suspects on a daily basis. It linked together twenty-seven major police organizations across Ontario and later came to be known as the Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario (CISO)
July 1 - The Ontario Municipal Employees Retirement System was introduced.
August - The Ottawa Police became the subject of a scandal as certain cartage firms were found to be violating the traffic laws with impunity and the fixing of traffic summonses was alleged. In the end three constables were suspended and four civilians were charged with 'obstructing justice'.

1966

April 20 - Sergeant A.D. McConnell rescued two teenagers who had fallen into the Ottawa River and were about to plunge over the Chaudiere Falls.

May 18 - Paul Joseph Cartier had entered the Parliament building around mid afternoon intending to throw an improvised explosive device from the public gallery among the Members of Parliament on the floor of the House of Commons, however, the bomb exploded prematurely as he was preparing it in the third floor washroom. It was Sergeant Clayton Bigras' gruesome task to properly identify the body from the few remaining pieces.

November 23 - Chief Axcell, age 60, submitted his resignation following the sudden death of his wife a month earlier.

December 15 - Chief Axcell retired.

- Deputy Chief John Ambrose Cavan K.M. becomes Chief Constable. Cavan, age 58, a detective at the time, was awarded the Kings Medal, presented to police officers and firefighters - for his role in the two and a half hour high speed pursuit through the west end of the city ending in gunfire in Carleton Place, Ontario.

1967

The Executive Board of the Ottawa Police Association unanimously approved the creation of a police band and called it the Ottawa Police Association Pipes and Drums.

June 18 - The Marine Patrol began its services.

August 28 - A couple in the City of Ottawa were held at gunpoint for about twenty minutes by a man who had come to the door of their home and had asked to use the telephone to report an accident. This man was a robber who had assumed the house contained a vault with much money inside. He was, however, mistaken. He left with only six dollars. Later on when three Detectives identified and approached the man at his residence, they were met with a volley of gunfire, which resulted in Detective Paul Lecompte being shot in the leg, and his backup, in the hip, while, trying to drag Lecompte to safety. At 11:30 p.m. members of the Ottawa Police led by Detective John McCombie charged inside the residence where they shot the suspect with a shotgun as he sat in his chair. It was later found that the suspect was already dead, having taken his own life.

September - A four-pound military rocket was placed near the Cuban Embassy, set to detonate. It was fortunately defused in time.

November - A large anti-Communist demonstration in front of the Soviet Embassy becomes violent. Twenty-five Ottawa Police officers were on hand to provide crowd control.

1968

February 2 - Constable Robert Smith was wounded by a shotgun blast after receiving a call that a man, who was later identified as Raymond Renaud was carrying a shotgun and walking north on St. Laurent Boulevard. Constable Smith survived and Renaud was charged with attempted murder and pleaded guilty by reason of insanity.

1970

The Ottawa City Crest is added to the patrol cars.
Radio system for beat officers was introduced.

January 1 - The Ottawa Police began sending its recruits to the Ontario Police College in Aylmer, Ontario, however, shortly after, one Ottawa Police Cadet with less than two weeks on the Ottawa Police was arrested for stealing a car because he was late for class. He pleaded guilty and

was dismissed from the Force.

March 25 - A new regulation was put into effect which required all officers to be equipped with .38 caliber revolvers.

September 1 - The Board of Commissioners of Police adopted the minimum education for admission to the Ottawa Police to be completion of a Grade 12 High School.

October - Lieutenant Ernest Longpre, age 45, was appointed as the Ottawa Police's first Public Relations Officer.

December 11 - Portable police radios gain much praise after two Detectives foil an impending bank robbery at the Bank of Montreal on the Corner of Somerset West and Bank Street after using the radios to communicate back and forth the suspect's and each others movements, while doing surveillance.

1971

March 31 - Chief Constable J.A. Cavan, age 63, retired as he wished to spend more time with his family.

April 1 - Acting Chief Constable Leo Seguin, age 53, was appointed head Chief Constable. He was the second French Canadian to head the Ottawa Police. Leo was known for the days when he played tackle and guard for the Ottawa Rough Riders football team.

October - Arn Snyder became the first Ottawa Police officer after having graduated from university.

- The Ottawa Police was reorganized to improve effectiveness and efficiency, increasing our services to the citizens. The reorganization was the Force divided into three fundamental areas of endeavor: Field Operations, Staff Operations and Administrative and Staff Services.

November - An arbitration board awarded the Ottawa Police Force an 11.3 percent wage increase.

December - Microfilm Information Retrieval and Access Code System (Miracode) was introduced, reducing the search time for records and fingerprints from about two weeks to a few minutes.

December 21 - Acting Detective Brian Maloney, age 30, dies in hospital, after suffering what appeared to be post-traumatic injuries inflicted to him during an altercation with another Ottawa Police officer several days prior. After an intense investigation, however, led by an outside police force, a jury concluded that the cause of death was post-operative shock after surgery for the treatment of injuries of unknown origin received to the abdominal region.

1972

A fire destroyed the Vanier Police station and all police files.

The Canadian Bankers Association reached an agreement with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to create a medal to recognize police officers for their acts of bravery. The medal was called the Canadian Bankers' Association Law Enforcement Award.

March - The Ottawa Police Male Chorus was founded. After several women requested that they be able to join and their request was granted the name was changed to 'The Ottawa Police Choir'.

July 26 - Constable Paul Tonon was awarded the Board of Commissioners of Police Award for saving the life of an eleven-year-old boy who had fallen into a canal on the Western Parkway opposite the Mill Restaurant.

1973

William Daniel Chilcott was the first private citizen to sit on the Board of

Commissioners of Police.

The Children's Safety Village was opened where children could learn more about traffic safety from a live situation than from a dead lecture.

March 1 - 49 Parking Control Officers, (referred today as Municipal Bylaw Officers), were sworn in to enforce municipal parking By-laws.

April - The Ottawa Police purchased ten low-powered Honda 175cc motorcycles.

1974

'Operation Identification' was introduced during Police Week.

January 1 - The Ministry of the Solicitor General put into effect that police officers in all municipal forces in Ontario were to follow a new standard ranking system. Under this new system there would be nine ranks, instead of the more than twenty titles now used by various forces throughout the province.

February 6 - Sergeant Denis Lacroix received the Board of Commissioners of Police Award for saving two children, age one and two years old, from their burning home.

March 20 - Inspector John McCombie received the Board of Commissioners of Police Award for saving a woman stranded on an island on the Ottawa river after attempting suicide.

August 16 - The Identification Section's 'Mobile Scenes of Crime and Collision Unit' was introduced. The Unit contained photographic and identification equipment which supported investigation of a crime scene.

1975

The Board of Commissioners of Police and City Council approved the presentation of a wristwatch to all members having completed thirty years of service. This was later amended to twenty-five years. In addition a member having completed twenty-five years receives a gold Ottawa Police ring. Upon retirement the Ontario Police Association presents the officer with a gold retirement badge and another retirement badge. A plaque is also presented from the Ottawa Police.

A scandal erupts in the Vanier Police after Chief of Police Dwyer, age 50, was charged by the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) with the theft of \$878.30 from the Force's safety deposit box at a local bank. In November 1976 Vanier Police Chief was found guilty of stealing money from the Force and was sentenced to six months in provincial jail and fined one thousand dollars.

January 15 - Two Ottawa police officers William 'Billy' Mason, age 22, and Robert Proulx were gunned down at Elgin and Somerset Streets. An escaped convict serving a 29-year stretch out of Collins Bay Penitentiary shot both officers. Fortunately after several shots were fired the escapee was apprehended, charged with a number of crimes and sentenced to fifteen-year term on top of the 29 years he was already serving. Both officers survived.

1976

May - In preparation for any terrorist attacks in the city, with the approaching Summer Olympics being held in Montreal, the Ottawa Police created a Tactical Team, or SWAT team.

October 1 - The Tactical Team's first call-out got under way after Keith Halden, age 23, was held up in his house after shooting at a police patrol car and subsequently holding a gun to the constables head demanding his gun and car keys. After being held up in his house surrounded by members of the Tactical Team, Halden eventually surrendered to Superintendent Flanagan and turned himself in.

1977

To ensure the better enforcement of the Highway Traffic Act, Staff Inspector Armand Soucie founded the S.T.E.P. program - Selective Traffic Enforcement Program.

Former Police Chief Claude Dwyer was further convicted of bribery and corruption related charges after it was discovered he accepted a bribe from a local club owner to ensure protection from arrest.

April - Deputy Chief Paul Page, age 37, was named Acting Chief of the Vanier Police.

July 11 - Constable David Kirkwood, age 21, was murdered after he was aiding in the arrest of Fredrick Koepke on an outstanding warrant for assault causing bodily harm. Koepke was later found not guilty by reason of insanity. He spent several years in mental institutions before a Lieutenant-Governor's warrant was lifted allowing him back into society.

October 27 - After uncovering a list of client names of a prostitution service, allegations were brought up against many high profile individuals such as provincial court judge Thomas Swabey, a Senior Ottawa Police officer and officers from the RCMP and OPP as well as politicians, dignitaries, businessmen and members of the press. After a large-scale investigation was concluded no charges were laid.

1978

CADRE -Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Entry was installed. The Ottawa Police becomes the first police force in Canada to use the computerized CADRE system.

Installation of 'in-car computer terminals', called MDTs - Mobile Digital Terminal- in all marked police cruisers advances the Ottawa Police into the technological age.

May 1 - Chief of Police Leo Seguin, age 61, retires to 'enjoy some peaceful retirement time'.

- Deputy Chief Thomas Emmett Welsh, a noted veteran of the Second World War, becomes Ottawa Chief of Police.

July - The Kiwanis Clubs of Rideau, Ottawa and Carlingwood donated a new twenty-five thousand dollar van to assist the Ottawa Police in teaching the public basic precautionary measures as part of its crime-prevention program.

September 24 - On the front lawn of the Parliament Buildings, in front of the Peace Tower, Chief Thomas E. Welsh and the Ottawa Police hosted the first Annual Memorial Service for Police and Correctional Officers who lost their lives in the performance of duty.

1979

In compliance with the directives of the Ontario Police Commission, all of the marked police cruisers were painted blue and white.

March 11 - Vanier Police Constable Raymond Pitre saved the life of Linda Jones, aged five, from drowning in the Rideau River at Vanier.

March 25 - Constable John Peterson became hostage after responding to a 'Trouble Unknown' call at Percy and Cooper Streets. Two men with lengthy criminal records, involved in an altercation prior to his arrival, had already had two hostages in their grasp as the unaware constable became the third. With the calm-headed constable at the wheel they proceeded to drive to Westgate Mall where Deputy Chief Tom Flanagan caught up with the cruiser and managed to negotiate the constable's and the hostage's release. One of the hostage-takers was sentenced to ten years, the other, six.

April - The Senior Officers' Association was formed.

October 14 - Constables Shamus Hall and Dan DesRoches were called to a scene where a driver and his wife had submerged their car into Dow's Lake after the husband had suffered a heart attack while driving. Both constables took turns diving into the lake trying to free the couple and eventually succeeded after cutting their seatbelts and pulling them from the vehicle. Despite their efforts the couple both later died in hospital.

1980

May 7 - Constable Dan DesRoches' keen observation and courage culminated in the arrest of a suspect for a bank robbery. While off-duty attending his own bank, the bank of Nova Scotia branch at 3310 McCarthy Road, DesRoches became witness to a man acting suspiciously before donning a toque over his face and entering the bank. After calling for backup, DesRoches followed the suspect to an apartment building where he was later arrested and taken into custody.

August 26 - Constable Dan DesRoches became the first member to receive the Canadian Bankers' Association Law Enforcement Award for his role in the arrest of a bank robber on May 7th, 1980.

September 26 - Vanier Constable Raymond Pitre was awarded the Star of Courage for his role in rescuing a young girl from drowning in the Rideau River.

October 15 - It was announced that plans for a new police station had been approved and a location identified, 474 Elgin Street.

1981

The first Neighbourhood Watch was set up in the Abbey Road area of the city and involved 78 homes.

March - The 540 Ottawa Police personnel received an 11.6 percent salary increase.

March 9 - Deputy Chief Tom Flanagan was presented with the Star of Courage, Canada's second highest bravery award, for his actions taken on the March 25th, 1979, incident where he negotiated the release of two hostages, one an Ottawa Police officer. He also received the Correctional Service's highest award for bravery. On this day two other constables, Shamus Hall and Dan DesRoches, received the Medal of Bravery for their valiant effort on the 4th of October, 1979, to save the lives of Nicholas and Evelyn Harrigan who were trapped in a car in Dow's Lake.

May 26 - The National Capital Jaycees awarded Policeman of the Year Award Constable Dan DesRoches'.

June 1 - A new shift schedule was implemented for members of the Uniform Patrol Section, which was built around a longer work day - ten hours - instead of eight.

1982

Constable Gordon MacPherson was fired after doctors said he had a rare congenital blood disorder that was discovered while recovering from a severe beating suffered on the job when three offenders jumped him. In 1985, however, he was reinstated after doctors found that the blood disorder never really existed.

April 8 - Armenian terrorists attempted to take the life of a member of the Turkish Embassy in the parking lot of his apartment building.

July 16 - Superintendent Lester Thompson and Sergeant David Murgatroyd defused a situation in which an erratic Lowertown ship-owner was holding a Sheriff's officer hostage and threatening to kill his family after he discovered his shop was being threatened with foreclosure.

August 27 - Armenian terrorists at Island Park Drive and the Ottawa

river Parkway assassinated a Turkish military attaché.

1983

The Number 2 Station at 413 Churchill, closed.

May 16 - With the new station complete at a cost of 22 million, members of the Ottawa Police moved into their new headquarters.

June 21 - Their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of Wales, formally opened the new Station. This was the first time a municipal police station was opened by British Royalty.

June 29 – The Victim Assistance Program, coordinated by the Salvation Army and the Ottawa Police was officially opened to provide emotional and practical support to victims of different types of crime.

August - Chief Welsh's administration launches a pilot project on Race Relations aimed at encouraging interaction and understanding between police and members of cultural minorities, to help the police work more effectively in multicultural communities.

August 12 - Her Majesty The Queen signed the Letters Patent instituting and creating the Police Exemplary Service Medal, which joined the Order of Canada, Decorations for Bravery and other awards in the group of national honours awarded by the Governor General on behalf of the Sovereign.

September 7 - The entire fleet of nine police motorcycles was removed from the roads after motorcycle traffic officer Constable Russell O'Connor, age 41, died when his Kawasaki-1000cc motorcycle went out of control and slammed into a median post after responding to a call.

October - Constable Monique Perras became pregnant and was decided by the Police Commission to place her on unpaid maternity leave. However after a month the Board reversed its decision and allowed her to return to work at an administrative job in the Ottawa Police's property room.

1984

Traffic cruisers assigned to the Traffic Section were painted yellow.

April 30 - The Director of Sponsor relationships and the Director of Boy Scouts of Canada met with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to discuss the Police Venturing program which aids in helping young people to find their present and future roles as individuals in society. The program was implemented in 1986.

May 1 - Deputy Chief Arthur Rice, a World War II veteran, became Chief.

May 4 - Chief Welsh left the force on terminal leave.

August – Constable Jean Lamothe received the Canadian Bankers' Law Enforcement Award for their actions taken on November 1st, 1983 when a prison escapee armed with a .25 caliber pistol robbed the Bank of Nova Scotia, located on the corner of Elgin and Frank Streets. After hearing a gunshot while walking in the vicinity, off duty Constable Lamothe managed to chase and subdue the suspect after receiving information from witnesses at the scene and from an individual whom had been shot as the suspect exited the bank.

September 19 – 20 - The Ottawa Police were instrumental in the security of Pope John Paul II's visit to Ottawa. Planning the event took one year to complete and enabled the visit to take place without incident.

December 31 - Members of the Vanier Police Force were sworn in as members of the Ottawa Police.

1985

The Ottawa Police created an Internal Affairs Office to investigate any

complaint lodged against a police officer.

The Ottawa Police introduced a new system for catching criminals, Crime Stoppers.

March 12 - Motivated in their desire to have the Turkish government acknowledge that genocide was carried out against the Armenian people in 1915, Armenian terrorists stormed the Turkish Embassy and took a dozen people hostage. Within minutes, members of the Ottawa Police, RCMP and the Ottawa Police's Tactical Team arrived on the scene under the command of Staff Sergeant Richard St. Pierre. Roadblocks were set up on the streets and bridges leaving the city until police were certain that none of the terrorists had left the embassy. After a little over four hours the three men surrendered to authorities while walking out with their arms raised and shielded by two of the twelve hostages. Canada's first embassy seizure had come to an end. It was also the first time in North America that a tactical team composed of municipal law enforcement officers responded to a terrorist incident.

November 4 - The Telephone Response Unit was implemented where the public could phone in reports of minor complaints.

November 30 - With over 40 years of service Chief Welsh retires after stating that his decision to retire 'came about by my realizing that I have achieved most of the goals I set out to achieve when was appointed'.

December 11 - Operation Booth resulted in the arrest of one hundred drug traffickers and the seizure of more than one million dollars in illicit drugs.

December 16 - Constable Robert Cross was awarded the Medal of Bravery, Canada's third highest bravery award when on June 26th, 1984, himself and a civilian saved the lives of four people from their apartment when a fire gutted a downtown three storey building.

1986

The Ottawa Police hired its first Asian police officer, Constable Yung-Kai Liu, confident that his racial origins would open doors in the local Chinese community. Prior to 1986, the Ottawa Police's 604 police personnel included only four members of visible minorities - two blacks and two aboriginals.

April - The Ottawa Tactical team responded to an hostage situation in the Bahamian High Commission on Kent street where a lone gunman was demanding the release of a friend from the Kingston Penitentiary and that an unused Lowertown fire hall be turned into a centre for the area's poor. The fifteen hour drama ended through negotiations.

May 19 - The royal Canadian Legion Zone G-5 donated Constable Atom to the Ottawa Police, a robot that functions as an important teaching aid for safety awareness lectures in the elementary schools of both Ottawa and Vanier.

1987

Constable Gordon Moore received the Canadian Bankers' Law Enforcement Award for alertness, good judgment and determined action he displayed in connection with an armed robbery which occurred at the 661 Somerset Street branch of the Bank of Nova Scotia on the 18th of November, 1986.

Daphen Peterson, wife of John Peterson, President of the Ottawa Police Association, formed the Ottawa Police Spousal Association whose main goal was to offer a network of support for spouses of police officers.

The Ottawa Police became the first police force in Canada to use the system known as GRASS - Geographical Resource Allocation Software

System. This system allowed officers to visually zoom in on a computerized map of an Ottawa neighborhood and analyze criminal activity in that area, using crime information lifted out of the massive Ottawa Police mainframe computers.

January - The fund-raising campaign 'Bail or Jail' was created.

July 19 – 21 - Ronald Reagan was so impressed by the control of security during his visit at the Economic Summit that he presented to Chief Rice and his Deputies a Certificate of Appreciation.

1988

Necessity, safety and economy influenced the Ottawa Police to have their vehicles painted white.

June 13 - Constable Michel Prud'homme received the Medal of Bravery for his role in the 1985 terrorist take over of the Turkish Embassy.

June 22 - The 911 emergency service system replaced the fragmented Ottawa Police emergency call system. Anyone with an emergency would now simply have to dial 911.

September 23 - Detective Donald Lacasse was shot in the shoulder after an exchange of gunfire when his cover was blown while running surveillance on drug dealers at a residence in the Debra Avenue housing project. Suffering from gun wounds himself, one of the suspects fled the scene and sought refuge in a townhouse in the project, where he was arrested a short time later. Kerwin was however acquitted of the charge of attempted murder but was found guilty on the charge of possession of an unregistered handgun and 18 grams of cocaine for the purpose of trafficking. He was sentenced to over six years.

October 27 - Project Scorpion, a two and a half year sting, involving the Ottawa Police, the OPP and the Surete du Quebec, described as the largest undercover drug operation ever in Ontario netting ten million dollars worth of cocaine and over eighty arrests some with links to a Montreal-based Colombian organization.

1989

April - Chief Arthur Rice announced his retirement

May - The Ottawa Police established a telephone alert program called PC COPS - Personal Computer Community Organization and Prevention System which could automatically telephone all merchants to alert them of criminal activities in a select area or grouping.

June - A two year old boy, Paul Bourguinon Jr. was murdered in the west-end of the city and his body found in a dumpster. Through a lengthy investigation his murderer was arrested and brought to trial where he was found guilty. The assailant was the victim's uncle.

July 1 - Chief Arthur Rice steps down as Chief of Police.

- Deputy Chief Thomas Grant Flanagan S.C. took over as Chief.

September - Constable Dale Hayes was awarded the Canadian Bankers' Law Enforcement Award for chasing down a suspect in a bank robbery on the 18th of January 1989, at the CIBC at 41 Rideau Street. Two other suspects involved were subsequently arrested and taken into custody by two other officers responding to the scene.

1990

The Ottawa Police Commission permitted Chief Flanagan to examine the feasibility of a Mounted Unit to be created within the City of Ottawa. Identification tags, blue in colour and silver for any rank above constables, were issued to police officers in the summer.

The Ottawa Police introduce a five member Bicycle Squad.

May 1 - The Ottawa Police Traffic Section was equipped with a dozen

Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Ottawa Police had not had a motorcycle unit since 1983, when the death of Constable Russell O'Connor caused the force to cancel the unit.

July - The Ottawa Police announced a six-month firearms amnesty during which area residents could surrender their illegal firearms without any penalty.

August - Germaine Joly became the first policewoman promoted to a senior officer rank as an Inspector. She was also the highest ranking female police officer in Eastern Ontario.

1991

Under the direction of Superintendent Robert Kelly, the Ottawa Police Canine Unit became a reality.

January 1 - The Police Services Act replaced The Police Act. This entailed many changes for police organizations in Ontario concerning public complaints, employment equity and municipal police services boards.

February - Vincent Westwick was declared the Ottawa Police's first legal adviser.

- The Force had spent over thirty thousand dollars to provide increased security at demonstrations and to carry out police intelligence work related to the Persian gulf War.

1992

The 911 service was extended when the emergency system was connected into a translation service to handle calls in 142 languages. Officers were issued and trained in the use of pepper sprays.

March 11 - A botched bank robbery that turned into a tense two-hour hostage taking became the subject of an episode of Rescue 911, an American television show on CBS. In the end, the suspect was arrested by police and taken into custody.

April - The Ottawa Police purchased two specialized video systems used primarily for gathering evidence against impaired drivers.

1993

March 3 - A motion was passed by City Council to let the Ottawa Police station be known as the 'Thomas G. Flanagan Building'.

March 29 - Chief Flanagan, nominated by the National Capital Alliance and Race Relation (NCARR), was awarded by the Governor General of Canada the Canada 125 Medal for community work, nationally and internationally, particularly involving minority groups.

March 31 - City Council declared the 31st of March 1993, 'Thomas G. Flanagan Day', in honour of his last days as head of the Ottawa Police.

- Chief Thomas G. Flanagan retires from the Force.

April 2 - Deputy Chief Brian Ford was officially sworn in as Ottawa's 18th Chief of Police. For the first time in the history of the Ottawa Police candidates other than the rank of Deputy Chief were considered for the position of Chief.

July 22 - Ontario Municipal Affairs Minister Ed Philip announced a series of changes to local government structures for the region of Ottawa-Carleton. One of these changes included the amalgamation of the three municipal agencies, Ottawa, Nepean and Gloucester, into a single regional police service by 1996.

WHO WE ARE SINCE AND WHERE WE'RE GOING 1995-2005

The amalgamation of the former Ottawa, Nepean, Gloucester and O.P.P. detachments into the Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police Service (OCRPS) on January 1, 1995 profoundly changed the face of policing in the Ottawa-area.

For the first time ever, the National Capital Region was policed by one united force — comprised of roughly 180 members from the former Gloucester Police Service, 190 from the former Nepean Police Service and just over 800 sworn and civilian Ottawa Police members.

On January 1, 2001, to coincide with yet another amalgamation (this time of the City of Ottawa), the OCRPS was officially renamed the Ottawa Police Service (OPS). While there were no major changes to the service itself, something had to be done about the outdated six-year-old emblem of the OCRPS.

As a result, the service's new corporate identity was launched on May 16, 2002. New shoulder flashes, cruiser paint schemes and most importantly the new heraldic crest were introduced. In case you were wondering, the changes will be complete in 2004.

While there were changes to both the name and organization over the past eight years, there have also been several changes to the way our job is done both on the street and behind the desk.

The OPS was the first service to employ encrypted radios, have seen vast enhancements to in-car computers, use of force options and have developed the most comprehensive Partner Assault Unit in the province, to name just a few.

The advancements in both service and reputation can be traced back to the original combination of best practices and personnel from each of the organizations that amalgamated into the model law enforcement agency known today.

Our reputation is based not only on our foresight and proactive approach to enforcement, but also on years of exceptional service.

In order to grow as an organization, we cannot lose track of how we got here. As staffing initiatives progress, which will see the addition of 400 recruits over the next four years, the percentage of those active sworn and civilian members who have experienced the amalgamation of services first hand will dwindle within the force. Already, over 200 members have retired since 1995.

We are a young force. (1,113 of the current 1,717 acting members have come aboard in the eight years since amalgamation) In fact, 455 employees have been hired since January 1, 2001, knowing nothing different than coming to work with an Ottawa Police flash on their shoulder.

In the process of moving forward, it is important not to lose touch with the past — of the unique contributions both personnel and practices brought to the table when uniting back in 1995.

The 150th Anniversary of the Ottawa police affords us that opportunity.

It will allow us to rediscover our history and traditions as well as the individual contributions provided by each service.

Let's get those stories out to the public, and also those colleagues (both present and future) that haven't had the privilege of experiencing the traditions for themselves. The year 2005 will help solidify our past, present and future identity. We want you to be a part of it.