



CHESTERMERE MUNICIPAL ENFORCEMENT YEAR-END 2018

DATE : January 27, 2019

SUBMITTED BY: Trevor Bowman, Sergeant, Chestermere Municipal Enforcement (CHME)

SUBJECT/TOPIC: 2018 TVME Year-end Report

PURPOSE: To provide Council with a summary of 2018 activities and statistics related to bylaw and provincial enforcement.

The City of Chestermere currently employs five (5) operational Community Peace Officers:

1. Trevor BOWMAN, #14668 Community Peace Officer 1- Sergeant
2. Chris WINTER, #15199 Community Peace Officer 1
3. Scott MAURICE #16722, Community Peace Officer 1
4. Kirk MEERS #16801, Community Peace Officer 1
5. Shawn PRESS #16946, Community Peace Officer 1
6. Tara ZAWYRUCHA #16617, Community Peace Officer II (clerical only)

Municipal Enforcement is based out of the Chestermere Shared Service Building that houses the Chestermere Fire Service, Alberta Health Services (EMS) and the Chestermere RCMP. Municipal Enforcement reports directly to the Chief Administrative Officer.

Chestermere Peace Officers enforce several specific federal and provincial statutes and sections of those Acts, within the City which include:

1. Traffic Safety Act
2. Gaming Liquor and Cannabis Act/Regulations
3. Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act
4. Tobacco and Smoking Reduction Act
5. Animal Protection Act
6. Petty Trespass Act
7. Provincial Offences Procedure Act
8. Dangerous Dogs Act
9. Canadian Shipping Act (Federal)

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In addition to Provincial Enforcement duties, Chestermere Peace Officers also enforce several Municipal Bylaws, which include the following:

1. The Alarm Services Bylaw #008-11
2. The Animal Control Bylaw #018-14
3. The Boat Launch Bylaw #009-11
4. The Community Standards Bylaw #004-12
5. The Land Use Bylaw #022-10
6. The Smoking Bylaw #009-15
7. The Snow Removal Bylaw # 018-11
8. The Traffic Safety Bylaw #011-13
9. The Unsightly Premises Bylaw #013-11
10. Cannabis Bylaw #017-18

The City of Chestermere is one of the fastest growing municipalities in Canada. This rapid growth is evident in the statistics obtained through the department Electronic Record Management System.

CITATION TYPES	2014*	2015*	2016	2017	2018
PROVINCIAL VIOLATIONS					
SPEEDING INFRACTIONS	86	120	207	266	567
MOVING VIOLATIONS (stop signs, U-turns etc.)	29	36	100	136	257
UNINSURED MOTOR VEHICLES	3	2	4	10	14
DOCUMENT VIOLATIONS	3	8	36	69	215
LIQUOR/ CANNABIS RELATED	-	-	2	3	4
SUSPENDED DRIVERS	2	2	4	8	8
OTHER VIOLATIONS (Cellphone, equipment etc.)	14	17	109	135	293
WARRANTS	10	5	9	7	37
BYLAW VIOLATIONS					
ANIMAL BYLAW	3	8	12	9	52
TRAFFIC BYLAW	57	2	108	101	154
OTHER BYLAW	7	26	9	19	29
TOTALS-(including those not captured above)	230	221	591	756	1593

**In 2017 the Record management system was completely overhauled, in order to increase file tracking, statistics and officer performance. Therefore some data prior to 2016 could not be retrieved and is based on approximates.

There was a 53% increase in citations issued in 2017. This increase is due to Community Peace Officers adjusting shifts and taking on a larger role in traffic safety, in an effort to reduce traffic related injuries and deaths.

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OPERATIONS

All Peace Officers work on a 4 day rotation, with shift scheduling adjusted to meet operational demands of the community. In reviewing data obtained through our Record Management System, we determined that there was need to incorporate evening shifts in the summer months, so we may better address traffic concerns and complaints of social disorder.

Bylaw Enforcement continues to be the primary area of responsibility for our department and includes:

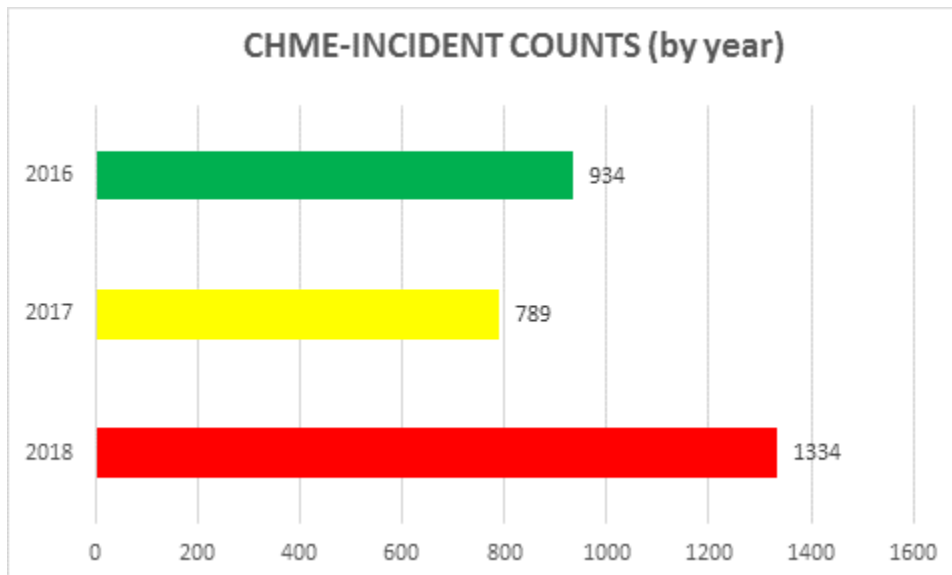
Animal Control: This represents all offences under that fall under the Animal Control Bylaw, which includes excessive barking, unlicensed animals, animals at large and dog attacks.

Unightly Property Bylaw: This represents offences that include such complaints about unsightly premises (yards/alleys).

Traffic Bylaw: This represents all offences under the Traffic Bylaw, and does not include offences under the Traffic Safety Act. Offences under this bylaw include mainly parking, abandoned vehicles, or blocked access to public/private property.

Community Standards Bylaw: This bylaw governs behavior and actions within the city vast park system, and on private residential properties.

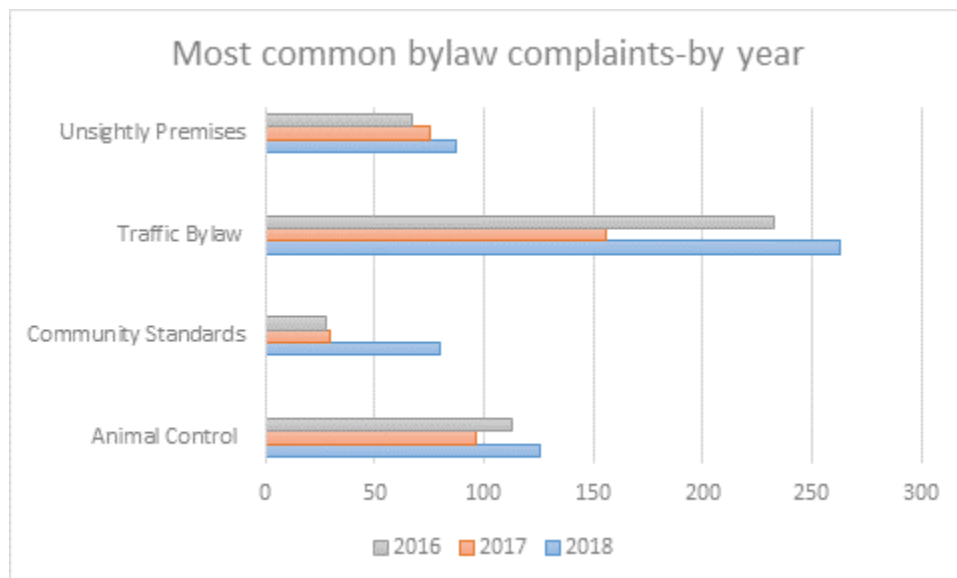
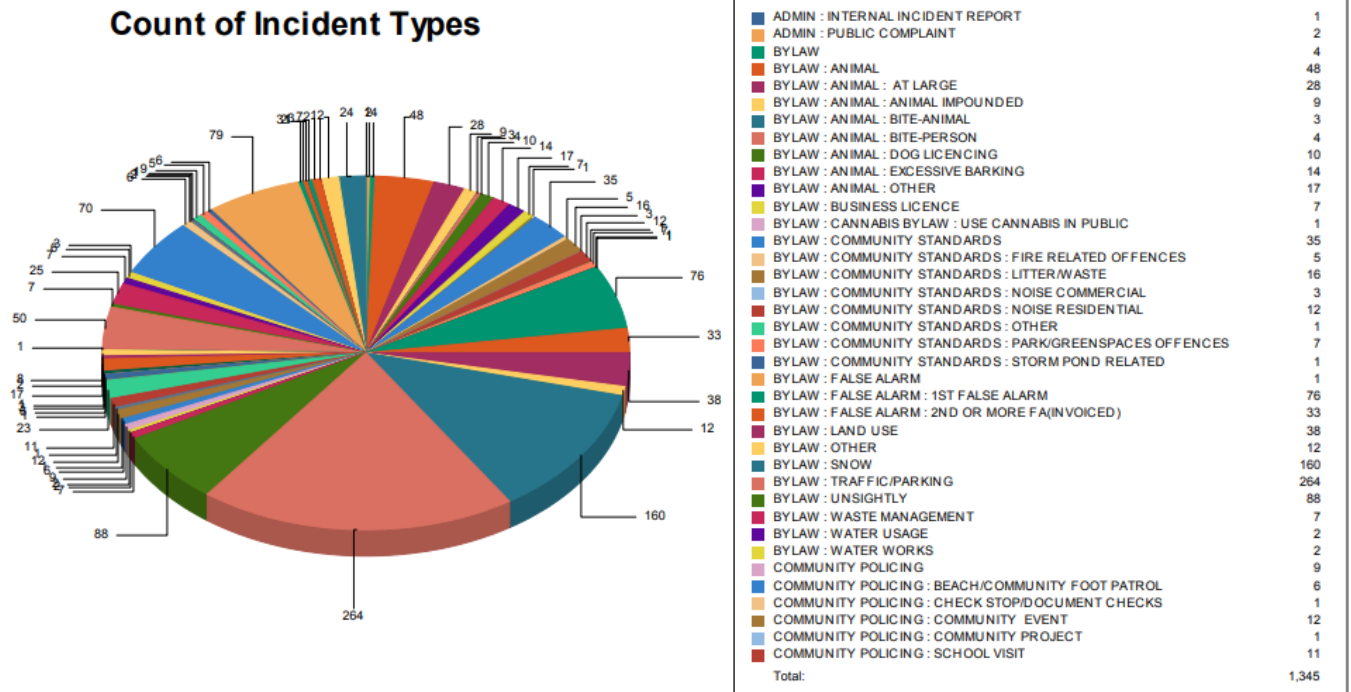
Below is a yearly incident breakdown for Chestermere Municipal Enforcement



These incidents only reflect the number of calls for service our office received in 2018, and represent an almost 40% increase over 2017.

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Below is the file breakdown for 2018. This readily identifies some the department most common complainant, and other duties conducted by our Peace Officers.

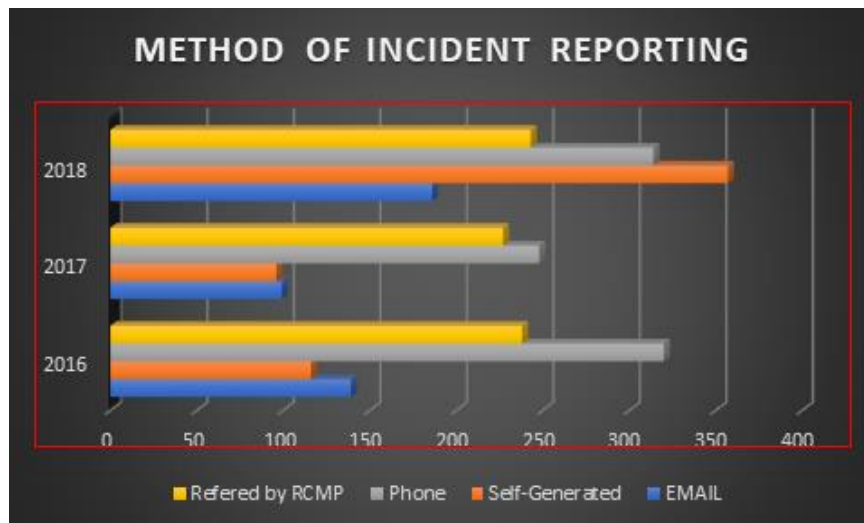


In 2018, offences under the Traffic Bylaw, continue to be most common bylaw complaints received by our office.

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METHOD OF REPORTING

Our department prides itself in being able to provide prompt service and that we need to ensure that our Peace Officers are readily accessible to our residents. Using our Record Management System, we are able to classify how our complaints are received.



Phone calls from the public continue to be the preferred method of complaint reporting, however our Peace Officers have become much proactive in identifying and resolving potential issues, before a member of the public has to resort to calling our office to make a complaint.

UNSIGHTLY PROPERTY BYLAW

In 2017, our office reviewed the Unsightly Premises bylaw, and identified several issues with the existing bylaw. In 2018, a new "Property responsibility Bylaw" was developed, that includes avenues that grant us the ability to deal with unkept construction and building sites in a timely and effective manner. This bylaw has gone through legal review and will undergo public consultation in early spring 2019, prior to being presented to Council.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Chestermere has over 7300 licensed dogs and our office responded to only 48 animal related complaints, of which resulted in 9 animals being impounded. There were 4 dog bite incidents, with two of those incidents resulting in serious injury. In these cases, both dog owners were charged with several offences pursuant to our Animal Control Bylaw, with one owner later convicted and the other matter is still before the court.

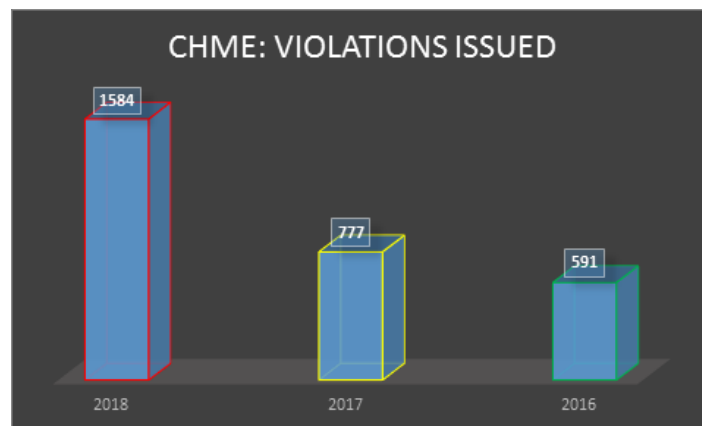
CHME works very closely with our partner agencies in order to track potentially dangerous dogs that move into the City of Chestermere, and ensure those dog owners have taken the proper steps in the interest of public safety.

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TRAFFIC SAFETY/COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

Education and enforcement play a significant role in traffic safety and reducing traffic related death and injuries. In 2018, Municipal Enforcement and in cooperation with the RCMP developed a Municipal Traffic Safety Plan. This document is specific to the City of Chestermere and identifies traffic safety concerns, outlines our enforcement activities, as well as educational components and patrol strategies in order to decrease traffic related injuries and deaths within the City.

In addition, our Peace Officers work together with our schools and school patrol organizations in promoting traffic safety. Education activities also include working with AMA School patrols, organizing/attending safety talks in our elementary schools, and child restraint clinics.



It is crucial that our public infrastructure, such as roadway and bridges are protected from the damage that is caused by overweight commercial vehicles. As new developments begin construction, we expect to see increased commercial construction traffic, meaning a greater strain will be put on our roadways.



Vehicle stopped on a 75% Road Ban

Ensuring that commercial vehicles are operated safe and legal manner falls to our department. Municipal Enforcement works closely with our Roads Department and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement to ensure commercial drivers are provided detailed routes, and vehicle weight restrictions are enforced to ensure protection of our roads and the safety of our residents.

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PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

In 2017, it was clearly recognized that this department needed to increase their interaction with our residents, but not in their traditional enforcement role. As a result Chestermere's Peace Officers have become very active, not only making regular schools visits but also organizing fundraising events for the Chestermere Food Bank, crime prevention seminars for our seniors, our Junior Peace Officer Program, Lunchbox talks in schools, Child Seat Clinics and foot patrols in the parks and beaches.



Pack the PC Event collected almost 1000kg for the Food Bank

Peace Officers also conducted lake patrols and boat safety inspections, to ensure lake users had the proper safety equipment aboard their watercraft, and assist boaters and visitors with safety education and answer any questions they may have surrounding water safety.

PUBLIC COMPLAINTS

In 2018, the City of Chestermere received only one formal complaint about a Peace Officer. This matter was dismissed in its entirety as the incident in question was captured on both vehicle-mounted and a body worn cameras. The video of this incident, clearly demonstrated the officer's professionalism and patience when dealing with a difficult situation.

Chestermere Municipal Enforcement is a strong proponent for accountability and transparency, therefore utilizes both Body and Vehicle mounted camera systems. These systems are designed to not only preserve evidence, and serve as a training tool, but to also protect the city from liability and officers from malicious complaints.