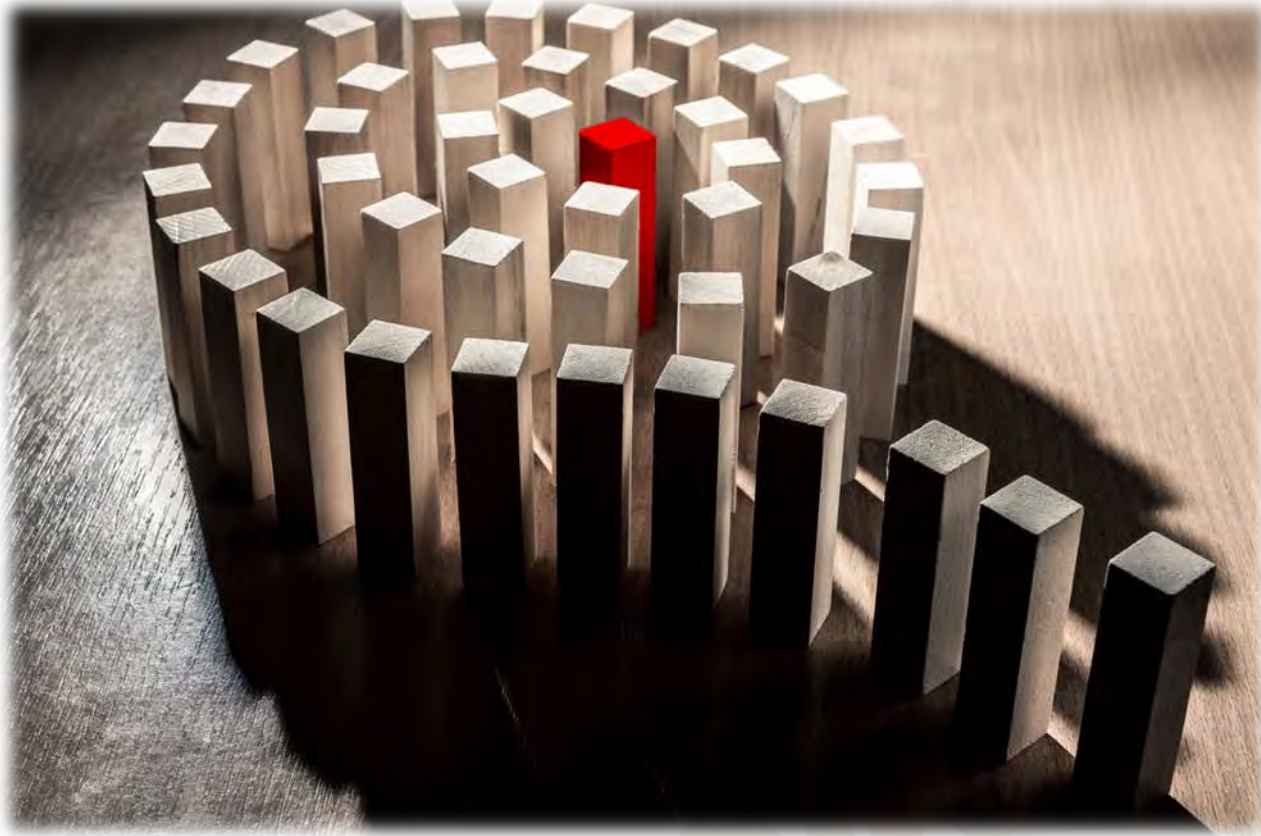


Missing Person Investigations



Presented to: The Police Services Board

Date: Feb 19, 2020



Agenda

- **Headlines**
- **Missing Person Statistics**
- **Outstanding Missing Persons Cases**
- **Missing Persons Categories**
- **Risk Factors**
- **Response**
- **Amber Alert**
- **Cost**
- **Roles and Responsibilities**
- **Proactive and Reactive Programs**
- **What Can You Do?**
- **Questions**



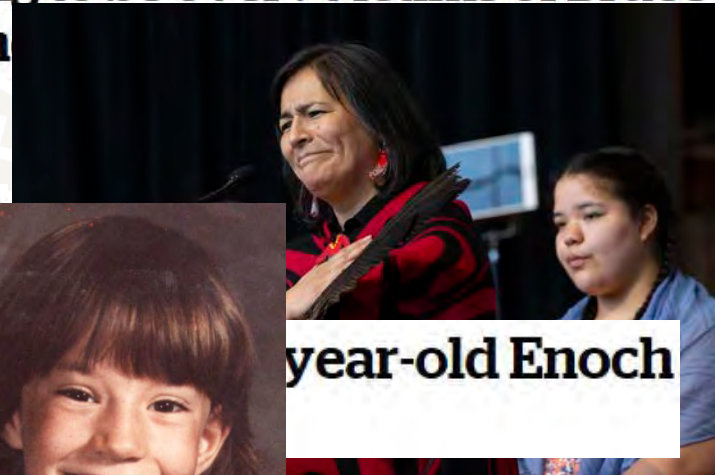
Headlines in Ontario

Woman charged with stealing infant in Sudbury denied bail



'It's never going to be over': Victims of Bruce McArthur honor

... women still waiting

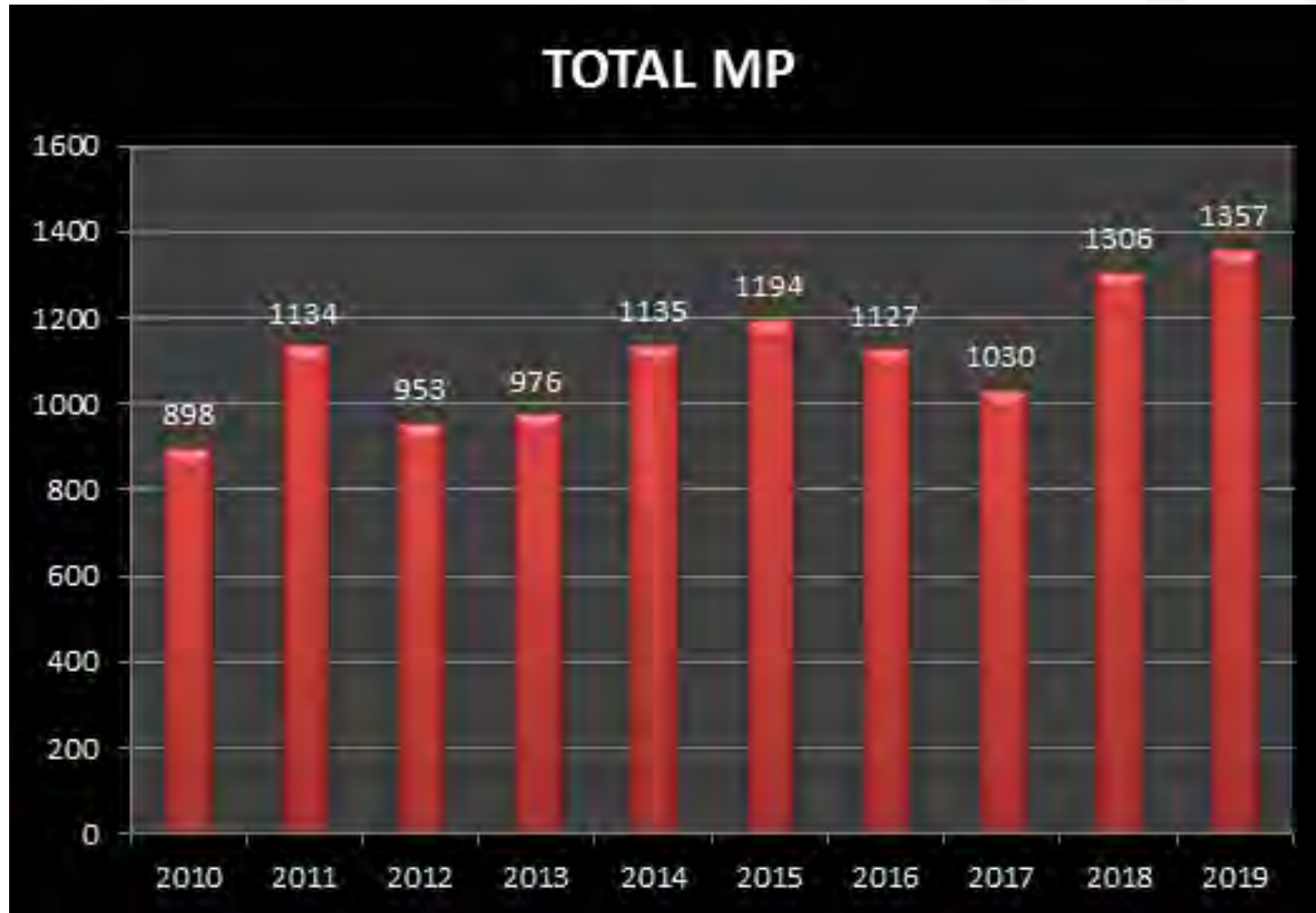


... year-old Enoch

MANDEL: After 35 years, family demands ... Who killed Christine Jessop?



Missing Person Statistics



Outstanding Missing Persons

- **Carey Cadeau (missing since Nov 12, 2013)**
- **Meagan Pilon (missing since Sept 12, 2013)**
- **Richard Munroe (missing since Oct 2, 2001)**
- **Roger-Paul Bertrand (missing since Nov 11, 1999)**
- **Blair Henry Yensen (missing since Jan 7, 1992)**
- **Pamela Harvey (missing since Dec 1, 1978)**
- **Gerry Gascon (missing since May 25 – Jun 2, 1978)**
- **Jane Smith (missing since Aug 9, 1975)**
- **Patrick Ratchford (missing since Oct 28, 1974)**



Missing Person Categories

- **Lost:** In an unknown location and unlikely to find way to safety
- **Missing Person:** Unknown location but not Lost
- **Foul Play:** a person is missing as a result of a suspected criminal act
- **Amber Alert:** Provincial Alert system that notifies the public of an abducted child in danger



Risk Factors

- Age (Child >12)
- Out of safety zone
- Special needs
- Medical/Mental health concerns
- Addictions
- Foul play (Human Trafficking, Exploitation)
- Lifestyle/Associations
- Out of routine patterns of behavior
- Terrain/Weather (Cliffs, Bodies of Water)
- Delay in reporting



Response



Response

- Circumstances dictate level of response
- Information gathered by Communications
- Missing Children considered at high risk until proven otherwise
- Amber Alert
- Patrol Officers
- Supervisors and or additional officers



Response

- Evaluation Form / Wandering Person Questionnaire
- High Risk search immediate location
- Check potential locations
- Schools, hospitals
- Zone Alert
- Other organizations
- Canvass area
- Public Appeal



Response

- Ground Search Urgency Form
- Evaluation Form/Lost or Wandering Person Questionnaire
- Search Manager
- QV7 Operator
- Search and Rescue Officers
- North Shore Search and Rescue
- O.P.P. Helicopter



Amber Alert

Ontario Provincial Police issue an Amber Alert based on specific criteria

- Issued province-wide
- Criteria for initiating an Amber Alert may include:
 - The child is under 18 years old
 - There is a belief that the child has been abducted
 - There is information available that may help locate the child and/or abductor (description of the child, suspect, or vehicle driven by the abductor)
 - That the alert be issued within a reasonable amount of time from the moment of the abduction



Prolonged Missing Persons Investigations Are Costly

- Search and Rescue Team
 - Search Managers
 - Search Officers
- Canine and Tactical Officers
- Detectives
- Mobile Command Unit (staffed 24/7)
- Marine / ATVs / Snow machines
- Fire Services and Paramedic Services
- North Shore Search and Rescue
- O.P.P. Helicopter/U.A.V.



Roles and Responsibilities



Missing Person Investigator

- **Dedicated Criminal Investigator (Sworn)**
- **Reviews all missing person investigations**
- **Conducts follow-ups on outstanding, higher risk cases**



Missing/Vulnerable Persons Coordinator

- **Community Safety Personnel (CSP)**
- **Provides support to Investigator and frontline officers**
- **Provides support to victims and families**
- **Coordinates Project Lifesaver**

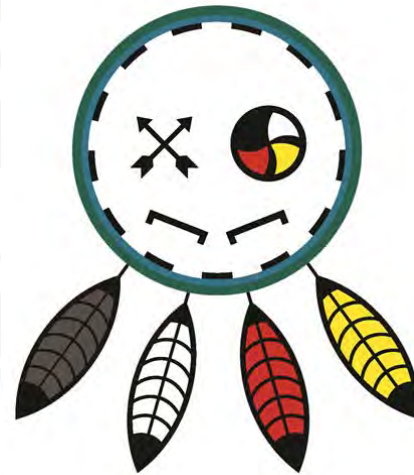


Proactive and Reactive Programs



‘Looking Ahead to Build the Spirit of Our Women: Learning To Live Free From Violence’

- Multi-year joint strategy between N’Swakamok Native Friendship Centre and GSPS
- Community based project to address and raise awareness of *Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG)*
- Funding proposal through the Department of Justice Canada - awarded for five years



‘Looking Ahead to Build the Spirit of Our Women: Learning To Live Free From Violence’

- **Aboriginal Women Violence Prevention Coordinator Proactive prevention approach**
- **Improve Police response**
- **Raise awareness of the issue**



‘Looking Ahead to Build the Spirit of Our Women: Learning To Live Free From Violence’

- **GSPS Indigenous Women and Girls Missing Persons Toolkit and Resource Guide**
- **Provide families with culturally appropriate information and resources**
- **Assist Police Investigators**



Vulnerable Persons Registry

- **Optional database for individuals with physical, cognitive, mental health, or medical conditions**
- **Vulnerable Persons, caregiver, family**
- **Provides first responders with information during an emergency**



Project Lifesaver

- Project Lifesaver International
- Wearable technology that can be tracked via transmitters
- Reduces rescue times
- Allows for more efficient deployment of Search and Rescue resources
- Assists individuals suffering from Alzheimer's and dementia



Project Lifesaver

- Entered into Vulnerable Person Registry
- North Shore Search and Rescue, Alzheimer's Society of Sudbury, Autism Ontario Sudbury/Northeast, and Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
- Initial funding in 2017 POC Grant
- 20 Individuals registered



Project Homestead: Overview

- **Improve outcomes for youth in group homes**
- **Risk focused**
- **Reduce frequency of running away**
- **Reduce risk of being victimized, dangerous activities, criminal behavior**
- **Build relationships, increase connectedness to the home**



Project Homestead: Highlights

- Protocol signed, delivered resiliency and VTRA training
- Baseline data from participation surveys
- Conducted drop-ins at group homes, purchased recreational equipment



What Can You Do?

- Have up-to-date photos available
- Complete VPR if applicable
- MMIWG Missing Persons Toolkit
- Share information on social media
- Call Crime Stoppers with tips or GSPS non-emergency number with information
- Check personal properties (outbuildings)
- Be kind on social media
 - The individual/family members/friends see these comments



Conclusion



Questions

