



**PRINCE ALBERT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**PUBLIC AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024**

**8:00 A.M.**

**MAIN BOARDROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CITY HALL**

1. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT:**

*“As we gather here today, we acknowledge we are on Treaty 6 Territory and Homeland of the Dakota and the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nations and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.”*

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

That the Agenda for this meeting be approved, as presented.

3. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

3.1 Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting held May 14, 2024 **Page 1**

***Recommendation:***

***That the Minutes be taken as read and adopted; and, that the Board Chairperson and the Board Secretary be authorized to execute the Minutes.***

4. **PRESENTATIONS:**

5. **REPORTS:**

5.1 January to May 2024 Financials **Page 4**

***Recommendation:***

***That the Report be received as information and filed.***



**PRINCE ALBERT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**PUBLIC AGENDA**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 18, 2024**

**8:00 A.M.**

**MAIN BOARDROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR CITY HALL**

- 5.2 Strategic and Operational Plan Update

**Page 9**

***Recommendation:***

***That the Report be received as information and filed.***

- 5.3 Firearms Report – Q1 2024

**Page 14**

***Recommendation:***

***That the Report be received as information and filed.***

6. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- 7.1 Prince Albert Board of Police Commissioners Board Secretary Appointment

***Recommendation:***

***That the secretarial duties of the Board Secretary for the Prince Albert Board of Police Commissioners be appointed to the Police Service.***

8. **NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, September 17, 2024

8:00 a.m.

Main Boardroom, City Hall

9. **ADJOURNMENT - A.M.:**

That this Board do now adjourn the Public meeting.



**PRINCE ALBERT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**  
**PUBLIC MINUTES OF MEETING**

TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2024

8:00 A.M.

MAIN BOARDROOM, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR, CITY HALL

**PRESENT:**

**Mayor G. Dionne, Vice-Chairperson**  
**Councillor B. Edwards (Attended at 8:04 a.m.)**  
**Councillor T. Head**  
**Blaine Broker**  
**Marlo Pritchard**

**P. Nogier, Chief of Police**  
**F. Prince, Deputy Chief of Police**  
**A. Dumont, Human Resources Manager**  
**K. Toews, Finance Manager**  
**K. Stumpf, Executive Assistant**

**Terri Mercier, Interim Board Secretary**

**ABSENT:**

**Janet Carriere, Chairperson**  
**Linda Greyeyes-Highway**

Meeting convened at 8:02 a.m.

**1. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

The Vice-Chair stated the Land Acknowledgement.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

052. Moved by Councillor T. Head, AND RESOLVED:

That the May 14, 2024 Board of Police Commissioners Public Meeting Agenda be approved as presented.

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:**

3.1 Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Meeting held April 30, 2024

053. Moved by M. Pritchard, AND RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Public Meeting held on April 30, 2024, be taken as read and adopted; and, that the Board Chairperson and Board Secretary be authorized to execute the minutes on behalf of the Board of Police Commissioners.

**4. PRESENTATIONS:**

Chief Nogier shared a video from Global News regarding the Province's new lab to expedite firearms related cases.

**5. REPORTS:**

5.1 2023 Prince Albert Police Service Year End Financial Report

054. Moved by M. Pritchard, AND RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:

That the request to fund the 2023 Police Services financial shortfall in the amount of \$243,875 be forwarded to City Council for consideration.

5.2 Evade Police – 2023 Overview

055. Moved by B. Broker, AND RESOLVED:

That the Report be received as information and filed.

5.3 2024 Canadian Association of Police Governance Annual Conference

056. Moved by B. Broker, AND RESOLVED:

1. That the Board approve up to three (3) Board members to attend the 2024 Canadian Association of Police Governance Annual Conference taking place August 8 - 11, 2024 in Halifax, Nova Scotia; and,
2. That any associated eligible costs be paid by the Prince Albert Board of Police Commissioners 2024 Budget.

5.4 Assignment – Chief’s Executive Assistant – Board Secretary Responsibilities

057. Moved by Councillor T. Head, AND RESOLVED:

That this matter be referred to the Mayor’s Office for further review and resolution regarding the appointment of the Board of Police Commissioners Secretary.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

7. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

8. **NEXT MEETING:**

Tuesday, June 18, 2024  
8:00 a.m.  
Main Boardroom, City Hall

9. **ADJOURNMENT – 8:45 A.M.:**

058. Moved by M. Pritchard, AND RESOLVED:

That this Board do now adjourn.

**CHAIRPERSON**

**BOARD SECRETARY**



# PRINCE ALBERT POLICE SERVICE Board Report

**TITLE:** January to May 2024 Financials

**DATE:** June 10, 2024

**TO:** Board of Police Commissioners

**PUBLIC**  **IN-CAMERA**

---

## RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received as information and filed.

## STRATEGIC PLAN

2024 Operational Plan – Goal 9 – Accountable Financial Practices

## TOPIC & PURPOSE

To update the Board on the financial position of the Prince Albert Police Service as of May 31, 2024.

## BACKGROUND

The Board approved the 2024 budget on September 19, 2023. The 2024 budget was approved as per the council motion of December 11, 2023:

That the 2024 Prince Albert Police Service be funded in the amount of \$19,095,963, which includes a budget reduction of \$759,264, from the proposed budget increase of \$1,518,528, including \$338,800 in Capital Expenditures and the Police base Tax.

The 2024 Prince Albert Police Service will be funded in the amount of \$19,095,963.00 inclusive of Capital expenditures of \$295,800.00 and the Police Base Tax in the amount of \$691,622.00.

## DISCUSSION

This financial information was completed June 6, 2024. The following is a summary of the Service's financial accounts for the period of January 1, 2024 to May 31, 2024. The YTD (year-to-date) budget amounts reflects an estimate that was made at the time the budget was completed for each month in the year. The timing of actual spending may differ from the initial estimate.

**PA POLICE SERVICE  
JANUARY 1, 2024 - May 31, 2024  
FINANCIALS**

	YTD Actuals	YTD Budget	YTD (Surplus) Shortfall Variance
<b>REVENUES</b>			
User Charges and Fees	-583,486	-493,558	(89,928)
Operating Grants and Donations	-1,910,780	-1,630,745	(280,035)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>-2,494,266</b>	<b>-2,124,303</b>	<b>(369,963)</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Salaries Wages and Benefits	8,624,831	8,667,278	(42,447)
Contracted and General Services	1,028,129	1,116,279	(88,150)
Financial Charges	405	300	105
Utilities	36,081	51,280	(15,199)
Fleet Expenses	358,130	354,695	3,435
Maintenance Materials and Supplies	491,523	650,514	(158,991)
Insurance	9,045	9,698	(653)
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>10,548,144</b>	<b>10,850,044</b>	<b>(301,900)</b>
<b>Operating (Surplus) Deficit</b>	<b>\$8,053,878</b>	<b>\$8,725,741</b>	<b>(\$671,863)</b>

**NOTES ON REVENUE**

**User Charges and Fees**

Notes

- (\$9,058) increased revenue generated from reimbursements for members traveling for certain training and/or instructing.
- (\$111,948) increased revenue generated from Workers Compensation Board (WCB Claims).
- (\$13,425) increased revenue generated from Criminal Record Checks.
- (\$99) miscellaneous revenue.
- \$4,388 shortfall for alarm charges.
- \$40,214 shortfall for Provincial Magistrate Fines. May 2024 reimbursement has not been received.

## **Operating Grants and Donations**

### Notes

- (\$500) unbudgeted Victim Services Donation
- (\$16,099) unbudgeted revenue. Civil forfeiture deferred revenue from 2022 \$15,896; and \$203 account coding error
- (\$18,431) unbudgeted revenue. Missing persons deferred revenue from 2023 \$19,333; Miscellaneous (\$902)
- (\$245,005) unbudgeted revenue. Victim Services deferred revenue from 2023 \$29,370; STRT deferred revenue 2023 \$172,315; CRT deferred revenue 2023 \$76,631, CRT transfer to Capital (\$40,845), Victim Services overstated \$3,356, SGI High Visibility overstated \$4,223 – Revenue received in and spent in 2023 contract year, Miscellaneous (\$45)

## **NOTES ON EXPENSES**

### **Salaries and Benefits**

#### Savings

- Criminal Investigation Major Crimes (\$300,445)  
Explanation: SHOCAP and HUB reallocated to Patrol Support, one PACT member incorrectly coded to Patrol, one vacancy maintained throughout 2024 to bolster frontline support.
- Support Services (\$220,246)  
Explanation: Traffic Prosecutor vacancy, WCB claims, changes in rank, PPU city coding error to Patrol.

#### Unbudgeted Expenses

- Administration \$6,757  
Explanation: Unbudgeted 1% vacancy as a result of approved police budget cut.
- Board of Police Commission \$384
- Patrol \$471,103  
Explanation –Increased expenses due to duty to accommodate, coverage of various leaves and the pilot project - Alternative Call Response, resulting in more members assigned to Patrol in 2024 than budgeted.

### **Contracted and General Services**

#### Savings

- Administration (\$61,229)  
Explanation: variance in monthly projections for legal services; contracted services for Chief of Police no longer needed; monthly variance in strategy for wellness program.
- Patrol (\$23,561)  
Explanation: Variance in cost due to timing of invoicing from Commissionaries, invoicing up to May 11, 2024.
- Support Services (\$4,749)  
Explanation: ERT paramedic savings and special project savings.



### Unbudgeted Expenses

- Criminal Investigations \$1,389  
Explanation: This expense was invoiced to Saskatoon City Police and has been recorded as revenue.

### **Financial Charges**

#### Unbudgeted Expenses

- There was a small increased cost for Finance Charges.

### **Utilities**

#### Savings

- Utilities (\$15,199)  
Explanation: Invoices paid January-April 2024

### **Fleet**

#### Unbudgeted Expenses

- Crime Reduction Team \$3,435  
Explanation: CRT added vehicle to fleet. This expense will be reimbursed by CRT Operating dollars.

### **Maintenance Materials and Supplies**

#### Savings

- Administration (\$20,262)  
Explanation: Mastercard accrual for May 2024 has not been disbursed.
- Board of Police Commssion (\$4,065)  
Explanation: Convention is later in the year. All membership fees have not been paid – timing of invoicing.
- Criminal Investigation (\$9,327)  
Explanation: Timing of invoicing; special projects is lower than expected.
- Patrol (\$44,031)  
Explanation: Clothing balances are reimbursed in September; uniforms and equipment have not been purchased for 2024.
- Support Services (\$81,306)  
Explanation: Training budget timing of training; deferred operating dollars from January to March have been spent; ammunition has not been received; ERT operating expenses will be spent later in 2024.

### **Insurance**

#### Savings

- Insurance savings of (\$653)

## CONCLUSION

While the mid-year financial report indicates substantial savings and a positive variance, it is crucial to recognize that these figures do not fully account for the monthly adjustments and accruals that will be realized in the latter half of the fiscal year. These adjustments, which include deferred expenses, seasonal fluctuations, and pending liabilities, will likely impact the year-end financial position. Consequently, the current positive variance should be interpreted with caution, as it may not reflect the final financial outcomes once all adjustments are incorporated.

As we move forward, continuous monitoring and precise financial management will be essential to maintaining fiscal stability and achieving our budgetary goals. Our early projections suggest that the Prince Albert Police Service is on track to be on budget at year-end.

---

**PRESENTATION: VERBAL**  **AUDIO/VISUAL**  **NONE**

**Written by:** Kerby Toews

**Signature:** 

**Approved by:** Patrick Nogier  
Chief of Police

**Signature:** 



# PRINCE ALBERT POLICE SERVICE Board Report

**TITLE:** Strategic and Operational Plan Update

**DATE:** June 6, 2024

**TO:** Chief of Police

Board of Police Commissioners

**PUBLIC:**

**IN CAMERA:**

---

## RECOMMENDATION:

This report be received and filed for information purposes.

## STRATEGIC PLAN:

**Vision:** Respect for community and professionalism in policing.

**Mission:** We partner and engage to build a safe and compassionate community.

**Priorities:** Public Safety, Celebrate Culture, Community Connections, Leadership.

**Values:** Courage, Cultural Awareness, Respect, Partnerships, Integrity, Inclusion for all.

## TOPIC & PURPOSE:

This report serves as a public update on some of the work done since the last report to advance our strategic plan, in the spirit of accountability and transparency.

## BACKGROUND:

Through 2022 and 2023 several layers of consultation occurred with the members of our organization and the community we serve. These consultations resulted in the creation of a new strategic plan that includes a new vision, mission, values and priorities. The plan is relevant and responsive to the needs of our organization and community, while guided by recommendations that resulted from the

provincial inquiry. Each of the operational recommendations are embedded in our strategic plan, either in the goals or tactics to achieve those goals.

### PROPOSED APPROACH & RATIONALE:

In order for the strategic plan to be successful, there must be effective measuring of outcomes. With the expertise of our IT department, a comprehensive tracking document has been created that allows us to show the work being done to advance our vision. Each division is responsible for reporting on their activities and have been directed to make decisions with our plan in mind. This will ensure that our organization continues with our forward progress as we work to achieve our goals.

Within each of our priorities there are goals, and within those goals there are tactics. Goals have several tactics; for example – **Priority Leadership > Goal 10 Increase internal efficiencies in how we operate > Tactic 10.1 Build expertise, capacity, and trust by encouraging informal leadership at all levels. Allocate funds for leadership training and development.**

Outcomes since last report:

PUBLIC SAFETY	CELEBRATE CULTURE	COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS	LEADERSHIP
Internal training on Human Trafficking and Confidential Informant handling	Attended RCMP Regimental Dinner	Attended Restorative Action Plan luncheon	Saskatchewan Women in Policing, Van De Vorst and
Analyst report on firearms in the community to support targeted enforcement	Participated in PAIMFC 60-year celebration	Many visits and presentations to local schools from different units	Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police Awards with multiple PA Police Service employees as recipients
Warrant Execution Operational Plan	Ensured organization was aware of, and decorated buildings for Pride Month	Participated in local emergency services hockey tournament	Exemplary Service Medals of Canada awarded along with Commission's
Implementation of all recommendations from in-custody death inquests	Attended Heart of the Youth Powwow	Participated in Sports on Central	Frequent meetings between leaders of PA Police Service and PA Police Association
Schedules for different units were assessed	Hosted a BBQ for all employees and their families	Participated in Community Safety & Wellbeing initiatives, providing data to support	

and adjusted to support increased public safety	Participated in Senators Cup Opening Ceremonies	Community Meetings in East Flat, West Flat, Ward 6, Ward 3 and Ward 8	Utilized technology to launch our Bike Registry program
Increase of traffic enforcement from Patrol members	Internally shared information about upcoming opportunities to participate in an Indigenous Sweat	Participation in SGI's "slow to 60" campaign	Enhancement of internal reports to share more information
Received motorcycle from SGI and preparing to deploy	Attended Sikh Heritage Month – Vaisakhi Mela	Creation of internal calendar for employees to contribute to and see community events	Utilized InTime to begin tracking kit & equipment tracking system with ability to report on, plan ahead and ensure employees have what they need
Implemented a "minimum staffing" pilot project	Attended Legacy Youth Conference	Updates to our website	
Partnered with SLGA for "spot checks" of licensed establishments	Attended Hindu Society of Saskatchewan	PAGC's Vulnerable People Partnership	Human Resources and Finance roles officially split and positions filled
Established partnership with EGADZ to address Missing Persons reports from youth facilities	Participated with One Wheel Restorative Justice Interagency Group - PAGC Justice Unit	Several collaborations with different community services during police calls for service	K9 attendance in seminars and trails to enhance and develop expertise
Received and planned deployment of five (5) new fleet vehicles			Announcement of Sergeant promotion

Specific feedback on each priority at the time of this report:

**Public Safety** – we are progressing well ahead of anticipated.

24% of tactics have been accomplished

38% of tactics are in progress with completion 1-6 months away

24% of tactics are in progress but completion is more than 6 months away

14% of tactics have not been started

**Celebrate Culture** – we are progressing very well but this is not linear, it will be ongoing.

71% of tactics are in progress but will be ongoing

29% of tactics have not been started

**Community Connections** – we are progressing very well but this is not linear, it will be ongoing.

12.5% of tactics are in progress with a completion 1-6 months away

75% of tactics are in progress

12.5% of tactics have not been started

**Leadership** – we are progressing well ahead of anticipated.

35% of tactics have been accomplished

29% of tactics are in progress with completion 1-6 months away

12% of tactics are in progress but completion is more than 6 months away

24% of tactics have not been started

With any change management, steps must be taken tactfully to ensure success. Measuring outcomes will be the priority while simultaneously looking to identify diverse tactics to advance our vision. Thoughtfully and purposely we will ensure that our strategic and operational plan is continuously advancing through daily decision making process while maintaining a commitment to the long term future of the Prince Albert Police Service.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

In the pursuit of our strategic objectives and the adherence to provincial recommendations, our organization has encountered significant financial constraints that pose challenges to the full realization of our outlined goals. Notably, the ambition to implement critical initiatives, such as those outlined under Goal 4, Tactic 4.2, which directly responds to provincial recommendations #12, #13, #32, and #43, is currently beyond our financial capability. This tactic, essential for modernizing our operational infrastructure and enhancing efficiency through updated policies and software solutions, is hindered by our current fiscal reality.

For reference, the aforementioned recommendations that pertain to a complete policy review and update, including software for tracking are as follows:

**Recommendation #12:** *The PAPS requires a comprehensive policy review that reflects current best practices and industry standards in policing and the unique environment of a gateway community with complex criminal and community issues.... This review could be undertaken by a retired member of the PAPS or a PAPS member with duty/medical restrictions who has experience in Quality Assurance and Risk Management.*

**Recommendation #13:** *Policing by its very definition is a risk rich environment. The PAPS does not have any risk management or risk mitigation processes. The organization needs to identify and prioritize all Administrative and Operational risks, through a formal risk management program, and this must be part of an annual Strategic Plan.*

**Recommendation #32:** *The Chief of Police has the authority within The Police Act, 1990 to promote individuals as he/she sees fit. However, to build and maintain trust, confidence and mutual respect, every effort should be made to have robust communication with the Association and membership, and follow policy and process, when promoting any individual. There needs to be clear and comprehensive policy for promotion at all ranks within the Police Service.*

**Recommendation #43:** *The PAPS should have a policy on the use of Non-Disclosure Agreements, and this should be captured within Collective Bargaining.*

Our commitment to enhancing core policing capabilities, as detailed in Goal 1, and the broader spectrum of tactics identified to fortify our community’s safety, is similarly impacted by prevailing budgetary and resource limitations. The imperative to strengthen our policy framework and invest in supportive infrastructure remains a priority; however, the financial resources required to manifest these improvements are not fully available at this juncture.

Despite these fiscal challenges, our dedication to the strategic vision and the mission of fostering a safe and compassionate community remains unwavering. We are actively exploring avenues to optimize our existing resources and seeking alternative strategies to advance our strategic ambitions. The resolve to deliver exemplary service and uphold our commitment to public safety and professional policing standards is paramount. As we navigate these financial constraints, our focus on strategic innovation and operational efficiency will guide our efforts to sustain progress and continuously seek solutions that align with our fiduciary responsibilities.

It is with a transparent and collaborative approach that we bring these challenges to the attention of the Board of Police Commissioners, confident in our collective capacity to identify and pursue feasible pathways forward. Together, we are committed to overcoming these hurdles in a manner that upholds our shared commitment to excellence in service to our community.

**PRESENTATION:**    **VERBAL**     **AUDIO/VISUAL**     **NONE**

**Written by:** Deputy Chief Farica Prince

**Signature:**

**Approved by:** Patrick Nogier, Chief of Police

**Signature:**



# PRINCE ALBERT POLICE SERVICE Board Report

**TITLE:** Firearms Report – Q1 2024

**DATE:** June 6, 2024

**TO:** Chief of Police

Board of Police Commissioners

**PUBLIC:**

**IN CAMERA:**

---

## RECOMMENDATION:

This report be received and filed for information purposes.

## STRATEGIC PLAN:

Goal 1: Enhance core policing functions in the prevention, intervention, and suppression of illegal activity in Prince Albert

Tactic: 1.8 Research and implement a comprehensive Crime Gun Strategy

## TOPIC & PURPOSE:

A comprehensive crime gun strategy is essential for a police agency to effectively combat and reduce gun-related violence and crime within the community. By implementing a multifaceted approach that includes prevention, intervention, and enforcement, our police service can address the root causes of gun violence, disrupt illegal gun trafficking, and ensure the safety of citizens. A well-rounded strategy involves close collaboration with community partners, law enforcement agencies, and government bodies to share intelligence, resources, and best practices. This collaborative effort not only enhances the ability to track and trace firearms used in crimes but also helps in identifying and dismantling networks involved in the illegal distribution of firearms.

Moreover, a comprehensive crime gun strategy is critical for fostering public trust and confidence in the police service. By demonstrating a proactive and systematic approach to addressing gun violence, police agencies can reassure the community that their safety and well-being are top priorities. This



strategy should also include community outreach and education programs to raise awareness about the dangers of illegal firearms and promote responsible gun ownership. Engaging with the community in this manner helps to build stronger relationships, encourages public cooperation, and supports the overall goal of creating a safer environment for all residents.

The attached report was prepared by Raylene Melnyk and represents the analytical capabilities of the Police Service through provincially funded positions within our Crime Reduction Team (CRT). Although we have provided feedback with respect to the first quarter of 2024, future reporting will be conducted on a semi-annual basis.

**PRESENTATION:**    **VERBAL**     **AUDIO/VISUAL**     **NONE**

**Submitted by: Inspector C. Mushka**

**Signature:**



**Approved by: Patrick Nogier, Chief of Police**

**Signature:**





# Firearms Analysis Report

---

INITIAL ANALYSIS & Q1 REPORT – JAN 1 TO MAR 31, 2024

Prepared for:

**Chief Patrick Nogier &  
Inspector Craig Mushka**

For public distribution

Date: June 2024

Raylene Melnyk, BA Hons  
PAPS | CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE ANALYST - CRT

## GLOSSARY:

**Firearm Related Violent Incident:** Includes any incident where the most serious weapon present in the committal of an offence is a firearm.

**Most Serious Weapon:** Includes incidents where a firearm is present during the time of occurrence. The firearm does not necessarily have to be used in the committal of the offence (e.g. an incident of an assault with a knife, during which police find a concealed firearm).

**Imitation Firearm:** Using an imitation firearm in the commission of an offence is a criminal code violation. These incidents are included in the statistics regarding firearm related occurrences, though are identified and separated out from crime gun seizure numbers.

**Firearm Discharges/Trigger Pull incidents:** Looks at all Firearm Related Occurrences and includes any incident where a firearm was discharged or believed to be discharged.

**Firearm Seizures:** Includes any firearm that is seized by police. Either through 1.) non-criminal nature where a firearm was turned in to police or seized through Mental Health Service Act, Youth Drug Detox, Attempted Suicides, Suicides or Found Property 2.) Through Criminal nature and includes police response (e.g., responding to a call for service or initiating a police investigation).

**Proactive Measures:** Firearms seized through police generated response (e.g. investigation conducted on intel)

**Reactive Measures:** Firearms seized as a response to a call for service, or an offence being committed.

**Firearm Tracing:** The Canadian National Firearms Tracing Centre (CNFTC) provides a centralized tracing support to all law enforcement agencies in Canada. By using the serial number and/or firearm identification number recorded at the time of registration which allows the firearm to be traced.

**CBIN Tracing:** The Canadian Integrated Ballistics Identification Network (CIBIN) is used to provide possible leads in firearm related investigations. CIBIN uses the unique microscope markings on the surface areas of a fired bullet or cartridge case.

**Q1 or Q1 2024:** Refers to the first quarter – January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Crime Gun:** Working definition identified below

- Must be an actual firearm – not an imitation firearm
- Is used, or has been used in a criminal offence, or is found
- Is obtained, possessed or intended to be used to facilitate criminal activity
- Has a removed or obliterated serial number
- Includes any weapon that has been adapted to use as a firearm

## BACKGROUND:

The Prince Albert Police Service (PAPS) is committed to developing and implementing strategies to proactively combat gun crime/violence. Even though firearm-related violent crime accounts for a relatively small amount of the overall violent offences in Prince Albert, it is associated with the highest risk violent offenders (those most likely to use violence to victimize others), and some of the most severe injuries. The impacts on the victims of firearm-related violent crime are both physical and psychological. Impacts of gun violence can be long-term and encompass all aspects of a victim's life. Even without any physical injuries, a victim who has been threatened with a firearm can have significantly impacts on their psychological well-being. Also, it has been well-established that an increase, or a high level of firearm-related crime can have a negative impact on a community's economy and overall well-being.<sup>1</sup>

According to a research study completed by Statistics Canada entitled, **Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022**, since 2013 firearm-related violent crime has increased significantly all across Canada. The largest increase was seen in the Northwest Territories (+303%), followed by Saskatchewan (+165%).<sup>2</sup>

While the Prairie provinces have shown the greatest increase in firearm-related violent crime (2013-2022) when compared with the rest of the country, Saskatchewan's increase in these types of incidents has been significantly greater than Alberta (+71%) and Manitoba (+103%).

In 2022, Saskatchewan had the highest rate of firearm-related violent crime with **109.6** incidents per 100,000 population.<sup>3</sup> In comparison, the national rate of firearm-related violent crime in 2022, was **36.7** incidents per 100,000 population; **198.6% more than the national average**. This alarming statistic alone creates an imperative to develop a collaborative and effective firearm prevention strategy for Saskatchewan, that utilizes an intelligence-led model of policing.

## CURRENT ANALYSIS

This report provides an overview of firearm-related occurrences, seized firearms (criminal and non-criminal, if applicable), and violent crime using firearms, as well as other weapons in the first quarter of 2024 (**January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**) as a measure of comparison. This report also analyzes who appears to be in possession of crime guns, and how they are acquiring them, if known.

Criminal Intelligence Analyst, R. Melnyk, was tasked with completing an analysis of firearms seizures and occurrences within the city of Prince Albert to determine any trends that can inform a preventative firearm strategy, particularly as it relates to gathering crime gun intelligence. There are

---

<sup>1</sup> Glasser, N.J., Pollack, H.AI, Ranney, M.L., & Betz, M.E. (2022). Economics and Public Health: Two Perspectives on Firearm Injury Prevention. The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science, (704(1), 44-69 – as referenced in Perreault, Samuel (2024).

<sup>2</sup> Perreault, Samuel. 2024. Open Source article on Statistics Canada Website ([Firearms and violent crime in Canada, 2022 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/250-0001/2024001/article/00001-eng.htm) "Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022", (pg. 3)

<sup>3</sup> Perreault, Samuel. 2024. Open Source article on Statistics Canada Website ([Firearms and violent crime in Canada, 2022 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/250-0001/2024001/article/00001-eng.htm) "Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022", (pg. 3)

several goals in mind with this research; paramount of those is to disrupt the movement of crime guns into Prince Albert (and area) and keeping them out of the hands of violent criminals.

“Crime gun intelligence concentrates on the way firearms are diverted from the normal venues of regulated commerce to the criminal market, seeks to intervene to **prevent that diversion**, and establishes **connections of crime guns** that have already been used. It **reveals leads not otherwise available** to assist in identifying offenders who are illegally purchasing or transferring firearms and the offender who uses them to commit crimes.

“In short, **information by itself is not enough**: that information has to be **supplemented by analysis** and evaluation in order to provide law enforcement with reliable criminal intelligence that can be used to make decisions on enforcement activities.”<sup>4</sup>

## OVERVIEW

- ❖ Seized firearms
- ❖ Stolen Firearms
- ❖ Rates of Violence, Weapons, Firearms-Related Violent Incidents & Trigger Pull
- ❖ Victims of Firearm-Related Violent Incidents
- ❖ Perpetrators of Firearm-related Violence

## KEY FINDINGS

- In Q1, the Prince Albert Police Service (PAPS) identified twelve (12) occurrences where a firearm was the most serious weapon present during a violent crime.
- In six firearm-related violent incidents, a trigger pull incident was identified in six occurrences.
- In four (4) of the six (6) trigger-pull occurrences, injuries were recorded.
- Eleven (11) handguns were seized in Q1 of 2024, which is an unusually high number.
  - Of those eleven 11 handguns seized, at least three (3) were smuggled into Canada from the U.S.
  - At least four (4) of the handguns seized were reported stolen.
  - At least two (2) of the handguns seized had origins that were domestic (Canada), but were registered to gun owners in provinces other than Saskatchewan.
- In Q1 2024, 75% of the firearms seized were classified as crime guns, which is an increase from the same time period in 2023 (64%).
  
- Firearm related violence accounts for 4.2% of all violent incidents reported within Prince Albert in Q1 2024, which (by percentage) was an increase from the same time period in 2023. However, there were more violent incidents reported in Q1 2023 than Q1 2024 overall.

---

<sup>4</sup> Nichols, Ronald. 2019. “Building a Preventive Crime Gun Strategy; a Playbook for Success”, (pg. 6)

## KEY FINDINGS – CONTINUED

- February was a high-volume month for firearm-related violent incidents where half of all of the Q1 incidents occurred in that month (6 out of 12)
  - Three (3) of the six (6) firearm related incidents occurring in February were trigger-pull occurrences, which is half of all trigger pull occurrences in Q1 2024.
- Firearms were present in 19.7% of all occurrences where any type of weapon was present.
- A trigger-pull occurred in 9.8% of all violent offences where any type of weapon was present.
- Out of **thirty-one 31** incidents where firearms were seized, **twenty-one (21)** of them involved individuals with confirmed gang or drug trafficking ties (**64.5%**). However, this statistic may be a result of a selective sample, as the Crime Reduction Team (CRT) has a mandate targeting these types of crimes/perpetrators.
- Seventeen (**17**) out of thirty-one (**31**) of the incidents where firearms were seized were as a result of **“reactive measures”**, which means that firearms were seized in response to a call for service. In total, seventeen (**17**) crime guns were seized as a result of reactive measures by patrol in thirteen (**13**) incidents – an average of **1.3 crime guns seized per incident**.
- Eleven (**11**) incidents involved seizures of firearms as a result of **“proactive measures”**, which means, firearms seized through investigation or on intel. In eleven (11) incidents, fifteen (**15**) crime guns were seized – an average of **1.4 crime guns seized per incident**.
  - Five (5) of the proactive investigations were completed by patrol in their regular duties, and observed something they believed required immediate attention and investigation. They seized seven (**7**) crime guns as a result of their efforts.
  - Four (4) of the proactive investigations resulting in crime gun seizures were initiated by the Crime Reduction Team, whose mandate is to suppress drug trafficking, gang activity and illegal firearms (crime guns). In four (4) investigations, the CRT seized seven (7) crime guns.
  - The last proactive investigation involved intelligence received by the Ministry of Social Services, and was provided to police when requesting assistance to check the residence for the illegal firearm(s) they were told were there.
- Of those charged in firearm-related violent incidents:
  - One was on bail while awaiting court/trial for a breach of their Conditional Sentence Order (CSO). They were serving a CSO for violating his firearms prohibition.
  - One individual was serving a CSO for a violent offence involving a weapon (machete).
  - There were six (6) individuals out of the eight (8) charged, who had histories of violence or weapons.
  - Four (4) individuals out of eight charged had firearms prohibitions.
  - All of the individuals charged in firearm-related violent incidents were local to Prince Albert and area.

## SEIZED FIREARMS

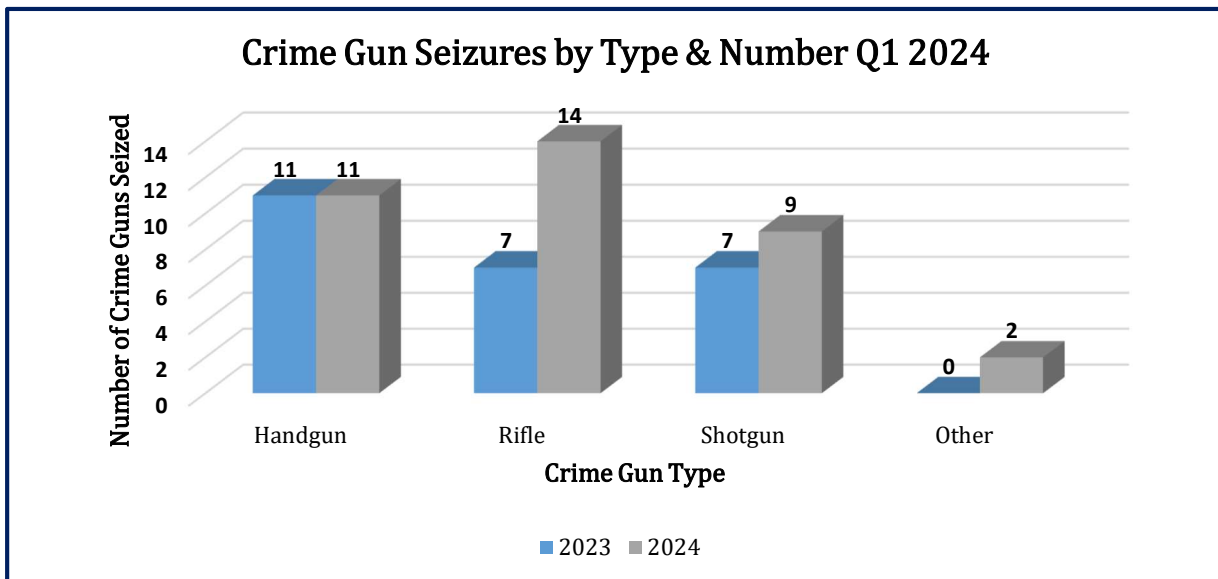
- ❖ In the first quarter of 2024, January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024, **forty-eight (48) firearms** including imitation firearms were seized in **thirty-one (31) occurrences**. In comparison, the same time period in 2023, saw **thirty-nine (39)** firearms seized, which is a **23% increase** over last year, and a **45% increase** over the five-year average of **thirty-three (33)**.
  - **Twelve (12) or 25%** of firearms seized in the first quarter, are classified as imitation firearms, and do not require an acquisition license to purchase (e.g. air soft pistols/BB guns, starter pistols, etc).
  - The number of imitation firearms may skew the illegal crime gun data when it's included. However, imitation firearms can be used to threaten, intimidate and even physically harm victims during violent offences. Therefore, imitation firearms data will be used in the analysis of violent offences if and when they are used.
  - **NOTE:** The number of handguns identified in the 2023 data is believed to be accurate, as the categories chosen for the 2023 data did not include "handgun" as a category. The 2023 statistic identifies the number of "restricted" firearms seized, which are typically handguns; therefore, that number was used.
- ❖ **Thirty-six (36)** out of forty-eight (**48**) firearms seized were classified as crime guns (**75%**). This shows an increase in percentage over the same time period in 2023, where **64%** of the firearms seized were classified as crime guns.
- ❖ Out of the thirty-six (**36**) crime guns the following were seized:
  - 11 handguns (**30.5%**)
  - 9 shotguns (**25%**)
  - 14 rifles (**39%**)
  - 2 firearms made into functional firearms – placed into the "other" category. A bb gun with a modified .22 cal barrel & zip gun with unknown functionality at the time of this report). (**5.6%**)
- ❖ Of the thirty-six (36) crime guns seized:
  - Twenty (**21**) firearms seized were classified as prohibited (**58%**)
  - Ten (**10**) firearms seized were classified as restricted (**27.8%**)
  - Three (**3**) firearms seized were non-restricted (**8.3%**)
  - Two (**2**) firearms were seized are classified as "other". One was a "zip gun" and another firearm was modified with a .22 calibre receiver – both classified as crime guns under the current definition. (**2.3%**)
- ❖ In addition to the 36 crime guns identified, there were twelve (**12**) imitation firearms seized during Q1. Typically, this is the class of firearms that has the largest seizure numbers (see figure 1). However, in **Q1 2024, rifles are the most frequently seized firearm**.
- ❖ All of the guns (**100%**) seized in the first quarter are categorized as "crime guns".

- There were zero (0) firearms surrendered/seized for public safety reasons. Some of the firearms had legal owners, but were seized within the context of a crime, and are still classified as crime guns.
- ❖ There was a **44%** increase in the number of crime guns seized from 2023 to 2024 in Q1, from twenty-five (**25**) in 2023 to thirty-six (**36**) in 2024.
- ❖ Out of thirty-one (**31**) occurrences where crime guns, or imitation firearms were seized, twenty-one (**21**) of them involved individuals believed to be involved in **drugs and/or drug trafficking (67.7%)**.

**Table 1 – Comparison of Crime Gun Seizures by Type and Year 2023/2024**

Year/Gun Type	Handgun	Rifle	Shotgun	Other	Totals
<b>2023</b>	11 (28%)	7 (18%)	7 (18%)	0 (0%)	25
<b>2024</b>	11 (23%)	14 (29%)	9 (19%)	2 (4%)	36
<b>+/-</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+7</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+2</b>	<b>+9</b>

**Figure 1 – Chart: Crime Guns Seized by Type – First Quarter of 2023 and 2024**





## STOLEN FIREARMS

### File 2024-8204 – Seven Stolen Firearms

In Q1 2024, there was only one file where firearms were reported stolen in Prince Albert – **File 2024-8204 on 2024-03-14**, which occurred in Hazeldell (North West Prince Albert).

**Seven (7) firearms were stolen** in an apparent break & enter into a residence. The firearms stolen were rifles and shotguns. The gun owner did not have serial numbers for the missing firearms, though gave a description of some of them. Unfortunately, this information without serial numbers cannot be uploaded to CPIC. Therefore, when the firearms are recovered, law enforcement will be unable to trace the guns back to this particular break & enter incident.

A potential way of understanding the movement of crime guns is to keep track of firearms reported stolen. While researching this topic, it was discovered that many legal firearm owners do not write down the serial numbers of their firearms, and when they are stolen/recovered, law enforcement has a difficult time matching the reported theft to firearms seized. While there is no registry, it would perhaps be helpful if firearm owners took some photos of the firearm, and a close-up of the serial number to keep in a folder in the case the firearms are stolen in an unfortunate break & enter incident.

This may simply be an education effort, perhaps on social media (police or chief firearms officer), or through firearms retailers. It is likely no one believes they will be the victim of a break & enter, or of losing their firearms as a result. However, there are reported cases of thieves stealing entire gun safes out of residences. Being prepared to assist in an investigation into missing firearms with having the make, model and serial number of each of the firearms inside their safe could result in the return of their firearms if found. It will also assist law enforcement with when and where the firearms may have come into the possession of the individuals, with whom the stolen firearms were found.

## RATES OF VIOLENCE, WEAPONS, FIREARM-RELATED VIOLENT INCIDENTS & TRIGGER PULLS

The Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022 document released on January 30, 2024, suggests a particularly high rate of firearm-related violent crime in northern rural areas of the Prairie Provinces. The study specifically points to a high rate of firearm related violent crime in northern Saskatchewan: “... police reported **309 violent crimes involving firearms** for a total population of about **40,000**. This is the equivalent to a rate of **766.3** incidents per **100,000** population. However, this rate, which is higher than elsewhere in Saskatchewan, mostly reflects the fact that crime in general is relatively high in the province’s northern areas, with **4.4% of violent crime involving firearms**, compared with **4.8%** in southern urban areas.”<sup>5</sup> Prince Albert’s data would be captured in this northern rural statistic, as it is outside of a census metropolitan area (CMA), as defined in the study. As a measure of comparison, Regina had the highest rate of firearm-related violent crime in all CMAs across Canada with a rate of 83.0 incidents per 100,000.

---

<sup>5</sup> Perreault, Samuel. 2024. Open Source article on Statistics Canada Website ([Firearms and violent crime in Canada, 2022 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/28-621-x/2024001/article/00001-eng.htm) “Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022”, (pg. 16)

## Prince Albert’s General Violence Occurrences: Q1 Comparisons – 2023 to 2024

The data from Q1 of 2023, according to the research statistics revealed **15** firearm-related violent incidents occurred in the first quarter. The statistic identifies “any incident where a **firearm was brandished or discharged.**” This is the same definition used in the current data collection for Q1 2024.

In Q1 of 2023, **15** out of **380** general violent offences involved a firearm being brandished or discharged (firearm-related violence), which accounts for **3.9%** of all incidents involving general violence.

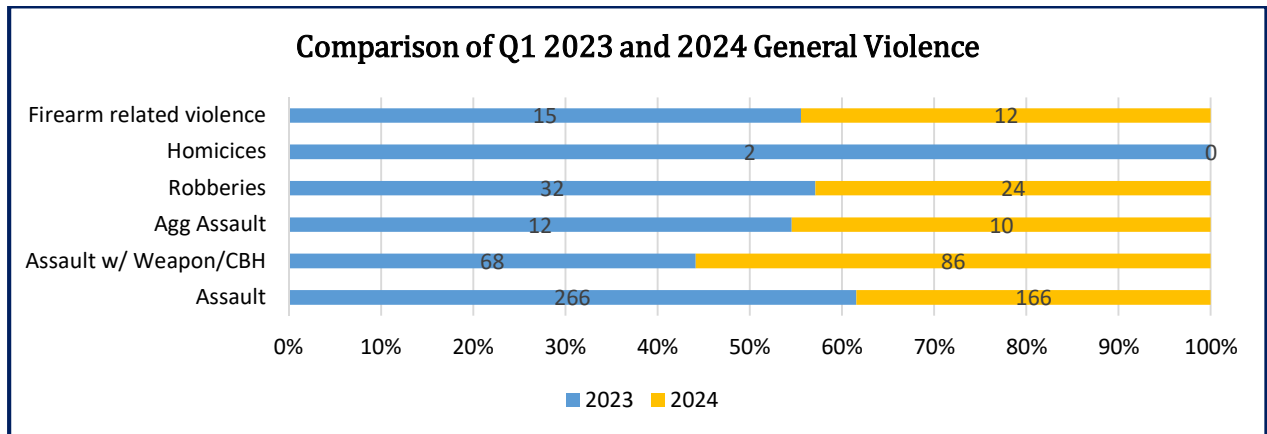
In the first quarter of 2024, **January 1, 2024 to March 31, 2024**, there were twelve (**12**) occurrences where a **firearm** was the most serious weapon (MSW) present during a violent crime. Twelve (**12**) out of **286** total incidents of general violence recorded involved firearms being brandished or discharged, which is **4.2%** of all violent incidents reported in Q1 of 2024, which makes the rate of firearm-related violence in Q1 of 2024 higher than the rate of firearm-related violence in 2023.

- ❖ In Q1 2024, there were **sixty-one (61)** incidents involving **any weapon** that was present/used in a violent incident.
- ❖ Therefore, **firearms** were the most serious weapon present in **19.7%** of all (general) violent occurrences **where any weapon was used or present.** Out of sixty-one (**61**) incidents where any weapon was used, twelve (**12**) involved the use of a firearm.
- ❖ At least seven (7) out of twelve (12) firearm-related violent occurrences are related to individuals believed to be involved in **organized crime/street gangs and/or drug trafficking (58.3%)**. While other incidents are suspected to be involved, there is no other information to make that conclusion/determination.
- ❖ Eight (**8**) out of Twelve (**12**) firearm-related violent occurrences involved a suspect and victim, who were known to each other (**66.7%**).

**Table 2 – Comparison of General Violence in Q1 2023 and 2024**

Year/ Offence type	Assault	Assault w/ Weapn/CBH	Agg Assault	Robbery	Homicides	Totals
2023	266	68	12	32	2	380
2024	166	86	10	24	0	286

**Figure 2 – Chart: Comparison of General Violence in Q1 of 2023 and 2024**



### Firearm-Related Violent Incidents for Q1 of 2024

While violent crimes involving firearms are less likely than violent crimes in general to cause injuries, they are more likely to result in major injuries when they do cause injuries.

The firearm-related violent incidents recorded for the Prince Albert Police Service in Q1 of 2024 shows:

- ❖ There were **zero (0) homicides** using firearms during this time period, and there were zero (0) homicides using other methods during this period.
- ❖ **Six (6)** out of sixty-one (61) incidents involving any type of weapon resulted in a trigger pull, and either physical harm occurred, or was intended by the shooter (9.8%).

In the first quarter of 2024, there were **six (6)** incidents out of **twelve (12)** firearm-related violent offences, where a discharge of the firearm, or trigger pull was identified (50%).

- ❖ In four (4) out of six (6) incidents where a trigger was pulled, there was an **injury** recorded. Therefore, **66.7% of trigger pulls resulted in injuries**.
  - One was an accidental injury, where the victim was attempting to open a loaded, illegal firearm.
  - The two most serious trigger pull occurrences involved two gang members (also drug traffickers), who were only recently released from custody. One was on a release order, which he had immediately violated. The other had completed a sentence less than two weeks prior to the shooting, and is back in custody.
- ❖ The final **two (2) trigger pull occurrences** listed were **targeted shootings** at residences, where the intended victims were believed to be involved in **drug trafficking and/or gangs**. The intent

appeared to be to threaten, intimidate, or “send a message” to the occupant(s) of the home (Files 24-5317 & 24-8981).

- ❖ At least four (4) out of the six (6) trigger pull incidents are related to **drug trafficking** and/or **organized crime/street gang members (66.7%)**.

**Table 3 – Firearm-Related Violent Incidents by Month – Q1 2024**

	Firearm-Related Violent Incidents	Trigger Pull Incidents	Physical Injuries	Perpetrator & Victim known to each other
January	3	1	2	1
February	6	3	2	5
March	3	2	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>

**Figure 3 – Chart: Firearm-Related Violent Incidents by Month – Q1 2024**

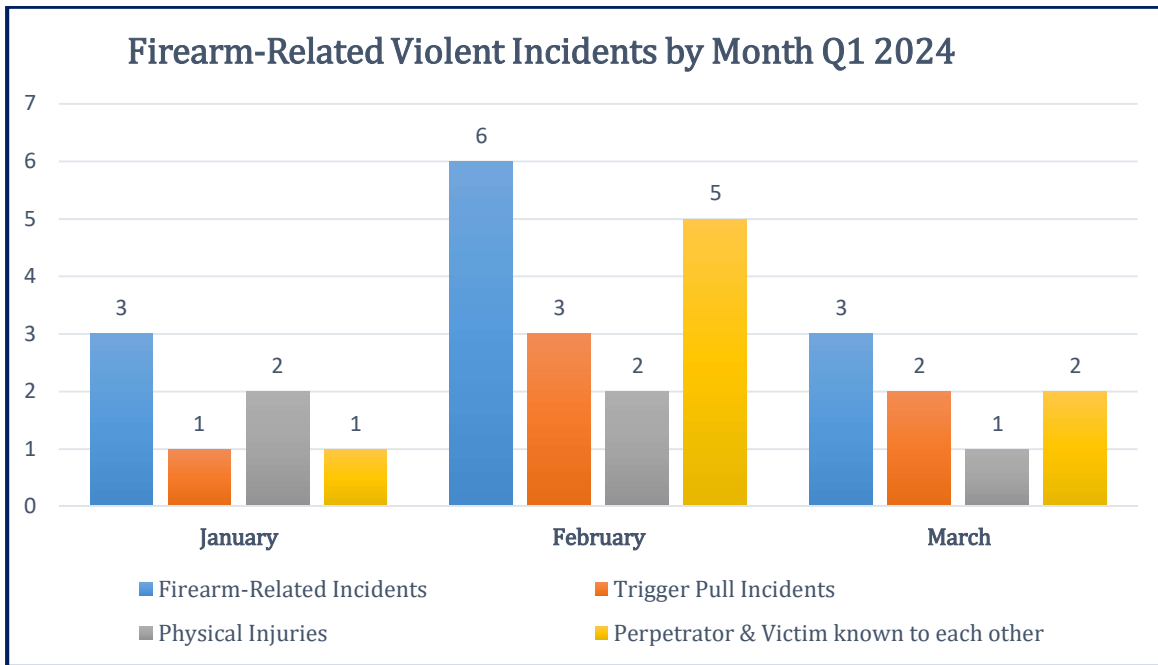


Table 4 – Summary of Firearm Related Incidents for Q1 2024

File # & Date 2024	Charges?	Trigger Pull	Physical Injury	Summary	Location	Gang or drugs	known to Victim ?
24-782 Jan 5	Yes – 1 person	No	Yes	<b>Robbery w/ Firearms/Agg Assault</b> - Home invasion – victim was threatened with a <b>shotgun</b> . The firearm was used as a blunt force weapon. Two gang members (males) sent to intimidate victim on behalf another gang member.	River St	Gang Drug	Yes
24-1990 Jan 18	Yes – 1 person YO	Yes	Yes	<b>Discharge Firearm w/ Intent</b> - A youth accidentally discharged a <b>sawed off shotgun</b> while attempting to dislodge a shell that was stuck. The victim accidentally shot himself.	12 St NW	u/k	n/a
24-2918 Jan 27	No charges	No	No	<b>Robbery w/ Firearms</b> – Suspect robbed the RO of their vehicle at gunpoint. Suspected gang, but u/k for sure. Both victims are drug users who associate with gang members. Victim knew one of the perpetrators by FB name. <b>u/k firearm – sawed off rifle or shot gun</b>	17th St W	u/k	no
24-3651 Feb 2	No Charges	No	No	<b>Pointing Firearm</b> – Suspect is alleged to have pointed a 12G <b>shotgun</b> at two victims in a vehicle. The alleged perpetrator is believed to be involved in drug trafficking/gang activity	6th Ave E	Gang Drug	Yes
24-3871 Feb 5	No Charges	Yes	Yes	<b>Aggravated Assault/Discharge Firearm</b> – suspect shot the victim in the finger & leg w/ <b>shotgun</b> . Victim was believed to be in an <b>intimate relationship</b> with the shooter at the time. Victim suffered severe injuries, including severed finger from gunshot wound.	400-700 block of 13 <sup>th</sup> St W	Gang Drug	Yes
24-5196 Feb 15	Yes – 1 person charged	No	No	<b>Pointing a Firearm</b> – Accused pointed a <b>sawed off rifle</b> at the victim as a threat because of a <b>perceived disrespect to accused’s aunt</b> . Victim believes accused is part of a gang, and he is in danger from the gang.	15th St W	Gang	Yes
24-5317 Feb 17	No Charges	Yes	No	<b>Discharge Firearm w/ Intent</b> – shooting at the family home of a known gang member and drug trafficker. No cooperation from the victims. <b>u/k firearm</b>	Kemp Cr	Gang	Yes
24-5327 Feb 17	No Charges	Yes	Yes	<b>Discharge Firearm w/ Intent</b> – Victim was shot with a <b>BB gun</b> . Unknown motivation. Possibly mental health.	Branion Drive	u/k	Yes
24-5819 Feb 21	Yes – 3 people charged	No	No	<b>Robbery w/ Firearms</b> – three suspects used a <b>sawed off rifle</b> to rob two employees. The incident was observed by the CRT, who were in the area, and made the arrests.	6th Ave E	u/k	No
24-6622 Mar 1	Yes – 1 person charged	Yes	Yes	<b>Discharge Firearm w/ Intent/Agg Assault</b> – Accused shot victim, and would not come out of the house. ERT deployed. House BTB involved in drug trade. <b>Sawed off Rifle</b> . Victim received significant injuries.	22nd St E	Gang Drug	Yes
24-6914 Mar 2	No Charges	No	No	<b>Robbery w/ Firearm</b> – RO picked up u/k two males and drove them to a location, where the males pointed a <b>handgun</b> at her, stole her vehicle, phone and	6th Ave E	u/k	No
24-8981 Mar 21	No Charges	Yes	No	<b>Discharge Firearm w/ Intent</b> – Drive by shooting. One of the resident(s) in target house btb involved in gangs and drug trafficking. 9mm casings collected at the scene. <b>BTB handgun (9mm)</b> – no victim cooperation	1 <sup>st</sup> St E	Gang	Yes

**Table 5 - Weapons Seized in Violent Incidents – Q1 2024**

Type of Weapon	Number of Weapons Seized in Violent Incidents	Percent of Total Weapons Seized
Firearm	7	12.1%
Knife/Sharp Object	31	53.4%
Blunt Instrument	7	12.1%
Burning Liquid	11	19%
Other Weapon	2	3.4%
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>58</b>	

As seen in Table 5, **knives and sharp objects are the weapons most often used in violent incidents** using weapons (53.4%). Sharp objects seized have included, knives, machetes and axes/hatchets. The number of total weapons seized in violent incidents is fifty-eight (58).

- ❖ Only seven (7) firearms (12.1%) were recovered in violent incidents reported. Whereas, firearms were **brandished or discharged in at least twelve (12) violent occurrences** in Q1 of 2024.
- ❖ Firearms were **not recovered** in five (5) occurrences where firearms were reported to have been used, **including three (3) occurrences where firearms were discharged.**
  - All five (5) of the occurrences where firearms were not recovered involved individuals believe to be involved in gangs and/or drug trafficking.

**Figure 4 – Chart: Weapons Seized in Violent Incidents Q1 2024**

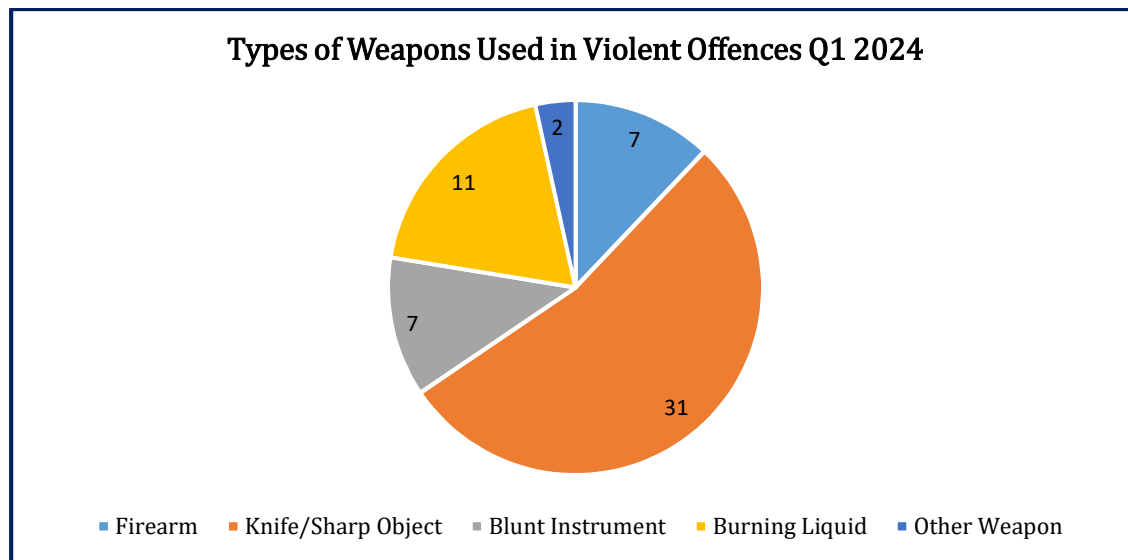
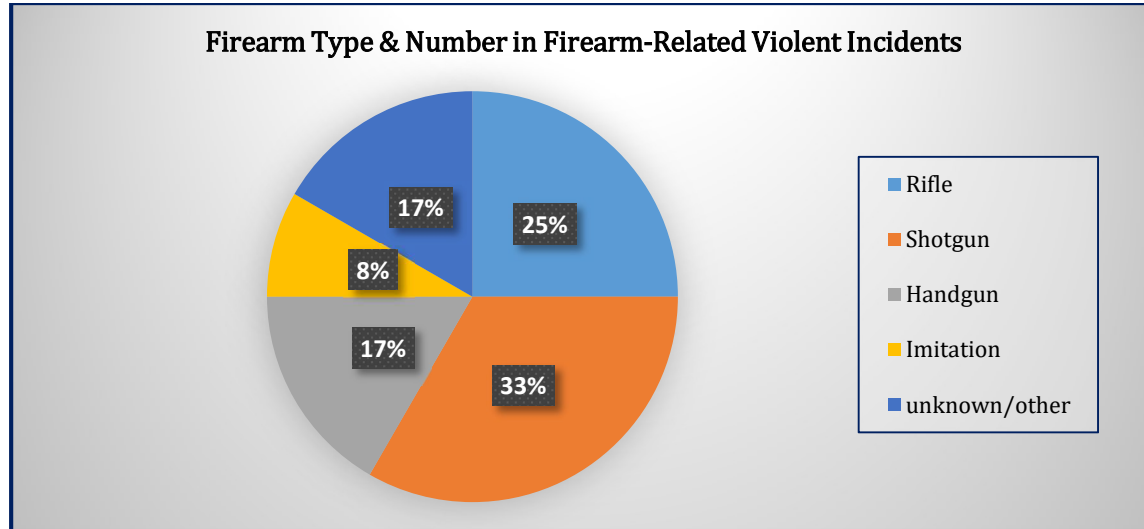


Figure 5 – Chart: Type & Number of Firearms in Firearm-Related Violent Incidents Q1 2024



### Firearm-Related Violence – Firearm Type: Handguns – A Trend to Watch

Over half of all violent crimes involving firearms in Canada in 2022, involved the use of a handgun.<sup>6</sup> However, in the Rural North, only 15% of violent crimes involving firearms involved the use of a handgun. Also, Saskatchewan’s two biggest cities (2022 stats) show numbers of handguns used in violent crimes less than the national average. Saskatoon came in with handguns used in approximately 42% of firearm-related violent offences. Regina’s statistics showed handguns were used in 25% of firearm-related violent crime in 2022, despite having the highest rate of firearm-related violent crime.<sup>7</sup>

In Prince Albert, the increase in handgun seizures appears to be related to either an increase in numbers, or an increase in intelligence, police detection, and enforcement of individuals involved in drug trafficking, who come to Prince Albert from other provinces, such as Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and Alberta.

The individuals sent here are often quite young – some less than 18 years old. They sell drugs for a few months, and then are switched with a different set of individuals from the same group. They do not remain in Prince Albert, and often not in the same residence for long, which makes detection more difficult. While handguns are typically seized from this type of drug trafficker, PAPS has also started to see seizures of handguns from local drug dealers and/or gang members.

An intelligence gap is whether there is a connection between an increase in out-of-town drug traffickers and possession of handguns by local drug dealers/gang members. Where are locals

<sup>6</sup> Perreault, Samuel. 2024. Open Source article on Statistics Canada Website ([Firearms and violent crime in Canada, 2022 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/25-001-x/2024001/article/00001-eng.htm)) “Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022”, (pg. 17)

<sup>7</sup> Perreault, Samuel. 2024. Open Source article on Statistics Canada Website ([Firearms and violent crime in Canada, 2022 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/25-001-x/2024001/article/00001-eng.htm)) “Firearms and Violent Crime in Canada, 2022”, (pg. 17)

sourcing their handguns? Are the out-of-town traffickers involved? If so, how? (eg., brokers, direct sellers).

In Prince Albert in Q1 of 2024, there were eleven (11) handguns seized, with all of them classified as crime guns.

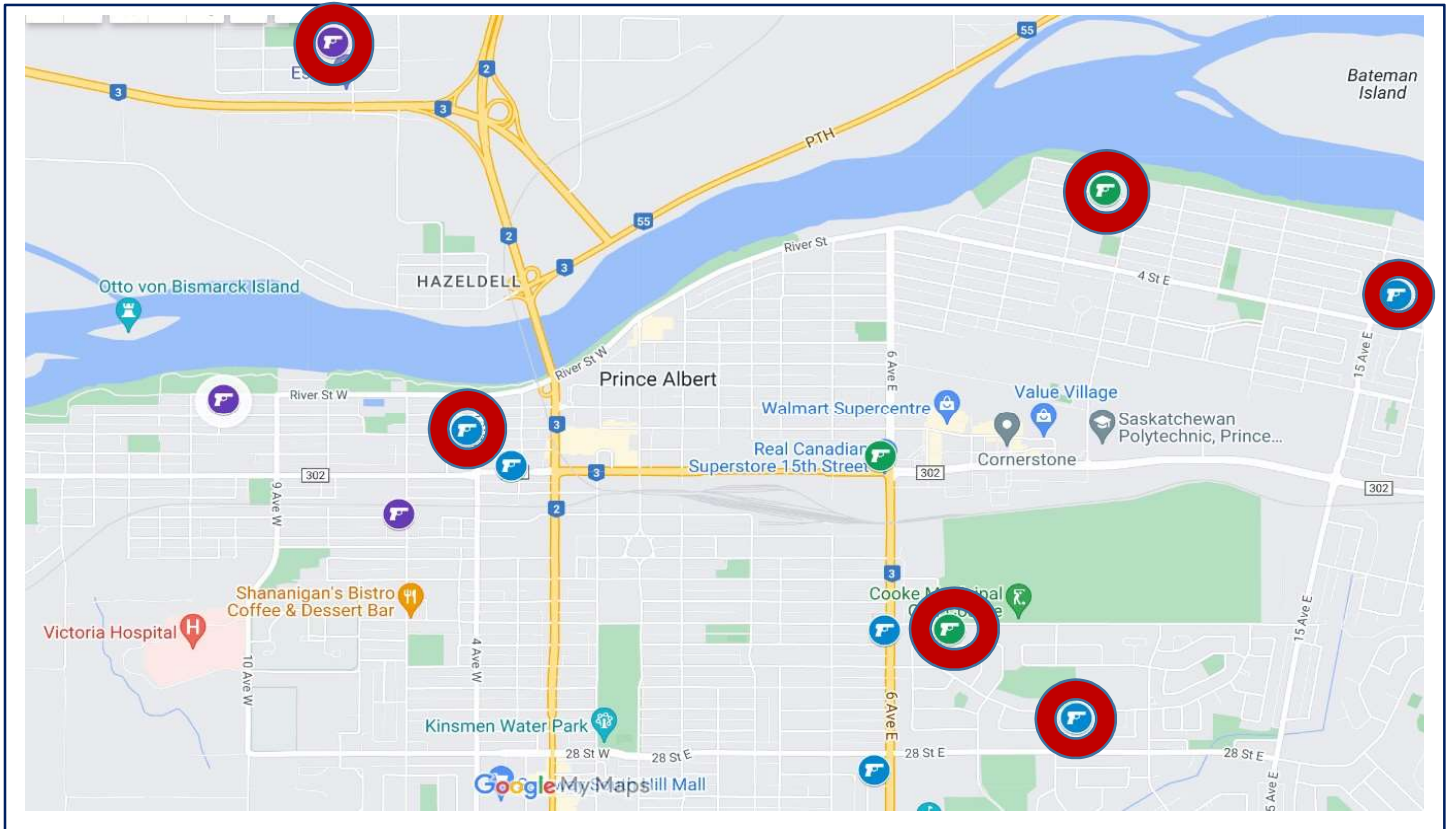
- ❖ In Q1 of 2024, **handguns** were used in approximately **17%** of firearm-related violent incidents.
- ❖ The number of **handguns** seized in Q1 2024 accounts for over **30%** of **all of the crime guns seized**.
- ❖ Of the handguns seized in Prince Albert in Q1 of 2024:
  - At least three (3) of the handguns seized were **smuggled illegally** from the United States. Two (2) of them from Ohio, which is reportedly a state where many smuggled firearms seized in Canada are being traced back to. The third smuggled handgun was from Georgia. Ohio's proximity to the Canadian border and southern Ontario and the Great Lakes may be why smuggled firearms are frequently traced back to this state.
  - At least four (4) other handguns were reported stolen – three reported stolen from Saskatchewan (Shellbrook, Saskatoon, and Milestone), and one from British Columbia (Vancouver – UBC). The handgun reported stolen from Milestone had been missing and on the streets since 2016. The handgun reported stolen from Vancouver had been reported stolen in 2020. The handgun from Saskatoon had been missing for approximately one year, and the handgun from Shellbrook had been missing for less than six months, following a break & enter where several firearms were stolen.

## VICTIMS OF FIREARM-RELATED VIOLENT INCIDENTS

- ❖ Although it is difficult to pinpoint the exact number of victims, due to lack of information regarding the number of people involved in two household shootings, of the 19 victims identified, eleven (11) were male, and eight (8) were female.
- ❖ Five (5) of the firearm-related violent incidents resulted in physical injuries of the victims in varying degrees. One of the victims was shot with a pellet gun (minor injuries), one was not shot at all, but the firearm was used as a blunt instrument to hit the victim. The victim was severely injured from the incident, primarily from a knife or machete.
- ❖ The last three incidents resulted in firearm related physical injuries – two intended victims, and one accidental shooting (the victim was also the shooter).
  - All three suffered significant injuries as a result of the incidents.
- ❖ Four (4) out of five (5) of the victims were male.



**Figure 6 – Map: Firearm-Related Violent Incidents: Mapped by location and month Q1 2024**



**Firearm-Related Violent Incidents:**

Date	Address	Gang/Drug	Trigger Pull	Physical Injuries
Jan 5	River St W	Y	N	Severe – caused by machete. Firearm used to threaten & blunt force
Jan 18	12 <sup>th</sup> St NW	N	Y	Shooter was the victim - accidental
Jan 27	17 <sup>th</sup> St W	u/k	N	Robbery of vehicle - No physical injuries
Feb 2	6 <sup>th</sup> Ave E	Y	N	Drug related - No physical injuries
Feb 5	13 <sup>th</sup> St W	Y	Y	Victim was seriously injured. Shooter involved in drug trafficking & gangs
Feb 15	15 <sup>th</sup> St W	Y	N	Threaten w/ firearm - No physical injuries
Feb 17	Kemp Cres	Y	Y	No physical injuries (drive by shooting)
Feb 17	Branion Dr	N	Y	U/K motivation – shot with a bb gun. Minor injuries
Feb 21	6 <sup>th</sup> Ave E	N	N	Robbery – no physical injuries
Mar 1	22 <sup>nd</sup> St E	Y	Y	Life-threatening injuries
Mar 2	6 <sup>th</sup> Ave E	u/k	N	Robbery – theft of vehicle
Mar 21	1 <sup>st</sup> St E	Y	Y	No physical injuries – drive-by shooting

## PERPETRATORS OF FIREARM-RELATED VIOLENCE

As seen in the Q1 research for the Prince Albert Police Service, the majority of individuals involved in firearm-related violence are tied to drug trafficking and/or gang involvement – often both.

- ❖ In the thirty-one (31) occurrences where firearms were seized, twenty (20) of them were believed to have drug trafficking and/or gang involvement (64.5%). There were at least two other instances where there are gang/drug ties suspected, but could not be confirmed at this time.
  - Of course, the statistics are impacted by the targeted work the Crime Reduction Team (CRT) does with drug trafficking, gangs and illegal guns. Three of the proactive files in Q1 involved out-of-town traffickers (3522, 8231, and 9956). Six (6) handguns were seized in the three files mentioned. **Three of the six handguns were smuggled from the United States.**
- ❖ Eight (8) people were charged in five (5) of twelve (12) firearm-related violent incidents (41.7%).
- ❖ There were four (4) individuals charged in firearm-related violent incidents, who had **firearms prohibitions (50%)**.
- ❖ There were also **four (4)** individuals charged in firearm-related violent incidents, who had recently been **released from custody within 90 days**.
- ❖ There was one individual charged, who was on bail at the time of the firearm-related incident, and another who was active on a conditional sentence order (CSO). The individual charged, who was on bail, had an active warrant for their arrest for breach of his release order (bail). The individual was on bail awaiting trial/court date for breach of a CSO, which he was serving for being in violation of his firearms prohibition (s. 117 ccc).
- ❖ A second individual charged in a firearm-related violent offence (pointing a firearm), was on a CSO at the time he was charged. He was serving his sentence in the community (CSO) for a violent offence involving a weapon (machete) (s. 267(a) ccc).
- ❖ None of the individuals arrested for firearm-related violence were out-of-town drug traffickers, or from outside of the local Prince Albert area. All eight (8) individuals charged were local to Prince Albert and surrounding communities.

Table 6 – Suspects/Perpetrators of Firearm-Related Violent Incidents Q1 2024

File 2024	# of people charged	History of firearms or violence?	Firearms Prohib	On bail	Recently released <90 days	Warrants	Gang/Drug Involved
782	1	1	1	0	1	0	Y
1990	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2918	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
3651	1	1	1	0	1	0	Y
3871	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
5196	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
5317	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
5327	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
5819	3	2	0	0	0	0	N
6622	2	2	2	1	2	1	Y
6914	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
8981	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>