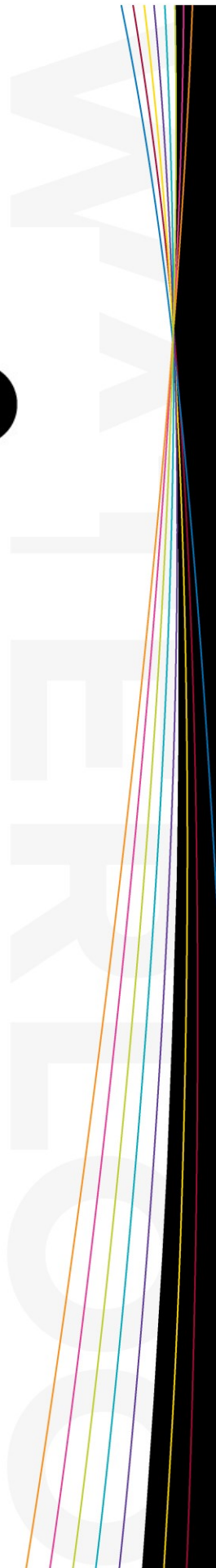




**UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO**

Special Constable Service

2021 Annual Report





University of Waterloo Special Constable Service

2021 Annual Report

Report:

The University of Waterloo main campus is located at 200 University Avenue West in Waterloo. There are also three satellite campuses: School of Architecture in Cambridge, Health Sciences Campus in Kitchener and the School of Interaction Design and Business in Stratford.

The University of Waterloo Special Constable Service (UWSCS), in partnership with the Waterloo Regional Police Service (WRPS), is responsible for the safety and security on our campuses within the Region of Waterloo. The Stratford Campus is policed by the Stratford Police Service. Additionally, private security is contracted to assist with day-to-day security operations at specific locations on the main campus and at all of our satellite campuses.

The University of Waterloo Special Constable Service consists of twenty-four Special Constables, including four Patrol Sergeants, an Investigative/Administrative Sergeant and a Director. The department also has a seconded Staff Sergeant from the Waterloo Regional Police Service, three Dispatchers and one Executive Administrative Assistant. Pre-Covid we serviced a community of approximately 42,000 students and almost 4,000 faculty and staff. We currently have over 100 buildings on the main campus and are rapidly growing.

The University of Waterloo Special Constable Service is a resource to the University Community through a variety of partnerships, committee participation and presentations.

The University of Waterloo's relationship with the Waterloo Regional Police Service over the past dozen years is unique to the Province. The University seconded a Waterloo Regional Police Service Staff Sergeant as the Operations Manager for the Special Constable Service. The Staff Sergeant's role includes overseeing all investigations and duty assignments that occur or impact the campus community. This partnership has been extremely beneficial to both agencies through enhanced information sharing and collaborative investigations.

Currently, Staff Sergeant Dean Smith has just commenced his third and final year with our Service. Dean brings along with him, extensive experience and expertise and has been a great asset not only to the University of Waterloo Special Constable Service but our entire community during these difficult times. Dean is the sixth WRPS Staff Sergeant to be seconded to this position.

This past year:

Unfortunately, 2021 was like 2020 with minimal students, faculty, and staff members actually physical present on University of Waterloo properties. As a result, our calls for service volume is understandably fewer than our last (pre-Covid) year. The UWSCS continued to maintain a 24/7 presence to ensure the safety of those that did make it onto campuses and the millions of dollars of UW assets.

Rebranding:

In late 2021, in anticipation of the implementation of the *Community Safety and Police Act (2019)* the University of Waterloo Police Service (UWPS) rebranded to the University of Waterloo Special Constable Service (UWSCS). The ability to use the term “Police” was initially bestowed upon the service in July 1986 under the then Waterloo Regional Police Chief, Mr. Harold Basse.

The changing of title to Special Constable Service was a major challenge not only financially, but it also necessitated considerate management discussions with members of the Service. In accordance with the Act, new uniforms were to be distinctly different from all Federal, Provincial and/or Municipal Police Services. Changes to cruisers, buildings, stationary, websites, etc. was to be rebranded prior to year-end. Although full compliance was achieved, the implementation of the Act has since been postponed without any new implementation date.

Calls for service:

Our calls for service resulted in 6 Arrest and 15 Criminal Charges (Theft, Assault, Drug Offences and Possession of Stolen Property) being laid and 16 Provincial Offence Notices were issued relating predominately to violations of the Liquor Licence Act.

Our calls resulted in 1,421 General Occurrence Reports generated, assigned WRPS Occurrence Numbers and appropriately added to Niche and/or CPIC.

Although we have thankfully had very few significant incidents, any falling under the below listed categories were assigned to WRPS. We did have one incident of note, receiving media attention involving a missing student which was successfully resolved with the cooperation of the WRPS and the University of Waterloo Special Constable Service.

All investigations relating to serious criminal offences such as: Criminal Negligence, Dangerous Driving, Firearms offences, Sexual Assault, Abduction, Missing persons, Robbery, Domestic Violence relating to intimate relationships, as well as motor vehicle collisions with injuries or fatalities, sudden deaths and suicides are immediately directed to specialized units within WRPS, as per our Agreement/Operational Protocol.

Training

All appropriate members of the service are compliant with Provincial “Use of Force” training mandates.

Additionally, all staff were trained in areas of Multiculturalism, Diversity and confronting anti-black racism. Additional training in similar topics are ongoing.

Community engagement:

Although provincial mandated Covid restrictions significantly hampered our abilities to partake in a number of Community engagement activities, all possible opportunities were enthusiastically taken.

Members of the University of Waterloo Special Constable Service along with their counterparts from other neighboring educational institutions organized the inaugural “Make -A-Wish” Golf Tournament. This event successfully raised \$4,000.00 for Sick Kids Hospital.

Additionally, members of the Service enthusiastically assisted in initiatives and fund raising opportunities for those less fortunate e.g. The Regional Food Bank, Christmas Toy Drive, Kids back to School “Back Pack Challenge” to name a few. Understanding the overwhelming needs of our four-legged friends, several members donated their Christmas gathering meal financial allowance to the KW Humane Society.

Recognition:

In April of 2021 patrol personnel extracted an unresponsive male student from a lab after his chemical experiment resulted in the release of toxic gases. Their quick reaction and professionalism ensured the safety of the male student, the safety of others in the immediate area, eliminated the possibility of additional exposures by safely removing the substance, and ensured that others were not able to access the area until such time as a through decontamination of the lab could occur.

In September 2021, Officers had cause to administer Naloxone to an unresponsive male resident of an adjacent transitional housing project. Although not overly thankful for this life saving effort by the Officers, the male was able to go about his business.

Engagement by members of the Service in the “Team Vaccine WR Project” has and will continue to be an important and extremely rewarding opportunity. Whether assisting in collecting supplies, clinic setup, patient screening, or clinic cleaning allowed an opportunity to assist others during these difficult times.

Complaints:

In 2021 two separate complaints were made against members of the University of Waterloo Special Constable Service namely;

1. A complaint was filed by a witness who observed the removal of an unwanted person and perceived the Officers to be too aggressive.
2. Lack of empathy and professionalism while evicting a person found within a secure building and in violation of Provincial “Stay at Home Order” mandates.

Both complaints were investigated by the Waterloo Regional Police Service and resolved. The Complainants were advised of the investigative strategy, findings, and opportunities for corrective action for the involved Officers.

Additional information e.g., Core Responsibilities, Mission Statement, Strategic Plan etc, can be found at [University of Waterloo Special Constable Service | UW Parking Services | University of Waterloo \(uwaterloo.ca\)](#)