

July 7, 2020 Release

**Submitted by Sgt. Jeff Sehn**

### **Redwater RCMP Detachment**

Reporting period: June 1 to June 31, 2020.

Redwater RCMP dealt with 250 occurrences during the month of June. 12 of these occurrences either involved wildlife or domestic animals exploring their wild side after freeing themselves from confinement. These calls consisted of vehicles hitting deer and a moose, a bull on the loose, and a hotdog that turned out to be a dog left unattended in a vehicle (there were no injuries to the dog). There was also a mischievous feline that raided the detachment garbage to feed itself. Through intense on scene negotiations the cat was convinced to surrender to members. The cat was then lodged in a home with a foster parent and members purchased a supply of food and care items for the foster home.

Your members were also busy investigating numerous criminal matters consisting of assaults, assault with a weapon, criminal harassment, harassing communications, mischief, theft, uttering threats, frauds and many other criminal acts. In addition, 3 firearms complaints were received where it was reported that firearms were being shot in areas where shooting firearms is not permitted. Member would like to remind the public that discharging firearms on grazing leases requires the permission of the leaseholder prior to shooting.

Police received 5 calls of stolen vehicles with charges being laid on one and the remaining still being investigated. Note to vehicle owners: Ensure you remove or cover up all valuables in your vehicle, lock the doors, and secure your keys. Try not to make your vehicle an easy or attractive target for the criminals.

Members were also kept brushed up on their collision investigation skills by responding to 18 motor vehicle collisions. These collisions ranged from a gravel truck that lost control and went into a swamp, to a moose that lost control and ran in front of a vehicle. In all cases there were only minor injuries to the vehicle occupants. Anyone that owns horses in the area that may be short a horse or two and is encouraged to contact the Redwater RCMP as there were calls of two loose horses.

During the month our courageous members responded to two unrelated instances where suspects either discharged firearms at or near a house. In the first instance, it is alleged that a 36 yr old male, and Thorhild County resident, threatened an individual on a rural property with a handgun and shot the handgun several times. This received the immediate attention of the Redwater RCMP who attended the scene. With assistance from the Smoky Lake and Westlock RCMP Detachments, Capital East and Redwater RCMP Traffic Services, and the RCMP Emergency Response Team and Police Dog services. Residents in the area may have also observed the RCMP helicopter in the area as assistance was also provided by RCMP Air Services. Eventually the male surrendered to police and charged with:

- Use of a firearm in the commission of an offence
- Possession of a firearm for a dangerous purpose
- Unauthorized possession of a firearm

- Uttering threats
- Disobey a court order

He was remanded into custody to appear in Fort Saskatchewan Provincial Court on a later date.

The second incident was a report of three vehicles that attended a rural property west of Redwater and discharged a firearm at a residence prior to fleeing the area. RCMP members immediately responded to the area and conducted extensive patrols in an attempt to locate the suspects. Further investigation revealed that this was a targeted incident. The investigation is continuing. The Redwater RCMP is requesting that anyone who has information on this crime is asked to contact the Redwater RCMP Detachment at 780-942-3600 or their local police. If you wish to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), online at [www.P3Tips.com](http://www.P3Tips.com) or by using the "P3 Tips" app available through the Apple App or Google Play.

Community consultations have been completed and the community stakeholders, in conjunction with the detachment, identified Crime Reduction, Community Engagement, and Traffic Safety as priority issues. The Crime Reduction priority will target property, rural, and addiction fueled crimes in an attempt to curb the frequency. Traffic safety will be accomplished through traffic enforcement throughout the various communities with increased presence and visibility of our members through proactive patrols. In the current world of COVID-19 community engagement events have become a challenge due to social distancing requirements. In order to seek important input from all stakeholders, the Redwater RCMP will be completing monthly police briefs (like this one) in order to keep the public aware of our activities in the communities. In addition we encourage interaction and anyone with any inquiries, questions, comments can contact us at [Kredwatercommunityfeedback@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:Kredwatercommunityfeedback@rcmp-grc.gc.ca). During each monthly police brief members of the detachment will answer a few of the questions asked. We look forward to hearing from you.