



# School Resource Program 2021-2022 Annual Report



**SEVEN OAKS**  
SCHOOL DIVISION  
*community begins here*

The Winnipeg Police Service, School Engagement Section, greatly appreciates the strong partnership it enjoys with the Seven Oaks School Division.

The 2021-2022 school year could hardly be described as a normal, given the many changes required to address the health concerns associated to the Coved 19 Pandemic.

School administration and SRO's adjusted as required and, in the end, the belief is that student needs were met in the best manner possible, and despite the challenges, the school year can in fact be described as an overall success for the School Division and School Resource Program.

The School Resource Officers (SRO's) who were assigned to the Seven Oaks School Division, expressed a sincere admiration for the partnerships with the school administrators and the students. These SRO's remain excited to see the program flourish and grow with them as they continue to develop effective programs while working with the Seven Oaks School Division.

This report contains statistical data pertaining to SRO functions throughout he year, in addition to personal comments by the individual School Resource Officer, which include; Cst. Ryan Wolinski, Cst. Brian Foltz, Cst. David Daher, Cst. Rob Kellas and Cst. Jackie Kisil. These members were engaged within the Seven Oaks School Division for the period of September 1, 2021, through to the end of June, 2022.

Cst. David Daher, Cst. Rob Kellas, Cst. Ryan Wolinski and Cst. Bryan Foltz loved their first year with the Seven Oaks School Division and they look forward to the challenges and rewards that are sure to present in the future.

Cst. Foltz finished his five-year term in the School Engagement Section and moved on to General Patrol in West District. Cst. Jackie Kisil was excited to move into that role and continue to provide excellent service to the school division. Jackie is a seasoned officer with a number of years with the WPS and looks forward to meeting the needs of Seven Oaks School Division.

The following page includes statistics from the 2021 to 2022 school year.

It should be noted that these statistics are pulled from several Winnipeg Police Service data bases, and given the range of variables may be off by  $\pm 2$  %. They do however provide a solid overview of the SRO's focus within the Seven Oaks School Division.

# Seven Oaks School Division

School Resource Officer	Kisil	Daher	Foltz	Kellas	Wolinski	Total
Meeting and Consultation Teacher/Administration	99	738	221	429	553	2040
Event School Walkabout	89	599	161	316	506	1671
Meeting and Consultation Student	106	249	183	387	714	1639
Meeting/Consultation - Diversity	83	131	112	275	580	1181
Event Other	18	143	4	22	561	748
Meeting/Consultation - Indigenous	34	53	54	75	208	424
Meeting and Consultation Parent	7	90	51	66	98	312
Diversion Conflict Resolution	6	77	23	16	74	196
Event Traffic/Parking Complaint	1	48	44	18	78	189
Calls for Service/On-View Events	1	52	9	17	22	101
Meeting and Consultation Other	2	54	10	26	8	100
Meeting/Consultation - Preparation	1	60		9	1	71
School Patrols (Training/Judging/Events)		44	2	7	2	55
Meeting and Consultation Victim of Crime	4	7	26	10	3	50
Presentation Other		37		5	1	43
Presentation Online Safety	2	32	2	1		37
Meeting/Consultation - Newcomers		5	10	4	10	29
Event Love to Read		25	2			27
Event Student Wellbeing Check		22	1	2	1	26
Event Trespassing	3	14	2	5	1	25
Meeting/Consultation - 2SLGBTQ+		11		8	5	24
Presentation Bullying		14	1	5		20
Special Events School	1	15				16
Diversion Restorative Justice		7		6	2	15
Internal/External Training Div51		2		2		4
Event Hold and Secure/Lockdown		3		1		4
Presentation Drug		2		1		3
Event Hold & Secure		1		2		3
Presentation Gang				2		2
Diversion Gang		1	1			2
Presentation Safety	1					1
Event Lock Down				1		1
Event Hold and Secure Drill/Lockdown Drill		1				1
<b>Grand Total of Events for Sept. 1 to June 30</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>2537</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>1719</b>	<b>3432</b>	<b>9069</b>

The table listed above is a snapshot of the events the SRO's were involved with in the Seven Oaks School Division. There are many different hats that the SRO wears while they perform their functions, and to capture all related data, events have been created to classify some of the work they perform. Specialized codes were recently added to identify interactions with students who are members of a racialized or marginalized group (Diversity), 2SLGBTQ+, Newcomers and Indigenous. These new events were created to capture the fact that that the SRO program is inclusive and that SRO's are interacting with diverse students on a regular basis.

## **The core principles of the SRO program which we strive to meet are:**

Demonstrating that neighbourhood safety can be enhanced by strengthening partnerships between and among police, schools and the community with the deployment of SRO's

Providing Winnipeg neighbourhoods with more strategic crime prevention resources than are currently in place

Strengthening relationships between the police and community, particularly youth

Developing community-based, proactive and collaborative crime prevention strategies

Demonstrating potential cost savings for the justice, education and social service systems

There were numerous occasions where members of the School Resource Officer program worked with school administrators to enhance the safety of the community. SRO's worked with administrators and patrols regarding traffic flow concerns at pickups and drop offs. They were involved in working with members of the community on unsafe driving manners in the area to help with safer streets. The SRO's mediated disputes between students that occurred outside the school, in the community.

SRO's were called upon on many occasions to discuss issues and neighborhood concerns, and were able to collaboratively develop strategies for crime prevention and safety, whether it be traffic related issues or suspicious activity in the areas in question.

SRO's worked hard to strengthen relationships with the community, especially youths by being involved in their activities, which were limited due to Covid-19, but it required everyone to pivot and continue their day to day lives. SRO's conducted wellness checks on students to make sure that they were safe and to assist in any needs they had related to education, helping students navigate Covid-19 restrictions in the difficult learning environment. The SRO's were also able to share in the joy of many graduating students attending these very special events in person.

SRO's were able to finally attend and engage with many students at community BBQ's where they showcased their cruiser cars and sometimes even our mascot, both being well received. We also give thanks for the invite to The Seven Oaks School Division Pow Wow, it was a tremendous event and we were honored to attend.

SRO's worked with the schools and administrators to get involved in situations, to be proactive and effect crime prevention through education of the students. Often times SRO's would conduct presentations on online safety, personal safety and provide an overview to students on the justice system and its inner workings. This allowed for the students to make better choices on their own through education.

SRO's performed a key role in cost savings for the justice, education and social service systems. This was performed through working with the school administrators and the students with informal diversions that allowed the matter to be effectively dealt with through individual learning and education of the student. Restorative justice was implemented to have the students receive the help they need to avoid the court system and provide the student with the needed help to remain out of the justice system.

The School Engagement Section also assisted our SRO's by providing online presentations via Zoom to meet the needs by reaching more students in regards to Anti-bullying and Online safety. This method

allowed thousands of students to learn about these topics. The feedback received was very good and is leading to the future planning of more of these presentations.

Finally, the school patrol awards were hosted in person at the Burton Cummings Theatre. This event has been virtual for the last 2 years as a result of Covid-19 and was a great and welcome event that celebrated the school patrollers and acknowledged the hard work that they do every day. This event enjoyed a variety of mascots and showcased as the MC, local radio personality, Lloyd the Intern. This event was a huge success and enjoyed by all of the students that attended.



From SRO Ryan Wolinski

*Cst. Wolinski - Seven Oaks School Division*

*Previous to this school year I was an SRO in Wpg. 1 school division for 3 years and had built some great relationships, but times change and I was re-assigned to the Seven Oaks division. I came to the Seven Oaks school division at the start of the school year (September 2022) and found it exciting to meet all new administrators, staff and students within the division. I knew it would be a great opportunity and I have always enjoyed meeting new people.*

*Like all new positions it takes time to build relationships and trust, but with a positive attitude and a friendly demeanor I was able to gain the trust of the Administrators, staff and students.*

*I have had a great time this year getting to know the students and have had fun interacting with them on a daily basis. I was able to be involved in an array of activities this year. Following are some highlights from just a few of them:*

*Going on a bike ride with ride the Bicycle safety program at O.V. Jewitt school and Elwick school*



*Helping a group of students build a hamster cage for their classroom pet at Edward Finney school*



*Assisting the school Patrols at Arthur E Wright school with the “Terry Fox” run*



*Having a day of fun with all the schools in the Seven Oaks school division at the “Art in the park” festival.*



*Spending time with the kindergarten class doing art work.*



*Joining students on Indigenous day at Elwick school. Spending time with grade 2 students on the teeter totter.*



*I truly enjoy working as an SRO and building relationships with school staff and students. This position allows me to work with students at many different levels. Even though most of my time is spent building relationships with the students in a fun environment there are times that are more challenging. Like adults, children also struggle in their daily lives dealing with many different issues (bullying, physical fights, drugs, social media, and family issues). Throughout this school year I unfortunately found myself trying to help assist students with many of these challenges young people face today. It has been a rewarding year, helping these students overcome some of their life challenges.*

*I also had the opportunity to speak with several different students throughout the year at the high school level that showed interest in becoming a Police Officer, which I found very encouraging. I*



*really was impressed with the kinds of questions that the students asked, it showed me that they were really serious about having a career in law enforcement.*

*I look forward to next year as I feel I have now established a great foundation and become a familiar face within the schools.*

From SRO David Daher

*Constable David Daher #2658*

*SRO highlights, September 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022*

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*The year began with the task of managing the Louis Riel School as a single SRO. I was regularly used by Louis Riel administration to interact with students and help sort out multiple school issues.*

*In November 2021 I moved into the Seven Oaks School Division having 10 primary schools. This past year has been spent engaging with the administration, staff and students and has provided a great opportunity to develop a deeper relationship with each school. I look forward to the continued relationship in the fall.*

*Senior high school highlights:*

*Many students were openly welcoming to having an SRO in the school. As an SRO I am greeted regularly in the halls during a school walkabout. I often found myself pulled aside by students looking to ask questions about being an officer, options they may have in handling personal issues or to take a selfie with their SRO.*

*Administration regularly requested to consult regarding police issues and I felt to be included as a valuable member of the school.*

*I especially enjoyed attending the lunch hour Metis Club to hear stories and learn about Metis culture by a resident Metis teacher.*

*Junior high school highlights:*

*In Ecole Seven Oaks Middle School I was given opportunity to give a presentation to every classroom regarding online safety/bullying issues. The result was having become known to nearly all the students. I also had opportunity by administration to be introduced to specific students who could us a positive interaction with police and engaged regularly with students during their lunch break. I look forward to the years of relationship building that has opportunity to continue into senior high aspirations.*

*Elementary school highlights:*

*Regularly played soccer, various tag games, foot races, frisbee etc. with students during morning and afternoon breaks. Elementary students often had many questions about what it is to be a police officer. Many opportunities to speak with multiple classes during "I love to read" and give presentations about online safety and bullying. These class events would often end with a positive question/answer time about policing.*

*An invitation was also given to speak at a Parent Night about online safety issues.*

*Assisting administration with school pick up/drop off issues was especially appreciated by school administrators.*

*I believe the relationships built with administration and students is the strength of the School Resource program. These relationships have been the highlight of this past year.*

From SRO Jackie Kisil

*At the beginning of May 2022, I joined the School Resource Unit and was assigned to the Seven Oaks School Division. During the first few weeks I quickly became acquainted with administration and learned how vital these relationships were in being successful in this position. The administration has utilized me repetitively to assist them with different issues as well as involving me in school activities.*

*I have spent many hours connecting with staff and students. Since being a School resource, Officer I have been told how beneficial it is to have a female officer at their schools. At Maples Collegiate being a female officer has increased the number of young diverse female students who approach officers and want to have a causal conversation. I managed to establish an environment that students feel comfortable in approaching me.*

*In May and June, I became involved in many incidents that required that I converse with students who needed guidance and debrief. Many of these events provided students the opportunity to ask questions and in essence awarded me the chance to develop a relationship with them. One of my favorite moments so far as an SRO is being able to contact with students and build these relationships.*

*A student from the Maples Met approached me and asked if she could interview me about policing and the dynamics of being a female officer in the WPS. The student was very articulate and we were able to establish that she aspires of becoming a WPS member in the future.*

*My schools participated in the Seven Oaks, Art in the Park. Due to the weather, portions of the event had to be cancelled, however two days of the Music/Dancing showcase still took part in the Maples Arena as well as in the open park behind the Community Center. The event was attended by all schools in the division from K-12. It was a spectacular multicultural experience. Students danced and sang in their cultural costumes. I had a chance to observe many of my students perform.*



*I have supported my schools by regularly checking in and playing with students at recess. Many students approach and like to talk about being a police officer and the challenges that we face as*

members. Many students, specifically the older grades have indicated that they would like to pursue a career in law enforcement.

From SRO Rob Kellas

*I came to Seven Oaks School Division this school year as a vacancy needed to be filled for one of the SRO positions.*

*Overall, my time spent this school year with Seven Oaks School Division was an absolute joy. I thoroughly enjoy working with the youth of our community and getting back to community based and prevention-based policing. Coming into the school year as a new SRO in the Division has its difficulties as the Administrators, teachers, staff and students are used to seeing a familiar face. It took some time to break down the barriers of being the new person in the schools, but with a positive attitude, and friendly demeanor, I was able to gain the trust of the Administrators, teachers, staff and students. From there the relationship between the schools and the Winnipeg Police Service only grew and strengthened.*

*As time went by, more and more teachers, EA's, and students would stop and talk with me, whether it be a casual conversation or approach me with a concern they had in regards to the community and sometimes they would confide in me and ask for advice on some issues personally affecting them. Soon, I was having requests from some parents who had learned from their son or daughter that I was a trusted officer and they could confide in me to discuss personal issues affecting them. I was always glad to reach out to parents and discuss any issues/topics and would listen to their concerns or issues in a non-judgmental way. Every parent always thanked me for listening to their concerns and offering sound advise on how to solve their problem or issue.*

*By end of school year, I had gained the trust of hundreds of School staff and students, along with some parents and even community members who lived close by the schools that I spoke with on a regular basis.*

*Due to Covid protocols and the ongoing pandemic it was difficult to make those strong, personal connections with staff and students as most, if not all assemblies, school-based activities were limited if not cancelled. As the school year progressed some of the restrictions were eased and by Spring Break most of the restrictions were lifted. This helped make access to students and staff easier as requests for me to come to classrooms and speak to the class on various topics increased dramatically.*

*Some of the events I participated in this school year were the following:*

*National Day for Truth and Reconciliation at Amber Trails School.*



*The annual Christmas Pancake breakfast at West St. Paul School.*



*Grey Cup Day at West Kildonan Collegiate. They won a contest to have Buzz and Boomer mascots, a Blue Bomber player and the Grey Cup to be present at the school over a lunch hour. Students and staff were able to get pictures with the mascots and Grey Cup.*

*Pride March / End of School year festivities at West Kildonan Collegiate. Students and staff put on the Pride March along with a BBQ meal afterwards and "Dunk Tank" where students get a chance to dunk their favorite teachers/Administrators. All proceeds were donated to local shelters that help the Pride community.*

*Some other notable events that I took part in was at Ecole Riviere Rouge where the Grade 1 classrooms were studying "Jobs in the Community" Unit and invited me into their classrooms to*

*Speak with the students on my role as a Police Officer and as an SRO in the community. I would end the talk with taking the class out to see the cruiser car.*

*Pancake breakfasts at the Adult Education Centres was a great opportunity for the adult students to see me and discuss my role in the community of schools.*

*There were many other activities and engagements that are far too many to list.*

*I feel that the year was a success in gaining the trust of the schools I work closely with. Unfortunately, things do happen between students and sometimes Police need to address issues or certain situations with legal consequences due to the severity of the incident(s). When situations happen like this I will try my hardest to keep the students out of the traditional Justice System and put them through Restorative Justice as an alternative to formal charges and the court process.*

*I had one incident this school year where I had to put 4 students into Restorative Justice program and I'm happy to say that they all were successful in the program. The charges were diverted and a permanent criminal record is avoided. When speaking with the parents of the students and listening to their success stories about the Restorative Justice program it really solidifies the success of the program in keeping students out of the traditional Justice system. Parents were happy with the Restorative Justice programming and said that their student had benefitted from the teachings and workshops they had to take to address the behaviors that got them into trouble in the first place. Parents thanked me for helping them through this tough time and changes in their student's life and were very thankful that the school had an SRO that could help navigate the difficult situation. .*

*I am returning to Seven Oaks School Division for the next school year and I am looking forward to furthering my connections with the Seven Oaks community of schools in the school year to come.*

### **Closing remarks**

The Winnipeg Police Service and the School Engagement Section want to take this opportunity to thank the Seven Oaks School Division for partnering with the WPS school resource program.

We truly look forward to the 2022-2023 school year knowing it will continue to provide meaningful opportunities and value to the; School Division, the Winnipeg Police Service, and of course to the most important group, that being the students of the Seven Oaks School Division.