

## MEMORANDUM



To: Kingston Police Services Board (through Chief of Police)  
From: Greg Sands, A/Inspector  
Date: April 14, 2022  
Re: St. Patrick's Day 2022 (two day event March 17 & 19)

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Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Patrick's Day celebrations had been growing and increasingly exhibiting the unruly behaviour often associated with unsanctioned activities during the Queen's Homecoming weekend. This trend made it necessary for us to plan for St. Patrick's Day in a manner similar to Homecoming. Planning for the 2022 St. Patrick's Day had presented unique challenges due to information that this year's unsanctioned street parties would be on two dates, being March 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. Adding to this was a number of pandemic restrictions being lifted just prior to March 17<sup>th</sup>, which meant parties could gather outdoors with unlimited numbers, and households could increase their capacity. Information also indicated that parties would take full advantage of the loosened restrictions.

St. Patrick's Day fell on a Thursday this year, and students also planned a second St. Patrick's Day event for the following Saturday. Queen's University and St. Lawrence College were operating with most students physically attending classes in Kingston while few others studied online. The students (and other young people who traditionally make up the crowd), are increasingly sharing less information via social media, although there was information that Queen's University had received social media notoriety due to planning to host two separate St. Patrick's Day events. This seemed to lend that others from out of town would join Kingston parties here for one or both events. Through word of mouth channels it was learned that people from various locations around the province were planning to attend Kingston.

To bolster enforcement options, the City of Kingston continued the University District Safety Initiative. The Kingston Police worked closely with partners at the City of Kingston, including By-Law; Queen's University Administration, Security, and AMS; KHSC; Kingston Fire and Rescue; and Frontenac Paramedics, with the goal of safely managing the situation.

On Thursday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 72 sworn officers, eight Special Constables, and four civilian members were deployed under the Incident Command Model. The deployment of these members was staggered to assist in coverage for the entire event, to accommodate their current shift schedules, and to ensure the projected busy times afforded the most resources. Neighbouring police services also provided assistance in the form of staff.

Incident Command took a different approach to this day's event that was well received and produced excellent results. Officers were staged close by out of sight. As parties began to show up, police response was appropriate to the crowd size. This allowed for officers to be fresh, the area to not be over policed, and attention not focused on the presence of officers. Streets remained open all day and the event did not last overly long. There were 50 Liquor Licence Control Act summonses and one Administrative Monetary Penalty issued. There were two Nuisance Noise By law declarations, one being the north end of Aberdeen Street.

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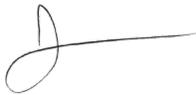
On Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup>, 42 sworn officers, eight Special Constables, and three civilian members were deployed under the Incident Command Model. These members were scheduled on staggered times to again capture the event and ensure the peak times were covered sufficiently. This event began earlier and Aberdeen Street was consumed by partiers. Estimated number of partiers was placed at approximately 4,000. This date there were 24 Liquor Licence Control Act summonses, four Highway Traffic Act tickets, two Administrative Monetary Penalties, and six declared nuisance parties. On this date during one arrest, projectiles were thrown at police and one officer was struck in the head, requiring medical attention.

Both dates saw large crowds, with Saturday's crowd being more unruly. City of Kingston By-Law again provided immense support and partnered very well with police during these tumultuous events. Neighbouring police services provided nine members (both sworn officers and Special Constables) on March 17<sup>th</sup>, and four members (again both sworn and Special Constables) on March 19<sup>th</sup>.

Kingston Police Director of Finance provided the following costing:

Overtime	Thursday 17 March, 2022	\$44,835
	Saturday 19 March, 2022	\$38,278
Operational Costs		\$12,504
Total		\$95,617

Respectfully,



Greg Sands  
A/Inspector  
Administrative Support Division