



CERTIFICATE OF MERIT CHIEF CONSTABLE UNIT CITATIONS CHIEF CONSTABLE
COMMENDATIONS AWARD OF VALOUR CERTIFICATE OF MERIT CHIEF CONSTABLE
UNIT CITATIONS CHIEF CONSTABLE COMMENDATIONS AWARD OF VALOUR

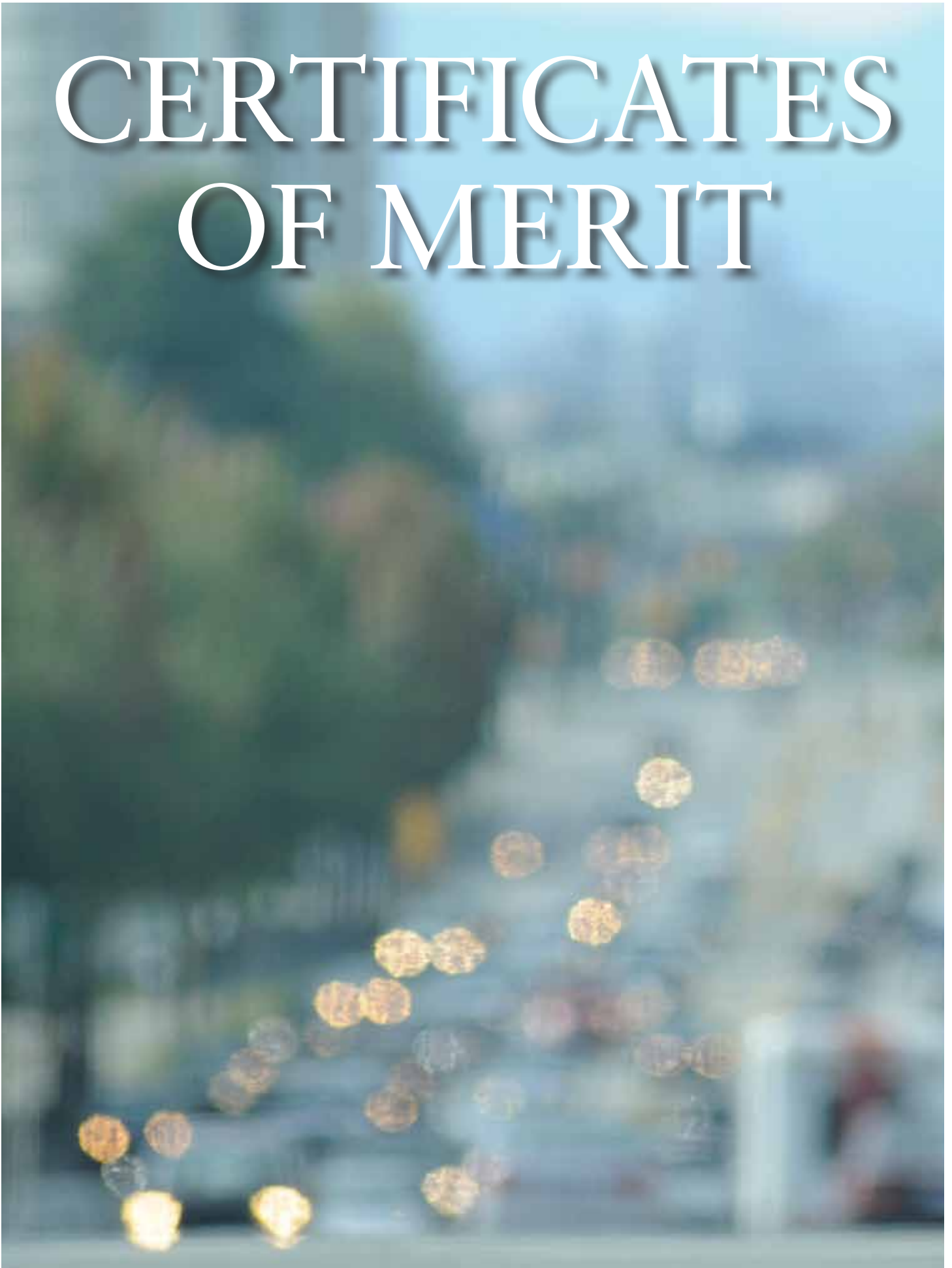
2012 AWARDS



VANCOUVER POLICE DEPARTMENT
Beyond the Call

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CERTIFICATES OF MERIT



CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

MR. GEORGE MORAITIS

There is a special type of courage that makes it possible for a person to enter the fray while others stand by and watch. But it takes even more courage to enter the fray when you are hopelessly outnumbered.

It's the type of courage that George Moraitis displayed on the night of July 16th, 2010, when he saw four men viciously attacking a single man who they repeatedly knocked to the ground. Once down, they kicked him and jumped on his head.

Mr. Moraitis, who was out with friends for a pleasant evening in Gastown, rushed in to break up the fight. He then followed the four men while noting a detailed description of them. Once police arrived, he grabbed two of the suspects and presented them to police. He then ran around the block to catch up with the other two men so he could confirm their identities as police took them into custody.

For his selfless courage and quick actions that saved one man from serious injury and four suspects from escaping, George Moraitis is awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MS. KATHLEEN SMEDLEY MR. RANDY HORN MR. WAYNE MCCARTY

If a woman is mugged on a Vancouver street, would even one passerby stop to help? Can you imagine three people running to her aid from different directions? That's exactly what happened on March 9, 2011, when a woman walking along Kingsway Avenue was robbed of her purse and knocked to the ground.

Kathleen Smedley was walking on the opposite side of the street when she heard the woman scream. As the victim ran after the mugger, Ms. Smedley joined the chase, but before the two women could catch up to the crook, two other men took matters into their own hands. Randy Horn, an off-duty Surrey fire-fighter,

was driving by when he witnessed the crime. He parked his vehicle, chased the man and told him to stop. He even grabbed his arm, but the robber pulled a knife which could have guaranteed his escape.

What the robber didn't know was that Wayne McCarty had been riding his bicycle nearby when he saw the assault. He chased him on his bike just in time to see him pull the knife on Mr. Horn. He joined the fight, grabbing the criminal's knife arm, and together the two men wrestled him to the ground, disarming him and holding him for police.

Because these three people chose to selflessly rush to the aid of a stranger with total disregard for their own safety, a Vancouver woman was able to get her belongings back and a dangerous and violent offender was arrested.

For their courage and bravery, Kathleen Smedley, Randy Horn and Wayne McCarty are awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MR. JEFFREY COOK MR. JAMES FURTADO

A crazed man with a gun shooting into a crowd -- most people would run away from him as fast as they could. Jeffrey Cook and James Furtado are not most people; they ran after him.

It all started just after midnight on February 13th, 2011, when a drunken man was turned away from a downtown nightclub by the doorman. He returned an hour later and starting shooting at the doorman and into the crowd. The victim went down with two bullets in his leg.

Jeffrey Cook and James Furtado, two employees of a nearby club, saw the shooting and immediately began to chase the man. As they ran down the street, the man turned twice, pulling the trigger as he aimed the gun at his pursuers, but miraculously the gun never fired. The men were able to close the distance, tackle the shooter and hold him for police.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

The suspect was charged with attempted murder and multiple firearms charges.

For their decisive and courageous actions that took down a violent offender, Jeffrey Cook and James Furtado are awarded the Vancouver Police Department's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MR. ANDREW MCKILLOP
MR. NICOLAS HURWORTH
MR. GARRETT OLIVER

When Andrew McKillop, Nicolas Hurworth and Garrett Oliver went to work on the morning of October 16, 2008, they had no way of knowing that before their shift was through they would hold a woman's life in their hands.

The three city workers were working on the northbound side of the Cambie Street Bridge, when they noticed a distraught woman climbing over the railing on the southbound side. Without pause, the three men ran into traffic, dodging oncoming cars, crossing five lanes and two meridians to get to the woman.

Just as they reached her, she let go of the railing. Reaching over they grabbed her by her sweater and pulled her back to safety.

If they had not been willing to put their own safety at risk, or if they had even hesitated another moment, the woman might not have survived.

For their courage and quick action, Andrew McKillop, Nicolas Hurworth and Garrett Oliver are awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MR. BRENT MUDRY
MR. ROBERT PRIDGE

Sometimes feeling safe means more than just living in a crime-free neighbourhood -- it means knowing that your neighbours will come to your aid when trouble strikes.

In the early morning hours of October 23, 2011, a 26 year old woman was walking along a West End sidewalk when she was viciously attacked, thrown to the ground and sexually assaulted. As her attacker tried to cover her mouth she fought the man and screamed.

Brent Mudry and Robert Pridge heard the screams from inside their respective homes. Mr. Mudry searched the area and found a man who became aggressive when confronted. The suspect tried to leave the area with Mr. Mudry in pursuit, who was all the while giving the details to 911. Mr. Pridge joined in the pursuit and they attempted to subdue the man until police arrived.

Soon after, police arrested the man for sexual assault and robbery.

Without their immediate, brave and selfless actions, the young woman would have surely suffered far worse injuries and most likely the attacker would not have been arrested. Brent Mudry and Robert Pridge are awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MS. GAIL BOIVIN
MR. COLIN SANDERS

It has been said that in order for evil to triumph, all it takes is for good people to do nothing.

In the often frantic world of the city's Downtown Eastside, the bad guys win every time someone is afraid or reluctant to come forward and testify.

On January 3rd, 2010, one violent drug dealer's lucky streak ran out when he encountered two witnesses who refused to back down.

CERTIFICATES OF MERIT

The drug dealer, in broad daylight, had just viciously assaulted a 52 year old woman on the sidewalk. He beat her so badly that she suffered broken bones in her face, nose and eye. Many bystanders witnessed the beating, including Gail Boivin and Colin Sanders. As the drug dealer fled he threatened the witnesses, telling them to keep their mouths shut and that they saw nothing.

The threats did not stop Gail Boivin and Colin Sanders from doing their civic duty. They called police to get assistance for the victim, gave witness statements and later identified the suspect from a photo line-up. Their evidence was crucial in his eventual arrest and conviction.

For their courage and outstanding sense of civic duty, Gail Boivin and Colin Sanders are awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MR. JOHN EVANS
MR. GREG MAXWELL
MR. MURRAY MAXWELL

Sometimes you're asked to do a job that you never signed up for, but you do it because you think it's the right thing to do.

When the Vancouver Police launched their Grow Busters Project in 2000 to reduce the number of illegal marijuana grow-operations in the city, they turned to Vancouver's district electrical inspectors for help. Understandably, most of these inspectors turned them down.

In 2000, Murray Maxwell and John Evans volunteered to participate in the Grow Busters program. When Murray passed away, his son Greg Maxwell took his spot on the Team. They faced electrical, chemical and environmental hazards, as well as threats to their personal safety from criminals protecting their grow-operations

Because of their efforts and in the best spirit of the VPD's slogan "Beyond the Call," many criminals were arrested and brought to justice.

For their selflessness, courage and sense of civic duty, John Evans, Greg Maxwell and Murray Maxwell are awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

MS. SARAH PRESTON
MS. MELINDA CLANCEY-DUBIENSKI

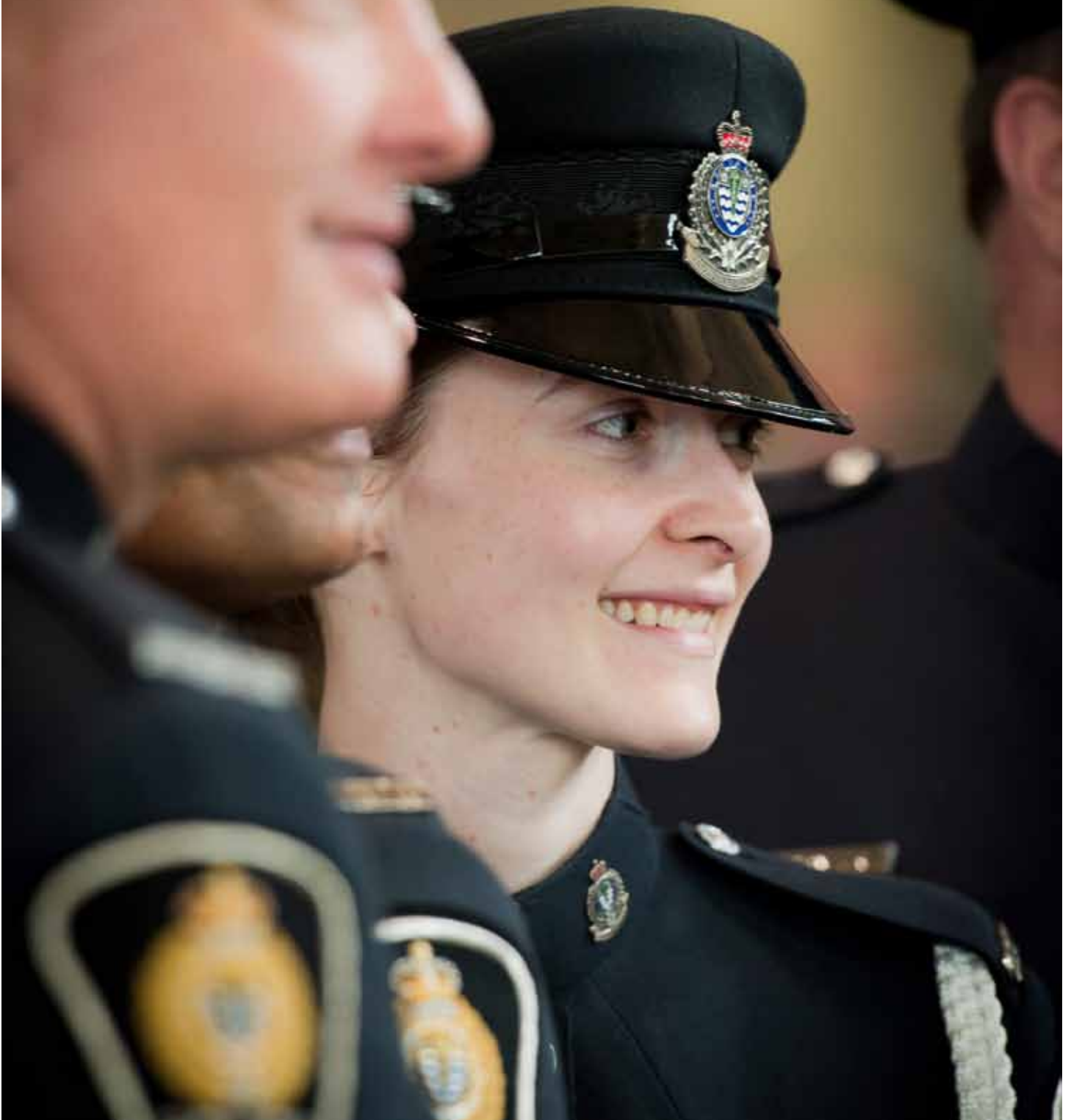
If you were walking home from work along the Cambie Street Bridge and you saw a woman sitting on the railing with her legs dangling over the side, would you mind your own business or decide to get involved in hers?

Luckily for the woman on the railing, Sarah Preston and Melinda Clancey-Dubienski did not mind their own business. While they were walking along the bridge on the afternoon of June 23, 2011, the two women became concerned when they saw a person sitting on the railing staring into the water below.

This person was deeply distressed, three months pregnant and non-responsive, so the two women held on to her, comforted her and waited for police to arrive.

For their courageous efforts to save the life of a woman and her unborn child, Sarah Preston and Melinda Clancey-Dubienski are awarded the Vancouver Police Board's highest award for civilian bravery, the Certificate of Merit.

CHIEF CONSTABLE UNIT CITATIONS



CHIEF CONSTABLE UNIT CITATIONS

CONSTABLE JUSTIN LEUNG
CONSTABLE CESAR YOUNG
CONSTABLE DAYNE CAMPBELL
CONSTABLE TONY BLOUIN
CONSTABLE VICTORIA BRYAN
CONSTABLE SHELDON MCLEAN
CONSTABLE CINDA MICHAEL
CONSTABLE GRAHAM MACDONALD

The old saying that patience is a virtue is sometimes never truer than when a life hangs in the balance.

For a number of Vancouver Police patrol members and members of the Emergency Response Team, that patience was tested on July 2, 2011, on the roof of a five-storey building.

Police were called to the site by a woman who said her boyfriend had climbed to the top and was threatening to jump off. When police arrived they found a highly agitated 32 year old man pacing back and forth near the edge. Attempts to ease him off the roof failed and the Emergency Response Team was called. Constables Justin Leung and Cesar Young climbed the old fire escape ladder to the roof and saw a man in stocking feet, jeans and tank-top, who was obviously agitated and paranoid that police were going to grab him. He paced nervously, coming within inches of the edge and refusing to take police instructions.

The stand-off went on for hours in the broiling sun as the temperature on the tar roof climbed above 30 degrees. After about eight hours of patient and exhausting negotiating, Constable Leung took the opportunity to lunge when the man momentarily looked away. In seconds, the rest of the team on the roof piled on and a life was saved.

For their bravery, endurance and determination to save the man's life, Constables Justin Leung, Cesar Young, Dayne Campbell, Tony Blouin, Victoria Bryan, Sheldon McLean, Cinda Michael and Graham MacDonald are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation.

NORTH SHORE SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM

When someone needs help finding a missing relative or friend, they turn to the Vancouver Police Department's Missing Persons Unit. When the VPD needs help finding a missing person, they turn to the North Shore Search and Rescue Team.

It's easy to understand why some first responders put themselves at risk covering hazardous terrain. It's their job. But the volunteer members of the North Shore Search and Rescue Team put themselves at risk finding others because it is their passion.

Time after time this group of dedicated men and women respond to the call. They set up command posts and then often spend days combing woods and mountains, and rappelling down cliff faces when necessary, on the chance that they will find a lost child or a suicidal adult. Their business is saving lives and they are outstanding in their detailed searches of land, waterway and air.

For all the invaluable assistance they have provided to the Vancouver Police over the years, the members of the North Shore Search and Rescue Team are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation.

CHIEF CONSTABLE UNIT CITATIONS

INSPECTOR LES YEO
SERGEANT RANDY REGUSH
SERGEANT ROY BERTOLO
SERGEANT DAVID VAN PATTEN
SERGEANT BRAD PICARD
CONSTABLE RYAN MASALES
CONSTABLE PETER ALFRED
CONSTABLE FRANCISCO MIGUEL
CONSTABLE STEPHEN FRASER
CONSTABLE KAL BOWYER
CONSTABLE HELDER CONFEITEIRO
CONSTABLE PETER FROH
CONSTABLE SEAN WARD
CONSTABLE MARK DUREAU
CONSTABLE SCOTT FINCHAM
CONSTABLE JEFF SILZER
CONSTABLE KEVIN TORVIK
CONSTABLE KELLY RISEBROUGH
CONSTABLE CARTER NIDDRIE
CONSTABLE ANIL SINGH
CONSTABLE MICHAEL GRIFFIN
CONSTABLE SHAI MANJI
CONSTABLE GRANT WINTERBURN
CONSTABLE ALEN IVEZIC
CONSTABLE RYAN DIGUANGCO
CONSTABLE DAVID SWANSON
CONSTABLE JENNIFER KWOK
CONSTABLE MARK LOBEL
CONSTABLE GORDON PRIEST

An undercover police officer posed as a fence, loitering on the streets of the Downtown Eastside. For days, his only company on the streets was drug dealers, users and other fences. He gained street “cred” with active criminals by buying their stolen goods and having conversations with them. These conversations and the property they sold would later give Crown the evidence it needed to charge them.

The project resulted in 31 arrests with 76 charges ranging from possession of stolen property to bank robbery and fraud. In almost half of the cases, the investigators were able to return property to victims.

Project Larceny sent a message to every offender that they may be selling their property to an undercover police officer. It also sent a message to the public to not buy stolen property from open air markets.

For their innovative and dedicated police work, the following members are awarded the Chief Constable’s

Unit Citation: Inspector Les Yeo, Sergeants Randy Regush, Roy Bertolo, David Van Patten, and Brad Picard, Constables Ryan Masales, Peter Alfred, Francisco Miguel, Stephen Fraser, Kal Bowyer, Helder Confeiteiro, Peter Froh, Sean Ward, Mark Dureau, Scott Fincham, Jeff Silzer, Kevin Torvik, Kelly Risebrough, Carter Niddrie, Anil Singh, Michael Griffin, Shaif Manji, Grant Winterburn, Alen Ivezic, Ryan Diguangco, David Swanson, Jennifer Kwok, Mark Lobel and Gordon Priest.

SERGEANT GRANT MEERES
CONSTABLE MARK BOUCHEY
CONSTABLE MURRAY KINDRATSKY
CONSTABLE JOHN BERCIC
CONSTABLE MIKE BIRKAS
CONSTABLE AUGIE BUTTERWORTH
CONSTABLE ADRIAN THOMSON
CONSTABLE MICHAEL LITTLEFIELD
CONSTABLE STEVE SHAW
CONSTABLE DARREN FOSTER
CONSTABLE MELISSA YAMAMOTO
CONSTABLE SCOTT MADDEN

If the Vancouver Police Department one day achieves its goal of making Vancouver the safest major city in Canada, then part of that equation will mean our city will have Canada’s safest roads.

Members of Enforcement Team One of the VPD’s Traffic Section are working hard to make that goal a reality.

The team has made an outstanding effort, exceeding all of management’s expectations and targets. Their aggressive enforcement tactics have taken large numbers of drunk drivers off the road along with bad drivers who were breaking the law. Their dedication and sustained exemplary performance have made Vancouver streets safer for us all and have been a major factor in the dramatic drop in fatal crashes and collisions. In 2010, Vancouver had the lowest number of fatal collisions ever.

For their exceptional commitment to public safety, the following members of the Traffic Section’s Enforcement Team One are awarded the Chief

CHIEF CONSTABLE UNIT CITATIONS

Constable's Unit Citation: Sergeant Grant Meeres, Constables Mark Bouchey, Murray Kindratsky, John Bercic, Mike Birkas, Augie Butterworth, Adrian Thomson, Michael Littlefield, Steve Shaw, Darren Foster, Melissa Yamamoto and Scott Madden.

**RCMP INSPECTOR GEORGE PEMBERTON
RCMP CORPORAL WILL NG**

**FBI SUPERVISORY SPECIAL AGENT PATRICK J. CARROLL
FBI SPECIAL AGENT CHARLES J. RUSSELL
FBI SPECIAL AGENT ANTHONY FIORINI
FBI SPECIAL AGENT KATHLEEN M. QUEALLY**

**VPD SERGEANT MARK JOHNSTONE
VPD ACTING SERGEANT MARK BRAGAGNOLO
VPD DETECTIVE PAUL MCNAMARA
VPD DETECTIVE PETER ALFRED
VPD DETECTIVE ANN FONTAINE**

It's long been known that you can steal more with a briefcase than you can with a gun.

For decades, Vancouver's stock market has been plagued by fraudsters and criminals out to bilk the public of millions of dollars in pump-and-dump schemes and other scams.

In 2007, members of the Financial Crimes Squad started to investigate fraudulent shell companies. Their investigation developed into a joint effort with the RCMP Integrated Market Enforcement Team and the New York office of the FBI's White Collar Crime Squad.

Using the undercover technique, the team discovered an international fraud scheme that led to the arrest of 15 people. This investigation spanned three countries, disrupted one of the world's largest fraudulent brokerages houses and was the first time the VPD had conducted undercover operations outside of Canada.

For their dedication and perseverance, the following members of Project Conch are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation: RCMP Inspector George Pemberton, RCMP Corporal Will Ng, FBI Supervisory Special Agent Patrick J. Carroll, FBI

Special Agents Charles J. Russell, Anthony Fiorini and Kathleen M. Queally, along with VPD Sergeant Mark Johnstone, VPD Acting Sergeant Mark Bragagnolo, and VPD Detectives Paul McNamara, Peter Alfred and Ann Fontaine.

**INSPECTOR LARRY COPE
SERGEANT SHAWN COADY
DEPARTMENTAL SERGEANT MAJOR JAMES PEARSON
MS. GEORGINA SPENCER
MS. SHARMINI THIAGARAJAH
MS. CHELSEA GIRARD
MS. VALERIE MCLEAN**

In an organization such as the Vancouver Police Department, having a sense of history and knowing that you stand on the shoulders of all those who went before you is essential to your morale and your success.

In May of 2011, the VPD marked a milestone in its history when it celebrated its 125th anniversary. The day was made especially memorable by the efforts of a small group of VPD members, both sworn and civilian, who had been working off the sides of their desks for months on this project.

On May 10th, the committee facilitated one of the largest parades the Department has ever witnessed. More than 240 sworn and civilian members received special commemorative medals from the Premier of British Columbia. In a number of other smaller ceremonies eventually every member of the Department, including retirees, would receive this unique medal.

For their exceptional organizational efforts in obtaining the funding for the medals from the Vancouver Police Foundation and promoting and facilitating the anniversary events, the following members are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation: Inspector Larry Cope, Sergeant Shawn Coady, Departmental Sergeant Major James Pearson, Event Coordinator Georgina Spencer, Graphic Designer Sharmini Thiagarajah, Administrative Assistant Chelsea Girard and the Executive Director of the Vancouver Police Foundation, Valerie McLean.

CHIEF CONSTABLE COMMENDATIONS



CHIEF CONSTABLE COMMENDATIONS

CONSTABLE DERRICK GIBSON POLICE SERVICE DOG TEAK

On October 3rd, 2011, a former professional football player made a desperate dash for freedom, but was met at the line of scrimmage by a determined police officer and his K9 partner.

The six-foot-one, 225-pound man was a suspected sex offender, who was being investigated for a series of brazen sexual assaults on women in public places. The officer was Constable Derrick Gibson with his police dog Teak. They were planning to make a simple arrest, but it turned into one of the toughest they had ever faced.

When the man resisted arrest, Constable Gibson sent in Teak, who attached himself to the man's leg. Instead of giving up immediately as most people would, he fought the dog, prying his jaws apart. Constable Gibson jumped into the fray and the struggle was on.

At first the man seemed to comply and the dog was released. Then he ran. Teak launched and sank his teeth into the man's arm and hung on. This seemed to have no effect, as the man kept running with an 85-pound German shepherd attached to his arm. He fought the dog and freed himself. Teak attacked again and this time attached himself to the man's leg. The man kept running like he was shaking off a tackle.

The chase led to a dead-end lane, where the man tried to scale a ten-foot wall. This time, Teak grabbed onto his left thigh as Constable Gibson entered the lane with his firearm drawn. Even that didn't stop the man from charging the officer, who just had time to holster his weapon before the collision. What followed would stun onlookers and other police.

As the violent struggle continued, a crowd gathered. Constable Gibson cried out for assistance. Instead they took pictures with their cell phones. At that moment, other officers arrived and piled on.

For their relentless and brave efforts to capture a violent and dangerous suspect accused of sexually assaulting women in public places, Constable Derrick Gibson and Police Service Dog Teak are awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation.

CONSTABLE CARA ADAMS

It's the classic definition of bravery: the willingness to run into a fire to save a life regardless of the risk to yours.

Early in the morning of August 1st, 2011, Constable Cara Adams and her partner came upon a car accident where a drunk driver was wandering aimlessly around the car as witnesses watched from the sidewalk. Constable Adams interviewed the driver while her partner spoke to the witnesses.

They noticed that there was liquid leaking on to the road from the front of the crashed vehicle. That liquid caught fire and smoke began to fill the hood of the car. The flames from the burning liquid were touching the front of the car and it appeared the car was catching fire.

Even though no one else was visible in the car, Constable Adams asked the driver anyway. She told her that her friend was lying down in the backseat.

Without a moment's hesitation, Constable Adams ran towards the car as it was starting to burn, opened the back door and pulled the unconscious woman to safety. Seconds later the engine exploded and then the entire car burst in to flames.

For her quick and heroic actions that saved a young woman from a horrible death, Constable Cara Adams is awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation.

CHIEF CONSTABLE COMMENDATIONS

CONSTABLE FRED OLDENDORF

The ability to predict into the future is an important asset of any organization. When Constable Fred Oldendorf looked into the future of the VPD, he saw it clearly on a video screen.

The year was 2006, when Constable Oldendorf became the first Operations training officer, largely because he suggested video production should be part of his duties. Even though the Training Section had no video equipment at the time and Constable Oldendorf had no video training, he took it upon himself to find the training and then used his personal equipment to shoot and edit his first training video. Fast forward into the future and hundreds of videos later, Constable Oldendorf has firmly established the VPD as a leader in video production. His productions are always of the highest quality and the envy of other departments. Looking further into the future, he saw the need for even greater video capability and was instrumental in the hiring of the VPD's first civilian videographer.

For his outstanding work and insight, which has enhanced the Department's training, communications and reputation, Constable Fred Oldendorf is awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation.

CONSTABLE SHELDON MCLEAN

ACTING SERGEANT RANDALL BAKKER
CONSTABLE JUSTIN LEUNG
CONSTABLE KAL PENNER
CONSTABLE SHAWN HARDMAN
CONSTABLE CESAR YOUNG
CONSTABLE MARK LOBEL

Imagine the havoc and carnage that one disturbed man armed with a sword and dagger could wreak in the middle of a crowd. That was the situation facing police on the afternoon of May 30, 2011, when a man with a sword left the Burrard Street Skytrain station.

Emergency Response Team members Constables Sheldon McLean and Cesar Young knew exactly what would happen if they couldn't safely stop the man from entering the growing group of spectators. It was

an extremely dangerous situation with a large crowd standing just behind the officers who were only 15 feet away from the suspect.

As more patrol members and other Emergency Response Team members arrived, they moved the crowd back to a safer distance. They tried to contain the suspect using a negotiator, but when that failed and he started to run towards the crowd, they tried to stop him with non-lethal weapons; the rubber bullets and the Taser failed, as well.

Constable Mark Lobel was able to trip the man but he got up running. Constable McLean caught up to him, placing himself in jeopardy by engaging an armed suspect approaching a crowd of civilians, and brought the man down with a flying tackle. Other members of ERT closed in, pinned the man to the ground and disarmed him of his sword and dagger.

For his brave action that prevented injury to others and saved the life of a suspect by avoiding the use of lethal force, Constable Sheldon McLean is awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation and the following members are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Commendation: ERT Acting Sergeant Randall Bakker, ERT Constables Justin Leung, Kal Penner, Shawn Hardman, Cesar Young and Patrol Constable Mark Lobel.

CONSTABLE GREIG VANDENBERG
CONSTABLE JASPRIT SHAHI

SERGEANT WAYNE WINDRAM
CONSTABLE JASON BALLARD
CONSTABLE ANDREW DE SOUSA
CONSTABLE PAUL BENNETT

When a police officer is staring down the barrel of a gun, he or she has to make an instant life or death decision whether to fire their own weapon or wait. On the evening of September 30, 2010, fingers were on the triggers of three guns while three lives hung in the balance.

CHIEF CONSTABLE COMMENDATIONS

It all started just minutes earlier when armed bandits stormed the Montecristo Jewellers store at the Oakridge mall. They fired their weapons in the mall and sprayed bear spray causing shoppers to run for the exits in a panic.

Constable Jason Ballard was on duty outside the mall when he saw the running shoppers and heard the shots. He had been waiting for Constables Ben Hadson and Paul Bennett who were arresting a shoplifter. The two officers quickly ran to the robbery scene with guns drawn but were forced back by bear spray in the air.

One of the suspects had fled into a mall department store. Constable Ballard, now joined by Constables Andrew De Sousa and Sergeant Wayne Windrim, cleared the store aisle by aisle but the suspect had run out into the parking lot and directly into the path of Constables Greig Vandenberg and Jasprit Shahi.

He squared off into a combat shooting stance and pointed his gun at the officers who were just five metres away. The officers drew their firearms. The suspect pointed his weapon at Constable Shahi who told him to drop it. He then swung it over to point at Constable Vandenberg. For any one of the three people gripped in this tense standoff, death was a trigger pull away.

As the officers were about to fire, the suspect threw his gun to the ground and surrendered. No one would die today.

Subsequent investigation would result in the arrest of all three suspects involved in the robbery.

For their bravery, restraint and professionalism in the face of imminent danger, Constables Greig Vandenberg and Jasprit Shahi are awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation and for their quick and decisive actions, Sergeant Wayne Windrim and Constables Jason Ballard, Andrew De Sousa and Paul Bennett are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation.

INSPECTOR TONY ZANATTA

CONSTABLE WADE RODRIGUE
CONSTABLE RICHARD LEE
CONSTABLE CHRISTIAN GALBRAITH
CONSTABLE PETER DA SILVA

SERGEANT MARK ANDREWS
SERGEANT TREVOR HERRMANN
SERGEANT FIONA WILSON-BATES
SERGEANT PHIL CHAMBERS
DETECTIVE CONSTABLE KALPESH PATEL
DETECTIVE CONSTABLE GARY HIAR
CONSTABLE CINDA MICHAEL
CONSTABLE VICTORIA BRYAN
CONSTABLE ANDREW RAMAGE
CONSTABLE KEVIN BERNARDIN
CONSTABLE THOMAS CALLAGHAN
CONSTABLE LENE JENSEN
CONSTABLE ANDREW CHAN
CONSTABLE FRANCIS AQUINO
CONSTABLE SHAWN BOLLIVAR
CONSTABLE BRENT DERKSEN
CONSTABLE CHARLES GORMLEY
CONSTABLE MICHAEL LAURIN
CONSTABLE PETER SWAN
CONSTABLE DONALD CHAPMAN
CONSTABLE JOHN FILIPPELLI
CONSTABLE CAM HEMPHILL
DR. GEORGIA NEMETZ
MS. LAURA BEVACQUA
MS. TWYLA WILL
MS. SANDY JAREMCHUK
MS. IVY VUU

There are few police incidents more emotional and terrifying than the abduction at knifepoint of a young child by a suicidal mentally disturbed person.

About 6 p.m. on the night of November 23, 2010, at the Ray Cam Community Centre, a man armed with knife and a razor blade snatched a three year old boy from the arms of his mother and barricaded himself and the child in a washroom.

Unknown to the police at the time, they were dealing with a man who had suicidal tendencies and a history of violence. When they arrived at the community centre, the man told them to stay back as he was going to slit the boy's throat. This would begin a standoff that would last for hours as more police resources arrived and negotiations began.

CHIEF CONSTABLE COMMENDATIONS

His demands were erratic and often didn't make sense, leading police to fear he was psychotic. With every demand he threatened to hurt the child. He talked about "sacrificing the child" or "severing the child's fingers." Three hours into the incident, food was delivered by a robot. Eight hours in, things quickly turned from bad to terrifying. The man cut a gash into the boy's face. Ten seconds later police crash through the door of the washroom.

Constable Wade Rodrigue led a four-man team into the washroom, where he ripped the child from the man's grasp, handed him back to another team member and forced the abductor to the ground. The child was rushed to hospital for immediate surgery. The man was charged with attempted murder.

Throughout the very tense eight hours, police, under the command of Inspector Tony Zanatta, acted with professionalism, sound judgement and skill. Inspector Zanatta is awarded the Chief Constable's Commendation. The following members from the Entry Team are awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation: Constables Wade Rodrigue, Richard Lee, Christian Galbraith and Peter Da Silva. The following members of the Negotiating and Emergency Response Teams are also awarded the Chief Constable's Unit Citation: Sergeants Mark Andrews, Trevor Herrmann, Fiona Wilson-Bates and Phil Chambers, Detective Constables Kalpesh Patel and Gary Hiar, and Constables Cinda Michael, Victoria Bryan, Andrew Ramage, Kevin Bernardin, Thomas Callaghan, Lene Jensen, Andrew Chan, Francis Aquino, Shawn Bollivar, Brent Derksen, Charles Gormley, Michael Laurin, Peter Swan, Donald Chapman, John Filippelli, Cam Hemphill, Dr. Georgia Nemetz and civilians Laura Bevacqua, Twyla Will, Sandy Jaremchuk and Ivy Vuu.



AWARD OF VALOUR

AWARD OF VALOUR

CONSTABLE SHAWN DUPUIS CONSTABLE CURTIS TODD

There is no more horrible death than death by fire, no more painful injury than burns, and there is no higher level of bravery than the willingness to ignore those risks to save the life of another.

In the early evening hours of April 12, 2011, Constables Shawn Dupuis and Curtis Todd were on an assignment when a neighbour frantically approached them saying a nearby house was on fire. Without hesitation, the officers ran to a house where they could see thick smoke billowing from the roof top.

Fearing that there were people inside, they rushed in. Constable Todd took the main floor where he found a mother and child oblivious to what was going on. He also found two other children and an adult. He got all of them out of the house safely then went back in to help his partner.

He located Constable Dupuis on the second floor engulfed in smoke so thick that any visibility was impossible. In the suffocating haze, he could hear his partner trying to get the upstairs tenant to leave. The tenant had grabbed a kitchen sink water sprayer was trying to fight the flames. Sprinklers were going full blast and water was flowing everywhere as the officers forced the man to leave. They then cleared the house room by room before they finally got out.

For their selfless efforts and brave actions that saved numerous people from serious injury or worse while putting their own lives at risk, Constables Shawn Dupuis and Curtis Todd are awarded the Vancouver Police Department's highest award for bravery, the Award of Valour.

