



# The Upward Trend of Liquor Theft

Presented for:

AGLC

June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Cst. Ben DAVIS



# Evolution of the Issue

- An inadvertent “help yourself” environment created.



Theft compilation.wmv



# More Than Just a Bottle

- In the early stages of organized crime involvement.
- Converting stolen liquor to street level currency to fund street level gangs (Redd Alert & ASAP).
- Selling stolen merchandise to privately owned liquor stores and licensed establishments.
- Country wide trending issue.



# Edmonton Thefts Per Year

## \*Citywide\*

**2015 – 425 Thefts**  
**2016 – 873 Thefts**  
**2017 – 1258 Thefts**  
**2018 – 3178 Thefts**  
**2019 – 3397 Thefts**







# The increasing Trend of Theft to Robbery.

- Incident occurred on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 at the LIQUOR DEPOT located at 8169 99 Street. File 19073205 Refers.
- It is believed that although many of the events do not turn violent the potential for violence is high.



# Edmonton Robberies Per Year

**\*Citywide\***

As of May 29<sup>th</sup> 2019

2015 – 50 Robberies  
2016 – 50 Robberies  
2017 – 65 Robberies  
2018 – 95 Robberies  
2019 – 29 Robberies





# Mac's Homicide “No Touch Policy”

- December 2015, two Mac's store locations are robbed at gun point.
- Both locations utilized a no touch policy and complied with the demands.
- Both staff members at each location were shot and killed despite compliance.



# Theft of Gas - Death

- On October 6<sup>th</sup> 2017, a 54 year old owner of a FAS GAS in Thorsby was struck and killed by a vehicle driven by a man who stole gas from the location.
- Province wide pre-pay system implemented for gas purchases shortly afterwards.



# Edmonton Oversight Breakdown

- Compared to same period in 2018, liquor store occurrences have increased by **2642**. A **350% increase**.
- Currently averaging **22.8** daily occurrences. On pace for over **8000 (8322)** occurrences by years end.
- As of May 29<sup>th</sup> 2019, occurrences are trending at **106%** of the total 2018 thefts. *With 7 months of reporting still remain.*
- As of May 29<sup>th</sup> 2019, there have been a total of **29** liquor store related robberies citywide.



# Affiliated Cost Oversight

## The average hourly cost for a Patrol Constable:

- Salary for 1 member car for 1 hour = \$89.48
- Salary for 2 member car for 1 hour = \$175.47
- An average a liquor theft investigation is approx. 1.5 hours (**no arrest**).
- \$134.22 for a 1 member patrol car.
- \$263.20 for a 2 member patrol car.



# Edmonton Financial Breakdown

- For this year, as of May 23<sup>rd</sup> **2019**, there have been **4362 incidents of theft city wide.**
- In **2018**, there were **6495 total thefts city wide.**
- In **2018**, ALCANNA reported a product loss value of **\$554,006.80.**
- As of **June 17<sup>th</sup> 2019**, ALCANNA has reported **\$573,970.04** of lost product.
- A combined total loss of **\$1,143,323.67.**



# ALCANNA Product Loss



REPORT: LOCATIONS WITH OR WITHOUT CASES

Edmonton Shoplifting YOY by Location



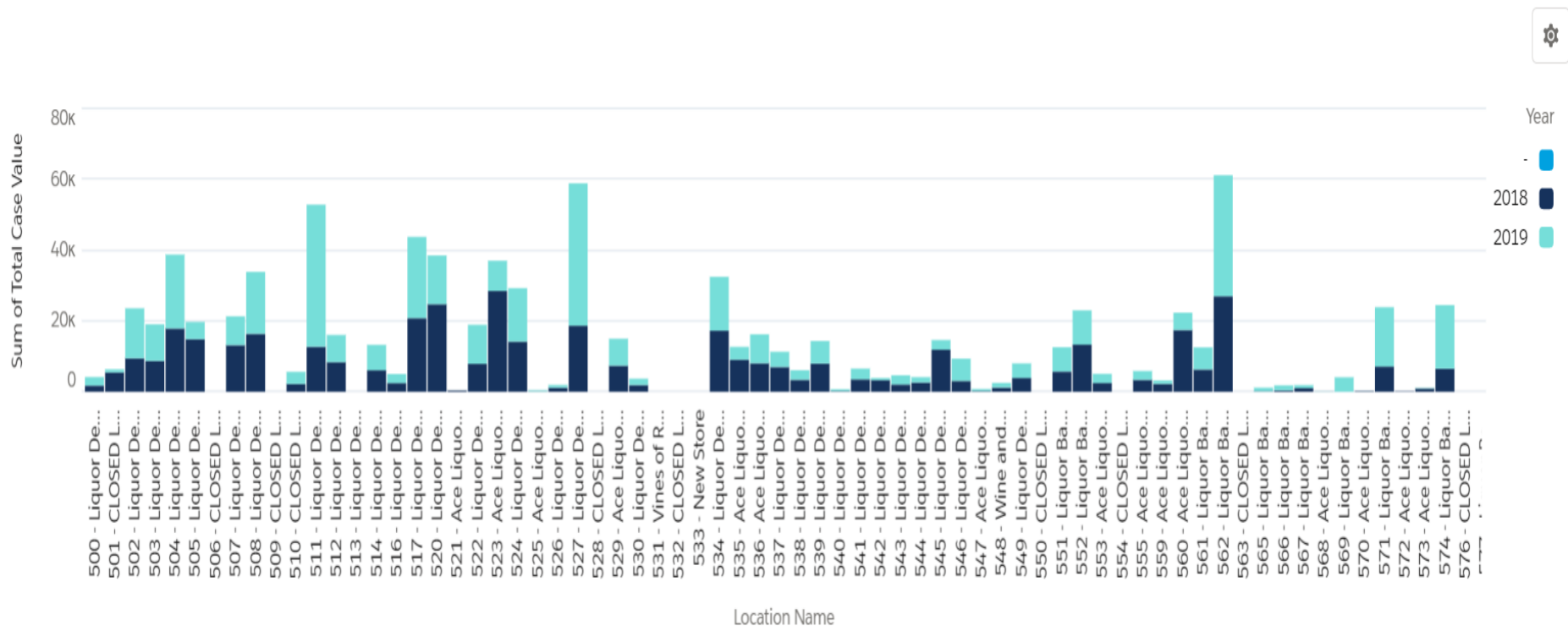
Edit



⚠ This report has more results than we can show (up to 2,000 rows). Summary information is calculated from full report results.

Total Records    Total Total Case Value

11,777    \$1,143,323.67







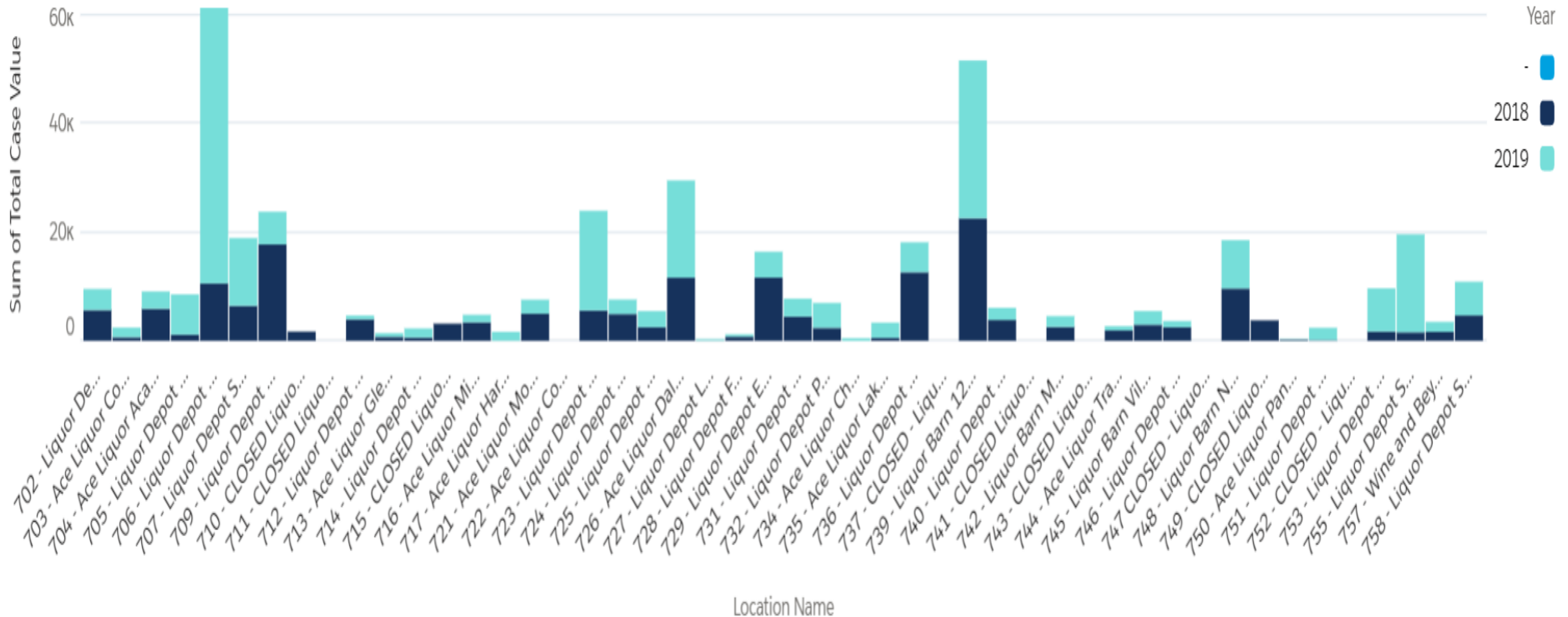
# ALCANNA Product Loss Cont.



REPORT: LOCATIONS WITH OR WITHOUT CASES

Calgary Shoplifting YOY by Location

Edit





# Financial Breakdown Cont.

- For 2018 – May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019, the costs are as follows:
- A 1 member car to respond and investigate is approximately **\$1,457,226.54.**
- A 2 member car to respond and investigate is approximately **\$2,857,562.40.**



# Upward Trend Country wide

- **Manitoba – “Liquor theft 'epidemic' creates confounding problem for courts”**
- **Ontario – “After \$77M worth of booze stolen in 1 year, LCBO union demands Ontario copy Manitoba's crackdown plan”**



# A\$AP

## Always Strive and Prosper





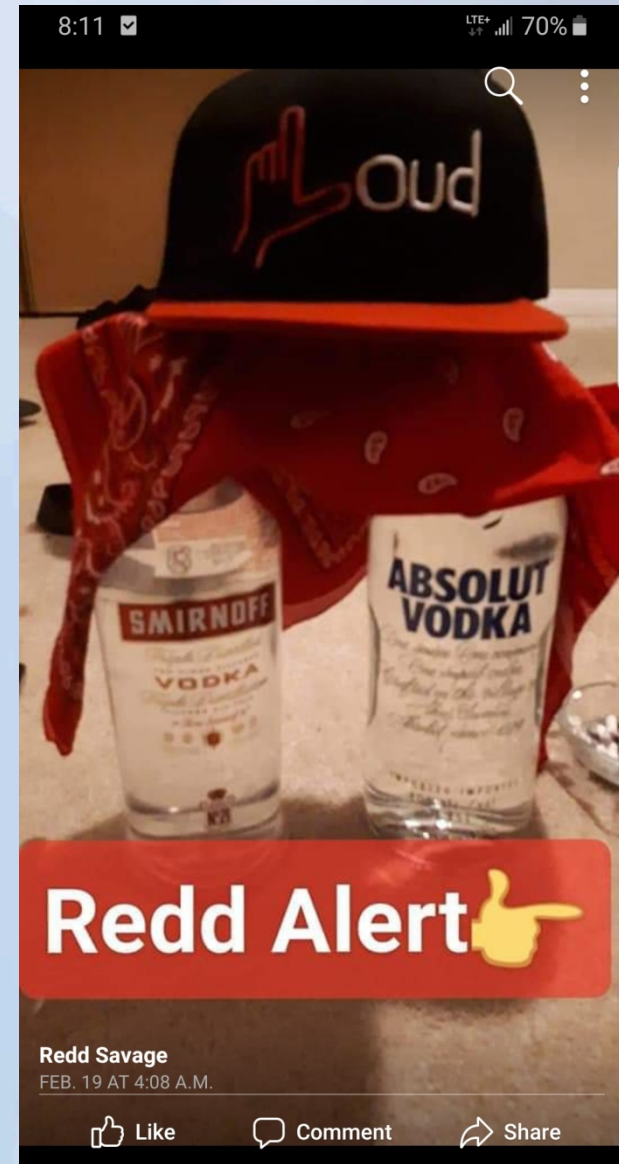


# Redd Alert (RA)





# Redd Alert cont.







# Redd Alert

8:16 68%



**Peirce Lee Amontay Soosay**

2 hrs •



LMFAO Me Before I Robbed The Liquor Store



Write a comment...





# Street Level Currency

- “Team 100” self proclaimed RA affiliated group responsible for liquor thefts.
- Suspects target LIQUOR DEPOT due to the “no touch” policy.
- RA is active in city wide thefts of liquor. This trend has also been observed in Calgary.
- Thieves start as drivers, once they prove themselves they receive upgraded status and are allowed to steal.





# Street Level Currency cont.

- Thieves pay dues to the RA on a monthly basis regarding thefts. Varies based on amount stolen.
- Hells Angels affiliates are actively engaged in purchasing stolen liquor.
- Extremely lucrative as stolen liquor is sold or exchanged for approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  -  $\frac{3}{4}$  face value.



**\*\*Break\*\***



# Re-selling of Stolen Liquor



Prolific liquor thief suspected of selling stolen Hennessy to CAFÉ CIENNA located at 13212 82 St. File 19020982 refers.

Prolific liquor thieves post arrest have spoken often about re-selling stolen liquor to OASIS LIQUOR for profit.



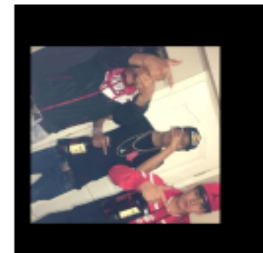
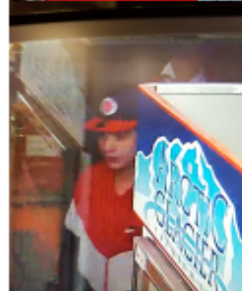


# Calgary Trend

- Videos



# Calgary: Open Source







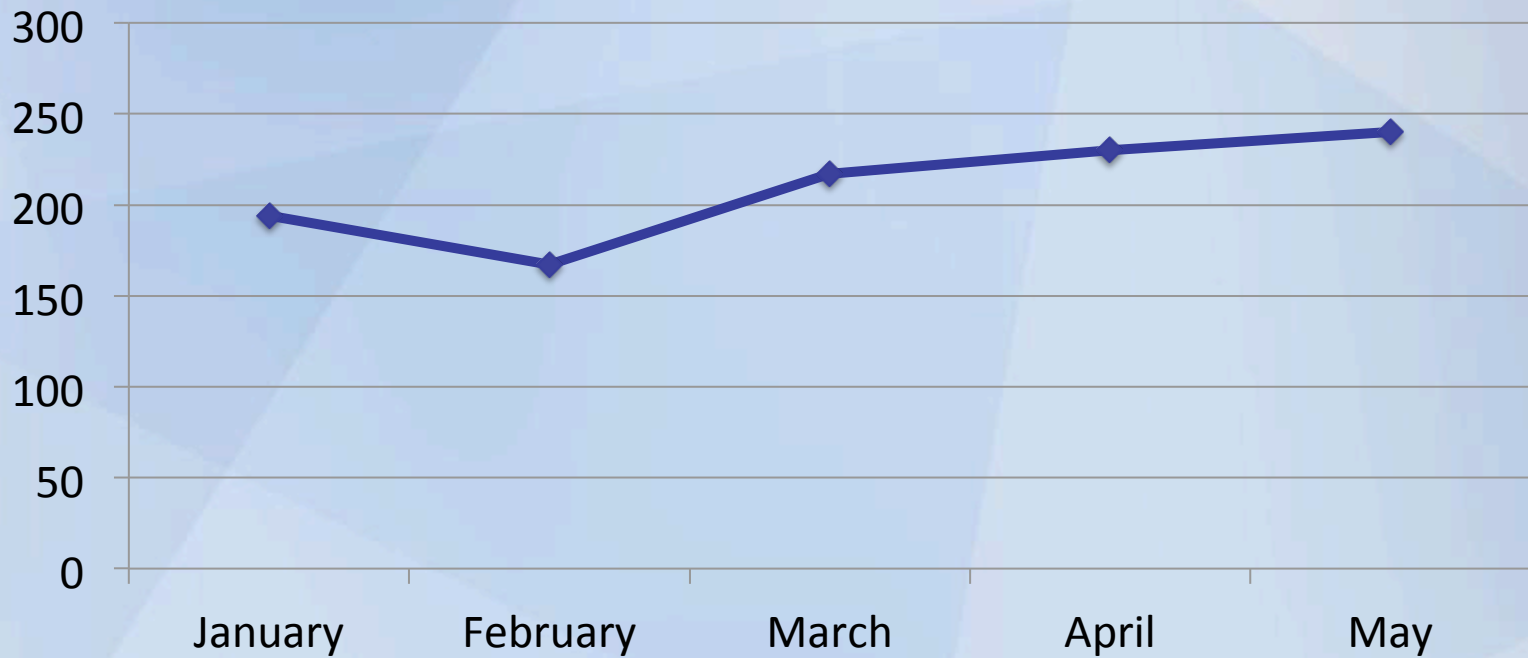
# AGLC's Recent Meeting with Calgary Police Overview

- Occurred May 6<sup>th</sup> 2019.
- AGLC – Liquor bottles have a CSPC code that is unique to each bottle. Ensures the bottle is legal for sale.
- AGLC prefers to educate first prior to imposing conditions.
- Direction moving forward was for the AGLC and CPS to potentially host a symposium for all liquor stores to attend to be educated on the theft issues and prevention methods.



# Calgary 2019 Stats

## Liquor Thefts





# Calgary Steps

- Operation 'Distilled'.
- Intelligence gathering confirm Redd Alert involvement.
- 20 Prolific offenders identified.





# Lethbridge Police Stats

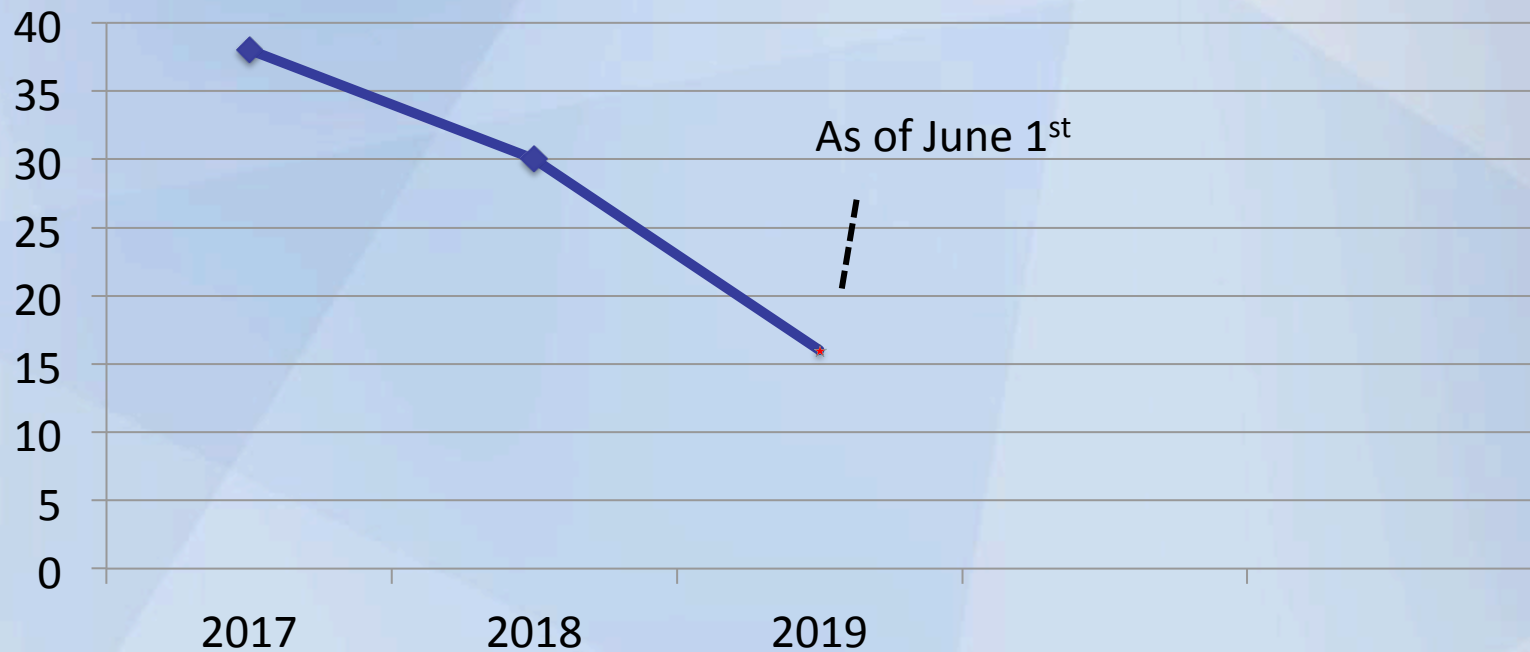
- 2018 Stats
- 2019 Stats





# Medicine Hat Police Stats

## Liquor Thefts





# Edmonton Legislative Steps

- **November 14<sup>th</sup> 2018** – First meeting with ALCANNA LPO managers to discuss the liquor theft issue.
- **November 16<sup>th</sup> 2018** – First meeting with AGLC to discuss the impact of theft to the front line of policing.
- **November 21<sup>st</sup> 2018** – New business statement form rolled out in Northeast Division designed to capture data more accurately.



# Edmonton Legislative Steps cont.

- **November 27<sup>th</sup> 2018** – Sent e-mail to LCBO's in Ontario to discuss potential solutions.
- **January 15<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Began CPTED assessment of ALCANNA liquor stores in Northeast Division. The focus being camera quality and effective placement.
- **January 29<sup>th</sup> 2019** – First meeting of the liquor store working group organized by Supt. ROCCHIO. This meeting was the first service wide meeting to collaboratively brainstorm solutions.



# Edmonton Legislative Steps cont.

- **March 12<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Determined Provincial wide issue based on internal stats from ALCANNA. The information received further indicated EPS statistics lacking in accuracy of issue scope.
- **March 14<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Meeting involving CEO, VP of Operations and other members of management from ALCANNA. Various EPS members from affected units in attendance as well. Discussion was tailored to front line theft deterrents. Mutual desire to meet with the AGLC and push for change.



# Edmonton Legislative Steps cont.

- **March 15<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Successfully transitioned several high theft Liquor Depots to online reporting.
- **June 12<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Presentation to Edmonton Chief of police and upper management.
- **June 17<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Today's meeting.



# Edmonton Enforcement Steps

- **November 29<sup>th</sup> 2018** – Meeting with LPO management. Discussed plain clothes support of their team and implementation of a Division wide SOP (NE).
- **December 7<sup>th</sup> 2018** – NE SOP drafted and submitted which received approval.
- **February 7<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Liaised with AGLC regarding CAFÉ CIENNA located at 13212 82 Street.





# Edmonton Enforcement Steps cont.

- **April 18<sup>th</sup> 2019** - SOP executed on OASIS LIQUOR located at 10537 107 Avenue which was unsuccessful.
- Execution of various plain clothes collaborative efforts with LPO's and several ALCANNA stores.
- **May 15<sup>th</sup> 2019** – Created a branch of enforcement utilizing CAT team to combat organized crime element.





# Edmonton Enforcement Steps cont.

- **May 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019**, CAT team implemented proactive policing at the top 10 identified LIQUOR DEPOT stores for thefts.
- Multiple arrests provided further information regarding key players, associated residences and vehicles.
- Sources recruited through these efforts which will assist in a consistent flow of current intelligence.



# Edmonton Enforcement Steps cont.

- **May 24<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> 2019**, attended the Remand Center and Fort Saskatchewan Correctional Facility and conducted various interviews with incarcerated prolific offenders.



# Edmonton Enforcement Steps cont.

- **June 11<sup>th</sup> 2019**, Met with crown prosecution and discussed issue.



# Potential Internal Solutions

- Invest in online reporting and affiliated potential.
- Facial recognition technology.
- Evolution of in house intelligence gathering.



# External Solutions

- ??



**\*\*Break\*\***

**Open Discussion to follow.**