

**THE WINNIPEG POLICE**

**500**

**YEARS OF  
AMALGAMATION**

By Rod Hutter, Vice-President



**O**n November 8<sup>th</sup>, 1873, the Manitoba Legislature passed the City of Winnipeg Act, with the date of 1874 being established as the official beginning for the “Capital City” of Manitoba. The population of Winnipeg was 1,869 persons around this time, and the first elections were held on January 5, 1874, with Mayor Francis E. Cornish being elected along with 12 Aldermen.

The Winnipeg Police Force came into existence on February 23, 1874, and originally consisted of one member being 23-year-old Chief Constable John S. Ingram. On March 16, 1874, two additional constables were appointed with the hiring of Frank A. Edgar and David B. Murray. Edgar, however, quit on March 30 after two weeks of employment and was replaced by Constable William Bruce.

Winnipeg grew steadily as the years passed with many other communities forming around the outskirts. In the late 1960's, these areas began discussions on amalgamation to form a single city. This came to be on January 1, 1972, when the official amalgamation of these 13 communities created the unified City of Winnipeg:

1. The Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg
2. Rural Municipality of Charleswood
3. City of East Kildonan
4. Rural Municipality of Fort Garry
5. Rural Municipality of North Kildonan
6. Rural Municipality of Old Kildonan
7. City of St. Boniface
8. City of St. James-Assiniboia (formerly RM of Assiniboia, Town of Brooklands, and City of St. James)
9. City of St. Vital
10. City of Transcona
11. Town of Tuxedo
12. City of West Kildonan
13. City of Winnipeg

Though officially joined in 1972, due to logistical complexities the total amalgamation of all areas and their respective civic departments was not completely finished until two years later in 1974.



## OVERVIEW

In preparation for the overall amalgamation, some communities merged in advance:

### **1966 | Brooklands Police merge with the St. James Police**

With the joining of their communities in 1966, the 5-member Brooklands Police Department amalgamated with the St. James Police (61 members). The Brooklands officers left their station at 11 Dee Street and moved into the St. James Police building located at 210 Lyle.

### **1969 | Assiniboia Police merge with the St. James Police**

Two years later, with the joining of their communities in 1969, the 22-member Assiniboia Police Department joined with the St. James Police to create the St. James-Assiniboia Police Department. The Assiniboia officers left their station at 3098 Portage Avenue and moved into the St. James Police Building at 210 Lyle.

### **1972 | Amalgamation**

On July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1971, Bill 36, being Chapter 105 of the Statutes of Manitoba, known as the City of Winnipeg Act, received Royal Assent. This bill officially incorporated the remaining 13 separate communities into the City of Winnipeg, with one Mayor and City Council. The first civic election was held on October 6<sup>th</sup>, 1971, and the new city of Winnipeg came into legal existence on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1972.

Despite the amalgamation of communities, the various Police Departments were not all immediately joined together and continued working as independent forces. They maintained their own radio systems and used a Civil Defence radio network to connect all the Departments in case of an emergency. The existing forces were combined into eight community police departments.



## North Kildonan Police merge with the East Kildonan Police

The North Kildonan Police ceased to exist as a force at midnight on December 31, 1971. As a result, the 18-member North Kildonan Police Force left their offices in the basement of 1400 Henderson Highway and moved in with the 39-member East Kildonan Police Department to work out of their station at 545 Watt Street.

## Old Kildonan Police merge with the West Kildonan Police

The Old Kildonan Police also ceased to exist as of midnight on December 31, 1971. The 7-member Old Kildonan Police Force left their building at 2301 Main Street and moved in with the 22-member West Kildonan Police Department to work out of their Station at 260 Hartford Avenue.

The remaining forces then consisted of:

- Winnipeg Police
- St. James-Assiniboia Police
- West Kildonan Police
- East Kildonan Police
- Transcona Police
- St. Vital Police
- St. Boniface Police
- Fort Garry Police
- Tuxedo Police

Each force continued wearing their respective uniforms and worked out of their own stations now as Community Police. The wording "City of" was removed from most of the departmental shoulder flashes.



## Tuxedo Police merge with the Winnipeg Police who also take over Charleswood from the RCMP

Later, on October 1, 1972, the 5-member Tuxedo Police Force amalgamated with the 528-member Winnipeg Police Department. Winnipeg officers then commenced using the former Tuxedo Police Station at 2020 Corydon Avenue as a satellite office. On this same date Winnipeg also took over policing for the Rural Municipality of Charleswood upon the expiration of their contract with the RCMP.

### 1974 | Final Merger of all Forces

On **October 21, 1974**, the 8 remaining Police Forces completed their mergers to form the City of Winnipeg Police Department. Based on geography, six separate districts were created:

#### DISTRICT 1 Former Winnipeg (Inner City) Area.

**Station:** Winnipeg Police Public Safety Building at 151 Princess Street.

#### DISTRICT 2 St. James-Assiniboia Area.

**Station:** Former St. James-Assiniboia Police building at 210 Lyle Street.

#### DISTRICT 3 West Kildonan area, including former Winnipeg area north of the CPR Main line tracks between Higgins Avenue and Sutherland Avenue.

**Station:** Former West Kildonan Police building at 260 Hartford Avenue.

#### DISTRICT 4 Areas of North Kildonan, East Kildonan, Transcona, and "Elmwood" area of Winnipeg.

**Station:** The East Kildonan Station at 545 Watt Street was closed and all officers moved into the former Transcona Station at 730 Pandora Avenue.

#### DISTRICT 5 Areas of St. Boniface and St. Vital.

**Station:** The St. Vital Police Station located within the fire station at 598 St. Mary's Road was closed, and all officers moved into the St. Boniface Station at 227 Provencher Avenue.

#### DISTRICT 6 Area of Fort Garry including Tuxedo, Charleswood, and the "Fort Rouge" area of Winnipeg.

**Station:** Fort Garry Police building at 1350 Pembina Hwy.

As of January 1, 1975, all members were required to wear the newly designed Winnipeg Police Department shoulder flash, thereby completing the transition to a new force.

Chief Constables of the Winnipeg Police from its establishment in 1874 to the unification of all Greater Winnipeg Police Forces in 1974 were as follows:

John S. INGRAM	1874 – 1875
D. B. MURRAY	1875 – 1887
John C. MCRAE	1887 – 1911
Donald MACPHERSON	1911 – 1919
Christopher H. NEWTON	1919 – 1934
George SMITH	1934 – 1947
Charles MCIVER	1947 – 1953
Robert T. TAFT	1953 – 1965
George S. BLOW	1965 – 1970
Norman S. STEWART	1970 – 1974

Chief of Police Norman M. STEWART was appointed to command the new unified City of Winnipeg Police Department.



1967-1974



1974

# Assiniboia Police 1881-1969

The large District of Assiniboia became a Municipality in 1880 and originally included the area of St. James. Later in 1881, the Council appointed James Hallett and Frank Ness as the first Constables to create the Assiniboia Police.

In 1912, the Municipality constructed a Police station/Fire hall at 200 Berry Street (just north of Portage Avenue) which had offices and a jail.

In 1921, as a result of differing perspectives and demands for development, the more urban area of St. James separated from the more rural area of Assiniboia and created its own Police Force. The St. James Police also took over the Assiniboia station at 200 Berry as it fell within the new municipality boundaries.

Chief Constable Dixon became the law enforcement officer for Assiniboia and began working out of the town hall basement at 3180 Portage which had been set up with an office and jail cell. Assiniboia officers continued working out of the basement until the conditions became deplorable to the point they had to move. In 1965 the Police Force relocated and commenced operating from a small building at 3098 Portage (which has since been readdressed to 3104 Portage when the strip mall expanded).



Ken N. McCaskill  
Assiniboia Chief, 1965-1969  
St. James-Assiniboia Chief,  
1970-1974.

The R.M. of Assiniboia continued with its own force until 1969 when it remerged with the City of St. James in the preparation for the amalgamation of all surrounding suburban communities into the City of Winnipeg in 1972. By this time the Assiniboia Police Department had grown to 22 officers who were still working out of 3098 Portage.

As a result of their 2 communities coming back together, the Assiniboia Police headed by Chief Ken McCaskill, amalgamated with the St. James Police to form the new St. James-Assiniboia Police Department. The

Assiniboia officers left their station and moved into the St. James Police building at 210 Lyle. Ken McCaskill was appointed as a Deputy Chief for the newly amalgamated force.

Only 16 members of the original Assiniboia Police Force transferred over to the Winnipeg Police upon amalgamation in 1974. Deputy Chief McCaskill then became a Superintendent with the reorganized Winnipeg Police Department.



Wallet Badge



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash, 1960s



Cap Badge, King's Crown



Cap Badge, King's Crown



Cap Badge, Queen's Crown



Shoulder Flash, 1969

# St. Boniface Police 1881-1974



St. Boniface Police c1914

During the fur trading days of the early 1800's, St. Boniface was established as a predominantly French speaking village situated on the east side of the Red River across from Winnipeg. It was known as the "Cathedral Village" after the first Bishop was appointed in 1822 and became a municipality many years later in 1880.

The St. Boniface Police came into existence with the appointment of Jean-Baptiste Joyal on March 10, 1881, who became the first Chief Constable. Two years later he stepped down and was replaced by Louis LaFranchise when St. Boniface was incorporated as a town in 1883. Joyal later returned in 1886 and continued as the Chief Constable until 1890 when he again stepped down to successfully run for election as a town councillor.

The years between 1891 and 1895 saw the quick succession of 3 other Chiefs, and it wasn't until the appointment of Ligouri Gagne as Chief Constable that some measure of stability was achieved for the position. Gagne served as the Chief for 18 years during which St. Boniface became a City in 1908. Gagne retired in 1913 after which Leo Marcil took over.



F. A. Muller, St Boniface Police Chief, 1968-1974.

As part of a reorganization in 1921, several of the St. Boniface Police Department members were dismissed. One of the remaining officers was Thomas Gagnon who replaced Marcil as the Chief Constable.

Gagnon however was continuously surrounded by allegations of corruption. These came to a head in 1929 when the St. Boniface Police Commission investigated a number of allegations made against Gagnon by other officers on the Force. The Commission dismissed Gagnon at the end of the hearings, and he was replaced by Victor Audette who continued as Chief until 1930.

Joseph A. Baudry became the next Chief when Audette died while in office. Chief Baudry remained in office for 30 years during which the Police force

progressed from strictly foot patrol to driving radio equipped cruiser cars.

Chief Baudry was succeeded by William Russell in 1960 who remained in office until 1968 when Francois A. Muller took over command. Chief Muller held the position until the unification of all Greater Winnipeg Police Forces in 1974. He was then appointed Assistant Deputy Chief Constable (field operations) of the new City of Winnipeg force.

The St. Boniface Police Force, with a compliment of 51 members, served a population of 49,000 and became part of District 5 of the City of Winnipeg Police Department upon unification in 1974. The St. Boniface Police Station at 227 Provencher became the District 5 Station for the Winnipeg Police.



St Boniface Police



St Boniface Town Hall

**Stations** – In 1906 the Force started working from the basement of the newly constructed St. Boniface town hall at 219 Provencher where there was a court room, offices, and 11 jail cells. The Chief and his assistant also both had residences on the third floor. In 1964 the force moved to its newly constructed Police Station at 227 Provencher.

During the force's existence between 1881 and 1974, two St. Boniface Police Officers lost their lives in execution of their duties:

- Sergeant John Verne, 39 years old, on July 24, 1934 (shot while chasing a robbery suspect)
- Constable Leonard Shakespeare, 26 years old, on July 18, 1969 (shot by armed robbers while responding to a pharmacy break-in)



*St Boniface Ambulance and Chief's Car-Motorcycle, c1925.*



*Left: Back row: Arthur Savoie, George Goodhue | 2nd row from back: Joseph Fredette, Joseph MacDougall, Joseph H. Baudry, Victor Audette, Olna Butner | 3rd row from back: Ragnar Swanson, David de Cuypere, Thomas Gagnon, John Verne, Octave Supeene | Front row: Joseph Taylor (Chairman Police Commission), Richard Swain (Mayor), Tony Gagnon*



Cap Badge



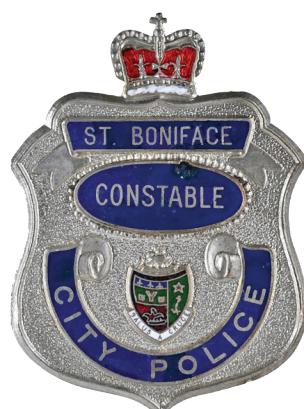
Cap Badge



Cap Badge



Wallet Badge



Constable Wallet Badge



Patrol Sergeant Wallet Badge



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash



Club Belge Wallet Badge



Parks Board Wallet Badge



Golf Course Wallet Badge

# Transcona Police 1912-1974

The district known as Transcona was incorporated as the Town of Transcona on April 6, 1912. J. McCawley became the first Chief Constable in 1912 with J. Farquhar replacing him later that same year.

The first Police constables initially worked out of the Transcona Municipal/Fire Hall which was built in 1912 on the north side of Victoria Avenue West between Bond Street and Oxford (now Day St). The building was officially opened on November 20, 1912, and remained in service until January of 1956 when the new Municipal/Fire Hall was opened at 401 Pandora Avenue West.

After a succession of Chief Constables, Joe Teres rose up through the ranks and was appointed Chief in 1960. Seeing continuous growth, Transcona was granted a city charter in 1961, and a new Public Safety Building was later constructed at 730 Pandora Avenue during 1967. It officially opened in 1968, and housed the municipal offices, fire hall, ambulance, Police, court, firing range, jail, interrogation room, admin area and public meeting spaces.

For Transcona, the Police and Fire departments existed as a combined force and personnel served as both Police Officers and firemen even after Transcona officially merged with Winnipeg on January 1, 1972. These departments became separate entities in January of 1974 when the unification of all greater Winnipeg Police Departments took place.

Upon merging in 1974, a total of 29 Transcona Police officers transitioned over to the Winnipeg Police including Chief Joseph Teres who became a Superintendent with the reorganized force.

The Transcona Police, with 29 members, patrolled 9.3 square miles with a population of 26,500 residents. Transcona became a part of District 4 in the new City of Winnipeg Police Department

The Transcona Public Safety Building at 730 Pandora became the Winnipeg Police Department District 4 Station.



*Joseph Teres, Transcona Police Chief, 1960-1974.*



*Transcona Police Station, 730 Pandora.*



*Transcona Police Station, 401 Pandora Ave West, c1962*



Transcona Police Department, c1959.



Cap Badge



Cap Badge



Shoulder Flash, c1967



Shoulder Flash, 1960s



Shoulder Flash, 1960s



Shoulder Flash, 1960s

# Fort Garry Police 1913-1974



The Rural Municipality of Fort Garry was incorporated in 1912, but the first Police Constable was not appointed until a year later. A Police Force certainly would be needed as the area was seeing considerable and rapid growth. Of particular note, in 1911 the Manitoba Agricultural College began constructing buildings on land that would later become the University of Manitoba Fort Garry Campus. The main Agricultural College building was constructed from 1911-1913 after which the Institution officially moved from its former site on Tuxedo Avenue.

Other buildings constructed in 1912 included a Powerhouse, the Horticultural and Biology Building, Tache Hall, the Agricultural Engineering Building, and the Principal's residence. Construction efforts in 1913 included The Agricultural College Barn, the Chemistry and Physics Building, Dairy Science Building, and the



Arthur Bridgwater, Fort Garry Police Chief, 1954-1974

Agricultural lecture block. Through the College alone, the area population surged with incoming students and staff.

The R.M. of Fort Garry Police Department came into existence after the municipal council appointed its first Police Officer in 1913. According to R.M. of Fort Garry Bylaw #73, on March 11, 1913, Patrick Reese was appointed as Road Commissioner, Chief Poundkeeper, and Chief Constable, with a salary of \$60/month. This type of appointment was typical of the times in smaller municipalities where multiple roles were often amalgamated into one employed position.

The first Fort Garry Municipal Hall was built in 1915 on the west side of Pembina Highway between Chevrier and Manahan (1605 Pembina). Once opened, all municipal employees commenced working out of the building, including the Chief Constable.



*Fort Garry Police Members, December 1972*

Turnover remained high, and Fort Garry only had one officer for many years until May of 1921 when Adelard Delorme was hired as a second Constable for St. Norbert. This stemmed from the great distance between the more densely populated north side of the municipality and the more populated Village of St. Norbert on the far south end that had an increasing demand for policing due to its own growth. Unfortunately, the second position became sporadic and dependent on yearly budgets.

The solidification of a 2-man department really did not occur until December 1, 1945, when Arthur Bridgwater became the 7<sup>th</sup> and final Chief of the Fort Garry Police Department. He had previously been working for the Winnipeg Police since 1940, and received permission from council to increase the Fort Garry force by one member. His friend and co-worker J.J. Smith then resigned from the Winnipeg Police and transitioned over to Fort Garry with Bridgwater.



*Fort Garry Municipal Hall, 1915*

When Art Bridgwater took command of the Fort Garry Police, there was no radio communication, and the lone cruiser car consisted of a 1928 Ford Roadster with a rumble seat. The municipality's fire truck was an older 1928 GMC ½-ton with a 45-gallon water tank, and approximately 100 feet of 1-inch hose on a reel. At the time, the Police Chief also served as the Fire Department Chief, dogcatcher, weed inspector and licence inspector.

The Second Fort Garry Municipal Hall was constructed at 1350 Pembina Highway between 1953 and 1954. It was officially opened on November 13, 1954, to house the Municipal offices along with the Police and Fire Departments. By this time the force had increased to 8 officers.

As the area and University of Manitoba both continued to grow and develop, the R.M. continued to hire more officers and increase the size of the force to meet the increasing demands for Policing. Two (2) Detective positions were added in 1963, and the combined Police/Fire department separated in 1966.

By 1969 the force had grown to 33 sworn members supported by 3 civilian clerical staff. The Municipality had a population of approximately 23,000 citizens and the University of Manitoba had 16,000 staff and students.

During 1969/1970 interested officers formed a Scuba Team to facilitate the recovery of drowned persons and evidence related articles from the rivers and retention ponds in the R.M. The unit became highly successful, and was regularly called to assist other area Police Agencies and the RCMP with recoveries of bodies and articles from waterways.

By 1970, the force possessed a fully equipped Identification Section with dark room facilities for the developing of photographs of crime and accident scenes. One Sergeant and 1 Detective were qualified in Police fingerprinting and photography with their training being received through the RCMP Training School in Ottawa.

The force also possessed extra vehicles with 1 marked and 3 unmarked 1970 4-door sedans for a

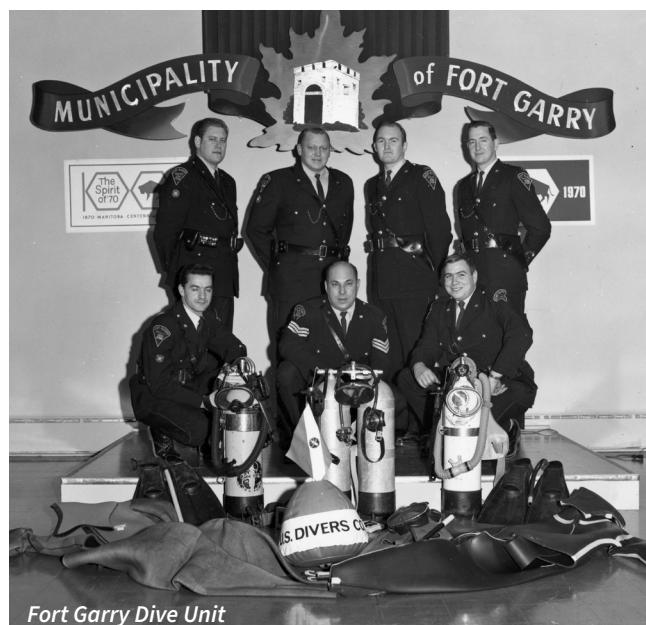
total of 4 cruiser cars. The RM further invested in other equipment and infrastructure which included:

- A radio transmitting and receiving station
- Emergency communications system linked with all the other Police stations and vehicles in the Metro Winnipeg area
- 3 battery operated walkie-talkie radio sets
- A 16-foot aluminium boat with a 20-hp Johnson outboard motor
- 2 radar traffic units and 1 breathalyzer unit

During 1971-1972, in preparation for amalgamation, another 4 additional constables were added to the strength of the Fort Garry force bringing their final complement to 40 members.

On October 21, 1974, the 8 remaining area Police Forces including Fort Garry all amalgamated into the Winnipeg Police Department. Prior to unification, a total of 40 men staffed the Fort Garry Police though only 37 actually transitioned to Winnipeg. The force served a population of 29,000 while patrolling an area of 27 square miles.

Following unification, the Fort Garry station at 1350 Pembina became the Winnipeg Police District 6 station. Former Chief Art Bridgwater then became a Superintendent with the reorganized Winnipeg force.





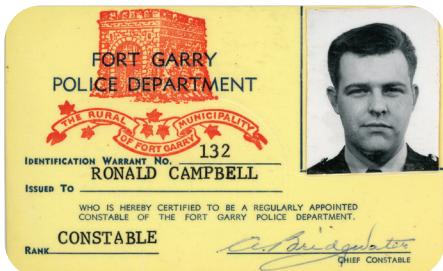
Rear of Fort Garry Police Station. L to R: John Pull, Jimmy Long, Ogle Smeall, Sgt. Emil Magner and Dick Hickling, 1960.



Fort Garry Police, Emil Magner, May 1958.



Crescent Park, Cal Hughes and Dick Hickling, 1960s.



Warrant Card



Collar Dog



Shoulder Flash, c1961



Cadet Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash, c1967



Shoulder Flash, c1967

# Tuxedo Police 1913-1972



*Barry Wilwand, Regis Newton, and Alvin Knudson, Tuxedo Police, October 1957.*

The Town of Tuxedo originally started as a real estate venture by Frederick William Huebach who wanted to develop the area situated south of the Assiniboine River and west of Waverly Street. This led to his founding of the Tuxedo Park Company Limited in 1905, who formally incorporated the Town of Tuxedo 8 years later on January 24, 1913.

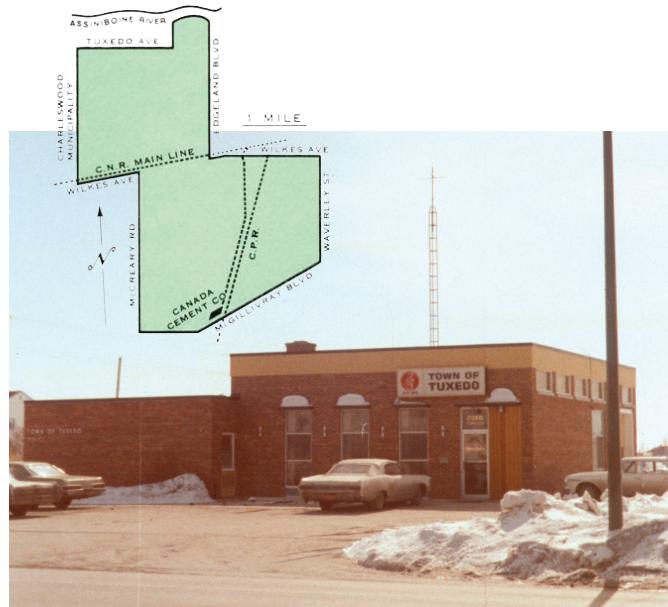
Robert Wright was the first Chief of Police appointed for Tuxedo in 1913. Local police officers patrolled the area and maintained law and order until 1944 when the R.C.M.P. were contracted to take over. The town re-established its own Police force in 1957 with the appointment of Regis Newton as the Chief Constable. Newton served until 1960 when he was succeeded by Reg Alcock.

Alcock continued as Chief until the Tuxedo Police formally amalgamated with the Winnipeg Police on October 21, 1972. At that time the Tuxedo force consisted of 6 members being the Chief Constable, one Sergeant, one Patrol Sergeant, and three constables, who were responsible for patrolling an area of 8 square miles while serving a population of approximately 3,800 residents.

Chief Alcock retired while the remaining 5 officers transitioned to Winnipeg and their station at 2020 Corydon became a satellite office for the larger department.



*Tuxedo Police Department, 1971.*  
*Back row: Cst. Al Thornhill, Cst. George Duncan, Cst. Dave Boutang*  
*Front row: Sgt. Carl Ateah, Chief Reg Alcock, Sgt. Dick Brown*



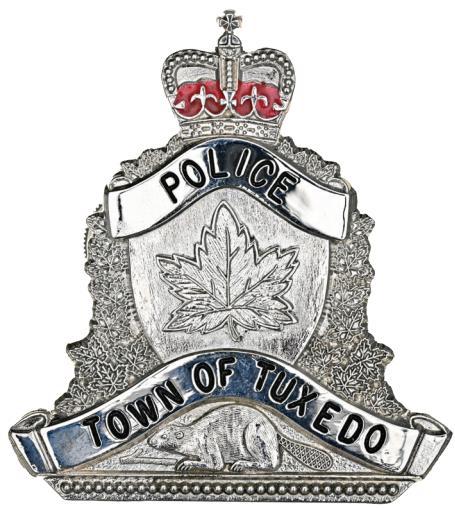
*Tuxedo Police Station c1970*



*Wallet Badge*



*Wallet Badge*



*Cap Badge*



*Shoulder Flash*



*Shoulder Flash*



*Shoulder Flash*



# St. Vital Police 1913-1974



St Vital Police Department, 1962

The origins of St. Vital go back to 1880 when the area was originally known as the Rural Municipality of St. Boniface. After the town of St. Boniface was created in 1883, the R.M. of St. Boniface continued operating as a separate community. To resolve the confusion that ensued with 2 adjacent areas having the same name, the R.M. of St. Boniface was renamed to the Rural Municipality of St. Vital in 1903. The Municipality then underwent a number of boundary changes until the geographical area was finalized.

The first St. Vital Police Officer was M. Lalonde who was appointed in 1913. He was later succeeded by H. E. Rose in 1916. Further successions included A. Jourdain in 1925, A. Patterson in 1929, F. Dale in 1949, R. W. Alcock in 1953, and E. Stanley in 1959.

For almost its entire existence the Police Force worked out of the community fire hall at 598/600 St. Mary's Road. Built in 1914, the building housed the Police and Magistrate's offices along with 2 jail cells on the south end of the ground floor. For a time, the Municipal offices were set up in the building as well.

The area and Police force continued to grow over the years, and during Stanley's tenure St. Vital became a city in 1962. Chief Stanley was eventually succeeded by D. F. Parker in 1968.

On January 1, 1972, the City of St. Vital officially amalgamated with Winnipeg, but the Police force continued operating out of their own station with the members wearing their own uniforms. Upon unification of all the suburban Police forces on October 21, 1974, the 35 members of the St. Vital Police moved to the former St. Boniface Police Station at 227 Provencher which then became the Winnipeg Police Department District 5 Station.

Former Chief Parker was reappointed as an Inspector with the reorganized Winnipeg Police Department.

Prior to the unification of all the Greater Winnipeg Police Departments, the St. Vital Police Force had a strength of 35 men who patrolled an area of 22 square miles having a population of 40,000 residents.



St. Vital Police Fire Station



Chief David Forbes Parker, St Vital Police Chief, 1968-1974



St Vital Fury 1 Cruiser Car with kit



Wallet Badge



Chief's Wallet Badge



Cap Badge



Cap Badge



Commissioner Wallet Badge



Wallet Badge



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash, c1961



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flash

# East Kildonan Police 1914-1974

Between 1876 and 1914 the entire north end of the current City of Winnipeg was originally known as the Rural Municipality of Kildonan. In 1914 the RM was divided along the Red River with the western portion becoming West Kildonan, and the eastern portion becoming East Kildonan.

Thomas Radley was appointed as the first Constable for East Kildonan.

In 1924, residents in the primarily rural northern part of East Kildonan considered themselves being burdened by high sewer and water taxes from the built-up area to the south where the residents there wanted to continue developing infrastructure and civic services. This resulted in a petition to the Provincial government, and the R. M. of North Kildonan was incorporated on January 1, 1925, with the lands being partitioned from the northern area of East Kildonan. North Kildonan also appointed their own Police Constables.

East Kildonan continued to grow and develop. On July 1, 1955, the East Kildonan Police and Fire services were integrated to form the Public Safety Department. Officers received additional training on how to fight fires and operate the fire trucks and other equipment.

East Kildonan was incorporated as a city in 1957, and on January 15, 1963, the Police and Fire Departments separated to become independent forces once again. At this time the East Kildonan Police Department was reduced to 32 men after the division of manpower, but they did add a third cruiser car to their fleet.

The amalgamation of all the suburban communities into the City of Winnipeg became effective at midnight on December 31, 1971, at which time the now 20-member North Kildonan Police merged with the East Kildonan Police to work out of the East Kildonan Station at 545 Watt Street. The newly combined force made for a total complement of 63 officers.



*Christian Einfeld, East Kildonan Police Chief 1951-1974*

As with most of the larger departments, the East Kildonan Police continued wearing their own uniforms and operating out of their own station until all Police forces officially merged with the Winnipeg Police Department on October 21, 1974. The East Kildonan Station was then closed, and all officers moved to the former Transcona Police Station at 730 Pandora Avenue which became the Winnipeg Police District 4 station.

Prior to the unification of all Greater Winnipeg Police Forces, the East Kildonan Police served a population of approximately 50,000 with 57 members and 6 staff. The former 13 square mile area covered by the force joined Transcona to become District 4 covered by the City of Winnipeg Police Department.

*East Kildonan Police Station, 545 Watt Street, c1962*



*Chief Gilbert James Russell, 1947-1951*



*Older Wallet Badge*



*Wallet Badge*



*Cap Badge*



*Early Shoulder Flashes*



*Shoulder Flashes, 1960s*



*Shoulder Flashes, c1971*

# West Kildonan Police 1914-1974



*West Kildonan Police Station, 260 Hartford, March 6, 1962*

**B**etween 1876 and 1914 the entire north end of the current City of Winnipeg was originally known as the Rural Municipality of Kildonan. The RM was then divided in half along the Red River with the western portion becoming West Kildonan, and the eastern portion becoming East Kildonan.

The Rural Municipality of West Kildonan was officially incorporated on February 21, 1914, and the constable for the former R.M. of Kildonan, Thomas Coulthard, was then appointed to continue policing services for the redefined West Kildonan area. Coulthard served as the Chief Constable until January 1916, when he was requested by Council to assume the additional responsibilities for health, truancy, licenses, and tax collection.

The second Chief Constable was James Newman who served from 1916 to 1926. Originally hired in May 1914 as a night constable, Newman succeeded Coulthard as Chief Constable and managed to make some changes. The first car for police use was bought in 1919 during Newman's tenure and replaced a motorcycle being used for transportation. Newman was later succeeded by Tom Donald who served until 1938.



*P. H. Brown, West Kildonan Police Chief, 1949-1974*

The southern region of West Kildonan had been developing much like a residential suburb of Winnipeg and the residents wanted expensive civic infrastructure and services. The northern region remained primarily rural consisting of farms that had changed very little from the days of early settlers.

As a result of numerous differences between the residents of both areas, the municipality divided on July 1, 1921. The Rural Municipality of Old Kildonan came into existence with the land being partitioned from the northern area of the R.M. of West Kildonan.

William Robertson became Chief Constable for West Kildonan in 1938, and served until 1946 when he was succeeded by Gerald Liscum who remained in office until 1949. Chief Philip Brown then was appointed to the position in 1949 at which time the force consisted of 3 officers. As the area continued to grow so did the Police Force. West Kildonan became a city in 1961, and the Police force had increased in size to over 20 officers by the early 1970's. Then came amalgamation.

As a result of all the suburban communities officially amalgamating with Winnipeg in 1971, the Old Kildonan-West St. Paul Police Force merged with the West Kildonan Police and ceased to exist as of midnight on December 31, 1971. The 7-members of the Old Kildonan-West St. Paul Police left their building at 2301 Main Street and moved in with the 22-member West Kildonan Police Department to work out of their Station at 260 Hartford Avenue. The Chief Constable of Old Kildonan-West St. Paul, Ben Aisenstat, was appointed Deputy Chief of the West Kildonan Force.

On unification of all Police forces, Brown became a Superintendent, and Aisenstat became an Inspector in the reorganized Winnipeg Police Department.

During Chief Brown's tenure, the force had grown from 3 men to 29, patrolling approximately 7 square miles and serving a population of 31,000. After Unification, the West Kildonan Police Station at 260 Hartford became the District 3 Station (north end) for the Winnipeg Police Department.



Cap Badge



Cap Badge



West Kildonan Wallet Badge



Shoulder Flashes, 1967



Shoulder Flashes, c1971

# Brooklands Police 1921-1966



*Brooklands Police Car*

The geographical area of Brooklands was originally part of the R. M. of Rosser which existed on the north-west side of Winnipeg. In the early 1900's it consisted of a working class neighbourhood of predominantly Canadian Pacific Railroad employees from the CPR Weston Shops who were clustered around the area of Notre Dame Avenue and Keewatin Street. Despite the area being its own district on the Rosser Municipal council, disputes constantly arose with the R.M. over the lack of fundamental infrastructure such as water and sewer services to the approximately 250 homes in the area.

After residents petitioned the Province of Manitoba, a square mile in the RM of Rosser was incorporated as the Village of Brooklands by Order-in-Council #36806 on June 10, 1921. The newly formed village bordered with the City of Winnipeg on the east and the City of St. James on the south. Having about 500 people, the first elections were held in July of 1921 with George Brown becoming the first Mayor.

Shortly after the elections, the village council appointed Robert Condie as the Municipal Constable and Health Inspector with a salary of \$122.00 per month. Condie had served in the Canadian Division

of the Royal Flying Corps from 1917-1918 and later joined the Manitoba Provincial Police in 1923.

Other Chief Constables included Robert Stewart, William McKayseff and Art. P. Gebauer who was in charge of the force in 1960.

The town was greatly impacted by economics and struggled for many years compared to the other growing cities surrounding it. Constant political turmoil and infighting made it impossible for the community to evolve or thrive.

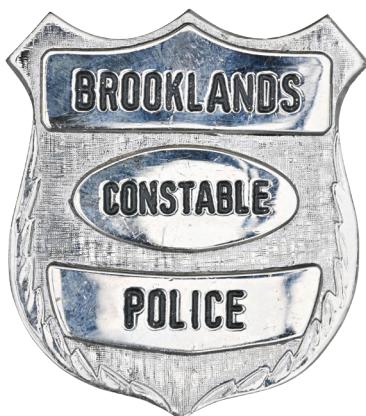
At noon on December 31, 1966, the Town of Brooklands was formally taken over and absorbed

by the City of St. James in preparation for the planned amalgamation of all the surrounding communities into the City of Winnipeg. As a result, the 6-member Brooklands Police Department under Chief Constable William (Bill) Smerchanski merged with the St. James Police. They left their station at 11 Dee Street and commenced working out of the St. James Police Station at 210 Lyle Street.

Only 5 members of the original Brooklands Police Force stayed on to officially merge with the Winnipeg Police on October 21, 1974.



Wallet Badge



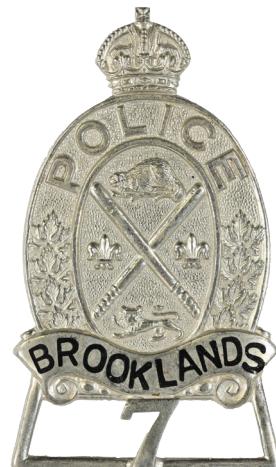
Wallet Badge



Wallet Badge



Cap Badge



Cap Badge



Shoulder Flash



Shoulder Flashes

# Old Kildonan Police 1921-1971

Old Kildonan was originally the northern part of the R. M. of West Kildonan which was previously incorporated in 1914. As the area progressed, the southern region had been developing more like a residential suburb of Winnipeg and the residents wanted expensive civic infrastructure and services. The northern region remained primarily rural consisting of farms with an agriculture based economy and the residents there wanted to keep taxes lower.

As a result of these differences, the municipality divided on July 1, 1921, and the Rural Municipality of Old Kildonan came into existence with the land being partitioned from the northern area of the R.M. of West Kildonan.

The Old Kildonan council also appointed its own Constable in 1921, with John Albert Sutherland being hired to provide policing services to the municipality. Sutherland served until 1929.

The Municipality always maintained one officer on staff until 1943 when council decided a full-time constable was no longer required. Part of this decision included consideration for the low population base in the municipality which was approximately 704 residents in 1941. Old Kildonan went without a Constable until 1950 at which time Emil Timmerman was appointed to fill the position.

The force remained staffed until April of 1965 when the Chief at that time, John Gardner, resigned and the municipality was left without a police official for a second time. The Reeve and Council members approached the Winnipeg Police Commission and arranged temporary coverage while discussing the possibility of a 1 year contract. Winnipeg Police officers patrolled the Old Kildonan Area until August 22, 1965, after which the municipality appointed James Patrick Devlin as their own constable because the proposed contract was too costly. Devlin was fired the next year in 1966 and replaced by Art Edmondson. The force then started to grow with the hiring of additional officers during the late 1960's.



*L to R: Boris Luhowy, Graham Lagrandeur, Metro Owchar, Paul Ferris, Orein Brown, Garry McLennan. Centre: Chief Ben Aisenstat*

On March 1, 1969, Old Kildonan also took over Policing for the R. M. of West St. Paul. The 4-member force added another 2 men for a total of 6 officers and became the Old Kildonan-West St. Paul Police Department.

In 1970, Edmondson resigned to take a position with the OPP and was replaced by Ben Aisenstat who would be the last Chief for the force.

Old Kildonan was officially amalgamated into the city of Winnipeg along with many other suburban communities on January 1, 1972. In preparation for the joining of all Police Forces, the Old Kildonan-West St. Paul Police Department merged with the West Kildonan Police and ceased to exist as of midnight on December 31, 1971. The 7-member Old Kildonan Police-West St. Paul Force left their building at 2301 Main Street and moved in with the 22-member West Kildonan Police Department to work out of their Station at 260 Hartford Avenue. The Chief Constable of Old Kildonan-West St. Paul, Ben Aisenstat, was appointed Deputy Chief of the West Kildonan Force.

West St. Paul did not contract with the West Kildonan for policing and eventually went over to the RCMP.

Upon amalgamation with the Winnipeg Police Department in 1974, the former West Kildonan Station at 260 Hartford then became the District 3 Station (north end) for Winnipeg. At this time Ben Aisenstat was appointed as an Inspector with the reorganized Winnipeg Force.



L to R: Graham LeGrandeur, Metro Owchar, Boris Luhowy, Garry McLennan, Clerk Nancy Machray



Old Kildonan Crest



Shoulder Flash, First Known Style

Gary McLennan



Shoulder Flash, 1960s, Second Known Style



Shoulder Flash, 1960s, Third Known Style



Shoulder Flash, Fourth Known Style



Shoulder Flash, Fifth Known Style



Old Kildonan Hat Badge



Old Kildonan Wallet Badge



Old Kildonan West St. Paul Hat Badge



Old Kildonan West St. Paul Wallet Badge

# North Kildonan Police 1925-1971

The Rural Municipality of North Kildonan was incorporated on January 1, 1925, with the land being partitioned from the northern area of the R.M. of East Kildonan. This resulted from differing interests of the more urban south where residents of East Kildonan wanted to develop infrastructure and civil services, and the more rural north where the residents did not want to be burdened by high sewer and water taxes.

The first North Kildonan Police Constable was William Stalker who also served as Public Works official, Poundkeeper, and Weed Inspector. The Police Headquarters was located in Constable Stalker's house on Birds Hill Road (now Henderson Highway), and he used his own automobile for Police business. Stalker was succeeded by his son John in 1945, however, John Stalker later resigned in 1949 to take a position with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Several Police Officers were hired on a part-time basis between 1949 and 1953, and during a vacancy the East Kildonan Police patrolled the Municipality for one year until July 1, 1953, when the North Kildonan council again established its own Police Force. Three Chief Constables, William Simpson, Archie Batchelor and Joseph Walker served for short periods until January 1954 when George F. Love was appointed. He served until 1968 when he was succeeded by John Urchenko, who had been a member of the force since 1953.

In preparation for the amalgamation with Winnipeg, on December 31, 1971, the North Kildonan Police rejoined the East Kildonan Police to form the East Kildonan Community Police Department.

As a result, the 20-member North Kildonan force left their offices in the basement of 1400 Henderson Highway and moved in with the 39-member East Kildonan Police Department to work out of their station at 545 Watt Street.



North Kildonan Police Department prior to merge with East Kildonan, c1971

Prior to amalgamation, the North Kildonan Police Department served a population of approximately 19,000 residents. Of the original force, 18 former North Kildonan officers transitioned to the Winnipeg Police when all the forces formally merged in 1974.



Cap Badge



Sergeant Cap Badge



Wallet Badge



Shoulder Flash, 1960s

# Charleswood (RCMP) 1913-1972



## Winnipeg Police replace Charleswood RCMP 1972

The Charleswood detachment of the RCMP ended 24 years of service to the area Sunday when the policing duties for Charleswood were officially turned over to Winnipeg Inner City Police. A change of command ceremony was held Saturday afternoon at 550 Dale Boulevard. Here, Patrol Sergeant A.W. Gowler (right), assisted by Constable A. S. Brolly, raises the Canadian flag over the newest precinct for Winnipeg police. The duties officially changed hands at 12:01 a.m. Sunday.

Monday, October 2, 1972

The Rural Municipality of Charleswood was incorporated on February 15, 1913, with the land being partitioned from the R.M. of Assiniboia, and the parishes of both Headingly and St. Charles.

The area remained predominantly rural with an agricultural base of farms (dairy and poultry) market gardens and mink ranches.

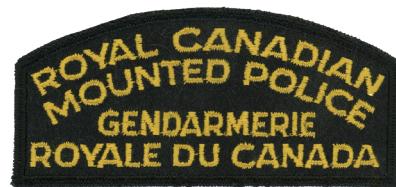
The first police officer for the R.M. of Charleswood, Alexander McCharles, was appointed in August of 1913. He served for 3 years and was succeeded by Montague Vialoux in 1916. Other Chief Constables included Thomas Locke, Cecil Taylor, and Percy Archibald.

Charleswood maintained its own force until January of 1948 at which time the municipality then contracted with the RCMP to provide policing services. The RCMP initially commenced working out of the Chapman School basement at 3707 Roblin Blvd where the Charleswood officers had formerly been stationed. For a brief period the RCMP relocated to the Charleswood Municipal building at 5006 Roblin, until they moved again to operate out of the Westdale Community Center at 550 Dale Blvd.

The RCMP policed the community for a total of 24 years until Charleswood amalgamated with the city of Winnipeg in January of 1972. The Winnipeg Police Department officially took over from the RCMP a few months later as of midnight on October 1, 1972.



Charleswood Crest



Shoulder Flash, 1972



RCMP D Division Barracks, Winnipeg, c1962

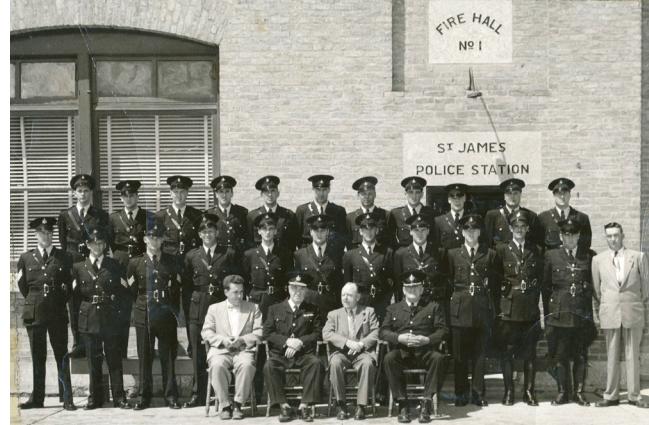
# St. James Police 1921-1969

The Rural Municipality of St. James was originally part of the District of Assiniboia which had been a Municipality since 1880. As a result of differing perspectives and demands for development, in 1921 the more urban area of St. James separated from the more rural area of Assiniboia and created its own Police Force. Since the Assiniboia Police/Fire station at 200 Berry Street (built in 1912) was situated in the new area, the St. James Police assumed occupancy and continued operating from it. Herbert Walton was appointed as Chief Constable for the St. James force.

St. James municipality continued to grow, and in 1956 received city status from the Province. In 1958 the Police Force moved into their new station at 210 Lyle Street which was specifically constructed for the now much larger Department.

During the early 1960's, talks and plans emerged regarding the amalgamation of all the surrounding suburban communities into the City of Winnipeg to create one metropolitan area. At this time George Maltby was the Chief for the St. James Police Department.

In preparation for this eventuality, on December 31, 1966, the town of Brooklands formally merged with the City of St. James. As a result, the 6-member Brooklands Police Department under Chief Constable William (Bill) Smerchanski merged with the St. James Police. The Brooklands officers left their station at 11 Dee Street and commenced working out of the St. James Police Station at 210 Lyle Street. Former Chief Smerchanski became a constable with the St. James force.



St. James Police Force, c1956



St. James Police Station, 200 Berry



St. James Police Station, 210 Lyle



Shoulder Flashes, 1960s



Shoulder Flashes, 1969



Cap Badge



Cap Badge



Wallet Badge

# St. James-Assiniboia Police

## 1969-1974

Following the same course, in 1969 the R.M. of Assiniboia remerged with the City of St. James and the communities amalgamated their Police forces. The 22 Assiniboia officers left their building at 3098 Portage Avenue and moved into the St. James Police station at 210 Lyle.

The combined force officially became the St. James-Assiniboia Police and consisted of 95 members at the time. George Maltby (St. James) remained as Chief Constable with Ken McCaskill (Assiniboia) and Herbert Rogers (St. James) as his Deputy Chiefs. Ken McCaskill became Chief a year later in 1970 when Maltby resigned to work for the provincial Ombudsman, and Rogers remained as the Deputy Chief.

On January 1, 1972, The City of St. James-Assiniboia along with all the other Suburban communities formally amalgamated with the City of Winnipeg. Similar to the other departments, The St. James-Assiniboia Police officers continued wearing their own uniforms and working out of their existing station.

The unification of all the Police forces into the Winnipeg Police occurred on October 21, 1974. Of all the original members of the 3 forces, 5 of the 6 Brooklands officers, 16 of the 22 Assiniboia officers, and 61 of the 67 St. James officers transitioned to the Winnipeg Police Department. Ken McCaskill became a Superintendent in the reorganized Winnipeg force and Herb Rogers became a Staff Inspector.

The St. James-Assiniboia Police Station at 210 Lyle Street then became the District 2 Station for the Winnipeg Police.



St. James-Assiniboia Force before Amalgamation, 1974.



WPM June 1970 St. James Assiniboia, 1969 Plymouth



Shoulder Flashes, 1974

Wallet Badge