

A Walk to Remember...

Police Services in Carnduff

Police services in Carnduff and District have seen many changes from their beginnings before the year 1900. As a newly formed settlement, in 1891 policing relied on the services of a town constable, hired on a part time basis. Even in this part-time role, men with names like Spencer, Kitching, and Emrick wore many hats as police, bylaw enforcement, dog-catcher, lamplighter, and council member, among others. Policing by town constables continued in Carnduff until 1966.

As for rural policing, in 1905 the Royal Northwest Mounted Police set up their first detachment in Carnduff as a part of 'Depot' division. A major part of their duties in the rural areas around Carnduff included border patrol, boundary settlement and being on the lookout for smugglers and rum runners in the early days of open borders with our neighbors to the south. Additionally, detachment members were often the first point of contact for settlers looking for news from the outside world or in need of medical or other services on their farms.

By 1915, the small detachment was housed on what is now 3rd Street West and occupied an office in the Carnduff Court House. A decision came down the following year that the district was opting to move to the provincial Saskatchewan Police Service for community policing. The Carnduff detachment of the RNWMP closed in 1916, moving to the newly formed detachment location in Goshen district. It returned in 1928 when the now renamed RCMP took over all provincial policing responsibilities from the SPP.

When the RCMP returned to Carnduff in 1928 their first home was just south and on the opposite side of the street from their present location. Equipped with living quarters, a cell room, office and garage this remained their home for the next 17 years until the property was sold. In 1945, a residence on 1st Street West was rented for \$25 per month as the new detachment home.

In 1960, the permanent home of Carnduff's RCMP detachment was finally occupied 55 years after their initial arrival in Carnduff. In 1966 the RCMP added the town of Carnduff to their



rural responsibilities and have maintained jurisdiction for the entire area ever since. Originally including living quarters the detachment saw extensive renovations in 1997 which replaced these quarters with office space and a home for the Victim Services Program. The detachment has now been a part of Carnduff's history for well over 100 years and we continue to recognize and thank them for their service to the community.