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COR sergeant-in-charge explores a different way of policing



[Matt Gardner](#)

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Since February, Sgt. Troy Dumont of the Prince Albert Police Service has been seconded to the Centre of Responsibility (COR) and the Hub, where he serves as sergeant-in-charge.

Albert initiative, Prince Albert Police Sgt. Troy Dumont became one of the newest members of the COR team earlier this year.

The collaborative approach of Prince Albert's Hub and COR (Centre of Responsibility) model is proving irresistible for many members of participating city agencies.

Since mid-February, he has served as the sergeant-in-charge of the COR and the Hub, helping to tackle systemic issues in the city alongside the rest of the team.

"I think it's because I wanted to explore just this different way of policing," Dumont said of his motivations for joining the COR.

"I've been in those positions where you're dealing with these systemic issues and it feels like they're a repeat for you ... You're banging your head against the wall ... putting a band-aid on it each day, and it's just repeat, repeat, repeat. I saw this as an opportunity to come here and work with these different agencies to address these issues."

"I'm not saying we're fixing them all or solving them all," he added. "But we're at least looking at them different and I guess addressing them the way they should be."

Dumont is currently in his 14th year of policing in Prince Albert.

Prior to being seconded to the COR, he served in the Criminal Investigation Division (CID).

"My background is all in policing, whether it's patrol or the combined forces drug unit and then going to CID," Dumont said.

"It's kind of a new learning thing for me to take the blinders off and ... open it up to a different way of policing -- coming together with different agencies that are out there and using the tools that we have out there to come together and work together to ... look at a different approach."

As an experienced police officer, Dumont recalled seeing front-line workers in city departments who were overworked and overwhelmed dealing with the myriad social and psychological issues faced by residents.

It's not one ... agency making the decision. It's everybody making it together to come up with that best solution. Sgt. Troy Dumont

The COR, he said, provided a way for agencies to look at multiple proactive ways of dealing with problems rather than taking a reactive approach.

Joining the COR and Hub after a lengthy selection process, Dumont -- like other seconded police officers -- serves in his new role on a full-time basis.

"We do have our back-home, private kind of police training that we do still attend -- because things can change in a heartbeat, right?" he said. "We could go back tomorrow to the front lines or a different position, so we do keep up-to-date and current with all that. But ... we are 100 per cent COR-dedicated."

Going forward, Dumont will be involved in helping the COR develop different elements of a community alcohol strategy, which within the next few months should include the establishment of a public safety compliance team.

The sergeant-in-charge praised the collective nature of decision-making at the COR.

"It's not our decision. It's a team decision, which is great," Dumont said.

"The COR isn't just for the police or social services or mental health. It's for everybody to work together, and everybody has different issues that we bring to the table and everybody has different solutions to bring to the table that we can look at.

"That's the one good thing, is it's not one ... agency making the decision. It's everybody making it together to come up with that best solution."

The Daily Herald will continue to profile the new members of the Hub and COR in coming days.