

PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLIANCE TEAM



Large Events – Next Steps

Wednesday, May 29, 2013

Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

- **Population – 817,498 (2012 Census)**
- **Gateway to the North**
- **College/University City**
- **Blue Collar City**



Festival City

- Edmonton hosts more than 30 major colorful, entertaining festivals every year that celebrate arts, culture, sports, film, theatre and winter
- Canada's largest folk music festival
- Canada's oldest street performers festival
- North America's largest and longest-running Fringe festival



Electronic Dance Music Events

- Electronic Dance Music Events will usually operate until 0600 hrs
- Fast-paced electronic music
- Accompanying light shows
- Said to encourage the use of a wide variety of drugs (used both to **enhance users' sensory perceptions and increase their energy levels** so they can dance for extended periods of time)
- After-Hours Events in Edmonton are governed by Municipal Bylaw 13138



Elements Music Festival @ Northlands Expo Centre

- Indoor Electronic Dance Music Festival
- April 27th and April 28th, 2012 (During regular liquor service hours)
- Projected that up to 24,000 patrons would attend the event
- An event of this magnitude would certainly have an impact on Civic and Emergency Services.
- Edmonton Police Service learned of the event on February 08, 2012, via Facebook.
- Emergency and Civic Services were left scrambling to put a plan in place for the event; as a result, Edmonton City Council directed EPS to develop a moving forward strategy to prevent similar situations.

Moving Forward - Stakeholder Consultation

- EPS Consulted with Event Promoters, Venues and Regulators
- Large Events were the topic of discussion and a moving forward strategy was discussed for the City of Edmonton
- 11 recommendations were developed to assist with clarifying roles and responsibilities related to the planning, managing, and policing of Large Events that impact Civic and Emergency Services.

Large Events – Recommendations (6 of the 11)

1. Civic Events Office becomes the lead oversight group with the planning and managing of events that impact two or more Civic Services and that take place within City-Owned, operated or supported venues.
2. Civic Events Office will develop and implement a process for the notification, planning, managing and policing of events that take place within the identified venues.
3. For events that fall within the Civic Events Implementation Team (CEIT) mandate, the Civic Events Management Team is designated as the oversight group who has the authority to make recommendations, to the identified venues, that the event is supported or not supported.

(CEIT consists of Civic Events, Edmonton Police Service, Alberta Health Services, Edmonton Fire Rescue, Community Standards Branch, Edmonton Transit, Edmonton Roadways, etc.)

Large Events – Recommendations (cont'd)

4. Licensing Branch explore the feasibility of creating a category and **definition for “Promoters”** which may have specific regulations or licensing requirements
5. Licensing Branch explore the option of increasing the fine amount for persons who host events without a valid business license in any location within the City of Edmonton
6. The City of Edmonton considers a process for seeking cost recovery, utilizing new or existing powers, from person(s) responsible for hosting an illegal event that impacted Civic and/or Emergency Services

*November 2012, the 11 recommendations were approved by Edmonton City Council

Large Events – Moving Forward

- Civic Events Office has met with Edmonton's City Owned, Operated or Supported Venues and developed an early Event notification strategy (*Civic and Emergency Services will no longer be caught off guard by upcoming Events*)
- Civic Events Office has taken on a leadership role and coordinates early planning for upcoming Edmonton Events between the Venue, Promoters, and Civic/Emergency Services (*Agencies no longer working under Silo's*)
- The City of Edmonton Licensing Branch is currently researching if and how other North American Cities regulate Promoters.

LARGE VENUE EVENTS STATISTICS
February 2012 to March 2013

Event	Location	Date	Operating Hours	Peak Attendance	# EPS Events	# Venue Security Events	# Medical Events	# EMS Transports	OTHER NOTES
Frequency 2012	SHAW	Feb 19.12	2100-0600 hrs	4903	20	128	17	7	
Elements Music Festival	Northlands	Apr 27.12	1500-0300 hrs	8312	24	not known			
	Northlands	Apr 28.12	1500-0300 hrs	8254	54	not known	41	17	
Full Flex Express Tour	SHAW	Jul 20.12	1530-2330 hrs	5000	14	49	7	3	
PURE	SHAW	Oct 6.12	2000-0600 hrs	5287	17	150	4	4	
Scream	SHAW	Oct 27.12	2000-0600 hrs	5111	11	95	12	1	plus 1 refusal for EMS transport
Frequency 2013	SHAW	Feb 16.13	2000-0300 hrs	3919	25	97 ejections	10	3	
	SHAW	Feb 17.13	2000-0645 hrs	4650	22	89 ejections	10	5	
Northern Lights Music Festival 2013	SHAW	Mar 29.13	2000-0300hrs	5400	30	65	17	4	18 summons issued for a variety of offences; no requests for DT patrol officers
	SHAW	Mar 30.13	2000-0300hrs	5164	41	134	13	4	

Key Notes:

1. Comparing Frequency 2012 and Frequency 2013, there has been a reduction in the number of medical events and EMS transports.
2. Over the course of the last year, EPS has changed how they staff events in facilities in an effort to stop drugs from entering the premises and to limit the opportunities for known offenders to transfer the drug once at the event. (i.e. opportunity for EPS to educate/increase awareness of issues with venue operators, solid pre-event assessment evaluated with greater scrutiny, patron scanning systems in place, etc.)
3. Overall, there have been fewer EMS transports than from the two events that "initiated" this work.
4. Systems continue to evolve - however it is becoming a standard to hold an integrated services meeting prior to an event to discuss issues and share plans with the various groups/agencies providing service.

CONCLUSION

The City of Edmonton, Large Venues, and Promoters are actively working together to create an enjoyable, safer event and minimize impacts on the surrounding community .

QUESTIONS?

A/Sgt Jacob Montgomery

Responsible Hospitality Edmonton / Edmonton Police Service

(780) 421-2832

Jacob.montgomery@edmontonpolice.ca