



News Release

For Release on or after September 1, 2022

ALTONA'S NEW CHIEF OF POLICE, A FAMILIAR FACE

Altona, MB. September 1, 2022:

Following a lengthy and rigorous hiring process, the Altona Police Board is proud to announce that Dan Defer, of Altona, Manitoba, is the new Chief of Police.

Chief Defer has served the Altona Police Service in progressively responsible roles for 33 years. Starting as a Constable, he has spent the past number of years as Sergeant of the Altona Police Service. In that role, he was second in command for the Altona Police Service and also stepped in to fill the Acting Chief of Police position whenever needed. In 2019, he received the Governor General's Police Exemplary Service Medal, which recognizes Canadian police officers who have served in an exemplary manner, characterized by good conduct, industry, and efficiency.

"The board is very proud to announce that Dan Defer is the new Chief of Police for Altona and the LUD of Plum Coulee. The communities will continue to see the same great service tomorrow and into the future as it has in the past. The board is looking forward to working with Chief Dan Defer as we continue to enhance public safety through quality core policing services, enhance organizational development to meet future needs, promote internal and external relationships through proactive communication, ensure sustainable service through sound fiscal management and continued succession planning within the service," said Audrey Schmidt, Chair of the Altona Police Board

Over the past 33 years, Chief Defer has taken countless courses and training opportunities to ensure that he has the knowledge and skills to provide his community with professional and dedicated service.

"Its an honor to be given the opportunity to lead this team of officers moving forward. I have been with this department for 33 years, and have seen many changes, and worked with many different officers. I look forward to the new role and challenges it will bring, all the while knowing that I have a strong and dedicated team of officers standing with me. We as a team will continue on moving forward proudly serving the citizens of Altona and Plum Coulee, with a strong community-based approach in our daily service to these communities." said Chief of Police Dan Defer.

Chief Defer has a deep knowledge and understanding of the communities of Altona and Plum Coulee and is committed to providing these communities with a strong, professional, ethical, and dedicated Police Service.

"Chief Defer has protected our community and our families for over 30 years and knows our town inside and out. Town of Altona Council members join me in congratulating our new Chief in this important step forward for our town, and Dan's career. We also recognize and appreciate the thorough search conducted by Chair Audrey Schmidt and other members of the Altona Police Board," said Al Friesen, Mayor of Altona

Upon the official retirement of former Chief of Police Perry Batchelor on September 1st, 2022, Chief Defer will transition into his new role.

"I fully support the hiring committee's decision on the promotion of Sergeant Defer to Chief of Police of the Altona Police Service. Dan has a wealth of knowledge with respect to the police universe, our communities, and their needs. I have every confidence that all members of the Altona Police Service will continue to work as hard for Chief Defer as they did for me. I wish him all the best in the future," said Retired Chief of Police Perry Batchelor.

Please direct inquiries to:

Sarah Cail
Communications and Human Resources Officer
Town of Altona
PO Box 1630
Altona, MB
R0G 0B0

Phone: (204) 324-6468
Fax: (204) 324-1550