

Saskatoon Police Service

Honour - Spirit - Vision



SASKATOON
POLICE SERVICE

Saskatoon Police Service

Honour - Spirit - Vision

HISTORY



“Weighill has taken over a police service riddled with controversy over officer misconduct, accusations of racism, the questionable dismissal of two Chiefs, declining public confidence, slumping employee morale, and rifts between management and Police Associations that led to a non confidence vote in the previous chief.”

Saskatoon Star Phoenix – November 1, 2006



HISTORY

- ❑ 2000 - Dropping Darrrel Night off out of city in the winter – 2 officers later found guilty of unlawful confinement and sent to jail**
- ❑ 3 Aboriginal men found frozen in or close to Saskatoon**
- ❑ Controversy related to Saskatoon Police treatment of Indigenous people erupts**
- ❑ RCMP investigation – 1-800 line for persons to lodge complaints against police in Saskatchewan**



HISTORY

- ❑ **2001 - Dismissal of Saskatoon Police Chief**
- ❑ **2002 – 2004 Commission on First Nations and Métis People and Justice Reform – Chair Wilton Littlechild – recommendations for police and justice**
- ❑ **2003- as controversy escalates - Province calls for an inquiry into the suspicious death of Neil Stonechild dating back to 1990**



HISTORY

- 2004 - Suspension of Deputy Chief**
- 2006 - Chief's contract not renewed**
- Mistrust from aboriginal population**
- Negative media stories**
- Low public confidence in police service**
- Low morale**
- Saskatoon Police placed on Amnesty International list for human rights abuse**



HISTORY

- Service nearly disbanded by Province**
- Conclusion of Stonechild Inquiry – 2 officers dismissed**
- Post Stonechild Inquiry – Committee on Strategic Renewal formed with following parties:**
 - Sask Justice**
 - Saskatoon Tribal Council**
 - Saskatoon Police Service**



Action Plan

- **Stonechild Inquiry – all recommendations implemented**
- **Provincial Commission on First Nations And Métis People – all Saskatoon applicable recommendations implemented**
- **Committee on Strategic Renewal - all recommendation implemented**



Recommendations – Stonechild Inquiry

- **Changes in the manner complaints of misconduct are investigated**
- **Municipal police designate Aboriginal Police Officer at the rank of Sergeant to act as liaison person to First Nations**
- **Police provide Minister of Justice yearly report on complaints about police officers**
- **In-depth training race relations**



Recommendations– Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and Justice Reform

- Training for Police Boards in race relations
- Training for Police related to Indigenous culture
- Creating an Investigative unit within the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN) to provide intake complaints of police misconduct
- Increased use of video recording equipment
- Creation of emergency detoxification units in certain centres
- Hiring more Indigenous police officers



Recommendations – Committee on Strategic Renewal

- Recommendations stemmed from the Stonechild Inquiry and the Commission on First Nations and Metis Peoples and the Justice System – most deal with governance of police and relationships with Indigenous community
- Reporting structure on progress to Minister of Justice



SYSTEMS TO ENSURE POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY

- GPS in all Patrol and Traffic Vehicles**
- In car video and audio – forward facing and rear facing to monitor arrested person while transported or detained**
- Audio and video in Detention area**



SYSTEMS TO ENSURE POLICE **ACCOUNTABILITY**

- Investigation into complaints of police misconduct**
 - New system created with participation of Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations (FSIN), Saskatchewan Association of Chiefs of Police, Saskatchewan Federation of Police Officers, Saskatchewan Police Commission, Minister of Justice**
 - Provincial Complaints Commission role expanded**
 - Intake through FSIN Special Investigation Unit**
 - Provincial Complaints Commission receives all public complaints, decides who will investigate, decides if complaint is founded or unfounded**



Working Closely with First Nations and Metis

- Expansion of Cultural Unit from 2 – 7
- Creation of 2 Indigenous Victim Services Workers
- Creation of Missing Person Liaison
- Gang Strategy - Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations, Saskatoon Tribal Council, Sask Justice, Social Services, Corrections and Public Safety
- Policy Changes in relation to missing persons
- Creation of Saskatoon Police Advisory Committee on Diversity



Working Closely with First Nations and Metis

- **Chief's Advisory Committee on First Nations & Métis – meet every season**
 - Talking circle – feast – sweat lodge ceremony
 - Lunch and learns – culture, spirituality, women's issues
- **Partnerships with Saskatoon Tribal Council & Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations**
 - Monument to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
 - Saskatoon Aboriginal Employment Strategy
 - Action Accord – In custody intoxication issues, wellness centre



Working Closely with First Nations and Metis

- Offer assistance to – Missing Indigenous women awareness marches, Pow Wows, Round Dances, Poverty and housing gatherings, Anti- Racism
- Presented with our Eagle Staff from FSIN
- In-depth education and training for all current members of the Service and police college in relation to Indigenous history, culture, spirituality, colonialism, residential schools, sixties scoop, and contemporary issues



Working Closely with First Nations and Metis

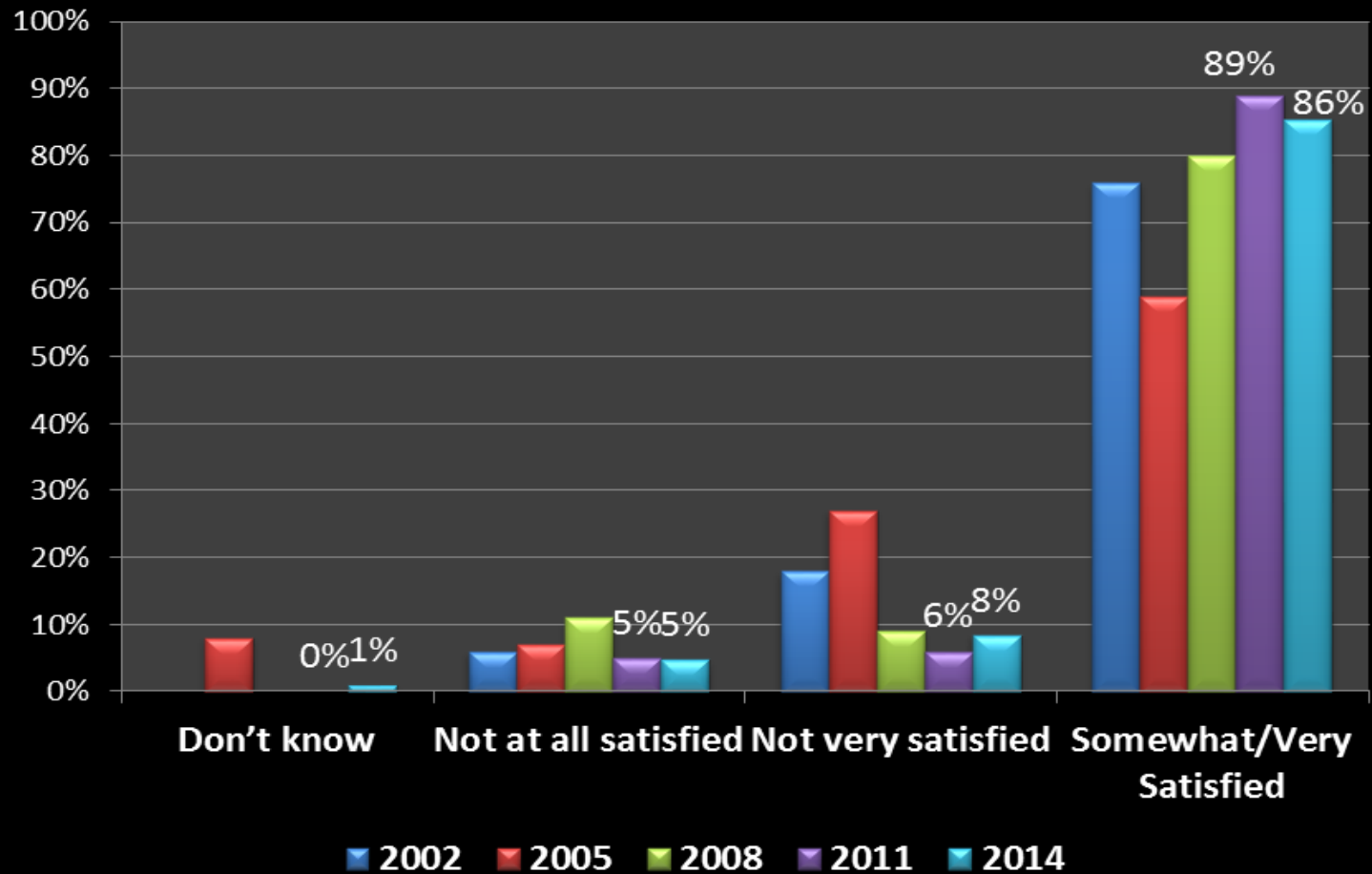
- Regular meetings – Chiefs of Police – Justice Vice Chief FSIN
- Support in elimination of murdered/missing aboriginal women
- Elimination of Racial Discrimination Day – breakfast
- Race against racism
- Inner-City Cadet program



Measuring Progress

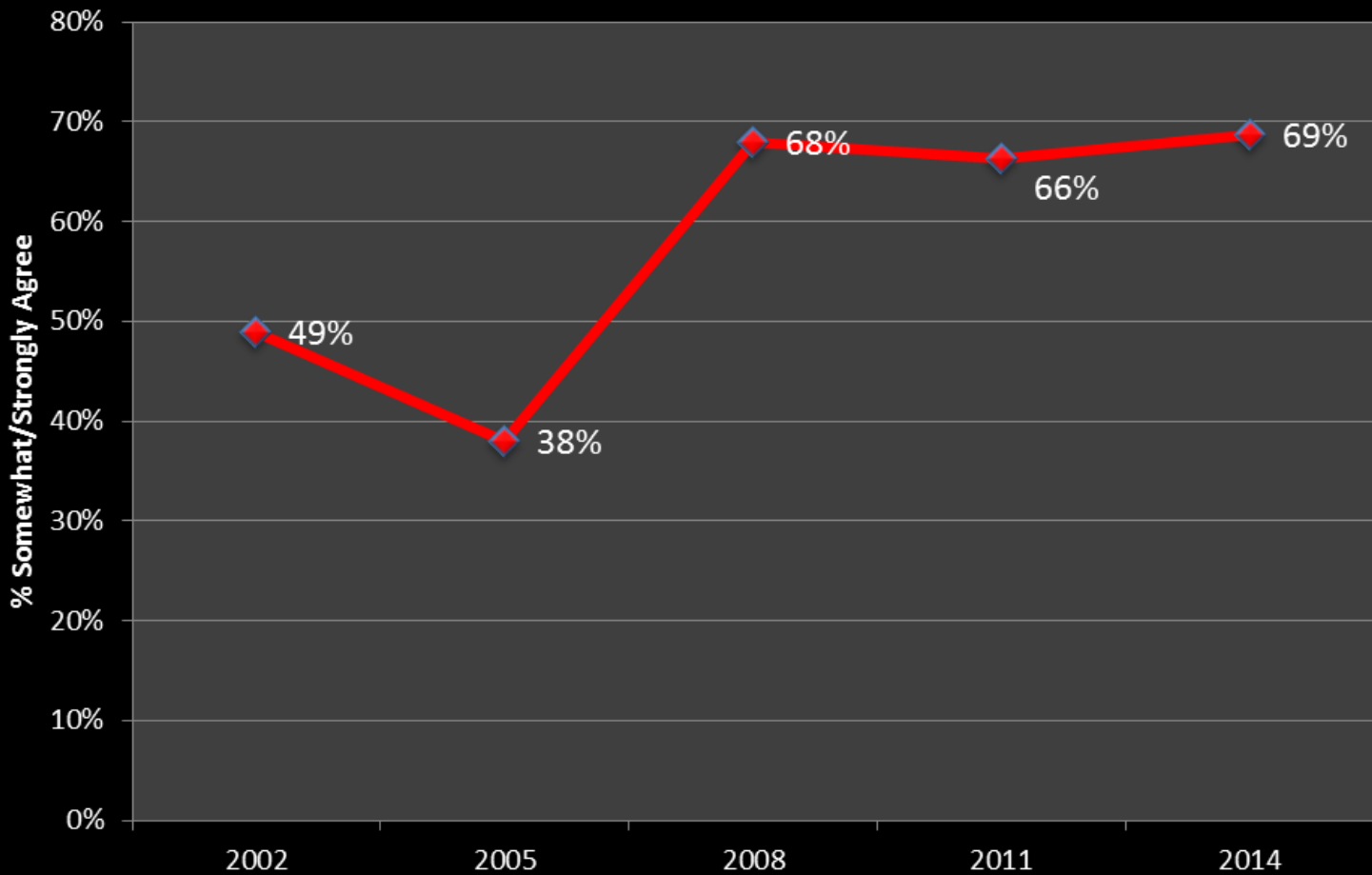


Overall Satisfaction Level -Aboriginal Respondents



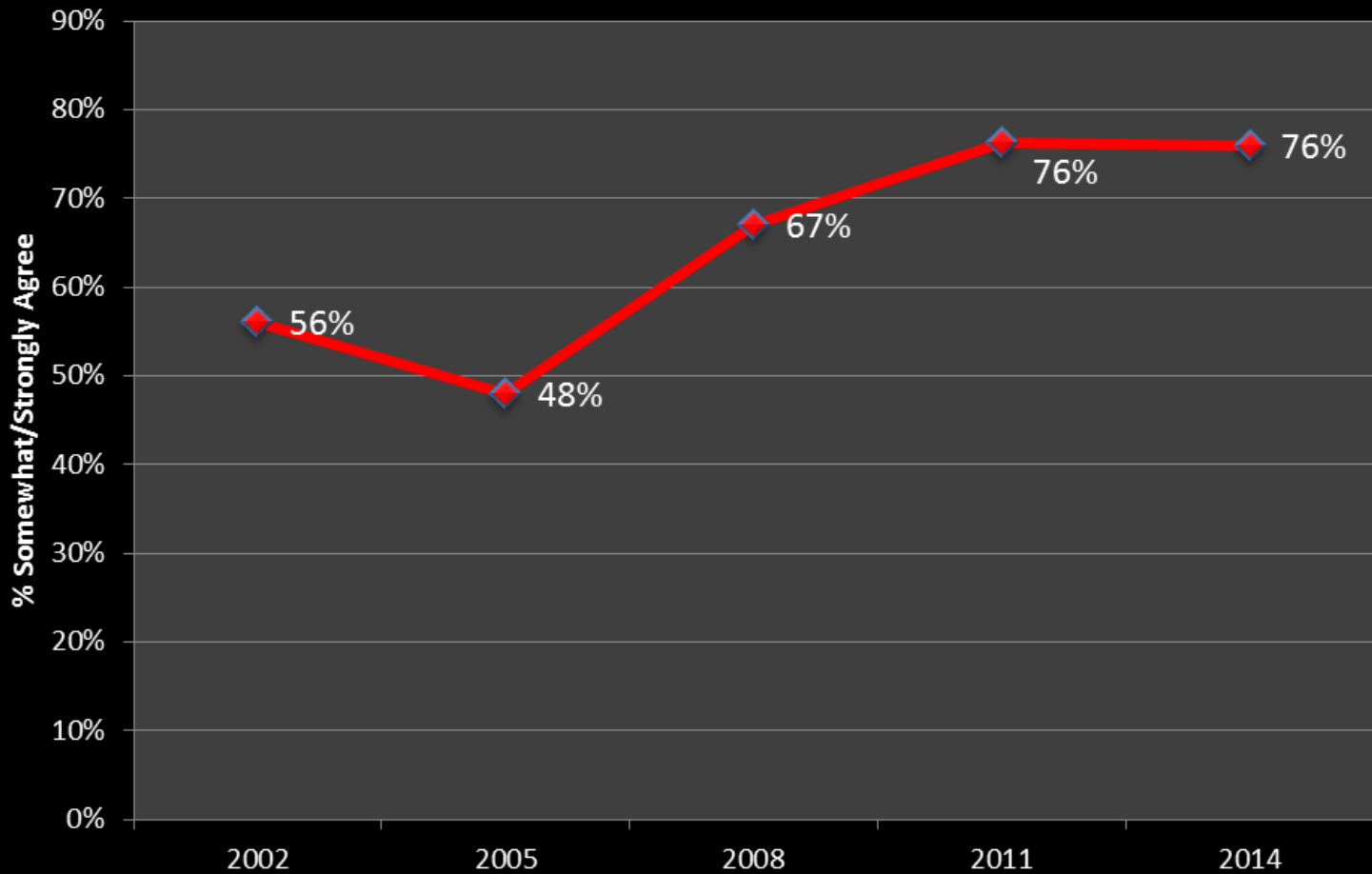


Perception of the SPS: Has the Trust of the Public -Aboriginal Respondents



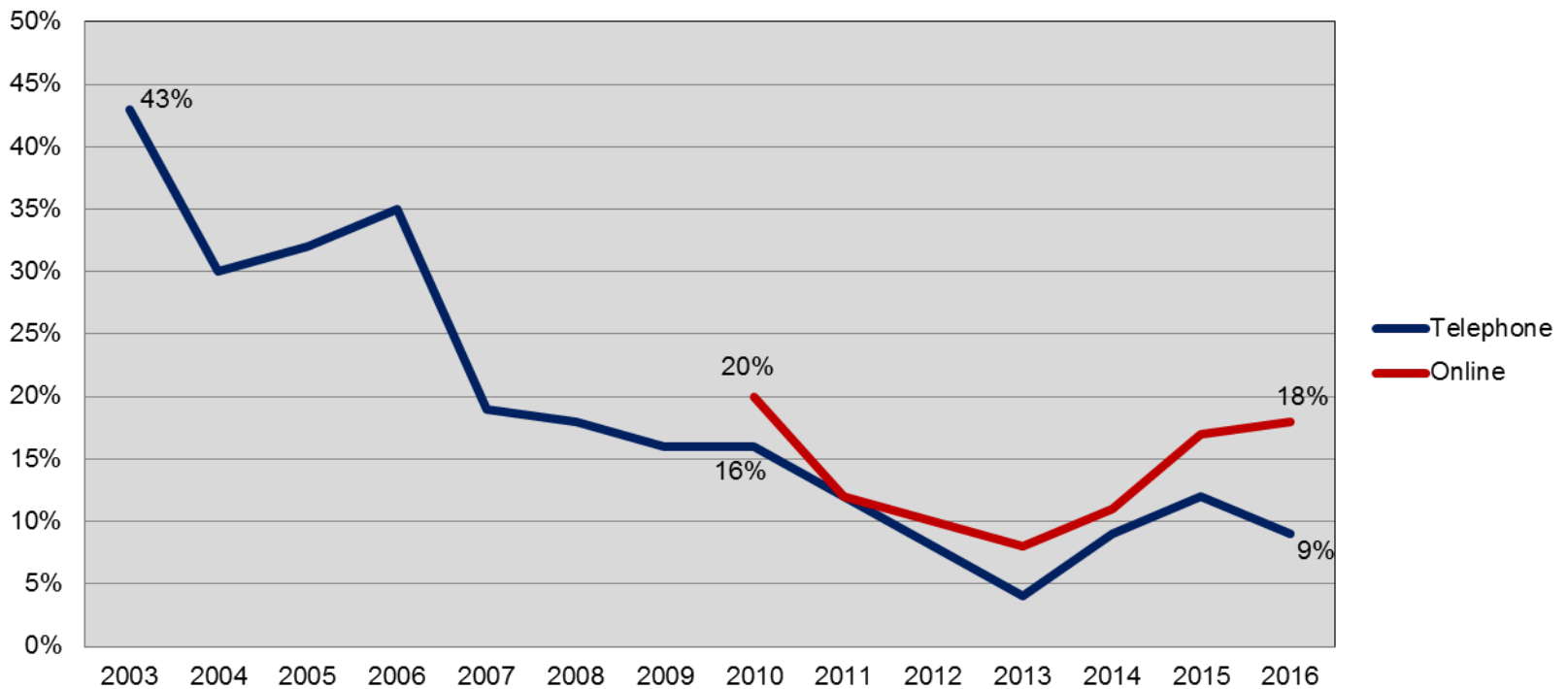


Perception of the SPS: Uses Authority & Force Appropriately -Aboriginal Respondents





Saskatoon Civic Survey – Crime/Policing as the Single Most Important Issue Facing the City of Saskatoon - %



Source: City of Saskatoon Annual Civic Services Survey, 2016 (Insightrix Research)



Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

