



# Trends in Paid Duty and Private Sponsorship of Public Policing in Canada and the United States

Kevin Walby, Randy K. Lippert,  
and Alex Luscombe



# The project

- Paid duty, special duty, user pay
- Private sponsorship of public police
- 92 sites in Canada
- 15 sites in the USA
- FOI, interviews



# Open source: news comments

- “So who paid for their training, their uniform, their equipment and the vehicle if they are using one? Oh, silly me, it was the taxpayer” (Powell, 2014).



# Open source: news comments

- “What the cops are doing amounts to extortion, organized crime” (Casey and Loriggio, 2015).
- “The head of the Police Union reminds me of being nothing more than a Godfather of a Crime Syndicate” (Powell, 2014).
- “Rent-a-politician, rent-a-cop.... What’s next? Rent-a-judge?” (Casey and Loriggio, 2015).



# Freedom of information

- “My opinion is that your rationale for requesting this information is not for access but to bog down police services in handling Freedom of Information requests and to bog down the Information and Privacy Office with any subsequent appeals,” Chief of Police via FOI Coordinator in an Ontario city



# FOI Canada and USA

- Brokering access
- Not only are many public police agencies increasingly embedded in the world of private influence, but they are also inhibiting access to information about these developments



# The sites

TABLE 1: List of Sites

## Canada

British Columbia  
West Vancouver Police Department  
Abbotsford Police Department  
Delta Police Department  
Nelson Police Department  
Central ~~Canada~~ Police Service  
Oak Bay Police Department  
Victoria Police Department

## Alberta

Calgary Police Service  
Edmonton Police Service  
~~Leckridge~~ Regional Police Service  
Medicine Hat Police Service

## Saskatchewan

Regina Police Service  
Saskatoon Police Service  
~~Weyburn~~ Police Service  
~~Carleton Place~~ Police Service  
~~Corona~~ Park Police Service  
~~Edmonton~~ Police Service  
~~Edmonton~~ Police Service  
Fire Hills Fire Nation Police Service  
~~Leduc~~ Police Department  
Moose Jaw Police Service  
Prince Albert Police Service  
~~Warman~~ Police Service

## Manitoba

Winnipeg Police Service  
Brandon Police Service  
~~Winnipeg~~ Police Service  
Dakota ~~Winnipeg~~ Police Service  
Winkler Police Service  
~~Winnipeg~~ Police Service  
Victoria Beach Police  
Sainte Anne Police Service  
Springfield Police Service

## Ontario

Geolph Police Service  
~~Windsor~~ Regional Police Service  
Hamilton Police Service  
London Police Service  
Midland Police Service  
Niagara Regional Police Service  
North Bay Police Service  
Orangeville Police Service  
Owen Sound Police Service  
Peel Regional Police  
Port Hope Police Service  
St. Thomas Police Service  
Sarnia Police Services  
~~Georgian~~ Shores Police Service  
Sault Ste-Marie Police Service  
Woodstock Police Service  
York Regional Police

Waterloo Regional Police Service  
Thunder Bay Police Service  
Greater Sudbury Police Service  
Peterborough Police Service  
Durham Regional Police Service  
~~Lebanon~~ Police Service  
Aylmer Police Department  
Barrie Police Service  
Belleville Police Service  
Brantford Police Service  
Chatham-Kent Police Service  
Cobourg Police Service  
Espanola Police Service  
~~Georgetown~~ Police Service  
Shelburne Police Service  
South Simcoe Police Service  
Stirling ~~Windsor~~ Police Service  
~~Georgetown~~ ~~Canada~~ Police Service  
Timmins Police Service  
West Grey Police Service  
West Nipissing Police Service

## New Brunswick

Fredericton Police Force  
~~Moncton~~ Regional Police Force  
~~Moncton~~ Police Force  
~~Edmundston~~ Police Department  
Woodstock Police Force  
Grand Falls Police

## Nova Scotia

Amherst Police Department  
Annapolis Royal Police Department  
Bridgewater Police Service  
Cape Breton Regional Police Service  
Halifax Regional Police  
~~Kentville~~ Police Service  
New Glasgow Regional Police  
~~Georgetown~~ Police Service  
Truro Police Service  
Windsor Police Service

## Newfoundland and Labrador

Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

## Prince Edward Island

Charlottetown Police Service  
~~Georgetown~~ Police Department  
Kensington Police Department

## US

Minnesota  
Minneapolis Police Department

## Texas

Austin Police Department  
University of Texas at Austin Police Department

## California

San Francisco Police Department  
University of California San Francisco Police Department

## Michigan

Detroit Police Department

## Illinois

Chicago Police Department

## Ohio

Cleveland Police Department

## New York

Buffalo Police Department

## Wisconsin

Madison Police Department

## Washington, DC

Metropolitan Police Department

## Florida

Miami Police Department  
Tampa Police Department  
Jacksonville Sheriff's Office

## Idaho

Boise Police Department



# Paid duty

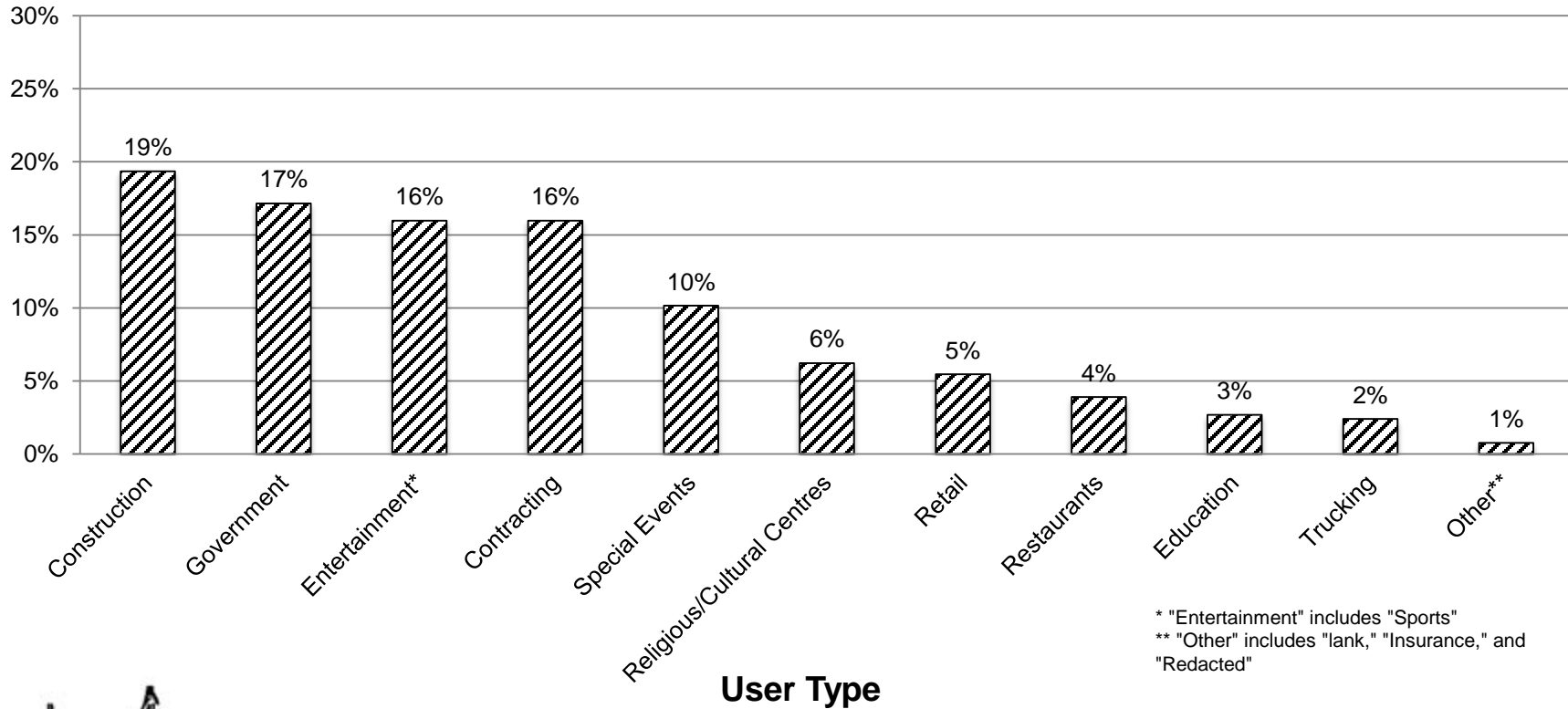
- Our study suggests that paid duty involves two-way exchanges of capital in local security networks, primarily an exchange of body and economic capital. When controversies over user pays policing occur in these local networks, they represent public police's failure to convert body and economic capital into symbolic capital. If high volumes of capital are exchanged, less may be available for the public good.





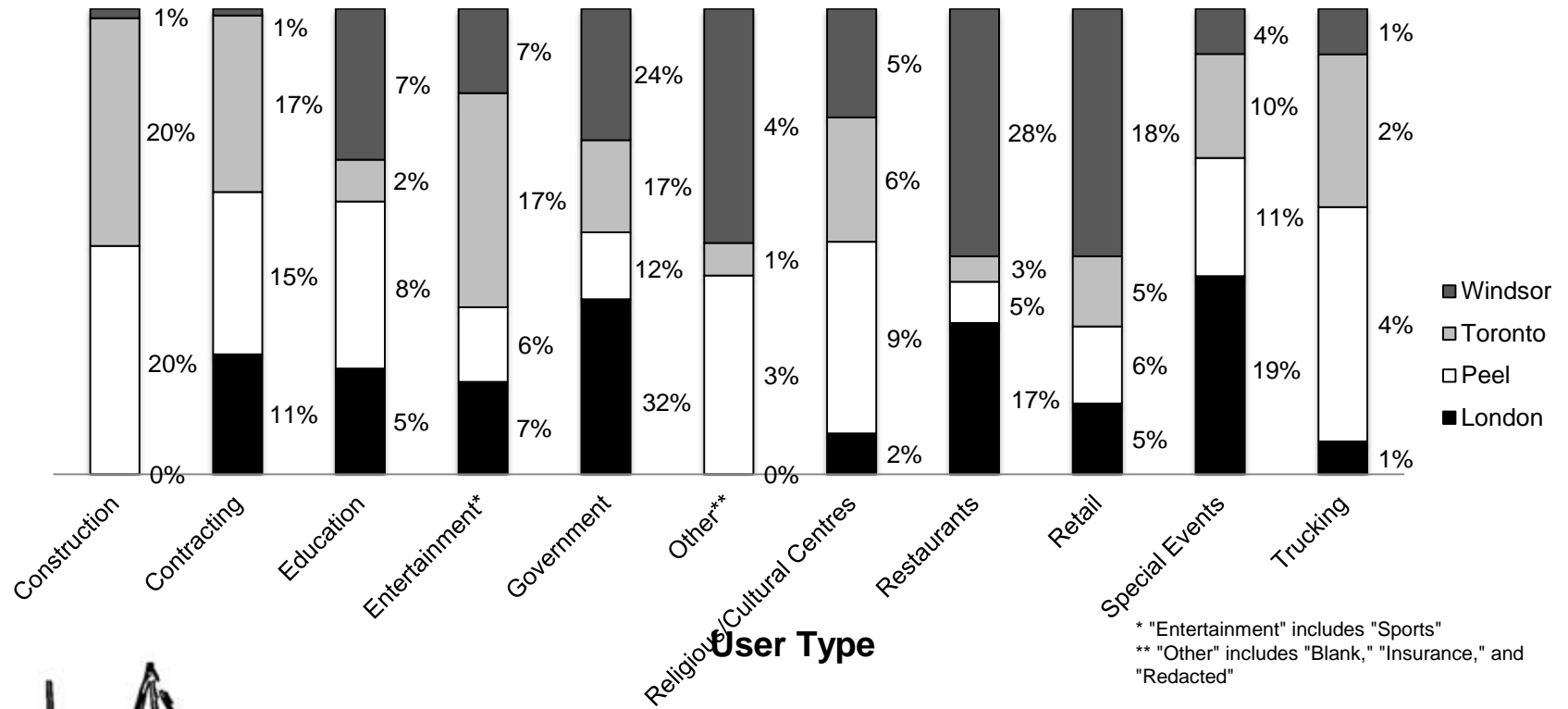
# Paid duty

Figure I: Officers Used by User Type as Percentage of Total in Four Cities/Regions



# Paid duty

**Figure II: Officers Used by User Type as a Percentage of City/Region Total in Four Cities/Regions**



# Paid duty

- An audit of paid duty practices by City of Toronto's Auditor General was undertaken to examine costs to the City. It focused on where economic capital was flowing and whether this flow should occur at all: "I realized, we're using these officers for the Public Transit Authority, we're using it for transportation street closures, parades. ... A lot of these ... [paid duty assignments] are being covered out of the budget of the City" (City Official 3). Stopping the flow of economic capital from the City to individual officers became the concern of new regulations that reduced the requirement for paid duty officers at some City sites.



# Paid duty

- A study was commissioned by Windsor's police services board leading to a new paid duty system that used random assignment to prevent businesses from choosing officers and, officers from knowing clients. One user at a hospital noted:
  - “At one time you could basically select who you wanted, and they thought ... a lot of police officers were getting too friendly with the people they were working with, especially some of the bars and ... they've really cut back on that now ... [I]f you want security, you submit a request and you get the officers that they assign” (User 11).
  - Previously, officers could 'own' a user site (e.g. a bar or event) and thus would gain familiarity with it.



# Paid duty

- Empirical contribution, illuminating user pays policing as an overlooked nodal linkage in local security networks that involves various user types and by measuring the volumes of capital exchange.
- We make a conceptual contribution by extending a Bourdieusian framework and adjusting a key typology for understanding capital exchange.



# Other sites, other interviews

- Two tier?
- Winnipeg



# Sponsorship

- A social network approach to examine ties between sponsors and public police departments in relation to attendance at Canadian and international policing conferences and galas in 2015-2016.
- Other than Grabosky (2007), Ayling (2014), Ayling, Grabosky and Shearing (2009), and Weaver and Michelle (1999: 92), who suggest permitting private sponsorship can potentially erode police accountability, not much literature on public policing has examined private sponsorship of public policing.



# Sponsorship

- Data were collected online and from direct contact with the conferences and gala representatives. We used the Internet Archive's "Wayback Machine" to access archived webpages. Sample consisted of 13 conferences and three galas for the period 2015-2016.
- Two data points from each conference and event: (1) a list of sponsors for 2015-2016; and (2) where applicable, the accompanying sponsorship opportunities package explaining different sponsorship levels, \$ amounts, and sponsorship benefits. We collected this information for 375 unique sponsors or nodes.





# Sponsorship

**Table 1: Conference Sector Classifications**

Sector	%
Manufacturing	32.9
Information and Cultural Industries	22.2
Educational Services	16.7
Public Administration	11.9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	9.5
Retail Trade	5.2
Finance and Insurance	2.8
Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	1.6
Other Services	1.6
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	0.8
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	0.4
Construction	0.4
Management of Companies and Enterprises	0.4
Administrative and Support, Waste Management and Remediation Services	0.4



# Sponsorship

**Table 2: Top Three Sector Classifications for Conferences by Sub-Sector**

<u>Sub-sector</u>	<u>%</u>
<i>Manufacturing</i>	
Technology	
Weapons	25.3
Tactical	13.8
Training	12.6
Mobile and Communications	11.5
Surveillance and Security	6.9
Ammunitions	4.6
Computer (hardware)	3.4



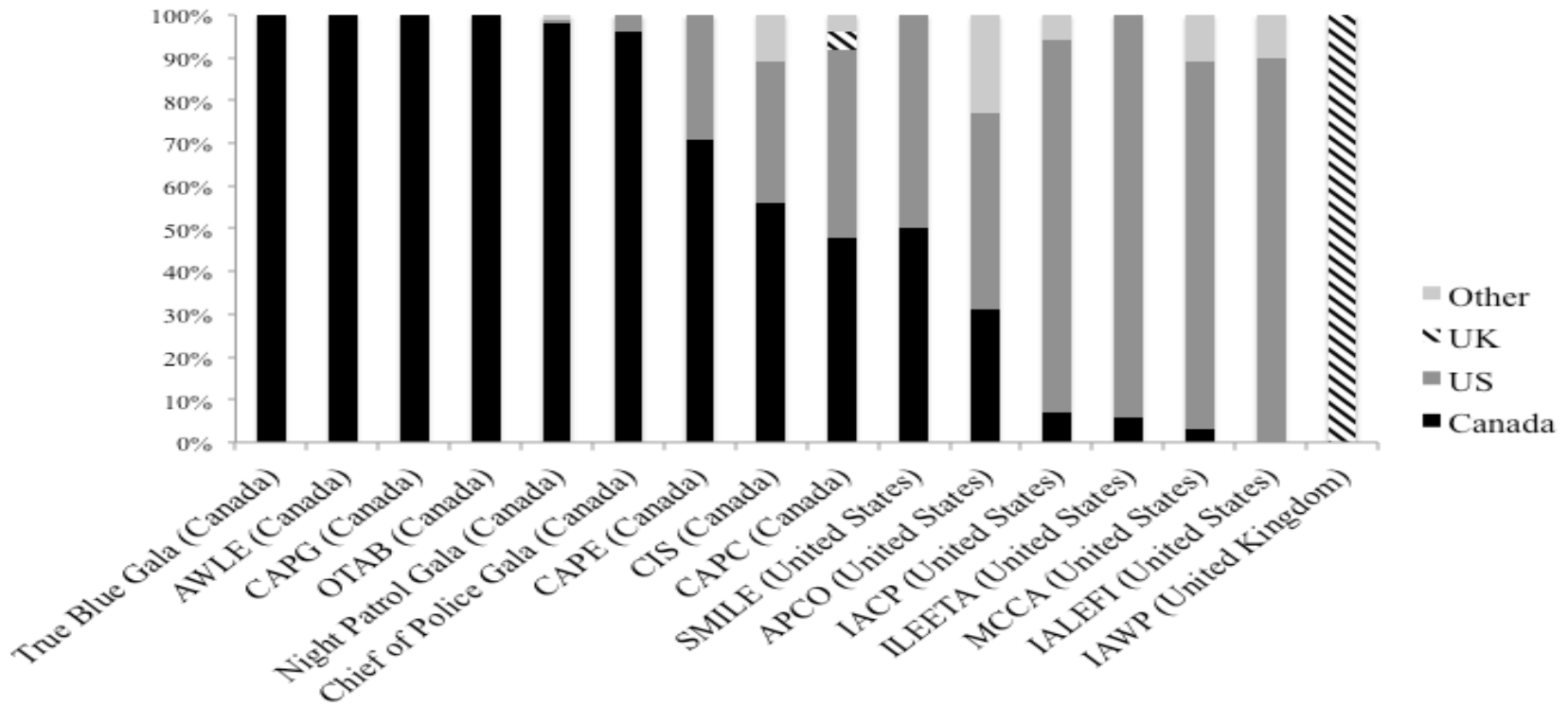
# Sponsorship

**Table 3: Gala Sector Classifications**

Sector	%
Finance and Insurance	13.8
Information and Cultural Industries	10.9
Real Estate and Property Leasing	10.9
Professional, Scientific and Technical Services	10.9
Construction	9.4
Other Services	9.4
Retail Trade	8.0



# Sponsorship



# Sponsorship

- Our analysis reveals that private sponsorship of police conferences and galas is almost exclusively private for-profit corporations. The manufacturing (specifically, lethal and non-lethal weapons companies) and information sectors are the most prominent sponsors of policing conferences, while galas received the most funding from finance and insurance entities. As sponsorship of these police conferences and galas increases and as police-private networks become more densely connected, so too will this amplify the influence of private sponsors over police practices.



# Moving forward

- The consequences of this market approach to public policing deserves more study, for instance the implications for policing mandates, policing styles, and the association of policing with the public good.

