

Alberta RCMP, Edmonton Police Service, lay charges following series of break-ins in Central Alberta - With Corrected Update below

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Police arrested four individuals in connection with 18 incidents that took place in Edmonton, Strathcona County, Leduc and Fort Saskatchewan over a two-month period. The group is alleged to have stolen over \$125,000 in cash and goods and caused nearly \$50,000 in property damage.

It was clear members of the crime group were experienced. They moved carefully and operated at all hours to try and avoid police detection. To take them down, a coordinated strategy and additional resources were needed.

A task force under the Intelligence Sharing and Action Program was activated in order to pool resources. Through this collaborative model, Alberta RCMP, Edmonton Police

Service and other agencies are able to quickly mount large investigations normally outside the range of single detachments.

Through a coordinated effort, and with the support of a High Altitude Surveillance Plane that helped guide surveillance on the ground, the task force was able to gather the evidence required to execute search warrants on four residences and locate and arrest four individuals. Police recovered, among other items, jewellery, a wall mounted safe and a signed Nugent-Hopkins Edmonton Oilers jersey as well as other memorabilia.

Brian James Hunt, 49, Nathan Michael Tucker, 32, Ashley Nathaniel Yardley, 33, and Ibrahim Mohamed Elkayal, 32, are facing a total of 38 charges related to Breaking and Entering including one charge each for Conspiracy to Commit Breaking and Entering.



CORRECTION/UPDATE

The four individuals were arrested in connection with incidents that took place in Spruce Grove, Edmonton, Strathcona County, and Fort Saskatchewan. The initial release listed Leduc instead of Spruce Grove as one of the impacted communities.

Quotes:

“This is true collaborative and intelligence-led policing. We were faced with an issue that impacted multiple jurisdictions and, together, developed and executed a strategy to meaningfully respond.”

-Superintendent Peter Tewfik, Officer in Charge of Crime Reduction, Alberta RCMP

“Criminals never pay attention to boundaries on a map when they’re conducting their illicit activities nor should police when responding to them. This joint operation between EPS and the RCMP is a prime example of that.”

- Deputy Chief Brian Simpson, Edmonton Police Service

“Thank you to the RCMP and Edmonton Police Service on finding and arresting these criminals. These crimes not only cost business owners time and money but affect our customers and the surrounding community.”

-Todd Banks, Executive Director, Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce