



**NEWS RELEASE**  
***For immediate release***

## **Large Seizure of Heavy Equipment**

**Gatineau, July 21, 2016.** – Further to a rapid two-week investigation by Service de police de la Ville de Gatineau (SPVG) investigators, SPVG, Ottawa Police Service and Sécurité publique de la MRC des Collines-de-l'Outaouais police officers, with assistance from Insurance Bureau of Canada (IBC) investigators, proceeded with the seizure of stolen heavy equipment valued at more than \$620,000.

Two searches were involved, both conducted on July 13, 2016, at around 10:45 a.m., on two vacant lots in the process of residential development at domaine Sainte-Élisabeth in the municipality of Cantley. The lots are on chemin Sainte-Élisabeth and chemin des Prés.

The serial numbers on the three pieces of equipment seized by police officers had been obliterated:

- a John Deere excavator, model 270 C LC, model year 2004, valued at \$270,000, reported stolen in Ottawa in November 2015;
- a John Deere bulldozer, model 450H LGP, valued at \$100,000, reported stolen in the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges in 2006; and
- a Hitachi excavator, model Z230, model year 2006, valued at \$250,000.

The investigation continues in collaboration with the partners, and arrests may follow.

### **Another seizure of stolen heavy equipment**

On June 9, SPVG police officers also recovered a backhoe loader reported stolen in 2013 in Ottawa, which they seized on the road. This one was a Case brand, model 580 SN, serial year 2012, that had been altered (serial number obliterated). This equipment, valued at \$145,000, was being used on boulevard des Hautes-Plaines at the time.

No arrests have been made in this case, but the investigation is ongoing, and charges could be laid once the matter has been assessed by Quebec's Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions.

For the time being, these thefts are not related.

**Information from the public**

The SPVG encourages anyone with information about the theft and fencing of heavy equipment to contact detective sergeant Stéphane Lizotte at 819-243-2345, extension 6177, or detective sergeant Jonathan Dubé at 819-243-2345, extension 6443.

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