

METHYLONE: POLICE UNCOVER NEW BREED OF ILLEGAL SYNTHETIC DRUGS

METHYLONE SEIZED

FOUR PEOPLE CHARGED; PUBLIC SAFETY WARNING ISSUED



Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA)
Looks like bath salts but is far more dangerous

PETERBOROUGH – The OPP is issuing a public safety warning regarding the dangers of a new group of synthetic drugs following conclusion of a recent investigation.

In April 2013, OPP Central Region Drug Enforcement Section started an investigation into illegal drugs being imported from China for distribution in the Peterborough area via the Greater Toronto Area.

As a result, OPP along with the Canada Border Services Agency intercepted approximately 60 kilograms of methylone – a base material used in the manufacture of illegal synthetic hallucinogens that mimics the potentially dangerous effects of

ecstasy, cocaine and Methylenedioxymethamphetamine (commonly known as MDMA).

Police have now issued arrest warrants for two Toronto residents -- Hamilton Baunder, 32, and Patrick Bushnell, 30. Both are charged with importation of a schedule 1 substance under the Controlled Drug and Substances Act, possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking and conspiracy to commit an indictable offence.

In relation to this investigation, police have also charged two Peterborough residents -- Allison Kingdon, 29, and William Dunbar, 21 -- with possession of cocaine. They will appear in court on July 16.

Methylone is among the illegal controlled substances known as synthetic cathinones -- designer street drugs that include so-called "bath salts", which have been linked to violent delusions and even death. Users may experience euphoria, appetite suppression, and an increase in energy and focus.

A lowering or loss of inhibitions may also occur. Users may also experience elevated body temperature, increased heart rate, increased breathing, changes in blood pressure, seizures, erratic behaviour and coma.

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