



# **NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE**

## **2007 Annual Report Near North Crime Stoppers**

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**Report Date: January 15, 2008**  
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**A. Mandate of the Unit**

Crime Stoppers is a cooperative effort between the media, the community and the police. The purpose of the program is to entice citizens to provide information anonymously on criminal activities by offering a cash reward if the information leads to the successful conclusion of a case.

**B. Executive Summary**

Near North Crime Stoppers had a successful year in 2007, receiving 560 new tips, which led police to recover \$5,467 in stolen property and \$144,200 in illegal drugs.

Of the 560 tips received, 143 were assigned to the various OPP detachments in our area, 132 assigned to the JFO Drug Unit and 96 to the North Bay Police Service. Rewards totaling \$7,140 were paid to tipsters.

The Board of Directors continued to be very active with the promotion of the program as well as with fundraising activities. The Board is also planning several community activities to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Near North Crime Stoppers in 2008.

Mr. Lemieux, NBPS Coordinator, continued to serve on the Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers Board (OACS) as a director representing Northern Ontario.

During the upcoming year, both coordinators will concentrate their promotion efforts by targeting senior abuse and drug related crime.

**C. Activities**

Police coordinators

The North Bay Police Service and the North Bay OPP provide coordinators to take information from callers and coordinate the program. Both coordinators attended the annual Legal Issues Training seminar held in Gravenhurst and the Annual Ontario Crime Stoppers Training Conference held in Niagara Falls. These annual events proved beneficial to the coordinators as valuable information was exchanged between coordinators and board members from other Crime Stoppers programs in the province.

This enabled the coordinators to keep up to date with legal issues and case law, as well as ensuring that the program is operating within the guidelines set up by the Ontario Crime Stoppers Association, the Canadian Crime Stoppers Association and Crime Stoppers International.

The coordinators attended monthly board meetings and provided them with statistical data and information about local activities and assisted with reward considerations. The coordinators also supported the NNCS Board of Directors in its fundraising activities.

Both coordinators maintained regular contact with enforcement agencies to ensure that tip information provided was handled according to policies and that returns were made in a timely fashion.

During 2007, coordinators also provided information sessions to OPP recruits, as well as several service clubs and organizations in the area in order to explain and promote the program.

Other enforcement agencies (Anishinabek Police, West Nipissing Police and MNR) continued to provide liaison officers to the Near North Crime Stoppers program. Liaison Officers attended regular monthly board meetings, promoted the program within their respective agency and ensured that proper policies and guidelines were followed when dealing with Crime Stoppers tip information.

Mr. Lemieux, the NBPS coordinator, continued to serve as a director on the OACS Board. Mr. Lemieux is also a member of the OACS Legal Fund Committee, a provincial legal fund created to assist Crime Stoppers programs in the province of Ontario with legal challenges.

#### Board of Directors:

At present, the Near North Crime Stoppers Board of Directors consists of 14 members representing all areas of the Near North region. Four director positions are presently vacant. The board is actively looking for volunteers to fill these positions. In September 2007, Ms. Judie Pigeau was elected as the chairperson for a one-year term. The Board of Directors has renewed Ms. Balen's contract as the Executive Director. Ms. Balen works a minimum of three days per week at the Crime Stoppers office and oversees the administration, promotion and funding of the program. The hiring of Ms. Balen in April 2006 has proven to be of great value to Near North Crime Stoppers, making the organization run more effectively.

#### Tri-Town Crime Stoppers:

Near North Crime Stoppers continued to be the call center for the Tri-Town Crime Stoppers Program. In 2007, 62 Tips were received for the Tri-Town area. OPP D/Cst. Jeff Lindsay worked closely with the coordinators to ensure that tips assigned to the Tri-Town area were properly handled by investigators and that returns were made in a timely fashion.

**D. Performance Indicators**

See Appendix I

**E. Anticipated Issues for the Future**

Legal issues:

During the past several years, a number of Crime Stoppers Programs in the Province of Ontario have been subpoenaed by defence counsel to provide documentation on information received from tipsters with regards to major cases. Although protected under the Supreme Court of Canada (REGINA V. LEIPERT 1997) decision as privileged information, these challenges can be costly for the programs having to hire legal representation to act on their behalf. It is expected that more challenges will be attempted in the future. The OACS has created a provincial legal fund to assist programs faced with such challenges.

Board vacancy:

Near North Crime Stoppers is actively trying to recruit new Board members to fill in the four vacancies. Efforts will be made to recruit from the outlying areas, namely Burks Falls and Parry Sound.

**F. Performance Objectives for the Next Year**

The coordinators will continue with their efforts to ensure proper and timely returns from all investigative agencies, by meeting regularly with the liaison officers and investigators to promote the program and ensure that the information provided is handled properly according to policies and guidelines. Coordinators will continue giving presentations to community groups and social clubs, explaining the program and promoting the Crime Stoppers Program as an effective and anonymous means of providing information on criminal activities.

Senior/elder abuse:

Studies conducted by several provincial agencies reveal that senior abuse crime is on the rise and that the majority of these crimes are not reported to police. In 2007 the OPP, in cooperation with the OACS, launched a Seniors Crime Stoppers program targeting senior citizens in the Province. The goal of the program is to raise awareness of the Crime Stoppers Program as an efficient and anonymous tool to report information on crimes involving senior citizens. Locally, throughout this coming year, we plan on offering presentations to senior citizens groups to explain the Crime Stoppers program and hopefully generate more calls.

**G. Other**

N/A

**H. Appendices**

Appendix I - Statistics

**APPENDIX I**

	<b>Total for 2005</b>	<b>Total for 2006</b>	<b>Total for 2007</b>	<b>Since Inception (June 1988)</b>
Tips received	657	556	560	10,903
Cases cleared	83	61	26	2,355
Arrests	79	33	35	1,304
Property recovered	\$ 97,728	\$128,365	\$ 5,467	\$ 3,224,828
Drugs seized	\$8,142,521	\$350,255	\$ 144,200	\$ 42,618,059
Rewards paid	\$ 10,090	\$ 7,375	\$ 7,140	\$ 152,053

**TIPS RECEIVED 2007**

Arson	9	Mischief	4
Assault	4	Missing Persons	8
Breach of Conditions	10	Morality	1
Break & Enter	11	Other	27
Child Abuse	6	Pornography	3
Cruelty to Animals	3	Robbery	7
Customs and Excise	6	Senior abuse	2
Driving	47	Sexual Assault	7
Drugs	250	Stolen Property	12
Environment	1	Suspicious Circ.	30
Fish & Wildlife	4	Theft	29
Fraud	26	Threatening	3
Homicide	7	Wanted Person	17
Intelligence	2	Weapons Offence	12
Kidnapping	1	Welfare Fraud	2
L.L.A	8		

**TOTAL: 560**

<b><u>AGENCY</u></b>	<b><u>TIPS</u></b>	<b><u>OPP</u></b>	<b><u>TIPS</u></b>
Anishinabek PS	10	Almaguin Highlands	52
JFO Drug Unit	132	NER Major Crime	1
MNR	6	North Bay	37
NBPS	96	West Parry Sound	53
Other Agency	22		
Other CS	49		
RCMP	10		
Tri-town CS	62		
West Nipissing PS	30		