



# **NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE**

## **Community Programs 2008 Annual Report**

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## **A. Mandate of the Unit**

This section remains busy providing the non enforcement needs of the citizens of North Bay and Callander. This includes but is not limited to attending various community partner meetings and endeavours as well as trouble shooting and representing our service at public events. Our biggest duty by far is dealing with the media.

## **B. Activities**

We continue to provide our services and deal with community partners on a full time basis. Some of these activities include the following:

**Risk Watch:** This is a committee comprised of various community partners that provides a formal safety structure to students of local grade schools. We work in conjunction with the school teachers and our committee fund raises to provide the necessary material.

**DARE:** This continues to be provided by Cst. Al Bedard for the French schools (grades 5 or 6) and Cst. Aaron Northrup serving the English schools.

Community Programs are involved with this effort as we do fund raising to allow this successful program to continue and I sit on the Board and assist in Board decisions.

**TOURS:** The public continues to visit our Headquarters and either I or a uniformed officer will facilitate these tours that are arranged through our Community Programs' Office.

**MEDIA:** The expertises we have gained over the years have helped us provide guidance to other local organizations in either assisting them directly or by giving them information to help them to reach their goals through the media.

**PROBLEM SOLVING:** This is perhaps a broad spectrum, however various calls are directed to our office in order that we may deal with whatever form of concern or question that the public has.

**MADD:** We attend regular meetings at alternate locations between the North Bay Police and the Ontario Provincial Police buildings. We also co-ordinate events involving MADD and the media as well as other agencies

**COPS FOR CANCER:** Once again this year our Service, along with the Ontario Provincial Police was the driving force of this by annual event. Officers from local policing agencies as well as enforcement officers from the MTO, local fire fighters, ambulance personnel and others attended this one day event to raise thousands of dollars for this worthy cause.

CALLANDER: We attend monthly meetings of the Callander Watch committee and establish safety strategies including awareness signage within that municipality. We also participate in both school bicycle rodeos that take place during the early summer. We are a vital link to members of this committee that also include some council members.

TORCH RUN: Our Service continues to support this yearly event and promote it within our communities.

RIDE FOR DAD: Last year was our first involvement with this organization. Our Police Association is one of the main proponents of this yearly drive. However, as far as the public is concerned, the Association and Service work hand in hand for charitable events. We attend monthly meetings here at the Police Station and serve on the Executive Board to facilitate this Prostate Cancer Fund raising event. Last year there were approximately 200 participants and this year we expect close to 400. This group is highly organized throughout the country and we are fortunate that our Service/Association is front and centre in the local drive.

EARLY YEARS LEARNING CENTRE: We attend this location on Chippewa St. and participate in their awareness and safety day for families of young children. Our presence is welcomed by not only the parents and children who attend, but also by the other community minded groups that are present that day.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL FOR MEXICANS: We provide advice and presentations as well as tours for this growing International school that hosts Mexican children in their class environments.

CANADORE COLLEGE: We attend the classes of English as a Second Language and provide insight and police as well as public guidance to these numerous students. We are invited every year. We also attend the Audio Visual classes and speak to policing issues that concern these young devotees to journalism.

ROAD SAFETY COMMITTEE: This group which is made up of various community safety members (Fire, Ambulance, Health, MTO, etc) continues to address local traffic safety issues and develops year long plans and endeavours for our communities.

GATEWAY ADVERTISER: Our section continues to write monthly safety articles for this community paper.

The GATHERING PLACE: We attend every month or so to give a safety presentation to the ever changing volunteers for this organization.

INDIAN FRIENDSHIP CENTRE: We are called on several times a year to attend and give safety and public relations presentations as well as be part of the judging of their annual Bannock event.

AMELIA RISING: Several times throughout the year we are invited to speak to the women of that shelter and speak to women's safety issues and public relations concern of our Service.

PARTY PROGRAM: Every month we attend and give presentations at the local hospital for the day long student injury prevention awareness event. This is to address the usage of alcohol drug and risk taking that seems to be prevalent in our youth.

TIM HORTONS BICYCLE GIVE-A-WAY: We host and organize this yearly event in which Tim Hortons gives away 15 new bikes to deserving needy children from our area. The publicity we garner from this event is immeasurable

COMMITTEES: We have several other committees that we participate with and these hold monthly meetings and generally hold a yearly safety event for the community. These are:

- Connecting Community Partners in Injury Prevention
- MADD
- Seniors at Risk committee
- Drug Awareness committee
- Assisting Anishnabec with community presentations to their citizens
- Federation des Femmes Canadiennes
- Various Church groups
- VCARS
- Association of Canadian Travellers
- Casselholm

Throughout the year our section is constantly in demand to give various presentations of public relation issues, safety concerns to various members of the public as well as attend local schools for their safety and lock down issues.

The following are some of the presentation issues that have been addressed throughout 2008:

BULLYING: 14 sessions to various school classes

DRUG PRESENTATIONS: 10 presentations given to mostly school students with a drug kit on loan to us from the RCMP

FRENCH AND ENGLISH DARE classes: 9 lessons to assist the DARE officers

SAFETY PRESENTATIONS: 50 presentations for children, adults, groups, seniors, organizations, committees in English and French for various topics such as Liquor Laws, Drinking and Driving Laws, Internet Safety, Drug Laws and combinations of topics



PUBLIC ATTENDANCE: 70 separate occasions

MEETINGS WITH GROUPS OR PARTNERS: 104 times

TOURS; of the Police Service building: 8 times

### **C. Performance Indicators**

The biggest involvement our Section has is the daily media requirements that must be met. We continue to have a good working relationship with this group and this is in part because of our Service commitment to that area.

During 2008 our Section has either, facilitated, given clips or interviews a total of 547 times. Of course this does not include the regular fax/e mail releases that we do. I truly believe that this relationship we have with the media has and will continue to service our Service well.

### **D. Anticipated Issues for the Future**

We will continue to provide the public of North Bay and Callander with community programs and our expertise. I personally do not anticipate any change from what the public expects from us, and our willingness to provide this continued service from Community Programs.

### **E. Conclusion**

In conclusion, I would strongly advise any police administration to continue our media policy of assisting them in any of their requests concerning our Service. Our quick and honest response has helped us greatly and will continue to do so.

I have also found that giving the public the time that they request, regardless of the answer they receive, will serve us well into the future. We should deal with the public as we would want our family members to be dealt with if they lived in another city. Respect in dealing with our citizens will go a long way.

