



# **NORTH BAY POLICE SERVICE**

## **2009 Annual Report Community Programs**

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## **A Mandate of the Unit**

The Community Programs Section provides non-enforcement needs for citizens of North Bay and Callander. We have many partnerships with groups and associations as well as other community partners and assist with their community responsibilities. We also problem solve various concerns that the public bring to us. By far our biggest commitment is facilitating the media requests.

## **B Activities**

### **Risk Watch:**

This is a committee comprised of various community partners. This past year, however, saw a turnaround in our primary purpose. Previously we assisted schools with material and support in regard to student safety issues. Lately, this particular aspect is waning on the part of most schools. Consequently we are beginning to change our focus. We are now in the planning stages of working with Rod Johnston and his committee of Waterfront Friends. We are attempting to establish a Children's Safety Village in the foreseeable future. We would work in conjunction with the museum and be able to provide safety sessions to children who attend with their classes on full day outings.

### **Tours:**

We continue to provide tours to the general public, which includes; children, college students and adults. Most times this would be accomplished by our Section, however, on occasion this is done by members from the Uniform Section with arrangements through our office.

### **Media:**

Our Section deals with the media on a full time basis. During the year 2009 over 300 media interviews were conducted and over 260 media releases were sent to various media outlets.

### **Problem Solving:**

This particular aspect of our duties involves a very broad range. On a regular basis members of the public approach our Section directly or are referred via the front desk; we then problem solve in an attempt to resolve their issues. It is my opinion that tenure with this Service facilitates a positive resolution to concerns.

### **MADD:**

Regular meetings are held every month with ½ of the meetings held at the OPP building and the other here at our Headquarters. We also assist in co-ordinating events and awareness campaigns.

#### Torch Run for Special Olympics:

In 2009 our Service again participated in this very worthwhile endeavour and raised over \$18,000 for this charity.

#### Ride for Dad:

2009 was the second year our service participated in this charity event to raise awareness and education for prostate cancer. Our Service assists by providing a regular location for meetings and provides traffic assistance and expertise for the event itself.

#### 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:

This recognized secondary school usually has approximately 40 students in attendance. Tours of our police building promotes wonderful opportunities to showcase Canadian police officers and Canadian law to these foreign students.

#### Canadore College:

For many years we have provided information sessions covering the topic of Canadian laws and the roles and duties Canadian police officers play in society to students taking English as a second language. Several times a year members of the Section are invited as guest lecturers on such topics as public relations and career opportunities to the Police Foundations students.

#### Road Safety Committee:

This group is made up of various community partners including other Police agencies, MTO, Health Unit, Fire, Ambulance and like minded groups. We address various safety issues and put that into play within our communities in at least one yearly event.

#### Gateway Advertiser:

We write monthly articles showcasing our Police Service and enlightening the public on various safety topics and the law.

#### The Gathering Place:

Every month or so safety presentations are made to a volunteer group of individuals who are working the soup kitchen on Algonquin Avenue serving the indigent population.

#### Tim Horton's Earn-a-Bike Program:

We host and organize this yearly event in which Tim Hortons gives away 15 new bikes to deserving needy children from our area. The goodwill we garner from this event is immeasurable.

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.

Committees:

Listed below are agencies and committees who we regularly participate with and attend monthly meetings, which include:

Connecting Community Partners in Injury Prevention;

MADD;

DARE;

Seniors at Risk;

Drug Awareness Committee;

Attending the Anishnabec functions to provide support for this Police Service and its community;

Federation des Femmes Canadiennes;

Various Church Groups;

Big Sisters and Big Brothers;

Victims Services of Nipissing District formerly (VCARS);

Association of Canadian Travellers;

All 4 School Boards in our District;

Camp Tillicum;

Racing against Drugs;

Nipissing University;

Canadore College;

Canadian Career College;

Purolator; and

WALMART

Members from the Section provided 243 safety presentations for these businesses and groups.

### **C. Performance Indicators**

The Community Programs Section deals with the media every day and on occasion numerous times a day. We give interviews, provide information and facilitate photo and interview opportunities. Because of our very personal relationship with our media partners our Section acts as the Public Information Officer for the City of North Bay's Community Emergency Plan.

This year there were over 321 occasions where the media was facilitated. This does not include our regular media releases every morning. It also does not reflect the number of times that other members of our Service work with the media.

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

I plan on leaving (retiring) at the end of June 2010 and I strongly urge our Service to maintain our level of service to the media. This has served us extremely well in the past and it should continue to service us well in to the future if in fact we strive to maintain this level of contact and continuity. I also urge our Service to continue providing assistance to the public and its representations such as community groups and individuals.

**E. Conclusion**

I wish to thank our present Administration and our past Administration for having faith in me and allowing me to represent the North Bay Police Service. This organization means a lot to me and to the general public as well.

I would hope that this section continues as has been done during the past several years to provide continued support and assistance to our public in both communities. Although this is personal, I feel that I have earned the right to enter my thoughts in this manner. I shall miss this Service and I shall miss its people who work here.

I only wish the best for this Service and to the citizens of North Bay and Callander.