



December 8, 2006

Mr. Dave Barrow
Chair, Police Services Board
Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4W5



Dear Mr. Barrow:

Thank you for your letter of October 25, 2006 regarding the resolution passed by your Board advocating the use of Conductive Energy Devices by front-line officers. I apologized for the delay in my reply but I felt this matter should be brought before the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police's Board of Directors.

Our association has long supported the use of Conducted Energy Devices (CEDs) as a less lethal tool for police to use in their efforts to protect members of the public and themselves. It was through our advocacy efforts that the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services approved on January 13, 2005 the use of the TASER X26 for members of tactical units/hostage rescue teams, preliminary perimeter control and containment teams and trained front-line supervisors or designates.

In early 2005, the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Safety as well as senior ministry staff indicated that the Ontario Government would be moving forward with a proposal to use funding from the Proceeds of Crime Fund to fund the purchase of the X26s on a cost-shared basis with police services. This commitment was consequently never fulfilled.

The OACP is on record as supporting the expansion of the use of CEDs to front-line officers and we applaud your resolution to that effect. However, we believe that the expansion of CEDs to all officers will require financial support from the province, specifically from the POCF - something the current provincial government has not indicated it is willing to consider. We are aware that the Police Standards Advisory Committee (PSAC) is also addressing this issue.

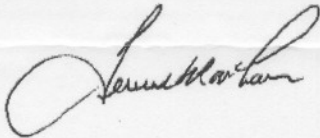
I urge your Board to communicate directly with the Honourable Monte Kwinter, Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services, and urge him to revisit this matter.

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On behalf of police leaders across Ontario, I thank the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board for its strong support for our officers in York Region and Ontario. We look forward to continuing to work closely with you and all police services boards in the province to make Ontario prosperous and safe.

Sincerely,



Chief Terry McLaren, M.O.M.
Peterborough Lakefield Community Police
President
Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police

TM/jc

- c. Chief Armand La Barge, York Regional Police
Chief Bill Blair, Toronto Police Service
Mr. Bernie Morelli, President, Ontario Association of Police Services Boards
OACP Board of Directors
Ms Sandi L. Humphrey, CAE, Executive Director, OACP
Mr. Joe Couto, Director of Government Relations and Communications, OACP