

REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK POLICE SERVICES BOARD
USE OF CONDUCTIVE ENERGY DEVICES BY FRONT-LINE OFFICERS

Approved: October 25, 2006

WHEREAS police services must ensure the safety and security of all persons and property in Ontario;

WHEREAS police officers must preserve the peace and apprehend criminals, other offenders and others who may lawfully be taken into custody;

WHEREAS the Criminal Code of Canada and the *Police Services Act* authorize police officers to use force, including lethal force, in the performance of their duties;

WHEREAS police officers are trained at the Ontario Police College to use a variety of use of force options, including: officer presence; communication; physical control; empty hand techniques; intermediate weapons; impact weapons; aerosol weapons; lethal force; and firearms;

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2005, the Ontario Government authorized the use of the TASER X26 less lethal conducted energy weapon by trained members of tactical units/hostage rescue teams, preliminary perimeter control and containment teams, and trained front-line supervisors or designates;

WHEREAS those authorized by the Ontario Government to use the conductive energy device, including front-line supervisors, are often not the first responders to arrive at the scene of a crime requiring use-of-force by police;

WHEREAS front-line police officers at the scene of a crime should have access to the same use-of-force options as their supervisors who may not be at the scene;

WHEREAS the conductive energy device is a safe and effective less lethal weapon than a firearm in subduing an individual;

WHEREAS the use of a conductive energy device by a trained police officer could avoid the use of a firearm and the possible death of a suspect;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board call on the Ontario Government to authorize the use of the conductive energy device by trained, front-line police officers;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards, the Canadian Association of Police Boards, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police and the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police express their support of this resolution.