



Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada L3Y 4W5
 (905) 895-1231 or Toll Free: 1-877-464-9675 (Ext. 7906)
 Fax: (905) 895-5249 Web Site: www.yrpsb.ca

To Make a Difference in the Community

MEDIA RELEASE Police Services Board Meeting Highlights

<p>Board Renews Rewards for Hate Crimes and Triple Homicide</p>	<p>At its February 25, 2009 meeting, the Regional Municipality of York Police Service Board received a report from Chief Armand La Barge requesting the renewal of two outstanding rewards authorized by the Board at its February 27, 2008 meeting. In response, the Board approved a one-year extension on the \$20,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for hate crimes perpetrated in the City of Vaughan during the evening hours on March 15, 2004. The Board also renewed for one year the \$100,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murders of Zhu LIN, Yan LIU and Xiao ZHAN all of whom died of multiple gun shot wounds in the Mirage Spa in Markham on February 8, 2004. The York Regional Police will continue to investigate these criminal matters diligently until they are solved.</p>
<p>Emergency Preparedness and Response</p>	<p>York Regional Police Superintendent Craig Rogers, Support Services and Staff Sergeant Doug Conley, Operational Support, Support Services, described how the coordinated emergency response protects the lives and property of citizens in York Region. Through its air support, marine and ice rescue, search and rescue and mobile incident command, the York Regional Police can respond immediately to significant local incidents, natural disasters, and terrorism. Staff Sergeant Conley encouraged citizens to learn about community hazards, develop a family emergency plan, prepare an emergency survival kit, and practise and maintain their emergency plan. York Regional Police has implemented a new public notification system called Community Alert which notifies citizens in emergencies. You can access the York Region Emergency Preparedness Guide at www.york.ca and sign up for the Community Alert program at www.yrp.ca. See www.yrpsb.ca to access the presentation.</p>
<p>York Regional Police Appreciation Night</p>	<p>The Police Services Board is once again a proud corporate sponsor of the 17th Annual York Regional Police Appreciation Night to take place on April 23, 2009 in Thornhill. In 1993, five local businessmen began an annual fundraising event that would also showcase York Regional Police. The \$140,000 raised in 2008 supported many causes including the Leo McArthur Youth Leadership Camp, the Community Safety Village, Crime Stoppers of York Region, and equipment for the Marine Unit and District Community Rooms. This year's event will celebrate 38 years of excellence in policing to citizens of York Region.</p>
<p>Board Supports Hartwell Runners' Challenge</p>	<p>In response to a request for financial support, the Board approved a contribution of \$2,500 toward the eighth Annual Hartwell Runners' Challenge to be held on April 26, 2009 in Aurora. This half-marathon race honours Bob Hartwell who passed away before realizing his dream of a race organized by runners for runners. Proceeds from the event will support the Southlake Regional Health Centre. Members of York Regional Police, including Auxiliary Members and many</p>



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	youth volunteers, participate in this annual race.
Ontario Provincial Police 100th Anniversary	In response to an invitation by Friends of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) , the Police Services Board agreed to participate in an historic Fundraising Gala in celebration of the OPP's 100th Anniversary . The OPP has provided policing excellence to communities throughout Ontario for the past 100 years. Proceeds will benefit Friends of The OPP Museum, the OPP Youth Foundation, Tattoo, and 100 th Anniversary Commemorative Book. The event will be held in Brampton on May 23, 2009.
Public Complaints	The Board received a report from Chief Armand La Barge summarizing public complaints. In 2008, York Regional Police received 111 public complaints compared to 131 in 2007 and 116 in 2006. The actual strength of the York Regional Police at the end of 2008 was 1,364 sworn officers. The ratio of conduct complaints per officer for 2008 is 0.08 and this remains one of the lowest ratios when compared to other large police services in Ontario. In 2008, York Regional Police officers responded to 239,939 demands for service and issued 135,589 Provincial Offence Notices. Many public complaints arise from call response and traffic enforcement. Chief Armand La Barge told the Board that York Regional Police remains vigilant in communicating its Values and Code of Professional Ethics within the organization and also externally.
Next Police Services Board Meeting	The next Police Services Board meeting will be on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 , Committee Room A, Region of York Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street at 1:00 p.m. Chief Armand La Barge and his team will make a presentation on DRUGS AND VICE . <u>NEW!! York Regional Police Seeks Your Input:</u> Prior to making the presentation on Drugs and Vice , Chief La Barge and his team seek your input so that they can better address your concerns in the presentation. The results of this survey will be available on the York Regional Police web site at www.yrp.ca .

Contact: Connie Phillipson, Executive Director, Police Services Board: 905-830-0303 (Newmarket);



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905-773-1222 (Toronto) or 1-877-464-9675, ext.7906. E-mail: psb@yrp.ca. Actual text of all Board resolutions can be obtained from the Board or viewed on our web site at www.yrpsb.ca under Police Services Board – Minutes.