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## 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](http://www.yrpsb.ca)

To Make a Difference in the Community

### **MEDIA RELEASE      Police Services Board Meeting Highlights**

<p><b>Board honours retiring Superintendent Eugene Kerrigan</b></p>	<p>At the March 25, 2009 meeting of the Police Services Board, <b>Chairman Danny Wheeler</b> and <b>Chief Armand La Barge</b> made a presentation to retiring <b>Superintendent Eugene Kerrigan</b> after 41 years of dedicated service, including 35 years with the <b>York Regional Police</b>. A recipient of numerous community accolades, <b>Superintendent Kerrigan</b> also received the Governor-General's Police Exemplary Service Medal and Bar after 20 and 30 years of dedicated service. <b>Superintendent Kerrigan</b> pioneered many new investigative techniques and was one of the first expert police witnesses to testify about the distribution and packaging of marihuana and cocaine. In charge of Investigative Services prior to his retirement, <b>Superintendent Kerrigan</b> led 228 police officers in the Organized Crime, Major Crimes and Special Investigations and Support Bureaus.</p>
<p><b>New Superintendent</b></p>	<p><b>Chairman Danny Wheeler</b> and <b>Chief Armand La Barge</b> presented <b>Inspector William Faulkner, Court Services</b>, with his Superintendent's Badge. <b>Superintendent Faulkner</b> began his career with <b>York Regional Police</b> in 1980. He has worked in the Emergency Response Unit, 5 District Uniform, the Homicide and Missing Persons Bureau, Major Crimes Bureau, Major Case Management, the Sexual Assault and Crimes Against Children Bureau and Court Services. <b>Superintendent Faulkner</b> is a member of the many justice-related committees and the <b>York Regional Police</b> Special Olympics' Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee. A graduate of the <b>University of Toronto Rotman School of Management in Police Leadership</b>, <b>Superintendent Faulkner</b> received the <b>Governor-General's Police Exemplary Service Medal</b> in 2002.</p>
<p><b>Drugs and Vice</b></p>	<p><b>Inspector Richard Crabtree, Detective Sergeant Brian Bigras, Detective Sergeant Dieter Boenheim</b> and <b>Sergeant Sara Riddell</b> captivated their audience with their presentation on <b>Drugs and Vice</b> in York Region. The Team discussed their enforcement of commercial sex crimes, massage parlours, adult entertainment establishments, gambling, dog and cockfighting. They also spoke about the increase in neighbourhood drug factories, indoor and outdoor grow operations, and provided facts about various drugs, including marihuana and its use. The <b>York Regional Police</b> is working with the community to combat illegal drug use and urges parents to identify physical and behavioural signs of substance use and to take appropriate action to prevent its escalation. See <a href="http://www.yrpsb.ca">www.yrpsb.ca</a> to access the presentation.</p>



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<p><b>Appointment of New and Experienced Police Officers</b></p>	<p>The Board appointed <b>13 new police officers</b> as <b>Cadets-in-Training</b>, effective April 6, 2009. The 9 male and 4 female officers reflect the diversity of York Region, are well educated and bring various life skills and linguistic abilities to their new positions. In addition, the Board approved the appointment of three experienced police officers from the Durham Regional, Greater Sudbury, and Ottawa Police Services. The addition of the <b>13 new Cadets-in-Training</b> and three experienced officers will raise the authorized sworn strength of the <b>York Regional Police</b> on April 6, 2009 to 1391.</p>
<p><b>2008 York Regional Police Statistics</b></p>	<p><b>Chief Armand La Barge</b> reported that the <b>overall crime rate</b> (total number of criminal and federal violations per 100,000 population) increased slightly by 0.5 % in 2008 from 2007. Whereas decreases occurred in stolen vehicles (18.4%), robbery (14.8%), and youth crime (1.4%), increases occurred in the sexual assault (45.8%), fatal collisions (20.9%), impaired operation/related violations (19.1%), hate crime (8.2%), and crimes against persons (4.2%). Clearance rates for crimes against persons and property decreased to 78.6% and 37.5%, respectively in 2008, whereas the overall clearance rate for Criminal Code and Federal Violations decreased slightly to 55.5%. The <b>York Regional Police</b> received 239,948 calls for service last year, an increase of 2.3% over 2007. <b>Chief La Barge</b> stated York Region remains one of the safest communities in Canada in which to live, visit and conduct business.</p>
<p><b>Board supports Yellow Brick House</b></p>	<p>In support of the <b>Yellow Brick House</b>, the Board approved a silver sponsorship toward the organization's 4<sup>th</sup> Fundraising Dinner on May 29, 2009 in Markham. <b>York Regional Police</b> and the <b>Yellow Brick House</b> are community partners in responding to the tragedy of domestic violence. Now in its 30<sup>th</sup> year of operation, <b>Yellow Brick House</b> is a non-profit, charitable organization that provides emergency shelter, supportive counselling and services to abused women and children. Nearly 3,500 women and children received services from Yellow Brick House in 2008.</p>
<p><b>Board supports the Canadian Crime Victim Foundation</b></p>	<p>The Board agreed to support the <b>7th Annual Canadian Crime Victim Foundation Gala Fundraiser</b> to be held in Vaughan on May 29, 2009. Over the last six years, the <b>Canadian Crime Victim Foundation</b> has raised over \$200,000 for its <b>Scholarship Fund</b> which provides educational opportunities for survivors of violent crime and the siblings of murder victims. In 2009, the Foundation is announcing the creation of "Jonathan's Fund" to support emergency psychological counselling for a victim in the immediate aftermath of violent crime.</p>



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<p><b>Board supports Crime Stoppers of York Region</b></p>	<p>The <b>Police Services Board</b> approved a gold sponsorship in support of <b>Crime Stoppers of York Region's 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Wayne Snooks Golf Classic</b> to be held at the Cardinal Golf Club in Kettleby on June 9, 2009. <b>Crime Stoppers</b> is a partnership of the public, the police, and the media. Through <b>Crime Stoppers</b>, citizens of York Region anonymously assist the police in solving crimes. The Board's contribution will help support programs and services provided by <b>Crime Stoppers of York Region</b> that help to keep York Region safe.</p>
<p><b>Board supports Community Safety Village</b></p>	<p>The <b>Police Services Board</b> agreed to be a Presenting Sponsor of the <b>4<sup>th</sup> Annual Community Safety Village Golf Tournament</b> at the Copper Creek Golf Course in Kleinburg on June 26, 2009. Since the <b>Community Safety Village</b> opened in May 2005, <b>over 100,000 children</b> and their families have participated in educational programs on traffic, pedestrian, bicycle, internet and fire safety. The Board's contribution will support significant learning opportunities for youth.</p>
<p><b>Board supports the Association of Black Law Enforcers</b></p>	<p>In response to a request from <b>Inspector Chris Bullen, Vice-President, Association of Black Law Enforcers (ABLE)</b>, the Board agreed to support the <b>Association's 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Scholarship Awards Ball</b> at the Riviera Parque and Convention Centre in Vaughan on May 10, 2008. <b>ABLE</b> salutes the contributions and dedication to duty that black citizens have made in law enforcement and works effectively with all law enforcement agencies.</p>
<p><b>Canadian Association of Police Boards</b></p>	<p>The <b>Annual Meeting and Conference of the Canadian Association of Police Boards</b> will hold its Annual Meeting and Conference in Sydney, Nova Scotia from August 14 to 16, 2009. Chairs and Members of Police Services Boards from across Canada are expected to attend the conference to participate in workshops that explore various challenges of police governance in a changing world.</p>
<p><b>Next Police Services Board Meeting</b></p>	<p>The next <b>Police Services Board meeting</b> will be on <b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009</b>, Committee Room A, Region of York Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street at <b>1:00 p.m.</b> <b>Chief Armand La Barge</b> and his team will make a presentation on <b>RESPONDING TO HATE CRIMES.</b></p> <p><b><u>NEW!! York Regional Police Seeks Your Input:</u></b>        Prior to making the presentation on <b>Responding to Hate Crimes</b>, Chief Armand 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 <a href="http://www.yrp.ca">www.yrp.ca</a>.</p>

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](mailto: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](http://www.yrpsb.ca) under Police Services Board – Minutes.