



## 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**

<b>Weapons and Illegal Firearms</b>	<p>At the October 21, 2009 meeting of the Police Services Board, <b>Detective Sergeant Duncan McIntyre, Intelligence Unit</b>, and <b>Sergeant Mark Altermann, Community Services</b>, outlined trends on the prevalence of illegal guns and other firearms in Canada and York Region. Guns are the third leading cause of death among Canadians between the ages of 15 and 24 and <b>Canada</b> ranks fifth among industrialized countries in firearm deaths of children under 14. There are over 16,000 handguns and almost 70,000 rifles and shotguns legally owned in <b>York Region</b>. Ninety-three percent (93%) of the guns used in homicides are not registered. Since 2007, seven homicide deaths in York Region have resulted from handguns. <b>York Regional Police</b> aim to educate people about the culture of guns and to prevent gun crime by conducting retail firearms security audits in the community, through their safe and secure gun program, various youth initiatives and community forums. <b>Detective Sergeant McIntyre</b> and <b>Sergeant Altermann</b> said it's never too early to start preventing gun crime and encourage everyone to help young people make healthy lifestyle choices and then to reward their positive behaviour. See <a href="http://www.yrpsb.ca">www.yrpsb.ca</a> to access the presentation.</p>
<b>Police Services Board Welcomes New Executive Director</b>	<p>The <b>Police Services Board</b> welcomed <b>Mafalda Avellino</b> as its new Executive Director effective October 1, 2009. Trilingual (English, French and Italian), Ms Avellino brings extensive policing experience to her new position. She has worked as a Planner for <b>York Regional Police</b> and as a Research Consultant for the Guelph Police Service, the Halton Police Service, the First Nations Chief of Police Association and Human Resources Development Canada. Passionate about public safety and justice, Ms Avellino has lectured on crime in Canadian society at Sheridan College and has gained international experience through her work with the South African Police Service.</p>
<b>York Regional Police Receives Success in Partnership Award</b>	<p><b>Chief Armand La Barge</b> announced that <b>York Regional Police</b> received a <b>Success in Partnership Award</b> on October 20, 2009 from <b>Seneca College</b>. <b>York Regional Police</b> partners with <b>Seneca College</b> in ensuring quality police and emergency services programs for students through the development, design and delivery of curriculum, on-campus recruitment activities and in exploring future opportunities to ensure the highest calibre of skills for those in the field.</p>
<b>York Regional Police Detective Receives Prestigious Award</b>	<p>The <b>American Society for Industrial Security</b>, a preeminent organization for security professionals, has presented <b>York Regional Police Major Fraud Unit Detective Fred Kerr</b> with its <b>International Award</b> for his significant accomplishments as a fraud investigator as well as for his hard work and dedication to the victims of fraud. <b>Detective Kerr, a 27-year veteran of York Regional Police</b>, has been involved in numerous criminal investigations and high profile cases including the investigation of a \$1 million leasing fraud.</p>



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<b>Police Services Board Amends Service Fees and Charges</b>	The <b>Police Services Board</b> adopted changes to its <b>Fees By-Law</b> and <b>Alarms By-Law</b> to enable a full cost-recovery program. The two <b>By-Laws</b> will proceed to Regional Council for enactment, and it is expected that the <b>Fees By-Law</b> will take effect on <b>January 1, 2010</b> and the <b>Alarms By-Law</b> on <b>July 10, 2010</b> .
<b>Next Police Services Board Meeting</b>	The next <b>Police Services Board meeting</b> will be on <b>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 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>ENGAGING OUR YOUTH</b> .

Contact: **Mafalda Avellino**, Executive Director, Police Services Board: 905-830-4444 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.