



## The Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board

17250 Yonge Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada L3Y 6Z1

905-830-4444 or Toll Free: 1-877-464-9675 Extension 77906

Fax: 905-895-5249 Board Website: [www.yrpsb.ca](http://www.yrpsb.ca)

To Make a Difference in Our Community

### MEDIA RELEASE

## Police Services Board Meeting Highlights September 10, 2014

<p><b>Tribute to Police Service Dog Ranger</b></p>	<p>The Police Services Board recognized the passing of <b>Police Service Dog (PSD) Ranger</b>. PSD Ranger began working with his partner, Constable McGuigan in 2008 and was involved in 41 apprehensions and more than 120 criminal charges were laid as a result of his actions. In addition to locating criminals, he played an instrumental role in locating missing and suicidal people. In 2009, Ranger and his handler Constable McGuigan placed second overall in the annual Police Iron Dog Competition for provincial canine teams. Ranger also received seven recognitions for his work on incidents ranging from Amber Alerts to home invasions. PSD Ranger was trained in handler protection, tracking, building and area searches, articles search, suspect apprehension, obedience and cadaver detection. We are grateful for Ranger's service and his contributions to the community.</p>
<p><b>Lifetime Achievement Award for Traffic Safety</b></p>	<p>The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police recognized York Regional Police <b>Staff Sergeant Brad Bulmer</b> with the award of Lifetime Achievement in Road Safety. Throughout his 35-year career in policing, Staff Sergeant Bulmer has focused on traffic safety through the implementation of various programs and initiatives to combat driving hazards. The Police Services Board congratulated Staff Sergeant Bulmer for receiving this distinction. The National Police Award for Road Safety – Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes excellence, dedication and initiative in the field of traffic safety by enforcement officers across Canada.</p>
<p><b>How Technology Has Changed Policing</b></p>	<p><b>Ron Huber, I.T. Manager</b> and <b>Constable Cameron Pottage</b> presented on <b>How Technology has Changed Policing</b>. Technology in policing has evolved significantly over the last century. Early policing consisted of officers "walking the beat" equipped with a baton and whistle and were often on their own when they left the police station with no communication between patrol officers. Soon communication Call Boxes were implemented which officers used to check-in every half hour. Radio was introduced in 1968 in various York municipalities, allowing officers to be in constant communication and ensuring officer safety. Mobile terminals were introduced in 1987. With the progression of technology over the last few decades police now have access to mobile workstations, electronic maps, in-car camera and electronic ticketing systems available in their vehicles. Social media and Global Positioning System (GPS) have also impacted the way police conduct business, allowing for real-time information sharing and engaging the community on various social platforms.</p>



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<b>Board Supports Retirement Celebration for Chairman &amp; CEO Bill Fisch</b>	The Board approved the purchase of two tables of 10 for the retirement celebration honouring <b>The Regional Municipality of York Chairman and CEO Bill Fisch</b> , taking place November 13, 2014 in Vaughan. The Chairman has been with the Region for over 20 year, and was appointed as Regional Chairman in 1997 and has served on the Police Services Board since 1995.
<b>Crime Rate Still Declining</b>	The overall crime rate in <b>York Region decreased by 7.2 percent</b> during the first half of 2014 as compared to the first half of 2013. The rate of crimes against persons decreased by 11.3 percent during that same period. The rate of property crimes decreased by 10.0 percent. Decreases were seen in the rates of most crime categories. The overall clearance rate has decreased by 1.1 percent.
<b>York Still Safest Community in Canada</b>	For the eight consecutive year, <b>York Region's</b> crime rate ranks <b>lowest among its national comparators</b> (i.e. Peel, Toronto, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa, Peel and Montreal) in Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property and Total Criminal Code categories. When compared provincially with Durham, Toronto, Peel, Halton, Waterloo, Hamilton, Ottawa and Niagara, <b>York Region</b> ranks lowest for Crimes Against Property.
<b>Semi-Annual Report on Public Complaints</b>	There was an 18 percent decrease in public complaints against police officers for the same time period last year. Fifty-eight complaints against 90 members of the Service. Twenty-five complaints related to police procedures, seven complaints related to physical assault, 18 related to verbal abuse, five related to misuse of authority and three related to policy/service.
<b>2015 Schedule of Board Meetings</b>	The Board approved the <b>2015 schedule of Board meetings and the Public Presentation Topics</b> . Presentation topics for next year include 2015 Police Budget and Priorities, Police Encounter with People in Crisis, Combating Organized Crime, Keeping Our Children Safe, Police Canine Unit and Assisting Victims of Crime. Please visit our website at <a href="http://www.yrpsb.ca">www.yrpsb.ca</a> for the complete list.
<b>Next Police Services Board Meeting</b>	The next Police Services Board meeting will be held on <b>WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2014</b> at the York Region Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street, Newmarket, in Committee Room A at 1:00 p.m.



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For further information please contact Executive Director, Mafalda Avellino at 905-830-4444 or 1-877-464-9675 extension 77906 or email: [psb@yrp.ca](mailto:psb@yrp.ca). Please visit [York Regional Police Services Board website](http://www.yrpsb.ca) for a copy of the presentation, Board Reports and Minutes from the Board meeting.

**Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request.**