

Classification **PUBLIC**

Meeting **April 08, 2013**

Agenda Item **Monitoring Report: Community Policing**



Recommended Motion:

THAT the Board finds that all provisions of the Community Policing Ends Policy have been complied with.

Community Policing

I hereby submit my monitoring report on your Ends Policy “Community Policing” according to the schedule set out. I certify that the information contained in this report is true.

I report compliance to all provisions of this policy.

Signed: _____
Chief of Police

Date: _____

Board Policy Statement:

The mission, philosophy and values of the Durham Regional Police Service emphasize the importance of working in partnership with citizens communities. Working in collaboration with community partners fosters trust and confidence in the police.

It is the policy of the Durham Regional Police Services Board that police services in Durham Region shall be delivered in partnership with communities and citizens to proactively address and resolve community problems. These partnerships will focus on the root causes of crime, aim to reduce fear of crime, and maintain and enhance high levels of community safety.

Reporting

An assessment of community policing in Durham Region shall rely upon quantitative and qualitative analyses of relevant data, information and public input.

Interpretation of the Chief of Police:

It is my interpretation that the Board End of Community Policing relates to Section 1, principle 3 of the *Police Services Act, 1990* – Principle #3 identifies “*The need for co-operation between the providers of police services and the communities they serve*”.

The definition of “community policing” has evolved over the years, both within the Durham Regional Police Service and across the Ontario policing sector. The overarching philosophy of Problem Oriented Policing (POP) supported through Problem Based Learning (PBL) examines the root cause of community safety issues, including crime and the fear of crime and leveraging the appropriate subject matter expertise through credible partnerships to prevent or address the issue with meaningful and ideally permanent solutions.

The DRPS community policing philosophy has evolved and now aligns with the Province of Ontario’s Mobilization and Engagement Model of Community Policing. The Ontario’s Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) accepts this model and it is currently taught as part of the recruit curriculum at the Ontario Police College.

It is my further interpretation that this policy also focuses on the community engagement and Community based partnerships that are developed by the Service as result of the activities within the current Business Plan, or arising from community requests, or issues based exigent/emergent circumstances that demand some response to an identified community safety need. The Service shall provide to the Board regular operational updates that confirm our commitment to the POP/PBL philosophies through such organizational activities.

The Board End measures of success involve both quantitative and qualitative measurements. Given the number of partnerships established across the Service, the Board in consultation with Senior Command will identify the programs and partnerships that are worthy of an annual review. The Service will then report on the nature of the partnerships; the activities and services delivered within those partnerships, and measure(s) of effectiveness that satisfy the resource commitment, value added and sustainability of the partnership.

The qualitative measures focus on root causes of crime, fear of crime; the community’s knowledge of what police/partner initiatives have been undertaken, and what the community understands of the

impact that these initiatives are having on both individual and collective safety and well-being. These measures may be incorporated into our regular environmental scans and community surveys.

Executive Summary:

It is the policy of the Board that the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) work in partnership with the community and citizens to enhance community safety and resolve community problems and the DRPS does that in a number of ways.

The Community Policing philosophy aligns with the Province of Ontario's Mobilization and Engagement Model of Community Policing, a diagnostic tool to assess community readiness for community-led initiatives with a goal of moving towards safer communities. The model moves along a continuum from enforcement and crime suppression efforts requiring a high need for police assistance to community engagement and liaison requiring a low need for police assistance. The Ontario's Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) endorses this model and it is part of the recruit curriculum at the Ontario Police College; the DRPS refers to it when planning operational initiatives that align with the Business Plan.

The DRPS continues to develop its knowledge base by training members to use critical thinking skills to solve community problems. Members are taught to be emotionally and socially aware of the public they serve, while engaging the community and increasing the safety and well-being of themselves and others.

Partnerships make the police more effective and efficient, encouraging community engagement and awareness of their own behaviours. Police are often the first line to recognize social issues and are in the position to get our community access to the services that can help them best. Community engagement and partnerships may be part of a long-term program or situational in nature; they range from long-term diversion programs to neighbourhood driving campaigns. The goal of engaging the community is to move from police led initiatives to community led initiatives that contribute to the safety of all.

While not exhaustive, the following paragraphs detail the different kinds of initiatives and partnerships in which the DRPS engages with the community, beginning with training our members and ending with an initiative that was originally led by the DRPS and is now ran by our community partners.

Data Support:

Developing our Knowledge Base

To be effective in Community Policing, members of the Durham Regional Police Service must have the problem-solving skills to gather essential information and work with others in the community. There are various problem-solving models in use; the DRPS is committed to training our members in the use of Problem Based Learning (PBL). By ensuring that our recruits have sound problem-solving skills before approving them for independent patrol, they start with an excellent foundation for Community Policing.

The training program encourages members to use critical thinking skills and develop outcomes. For example, rather than an officer repeatedly arresting the same individual for the same offence without further intervention, the officer uses the process to understand why the problem is continually occurring. All parties involved are encouraged to come up with a viable solution, supporting the DRPS philosophy of Problem Oriented Policing.

Since 2007 the Service has trained a total of 427 members. In 2012 the leaders at the PLC determined that PBL as it was being delivered required a full review. The previous format was taxing on front line resources as the course was 5-10 days long dependent on the level of preparation required.

Going forward into 2013 the PBL principles will be integrated over the next academic year into all courses delivered by the PEIC. Also, the traditional classroom delivery will be replaced with a hybrid model of delivery where a combination of on-line and in class instruction will occur to engage learners in a more accessible format.

Partnership

Mental Health Pre-Charge Diversion

The Mental Health Pre-Charge Diversion Program is a partnership between the Durham Regional Police Service, Durham Mental Health Services (DMHS) and the Crown Attorney's Office that aims to divert adults, who have committed a minor offence and suffer from a mental illness, to health and human services. This means that we are not criminalizing the mentally ill when health services and other community supports are the most appropriate, and needed, resources for the individual.

From a police perspective, the objectives of this partnership are to reduce calls for police service, reduce the load on the court system and create a positive police contact for the client and their family. This strategy aims to increase accountability by ensuring the clients receive a closely monitored and structured program that will better contribute to their success in the mental health system. The goal of DMHS is to ensure that the client receives the appropriate support services and that there is early intervention and linkage. There is an opportunity for DMHS to engage clients they may not otherwise see and provide more effective symptom management, while reducing recidivism. The Crown Attorney's Office is supportive of these programs as they fit with the province's "Justice on Target" strategy.

The program itself is a voluntary program. To be eligible to participate the adult client must be known or appear to be experiencing a mental health disorder. In addition, there must be evidence that a minor criminal offence has occurred and there is not a victim requiring protection. Offences considered as minor for the purpose of the program include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Theft Under
- Possession Under
- Mischief Under
- Fraud Under
- Cause Disturbance
- Minor Drug Possession
- Take Motor Vehicle without Consent
- Passenger in a Stolen Auto

If the offender, after being read the Rights to Counsel and having their options explained, elects to participate in the program then they must attend the DMHS office at the Durham Court House within seven days. DMHS identifies the necessary support strategies and arranges for support services to ensure the successful completion of the program.

In 2012, three people elected to take part in the program; no clients have re-offended following participation in the program. While the Mental Health Pre-Charge Diversion Program makes very effective use of a service that is already available in the community, increasing the accessibility of these community services to individuals in need could mean there would be no need for police involvement from the start. Efforts will be made to increase participation in the program.

Extrajudicial Measures (EJM) Youth Diversion Pre-Charge Program

With a goal to promote youth safety and reduce youth involvement in crime and disorder, the Durham Regional Police Service engaged in a partnership that aims to respond to the needs of youth in conflict with the law through a continuum of programs, services and community supports. The agencies involved in this collaborative, formal partnership meet regularly to discuss service levels, case management protocols, the evolving needs of our youth, and creative responses using existing support services in the community. Agencies taking part in the formal EJM partnership include Eastview Boys and Girls Club, John Howard Society of Durham, and Lakeridge Health Corporation (Pinewood Centre) with The Ministry of Children and Youth Services providing funding and oversight. In addition to this formal partnership, the DRPS connects youth with other community agencies and programs including Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences (Assessment and Counselling), TAPP-C (Arson Prevention Program for Children), and Champions for Youth (Mentoring Program).

To be eligible to participate in the diversion program, the young person (age 12-17) must accept responsibility for participation or involvement in the commission of an offence. The young person having been informed of their rights and consenting to participate in an extrajudicial measure is connected with a Youth Diversion Coordinator within the DRPS. The coordinator engages the youth and their parent(s) or guardian(s) and makes a referral to one of the identified service providers to complete the needs-based EJM.

The Community Partners:

The Eastview Boys and Girls Club facilitates the Restorative Justice component of the EJM. This process helps to restore relationships between youth, families and communities when dealing with issues of bullying, theft, mischief and minor assaults. Parents and guardians are encouraged to participate in the Restorative Justice process and have chosen to be highly involved with the process and their youth since the inception of the program.

The John Howard Society of Durham's services for youth includes Anger Management and Anti-Theft group sessions. Program materials for the Anger Management sessions address communication skills, anger awareness, cognitive appraisal, anger payoffs, personal triggers, bullying and time-outs. The materials for

the Anti-Theft sessions include general awareness and an overview of consequences, decision-making and personal values, peer pressure, empathy, victim awareness, case studies, along with a questionnaire. Individual counselling is available to accommodate those youth who are unable to attend a group session.

Pinewood Centre is the addictions program of Lakeridge Health and through this partnership accepts direct referrals from DRPS to its programs. Most youth requiring these services are referred to the DAWN Program, an educational and motivational program for youth who are using alcohol and/or drugs. These youth are either uncertain about or do not intend to alter their pattern of use. They are encouraged to reflect on their present situation and the impact that substance use has on various aspects of their life. Pinewood Centre attempts to engage parents in treatment, as family involvement increases the potential for lasting change.

In 2012, DRPS officers diverted 529 youth to our community partners. Diversions were used for minor criminal offences involving theft, mischief, assaults, thefts and drug possession (marijuana).

DRPS officers identified a young shoplifter for diversion. As part of her needs-based EJM, this youth was referred to and successfully completed the Anti-Theft Program. The John Howard Society reported that the youth continued to attend her program and was referred to a number of other services within the John Howard Society; she attended a resume workshop and an employment services program. After identifying that this youth and her family had financial struggles, the John Howard Society provided her with food donations and some money to help purchase clothing. This youth disclosed to her counsellor that the arrest was "...the best thing, but I regret the theft." While she was held accountable for her behaviour, the John Howard Society empowered her to problem solve.

Community Policing Initiatives

Durham College and University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT)

Disorder and property damage complaints have been ongoing problems in the area around Durham College and UOIT where students rent houses in family neighbourhoods. To address this problem,

the DRPS has collaborated with City of Oshawa by-law officers who attend the problem locations with our uniformed officers and lay all the relevant charges. In addition, the DRPS has developed a sound partnership with the college and university security staff. They notify the DRPS of significant upcoming events that have come to their attention, so that the Target Team can be rescheduled to complement the front-line patrol numbers.

The prevention aspect of having officers attend the locations before the parties begin makes a difference in deterring the undesirable behaviours. Thorough proactive project plans have been created and implemented to address the return of students at the start of the school season as well as end of term and special occasions.

Driving Campaigns

The 2012 Festive RIDE team comprised of 7 officers from Traffic Services Branch (TSB) and 5 officers from the Community Offices. The Team deployed a total of 35 shifts, charging 132 offenders with impaired related offences.

Chart #1 Cumulative Statistics Festive RIDE

Vehicle Stops:									13545				
Roadsides Performed	3 / 7 and 30 Day Susp	Driver Under 22 24hr Susp	G1G2 24 Hr Susp.	Impaired Exceed Refuse Arrests	Impaired Exceed Refuse Arrests	Impaired Exceed Refuse Charges	Drug Arrests	Drug Charges	CC Arrests Other	CC Charges Other	PON G1/G2 / Young Dr Violations Alcohol	PON Susp. Notices Served	
425	102	6	11	144	132	177	19	17	9	40	40	264	

Traffic Services performed the following Community Safety Initiatives

- 2 CVSA Inspection projects
- 4 Holiday weekend aggressive driving campaigns
- 2 week long distracted driving campaigns
- 3 back to school enforcement blitz

TSB conducted two different distracted driving campaigns in 2012:

- May 14 – 21 - Canada Road safety Week – CACP sanctioned enforcement campaign -80 charges
- Oct 5-8 – Operation Impact – CACP sanctioned enforcement campaign – 2 charges.

Due to the increased awareness on the dangers of this offence and emphasis being placed on this topic through e-parade and direct leadership, a total of 1543 distracted driving tickets were issued throughout 2012 Region wide.

In 2012, the DRPS Central West Division partnered with MADD Canada in an effort to observe a reduction in drinking and driving charges. The collective campaign was a three-fold design with an impactful strategy that targeted the Christmas Holidays. The first phase of this strategy was an advertising message with personal stories. Over two successive weeks, personal stories were printed by those affected by drinking and driving. These messages were captured in local publications throughout Durham Region. Secondly, a further partnership was developed with local bars and restaurants utilizing “tent” cards that were placed on each and every table. These “tent” cards provided a message; “call 911” if someone suspects an impaired driver. Lastly, a message to bar and restaurant patrons was placed on the doors and inside the washrooms regarding the legislated responsibilities of the serving establishment and the request to “make responsible choices”.

Parent Police Coalition

The East Division Youth Team has created partnerships between police, schools, community support agencies and parents in an effort to educate parents about issues their children may be facing such as bullying, safe use of social media, internet luring and sexting. The team continues to meet monthly with members of the community, bringing subject matter experts in to moderate discussions and present relevant information. Partnerships internally (DRPS ICE) and externally (School Board Staff) have been enhanced.

Constable Stacey Sullivan developed an anti-bullying program which involved student groups at various schools. The students were challenged to create an anti-bullying message that would target their immediate peer. They were to record the appeal in a format of their choosing and the recordings were collected, viewed, voted on and eventually reduced to a short list of presentations. The most appealing message was voted on and selected for presentation across the Northumberland Newcastle Board of Education schools. The Catholic School Board has also adopted a program consistent in

messaging in their school environment that addresses similar behavior issues around good character and respect of diversity. That program is continuing currently.

The East Division Target team also has conducted and developed a good citizenship recognition award. This award is presented at the local police Division to identified youth from within the Clarington school communities which have exemplified acts of leadership and good citizenship. In 2012 award were presented to three youth. Two for intervening in a suicide of a peer and seeking help. One young male for breaking the code of silence and alerting police to a school mate who was said to have a firearm at school ; a realistic imitation firearm was recovered in that case.

Community Outreach

Members of Central East Division extended its service out in to neighborhoods, school functions and other community gatherings by way of a Community Outreach program. On seven occasions in varying locations members of Central East worked out of our Command vehicle, engaging with residents, providing them with both crime trend and crime prevention information. Members of the public that attended the event were provided the opportunity to purchase Criminal Information Requests. Other Regional units, such as Communications, Mental Health Support were in attendance to provide information. In addition to internal partnerships at the outreach events, the DRP partnered with Oshawa By-law and Fire Services.

Walk with the Mayor

In June 2012, a North Division Business Survey was developed and delivered to businesses in the Downtown centers of Uxbridge and Beaverton. The purpose of the survey was to provide insight into levels of interaction with the business community and North Division officers. In response to the survey officers were encouraged to increase foot patrols within the downtown business areas as well as identified community sporting venues. From July to December 2012 officers conducted foot patrols in Uxbridge, Port Perry, Beaverton and Cannington meeting local business people, citizens and interacting with youth as well as person with identified criminal history.

Additionally, North Durham implemented a monthly program entitled “Walk About with the Mayor”. The program was initiated by Staff Sergeant Peter Keegan and involved him and the zone officer meeting with each of the Municipal Mayors in North Durham for a walk about the downtown core areas. The program has now been expanded giving carriage of the initiative to the zone sergeant. Response from the Mayors and community has been excellent.

Go Transit- Pickering Town Centre DRP partnership

A partnership was formed between West Division as well as Go Transit and the Pickering Town Centre. The partnership was formed to work to ensure citizens were safe while on the Go-Transit and Pickering Town Centre property. D/Sgt Cathy Bawden led the DRP on this partnership. This partnership went on to work with students at Guelph- Humber University to formulate an education component on protecting one’s self and property. A video was created that focused on reporting suspicious activity and crime. The video is now housed on the Pickering Town Centre and Go-Transit websites. The partnerships also worked together on the OACP Lock it or lose it campaign. The feedback from both Go-Transit and Pickering Town Centre staff has been exceptionally positive indicating the partnership has assisted in making both of their properties safer.

Street Level Robbery

West Division has an average of 140 reported street level robberies each year. Traditionally, the Street Level Robbery Unit (SLRU) took a reactive approach to policing and investigating these crimes. Shifting to a problem-oriented policing model, West Division used crime analysis data to identify when and where street level robberies were most likely to occur.

Working with the Durham District School Board and the Durham District Catholic School Board, the DRPS conducted a short survey to gauge students’ sense of safety and general feelings towards the police at three specific high schools located near the targeted areas. We received over 2900 responses, representing 64% of the student population at these schools.

After running a spring initiative, a follow-up survey will be conducted to evaluate any changes in the students’ sense of safety, behaviour when travelling to and from school, and general attitudes towards the police. (Board Minute M234-11 refers)

In the spring of 2012, a second survey was completed with the schools after a second focused street level robbery project. Similar results were obtained from the students with a return of about 1500 surveys. As a result of the survey information, the Street level Robbery unit is working with Police School liaison officers, the Durham District School Board and The Durham District Catholic School Board to implement an education program, in order to help students recognize the risk of being robbed and preventative strategies. An education component utilizing social and main stream media is also being developed to educate members of the public on this ongoing problem.

Whitby After-School Program

R.A. Sennett Public School was home to youth from an area that police identified as high-risk, an area where the relationship between police and the youth was non-existent. In October 2008, the Town of Whitby attained a Safer and Vital Communities Grant from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services to run an "After School Program" at this school, in partnership with the Durham Regional Police Service and the Durham District School Board. The program began with one police officer, one teacher and two programmers from the town who built the program with the needs of the community in mind. The program has been successful in achieving the objectives of providing a range of structured and unstructured, supervised activities in a safe environment for youth. It has assisted youth to develop meaningful relationships with caring adults, including the police, and has helped them to make positive decisions and develop life skills. ProAction Cops and Kids funded special events that offered the participants life experiences they may not have otherwise had. The After-School Program has allowed the youth to give back to their community through participation in park clean up days and intergenerational programs with seniors from the Whitby Seniors Activity Centre.

In 2011, the Town of Whitby approved funding for the expansion of the program to John Dryden Public School and for new youth programming out of the Centennial Building. Additionally, the Eastview Boys and Girls Club joined the program. Now in 2012 this full-time program is continuing to remain strong and active. The Durham Regional Police Service continues to act in a supporting role, moving this to a program of community engagement.

Future Aces Positive Ticketing Program

In December 2012 PC Sitaram organized, obtained sponsorship and helped to launch the Future Aces Positive Ticketing program in Durham Region. The purpose of the program is to build trust with youth in the community and promote positive behaviour. This innovative approach has been proven in other jurisdictions to significantly reduce juvenile problems in the community, boost self-esteem and morale and improve community relations with youth. The Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Foundation was founded in 1987 and is a non-profit, registered charitable organization. The foundation works in connection with hundreds of schools and organizations throughout Canada to celebrate successes and foster positive behaviour in youth. The Future Aces Positive Ticket program was developed in partnership with the Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Foundation and encourages police officers to acknowledge young people in our schools and communities “caught in the act” of demonstrating positive behaviour and good decision-making skills. Printed on the back of each Future Aces Positive Ticket are the attributes of the Future Aces philosophy. Students are encouraged to live up to and model the values of the creed in their daily lives.

The Durham Regional Police Service is proud to acknowledge the caring spirit and leadership of the following participating partners: The Town of Ajax, The Municipality of Clarington, The Township of Brock, The City of Oshawa, The City of Pickering, the Township of Scugog, the Town of Whitby, Mac’s Milk Convenience Stores, McDonalds Restaurants of Durham, Pizza Hut and Starr Burger. In addition to being recognized as good citizens, recipients of the Future ACES Positive Tickets will receive coupons donated by these partners that can be redeemed in their communities. Veridian has also offered to sponsor the program after being invited to two school presentations by Bernice Carnegie. The funds will go towards bringing more Future Aces Presentations into the schools.

To date, there have been at least 288 positive tickets given out at 29 schools. 15 schools were surveyed at the beginning of the program to create a baseline for measuring success.

Durham Chapter Pro Action Cops and Kids

The program has been running in Durham Region since 2007 and has provided over \$150,000 funding to 42 programs. Over 260 officers have been involved with over 9000 youth in the region. Each youth is identified as being from an at risk area within the Region. In 2012, we provided over

\$50,000 funding to cover 9 programs. The programs involved 63 officers reaching out to 1143 kids. The programs themselves consisted of sports and recreation, arts, camping, community service, education, and leadership.

Our Police Services Board continued with their commitment of \$10,000 again in 2012, making some of our programs possible. Chief Ewles and Command continue to support the program and our 4th annual bowling fundraiser was a great success. This event raised over \$13,000 for Durham Chapter programs. We continue to look for growth in both the number of programs and fundraising in 2013. In February of this year, we held our first ever “Jeans and Jewels Hoedown Dance” at the Jubilee Pavilion in Oshawa and raised over \$27,000 in an event attended by over 250 people. The following is a comment from one of our most committed officers, D/C Brandon Stanway, that speaks to the enduring success of the programs:

“I am still in contact with youth from 5 years ago and they still call for advice, mentoring or simply just to grab lunch. One of our Youth from the first trip called me this past July and invited me to his High School graduation. It’s rewarding for our officers to witness first-hand the transformation these youth make over the course of this week long program and knowing these kids will carry with them these new found attributes for their entire lives. These youth will return to their respective communities armed with the knowledge and contacts to lead pro-social lives in the face of adversity.”

Seniors Education

In West Division Sgt Pat Waters has led a team of 6 officers who have volunteered to work and educate seniors on issues of crime prevention and reporting incidents when they have been victimized.

The team partnered with Tammy Rankin of the Region of Durham and Sergeant John Keating and received training on what information seniors required. They took on a philosophy of sharing information with seniors that the seniors could share with their friends and family members. The partnership involved working closely with Heather Butler of the City of Pickering and Jim McKinnon who is the leader of a community group called Safe Communities of Pickering and Ajax (SCOPA) The officers did approximately 15 formal presentations to seniors groups which included, community groups, seniors homes, churches and social organizations. The message was delivered to approximately 450 senior citizens. The feedback from the City of Pickering, Town of Ajax and SCOPA has been very positive.