

Classification **PUBLIC**

Meeting **April 13, 2015**

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.**

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**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.

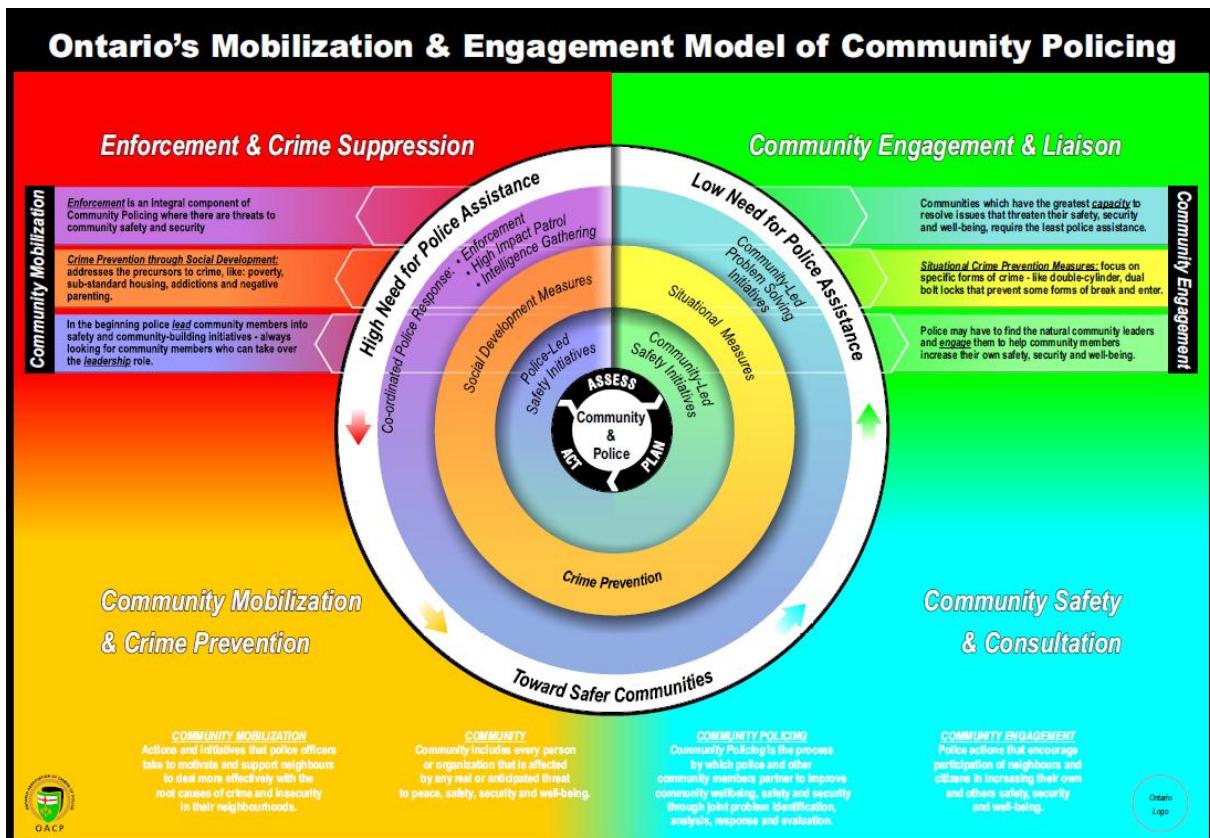
### **Executive Summary:**

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.

*Figure: 1*



*To view a larger version of Ontario's Mobilization and Engagement Model of Community Policing see Appendix A.*

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 pages detail the different kinds of initiatives and partnerships in which the DRPS engages with the community.

**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.

In 2012 the leaders at the PEIC determined that PBL as it was being delivered required a full review as the formal two week training course was very taxing on frontline resources.

During 2014 the PBL principles were integrated 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.

## **Crime Administration**

### **Threat Assessment Unit**

The Threat Assessment Unit continues to provide investigative support to all branches of the service with threat assessment analysis reports and risk management strategies. Training in threat assessment and risk management for violence and stalking is provided several times a year to different investigative courses at the PEIC. Additionally, the threat assessment coordinator works with community partners by providing training and consultations on matters involving threats and violence. The coordinator is a member of the School Threat Assessment Protocol Steering Committee with the Durham District School Board, Durham Catholic District School Board and the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board along with other community agencies such as Childrens Aid Society, Frontenac, Ontario Shores, and Lakeridge Health.

The threat assessment coordinator attended the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals conference in the USA in August 2014. The main focus of the conference was workplace type violence and harassment.

The TA Coordinator sits on the Board for the Ontario Association of Threat Assessment Professionals. The Association has been preparing this past last year to hold a 3-day symposium in Oshawa in May 2015. This is the first time that the biennial conference will be held outside of OPP HQ and is in partnership with University of Ontario Institute of Technology. Registered attendees are coming from across Canada (BC, NS, Alta) and from the USA. International experts in the field of targeted, mass attacks and “lone wolf” terrorism will present on this very current topic.

### **Extrajudicial Measures (EJM) Youth Diversion Pre-Charge 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 then 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.

In 2014, DRPS officers diverted 409 youths to our community partners, a decrease from 441 in 2013 and 543 in 2012. Diversions have been steadily declining but this appears to be on par with the decline in youth crime nationally. Other neighbouring police services have noted similar statistics. Diversions are used for minor criminal offences involving: Theft Under, Possession Under, Mischief Under, Fraud Under, Minor Drug Possession, (marijuana), Cause Disturbance, Minor Assaults/Threats, Take Motor Vehicle without Consent and Passenger in a Stolen Vehicle. Other minor offences must be discussed with the Regional Youth Coordinator, including minor sexual assaults (e.g. touch, grab). Should a youth not complete the program they will be summoned to court on the original criminal offence. Since the implementation of the program, less than 3 % of youth do not successfully complete their diversion programming.

Recidivism rates are one means to measure the effectiveness of a program. Youth diverted from 2007 to 2010 were compared to youth who were charged. Those youths involved in the diversion program did not re-offend, 71 % of the time.

In order to be proactive, the Youth Diversion Coordinators continue to meet with platoons, write articles in the Police Insider, participated in the Chief's Message and have recently implemented a new Directive (Youth Diversion Consideration Text Page-added to all youth reports). The Youth Criminal Justice Act states that: **Police officer's shall consider an extrajudicial measure when apprehending youth for a criminal offence, as it is a timely intervention that promotes accountability for a youth's actions.** Durham Regional Police Service currently follows the principles of the Youth Criminal Justice Act by offering officers the option to use the Youth Diversion Program. The Youth Diversion Consideration Text Page is the only way to effectively measure that officers are considering an EJM.

## **Offender Management Unit**

### **Project Benson Ensures Sex Offender Compliance**

The DRPS Offender Management Unit (OMU) conducted a five-day enforcement project to ensure those on the Sex Offender Registry were in compliance with their court orders. This week long initiative was the first of its kind ever conducted and was done with the view of protecting the children in our community.

From July 7 to July 11, 2014, members of the OMU, assisted by the DRP DRAVIS Unit and divisional Crime Response Units, conducted a week-long compliance project, dubbed **Project BENSON**. During the course of the week, officers conducted observations on 36 registered sex offenders currently bound by Section 161 orders (to stay away from parks, pools etc.). Officers concentrated on a different division each day, targeting all of the divisions throughout Durham Region. Thankfully all 36 sex offenders were found to be in compliance.

When an offender is convicted on an offence concerning persons under the age 16, Section 161 of the Criminal Code permits the court to make an order prohibiting the offender from certain activities that may have them in contact with persons under the age of 16.

The Offender Management Unit strives to ensure that no high-risk offender resides autonomously in Durham Region. Their role is to enhance community safety and prevent crime by monitoring and enforcing conditions for persons on bail, parole, probation or registered with the Provincial Sex Offender Registry.

## **Senior Response Coordinator Position**

This position was funded by the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services by way of a successful grant application. This civilian role was established on September 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 for 6.5 months. The role of the Senior Response Coordinator (SRC) has demonstrated and built capacity within DRPS and the Region of Durham, by providing follow-up and systems navigation to seniors who have become involved with police either as a victim, complainant, or otherwise.

The SRC role is able to provide essential follow-up to seniors to help avoid future involvement with police. Working together with community partners to find the best course of action to better serve our seniors has been an integral part of the role. The SRC has built effective and sustainable community partnerships that have proven to reflect positively on DRPS as a service.

Durham Region and Durham Regional Police have always been seen as leaders in Elder Abuse Prevention strategies. This grant and the creation of the SRC role are unique and has demonstrated best practice.

The SRC has provided a civilian with expertise in services for seniors to respond to and attend calls for assistance from frontline officers relating to all forms of elder abuse and or seniors safety issues. On scene the SRC has been able to effectively provide assessments, analysis and document the needs of the senior and or caregivers.

The SRC has made effective referrals to community supports that have enabled:

- Seniors to remain in their own homes safely
- Help seniors and their families access programs and services available to our most vulnerable and coordinate these services.
- Assist with alternative levels of care or alternative housing
- Provide donations and assistance with financial support services
- Organize and coordinate meetings with care providers and family to determine best plan of action

The SRC role has provided support and resource for service providers working with seniors alleviating calls to frontline officers.

The role has worked in three ways.

- Provide direct response to calls that are generated through communications, arrive on scene and provide support to the frontline officers.
- By reviewing GO reports in the Elder Workflow and provide the necessary follow up and support. Often connecting with the responding officers for further details, the SRC can re-attend the call multiple times if necessary while spending time organizing and coordinating services with the intent to limit any future victimization and unnecessary police involvement.
- Respond to calls from service providers, community members or concerned citizens relating to a senior at risk or senior in need. Typically these calls could generate a “Check on the Wellbeing”. The SRC can assess and gather the information necessary to determine if police involvement is required. If not the SRC can respond to the call provide the proper referrals and or information and document effectively.

It has recently been determined that because of the positive impact that this role is having in our community that the role be extended until September 2015 (a full 6 months longer than originally expected). During this time the SRC will continue to respond to calls for service, and build lasting community partnerships between DRPS and the agencies and organizations that serve our seniors.

### **Polygraph Unit**

One of the functions of the polygraph unit is to assist the Police Education and Innovation Centre with training officers from DRPS (and other services) in interviewing and interrogation techniques.

In May 2014, our current polygraph examiner Detective Paul Mitton attended Memorial University in Newfoundland for a one week course on the PEACE (Planning and Preparation, Engage and Explain, Account, Closure, Evaluate) interviewing model. This new approach to interviewing was brought over from England by Dr. Brent Snook of Memorial University in St. John's Newfoundland. The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary (RNC) has adopted this interviewing model and under the guidance of their polygraph examiner (Sgt. Todd Barron) many members of the RNC are trained in this model.

Detective Mitton is working with a professor from the University Of Ontario Institute Of Technology, Dr. Joseph Eastwood and together they are developing an introductory course on the PEACE interviewing model to determine if it will be beneficial to DRPS members. It should be noted that Dr. Eastwood was a graduate of Memorial University and worked with Dr. Snook when this model was first introduced to the RNC. As a result, Dr. Eastwood has extensive knowledge with this interviewing model.

In February of 2015, Dr. Eastwood and Detective Mitton held a four day training course for four members of DRPS. These four members were chosen for their strong interviewing skills. This small group represented three different investigative units within DRPS and as such is considered a 'test group' for purposes of introducing PEACE to DRPS. This course was facilitated at Dr. Eastwood's lab at UOIT.

### **Domestic Violence**

In 2014, the DRPS response to Domestic Violence (DV) was under review. When the recommendation to form a DVI unit from the ISAP report was deemed not feasible, a group of members from various ranks and sectors across the service were brought together to review DRPS response to DV; Sergeant Anderton the DV Coordinator, was a member of this team. This DV Review team made a number of changes, addressed each platoon at parade and continued to monitor progress. Although minor improvements occurred, they were short-lived. This led the DV Review team to recommend changing the current response model from a front line response to a CIB response transitioning to a full DVI unit. This recommendation has received initial acceptance by the ELG and implementation is currently being researched further by the DV Review Team. This is an extremely positive step forward for all the families suffering through the trauma of domestic violence in Durham Region.

The number of D-flagged reports increased in 2014 to 5861 from 4974 in 2013. This increase could definitely be seen as a reaction to the measures and accountability put in place by Superintendent Mills when it was recognized that some officers were not correctly filing DV reports. The DV Bail team was immediately tasked with reviewing all DV calls for service to ensure reports were filed when applicable. Each division would then review this report to resolve any discrepancies. The other aspect that could account for this increase was a change created by the DV Review team. It was noted that some “Keep the Peace” calls were domestic in nature and information from these calls could be pertinent to understand the full context of domestic situations. For these reasons, the DV Review team created a new call code – “Keep the Peace – Domestic.” The DV Bail team continues to update the “No Report – Report” on a daily basis.

The DV Bail team continued to review all DV-related crown briefs. The team had a number of staffing issues in 2014 which were all related to medical conditions. Although working at minimal capacity, the team still has an unblemished record of being staffed 365 days a year. In 2014, they reviewed 750 DV Bail Packages, Completed 336 safety/risk factor interviews with victims and deemed 21 files as high risk to be reviewed by the regional High Risk Assessment Review Team (HART).

The DV OMU continues to lead the province in offender accountability. This energetic team of four officers arrested 75 DV offenders, laid 164 charges and conducted 443 street checks. This team’s agility allows them to conduct surveillance on offenders one day, reassure a victim the next and visit a shelter the following day speaks to their ability to understand the complexity of domestic violence. The relationships they have developed with various VAW agencies throughout Durham Region have allowed them to work collaboratively to ensure offender accountability along with victim safety.

A major highlight for the DV area of DRPS in 2014 was the two events featuring Dr. Jackson Katz. The DRPS partnered with the Violence Prevention Coordinating Council (VPCC) to bring this dynamic speaker educator, filmmaker and author to our region in October. Dr. Katz has been internationally recognized for his ground-breaking work in gender violence prevention.

### **Mobile Crisis Intervention Team (MCIT)**

### **Community Events at Ontario Shores and PADAN Funding**

Community events at Ontario Shores Centre for Mental Health Sciences are designed to build relationships and break down barriers between Police and those who suffer from a mental illness. This has proven in the past to be a successful opportunity to bring Police Officers and patients together in a positive experience. During a past event, a patient of Ontario Shores told a Senior Officer that was present that “I used to be afraid of the Police, but I’m not any more”.

In September of 2013, PC Scott Logan submitted a PADAN request for funding towards community events at Ontario Shores, specifically for prizes that would be distributed at the events. In December 2013, the request was approved and \$1,407.98 was received for the community events in 2014.

Recognizing the positive impact the events had with the patients and mental health community, we wanted to also leave a tangible memento for the patients, to remember the event. After consulting

with the Ontario Shores staff about the suitability of items, orders were placed. Using the obtained PADAN funding, water bottles, leather bound not pads and toques, all with the DRPS crest were purchased.

Feedback from the staff and patients receiving the prizes has been overwhelmingly positive and the DRPS mementos have been cherished by the patients. Not only is this engraining a positive interaction with the patients, but also building an even stronger foundation of the community partnerships that DRPS have made.

### **Making More Ambulances and Frontline Officers Available**

In 2014, the MCIT began tracking the number of ambulances (EMS) they divert from a call for service. EMS tends to be dispatched to most calls for service with a mental health component and their only course of action is to transport to the nearest emergency room. The foundation that the MCIT operates on is keeping people in crisis or with a mental illness out of the ER and linked to the most appropriate community resource. In 2014 the MCIT diverted a total of 51 ambulances from the call for service. Not only does this place more ambulances back in the field for other emergency calls but most importantly, doesn't put the client through the unnecessary and lengthy emergency room visit. Note, the MCIT also cleared 602 frontline Officers (Constables, Sergeants, K9, TSU).

## **Patrol Operations Support – Traffic Services Branch (TSB)**

Traffic Services directly supports the Regional response involving driving behaviours that cause the most serious injury and death on our highways in Durham. They have been identified as the “**Big 4**” **Killers** on our roadways. They include Impaired Operation, Distracted Driving, Aggressive Driving and Not Wearing Seat Belts.

### **Impaired Operation**

Impaired Operation continues to be the leading cause of criminal death in our nation. The Durham Regional Police is committed to addressing this very serious criminal behaviour in numerous ways including community involvement.

#### **Festive R.I.D.E.** (Nov 18 – Jan. 01)

Our R.I.D.E. team has been a model for Police Services throughout Ontario and indeed across Canada. In 2014 the RIDE kick off was held at the Landmark Cinemas including another corporate and community partner to combat the leading cause of criminal death on our roadways.

*Figure: 1*  
**2014 FESTIVE RIDE STATISTICS**

<b>2014 RIDE Final Totals After Week 7</b>	
<b>Vehicle Stops</b>	<b>9577</b>
Roadside Tests	733
3, 7 and 30 Day Suspensions	98
Driver Under 22 – 24hr Suspension	3
G1 & G2 24hr Suspension	12
Impaired Exceed:	
Arrests	106
People Charged	98
Charges laid	131
Drug Arrests	17
Drug Charges	12
CC Arrests – Other	7
CC Charges – Other	13
PON G1/G2 Young Driver Violation-Alcohol	43
PON Suspension – Notices Served	197

### **Special Events**

Divisional R.I.D.E.’s are conducted on the last Thursday of each month using divisional personnel and traffic services members. We also conduct R.I.D.E. during the Super Bowl, St Patrick’s Day and Brooklin Spring Fair.

In late 2014 Traffic Services was pleased to announce the acquisition of a dedicated R.I.D.E. Command Vehicle. This new vehicle will assist the Service in providing a more effective response in

dealing with impaired drivers. As a result of the new vehicle, it is intended to double RIDE for 2015, with R.I.D.E. being conducted on the last two Thursdays of each month.

### **Educational** (In 2014)

There is no criminal offence that receives as much media attention as Impaired Operation. Vehicle manufacturers, distillers, M.A.D.D., O.S.A.I.D., Festive R.I.D.E. and local media outlets continually send out the message about drinking and driving. Our members continue to improve, educate and enforce the “zero tolerance” that the DRPS has for Canada’s leading cause of criminal death.

Enforcement, education and awareness are showing signs of having the desired impact with the number of companies providing ride home services quadrupling in the Region within the last year compared to other jurisdictions.

**In 2014, DRPS charged 799 drivers with impaired related criminal charges- this includes impaired by drugs where a breath test was not completed. In 2013, DRPS charged a total of 774 drivers and in 2012, 707 drivers were charged.**

### **Distracted Driving**

Distracted driving is a major concern for police and community members. It has surpassed impaired driving as the leading cause of fatal collisions on our roadways. Even with the increase in fine in 2014 for distracted driving offences, Durham Region still has seen an increase in tickets being issued. The trend continues to show an increase in Distracted Driving violations over a three year period.

**In 2014 the Service issued a total of 3661 tickets for Distracted Driving, which is double the number of tickets issued in 2012 (1542). In 2013 2862 tickets were issued.**

**During the first quarter of 2015, over a 1000 tickets have been issued.**

Traffic Services Branch (TSB) has continued to conduct presentations to the youth in our community. Impact Teen Drivers is a presentation geared towards Grade 11 and 12 students. Members of TSB have conducted presentations at Maxwell Heights, Bowmanville Secondary, Uxbridge Secondary, and Monsignor John Pereyma with additional presentations scheduled for 2015. TSB officers will once again be involved in Race Against Drugs Durham (RADD) running two pit stops on the dangers of distracted driving.

### **Enforcement**

TSB officers identify intersections in the Region where distracted driving is resulting in numerous collisions. Plain clothes officers attend these intersections to observe offences and uniform officers make the stop and issue offence notices. Fines have increased but seem to have had little impact.

The DRPS is committed to “zero tolerance” enforcement for distracted driving.

### **Pedestrian Safety- Education**

To promote pedestrian safety, the DRPS, in partnership with the Ministry of Transportation, GO Transit and the Region of Durham Traffic Department conducted a **Do the Bright Thing campaign**.

On Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at 6:30 a.m., officers handed out reflective zipper pulls to citizens getting on the GO Transit trains at the Oshawa GO Station concourse. They also handed out pamphlets and educating citizens on how both pedestrians and motorists can make it safer for pedestrians.

The aim of the campaign was to promote and reinforce pedestrian safety, including urging pedestrians to wear reflective clothing, refrain from texting or talking on their cell phone while crossing roadways, and to use caution when crossing the street.

Annual aggressive driving and seat belt campaigns are held every year throughout the country and TSB and divisional officers participate. In 2014, 798 individuals were issued provincial offences notice for not wearing their seatbelts, compared to 811 in 2013.

## **COMMUNITY POLICING INITIATIVES**

### **North Division / 15 Division**

The Northernmost, patrol zone, Brock Township covers a large area, with three distinct suburban/urban areas, the rest rural. To respond to the lower percentage of satisfied constituents from the DRPS Public Opinion Survey, in late 2013, a Pilot Project was instituted in Cannington. The premise of the pilot was to connect to the members of the community through their own personal e-mail accounts and to utilize this connection as a conduit to get information to the community.

Cannington was chosen as the Pilot Project, due to its smaller size and fewer police issues. Information that members of the community might otherwise not be privy to was forwarded (i.e. nuisance type behavior... car break-ins, mischief etc.). Further information concerning personal and home safety was shared with members of the community. Anecdotal information was that the community was pleased with the project and information sharing. In September of 2014, members of the North Division leadership, with the assistance of the Community Liaison Officer and the North Durham Auxiliary personnel, went door to door in Beaverton to "Connect" the second suburban/urban area directly to the police. Beaverton has been suffering from a substantial drug subculture. This community will be a better compass to measure whether this initiative is supporting not only the relationship between the community and the police, but also assisting with actual safety and security, including the perception of being safe in the community.

Citizens of Beaverton had heard of the Pilot Project in Cannington in 2013 and commented during the door to door launch as to how much they had been looking forward to the expansion of this project into their community.

At present, over 330 homes and businesses in Cannington and Beaverton have signed up for the “Connect the North Service”.

As an example of how this connection is working, in the late fall of 2014 a large knife fight erupted in downtown Beaverton involving 8 males with one in possession of weapon similar to a ball and chain. A number of the males involved required medical attention with one male suffering a crushed skull, broken elbow and arm resulting in his transfer to Toronto with life threatening injuries. A Video of a witness vehicle was retrieved and a digital picture was sent to “Connect the North” members. In less than 24 hours, the police not only had the vehicle but the driver identified. This identification was directly from the “Connect the North” initiative.

Before North Durham moved on to the third community of Sunderland, in early 2015 an online survey was sent to all members of the “Connect the North”:

*With 30% of all members responding:*

- *For the statement: “The Connect the North email alerts help connect me to my community” Over 87% either agreed or strongly agreed.*
- *For the statement: “The Connect the North email alerts help connect me to the Durham Regional Police Service” Over 87% either agreed or strongly agreed.*
- *For the statement: “I feel more informed about the community safety issues in my community as a result of the Connect the North program” Over 93% either agreed or strongly agreed.*
- *Further Just under 70% of the members responding to the survey agreed that the information that they received through Connect the North Program assisted them with Crime prevention activities in and around their homes”.*

The information received from the survey has spurred North Durham forward to finish the project in Brock with connecting the final suburban/urban area or Sunderland in 2015.

The project is becoming self-generating, as members of the North Durham Welcome wagon have requested and received letters to give to the new residents of the community explaining the project, how to sign up and will be speaking about its successes.

In future years, North Division will be looking to see whether this initiative or a similar premise may be of use in the Townships of Scugog and Uxbridge.

#### **Harm Reduction/Community Mobilization Program (Region Wide):**

It was brought to the attention of North Division Leadership that the North was having a major problem with overdoses and deaths related to the illicit use of Fentanyl. An Opioid, originally used for the pain management of cancer patients. The drug is now being prescribed for various ailments as pain management. Ontario has been found to be the highest prescriber of Fentanyl per-capita in the world. This drug is 100 times more potent than morphine and 40 times more potent than heroin.

Fentanyl is normally prescribed in a transdermal patch format to provide approximately 72 hours of pain management. Patients and professionals administering the patches were required to properly

dispose of the patch. However, some patches were making their way into the hands of criminals who could sell the used patches that may still contain approximately 60% of the drug for up to \$400.00 a patch (very lucrative).

The North Durham Leadership team became aware of the problem as the number of sudden deaths linked to Fentanyl in a span of 18 months rose to eight. A disturbing factor was that none of the victims had a prescription for the Fentanyl.

The underlying issue was beyond the sole sphere of influence the police could exert and required a community led solution and response. Following Ontario's Community Mobilization and Engagement Model key stakeholders were invited to a forum on this emerging issue in Brock Township and surrounding areas.

In attendance were:

- Durham Regional Police
- Brock Community Health
- Durham Health
- Pinewood
- York Regional Police
- CMHA
- Brock High School Leadership
- Mayor of Brock Township
- Representation from the College of Physicians and Surgeons
- Representation from the College of Pharmacists
- Senior Supervising Coroner for Durham Region
- Local representation from the Pharmacies
- Local doctor representation
- Durham Region Federal Crown's Office

It was decided that a collective of the attendees would support and actively work on a Regional Patch for Patch Program to ensure that the number of illicit patches was minimized.

Learning from the programs launched in North Bay and Peterborough, Durham ensured that our model did not have any areas susceptible to thefts or forgeries.

Assistance was requested from the OACP in regards to making the program a Provincial initiative and the OACP Substance Abuse Committee, invited Durham to attend a meeting. Since then OACP has endorsed a Provincial wide program. At present there is also a private members bill in front of parliament. (*Bill 33 safeguarding our Communities Act (Fentanyl patch for patch Return Policy)*)

The Program was launched on January 5<sup>th</sup> 2015 and from information received from the pharmacists and doctors, the program seems to be minimizing the amount of patches available on the street. The downside to this program is that there has been an increase in robberies. This was anticipated and the affected stakeholders were forewarned and educated. The Service continues to educate pharmacies in the Region on how to minimize the likelihood they will be the subject of a robbery.

York Regional Police in early 2015 has requested Durham to assist in creating their patch for Patch program.

### **Scugog First Nations Community:**

*Continuing on the partnership with the members of the Mississauga's of Scugog Island First Nation:*

In June of 2014, Chief Martin, Senior Leadership, representation from the PEIC and North Durham attended the Lands of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nations for a smudging ceremony and to have the “First Nations Decal” designed by a member of the community blessed. The decal, a Medicine wheel represents the unique relationship that Durham Police shares with our Autonomous First Nation Community. This decal has now been placed on every North Durham Vehicle Including: ATVs and Snowmobiles.

To better educate the North Durham Police members, Chief LaRocca attended the North Durham station and on four separate occasions taught all members of the North, including Chief Martin and PEIC Dean MacDonald-Jenkins on the history of the Mississauga's of Scugog Island. This teaching included the Residential School problems. This gave the members a new perspective on the history and hopefully has gone a long way in the understanding of the community's historical distrust of police and the softening of the barriers.

As the Service has commenced the hiring of new recruits, the teaching of the First Nations is on the agenda as part of their after college training. Further an “E-Training module” is to be completed for all officers.

We continue to work together on a memorandum of understanding and the job description for a First Nations Liaison Officer and are hopeful to have them in place in 2015.

### **Traffic Safety Coordinator and Committee**

The major part of the North Durham is Traffic Safety. Due to the distance between communities, the sheer size of the area, and the more extreme winter weather, North Durham respond to ten percent more motor vehicle collisions on average than any other division in the region.

Building on the success of the ‘Big 4 Killers’ education campaign, the North Durham Traffic Safety Committee continued to look for ways to make the identified high collision roadways and intersections in North Durham safer. Working with key stakeholders, and the Region of Durham Traffic Safety Coordinator, Chris Potvin, the identified roadways were reviewed and a plan put in place to update the signage and road markings for enhanced roadway safety.

The Divisional Traffic Safety Coordinator is working on a complaints system to ensure prompt service where every North Durham member can answer questions in relation to all roadway safety complaints at any time.

### **Community Services**

The North Durham Community Liaison Officer has worked in collaboration with other community partners to support the enhancement of public services in North Durham:

New Services:

- CMHA
  - Mobile response team
  - 9 subsidized Mental health beds in Cannington and 5 more in the near future
- Opiate case managers
- Grief Counsellors

In collaboration with the DRPS Senior's Response Coordinator and in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society have expanded the number of checks on the well-being of Alzheimer patients living in North Durham.

North Durham continues to expand the existing relationships and partnerships with the following community service providers:

- Brock Community Health
- Nourish and Develop Foundation (who have also opened their doors for other Services to utilize their buildings)
- YWCA – have expanded their presence in North Durham

We are working on educating North Durham community members of the existing, new and expanded services in their communities.

## **East Division / 16 Division**

The East Division 2014 community patrol plan was developed flowing from the broad principles and vision in the DRPS business plan. The patrol plan is an action plan to sustain police influence on key areas of community safety in areas policed by the East Division which were determined through internal DRPS consultation, review of current crime analysis data and evidence, and through consultation and interaction with various community groups in Clarington. The priorities identified are relevant, current community safety concerns and are set out below. The methodology used to implement action on these priorities involved problem solving, networking internally and externally to DRPS, planning, evaluation and review of evidence derived from evidence of effect. The OACP Ontario Community Engagement Model for community based policing is considered in the approaches undertaken. Some notable measures for 2014 are set out as follows,

### **Priority -Roadway Safety**

The main goal for 2014 was to provide sustained enforcement and messaging on traffic related issues to the community throughout the year and to be responsive to community complaints through our road watch program and from local officials. Officers specifically engaged with schools and school community safety zones to ensure the safety of the 14,000 school age kids in Clarington. Clarington is statistically the safest community in the Region of Durham to drive as indicated by external Insurance Bureau of Canada reviews and also through review internally through the DRPS traffic

analyst. Because of the large geography of Clarington accidents are difficult to cluster, pattern, analyze or assess by our traffic analysts because the data is low in volume. Most accidents occur in the heavily travelled areas of our urban centres and most frequently in Bowmanville which continues to add housing developments and infrastructure. On a positive note of the 20 intersections measured as the worst intersections for traffic accidents in Durham Region in 2014; no intersection on that list is in any community policed by East Division.

Traffic accident measures were varied in 2014 from 2013 where, in 2013, a general 4.6 percent decrease in accidents was reported. In 2014 there was a 16 percent increase in property damage accidents. There was an 8 percent decrease in personal injury motor vehicle accidents which corresponds to 132 recorded in 2013 and 130 reported in 2014. There was a 67 percent increase in fatal accidents, which statistically is noteworthy, and when reviewed relates to there being 3 fatal accidents recorded in 2013 and five fatal accidents investigated in 2014. One of those 2014 fatal accidents was a pedestrian hit by a train and one also related to an all-terrain quad operator losing control. Departmental accidents recorded in 2014 were reduced by 9 percent down from 11 accidents in 2013 to 10 accidents in 2014. The 16 percent increase in property damage accidents is also noteworthy and was reviewed to learn from and move forward. The crime analyst researched the reason on our behalf and it relates to a large spike in traffic accidents in January and February 2014 due to several major weather events. This traffic anomaly was seen across all of our police Divisions not just in the East Division. The 9 percent decrease in departmental accidents is also worth reviewing, in that context, as officers responded to calls and patrolled the East Division in those adverse weather conditions. One of the main things for 2014 was to try and improve, sustain steady influence on traffic enforcement throughout the year. Review of the data indicates more consistency and an increase in provincial offences notices issued in 2014 upward by 509 from 3,363 in 2013 to 3,872 in 2014.

East Division officers focused on impaired operation as a year round priority running numerous impaired driving reduction pop up enforcement initiatives to apprehend and deter drunk driving. We also partnered with Clarington Fire Services and DRPS Regional R.I.D.E. on our annual joint Festive R.I.D.E. in Courtice and Newcastle over Christmas. East Division has also proactively messaged regularly traffic messages to the community through our local twitter account and has grown that account to over 500 followers in a short time. We have tracked our progress monthly against traffic analysis data and communicated regularly with our assigned crime analyst and regional traffic services in planning and taking action on initiatives.

### **Property Crime**

Neighbourhood Property Crime initiatives were set as a priority in the 2014 community patrol plan because property crimes affect a disproportionate number of average tax paying citizens not normally involved in any type of crime or with the police. Property crime is the most difficult criminal activity to reduce with a statistical variance that is high because of the great number of property crimes that

happen and are subsequently recorded by police. You must solve or close many more of them to get a significant percentage decrease consequently.

Major areas of concern or, the “main things”, identified for 2014 in our patrol plan was to reduce theft from motor vehicles further and sustain the progress made in 2013 and also to reduce the number of nuisance and property damage calls experienced adjacent to the central business district of Bowmanville. Three specific areas were identified in close proximity to each other experiencing similar problems in those areas. Officers on patrol were requested to engage citizens on foot patrol in those locations, patrol them in vehicles, and our Community Resource officers maintained attention there also. The overall goal was to reduce calls for service in that area. In the two most affected spots, Liberty and King St. and the Baker’s Dozen Café on King Street calls were reduced by 17 percent and 35 percent respectively. The Bowmanville mall was the third location and experienced no change with 22 calls recorded in 2013 and 22 calls again in 2014. Overall the travel through these locations is linked together and the overall reductions experienced are significant and essentially address the same area residents involved with the disorder issues in all those areas which geographically are quite close together.

Theft from vehicles in Clarington has been a long standing targeted concern which has been addressed over many annual community patrol plans over many years. It represents a stubborn problem to influence. In 2014 the Auxiliary Unit assisted East Division greatly by canvassing affected neighbourhoods, delivering educational materials, and promoting the OACP lock it or lose it campaign. Community bill boards were created and displayed with tips on crime prevention in affected neighbourhoods while the incidents were ongoing in an effort to target, harden and prevent crime. Patrol officers targeted these identified high incident areas and communicated with area residents. Arrests were also made for thefts from vehicles in 2014. The outcome of these efforts was positive and an area that was considered by all measures a “red” or “hot” zone for theft has been moved back to a “green” zone with the help of the community as set out in the OACP community mobilization and crime prevention model. Four specific blocks of Bowmanville were identified as being the most frequently hit areas by thieves. Theft from motor vehicles was reduced in each of these neighbourhoods by 33%, 32%, 16% and 79 percent (Rhonda Blvd area). In December of 2014, as an example, there were 0 reported thefts from vehicles in any of these four neighbourhoods.

East Division has consistently messaged prevention material to the community through Twitter to help educate and prevent property and other crime in our area.

### **Visibility**

Patrol by police officers occurs when a police officer is out in the community interacting with the public for the benefit of public safety. Directed patrol infers officer presence in an area requiring police visibility and accessibility at the right times. Directed patrol can be in a patrol car, on bicycle, all-terrain vehicle, snowmobile, or most intimately on foot in areas where citizens live, work and play. As a strategy in East Division increased visibility, accessibility to, communication with, and

engagement of the public was a pillar of the 2014 East Division community patrol plan. Foot patrols were initiated along with traditional patrol activity in specific areas as identified by crime analysis into targeted areas where crime reduction and intervention would have the most impact for area residents experiencing actual harm now; whether from traffic problems, property crime problems or general disorder type incidents. This effort was maintained in 2014 to have our officers on the right priority, at the right time and in the places where there would be the best opportunities to enhance community safety on concerns that matter to people living in those affected areas in real time while building mutual understanding with them cooperatively.

In our 2014 patrol plan we undertook, as a priority, to monitor, check and apprehend, as necessary, offenders residing in Clarington that were in the community on a form of judicial release while facing criminal charges and before the courts or on probation and parole. Of the overall population existing in a demographic only a small percentage is willing to be involved with criminal activity and an even smaller percentage is involved in serious offending or predisposed to use violence in the commission of an offence. Drugs, alcohol and other substance abuse, immature personal relationships and coping, along with a transient lifestyle, predispose these persons to become involved in their offending cycle. Most court imposed conditions are placed on the persons to assist them in living successfully in the community and not to fall back into the offending cycle by restricting them from certain activity, within their personal relationships, their communications or in their behaviour. It is the responsibility of the police to enforce these restrictions and monitor offenders in the community and prior to a court appearance. It assists people acting as sureties for these people to maintain control over their situations. In 2103 East Division recorded 33 events related to breach of recognizance or probation in our arrest booking stats and recorded 59 events in those arrest booking indicators in 2014. Numerous compliance checks on known offenders were conducted throughout the year. Violent crime offences in Clarington dropped significantly in 2014 down from 420 recorded events in 2013 to 362 recorded events in 2014. (Crime analysis report December 2014)

As part of the visibility strategy East Division also initiated our Twitter presence with good success. Our officers participated in all major community events. We walked a mile in her red shoes standing with the women and children of our community against domestic violence. We gave presentations weekly to schools on a variety of topics including drug awareness, safe internet use and cyber bullying which is a growing concern. We had a strong presence at the Clarington Community Safety Day hosted by our partners at Clarington Fire Services where thousands of local residents attended and spoke with officers from our Division, our leadership team, and support services including our excellent Auxiliary Unit, Helicopter pilot and Tactical Flight Officer. We also provided many presentations to senior citizens and held our annual senior's Christmas visits at local retirement living facilities.

Although we are the smallest Division by staffing we also planned policing for the largest Country Music Festival ever held on Canadian soil at Canadian Tire MotorSport Park. The Boots and Hearts Music Festival is unique in its four day camping format, with nonstop music for the entire time, the event hosted over 35,000 guests a day at its peak, and was issued the largest liquor sales permit ever issued in the Province of Ontario by the Alcohol and Gaming Commission. This was a large

planning undertaking, involving many stakeholders, and was managed from a community safety standpoint very well with no major incidents reported and very little public disorder experienced considering the complexities involved in getting all of those persons from all over Canada, the United States and some foreign countries into and out of the venue. All in all a very safe and enjoyable event was held. This event has become so large over a short period of time that it required immediate relief for more space to expand and has subsequently moved out of the Durham Region. East Division was proud to be part of the development of this event and is proud that no public disorder event, no unplanned for natural disaster or accidents, serious crime problems or deaths were experienced during our time with this music Festival as occurred in other similar music festivals in the greater Toronto area and elsewhere in Canada and abroad.

East Division was also quite involved with our community youth supporting many events with the Firehouse Youth Centre an affiliate of the John Howard Society, our local schools, through Pro Action Cops and Kids events. We saw the Youth Citizenship Award program started in East Division by our CRU unit adopted by the Service regionally.

## **Central East Division / 17 Division**

In 2014, members from Central East Division worked in collaboration with community partners, focusing on establishing an increased community presence and stronger community engagement.

Increased community presence through enforcement and crime suppression were factors in our response to crime/disorder/domestic calls, resulting in a reduction of 416 (2.2%) calls for service over 2013.

Members from Central East Division were committed to stronger community engagement in 2014, attending in excess of 70 community events or initiatives. Increased community outreach resulted in the development of new community partners and stronger police/community relationships.

### **Community Presence**

#### **Increasing Roadway Safety**

Our community expects and deserves to travel on safe roads. The Central East Divisional Crime Analyst regularly reviews reports of motor vehicle collisions, identifying intersections and roadways with a higher rate of motor vehicle collisions. This information is routinely provided to the Divisional Traffic Coordinator and Platoon Supervisors supporting directed enforcement and the development of local initiatives. Coupled with these local initiatives are monthly initiatives focusing on “The Big 4 Killers on Our Roadways”; Distracted Driving, Aggressive Driving, Failure to Wear Seatbelts, and Impaired Driving. Motor vehicle collisions in Central East Division were reduced by 44 (1.6%) when compared to 2013.

#### **Monitoring Repeat Locations of Crime and Disorder**

The Divisional Leadership Team meets with the Divisional Crime Analyst daily; every Monday to Friday, identifying emerging crime trends or clusters. Important information is directed to individual or multiple units such as; Frontline Patrol, Criminal Investigations Bureau, and our Crime Response

Unit. This ‘hotspot’ information is regularly posted on the Services’ e-parade intranet site entry as a PRONE text page and available for viewing by Divisional members beginning their tour of duty, allowing officers to concentrate their efforts in specific neighbourhoods or patrol areas. This same information is “Tweeted” out on the CEDiv Account.

### **Crime Response Unit/Target Team**

Members of the Community Response Unit (CRU) include Elementary School Liaison Officers (ESLO), High School Liaison Officers (HSLO) and Youth Officers. In 2014, ESLO, HSLO, and Youth Officers, attended 49 schools and were involved in 94 presentations. These officers were involved in the arrest of 76 youth, resulting in 33 charges. The officers work tirelessly to keep our schools safe while positively influencing our youth. Although criminal court may be the avenue for some youth, members from Central East Division also direct many into youth diversions programs, providing non-judicial, community-based alternatives to court. In 2014, one Central East Division CRU officer was recognized for being the Services top member for directing 27 youth into diversion programs. These court-alternative programs educate our youth through measures that could include personal support to the victim; financial support; community service; personal or written apology; an essay or presentation; all designed to educate and keep a young offender on a path to success.

Target Team members support Divisional initiatives and Divisional units when not proactively addressing concerns of crime and disorder. In 2013 and into early 2014, crime/disorder calls in the downtown core, Memorial Park, and foot paths, averaged 5 calls per month. Over a period of a few months, calls increased to 13 calls per month and became the basis for Project “Wrecking Ball”. This Target Team initiative focused on unwanted persons, drug trafficking, and public alcohol consumption. The two-week project concluded with the arrests of 21 people facing 53 charges, 6 trespass notices, and 29 provincial offences. Local businesses and patrons were very pleased with the results. Calls per month returned to the Divisional average of 4-5 with the Target Team using a ‘maintenance’ approach by revisiting the area every couple of months. Criminal activity and crime/disorder calls remain low.

### **Criminal Investigative Bureau (CIB)**

Members of the Central East Criminal Investigative Bureau have the requisite skills, knowledge, and ability to investigate criminal matters that lie outside the scope of most frontline patrol officers.

In May 2014, investigators, the Divisional crime analyst and frontline patrol, worked hand in hand, tackling a rash of thefts from motor vehicles in the downtown core of Oshawa. Investigators provided community awareness with the distribution of 900 “Lock It or Lose It” flyers. Shortly after the distribution of the flyers, frontline patrol officers were contacted by alert community members and successfully arrested 5 persons, resulting in 29 charges, and ending a rash of vehicle related crimes in the downtown core of Oshawa.

### **Community Engagement**

#### **LGBTQ Community**

In 2014, members from Central East Division continued to foster the development of trust and inclusivity with the LGBTQ community. In June, members attended and marched in the Durham Pride Parade held in Oshawa. This June event, growing in size and popularity, is followed up with an awareness festival in Oshawa Memorial Park.

Central East Division sponsored and participated in a series of additional events within the LGBTQ community, including Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Bowling Fundraiser,

PFLAG/YWCA/Durham Rape Crisis Centre walk, “Take Back the Night”, and an October event in Memorial Park called, “A Night of Hope”.

Central East Division members attending “A Night of Hope” displayed the Durham Regional “Anti-bullying” vehicle and DRPS shelter, supporting this night in memory of the numerous LGBTQ members that had taken their own lives. The night was moving for all and solidified the DRPS commitment in supporting members of the LGBTQ community.

At the Durham Chapter of PFLAG’s (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) 5<sup>th</sup> annual Gala Ball in Whitby held March 2015, Inspector George Dymtruk was honoured on behalf of the Central East Division’s support and commitment to PFLAG and what it stands for.

### **Oshawa Community Health**

In 2014, members from Central East Division developed a stronger relationship with Oshawa Community Health Centre. Oshawa Community Health Centre is a community-owned, non-profit, charitable organization located in South Oshawa, providing free medical health care, social work and counselling, and community wellness.

In August members of Central East Division attended an Oshawa Community Health BBQ at the corner of Wentworth Street and Cedar Street, in the City of Oshawa. Several officers mingled with residents in this high-density apartment building complex. The officers handed out police trinkets (pencils, pens, waterless tattoos, key chains, etc.) and spoke with community members about their safety and well-being.

In September members from the Division attended for the Oshawa Community Health Centre Picnic. Members set up a DRPS shelter between two marked police vehicles alongside approximately 40 other public agency partners. Officers interacted with members of this disadvantaged community, handing out police trinkets while answering questions and providing literature on youth wellness and roadway safety.

### **Durham Housing**

As in past years, Central East Division once again partnered with Durham Region Housing to address community care in their housing complexes. Officers re-attended at the South Oshawa complex known as “Lakeview Park”. This high-density townhouse complex at Ritson Road and Lakeview Park Avenue was visited by our officers for the purpose of interaction with the youth. Social media Twitter was used to “Tweet” out the event, resulting in 115 posts. Central East Division members and Durham Housing staff provided pizza, pop, juice boxes and trinkets to youth that reside in this disadvantaged community.

Officers interacted with the youth, children and their parents. The conversations focused on youth safety and well-being, designed to develop feelings of community trust with the youth and their parents. Officers also provided information on the DRPS Youth in Policing Program (YIP), understanding the developmental value this program provides to all youth.

### **Community Events**

In addition to the above mentioned events, members from Central East Division participated in numerous other fundraisers supporting Durham Epilepsy, Clarington/Oshawa Community Living, and Durham Refuge, to name a few.

In April officers from Central East Division met with Oshawa Scouts parents and children, delivering a Bicycle Safety Presentation that teaches children the proper rules of bicycling. The presentation was received well, providing a level of confidence and comfort to children and their parents.

In December, over a period of two days, officers provided a “Seniors Christmas” to residents at Hillsdale Estates, Hillsdale Terraces, and Extendicare. Our officers met with 141 residents, providing each of them with blankets and wash pads while they listened to music from the O’Neill Collegiate Band.

## **Central West Division / 18 Division**

### **DRPS Loss Prevention Partnership with Retail Establishments**

### **Joint Law Enforcement and Loss Prevention Network**

In November of 2013 members of the Central West (CW) Criminal Investigation Branch held a meeting at the Central West Division with Loss Prevention Managers from 20 different retailers from our Region. The purpose of the meeting was to determine if there is a communication breakdown on working together and if regular meetings would be beneficial to work toward combating thefts and frauds.

After the initial meeting, it was determined that the best flow of information was through an e-mail group that was established by members of CW CIB. As time moved forward and more meetings were held, the number of Loss Prevention personnel that attended began to decline, however, the number of contacts on the email group grew larger as knowledge of the group spread to other retail establishments. The decline in attendance at the meetings was due to the ease of sharing information electronically. As this electronic information is being shared, meetings continued whenever necessary to discuss crime trends in an open forum.

CIB officers have also expanded this group to include investigators from all CIB offices within the DRPS. This expansion has ensured that there is more shared communication between Loss Prevention Officers and DRPS CIB offices. Within the last year, three cases were solved as a direct result of information received from Loss Prevention Investigators who provided suspect images. Additionally, two others cases were solved when DRPS investigators sent out images to the group whom positively identified the subjects depicted in the images. This collaborative partnership has demonstrated its value on numerous occasions.

Both The Toronto Police Service and the Ottawa Police Service have similar Joint Law Enforcement and Loss Prevention groups. CW CIB have made contacts with officers from these Services to enable a regularly inter departmental information share thus expanding the scope of this programme. This is a necessary step to combat this type of thefts as organized retail crime expands and continues to become more inter-jurisdictional.

CW CIB held four Joint Law Enforcement and Loss Prevention Meetings since the group's inception, with the fifth meeting scheduled for April 2015. The efforts of this group will continue as the benefits of this network continue to be seen.

### **DRPS 18 CIB and LCBO Theft Partnership**

As a direct result of past investigative initiatives, a strong partnership has been developed between the DRPS and the LCBO. Although it still remains the corporate policy of the LCBO not to intervene during thefts, staff at some locations have become vigilant in their observations and are willing to contact police when thefts occur. On one occasion, the management at 74 Thickson Rd. S in Whitby made observations with regards to a suspicious person lurking in their store. Staff covertly followed the suspects out of the store after the theft was complete. They recorded the suspects' description as well as the licence plate of the vehicle used in the commission of this crime. This information was immediately communicated to police.

In 2014, there were also three impaired charges laid as a result of staff members contacting police after refusing to serve intoxicated customers.

Loss prevention officers and security guards continue to attend the Thickson Rd location for proactive enforcement. This has resulted in five arrests by security in 2014. On one occasion the staff was able to prevent a theft due to their vigilance. The culprit realized that he was being watched and placed the bottle of liquor that he had been concealing back onto the shelf prior to leaving the store.

It is clear that the LCBO and the DRPS has benefited from this partnership by deterring offenders and heightening the chances of prosecuting offenders.

### **DRPS Partnership with MADD Canada and local restaurants and bars**

In December of 2013, DRPS and MADD Canada once again partnered in an effort to combat drinking and driving. The program that was developed was threefold. The first component of the program involved asking for each restaurant and bar to join in our partnership. All but one graciously agreed to the following:

- Tent cards- tent cards were supplied to each restaurant and bar and were placed on the tables for all to read. One side of the tent card provided statistics on impaired driving in Canada. The other side of the tent card provided a local statistic specific to drinking and driving arrests.
- Placards- each restaurant and bar were provided placards to be placed on the doors entering and exiting their establishment. Further placards were placed on the doors leading to and exiting from the washrooms.
- Advertising space was purchased in the local papers that told a specific story and the related impacts. The intention here is; to tell the personal side of the victims of drinking and driving.

- This partnership and strategy continued in 2014 in an attempt to reduce the incidents of impaired driving over the holiday period. Once again, this program has been utilized across all of Durham Region

### **DRPS Partnership with Local Hotels and Motels and Walk with Me Canada**

As a result of the efforts of the members of Central West Division and the successes of Project's Spencer, Armstrong and Northern Spotlight, a regional unit was formed; "Project Manhatten". The focus of this unit is to combat human trafficking within a proactive capacity. Recognizing the importance of this unit, Central West Division has provided one investigator as well as the unit supervisor to ensure team success. Members of Central West Division continue to maintain a presence at the local hotels and motels by conducting random patrols. Additionally, divisional training days have contributed to an enhanced understanding of "human trafficking", what to look for and what resources to utilize.

### **DRPS and White Oaks Partnership**

There are now thirteen youths that consistently attend the meeting and there are still occasional visits from other members of the community. The youths have taken ownership of this program and are empowered to decide how they will spend their time at the meeting. Several months ago the youths decided that they wanted to spend their time baking. This type of behaviour is indicative of building trusting relationship with outreach workers as well as their fellow youths. Last fall the youths have begun to organize off site trips such as attending the library and bowling.

This type of behaviour is constantly reaffirmed by rewarding the youths with Positive Tickets. The youths have been invited to tour central West Division and will be doing so in May. This outreach program has proved successful in empowering youth.

The White Oaks annual barbecue continues to foster positive relationships between the DRPS and the residents of the White Oaks community. Each year members from Central West Division, as well as local politicians attend at White Oaks and serve the residents barbequed food. This interaction has allowed the area residents to see the police from a different perspective. Central West Division will continue to support these programs.

## **New Initiatives**

### **Case managing MHA Cases**

Recognizing the need, as well as the impact, Central West Division commenced the management of individuals within a proactive capacity. Currently CW Detectives are case managing four high risk cases. In each of these cases, the approach is very different. The use of community partnerships and internal expertise are two aspects that remain consistent.

The issues ranged from Domestic Violence to drug/alcohol abuse to severe mental health issues. Officers worked very hard on each of these “case management” files and a variety of approaches were taken. Some approaches were more successful than others. In three cases, we had great success with the intervention strategies and no longer get calls for service. Accordingly, in two other cases, all avenues were exhausted. We can wholeheartedly say, “we tried everything possible to help these individuals.” Sadly, one is in custody and the other refuses to get the on-going mental health support she needs. We will continue to work with these individuals. In a separate case Central West has reached out to West Division and has offered to assist with a “case management” on a high risk individual.

### **Youth Development through Sport - Open Gym**

The Youth Development Through Sport – Open Gym Program was conceptualized in the fall of 2014. The goal was to create a positive relationship and breakdown barriers between police and “at risk” youth in the community through sport interaction. Youth between the ages of 12-17 years old participate in a variety of sporting activities such as basketball, volleyball, indoor soccer and dodge-ball alongside uniformed and non-uniform police officers.

The program is conducted twice a month at the West Lynde elementary school in the Town of Whitby. This location was chosen for its close proximity to the White Oaks Ct apartment complex, which has a higher than average crime and drug problem.

Funding for the program was established through the Cops and Kids organization. To promote the program, flyers were made and handed out to elementary and high schools in the area and each day of the program an announcement is made at West Lynde School reminding the students. Additionally, the Central West Division School Officers and Durham Regional Police Service Youth Co-ordinators have knowledge of the program and forward the information to youth they come across in their daily duties.

The program gained the attention of the media and on February 6, 2015 a member of the Metroland Media attended to enquire about the details. As a result, on March 2, 2015 the program was featured in a community portion of the Whitby This Week. The advertising has reached many members of the community like Youth Outreach Workers of the Boys and Girls Club of Durham, which works with the White Oaks Ct community and further promotes the program to the youth in the area.

Since the first day of the program on January 16, 2015 the number of participants has increased exponentially. The youth come from all over the Central West Division community with the majority coming from the Michael Blvd/White Oaks Ct area. To date, there has been 26 different youth (male and female) attending with many of them being repeat attendees. There has been five dates held so far and the program has progressed from zero participants on the first day to 16 participants on the last two dates.

Many of the youths have had prior contact with the police and their perception of the police is negative. One youth in particular had been on charges of assault police and subsequently had a very negative feeling toward police. It was suggested by the youth's probation officer that he attend the program, so the grandparents of the youth forced them to attend on January 30, 2015. Since that time, the youth has not missed a night and has established a mutually positive relationship with police. The youth has even brought a friend, who also had negative feelings towards the police because he was told it was "fun".

Now that the program has become established and there is a core group of youth attending, officers from the different specialty units across the Durham Regional Police have been scheduled to attend. On April 10, 2015 a member of the Tactical Support Unit will be attending to meet the students and go over some of his specialized equipment. Then on April 24, 2015 a member of the K9 unit will be attending to show the youths the dog and answer questions.

The Youth Development Through Sport – Open Gym Program is breaking barriers between police and youth. It has established positive relationships and is being spoken about amongst the youth in the community. The final day of the program for this school year will be on June 12, 2015, in which a final banquet will be held. Plans are in place to continue the program in the 2015-2016 school years.

## **Downtown**

In May of 2014, members from Central West Division organized a meeting included all of the stakeholders from the downtown core. These stakeholders included, bar owners, taxi cabs, AGCO, Security management, as well as the Mayor and Councillor Emm. The intention of the meeting was to commence a dialogue and attempt to identify solutions that would enhance overall community safety. Upon conclusion of the meeting there were numerous action items that were identified. Some of these action items have already been addressed, e.g. identified taxi parking in front of licenced establishments. Some of the other items are still being explored; CCTV within the confines of the downtown corridor. Meetings have continued in an attempt to address identified deficiencies and to work closely with all involved. A subsequent meeting has been scheduled as a follow up with all town stakeholders in April 2015.

## **The Safe School Program**

The implementation of the Safe School Program has demonstrated a commitment in supporting a safe school partnership (SSP) between the Durham Regional Police and both the Durham District School Board and the Durham District Catholic School Board. This partnership allows for officers to assist students and teachers with a variety of interaction at the schools while also creating programs and providing resources like funding. The objective of this initiative is to help High Schools continue to provide a safe environment for children to learn and develop. The SSP utilizes a community policing philosophy by engaging law enforcement, school administrators, parents, and students in a problem-solving partnership. The central mission of this partnership is student success. When students succeed, the entire community succeeds.

The SSP initiative within Whitby has utilized one uniform officer from each platoon per week day. The officers are assigned to visit Secondary Schools within Whitby during their regularly scheduled day shifts. Officers have been spending the morning at one school and then the afternoon at a different school. The next day officers attend two additional schools conducting four (4) schools visits in two (2) days.

Since the beginning of November 2014 Officers have been in the schools walking the hallways and speaking with Principals about issues or problems going on at their school. Officers are interacting with students by going into classes, cafeteria, shop classes to talk to them and also setting up physical activity programs for schools without a gym (Reconnect, a school for troubled youth). This constant interaction with Police has allowed the students and teachers to feel a positive interaction with Police and also a sense of trust.

The officers have taken ownership of these programs and foster a better relationship with the kids within their assigned schools. Over the five month period we have seen an exponential increase in the number of officers attending school and the officer involvement in school programs has increased as well.

### **Establishment of DRPS/Hospital MOU's**

In 2013, the DRPS and Rouge Valley Ajax as well as Lakeridge Health Oshawa entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This MOU was established in an effort to reduce the waiting period from a Mental Health Act (MHA) apprehension to the determination of a person's status within the authority of the MHA. Establishing this MOU would place the individual with the much needed resources in a timely fashion, as well as, put the involved officer back on general patrol much sooner. The goal of the MOU is to have the transfer of care completed within one hour.

Prior to the inception of the MOU, the average wait times for officers exceeded 1 hour 35 minutes. Since the establishment of the DRPS/Hospital MOU's, the periods of delay have reduced significantly. In our most recent audit of wait periods dated March 2015, Rouge Valley have reduced the waiting times to 1 hour 9 minutes and Lakeridge Health Oshawa has also reduced to 1 hour 6 minutes (on average).

As we provide this information to each health care facility, it is anticipated that these wait times will continue to decline.

### **West Division / 19 Division**

#### **STOP Bullying Initiative**

Youth report that there is a significant bullying problem in their schools. In October 2014, West Division established a STOP Bullying program by promoting anti-violence utilizing a police vehicle that has been graphically re-purposed to serve as a symbol of anti-violence. The desired objective is to highlight our organization and our commitment to anti-violence and anti-bullying in a less conventional way. The pink cruiser is a novelty item but its underlying purpose is to serve as a universal symbol of hope and strength to those who have experienced intimidation and violence in the form of bullying. This vehicle was first revealed at Sherwood Public School in the City of Oshawa by Mini Chief Victoria Broomer and Chief Martin at a STOP bullying rally. This vehicle has since been featured at over 60 events and been on display to thousands of residents and is very popular with all who have been exposed this vehicle. This vehicle also aligns with the Durham District School Board anti-violence initiative entitled the Year of the Ally. We are also pleased to indicate that York Regional Police have designed their own STOP Bullying police vehicle that will be unveiled in late April 2015 and we will be collaborating to connect this program to the broader York and Durham communities.



### **LGBTQ – Youth Initiative**

National reports have consistently noted the prevalence of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth in the homeless population. West Division has established a LGBTQ youth initiative in an effort to establish a relationship with youth in this community.

Many youth experience abandonment and severe family conflict stemming from their sexual orientation and gender identity but other factors are also present: physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, substance abuse by parents, and mental health disabilities.

The objectives of the West Division LGBTQ youth program are for Police Officers to interact consistently with LGBTQ youth from across the Durham Region to encourage positive relationships between Police and LGBTQ youths. In turn, this will foster an overall positive image of our officers and the Durham Regional Police organization. The goal is to empower LGBTQ youth, offer and show support for the LGBTQ youth through Police attendance and develop better relationships and understanding as to what Durham Regional Police can do to support the LGBTQ youth. The objective is to build trust and awareness between the LGBTQ youth and the Durham Regional Police.

The Durham Regional Police (West Division) applied for and have received approval for funding through PADAN funding program to initiate the LGBTQ youth initiative. West Division has established a strong partnership with the Girls and Boys Club in Oshawa and the Youth Centre in Ajax to establish the LGBTQ Youth Initiative Program.

The West Division program was established in April 2014 and the participation has grown significantly with approximately 80 youth attending the programming offered by the police on a monthly basis.

### **Roadway Safety Committee**

Roadway safety is a significant component of the West Division Community Patrol Plan. The roadway safety component of the plan was refined in 2014 and there are a number of measureable outcomes as a result of its implementation. A divisional Roadway Safety Steering Committee was established and continues to meet every 6 weeks. This committee includes representatives from the

Region of Durham, RoadWatch, Town of Ajax, City of Pickering, DRPS Crime Analysis, DRPS Traffic Services and 4 platoon members from West Division. The Durham Regional Police - West Division Roadway Safety Steering Committee refined the West Division Roadway Safety Plan to ensure that it can implement and then measure/evaluate the outcome of each of the strategic priorities. The roadway safety vision is to have the safest roads in the Region of Durham.

This local strategy is designed to ensure accountability to our communities and systematically address the analytical indicators in relation to specific high collision intersections. In 2014 there were specific advances in the following aspects of the Roadway Safety Plan:

- Red light Camera Research Project – A Region of Durham consultant prepared an interim report for the Public Works committee and now a more comprehensive research study and report has been commissioned.
- RoadWatch – RoadWatch purchased a speed board trailer for deployment in the Ajax and Pickering Communities. There has been a marked increase in the number of residents accessing the RoadWatch services.
- Enforcement Initiatives – 2 enforcement corridors were introduced (Salem Road and Brock Road) – The Safety On Salem campaign has resulted in over 2100 tickets being issued between May and October 2014. The distracted driving campaigns have been tremendously successful. One 2-day campaign resulted in 275 distracted driving tickets being issued.