



# **LANARK HIGHLANDS Police Services Board**

2014-2017 Business Plan

## **Message from the Police Services Board Chair**

On behalf of the Lanark Highlands Police Services Board members, it is with pleasure that I present to you the 2014-2017 Lanark Highlands Police Services Board Business Plan. This document will cover measurable performance indicators such as surveys and proven existing known initiatives to reach attainable goals and objectives.

2014 has been a year of major financial debate concerning the cost of policing for the municipalities of Ontario. OPP billing reform has been the cause of important changes in the distribution of policing costs among Ontario Municipalities including Lanark Highlands. Despite the best efforts of Municipalities to mitigate the impact of this change, the current Township policing budget will increase from \$574,135 to \$1,069,796. This increase will commence January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 and will be phased in over the next four years.

2013-2014 also brought a change of OPP command within Lanark County. Detachment Commander Gerry Salisbury retired after 13 years at the helm of policing in the county. Inspector Derek Needham was the successful candidate after a competition was held with both the OPP Executive Command and members of the Police Services Boards sitting on the panel.

2013-2014 also brought in a Community Satisfaction Survey of the OPP who police Lanark County. The survey produced a very high statistical data of satisfaction with the OPP with 98% of respondents feeling very safe or safe in their community, 90.9% of the respondents feeling very satisfied or satisfied with the OPP ability to work with communities to solve local problems and in an overall look at service, 93.0% respondents were very satisfied with the quality of police service provided by the OPP. In reviewing any areas within the survey that were low on any given percentile, lack of youth programs and drugs in schools were the highest. As such, the annual OPP/PSB/Drug Strategy baseball game, attended by both Lanark Schools, continues. Water bottles and Frisbees with embossed with "say no to drugs" were handed out to the students by the OPP officers and PSB members. The Lanark Highlands Youth Centre, situated in Lanark Village, promotes wellbeing and activities. The principals of Lanark schools and the O.P.P.'s School Resource Officers are activity involved with committees and the Police Services Board at Lanark Highlands Township.

2013-2014 also brought to Lanark Highlands the purchase of a speed sign trailer through reconciliation funds. The speed sign is being deployed to curb one of the most prevalent policing complaints - speeding. In addition, the trailer is being used by the Public Works Department for traffic counting, eliminating the cost of purchasing additional equipment for that purpose.

In 2013-2014 the Police Services Board and the O.P.P. also brought to the Village of Lanark, at the Municipal building, an office provided to the O.P.P. for officers to complete reports, conduct investigations and, while present, meet with members of the public. This assists the officers from travelling to their Detachment or another location outside Lanark Highlands to access a computer.

In 2013-2014, Lanark Highlands Board members participated in joint Lanark County Association of Police Service Boards meetings which allow all the Lanark County Police Services Boards to examine issues and crime trends that span different Municipalities. Board members additionally participated in the East Region meetings comprised of Boards from Prince Edward County to Hawkesbury, all under the umbrella of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards of Ontario. The latter can bring legislative lobbying or policy changes to the Government with respect to policing. As a member of a Section 10 P.S.B. we qualify and are in yearly receipt of grants for R.I.D.E. programs and other programs, both provincially and federally. These are but a few of the matters that the Police Services Board dealt with in their quarterly meetings in 2013-2014.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following members of the Lanark Highlands Police Services Board:

- Mr. Tom Bird, Vice Chair, Lanark Highlands Police Services Board
- Mr. George Braithwaite, Provincial Appointee, Lanark Highlands Police Services Board
- Ms. Stacey Blair, Lanark Highlands Police Services Board Secretary
- Ms. Jennifer Solf, former Lanark Highlands Police Services Board Secretary
- Inspector Derek Needham O.P.P., and,
- Inspector Gerry Salisbury O.P.P. (retired).

I would also like to thank both Senior and Administrative staff of the Township of Lanark Highlands, the O.P.P. officers and too many others to acknowledge, all of whom volunteered their time on days off to participate in activities and who have given their creative ideas and committed volunteerism to the Police Services Board of Lanark Highlands.

Respectfully,

Derek Love, Chair  
Council Appointee  
Lanark Highlands Police Services Board

## **Message from the Detachment Commander**

The Lanark County Detachment continues to work in partnership with the Police Services Board and the community to identify policing priorities and ensure Lanark Highlands is a safe and enjoyable place to live. Through regular public meetings and an open dialogue between Police Services Board members and Detachment Command Staff, Lanark County OPP are able to provide proactive problem solving.

The Detachment recently worked with the Township to re-open the extended service office in Lanark Village. This office will allow officers to complete administrative tasks and interview people within the office space graciously provided in the Township offices.

We will continue to be highly visible in the community and meet the needs of our contractual agreement. We look forward to continued success in the years to come.

- Derek Needham  
Detachment Commander  
Lanark County OPP

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

The Township of Lanark Highlands consists of 1,048 square kilometres of rural countryside, which combines rolling hills, heavily forested areas, rocky terrain and countless streams, rivers and many lakes. The major lakes include Clayton Lake, Dalhousie Lake, Flower Round Lake, Patterson Lake, Robertson's Lake, Taylor Lake and White Lake. The two primary river systems are the Clyde River and the Mississippi River.

The major hamlets include McDonald's Corners, Watson's Corners, Elphin, Hopetown, Boyd's Settlement and Middleville. Though primarily residential, many of the hamlets contain a community hall, one or more churches, and a convenience store or gas bar. The lakeside communities include both seasonal and permanent residents. Lanark Village is home to more than 800 residents and provides many services and facilities. The remainder of the permanent residents and many seasonal residents are spread across the rural landscape.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

The Township has a permanent population of approximately 5128 people. There is a seasonal fluctuation in the population of due to the number of vacation properties. Approximately 50% of the seasonal residential population resides in campgrounds.

The total population of Lanark Highlands can be broken down by percentages in the following age classifications:

Under 15 years	13%
15-25 years	10%
26-45 years	20%
46-64 years	38%
65 years and older	19%

# **POLICING AND POLICE SERVICES BOARD**

The Police Services Amendment Act, 1997 (PSAA) requires municipalities to provide police services in one of the following ways:

- by establishing its own police force;
- establishing a joint police force with one or more municipalities;
- amalgamating its police force with one or more municipal police forces;
- purchasing police services from another municipality;
- purchasing police services from the Ontario Provincial Police alone or jointly with one or more other municipalities (Section 10 Board); or
- a different method approved by the Ontario Civilian Commission on Police Services (OCCOPS).

## **POLICE SERVICES BOARD ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Police Services Act prescribes a prominent role for a Section 10 Board. In addition to the requirement to advise the OPP detachment commander with respect to police services in the municipality, the board is required to:

- a) Participate in the selection of the detachment commander;
- b) Generally determine objectives and priorities for police services, after consultation with the detachment commander;
- c) Establish any local policies with respect to police services, after consultation with the detachment commander;
- d) Monitor the performance of the detachment commander, including annual written assessments;
- e) Receive regular reports from the detachment commander concerning disclosures and decisions made on the issue of secondary activity; and
- f) Monitor and receive regular reports concerning the detachment commander's administration of the complaints system under Part V of the Act.

# 2013 COUNTYWIDE POLICING FOR RESULTS COMMUNITY SURVEY

Periodically a survey is completed for the Lanark County Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police. Below is a comparison of some of the results from 2010 and 2013.

<b>Feedback from Respondents:</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2013</b>
Felt 'very safe' or 'safe' in their community	97.9%	98.9%
Are 'very satisfied' or 'satisfied' with the OPP's ability to work with communities to solve local problems	90.5%	90.9%
Identified the following as local problems:		
• property crime	29.7%	26.8%
• nuisance activities	31.2%	22.1%
• Alcohol abuse	32.6%	28.3%
• drug/substance abuse	42.4%	35.5%
• illegal drug grows or labs	25.3%	18.4%
• Speeding	58.7%	43.2%
• Vandalism/Youth Loitering	34.1%	35.3%

Please note that this chart reflects County-wide perceptions survey and is not based on Lanark Highlands event statistics.

# COMMUNITY POLICING

The mandate of Community Policing is to form a viable and active link between the community and police for the betterment of all, with a focus on the needs of the community as defined by the community through proactive initiatives. To achieve this goal the Board has identified a number of challenges that the community must overcome to bring policing services and the community closer together.

1. Improved awareness of the Police Services Board and its mandate;
2. Greater contact and consultation with the community;
3. Continue and enhance current linkages with various community groups: Lake Associations, Business and Tourism Association, Youth Groups, Seniors Groups, Community Organizations, etc.
4. Becoming more proactive by involvement in the development of strategies and their associated activities, which enhance the visibility and the profile of the OPP within the Township.

The Lanark Highlands Police Services Board has encouraged the OPP to maintain its visibility in the Township through: attendance at Township-sponsored and community-sponsored events; attendance at lake property owners' association meetings; R.I.D.E. Program; routine marine, snow machine, ATV and road patrols; and community policing initiatives (Neighbourhood Watch).

Through these partnerships, the police service gains knowledge about and experience throughout the community. This day-to-day contact between police officers and residents is opening the doors to further cooperation and coordination between police and community-based activities.

## **MISSION**

The Lanark Highlands Police Services Board strives to protect life and property under the law, with full respect for human dignity and according to the highest standards of professional skill, integrity and accountability.

## **VALUES**

The Lanark Highlands Police Services Board will uphold the following core values: Openness, Respect, Accountability & Integrity

## **OBJECTIVES**

The primary objectives of the Lanark Highlands Police Services Board shall be:

1. To enhance accessibility and effectiveness of policing services in the Township of Lanark Highlands.
2. To provide an open, accessible forum with which to strengthen communications with the public on policing activities within the community.
3. To work towards addressing the issues identified and brought forward by members of the community, local government and Police Services as they pertain to Lanark Highlands.
4. To interact with representatives of other jurisdictions (i.e. Municipal, County, Provincial, Federal) in identifying and solving broader level issues affecting policing in the Township of Lanark Highlands.

# BUSINESS PLAN COMMITMENTS

***Commitment #1 – To increase police service visibility in Lanark Highlands; as a pro-active deterrent to the commission of offences.***

**Situational Assessment:** - Officer visibility has been identified as a major concern of the residents. Through pro-active initiatives Lanark County O.P.P. strive to increase their visibility within their local communities.

## **Initiatives:**

1. Media releases will continue to be issued with messages regarding local and provincial initiatives, concerns and occurrences.
2. Detachment members to continue to be visible during peak traffic hours, 0700 to 1000 hours, and 1500 to 1700 hours.
3. Maintain and fully utilize Lanark County Community Services Officer to liaise with local schools and community groups, including an operational office located in the Township Offices.
4. Team members to continue to make strong effort to patrol school zones during morning, noon and afternoon high traffic times.
5. Team members to continue to patrol, utilizing radar when available, area highways and communities, and focusing attention to areas identified by communities as areas of concern. Along with this effort, to increase the number of routine vehicle checks completed by members and to utilize the “Electronic Speed Sign” to its fullest capacity.
6. Specialized Units (Marine, Mountain Bike, Snowmobile ATV Vessel Enforcement, Provincial Liaison Team, Regional Intelligence, B & E Unit) to be utilized to provide local community group presentations, and to attend meetings upon request. Support and delivery to groups as determined by the PSB through presentations to specific demographics ie. Youth, Seniors, Businesses
7. Public Education Events and interaction with community groups which include various specialized units ie. involvement with the Municipal Drug Strategy Committee.

***Commitment #2 – To increase public awareness of youth programs and initiatives.***

**Situational Assessment:** Mischief incidents had been identified as a continuing concern throughout Lanark Highlands. Many victims neglect to report incidents to the police or report the incident long after the fact.

The PSB feels that the Lanark Highlands Youth Centre continues to play an important role in the community which helps to reduce youth crimes. Since the opening of the youth centre, local mischief rates have decreased dramatically.

**Initiatives:**

1. Mischief incidents have greatly decreased in the past few years. The PSB aims to sustain programs that have been helpful in the recent past which includes the important role played by the local Youth Centre.
2. Work with youth groups and local Youth Centre to promote youth activities and programs, including supporting and promoting the Lanark County Justice Program. Explore alternative youth programs and develop and distribute information packages / pamphlets on preventative measures to reduce incidents of mischief.
3. The Media Relations Officer will be asked to submit a press release to the local news agencies outlining preventative measures (i.e. increased lighting) to deter the offenders from committing the acts. An added effort will be undertaken to promote reporting incidents of mischief to the police.
4. The Community Liaison Officers will consult with the Police Service Board and other groups for information on recent occurrences.
5. Officers will be asked to educate students in the local schools (in co-operation with the local school boards) about the legal repercussions of damaging property, including the emotional and financial impact these crimes have on residents and businesses.
6. Continue to support the Youth of Lanark Highlands activities through financial support for the Lanark Highlands Youth Centre Inc.
7. Supporting the Community Services Officer to maintain a direct link with the Lanark Highlands Youth Centre.

***Commitment #3 – To increase the clearance rate of Business and Residential break and enters, within Lanark Highlands.***

**Situational Assessment:** Residential break and enters are a genuine threat to the public's sense of safety and security. However, proactive policing has prevented and will continue to prevent some break and enters. Increasingly sophisticated use of emerging investigative techniques has been and will continue to reduce this problem

**Initiatives:**

1. The public is to be encouraged report to the police through the Crime Stoppers Program information about criminal activities.
2. Media releases will also make frequent appeals to the public to report any suspicious activities, persons, and or vehicles. This would include use of Crime Stoppers and to report suspected criminal activity.
3. The Board and the OPP Detachment will continue to work closely with informal 'neighbourhood watch and cottage watch programs' and provide media releases about alternative initiatives / deterrents to protecting property.

***Commitment #4 – To initiate “Preventative Measures” through education to prevent young children from drug use, especially in schools.***

**Situational Assessment:** Prevention programs are designed to increase personal competencies and awareness so that a young person might resist taking or using alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs. Prevention in communities implies that the community strengthens its support of young people to make choices resulting in healthy lifestyles

**Initiatives:**

1. Presentations will be provided by the OPP at schools requesting information on drug and alcohol abuse by youth.
2. Current presentations deal with (a) 'gateway drugs' (alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes), and touch on meth, ecstasy, etc and (b) true life experiences.

3. Work with both parents and schools to recognize the problems of drugs, by assisting with programs and public awareness.
4. That OPP take proactive enforcement actions through a street level drug enforcement program.
5. Working closely and co-operatively with the Township's Drug Strategy Committee.
6. Ensuring the continuance of the interface with the Municipal Drug Strategy Committee including the annual OPP, PSB and local schools ball game.

**PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY  
= POLICE =**

**2014 BUDGET**

**POLICE SERVICES COMMITTEE  
2014 BUDGET**

<b>ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>2013 Budget</b>	<b>2014 Budget</b>	
<b>EXPENSE</b>			
Police - Ride Program	\$7,100	\$7,000	100% Provincially funded
Police Services Board - Committee Remuneration	\$6,600	\$3,600	
Police Services Board - Misc	\$10,410	\$10,410	
Radar Speed Trailer			
Transfer to Policing Contingency Reserve			
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$24,110</b>	<b>\$21,010</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>			
Police - Ride Program	\$7,100	\$7,000	
Other Revenue - Recoverable Expenses	\$4,000	\$4,000	collision reports, criminal reference checks, witness statements, etc.
Transfer from Reserve - Speed Sign			
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>\$11,100</b>	<b>\$11,000</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,010</b>	<b>\$10,010</b>	

## Budgeted Amounts for OPP Policing for the Township of Lanark Highlands by Year

2000 - \$340,678

2005 - \$429,992

2010 - \$517,959

2014 - \$574,135

**2015 - \$722,575**

