



"Working together for the future of our children"

Report to the Board of Directors on the occasion of the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Provincial Police Youth Foundation, on May 19th, 2016, in the City of Orillia at OPP General Headquarters.

This report covers the 12 month period for the OPP Youth Foundation from June 2015 to May 2016.

The Ontario Provincial Police Youth Foundation received its Canada Revenue Agency Charitable Organization registration on October 3rd, 2006. Members of the Board of Directors are: Mr. Keith Watson, Justice Rommel Masse, Mr. Thomas Randall, Mr. Alex Ivanov, Mr. Chris Seeley, Dr. Deven Bhatt, Mr. Bradley Walton, Mr. Kevin Lehman, Ms. Joanne Smith, Mr. Rob Jamieson, Mr. Gregory Weatherill and Insp. Robyn MacEachern.

Commissioner Vince Hawkes is ex-officio member of the Board. Lieutenant-General Guy Thibeault, Vice Chief of the Defence Staff and retired Supt. Jim McMahon, New York State Police, are honorary members of the board.

We were pleased to welcome Mr. Rob Jamieson, President of the OPP Association as a member to the Board of Directors, restoring the valuable link with uniform and civilian members of the Force. Mr. Frank Ryder continues to volunteer as coordinator of the Foundation's Youth Development Fund.

Inspector Robyn MacEachern serves as the Commissioned Officers Association representative to the Board as well as providing the full support of the Community Safety Services personnel. In addition we continue to receive the technical support of OPP Vet, Mr. Rolland Haley in maintaining the Foundation website.

OPP Auxiliary members, across the Province, commit numerous hours to assisting with OPPYF activities including volunteering as camp counsellors, assisting and organizing fundraising events.

Administration

The Board of Directors and volunteer friends of the Foundation manage the Foundation with Mr. Lehman serving as the Board's Administrator. Kevin's experience in managing

not-for-profit organizations and fundraising skills is a critical element of the Foundation's sustainability.

Ms. Sue Thorburn volunteers her time and expertise to ensure the OPP Youth Foundation has a Facebook presence.

Professional Support

The staff at Tierney, Simpson & Prytula in Kingston generously provide accounting services and prepare the Canada Revenue Agency Charity tax returns for the Foundation.

*Thank You Assiginack
Public School*

*I want to thank you on
behalf of the students from
Assiginack Public School for
the financial assistance.*

*The students had an
amazing time on the ski trip.*

*The contribution made it
possible for all of our
students from grade 4 to 8 to
attend. Thank you!*

(Signed- School Principal)

Mr. Eric Bennett of the Kingston law firm, Cunningham Swan Carty Little & Bonham, continues to provide the Foundation with his legal services.

OPP Youth Development Fund

Director Thomas Randall chairs the Youth Development Committee. Once again I express my appreciation to the team of volunteers; Frank and Ruby Ryder, Joanne Smith, Janet Andriano, Kevin Lehman and Tom Randall who do such a great job of processing the requests from OPP personnel. They consistently review and confirm requests in a matter of days through on-line collaborations. All members of the OPP can make requests to the fund for grants of up-to \$500.00 per child to participate in developmental activities. In 2015 these grants assisted 66 young people to participate in developmental activities of their choosing. In the first quarter of 2016, we have seen a rapid growth in the number of requests from OPP

personnel, with 42 request assisting 59 youth in just four months. This growth is very encouraging however, requests come from only a few detachments indicating there is still work to be done to initiate requests from more detachments.

While we are pleased to see the number of OPP Youth Development Fund requests increasing we understand this will increase the need to develop more sustainable fundraising capacity.

OPP Youth Summer Camps

A number of OPP youth camps continue to be hosted across the Province. Kenora detachment hosted a day camp for 20 students. Once again in 2015 Essex Cty.



Detachments hosted their camp for 88 children. Central Region will be hosting their Summer Camp at Pigeon Lake Aug. 29 to Sept. 1st. East Region will again host the aboriginal camp Niigan Mosewak from Aug. 15th to the 19th as well as the Upper Ottawa Valley Leadership Camp.

The collaborative partnership of the past year with the Tim Horton Children's Foundation Camp Program is providing exciting new opportunities to enhance the OPP Youth Camp opportunities across the Province. April 22-24, 2016, North East Region hosted 89

students at the Parry Sound Tim Horton Memorial camp for three days. West Region hosted 103 students at the St. George Tim Horton Onondaga Farms Camp, April 15-17. The OPPYF funded the purchase of T-Shirts and snacks for one of the camps, with Tim Horton Children's Foundation and franchisees covering all other expenses. This partnership provides new opportunities for OPP involvement in providing youth with excellent camp experiences. The Horton Camp programs are well structured and focused on goal setting and positive personal achievements.

"My son had a BLAST at this camp! It's a shame it couldn't have been longer was the only complaint. He has had a really rough time the past few years with being bullied. At your camp, he made friends. Real friends with silly nicknames for each other, and ones that fill his millions of stories....." – a thankful mother

Youth Bursary Program

The OPPYF Bursary committee administers: The OPP Youth Foundation Bursary
The John M. Parrott OPPYF Bursary
The St. Lawrence College OPPYF Bursary

A "First Year Bursary Award" in the amount of \$1,000.00 is awarded to a scholar in each of the five OPP Regions. For the coming 2016-2017 academic year \$10,000 is budgeted for Bursaries, providing two \$1000.00 bursaries to be awarded in each of the five OPP Regions.

The St. Lawrence College OPP Youth Foundation Bursaries (2 in 2015) are fully funded by income from funds donated to the college's foundation by Keith & Bernice Watson. The college selects the recipients on the basis of financial need.

The John M. Parrott OPP Foundation Bursary is awarded to students in the Quinte Region. The \$50,000 fund continues to show a shortfall in revenue to meet the \$2,000.00 bursary award. Efforts to contact the Parrott Foundation administrators to request a further \$50,000.00 grant, in order to maintain the bursary at the \$2000.00 have not been successful. We will continue our efforts to make the appropriate contact.

Once again I congratulate Mr. Chris Seeley and his team. It requires significant coordination and communication with members of the OPP, school staff and the chosen candidates to complete the selection process.

Fundraising

The OPP Youth Foundation ended 2015 with a positive financial balance with only a minor shortfall of donations to expenses. The \$86,000.00 donation from Hillmer Estate is a key factor to our current financial stability. A portion of these funds are invested, providing some revenue to the OPPYF.

Regional fundraising projects cover most of the summer camp expenses. The donations are managed through the Foundation. Two of the Regions have funds in reserve for future camps.

The OPP Veterans Association has been and continues to provide strong support to the OPPYF programs through the leadership of OPPVA President Bob Arbour and his wife Liz, Thomas Randall and all their executive members. They take every opportunity to promote the Foundation at Chapter meetings across the Province. We thank the veterans and the many chapters for their support and donations to the Foundation.

M.P.P. Garfield Dunlop and D/Cst. Dawn Lefebvre co-hosted a very successful fundraising reception in Midland, raising \$9,000.00 for the Foundation. The event not only raised funds but was instrumental in raising awareness and understanding of the youth programs supported by the Foundation.

We continue to work with CBRE facility management and OPP Facilities Section on finalizing the proposal to establish a "Pathway of Memories". The Pathway of Memories would be an area of inlaid inscribed memory stones, providing a lasting and public record of service for uniform and civilian members, living and deceased. The objective is to generate revenue to support OPPYF programs through the donation of inscribed paving stones.

Additional fundraising events include the OPPA Golf Tournament, OPP Veteran's day and Commissioned Officer's Golf Tournament, "Bees & Burgers" and Jeep Poker Run amongst others. We are also fortunate to see officers continue to direct donations to the OPPYF on the occasion of their retirements.

Fund Management Services

One of the important functions the OPPYF provided is the management of funds for OPP associated groups providing youth related programs in harmony with our mandate. These groups require the accountability and tax status of a Registered Charitable Organization in order to be awarded funds. Some of these funds are for specific projects (i.e. OPP Bears) and some are in support of the Youth Camps. All of the funds are for youth specific programs. Mr. Kevin Lehman has put in place the bookkeeping processes to manage the funds and provides the accountability required by the donors.

The OPPYF fund management services is an example of how the Foundation assist the community and OPP to deliver programs focused on helping youth develop to their potential. The service continues to be provided without administrative fees.

OPPYF OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO YOUTH AWARD

The fall of 2016 will see the first "OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO YOUTH AWARD" presented to three worthy members of the Force. The award recognizes the exceptional efforts of a member of the OPP assisting a youth or group of youths by way of OPPYF programs. The awards will be co-presented at OPP Regional Award Ceremonies.

Where to from here?

Each passing year presents new challenges to the OPP Youth Foundation to continue to support and strengthen the three program areas of; Youth Camps, Youth Development awards and Bursaries. With the expertise and energy of the current Board of Directors and our volunteers, these challenges are being met. As a number of the board members have served since the inception of the Foundation **ten** years ago, the challenge now is the implementation of a succession plan.

The recruitment and participation of skilled and committed individuals to the Board of Directors is and will be essential to the challenges of **SUSTAINABILITY** that we have discussed in previous reports. Remaining relevant to the needs of the youth and in sync the OPP is critical.

It is difficult to measure or quantify the benefits derived from the OPPYF programs by both the children and the OPP members. However, the feedback we continue to receive from children and their families and OPP members, leave no doubt the benefits are significant, not only for them but for the OPP members.

My thanks to all the Board members and friends of the Foundation, for your support and guidance throughout this year.



R.J. (Bob) Eamer
Volunteer Executive Director
OPP Youth Foundation

19/May/2016