

## **Small Urban/Rural Municipal Representation overshadowed by Toronto**

### **FUTURE OF POLICING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FPAC)**

#### **Message from President Jim Christie**

Earlier this week I attended the first meeting of this newly formed committee, developed as a result of the February Ontario Policing Summit in Toronto. I am representing the OPP Association along with representatives from the following organizations:

- Police Association of Ontario
- Toronto Police Association
- Ontario Provincial Police
- Toronto Police Service
- Toronto Police Services Board
- City of Toronto
- Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police
- Ontario Senior Officers Association
- Association of Municipalities Ontario

The group has been tasked with examining each and every one of the five core functions of police service delivery in Ontario as well as the area of Administration and Infrastructure. Each function will be examined to ensure it is still relevant in terms of police service delivery and whether the functions currently carried out by sworn officers are still required.

The words civilianization and rationalization have been used frequently in the process so far in terms of whether functions performed by officers now could be carried out by civilian members. The delivery of police services will be examined in terms of economies of scale to avoid duplication. This could result in shared services between Forces or a reduction in the overall number of police services and therefore Command structures and Boards etc.

Four working groups have been formed and we will have a member of your Board of Directors sitting on each one. The groups will examine the following:

- Administration and Infrastructure
- Law Enforcement/Victims of Crime
- Crime Prevention
- Emergency Response/Public Order Maintenance

I was very vocal in my assertion that this valuable work cannot be mired in discussions on non-core policing topics such as collective bargaining and arbitration processes and this was largely accepted by those in attendance.

The way policing services are delivered in the Province will be changing in the years ahead as municipalities try and wrestle with increases in the overall policing budget. I hope that this process will go a long way to ensure the viability and sustainability of public policing in the future and that rational and well researched ideas for change will win out over the “knee jerk” option of attempting to privatize many front line policing functions.

I will update you all further as the process continues but I am very impressed with the professional work being conducted by the staff at Policing Services Division to ensure a very aggressive timeline for this process.

Take Care,

Jim Christie  
President  
OPP Association