

31 Division Community Bulletin
2011 Summer Edition



Toronto
Police
Service

40 Norfinch Dr.

31 Division

Unit Commander

Superintendent Chris White



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A Message from the Unit Commander **Superintendent Chris White**

Welcome to the No. 31 Division Community Bulletin.

This message serves as an introduction to the No. 31 Division website, a site designed to provide the community with a wealth of important information about the area in which they live.

This website can be accessed by members of the public for the purpose of providing them with a range of statistical data, news publications about their community, traffic safety tips, initiatives and divisional maps. It is an effective form of communication between the Toronto Police Service and members of the public.

One of the many goals of No. 31 Division officers is to create and increase community awareness, encourage public involvement and promote participation in various social events. In recognition of this year's designated Police Week in Ontario, No. 31 Division hosted its Annual Community Barbecue and Open House on Saturday, 2011 May 14, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

With this year's theme focussing on "Working Together for a Safer Community", No. 31 Division members worked with various organizations, local groups and youth to promote safety and inspiration for the future.

As in previous years, police officers from various specialized police units, including the Police Dog and Mounted Unit, Court Services and Traffic Units, as well as members of many community organizations, were on hand to provide information to the public. There was face painting and balloons for the children, sports demonstrations, and complimentary food and drinks for everyone. Many families from the community attended the event.

I would like to thank all of those who took the opportunity to get involved, both in the organization of the event and in the participation of the festivities.

Through continued partnerships between the Toronto Police Service and the community, a tremendous amount of knowledge and understanding about this diverse community is gained. The impact of positive interaction between the people and the officers serve to enhance communication and improve community relations.

You are encouraged to visit our website regularly in order to remain both informed and involved.

Chris White
Superintendent
No. 31 Division

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A Message from Inspector Tony Riviere

It is with conflicting emotions that I inform you that effective June 01, 2011, I will no longer be assigned to No. 31 Division.

Over the past year, under the leadership of Superintendent White, we engaged in a process of relationship enhancement that included an exercise of mutual respect, understanding, and genuine conversation, a process I thoroughly enjoyed and hope will continue.

Real and perceived safety remain key elements necessary for the fostering of vibrant and prosperous neighbourhoods; a disposition made simpler through active, meaningful partnership between residents and police, an endeavour I know Superintendent White is committed to and a process I look forward to be part of in my new assignment as Unit Commander of No. 33 Division.

Inspector Randy Carter has been identified as my replacement at No. 31 Division. Randy comes with an extensive policing background that includes previous working assignments at No. 31 Division. He brings a keen sense of familiarity, enthusiasm and appreciation of the tremendous opportunities our communities offer.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation for your rich suggestions, honest opinions and genuine commitment for the well-being of the residents of the Jane-Finch community.

I look forward to the continued journey with the expectation that our paths will continue to intersect.

Regards.

Tony Riviere
Inspector (918)

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A Message from Inspector Randy Carter **Second In Command**

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Randy Carter and I am the new Inspector at No. 31 Division. Your police division is not new to me, as I was a newly promoted supervisor and Detective assigned to No. 31 Division in the late 1990s. I remember back then, the public in No. 31 Division really cared about their safety and quality of life, and in the short time I have been back, I have seen a noticeable increase in this same passion.

While away from No. 31 Division, I worked in various units, including the Homicide Squad as a Detective Sergeant, No. 51 Division as a Uniform Staff Sergeant, and at Police Headquarters at the Duty Desk and in Professional Standards, Legal Branch. These experiences not only further developed and enhanced my career, but on a personal level, awarded me the opportunity to work closely with the public. They provided me with the knowledge that commitment to the values and opinions of the people of the city are integral factors to the success of policing, and the assistance of the public facilitates in the reduction and investigation of crime.

The key to successfully keeping our neighbourhoods safe is through a partnership that begins as soon as you call us. In fact, arguably, it begins when you take our advice about crime prevention initiatives by keeping windows closed and dark areas lit.

All of us at No. 31 Division want you to know that we are here for you and we want to earn your trust in us.

Call us when you believe you can help and when you need our help. Together, we will keep the neighbourhoods of No. 31 Division the safest and liveable places to be. Trust us.

Randy Carter
Inspector (4219)
No. 31 Division

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31 Division Traffic Response Unit

From the desk of: Sergeant Angelo Costa #65

Traffic Safety is the responsibility of all. Officers are required to be strict but fair to all that use our surface routes with an emphasis on Education, Awareness and Enforcement.

We have recently completed a service wide initiative called Canada Road Safety Week, which was the 1st instalment of four that will be conducted throughout the year.

At 31 Division we have three (3) Traffic Initiatives that are tracked and deal directly with issues within the community that is served and policed by 31 Division personnel. As a division we have targeted three (3) high accident locations along the Finch Avenue West, (Keele Street, Jane Street and Weston Road). The other is to deal with aggressive driving behaviour such as speeding and intersection offences that are potentially hazardous to pedestrians and other motorists using our surface routes. Lastly we are targeting the use of electronic devices while in the operation of a motor vehicle, (cellular telephones for conversation or texting).

My officers are committed to these initiatives and have zero tolerance to violations such as speeding, stop sign and red light offences. I urge all be vigilant and aware of their surroundings.

In closing I am pleased to suggest that at present we have reduced collisions in the targeted areas by 60%.

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CRU – Community Outreach

Our Officers are very involved in our neighbourhoods this summer. Here are a few of the activities they will be participating in over the next few months:

CRU Officer and Auxiliary Officers attended the University Heights Bike Tour – Training on May 21st at Humber College. This program is operated by the Breakfast Club and Toronto Police Officers. Officers provided assistance to the kids as they completed the training required in order to participate in the Bike race on September 17. The youth are supplied with a brand new bike for race day which they keep as a reward for participating.

Members of 31 Division and the University of Toronto have been meeting with youths every Sunday from 2pm – 4pm since March at the Westview Centennial S.S. Gym to participate in stunt dancing and tumbling with the Team-Arco Dance. (Program is still ongoing everyone welcome)

On June 18th CRU Officers attended a local youth football camp and game with the Breakfast Club.

Officers are assisting with the KICKS soccer program for youth to participate in soccer clinics. The clinics are every Monday and Wednesday at Westview Centennial S.S from 4:30pm – 7:30pm. (No registration required everyone welcome)

There are also ongoing programs at the Downsview Park (by the hangers) on Tuesdays from 4:00-6:00pm. Programs include wrestling, Judo and fitness boot camp.

This summer on August 25th and 26th a day camp with fitness, soccer and other activities is being planned for the youths. To get more information or register for this program, call 31 Division 416-808-3132 or 416-808-3119.

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31 Division School Resource Officer Program:

By PC Lisa Penny, 31 Division SRO

As part of the School Resource Officer (S.R.O.) program, seven officers from 31 Division are assigned to the following high schools within the division:

C. W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute	PC Quang (Gary) Hoang
Downsview Secondary School	PC Christofer Lemieux
Emery Collegiate Institute	PC Colin Mohammed
James Cardinal McGuigan	PC Andrew Willet
Nelson A Boylen Collegiate	PC Lauren Scott
St. Basil the Great College School	PC Lisa Penny
Westview Centennial Secondary School	PC Allyson Douglas-Cook

The S.R.O. program continues to flourish as officers continue to bridge the gap between police and youth. Throughout the 2010-2011 school year, S.R.O.s from 31 Division were busy organizing various events involving their respective schools. Here are some of the highlights:

C. W. Jefferys Collegiate Institute:

For a second year, PC Hoang organized the 31 Division ProAction Cops and Kids volleyball tournament.

Downview Secondary School:

PC Lemieux organized the 31 Division ProAction Cops and Kids volleyball tournament

Emery Collegiate Institute:

PC Mohammed assisted with the school's cricket program

James Cardinal McGuigan

PC Willet organized the 31 Division Pro Action Cops and Kids soccer tournament

Nelson A Boylen Collegiate:

PC Scott assisted with the school's Women on the Move program providing mentorship to female students.

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St. Basil the Great College School:

PC Penny organized the 31 Division ProAction Cops and Kids Paintball day at Sgt. Splatters.



Westview Centennial Secondary School

PC Allyson Douglas-Cook organized the Toronto Police ProAction Cops and Kids basketball game.

Finally, officers from 31 Division assisted with a bicycle program in conjunction with Weston Collegiate Institute. Additionally, 31 Division officers were involved in a Youth Bike Summit.



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All 31 Division S.R.O. events were funded in partnership with ProAction Cops and Kids. ProAction Cops & Kids is a charitable organization that provides funding for Toronto Police programs for youth at risk. ProAction is a charity that funds projects and activities, initiated and run by police officers, which engage youth at risk. The goal is to build trust and mutual respect between cops and youth, helping kids at risk before they become kids in trouble.

31 Division G.E.M.S. program:

One of the on-going programs is the 31 Division G.E.M.S. (Girls Empowered Motivated to Succeed) program. This program is initiated by Police Constable Lisa Penny and Police Constable Allyson Douglas-Cook. It is geared towards building self esteem, and fostering a sense of empowerment within young girls. Officers, in partnership with Driftwood Public School's Principal Debi Lavine and Vice Principal Yvonne Goulbourne, met weekly with 17 grade 5 students from Driftwood Public School. Officers were able to interact with the girls and provide them with a caring adult to talk to. The program ran for 9 weeks from May to June and it will resume in July.



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CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN

By Michelle Janse 31 Division C.P.O

Summer time is the time for celebrating the warm weather and the numerous activities that our wonderful city has to offer. Unfortunately, the unscrupulous members of our community use this opportunity to their own advantage.

Home thefts traditionally increase over the summer months, when people begin to leave doors and windows open to let in some fresh air. Many of the summer thefts from homes do not involve forced entry. The thief has their work done for them as they simply walk through an insecure door or open window.

If you are enjoying the sunshine at the back of the house, make sure the front windows and doors are closed and locked.

Likewise, if you are settling down to watch TV in the front room for in the evening, remember to close and lock the back door and windows.

Even summer gardening has a place in security. Keeping hedges trimmed back allows some surveillance from neighbours and passers by, something which puts thieves at a disadvantage approaching your house.

Identifying your garden furniture, outdoor gardening equipment and bicycles with your personal identifiers acts as a deterrent making the property more difficult to be sold and easier to be returned when located by police.



Crime Prevention Tip for the Month: When parking in a lot from day to evening, be sure to park near the lights as returning to your vehicle at night could put you in a compromising situation if it is not near lighting.

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June is Senior's Month

There are over 1.6 million seniors in Ontario right now and that number will double in the next twenty years. Today's seniors are more active and healthier than they have ever been. Retirement is certainly not synonymous with passivity. Rather, most retirees people will tell you that they wonder how they ever had time to work! Today's seniors are actively involved as both formal and informal volunteers, caregivers for their grandchildren, hobbyist, part-time employees, travelers, and many other roles.

Seniors' month is not only about formal government recognition through specific awards, it is also about truly appreciating all of the seniors you personally know. Take the time to acknowledge their contributions to your life and community. Nominate them from local awards, brag about their achievements to others, listen to their stories and oral history, write a simple thank you card. Take your appreciated senior on a personal outing to the theatre, church, a senior's dance, a strawberry social, or even just a nice dinner together. Spending quality time together demonstrates your care and appreciation. Plan an event in honour of your seniors loved on, or host a family reunion that would allow you to recognize many loved ones at once. The way that you choose to demonstrate your gratitude is up to you and allows you to be creative as you wish.

Remember to get involved and join the fight on reducing crimes against seniors and help eliminate Elder Abuse.

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31 Division Community Police Liaison Committee

31 Division CPLC General meeting's were held the first Monday of every month and gave the residents an opportunity to bring forward any concerns that they may have had in their neighbourhood.

Although it rained for the Open house it did not, however dampen anyone's spirit. They many children and adults had a wonderful time visiting many displays and of course eating hot dogs. The CPLC assisted in many ways and once again the Open House was a very well attended event.

On Thursday June 16th we had our 11th Annual bursary Presentation in the Community Room at 31 Division. The ten recipients were very eager and excited about being able to further their education at College.

They have chosen Computer Networking, Architecture, Practical Nursing, Early Childhood Education, Business Administration, Art Fundamentals, General Arts- Environmental Landscape management. Each student was presented with a \$1000.00 cheque.

We look forward to September to continue with our CPLC once again.

Enjoy your summer!
Ellen Hudgin



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Toronto Police 31 Division Open House

On Saturday, May 14th, 31 Division hosted its Annual Open House. We would like to take this opportunity to give a special **THANK YOU** to our many corporate sponsors who helped make this event successful:

- ProAction
- 31 Division CPLC
- Maple Leaf Meats
- Commercial Bakeries
- Canada Bread
- McDonalds
- Camcarbe
- Jane and Finch Mall
- Toronto Public Health
- Rameses Shrines
- Toronto Fire
- Cre8ive Transfer Service Inc
- Z103 fm

And to everyone who volunteered their time and efforts at 31 Division Open House - **THANK YOU!**
This day would not have been possible without you.



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INTERESTED IN BECOMING A SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD?



The Toronto Police Service invites you to apply for the position of School Crossing Guards to work in 31 Division.

Your main duty will be to ensure that all school-ages children up to including grade six students cross the street safely. You may as a courtesy assist older children, adults, elderly citizens, the disabled or any other person you feel would benefit from your assistance. The salary for this position is \$10.67 per hour, with a 12% travel allowance and 4% vacation pay equal to a total of \$12.38 hourly. Positions are available for either regular shifts or on an on call basis.

Qualifications required:

Applicants must be eligible to work in Canada.

Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age.

Applicants must have the ability to communicate in English.

All applicants must pass a vision test.

All applicants must provide a Certificate of Fitness from their family physician confirming that they are physically fit to carry out the duties of a crossing guard.

Applicants must not have been convicted of a criminal offence for which a pardon has not been obtained. If a pardon was obtained, proof of pardon must be provided.

A Security check will be conducted.

For further information about school crossing guards please contact the School Crossing Guard Co-ordinator Police Constable Adele VanScherrenburg #6283 at 416-808-3134.

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COMMUNITY AUTOMATED NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

TPS *links*

TPSlinks.ca

- Community Events
- Threats to School Safety
- Neighbourhood Crime Alerts
- Missing Person Notifications
- Crime Prevention Information
- Marine & Water Safety
- Emergency Incidents
- Existing Amber Alerts
- Severe Weather Alerts
- Information Alerts
- Road Closures

