



Neighbourhood TAVIS Initiative Community Newsletter



June 7 to June 21, 2010



Follow TAVIS on TWITTER: www.twitter.com/tavis_tps

The 2010 Neighbourhood TAVIS Initiative (NTI) commenced on May 24, as part of this initiative, ninety additional police officers and six support staff are assigned to three different neighbourhoods to conduct patrols and work together with the community – all in an effort to create sustainably, safe neighbourhoods.

The TAVIS officers will be focusing their efforts in the Albion-Finch (23 Division), Jane-Finch (31 Division) and the Scarborough Village (Markham-Eglinton: 43 Division) neighbourhoods. These neighbourhoods were chosen using crime trend analysis, hotspot occurrence mapping and community consultation. The neighbourhoods were identified because they are experiencing a disproportionate level of criminal activity for their size.

This summer the TAVIS officers will be walking and cycling throughout the area:

- to intervene and prevent violence
- introducing themselves to neighbourhood residents and business owners
- participating in local activities and events
- expanding current relationships and partnerships and creating new ones
- providing the community with information about the TAVIS concept of policing
- working with citizens, the community, and the City of Toronto to mobilize the community with the goal of creating a safer neighbourhood



Due to the demands of the G20 Summit in Toronto, many units and subunits had limited TAVIS activity during this time period.

Albion-Finch TAVIS Initiative

On Sunday June 6 several T-shirts were distributed to children in the Jamestown complex while they participated in sporting events with NTI Team 2. A number of the children's parents were out watching the events and were very pleased to see the interactions between the police and their children.



On Monday June 7, PC Goddard, PC Ahmed and Sergeant Boulet attended a meeting at the community centre in Jamestown. TAVIS officers explained the intent of the TAVIS presence in the community during the summer and beyond. The officers also identified common goals and established events to rally the community and focus on youth activities over the summer.

On Tuesday June 8, TAVIS officers attended a meeting with the Superintendent of 101 Kendleton Drive (a high rise complex). At this meeting, issues within the building were discussed with him such as disorderly behaviour, graffiti eradication and general safety of the residents. TAVIS officers also played basketball and soccer with 50 youth in the Jamestown complex where TAVIS T-shirts were given to the youth. TAVIS officers patrolled Jamestown later that evening, and the area was scattered with youth wearing TAVIS T-shirts.

On Thursday June 10, Sergeant Pearson, Staff Sergeant Barenthin, PC Xiouris and PC Ditlof attended the Jamestown Rexdale Youth Engagement Workshop to discuss upcoming projects between police and youth.

On Friday June 11, TAVIS officers spoke with two female residents in the Jamestown complex. They indicated to the officers that they have been neighbours for years, but they never sat outside their town houses in the past for fear of gang activity. They just met each other this week and they are very grateful for the police presence in their neighbourhood.

On Saturday June 12, TAVIS officers attended the Albion Mall festival. Officers handed out TAVIS pamphlets and explained the TAVIS initiative to those in attendance.

TAVIS officers spoke with over 400 community members during this two week period and close to 30 local business employees.

On Saturday June 12, TAVIS officers attended a BBQ at Jamestown Crescent to raise support for the garden project to be hosted by Cultivating Youth Leadership Urban Renewal Project. The following Tuesday, TAVIS officers attended Jamestown area and participated in planting at vegetable garden



TAVIS officers with community members planting a vegetable garden in Jamestown complex.

Notable Albion-Finch Events of Interest

Sharp-Eyed TAVIS Officer Makes Arrest

On Monday June 7, near the Albion Mall, a TAVIS officer recognized a male from a previous encounter who was under house arrest as a result of outstanding charges. The male was placed under arrest and charged accordingly.

Jane-Finch TAVIS Initiative

TAVIS officers continued to build relationships within the focus area with high uniform visibility. Members have been attending local plazas and community centres in order to introduce themselves and explain the TAVIS initiative.

TAVIS officers were introduced to 31 Division's Community Police Liaison Committee as well as a number of local residents and students from the Police Foundations course at Humber College. The TAVIS officers were well received and officers were given the opportunity to meet the local stakeholders and explain the initiative.

TAVIS officers continued to attend and show high police visibility in their assigned vertical policing apartment buildings and in local plazas. The Vertical Policing component of the Neighbourhood TAVIS Initiative has identified four apartment buildings in the Jane-Finch community. Analysis is conducted to identify problem time periods/days of the week as well as problem apartments that are influencing violent activity. Officers frequently liaise with apartment building management and initiate and attend apartment building meetings to develop long-term solutions to community problems. One of the initiatives being brought to the vertical buildings is the use of [TPS Links](#), which is a Community Automated Notification System.

PC Bonomo delivered a Neighbourhood TAVIS Initiative presentation to a crowd of approximately 150 people at the Oakdale Community Centre. The information was well received by those in attendance. The youth were provided with TAVIS T-shirts.

TAVIS officers participated in a 20km bike ride in support of children with special needs.

TAVIS officers attended York University to assist with track and field events that were held for athletes from local grade schools.

As part of the vertical policing strategy, TAVIS officers met with the management at 2999 Jane Street in an effort to develop a neighbourhood watch group.

TAVIS officers spoke with over 1000 community members, close to 80 city and community organizations and close to 40 local business employees during this two week period.



Notable Jane-Finch TAVIS Events of Interest

Cell Phone Theft

Two females, aged 17 and 15, were in the Jane Street and Sheppard Avenue West area. They approached the victim asking to borrow her cellular telephone. The suspects began walking away refusing to return the phone to the owner. The victim tried to get her phone back and was struck by one of the suspects. One of the suspects began threatening the victim if she contacted police. The suspects fled and were arrested a short distance away and charged with several offences, including robbery and failing to comply with bail conditions.

Scarborough Village TAVIS Initiative

On Monday June 7, a meeting was held at Scarborough Village Community Centre involving both TAVIS teams and a number of social agency representatives.

TAVIS officers contacted Toronto Fire regarding a large number of tires at 3400 Eglinton Avenue East. City of Toronto's [311](#) was also contacted in relation to the large amount of trash at the rear of 3400 Eglinton Avenue East and a service order was put in. 311 is a simple, three-digit phone number that can be used to get information about City of Toronto services or programs, or to make a request for service.



In a few short weeks there has been a great deal of trust built between officers and residents at the 3181 Eglinton Avenue East complex.

Officers met with the building Superintendent of 140 Adanac Drive regarding a Crime Prevention through Environmental Design of a mirror finish on the lobby window. It was explained to him that the reduced line of sight was problematic as it left residents vulnerable to being victimized. The matter would be addressed at their next meeting with residents.

Officers attended 3370, 3392, 3398 Kingston Road as a follow-up to previous observations made of a number of property deficiencies. One of the most prevalent deficiencies was gang graffiti on the inside and outside walls of the buildings. A paint crew was observed on scene and the building property manager advised they were there to assess the damages and provide an estimate.

On Wednesday June 9, Staff Sergeant Keys spoke at a luncheon for 80 Southeast Scarborough Service Provider staff members regarding the Scarborough Village Neighbourhood TAVIS Initiative.

TAVIS officers participated in a Bendale High School basketball game that was attended by youth from Scarborough Village community.

Officers attended the local Home Depot that had provided assistance during their BBQ on Saturday June 5. Home Depot also requested help with an upcoming Starlight Foundation Event.

TAVIS officers spoke with close to 800 community members, 40 city and community organizations and close to 70 local business employees during this two week period.

Other Toronto Police Service Units that are Supporting TAVIS

TAVIS is not solely supported by the ninety TAVIS officers; the Toronto Police Service has a wide variety of specialty support units. Although these specialty units are dealing with issues everywhere in the city, this summer they will be focusing extra attention in the Neighbourhood TAVIS initiative areas.



Gun and Gang Task Force

Search Warrants Execute Warrant in 43 Division

Guns and Gang Task Force officers executed a search warrant for an address on Lee Centre Drive in Scarborough. During the search officers located and seized a quantity of drugs. Two males were arrested and charged with drug related offences.

Officers from the Gun and Gang Task Force executed a search warrant at an address in the Lawrence Avenue East and Manse Road area. A search of the basement revealed a quantity of ammunition. The 25-year old suspect was on a life time prohibition order forbidding him to possess any firearm or ammunition at this time. He was arrested for possession of ammunition contrary to prohibition order.



Police Dog Services

The Police Dog Services Unit assisted with several radio calls and conducted general patrols in the Neighbourhood TAVIS Initiative communities. As a result of patrolling in these areas, the Police Dog Services Unit assisted with the following arrests.

Police Dog Assists with Home Invasion

The K9 team of PC Powis and Police Dog Rio were called to the area of Bellamy Road and Eglinton Avenue East for a person with a gun. Information was received about a home invasion where one suspect possibly had a gun. Officers quickly took two males into custody and the third, a 16-year old male, was taken into custody by Police Dog Services.

Break and Enter Suspect Arrested

The Police Dog Services team of PC Pethick and Police Dog Bruin attended a business located at Clayson Road and Huxley Road where a male had been breaking into units and fled. The team started tracking and headed to the rear of the units on Clayson and then northbound to Huxley. During the track a perimeter officer observed the suspect, a 22-year old male, just north of the team and took him into custody.

Police Dog Locates Theft Suspects

Officers were investigating a call for a male prying open the coin boxes at a gas station near Eglinton Avenue East and Trudelle Street. The male was last seen running northbound. The Police Dog Services team of PC Baus and Police Dog Bronx responded to the call. Once on scene Police Dog Bronx tracked the suspect into a rear yard. The suspect, a 36-year old male, fled out to the front where a police car was approaching and made the arrest.



Street Sweeper Locates Stolen Cars

The Parking Enforcement Unit has been utilizing specially equipped vehicles that are mounted with automatic number-plate recognition technology. This technology permits officers to patrol Toronto neighbourhoods while the street sweeper technology identifies stolen vehicles.



Stolen Vehicles Recovered in TAVIS Focus Area Divisions:

23 Division:	5
31 Division:	5
43 Division:	1

Toronto Anti-Violence Rapid Response Team

Bail Violator Arrested

The suspect was investigated by officers in the Driftwood Avenue and Driftwood Court area. The suspect falsely identified himself to police. After further investigation, the suspect, a 20-year old male, admitted that he had lied about his name and that he was currently under house arrest in relation to outstanding charges. The suspect was placed under arrest.