

THE ACTION

Addressing Crime Trends In Our Neighbourhoods

UPDATE

October 5, 2011

One day, one super day in Hamilton, Ontario

One day, five major events, thousands and thousands of people and really, no significant incidents. We are talking about Saturday, September 10 which saw the James St. Supercrawl, Canadian Country Music Fan Fest, Locke St. Festival, Hess Village and McMaster Welcome Week all taking place. The weather fully cooperated and so too did the participants in all the events.

Upwards of 70,000 people took part in the festivities. As you might expect, ACTION officers and the Mounted Unit worked wall-to-wall, to ensure everyone's safety. They were joined by Auxiliary officers, and Central Division patrol.

The high visibility of ACTION and the Mounted Unit proved to be a key strategy in preventing crime and ensuring the delivery of public safety. Considerable work was done in advance of the date with event organizers, merchants, business and the City of Hamilton. This operational plan tested the Service's ability to respond to large scale events and will be used as a planning tool for the upcoming 2015 Pan Am games.

CREMS and ACTION connecting with Hamilton Police/Paramedic Social Navigation Project



Hamilton Police Service (HPS) and Hamilton's Emergency Medical Service (EMS) have teamed for an innovative program that is already showing results. Dubbed the Social Navigator Program (SNP), the project is unlike any other in the province or country.

During the first year of its ACTION strategy, Hamilton Police were continually encountering people who were repeat offenders or "at risk" of becoming involved in criminal behaviour. It became apparent that the judicial system was not the best solution for these individuals and more needed to be done.

The concept of creating a social navigator to refer repeat offenders and “at risk” people to the appropriate agencies was developed in partnership with HPS and the City of Hamilton.

Last year, EMS developed Community Referrals by EMS (CREMS) where paramedics refer repeat EMS callers to other services. Harnessing experience gained through the CREMS program, the paramedic service is well positioned to support the Hamilton Police Service in this initiative. This Social Navigation Project began in July, 2011.

“It is important to prevent and break the cycle of arresting, re-arresting and respectively handing out tickets for the same infractions to the same people as clearly this strategy is not effective for anybody involved,” said Hamilton Police Chief Glenn De Caire. “In order for the ACTION strategy to be completely effective, a system needed to be created to help link these individuals with the appropriate services after coming into contact with police.”

The first month has led to 17 people being referred to the program. Most of these individuals are now receiving enhanced care from several different agencies and are no longer coming in contact with police in a negative way. HPS is now evaluating the Social Navigator program to where improvements can be made.

Senior’s Purse Snatched and Returned

A 74 year old woman with a walker, had her purse snatched from the rear of her walker while she waited at a bus stop at King St.E., near Steven St. The senior began to yell, and a witness assisted and followed the two suspects - man and a woman. ACTION officers were in the area and assisted in looking for the suspects, and with the victim. With the assistance of Hamilton HEAT officers, the suspects were identified and later arrested. The purse was located with all of its contents, minus some cash, and returned to the senior. Both suspects were charged with two counts of Theft and Possession Under and Breach of Probation.

Two Hamilton men arrested for McQuesten Park street robbery

On August 23rd, 2011, a 63 year woman was walking south bound on Upper Wentworth Street at McQuesten Park. Moments after crossing South Park Drive, she was approached from behind by an unknown man. The man grabbed her from behind in the neck area and pulled her necklace from her. The man fled on foot, running north east through McQuesten Park.

Upon police arrival, it was learned that the witness observed the robbery and decided to give chase. While chasing after the man who was running, the witness observed the suspect who was joined by another man riding a bicycle. It appeared that they were together.

Evidence was developed and shared through the Service. At 1:55 am, ACTION Team members advised the officers investigating the McQuesten Park robbery that they had arrested two men in the downtown area for an unrelated matter, and that one had a gold necklace in his possession.

The two males arrested by the ACTION team and admitted to the robbery at McQueen Park. The two Hamilton men were charged with Robbery, Possession under \$5000.00, Fail To Comply Recognizance and Fail to Comply Probation.

ACTION Productivity

	August	September
PONs - tickets	576	545
Street Checks	492	490
Community Contacts	3,391	5,281
Arrests	109	118
Charges	107	80
Warrants	11	11
FTC/Breaches	48	23
Value of Drugs Seized	\$2,360.40	\$2,614.50

From the ACTION E-mailbag:

August 29, 2011 - *I am a new business owner on [REDACTED]. As a young woman working late on most nights, seeing the constant patrolling of police officers on bikes is so reassuring and comforting. Knowing they are in the area, nearby in case something were to happen reinsures my safety. I hope this never changes. Thank you!!!*

August 29, 2011 – *I live and work downtown and am thrilled to see Police Officers at all hours of the day and night in the downtown core. I love having their presence in my neighbourhood and I believe it is making a great difference. It seems that the number of thugs hanging out downtown has decreased tremendously and I feel much safer, particularly on James St.N. and at James/King, Gore Park area. Please keep up the good work, you do not go unnoticed!!*

North American Police Equestrian Competition 2011 Toronto

by A/S/Sgt. Marty Schulenberg



The Hamilton Police Service's Mounted Unit participated in the NAPEC 2011 event held in Toronto on September 17, 2011. The unit took home 13 ribbons total including the following: 1st place uniform division, 2nd and 3rd overall in high point standings (losing to Lexington Texas by two points for the grand prize Brigadiere memorial award), 2nd, 3rd and 6th place equitation division, 3rd place team obstacles, 3rd place pairs obstacles, 7th and 8th singles obstacles.

In addition to competition, our officers engaged in crowd management training and mounted search and rescue seminars.

Our horses and officers turned out extremely well and represented HPS to the highest of standards. I

cannot understate the value that this competition contributed to our ever increasing skill set, as well as our reputation within the mounted police community. We are newcomers to the scene and already recognized as a unit of very high calibre. The host agency Toronto Police Service consistently used our horses and officers as technique and tactic demonstrators for the rest of the delegates. These results are nothing short of outstanding for a program that has only been on the road for one year. We were publicly acknowledged by Staff Inspector Wardle as a first rate mounted unit.



Mounted Unit: Show Horses AND Work Horses

On September 22, three men engaged in illegal drug activity at the rear of the Methadone Clinic on John St.N. were arrested by the Hamilton Police Mounted Unit. The Unit is an operational one and so far, they have issued 600 tickets, completed 502 street checks and made 36 arrests.

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www.hamiltonpolice.on.ca/HPS/Action/



The ACTION Team (Addressing Crime Trends In Our Neighbourhoods) is a part of the Hamilton Police Neighbourhood Safety Project. ACTION is a Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services provincially funded initiative dedicated to reducing violence and disorder in our neighbourhoods, increasing safety in the community and improving the quality of life for all citizens of Hamilton.