



Woodstock Police Services Board (WPSB) Communiqué

Issue 7

June 2013

Message from the Board Chair:

As we reach the halfway point in this calendar year, the Board recognizes the significant time and effort involved in the successful delivery of Woodstock Police Service (WPS) community initiatives and thanks all members for their continued participation. The following activities represent a few of these initiatives:

- ◆ The 1st annual prescription drug drop-off day - nearly 2,300 grams of prescription drugs and medications were disposed of in a safe manner.
- ◆ On May 14th, the Woodstock Police Service launched a new local crime-mapping tool that is available to the public through the WPS website by clicking on the "CrimePlot Crime Mapping" icon at www.woodstockpolice.ca. This resource makes available data regarding crime trends and high collision intersections in the city and ultimately reinforces our "safe communities" status through community partnership.
- ◆ With the arrival of spring, bicycles are a common sight on Woodstock roadways. WPS has initiated a city-wide bicycle registration program as a community service to our citizens to keep track of their property. The registration is available on the WPS website. To date, 18 bicycles have been registered. Please take advantage of this valuable service.



The Board is very pleased to announce that provincial appointee, Nancy O'Grady, has been re-appointed to the Board for a further period of three years effective June 12, 2013. Nancy's experience and expertise on the Board makes her a very integral part of the team. Congratulations Nancy on your re-appointment!

Best wishes to all members for a safe and enjoyable summer!

Sandra J. Talbot, 2013 Board Chair

Retirement Farewell

A retirement celebration was held honouring two long serving police officers who retired on January 31, 2013. Constable Ken Aitchison started his policing career with the OPP in 1975 and most recently served the Woodstock Police Service during the past six years. Sergeant Greg Fletcher is a dedicated and committed officer serving the Woodstock Police Service for the past 15 years. Sergeant Fletcher started his career in 1980 with Port Elgin and also spent 6 1/2 years in Metro-Toronto. You each served with PRIDE-INTEGRITY-TEAMWORK. Congratulations on a well deserved, long, and healthy retirement!

Pictured left to right, Constable Ken Aitchison, Board Chair Sandra Talbot, and Sergeant Greg Fletcher



Make-A-Wish National
Volunteer Spirit Award Recipient
Jayne Baker



Jayne Baker, Civilian Communicator, is the recipient of the 2012 Make-A-Wish National Volunteer Spirit Award. Jayne was recognized at a reception in London.

Giving her enthusiastic and passionate support for 10 years, Jayne expresses what it means to her to be a Make-A-Wish Volunteer, "The opportunity to give back to others in our community. To volunteer for an organization I truly believe in and I am so proud to be part of. I love the interaction with these families, seeing their joy when they find out the Wish Child's wish has been granted. The smiles it brings us seeing children jumping up and down, they are so excited and can't contain themselves, telling you what they are going to pack for their trip. It brings total satisfaction and joy in being a part of making a Wish Child's dream come true."

Volunteering on the organizing committee of the Lights and Sirens Charity Ball, Jayne connected Make-A-Wish as one of the charities of choice at the first year's event. The committee was thrilled to more than double their fundraising goal for each of the two local charities. "It was a proud moment," says Jayne.

Last year, Jayne decided to bring her support of their mission to a special celebration. In honour of her birthday, she requested gifts for the "wish kids" in lieu of birthday presents, and...donated a mountain of toys!

Chair Talbot, commented, "It is certainly a tremendous honour to be recognized at the national level for your local community contributions. Such an accomplishment not only underscores your own contributions, but also brings public recognition to the entire organization. Congratulations on this most deserving award, Jayne. We are very proud of you!"

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The Board hosted a successful and well attended Zone 4 meeting on March 6, 2013 at the Quality Inn. A special presentation was made to Chief of Police Rodney Freeman, who was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal by Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police President Chief Steve Tanner of Halton Regional Police. Chief Freeman was selected by the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (C.A.C.P.) Awards and Decorations Committee to receive this prestigious medal for his significant achievements and outstanding contributions to policing, public safety, and community service during his policing career spanning over 35 years.



Constable Michael Routly is shown above with Chief Freeman receiving a Chief's Commendation in recognition of his bravery and professionalism to an incident by saving a life through his heroic response.