



**Halton Regional Police Service
Annual Report 2020**

One Vision:

To be the leader in community safety and policing excellence.

One Mission:

To provide effective and efficient community-based policing.

One Team:

Exemplified through our collaboration and coordination with our community, our partners, and our employees.

One Vision, One Mission, One Team

Peel's Principles of Law Enforcement

1. The basic mission for which the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder.
2. The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police actions.
3. Police must secure the willing cooperation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public.
4. The degree of cooperation of the public that can be secured diminishes proportionately to the necessity of the use of physical force.
5. Police seek and preserve public favor not by catering to the public opinion but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to the law.
6. Police use physical force to the extent necessary to secure observance of the law or to restore order only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient.
7. Police, at all times, should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.
8. Police should always direct their action strictly towards their functions and never appear to usurp the powers of the judiciary.
9. The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with it.

Table of Contents

01

Leadership Messages

03

Our Service and Our Community

04

How to Read this Report

05

Operational Highlights

57

Regional Statistics

59

District Statistics

60

Crime Stoppers

61

Organizational Chart

62

Where to Find Us

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF STEPHEN TANNER

It was a year like no other.

Reflecting on 2020, it is impossible to overstate the impact COVID-19 had on our community. Since the declaration of a State of Emergency in spring 2020, we have worked, both individually and collectively, to navigate the risks and uncertainties of the pandemic. In the face of these challenges, the officers and civilians of the Halton Regional Police Service have been steadfast in their commitment to preserve and strengthen community safety and well-being.

I am extraordinarily pleased to present the Halton Regional Police Service's 2020 Annual Report.

Incidents in our community and elsewhere have reinforced the need for us to seek new opportunities to evolve how we police and how we interact with those we serve. The stories included here are a reflection not only on our accomplishments and progress as a Service, but on the value we place on partnerships with all levels of government, our community stakeholders, and all residents of Halton region. These pages highlight just some of our efforts to strategically apply resources where they will have the greatest impact on Halton today *and* tomorrow. From deploying crisis intervention training across our membership, to disrupting crimes that target the most vulnerable, to raising awareness of the insidious nature of intimate partner violence, to combatting the overdose crisis, to enhancing connectivity with the future leaders in our community, we continue to raise the bar in how we deliver services.

In this report, you will also find our year-end crime statistics. Adjusted for population growth, violent crime and property crime dropped in 2020 when compared to the previous year. Collisions on our roads were also down when compared to 2019. While fewer criminal offences were reported in 2020, it is both noteworthy and concerning that our officers responded to nearly 4,000 people in crisis, more than 240 suspected overdoses, and more than 3,700 intimate partner violence incidents; this is in large part because the pandemic has bred social isolation, economic upheaval, and significant stress.

As we collectively make our way forward, please know our commitment to the continual pursuit of excellence is threaded through everything we do. We look forward to working with you to ensure Halton Region remains an enviable place to live, work, and play.

Stephen J. Tanner
Chief of Police



MESSAGE FROM HALTON POLICE BOARD CHAIR JEFF KNOLL

As Chair of the Halton Police Board, I am proud to introduce the 2020 Annual Report of the Halton Regional Police Service.

This past year, we have been challenged, professionally and personally, in every aspect of our lives. The pandemic has brought to light unimaginable hardships, and we deeply appreciate the dedication and sacrifice of our Police Service. Despite many uncertainties, the women and men of the Halton Regional Police Service have answered the call to protect and serve.

As I reflect on the achievements of the past year, I know that the Board has met emerging issues head-on, providing adequate and effective police services to all citizens in Halton Region. Together we are bound by a common commitment to serve and protect the residents of Halton to ensure that they feel safe and secure in their neighbourhoods. This dedication is rooted in the understanding that having a strong relationship with our community and the people we serve, creates trust, allowing the Police Service to perform their duties. As civilian Board members who represent the public's interests, we remain committed to quality policing and excellence in police governance.

The Board is extremely proud of all members of the Halton Regional Police Service, and we will continue to work together so that they can continue to be of service to those they encounter and interact with in our community.

This Annual Report reflects our thanks and commendations to each of the officers and civilian staff who make up the Halton Regional Police Service. I want to thank all members, past and present, and their families for years of dedicated service to this community.

Councillor Jeff Knoll
Chair, Halton Police Board



Your Community. Our Service.

- 610,517** Population of Halton
- 737** Officers
- 308** Civilians
- 12** Cadets
- 1 : 828** Officer to Resident Ratio
- \$161M** Operating Budget
- \$265.31** Cost Per Capita
- 145,927** Calls for Service
- 52.1%** Clearance Rate

To learn more about the rationale, principles, structures, and parameters that guide our operations as a police service, access the [Your Community. Our Service Guide](#)



How to Read this Report

Located in the top left corner of each feature, a key will indicate how each initiative, project or activity aligns with the HRPS Operational Priorities and Community Safety and Well-Being (CSWB) plan. More information on the HRPS CSWB plan can be found on our website at: haltonpolice.ca.

-  Social Development
-  Prevention
-  Risk Intervention
-  Incident Response
-  Crime Trends
-  Priority Populations
-  Traffic Safety and Enforcement
-  Mental Health and Addictions



Project Safe Start 2020

Innovation in the Face of COVID-19

When COVID-19 reached Canada in January 2020, the Halton Regional Police Service pivoted in innovative ways to ensure safe and seamless service to the community.

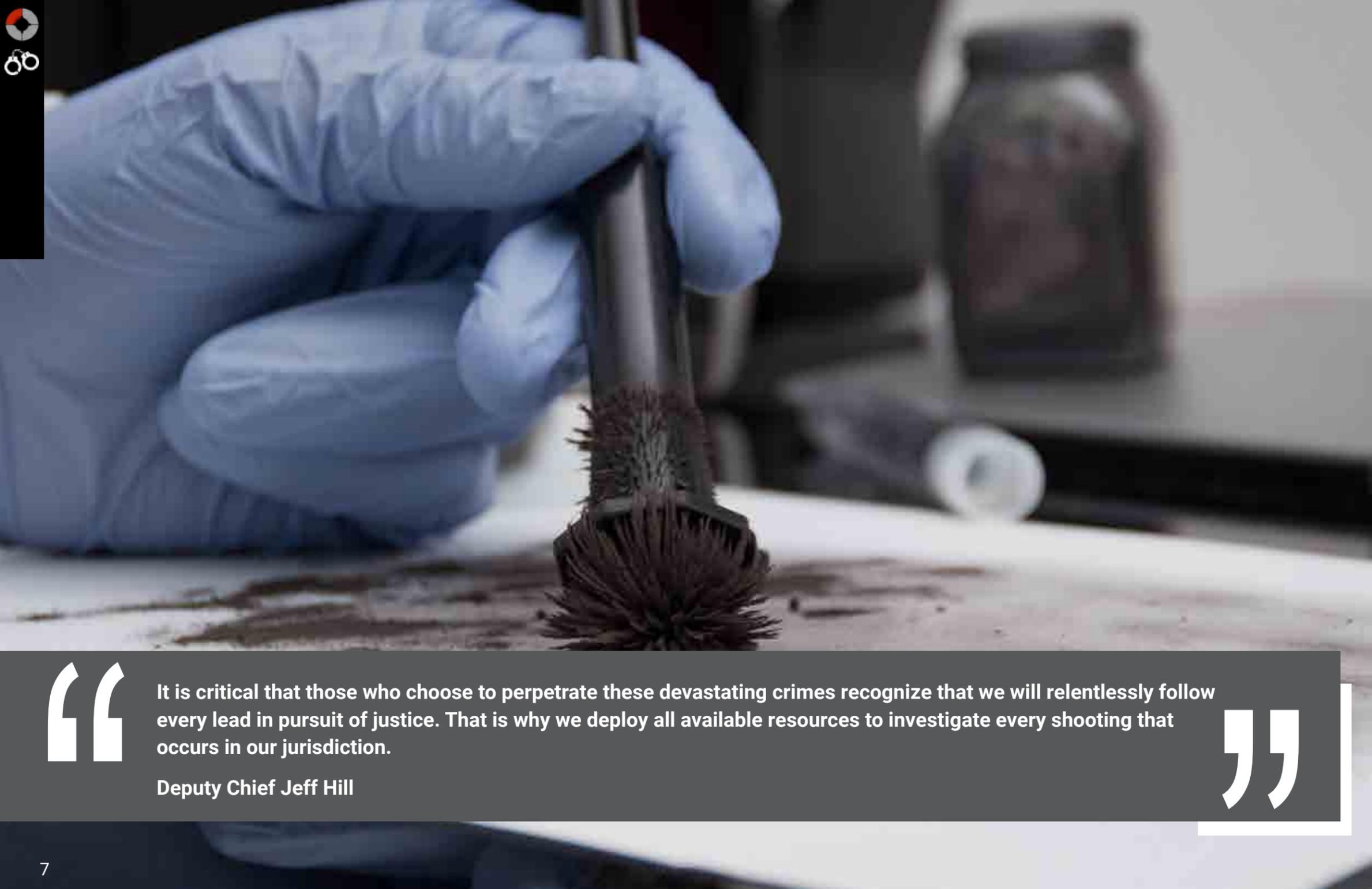
Within weeks of the announcement of the first case of COVID-19 in Canada, the Halton Regional Police Service identified a number of immediate operational challenges that required us to change the way we provide service to members of the community. These adaptations were made to protect your safety, and to protect our own members.

In the early days of the pandemic, when the understanding of how COVID-19 was being transmitted was in its infancy, we were forced to temporarily close our stations for non-emergencies. Steadfast in our commitment to continue to serve, we took unprecedented action and:

- implemented public health screening at our front doors as a reminder for residents to stay home if sick;
- initiated enhanced touchpoint cleaning in all areas of our facilities;
- installed self-serve Record Checks kiosks at our Headquarters location;
- sourced, purchased and deployed ClearMasks® to all frontline members to reduce communication barriers for our deaf and hard-of-hearing residents;
- collaborated with our municipal and regional partners to provide education and enforcement of COVID-19 Emergency Orders through the establishment of the COVID-19 hotline;
- modified station hours and Collision Reporting Centre hours;
- conducted judicial pre-trials via teleconference;

- modified our Victim Quick Response Program to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission;
- implemented a mandatory mask mandate in the public areas of our facilities;
- installed hand sanitizer stations in the lobbies of our facilities;
- issued branded face coverings to every member of our Service;
- reduced the number of officers using each Service vehicle by implementing an assigned vehicle protocol;
- introduced an internal contact tracing system to identify internal exposure risks;
- introduced a robust toolkit of IT options to reduce in-person interactions across our membership;
- introduced enhanced PPE protocols for responding to incidents in long-term care facilities;
- sounded an early alarm about the increase in familial violence during the pandemic;
- communicated to the community about the increased incidence of suspected overdoses;
- deployed nearly 1,400 health and safety signs in our facilities; and
- leveraged our proactive work in maintaining a pandemic supply prior to COVID-19 to provide PPE donations to several of our external partners (including ROCK, Halton Women's Place).

We thank our *entire* community for your patience and diligence as we navigated these uncharted waters together.



“ It is critical that those who choose to perpetrate these devastating crimes recognize that we will relentlessly follow every lead in pursuit of justice. That is why we deploy all available resources to investigate every shooting that occurs in our jurisdiction. ”

Deputy Chief Jeff Hill

Four Arrested After an Innocent Teen is Murdered

Justice was relentlessly pursued after the murder of a 16-year-old boy.

Early in the morning on June 30, 2020, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) received a call about a deceased male lying near the intersection of Guelph Line and No. 10 Sideroad in Milton. The Homicide Unit took carriage of the investigation and made an immediate appeal to members of the public for dash cam, home or business surveillance footage which could shed some light on the circumstances that led to the discovery of the body.

The victim was subsequently identified as 16-year-old Ezekiel Agyemang of Brampton. Ezekiel, or Zeke as he was known by his family and friends, was a Grade 10 student at St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School in Brampton who enjoyed playing basketball and aspired to be an engineer. A post-mortem examination determined that Ezekiel died as a result of gunshot wounds.

A comprehensive and exhaustive investigation was undertaken by members of the Homicide Unit, members of our Major Incident Response Team, our Intelligence Bureau, and the Forensic Services Unit. Their efforts were supported by the Hamilton Police, Peel Regional Police, Toronto Police Service and the Calgary Police Service.

Ultimately, evidence indicated that Ezekiel was an innocent teenager who was intentionally targeted by a group of four adults who were known to him.

Two males were arrested on September 9, 2020. One was charged with First Degree Murder and Kidnapping with a Firearm, and the second was charged with Kidnapping with a Firearm. Arrest warrants were also issued for two additional suspects.

On September 23, 2020, the third suspect was arrested in Toronto and charged with Kidnapping with a Firearm. The fourth and final suspect was arrested in Vancouver a short time later for an unrelated shooting. He was charged with First Degree Murder and Kidnapping.

Partner Agencies 



Human Trafficking: Recognizing the Red Flags

Our region is not immune to the scourge of human trafficking. We call on every resident to recognize the signs that someone may be a victim.

Distilled down, human trafficking is the exploitation of human beings for gain. It can include recruiting, harbouring or controlling a person's movements using force, physical or psychological coercion, or deception.

Victims and survivors of human trafficking are often unwilling to come forward to report human trafficking situations to law enforcement due to ingrained fear, lack of awareness of alternatives, systemic isolation leading to mistrust in others, as well as physical and psychological confinement.

Trafficking victims do not always see themselves as victims, due to the trauma bond they may form with their trafficker. Most victims feel isolated and helpless. Some blame themselves for their situation. Many develop a mindset of fear, distrust, denial and conflicting loyalties.

If there is immediate danger or if you suspect someone is being trafficked, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) urges you to call 9-1-1.

You may also call the Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-833-900-1010.

Learn more about Human Trafficking on the Halton Regional Police Service website.

It is imperative that the community keep a collective eye open for signs that someone may be a victim, or may be at risk of becoming a victim of human trafficking. These include:

- Avoiding eye contact and social interaction;
- Withdrawing from family and friends;
- Becoming emotionally numb and detached;
- Acting in an anxious, submissive or nervous manner, excessive concern about displeasing their partner;
- Not having control of their own money or cellphone, and have no passport or other ID;
- Suddenly having a new or second cell phone with a secret number;
- Not responding to phone calls or texts for long periods of time;
- Being controlled by others and escorted at all times;
- Providing rehearsed answers to casual questions;
- Being secretive about their activities;
- Showing signs of abuse, such as bruising, cigarette burns, fractures, etc.;
- Having a new boyfriend, girlfriend, or friend who they won't introduce to anyone; and
- Having new items (clothing, jewelry etc.) outside their financial means.



In 2020



11 Traffickers Arrested



111 Charges Laid



13 Victims Rescued



44 At-Risk Individuals Referred to Community Partners



Project Mover: Investigation Results in Historic Fentanyl Seizure

More than 10 kg of fentanyl removed from the streets after year-long investigation into trafficking network.

In late 2019, the Halton Regional Police Service Drug and Human Trafficking Unit began investigating two individuals residing in Oakville after receiving information that they were involved in high-level drug trafficking. The investigation was dubbed 'Project Mover.'

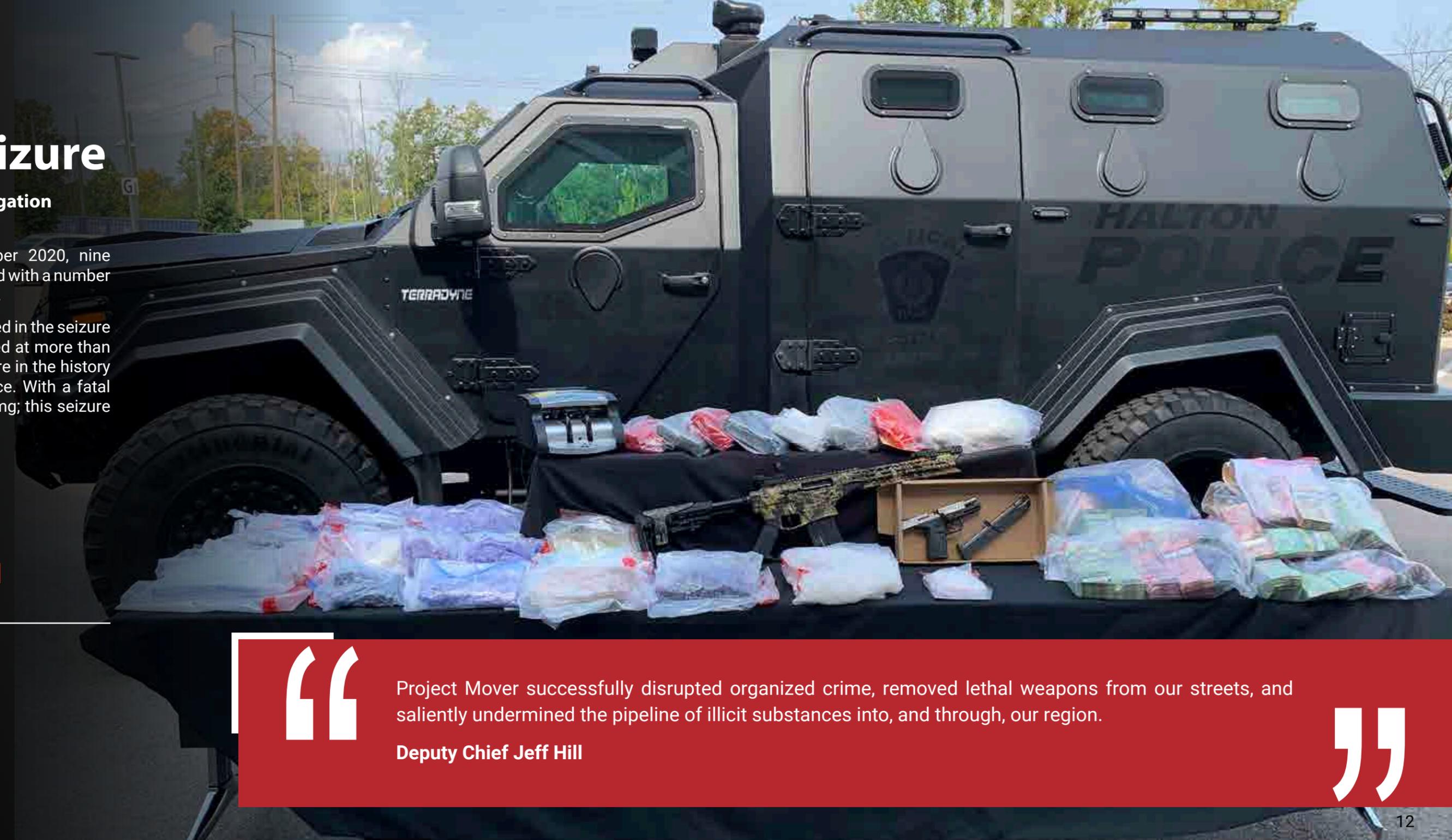
Over the course of the project, investigators identified a network of individuals actively trafficking large amounts of drugs throughout the Greater Toronto Area. A wide variety of investigative tools and techniques were employed which assisted in bringing the investigation to a successful conclusion.

Search warrants were executed at six residences in Mississauga, Brampton, Markham, Oakville and Scarborough, and investigators made use of more than 100 judicial authorizations.

Between June 2020 and September 2020, nine individuals were arrested and charged with a number of trafficking and weapons offences.

Of significance, Project Mover resulted in the seizure of more than 10 kg of fentanyl valued at more than \$4 million, the largest fentanyl seizure in the history of the Halton Regional Police Service. With a fatal dose of fentanyl being as little as 2mg; this seizure potentially saved 4,000,000 lives.

Partner Agencies



8.25 kg Fentanyl Seized

2 kg Heroin Seized

1.25 kg Crystal Methamphetamine Seized

1 kg Cocaine Seized

6 kg of cutting agent

2 Firearms Seized

2 Vehicles Seized

\$307 K Canadian Currency Seized



Project Mover successfully disrupted organized crime, removed lethal weapons from our streets, and saliently undermined the pipeline of illicit substances into, and through, our region.

Deputy Chief Jeff Hill





Overdoses: The Hidden Epidemic Against the Backdrop of a Pandemic

The Halton Regional Police Service shines a light on the *Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act* and lifesaving naloxone as overdose deaths surge.

The first wave of the pandemic in Canada in early 2020 was met with the introduction of broad public health restrictions designed to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. What followed was a significant increase in suspected drug-related deaths. In fact, in the first 15 weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic in Ontario, 695 people died of a confirmed or suspected opioid-related death, representing a 38 per cent increase compared to the 15 weeks immediately preceding the pandemic¹. Here in Halton, between January 1 and December 31, 2020, our officers attended 241 suspected drug poisonings (overdoses). One in six victims, tragically, did not survive.

medication that can quickly reverse an opioid overdose. Every one of our frontline officers is equipped with naloxone. Our priority is your safety, and we want to help.

But for someone witnessing an overdose, they may be afraid to call for help for fear that they will be charged with drug possession. Enter the [Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act](#).

Introduced in 2017, the *Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act* provides an exemption from charges of simple possession of a controlled substance, and a myriad of other related charges for people who call 9-1-1 for themselves or another person suffering an overdose, as well as anyone who is at the scene when emergency help arrives. Distilled down, the Act encourages and protects people who are witnessing an overdose so they can seek help, and ultimately, save lives.

You have the power to save a life.

Naloxone is free, and widely available at participating pharmacies. [Find a location.](#)

It is not lost on us that every one of these victims was someone's sibling, child, parent, spouse, or friend. Nor is it lost on us that every drug poisoning is preventable.

In response to this epidemic, we embarked on a mission to spread the word to encourage those who use drugs, or know someone who does, to 'not use alone, to start low and go slow, to carry naloxone, and to call 9-1-1' if they witness or are experiencing a suspected overdose. Why? Naloxone is a live-saving

241	38	25	62	0
Drug Poisonings Attended by our Officers in 2020	Individuals Died as a Result of Suspected Drug Poisonings in 2020	Lives Saved by our Officers Using Naloxone in 2020	Times Naloxone was Administered by HRPS Officers since 2018	Drug Possession Charges Laid by Officers Responding to Drug Poisonings

¹ Preliminary Patterns in Circumstances Surrounding Opioid-Related Deaths in Ontario during the COVID-19 Pandemic, ODP RN, 2020



11.9 kg
of Fentanyl

962
Tablets of
Oxycodone

2.9 kg
of Cocaine/Crack
Cocaine

13.4 L
of GHB
(‘Date Rape’ Drug)

4,891
Tablets of Xanax

2.4 kg
of Methamphetamine

156 kg
of Cannabis

21 kg
of Other Illegal
Drugs

**Last year,
our Service took
millions of doses
of controlled or
illicit substance
off the streets
of Halton.**

Do you have a tip and want to report it anonymously? Contact Crime Stoppers by dialing 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS). This Tip Line is available 24/7. You can also submit a tip online through their website: <https://haltoncrimestoppers.ca>.
See something? Say something.





Rare Drive-by Shooting

Sense of community safety restored after drive-by shooting targets a residence.

In the overnight hours of May 29, 2020, police responded to reports of shots fired in a residential neighbourhood in the Town of Oakville.

Upon arriving, police learned that four shots were fired at a residence from a vehicle driving past. Approximately an hour later, the vehicle returned and nine more shots were fired at the home. Fortunately, despite the occupants being home, nobody was injured during the incident.

Based on the initial investigation, it was believed (and later confirmed) that the incorrect house was targeted.

A broad appeal for witnesses, dash cam, and home or business surveillance video was issued, and through an extensive witness and CCTV canvass, investigators were able to quickly identify a primary suspect.

Through surveillance, that suspect was later observed driving a vehicle of the same make/model used during the shooting. The suspect was on the move, but investigators soon established a nexus between two residences; one

in Oakville and a second in Burlington. Investigation also revealed that the suspect and a female known to him were involved in drug trafficking.

Criminal Code of Canada and *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* search warrants were executed at the two residences and on the vehicle. Amongst other items, a .22 caliber semi-automatic rifle was seized at the Oakville residence, and within the vehicle officers seized ammunition and shell casings that matched the shooting scene and found burn marks consistent with ejected shell casings.

This was a rare incident to have occurred in Oakville, and it unnecessarily sparked a sense of fear in the local community – particularly for the residents of the home that was mistakenly targeted. Through a thorough, methodical and professional response, the individuals responsible were held to account for their actions and a sense of well-being was restored to the community.

HRPS Resources Leveraged:

Criminal Investigations Bureau (Street Crime / B+E team), Uniform Patrol, Mobile Surveillance Unit, Intelligence Bureau, Tactical Rescue Unit, Polygraph Bureau, Victim Services Unit, and Forensic Identification Services.

Charges Laid

- Possession of a Weapon for a Dangerous Purpose (x4)
- Discharge Firearm (x2)
- Careless Storage of a Firearm (x2)
- Unauthorized Possession of a Firearm (x4)
- Possession of a Firearm Knowing its Possession is Unauthorized (x4)
- Trafficking in a Controlled Substance
- Mischief Endangering Life (x2)
- Fail to Comply with Probation (x3)
- Possession for the Purpose of Trafficking Cocaine, Xanax and MDMA (x2)



High-Risk Offenders Targeted by Investigators

Highly specialized and dedicated teams of officers pursue wanted parties who put community safety and well-being at risk.

While you may not have heard of our Risk Mitigation Teams, the safety of our community is very much dependent on their efforts behind the scenes.

Outstanding arrest warrants are increasingly common, more than tripling in our region since 2014. A warrant may be outstanding if the person named in the warrant is intentionally evading law enforcement, unaware that there is a warrant out for their arrest, the agency responsible for executing the warrant has a backlog of warrants to serve, or a combination of these factors.

Individuals who are wanted on outstanding arrest warrants impact the safety of the community for one simple reason: the rate of recidivism (re-offending) amongst convicted criminals is nearly 25 per cent. In fact, among those who re-offend, nearly one-third have a prior conviction and nearly 75 per cent have multiple prior convictions.

Enter the Halton Regional Police Service's Risk Mitigation Teams (RMTs).

Working closely with the Intelligence Unit, these dedicated teams focus on executing outstanding arrest warrants for high risk offenders wanted for offences such as Firearms Possession, Assault Causing Bodily Harm, Robbery, Break and Enter, Fraud, Personation, Trafficking and other drug offences, Flight from Police, and being unlawfully at large.

In addition to this portfolio of warrants, RMT members verify the whereabouts (place of residence) of sexual offenders who are on the Ontario Sex Offender Registry. This is a critical mechanism to assess the compliance of sex offenders with the requirements of Christopher's Law, established in response to the 1988 abduction, sexual assault and murder of an 11-year-old child by a multiple sex offender who was on parole at the time of the attack.

The strength and success of the RMTs stand on their own merits. In 2020, the RMTs arrested hundreds of individuals who were wanted on outstanding warrants, and laid over a hundred additional charges.



Success Story

Surveillance by the Risk Mitigation Teams led to a known gang member, human trafficker and drug dealer who was found to be breaching his recognizance. As a result, he was brought back before the courts.



Break and Enter – Foiled

Quick action by homeowners ensures burglars' escape comes to an abrupt end.

On a Sunday afternoon in early 2020, homeowners returned to their residence in the Town of Milton and were startled to find an unfamiliar vehicle parked in their driveway. On entering their residence, their worst fears were realized. Two males had broken into their house by smashing a rear window to gain entry.

Worse still, the suspects were still in the house.

The two thieves were equally as startled to discover that their break and enter had been interrupted. One male ran out of the back of the house and jumped over the fence. The second male ran to the vehicle parked in the driveway, jumped in, and fled the scene.

The homeowners provided police with a detailed description of both suspects and their vehicle, and officers were immediately dispatched to the residence. En route, an officer with our Criminal Investigations Bureau passed a vehicle that matched the description of the one that fled the break and enter. A traffic stop was executed. The male driver fit the description of one of the males who had entered the house, and he was arrested without incident and found to be in possession of property stolen during the break and enter.

Other officers continued to search for the second suspect who was believed to still be on foot, having been left high and dry by his partner in crime (who was by now in custody). He was arrested a short time later, and also found in possession of property

stolen from the home.

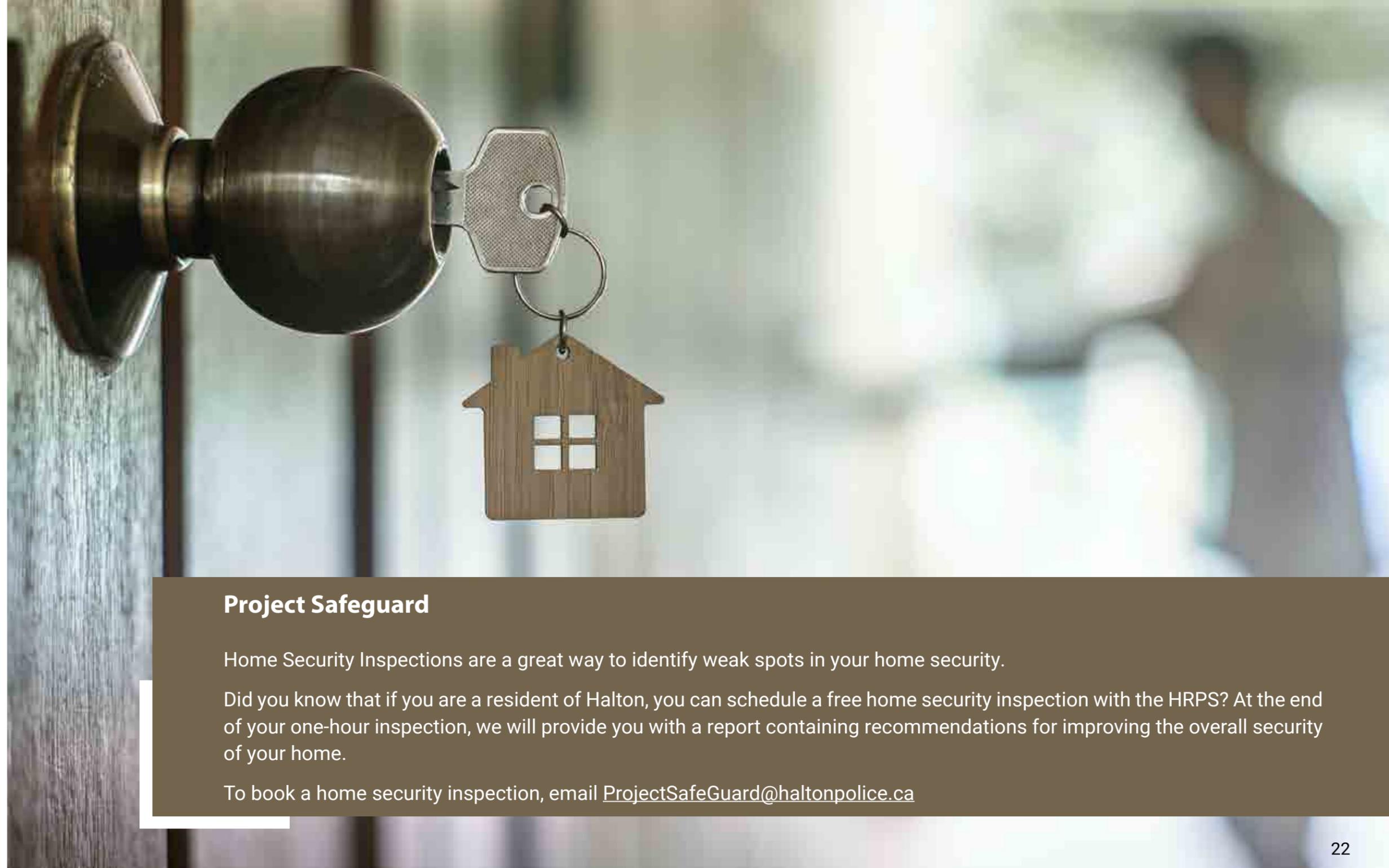
Both suspects were charged with Break and Enter and Possession of Property Obtained by Crime, and all property stolen during this break and enter was recovered and returned to the homeowners.

Residential Burglary Prevention Tips

- Install secure locks on all doors and windows.
- Lock your garage and mandoor at all times.
- Consider installing a security system.
- Change locks if keys have been lost or stolen.
- When moving, change all of the locks.
- High value items such as lawn mowers, snow blowers, and gas barbecues should be stored out of sight when not in use.
- Garden sheds and cabanas should also be locked.
- Doors should have sturdy frames, with hinges that cannot be removed.
- Inscribe your possessions with your name or other easily identifiable markings so that police can confirm them as yours and return them to you.
- Keep a record of serial numbers and descriptions of your household possessions.

For more residential safety tips, visit:

<https://www.haltonpolice.ca/en/staying-safe/residential-and-business-safety.aspx>



Project Safeguard

Home Security Inspections are a great way to identify weak spots in your home security.

Did you know that if you are a resident of Halton, you can schedule a free home security inspection with the HRPS? At the end of your one-hour inspection, we will provide you with a report containing recommendations for improving the overall security of your home.

To book a home security inspection, email ProjectSafeGuard@haltonpolice.ca



Regional Robbery Task Force Disrupts Violent Crime Spree

A deep commitment and relentless investigation disrupt a string of violent robberies across the Greater Toronto Area.

Late 2019 and early 2020 saw a dramatic increase in bank robberies which made headlines throughout the region and across the broader Greater Toronto Area (GTA). Of significant concern was the escalation in violence being perpetrated during these robberies. The Halton Regional Police Service moved quickly to strike a Regional Robbery Task Force (RRTF).

These efforts were paired with a public awareness push that asked residents to be highly vigilant when attending a bank and to report any suspicious activity to police. If residents were to witness a crime in progress, they were asked to call 911.

The goals of the RRTF were to ensure effective and efficient coordination of internal investigative resources, provide enhanced connectivity with neighbouring police services, and to facilitate sharing of critical information pertaining to these crimes and those who commit them. The RRTF liaised continually with peer police agencies across the GTA, focused on specific offenders involved in bank robberies in our jurisdiction, identified targets located in Halton and responded in real-time to bank robberies as they occurred.

Additionally, recognizing that the nature of these crimes can have a deep impact on bank staff and its customers, we extended the support of our Victim Services Unit of the Halton Regional Police Service to anyone who had been affected by these robberies.

Within five weeks of the RRTF being formed, eight suspects were identified, arrested and charged, and the robberies ground to an abrupt halt.



The Regional Robbery Task Force is comprised of frontline officers and investigators, with support from Crime Analysts, Intelligence officers, Community Mobilization officers, Forensic Identification Services officers, and members of our Crown Brief Review Group and Court Bureau.

- 149** Charges Laid by the HRPS
- 6** Bank Robberies Solved
- 2** Firearms Recovered
- 1** Hit and Run Solved

- 4** Retail Robberies Solved
- 1** Carjacking Solved
- 1** Vehicle Warm-up Theft Solved
- 8** Persons Charged in Connection with Robberies in Halton



Retail theft is not a victimless crime, costing Canadian businesses nearly \$5 billion per year.

Charges Laid in Liquor Thefts

Retail Theft Unit identifies suspects responsible for a series of high-volume LCBO thefts.

In recent years, retail theft trends in Halton region have included large quantity merchandise thefts, with liquor stores being increasingly targeted.

On September 26, 2020, a suspect entered an LCBO store and snuck into the back stockroom area. Once there, he removed two cases of scotch whiskey valued at over \$1,500. The suspect exited the store to a waiting vehicle driven by a second suspect.

The following afternoon, the same suspect returned to the same location to try his luck again. Upon entering the back stockroom, he was met by an employee. Startled, the suspect immediately exited the store into a waiting vehicle which fled the scene, but not before the store manager obtained the license plate number and a detailed description of the male.

Two weeks later, the suspect entered a second LCBO store, snatched two cases of scotch whiskey off the stockroom shelves (valued at >\$1,200) and exited through a rear door.

The Halton Regional Police Service Retail Theft Unit quickly identified both suspects, and thereafter, the 3 District Risk Mitigation Team (RMT) initiated surveillance on both parties. A third suspect was subsequently observed selling the stolen alcohol.

A search warrant was executed by the 3 District RMT and 3 District Street Crime Unit at a residence in Mississauga. That warrant resulted in the recovery of \$50,000 in stolen property, including the alcohol taken from the LCBO locations.

3 Suspects were arrested and charged with the following *Criminal Code* charges:

- Theft Under \$5,000 (x4)
- Trafficking in Property Obtained by Crime (x3)
- Trafficking in Contraband Tobacco
- Fail to Comply with Undertaking
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Under \$5,000
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5,000



Project POPP: A Commitment to Liveability

The community raised concerns, and we listened. Project Police on Park Patrol (POPP) put community safety and liveability at the forefront.

To reduce the incidence of nuisance-type behaviours in public spaces, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS), in partnership with the Town of Oakville Municipal Enforcement Services, launched *Project Police on Park Patrol* (POPP) in Summer 2020. Soon after, the project was expanded to include parks in the City of Burlington.

Project POPP focused on improving the quality of life in our community, while still being sensitive to the needs of residents escaping the confines of their homes amidst pandemic restrictions. With the arrival of warmer weather, residents increasingly turned to their local parks, school grounds and trails to enjoy the outdoors. With this came increased levels of complaints and calls for service related to nuisances in these public spaces, including mischief,

loitering, underage drinking, disturbances, and noise complaints.

Informed by input from local residents, Town/City Councillors, and police analytics, HRPS officers and municipal compliance officers focused on education and enforcement, when necessary, of town by-laws and Provincial and Criminal statutes.

Over the course of the summer, 53 officers and seven municipal compliance officers contributed close to 450 patrol hours in parks, schools and trail systems. We thank the community for working with us to keep Halton a wonderful place to work, live and play.

Partner Agencies



937 By-law Warnings

83 By-law Tickets Issued

34 Provincial Offence Warnings

2 Criminal Code Arrests

450 Patrol Hours in Public Spaces

53 Provincial Offence Notices Issued

4 Criminal Code Charges Laid

1 Pellet Gun Seized





Youth Arrested for Swatting Incidents

An Oakville youth is charged with Public Mischief and Criminal Harassment under the *Criminal Code of Canada* after false 9-1-1 calls.

On the afternoon of January 25, 2020, a complainant called police stating that they had been contacted by an unknown female using the online chat platform Omegle. Through Omegle, a female said that she and her son were under immediate threat from someone in their house with a gun. She gave an address and begged for the complainant to immediately call police. Based on this information, Halton Regional Police Service uniform patrol officers, our Tactical Rescue Unit, and our Canine Unit swiftly responded to the location of the reported incident only to discover that no such incident had taken place.

A few days later, police received another call, again reporting second-hand information that had been conveyed on Omegle indicating that a male with a gun was inside a residence, and that a female had barricaded herself in a room believing that her safety was in jeopardy. Upon arrival, the occupants of the residence advised that no one had called 911.

“Swatting” is the criminal act of deliberately creating a hoax 911 call, typically involving

some form of imminent danger (weapons, hostages, gunfire), with the express purpose of diverting emergency public safety resources to an unsuspecting person’s residence. False, malicious reports like these can have potentially dangerous consequences and put innocent people at risk.

As a result of an extensive investigation into these two swatting incidents, including several judicial authorizations, the suspect was identified as an Oakville youth. He was arrested and a search warrant was conducted at his residence, at which time several electronic devices were seized and analyzed for further evidence. He was later charged with two counts of Public Mischief and two counts of Criminal Harassment under the *Criminal Code of Canada*.



Swatting ties up valuable resources and creates unnecessary fear and risk, not just for the intended victim, but for everyone else at the location of the incident. Our investigators will exhaust all avenues to pursue those responsible for these reckless acts.

Deputy Chief Roger Wilkie





Project Noisemaker: Enforcement of illegal vehicle modifications

Driven by feedback from our residents, this innovative campaign has since been replicated by police services across the province.

Residents of Halton choose to live here for the high quality of life. So when complaints about loud noise emanating from modified motor vehicles began to skyrocket, the Halton Regional Police Service set out to restore peace and quiet through education and enforcement.

Proactive traffic enforcement has confirmed that unnecessarily excessive noise produced by motor vehicles which have been modified by removing the mufflers, or modifying the exhaust system, were often found to be accompanied by other illegal vehicle modifications (illegal window tinting, obstructed windshields, improper lighting, modified seatbelts, etc.), unsafe vehicle conditions (improper tires, tires in contact with body panels, no horn, general poor condition of vehicles, etc.) and/or aggressive driving behaviours (such as speeding and stunt driving).

In an effort to mitigate the potential impacts of unsafe and unfit vehicles on community safety and well-being, Project #Noisemaker was born.

Over the course of four months, Project #Noisemaker addressed residents' complaints through educational awareness and zero tolerance enforcement of *Highway Traffic Act* charges for no/improper muffler, unnecessary noise, and noise by-laws. The results speak for themselves.

The success of Project Noisemaker has since served as a model for a number of other police services across the province and nationwide, including the Ontario Provincial Police, Peel Regional Police, the Waterloo Regional Police Service, Niagara Regional Police Service, Ottawa Police Service, St. Thomas Police Service, Vancouver Police Department, Barrie Police, and the Brantford Police Service.



Our residents should be capable of having a quiet dinner in their backyard without the intrusive sound of unreasonably loud cars.

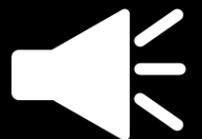
Constable Marc Taraso



1,420 Charges (PONs and Part 3 Summons)



574 Charges for No / Improper Muffler



396 Charges for Unnecessary Noise



12 Racing / Stunt Driving Charges



40 Vehicles Taken off the Road



The Face of Road Safety Education

With a 64 per cent inspection failure rate for commercial motor vehicles, the value of a dedicated Commercial Motor Vehicle Unit is clear.

The core duty of the Halton Regional Police Service's Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) Unit is enforcement of the *Highway Traffic Act*, the *Dangerous Goods Legislation* and the *Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act*. Each year, our CMV Unit conducts hundreds of inspections of commercial motor vehicles, hosts inspections blitzes, partners with neighbouring police services to contribute to provincial public safety initiatives, and conducts public outreach and road safety education.

Inspections assess a variety of vehicle safety criteria, including but not limited to load security, vehicle maintenance, weight restrictions/allowances, and documentation.

The CMV Unit is comprised of one part-time and two full-time police constables who serve as Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance Certified Inspectors. This certification is obtained through five weeks of in-class training, months of supervised commercial vehicle inspections, and a final assessment.

For the last three years, an Inspector with our CMV Unit has achieved the highest number of Commercial Vehicle Inspections of all officers in the province.

In addition to enforcement, the CMV Unit assists the HRPS Collision Reconstruction Unit in all major collisions involving a commercial motor vehicle.

Thank you to the CMV Unit for helping keep the 6,500+ kilometres of roadways in Halton safe for all.



Top Four Defects/Deficiencies

222	153
Weight and Dimensional Non-Compliance defects	Pre-trip Documentation Deficiencies
139	133
Wheels / Tire Defects	Load Safety Deficiencies

2020 Inspection Outcomes

1,052	565
Provincial Offence Notices (Tickets) Issued	Inspections
362	64
Vehicles taken out of service	Per Cent Failure Rate
42	35
Mandatory Alcohol Screening Tests	Drivers out of Service



Project Luthor: For Car Thieves, No Fob, No Problem

The days of hotwiring cars are long gone, but even with cutting-edge technology at their disposal, four crews of thieves in Oakville were arrested by police.

The incidence of auto thefts that leverage technology has risen significantly in recent years.

In 'relay thefts,' thieves use a high-tech relay box to tap into the signal of an owner's fob key inside their home to dupe the car's system into thinking the car has been opened by the fob. The thief is then able to get in the vehicle and drive away. In a 'reprogramming theft,' a thief breaks into a vehicle to access its Onboard Diagnostic Connector data port to reprogram a blank key fob to facilitate the theft of the car.

It is frighteningly easy, and often shocks owners who discover their vehicle missing, in spite of having both fobs in their house.

In an effort to clamp down on these incidents, Halton Regional Police Service investigators launched a multi-pronged initiative dubbed *Project Luthor*.

As part of Project Luthor, enhanced proactive patrols were strategically deployed throughout Oakville during peak hours in neighbourhoods that had experienced an increase in these types of thefts.

The 2 District Criminal Investigations Bureau also launched a targeted awareness campaign that included media interviews, media releases, and social media messaging. Additionally, working with members of the HRPS Auxiliary Unit, investigators hand-delivered 'alert letters' to registered owners of 2016 – 2020 Lexus RX350 vehicles in specific areas of concern in the Town of Oakville. These letters highlighted trends in keyless vehicle thefts and provided vehicle owners with tips to protect against being victimized in this way.

Project Luthor successfully resolved nearly half of the incidents of keyless vehicle thefts in Oakville.

Park your vehicle within a locked/secure garage. If a garage is not accessible, park another vehicle behind the vehicle in the driveway to act as a physical barrier to its removal.

Lock the data port using a simple device that can be purchased online and blocks access to the computer port where thieves gain access to reprogram the vehicle's keys.

Invest in an aftermarket global positioning system tracker or have one installed by the dealer, as it may assist in recovery of the vehicle if it is stolen.

Ensure your unattended vehicle(s) are locked and secure. Use other devices to deter thefts (e.g. steering wheel locking device) and alarms.

When not in use, place vehicle keys inside a radio frequency shielding bag/pouch to block cell signals. Never leave spare keys in your vehicle or out outside of your residence.

Consider purchasing a quality video surveillance system and ensure your cameras are properly placed and functioning for 24-hour use.



Project Panther: Arrests made after rash of high-end vehicle thefts

Seamless inter-agency collaboration brings test drive thefts to a grinding halt.

A few months after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, police services across the GTA identified a surge in test drive thefts from local car dealerships.

In a typical test drive theft, suspects would use fraudulent identification, take advantage of COVID-19 precautions to secure an unescorted test drive of a luxury vehicle, and drive off the lot with no intention of returning the vehicle. In some cases, when the test drive was escorted by a sales representative, a staged collision was orchestrated in order to complete the theft using another stolen vehicle.

Recognizing that these thefts were being perpetrated in Halton, Hamilton, Peel, York, Waterloo, Guelph, Toronto and South Simcoe, Halton Regional Police Service investigators hosted an information-sharing meeting with their counterparts in other impacted jurisdictions. This meeting served as the jumping-off point for what would be dubbed *Project Panther*, supported by

the Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council and the Insurance Bureau of Canada.

Through a coordinated response, investigators identified the persons responsible for the thefts and for altering the unique Vehicle Identification Number of the stolen vehicles.

As a result, 32 charges were laid against three males in relation to the theft of 13 high-end vehicles with an approximate value of \$650,000. Additionally, 0.5 kg of fentanyl, 45 g of crack cocaine, and 300 Xanax pills were seized. Of equal importance, the project served as the platform on which crime prevention strategies were shared with dealerships across the Greater Toronto Area.

Partner Agencies



32

Charges Laid



\$10,000

Canadian Currency Seized



4

Vehicles Seized



9

Production Orders



12

Warrants



Leveraging Technology to Enforce Distracted Driving

New technology deployed in police cruisers mitigates the threat of distracted driving in the region.

With our increased reliance on mobile technology, distracted driving is an increasingly significant threat to public safety. In fact, according to the Insurance Bureau of Canada, nearly three out of four Canadian drivers admit to driving distracted.

In an effort to mitigate this pervasive road safety threat, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) has introduced new technology mounted on our fleet of cruisers, specifically designed to address this vexing issue – *side-camera technology*.

Listening to the concerns of the community and witnessing the frustrations of frontline officers who were being challenged in court over distracted driving evidence were the driving forces behind the implementation of the side-camera technology.

A significant challenge with distracted driving enforcement is providing proof beyond a reasonable doubt for conviction. Side-camera technology modernizes evidence collection practices by effectively

capturing distracted and careless driving infractions and strengthening cases involving distracted driving. As a result, the strength of evidence has increased the number of matters successfully resolved before trial.

Balancing the public's right to privacy with public safety has been woven into the project from its inception. The side-camera equipment was purchased without any additional enhancements, capturing only what the officer would already see, and only videos required for court or that offer evidentiary value are retained.

The innovative side-camera technology will be deployed to all districts by the end of 2021.

The HRPS in-car camera system project won the [2020 OACP Traffic Safety Initiative of the Year Award](#).



Distracted Driving in Halton in 2020:

834 Distracted Driving Charges Laid Under Section 78.1 of the *Highway Traffic Act*

200 Distracted Driving Warnings Issued



Gone in 60 Seconds: Catalytic Converter Theft Ring Thwarted by Police

Investigation nets four suspects after spike in catalytic converter thefts leaves drivers out of pocket.

In late 2019 and early 2020, Halton Regional Police Service investigators noted an increase in the number of catalytic converter thefts from motor vehicles across the City of Burlington. Unsuspecting owners would leave their vehicle parked overnight in a car lot and return after a long days' work only to see a "check engine" alert on the dashboard and hear an unmistakable roar from their vehicle upon start up.

A catalytic converter contains valuable precious metals and is part of a vehicle's exhaust system, which thieves often sell to scrap yards for cash. The end cost to the victim to replace a catalytic converter can run up to \$2,000 for parts and labour.

Detectives with the 3 District Criminal Investigations Bureau undertook a detailed analysis, which included the days, times, type of vehicles, and geographical areas in which the thefts occurred. This analysis was paired with outreach to surrounding GTA police services and various scrap metal businesses. Subsequently, a number of investigative techniques were deployed at target locations to close in on the suspects.

As a result of this investigation, a vehicle of interest was identified, which was later connected to a suspect, however, shortly after, Detectives learned the vehicle itself was sent to the wreckers. A second vehicle of interest was identified, and mobile surveillance was conducted. Surveillance on this second vehicle led investigators to a Burlington car lot. As the suspects searched for a donor vehicle, investigators strategically positioned themselves within the lot. Within minutes, investigators could heard a loud audible noise as the suspects cut off a catalytic converter. Officers quickly moved in and arrested four suspects. A freshly cut catalytic converter, cutting tools, drug paraphernalia, and two BB guns were seized from the suspect vehicle.

Charges laid included Theft Under \$5,000, Failure to Comply with Recognizance, and Possession of a Controlled Substance (Fentanyl).

In total, this theft ring was responsible for 52 catalytic converter thefts.



4 Suspects Arrested



10 Charges Laid



2 BB Guns Seized



52 Catalytic Converters Stolen



There is no place in any community for hate. Perpetrators of crimes in Halton region that target others because of their skin colour, race, religion, ethnic origin or any other factor will be rigorously pursued and brought to justice.

Chief Stephen Tanner



Our Commitment to you: Safety, Security, and Inclusivity

Residents are encouraged to report any and all incidents that are motivated by hate or bias.

The number of hate-motivated incidents reported to the Halton Regional Police Service rose by a staggering 160 per cent in 2020 when compared to the previous year.

A total of 66 incidents were reported last year, including 18 that met the definition of a hate-motivated crime and 15 more that were categorized as suspected hate-motivated crimes. These figures are significantly higher than the 25 hate-related incidents reported in 2019, which including 10 hate-motivated crimes and four suspected hate-motivated crimes.

Our Service rigorously and thoroughly investigates any allegations or reports that a person has been targeted based on their race, national or ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other similar factor.

Most people are surprised to learn that there is no such thing as a Hate Crime in the [Criminal Code of Canada](#). Four offences in the Code specifically pertain to hate in the Hate-Propaganda section, including [Advocating Genocide](#), [Public Incitement of Hatred](#), [Wilful Promotion of Hatred](#), and [Mischief Relating to Religious Property](#). As a result, many of these offences are instead called Hate-Motivated or Bias-Motivated crimes by police.

Investigations involving these crimes are complex and sometimes confusing for members of the general public to understand. In order for police to lay a

Hate-Motivated or Bias-Motivated criminal charge, there are two things that must first occur:

- A criminal offence must have occurred (e.g. an assault, damage to property, uttering threats etc.).
- Hate or Bias toward a victim must have motivated the criminal offence (e.g. because of the victim's race, nationality, ethnic origin, language, colour, religion, sex, age, mental or physical disability, sexual orientation etc.).

Hate related occurrences are a priority to the HRPS and are monitored by a Region-wide coordinator who works in our Intelligence Bureau. This coordinator is a member of the Hate Crime Extremism Investigative Team (HCEIT) which is comprised of 15 police services across the province. Additional support is also provided by the District Criminal Investigations Bureau and the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Office who provides follow up and support to victimized individuals and groups. We have also partnered with several community agencies to assist us in the enhancement of our current policies and procedures but also act as an additional resource when supporting victims.

The Halton Regional Police Service condemns any/all such incidents that impact or erode the community's sense of safety and well-being. We remain committed to ousting hate from the Halton community.



/// times.thrive.deliberating



Lost ... and Found

In 2020, the Halton Regional Police Service struck a new partnership with what3words, becoming one of the first police services in the country to adopt this potentially lifesaving technology and is confident that this new program will help reduce response times.

The what3words app provides an easy way to determine an exact location. what3words has divided the entire world into 3 metre squares and has assigned each square a unique combination of three words. As an example, the what3words address of the HRPS headquarters front entrance is ///erupt.venomous.linear.

Using the what3words app, a caller can communicate their precise location to 9-1-1 operators at the HRPS. If they do not have the app installed, the HRPS call taker can send a caller a text message that will identify their location and unique what3word address. HRPS communicators can then direct officers to the exact location of the caller.

This program is far more precise than a traditional cell phone 'ping' often used by emergency services, making it an invaluable tool in situations where people have become lost hiking, have driven off the road and are trapped in a vehicle, or are in immediate danger and do not know where they are.

In early December 2020, the what3words app played a critical role rescuing a victim of human trafficking. The victim was being held against their will and was unsure of their

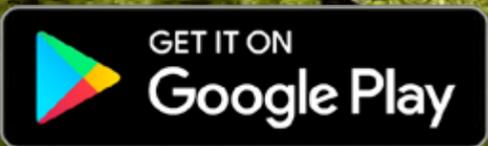
location. When cell phone ping results returned an 850 metre radius in a densely populated area, locating the victim would have been like locating a needle in a haystack.

Our Communications Bureau walked the victim through determining their what3words address, which narrowed the search to a single multi-unit building. Dispatchers relayed this information and suspect descriptions to officers who were able to locate the victim and two suspects. The victim was immediately taken to a place of safety and the two suspects were arrested and charged with a number of human trafficking offences.

A number of first responder agencies across Ontario and Canada are now using and accepting what3words addresses.

A what3words address gives callers a simple way to describe precisely where help is needed and allows the HRPS to dispatch critical resources quickly, when every second counts.

The what3words app is free to download.



Partner Agency  what3words



Bolstering Community Safety through Crisis Intervention Training

Mental illness affects about one out of every five Canadians at some point in their lifetime. At the Halton Regional Police Service, supporting the mental health of those in our community is one of our top priorities.

In 2020, our community faced unparalleled challenges that impacted our collective mental health. Throughout the year, our members responded to nearly 4,000 mental health related calls, including mental health crises, suicides, and attempted suicides.

Now, more than ever before, mental health training and support are critical. To further expand our ability to support the mental health of our community, the Halton Regional Police Service became the first police service in the province to commit to having all of its members, both sworn and civilian, receive Crisis Intervention Training.

The implementation of this training is a joint initiative spearheaded by our Training Bureau and our Regional Community Mobilization Bureau (RCMB). The 40-hr curriculum, which includes dynamic and fluid scenarios with simulated persons in crisis, is lead by a subject matter expert from St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton and an specialized panel from across our Local Health Integration Network.

Although COVID-19 resulted in an adjustment to our anticipated timelines, all 1,043 HRPS members will receive this training. The Training Bureau and RCMB look forward to continuing this training in 2021.

We are confident that our commitment to providing additional training for all members of the service will positively impact our members, as well as the community we serve.

To learn more about our commitment to mental health and about the array of supports available in Halton, please visit: <https://www.haltonpolice.ca/mentalhealthsupport/>

The scope of training includes:

- Ontario Mental Health Act
- Mood disorders
- Personality disorders
- Psychosis and schizophrenia
- Anxiety disorders, PTSD, and trauma-based care
- Substance use disorders
- Mental health in child and youth populations

Partner Agencies





New Opportunity for Youth to Effect Change in the Community

A Youth Advisory Council was created to promote a partnership between youth in our community and the Halton Regional Police Service.

Recognizing that youth want to expand their leadership roles within the community and in particular when engaging with police, a Youth Advisory Council was developed. The Youth Advisory Council is designed to allow those aged 14-18 years to work with our police service to guide us in the development of new programs and initiatives designed to better meet the needs of the diverse community we serve.

"This Youth Advisory Council is an amazing opportunity for us to learn from the diverse perspectives and lived experiences of youth living in Halton, says Sgt. Ryan Smith of the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Unit. This knowledge will help guide our future work and allow us to better meet the needs of our community."

The Youth Advisory Council is representative of the community we serve. Council members:

- Are 14-18 years of age
- Reside in Halton region
- Attend monthly meetings for a period of one year

Our goals with the Youth Advisory Council are to:

- Advise our Police Service on how our policies, programs, and outreach initiatives are impacting youth living in Halton region.
- Understand how changes to our current programs and services can better serve youth in our community.

Composition of the Youth Advisory Council:

- 16 youth members
- 2 youth leaders
- 1 youth Social Worker
- 3 Halton Regional Police Service Members

Learn more here: www.haltonpolice.ca/YAC/

Why we created a Youth Advisory Council



Be a source of positive change through inclusion and collaboration with local youth and the Service.



Highlight our Police Service's commitment to youth development and leadership.



Ensure we have a point of reference within the community to guide us in future services aimed at youth.



Help address obstacles in Police and youth engagement.



Promote volunteering within the community and Service.



Create youth leaders who can promote the work we are doing within the community.



Assist our Police Service in the development of other Equity, Diversity and Inclusion programs.



A life without Violence is the Only Life to Live

In November 2020, the Halton Regional Police Service, the Halton Police Board, Halton Region, and Halton Women's Place held a virtual unveiling of a new Intimate Partner Violence Memorial at Halton Police Headquarters.

The new Intimate Partner Violence Memorial recognizes all those who have suffered at the hands of intimate partner violence, honours all victims who have been killed in acts of intimate partner violence, and aims to increase awareness of the impacts of intimate partner violence in our community.

In 2020, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) responded, on average, to more than ten intimate partner violence incidents a day in the community. And the true incidence of intimate partner violence may never be known, as we recognize that much of it goes unreported to police.

To break the cycle of violence, we must break the cycle of silence. This memorial serves as a pledge to victims that our community will not be silent about intimate partner violence.

The HRPS and its community partners, urge everyone to look out for their relatives, friends, neighbours and co-workers, who

they suspect may not be safe at home. Check in on them regularly, establish a 'signal' word and call for help if you believe someone is in danger.

Victims or friends/family of victims are encouraged to contact the Halton Regional Police Service, Halton Women's Place or other community resources if intimate partner violence is happening.

Help is available.

In 2020:

- 3,521 intimate partner violence incidents were investigated by HRPS officers
- 868 intimate partner violence incident arrests were made by HRPS officers
- 1,995 incident charges were laid by HRPS officers in 2020

Partner Agencies



New HaltonPolice.ca Website

Our new website provides greater accessibility and improved navigation.

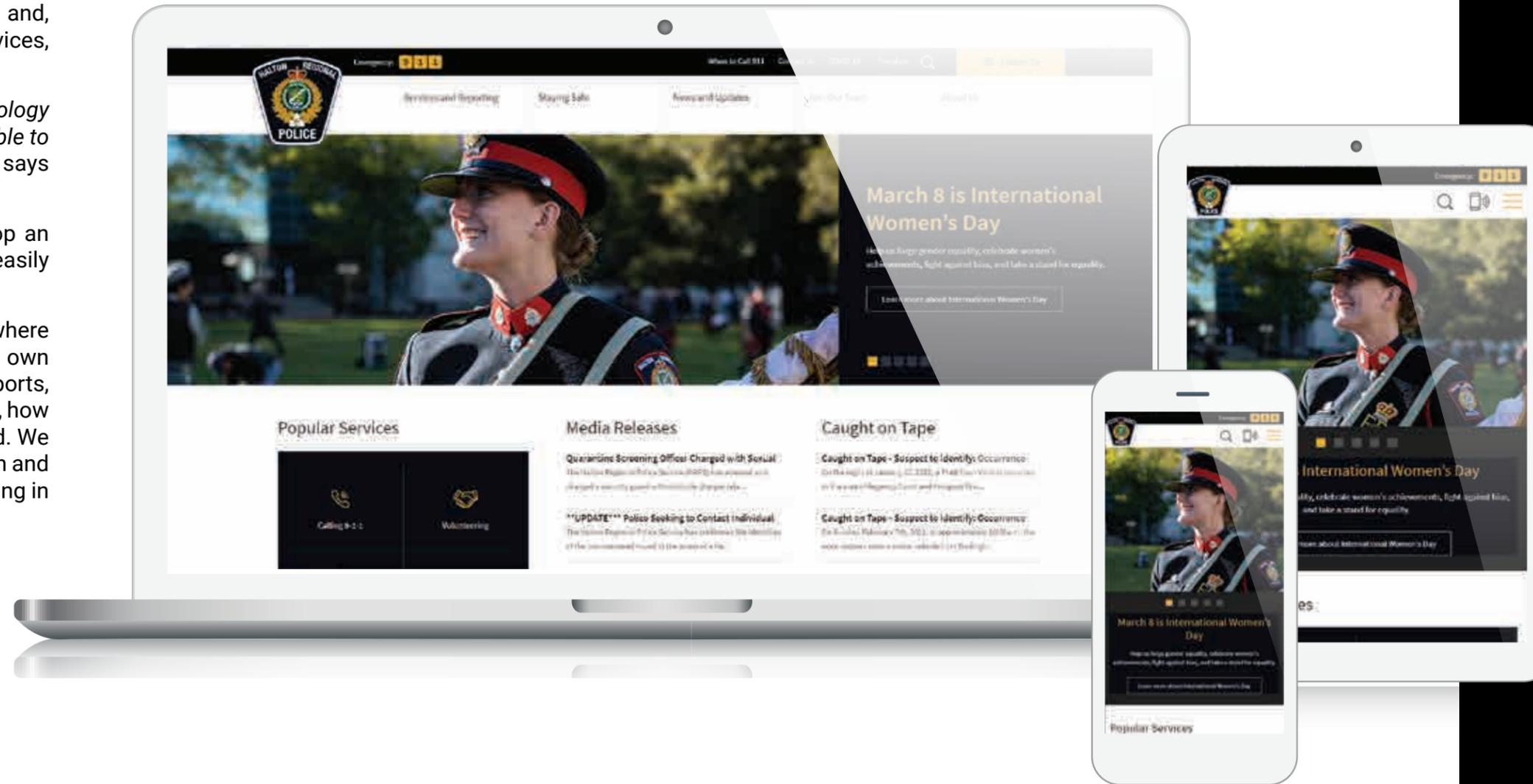
In December 2020, the Halton Regional Police Service (HRPS) proudly unveiled a new and improved website. The website has a new look and, more importantly, greater accessibility to help visitors explore the services, programs and crime prevention resources provided by the HRPS.

"This new website reflects our commitment to embrace evolving technology and best practices to ensure that every member of our community is able to stay up to date with what's happening in and outside of our Service," says Chief Stephen Tanner.

Through the launch of our new website, we have worked to develop an online presence that both reflects our values and ensures you can easily find what you're looking for.

We are especially pleased to bring to you our 'Staying Safe' section, where the community will find information and resources to ensure their own safety and the safety of others. From how to access mental health supports, to how to protect your home and property, to overdose prevention tips, how to report an impaired driver, our Staying Safe section has you covered. We also encourage the community to visit our 'News and Updates' section and subscribe to our news feed to stay up to date with everything happening in your community.

The new website received an Honourable Mention Award through the AVA Digital Media Awards. The AVA Digital Awards is an international competition that recognizes excellence by creative professionals responsible for the planning, concept, direction, design, and production of digital communication.



Simple, more user-friendly language



Improved navigation and greater accessibility for people with disabilities



Enhanced design for mobile, tablet, and desktop computers



More photos and videos showcasing our people



Better connectivity with social media platforms

New Strategic Plan: Our Way Forward

Striving to maintain our ranking as one of Canada's most effective police services and Canada's safest place to live, work, raise a family, and retire.

As required by Ontario Regulation 3/99, s. 30 (1) "[Adequacy and Effectiveness of Police Services](#)", every police service board must prepare a business plan for its police service.

To that end, the Halton Police Board (the Board), in concert with the Halton Regional Police Service, embarked on a process to develop a new Strategic Plan covering the four year period of 2020 - 2023. The Strategic Plan was developed through a consultative process with those we serve.

This process culminated in January 2020 in the Board's approval of the Plan which sets out the strategic direction of the Service until 2023. The Plan ensures that as an organization, we identify every opportunity to bolster the safety and well-being of each resident in our region.



External consultation:

- 2,536 randomly selected households in the region of Halton were surveyed for their opinions about policing in Halton and the issues faced by the community. A 22 per cent response rate was achieved (550 respondents).
- The Halton Regional Police Service hosted and facilitated focus group meetings with members of the public and local political representatives in each of the four local municipalities. (60 attendees).
- The Halton Regional Police Service hosted focus group meetings with representatives from Citizens Police Academy participants (12), PEACE/YIPI attendees (8), school boards and private school representatives (10), students from high schools from across the Region (8), representatives of our Community Safety and Well-Being partnerships (15), and members of the Chief's Diversity Engagement Forum (15).

Internal consultation:

- The Halton Regional Police Service hosted closed focus groups comprised of invited participants. (30 attendees)
- The Halton Regional Police Service hosted open invitation focus groups comprised of staff. (20 attendees)
- The Halton Regional Police Service solicited staff member's feedback via an online survey. (279 participants)
- The Halton Regional Police Service hosted focus group meetings with HRPS senior management and the Police Services Board. (24 attendees)



“

This Strategic Plan commits the Halton Regional Police Service to remain at the forefront of community policing by championing relationships with our diverse communities and cultivating opportunities for innovation to ensure every resident of Halton is safer tomorrow than they are today.

Chief Stephen Tanner

”

Regional Statistics

Annual Totals

Category	Annual Totals				Annual Rates* (Per 100,000 population)		
	2019	2020	2019-2020 Change	2019-2020 % Change	2019	2020	2019-2020 % Change**
Violent Crime							
Homicide	5	4	-1	-20.0%	0.8	0.7	-21.8%
Attempted Murder	4	8	4	100%	0.7	1.3	95.6%
Sexual Assault	209	166	-43	-20.6%	35	27	-22.3%
Assault	1,288	1,225	-63	-4.9%	216	201	-7.0%
Other Sexual Offences	47	57	10	21.3%	8	9	18.6%
Abduction/Forcible Confinement	21	36	15	71.4%	4	6	67.6%
Robbery	115	85	-30	-26.1%	19	14	-27.7%
Other Violent Crime	461	579	118	25.6%	77	95	22.8%
Violent Crime Total	2,150	2,160	10	0.5%	360	354	-1.8%
Property Crime							
Break & Enter	1,012	655	-357	-35.3%	170	107	-36.7%
Auto Theft	566	547	-19	-3.4%	95	90	-5.5%
Theft Over \$5,000	120	88	-32	-26.7%	20	14	-28.3%
Theft Under \$5,000	4,100	3,272	-828	-20.2%	687	536	-22.0%
Arson	18	17	-1	-5.6%	3	3	-7.7%
Fraud	1,204	830	-374	-31.1%	202	136	-32.6%
Mischief	980	946	-34	-3.5%	164	155	-5.6%
Other Property Crime	150	135	-15	-10.0%	25	22	-12.0%
Property Crime Totals	8,150	6,490	-1,660	-20.4%	1,365	1,063	-22.1%

Notes: * Totals and percentages may not always add up due to rounding. ** Per cent change based on unrounded rates

Regional Statistics

Annual Totals

Category	Annual Totals				Annual Rates* (Per 100,000 population)		
	2019	2020	2019-2020 Change	2019-2020 % Change	2019	2020	2019-2020 % Change**
Other Crime							
Counterfeiting	101	49	-52	-51.5%	17	8	-52.6%
Weapons Offences	107	74	-33	-30.8%	18	12	-32.4%
Administration of Justice Violations	1,522	911	-611	-40.1%	255	149	-41.5%
Other Criminal Code Offences	144	169	25	17.4%	24	28	14.8%
Other Crime Total	1,874	1,203	-671	-35.8%	314	197	-37.2%
Total Crime	12,174	9,853	-2,321	-19.1%	2,039	1,614	-20.9%
Road Safety							
Impaired	448	437	-11	-2.5%	75	72	-4.6%
Property Damage Collisions	9,098	5,498	-3,600	-39.6%	1,524	901	-40.9%
Injury Collisions	1,021	664	-357	-35.0%	171	109	-36.4%
Fatal Collisions	10	8	-2	-20.0%	2	1	-21.8%
Other Performance Indicators							
Requests For Service	157,625	145,927	-11,698	-7.4%	26,406	23,902	-9.5%
Crime Clearance Rate	51.0%	52.1%	1.1%				
Professional Standards							
2019					75		5
2020					100		8

Notes: * Totals and percentages may not always add up due to rounding. ** Per cent change based on unrounded rates

District Statistics

Annual Totals

Category	2019	2020	2019-2020 Change	2019-2020 % Change
One District (Milton and Halton Hills)				
Violent Crime	722	667	-55	-7.6%
Property Crime	2,421	1,902	-519	-21.4%
Other Crime	1,013	554	-459	-45.3%
Total Crime	4,156	3,123	-1,033	-24.9%
Reportable Motor Vehicle Collisions	3,224	2,023	-1,201	-37.3%

Two District (Oakville)

Violent Crime	790	796	6	0.8%
Property Crime	2,885	2,299	-586	-20.3%
Other Crime	500	364	-136	-27.2%
Total Crime	4,175	3,459	-716	-17.1%
Reportable Motor Vehicle Collisions	3,380	2,057	-1,323	-39.1%

Three District (Burlington)

Violent Crime	637	697	60	9.4%
Property Crime	2,832	2,258	-574	-20.3%
Other Crime	359	284	-75	-20.9%
Total Crime	3,828	3,239	-589	-15.4%
Reportable Motor Vehicle Collisions	3,524	2,089	-1,435	-40.7%

Annual Rates*

(Per 100,000 population)

Category	2019	2020	2019-2020 % Change**
One District (Milton and Halton Hills)			
Violent Crime	349	310	-11.1%
Property Crime	1,169	884	-24.4%
Other Crime	489	257	-47.4%
Total Crime	2,007	1,451	-27.7%
Reportable Motor Vehicle Collisions	1,557	940	-39.6%

Violent Crime	372	367	-1.4%
Property Crime	1,358	1,059	-22.0%
Other Crime	235	168	-28.8%
Total Crime	1,966	1,593	-19.0%
Reportable Motor Vehicle Collisions	1,592	947	-40.5%

Violent Crime	359	391	9.0%
Property Crime	1,596	1,267	-20.6%
Other Crime	202	159	-21.2%
Total Crime	2,157	1,818	-15.7%
Reportable Motor Vehicle Collisions	1,986	1,173	-40.9%

Notes: * Totals and percentages may not always add up due to rounding. ** Per cent change based on unrounded rates

Crime Stoppers

In its 32nd year, Crime Stoppers of Halton is an independent, non-profit registered charity that helps solve crimes to keep our region safe by taking tips from anonymous sources. A tip is any information that you are aware of that might help law enforcement to either prevent or solve a crime. Countless criminals are brought to justice every year as a direct result of an anonymous tip from someone just like you. A tip can be about anything; drugs, theft, child abuse, human trafficking, terrorism, escaped criminals, and more. As a resident of Halton you are encouraged to keep a watchful eye on your community and report suspicious activity. Your call is anonymous and the appropriate officials will investigate all tips. The information you provide may help save lives.

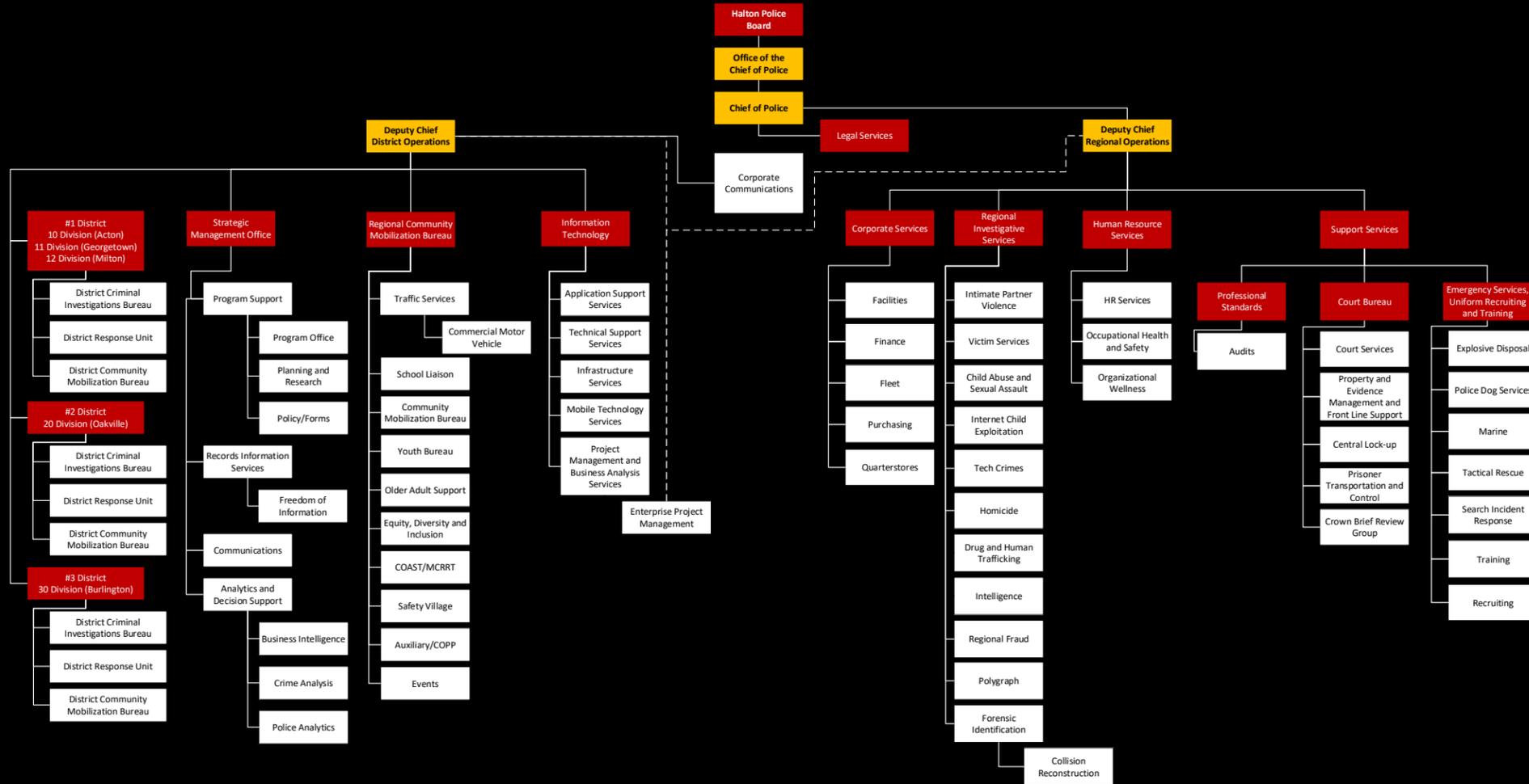


Category	2019	2020	Since 1988
Tips	1,246	1,193	22,316
Arrests	39	43	1,293
Cases Cleared due to Tips	61	35	2,296
Weapons Recovered	3	7	107
Rewards Approved	34	19	1,311
Reward Dollars Approved*	\$9,800	\$5,400	\$194,146
Narcotics Seized	\$26,920	\$89,765	\$18,258,768
Property Recovered	\$1,625	\$10,450	\$2,749,872
Total Value (seized + recovered)	\$28,454	\$119,700	\$21,087,145

* Reward money is raised through fundraising events, individual donors and corporate partners.

**“See Something? Hear Something? Know Something? Contact Crime Stoppers”
at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or through the web at www.haltoncrimestoppers.ca.**

Organizational Chart



Locations

1 District Georgetown (11 Division)
 217 Guelph Street
 Georgetown, ON, L7G 4A8
 905-825-4777 or 905-878-5511

3 District Burlington (30 Division)
 3800 Constable Henshaw Blvd.
 Burlington, ON, L7M 3Y2
 905-825-4777

Regional Headquarters
 2485 North Service Road West
 Oakville, ON, L6M 3H8
 905-825-4777

1 District Milton (12 Division)
 490 Childs Drive
 Milton, ON, L9T 5G2
 905-825-4777 or 905-878-5511

2 District Oakville (20 Division)
 95 Oak Walk Drive
 Oakville, ON, L6H 0G6
 905-825-4777

Contact Us

IN AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

Non-Emergency Requests

Main non-emergency line	905-825-4777
Acton non-emergency line	519-853-2111
Georgetown non-emergency line	905-873-0377
Milton non-emergency line	905-878-5511
Burlington non-emergency line	905-634-1831
TDD	1-800-990-8199

Information Requests

Freedom of Information	905-825-4747 ext. 5192
Fingerprint Appointments (Police Record Check, Vulnerable Sector Screening or Volunteer Position)	905-825-4747 ext. 4731
Police Records Checks	905-825-4777 ext. 4712 recordchecks@haltonpolice.ca

Trust and Respect
Integrity
Accountability
Excellence
Teamwork and Justice



haltonpolice.ca



Cover photo by Cst. Duncan Lyn