

Lanark OPP/ Lake Associations Spring Meeting
Wed. Mar. 21, 2012 – 9 a.m.
TVT Council Chambers, 217 Harper Road

Attending:

OPP Inspector Gerry Salisbury, Act. Sgt. Kerry Bowes (Marine and Traffic Program), Constable Sean Trahan (Carleton Place CSO), Constable Dave Blair (Lanark CSO), Sgt. Steve Guiho (Auxilliary Coordinator for the Safe Guard Ontario Program).

Lake Associations -Eileen and Ed Barbeau (Little Silver and Rainbow Lakes), Gordon Hill (Christie Lake), Penny and Danny Nault (Christie Lake), Brooke Briggs (Christie Lake), Audrey Cook (Pike Lake), Craig Gillieson (Long Lake), Eugenia Flett (Farren Lake), Terry and Judy Kennedy (Kennebec Lake), John DuChene (Kennebec Lake), Shari Beattie (Otty Lake), Murray and Karen Hunt (Otty Lake), Rebecca Wissler (North Shore, Big Rideau), Taro Alps (Greater Bobs and Crow Lake), Larry Arpaia (Greater Bobs and Crow Lakes), Bruce Barton (Bennett and Fagan Lakes)

Regrets: Gord Rodgers (14 Island Mink Lake), Robert Cosh (Otty Lake)

It was agreed that the meeting would use the following format

- Presentation on the Safe Guard Ontario Program
- Presentation on the Neighbourhood Watch Program
- Time for Questions and Answers

Safe Guard Ontario Program – Sgt. Steve Guiho (Auxilliary Coordinator for local Safe Guard Ontario Program)

Safe Guard Ontario is a new local program under the CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)

- Safeguard audits post break-ins to assist property owners in improving the environment around their home or cottage for future protection
- Trained OPP Auxilliary Volunteers attend based on a request for a security review i.e.. May include looking at landscaping, lighting etc to see how these could be improved
- Audits take 1-3 hours depending on size of property
- Emphasis on the importance of neighbours looking after neighbours
- Lanark County OPP wants to see this as a proactive not just reactive program
- Have displays they could bring to a lake association meeting or event (PLEASE CONTACT CONSTABLE DAVE BLAIR (david.blair@ontario.ca) WITH THE DATE OF YOUR LAKE ASSOCIATION AGM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE TO HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE SAFEGUARD ONTARIO PROGRAM ATTEND TO TELL MEMBERS OF YOUR LAKE COMMUNITY ABOUT THIS PROGRAM)

- For further information about protecting your home from break-ins etc go to www.opp.ca and look under Community Issues for Tip Sheets (Lanark OPP will also make a Tip Sheet available to lake associations for newsletters, websites etc.
- Important to have an inventory of what you have in your home including serial numbers to help in identifying stolen property
- Prime months for cottage crime? – reports often peak in the spring when cottage property owners discover that they have been broken into over the winter
- Most common times of the day for break-ins? – afternoons and early evening
- Not all break-ins are reported. **OPP would like to be informed of all break-ins**
- **Members of the community were encouraged to call 1-888-310-1122 to report suspicious vehicles in your area**
- Most lakefront homes and cottagers are on private roads. Neighbours need to keep track of unfamiliar vehicles –get plate #, other details- and report if it seems suspicious
- During winter absences have someone check your property regularly
- Many insurance companies will not insure if your house or cottage is not being checked
- OPP will work on building partnerships with townships, Hydro, Postal Delivery services to help keep an eye on cottage areas
- OPP can do a blitz in an area to remind members of the community to be proactive in protecting their property
- OPP do regularly patrol roads throughout the area. Also have officers trained to patrol by snowmobile, ATV and marine

Neighbourhood Watch – Constable Sean Trahan (Community Services Officer, Carleton Place)

- **Neighbourhood Watch** is a community driven program
- New term being used is **Community Watch**
- It is about members of the community taking an active role and watching out for one another
- Constable Trahan is aiming to resume the monthly Neighbourhood Watch Bulletins. Any lake association rep who is not on the Neighbourhood Watch Bulletin distribution list but would like to be should contact Constable Trahan at Sean.Trahan@ontario.ca
- Meeting participants were reminded of the valuable expression LOCK IT OR LOSE IT – in rural areas you should lock your vehicles!
- Looking for updated Neighbourhood Watch or Community Watch signage? – discuss with municipality
- Only need one interested/committed person in a lake association to get a neighbourhood watch/community watch program started
- **N.B. Neighbourhood Watch/Community Watch is only as strong as the strength of focus in your community**
- Lake associations can play a significant role in promoting Community Watch within their community

- Neighbourhood/Community Watch signage can be a deterrent e.g.Lake Association Supports Community Watch
- OPP have stickers and engravers available
- Constable Blair will provide a quantity of stickers with the OPP logo and contact # (1-888-310-1122) and other safety information to Karen Hunt to take to the next Lake Networking Group meeting on May 10, 2012 to distribute to lake reps

Marine Program for 2012 – Acting Sgt. Kerry Bowes

- schedule has been established for summer 2012 to provide for patrols on all the local lakes
- Marine Officers Byron Newell, Scott McNames + a Marine Student will provide the coverage
- Byron Newell will again do a marine safety program on Lake 88.1 radio this summer
- In an emergency situation other trained officers will assist Constables Newell and McNames
- SAFE Team from Odessa also do patrols on local lakes

Questions from the floor

- If calling in concerns regarding a situation on the water, what info is needed?
 - Try to provide as much info as possible e.g. date, what was observed and a boat registration number if available.
- How much carry through is there from one incident /charge to another i.e. if individual was stopped for speeding etc. on a lake one weekend and this occurred again – would the OPP be aware of the previous incident?
 - Offences are tracked by OPP by municipality not by lake but Marine Officers do recall repeat offenders on specific lakes
- Inspector Salisbury confirmed that marine stats by lake will be available at the Fall OPP/Lake Associations Mtg.

Special Olympics

OPP will host the 2012 Special Olympics in Kingston

Inspector Salisbury has toy OPP Bears and Dogs for sale as a Special Olympics Fundraiser to provide funds to assist the Special Olympians to attend the events

Next OPP/Lake Associations meeting

Wed. Oct. 24, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

- **OPP to host**
- **Location to be confirmed**
- **Regular meeting format**