

2022

Appendix “A” to report #23-067

Crime Prevention,

Volunteer & Auxiliary Branch

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COMMUNITY SAFETY DIVISION

**HAMILTON
POLICE SERVICE**
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Crime Prevention Branch

The Hamilton Police Service (HPS) Crime Prevention Branch is responsible for promoting and implementing community-based Crime Prevention initiatives within our diverse community.

These events allow our Service to interact and build bridges with the community, instruct citizens about the role of police, and raise safety awareness while educating the public. Crime Prevention Officers (CPOs) are the Service's experts on home, business and personal safety. CPO's routinely perform security audits at businesses, residences and places of worship. In addition, they provide presentations on a number of Crime Prevention initiatives to various agencies and community groups upon request. Crime Prevention has also heavily increased its social media presence as a way of connecting to an even bigger audience in our city and beyond.

The staffing complement in the Crime Prevention Branch consists of two Constables, however in 2022, this was reduced to one Constable due to re-deployment to the front line to assist with staffing.

At the end of 2022, two full time Crime Prevention Officers were selected to start their positions in January 2023

Crime Prevention Branch - Community Safety

The Crime Prevention Branch had to adjust due to the COVID-19 restrictions and staffing. As a result many Crime Prevention initiatives were suspended or altered.

- Take your kid to work day
- Police in the Park
- Migrant Workers Day
- McMaster Children's Hospital Walk and Wheel
- Safety Patroller Training

By using social media and traditional media including Cable 14, The Hamilton Spectator, CHCH News and other print media, Crime Prevention was able to engage the community 50 times.

The topics ranged from:

- Fraud
- House security
- Personal safety to University students
- Bicycle safety
- General safety tips to public
- Lock it or Lose it
- Christmas shopping tips
- Halloween safety tips

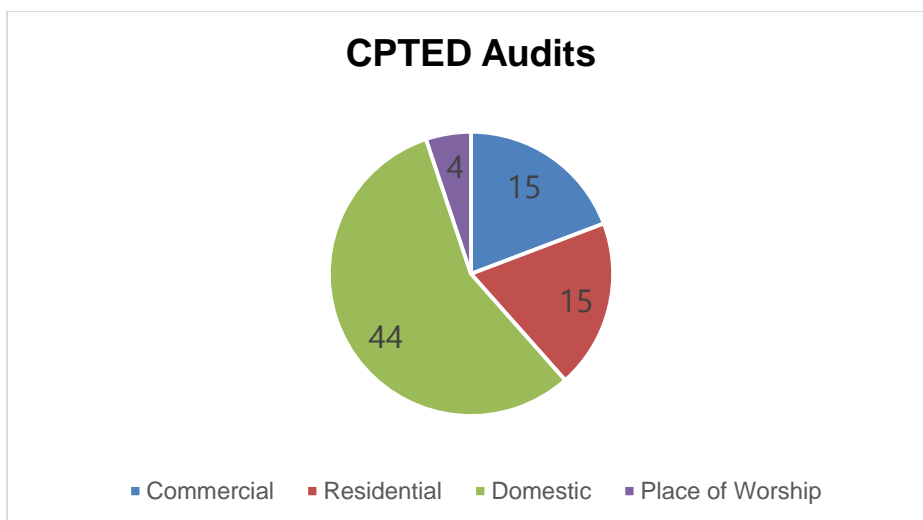


The Crime Prevention Branch was also able to promote community safety by attending in person events such as:

- CPTED audits
- Bullying presentations to students
- Babysitting safety presentations to kids
- Fraud presentations to the public

Crime Prevention through Environmental Design

Audits are a critical component of safety planning for certain members of the community. The Crime Prevention Branch is trained in CPTED principles in order to provide crime reduction and prevention strategies. Crime Prevention conducted **78** audits for businesses, places of worship and residential properties throughout Hamilton.



Crime Prevention Branch - Engagement & Partnerships

Crime Prevention continued to enhance communication with our communities to promote information sharing and mutual respect while engaging in strategic organizational partnerships.

Coffee with a Cop

Coffee with a Cop is an initiative where police officers attend coffee shops and have coffee with the community. These events give the community a chance to have conversations with sworn and civilian members. Each event has a theme based on days or months of significance. For



example a 2S&LGBTQIA Coffee with a Cop was held in the centre court at Limeridge Mall during Pride Month in June where 2S&LGBTQIA members and ally's engaged the community.

In 2022 there were seven Coffee with a Cop events.

Date	Location	Business	Topic
March 15th 2022	100 Wilson Street	HPS ISD Building	Fraud
April 5 th 2022	155 King William Street	HPS Central Station Communications	Communications
May 19th 2022	155 King William Street	HPS Central Station Lobby	Meet & Greet for Police Week
June 4 th 2022	92 Glancaster Road	Liberty 4 Youth	Liberty Justice Event
June 15 th 2022	999 Upper Wentworth Street	Limeridge Mall	2S&LGBTQIA+
August 23 rd 2022	112 King Street East	Starbucks	Meet & Greet
November 8 th 2022	50 Dundurn Street South	McDonalds	Meet & Greet

Citizen's Police College

Starting in 1997, Hamilton Police Service was one of the first police services in Ontario to offer this type of program to its community members. Citizens' Police College was designed for individuals interested in learning more about the various aspects of policing. The Crime Prevention Branch host and facilitate the sessions. They bring in representatives from various units within the HPS to present to the class. This was the first in person session since 2019 due to COVID-19.

In 2022, there were **31** students who participated in six classes once a week for 3 hours. Several subjects were presented including:

- Communications
- Emergency Response Unit
- Mounted Unit
- Victim Services
- Crisis Response
- Traffic and Impaired Driving Unit
- Technological Crime and Cybercrime
- Marine Unit and K-9
- Social Navigation Program
- Homicide Unit
- Forensics



Police week 2022

In 2022, police week ran from May 15th to May 21st. Each year the Ontario Association of Chief's of Police (OACP) puts out a theme for Police Week. Each service in Ontario works within that theme to create events during police week. The theme for 2022 was "Helping Build Safer Communities" which highlighted and celebrated the important role our police officers play in helping Ontarians build and maintain healthy and safe communities across our Province.

Events for Police Week 2022 were:

- Awards Night – The event recognized HPS members receiving
 - Leonard G Lawrence
 - Member of the Year
 - POP Project of the Year
 - Citizens Partnership Awards, Citizens Courage Awards
 - Crime Stoppers Award
 - Victim Services Award
- Coffee with a Cop – Central Station lobby to meet & greet the public
- Chief for a Day - Kids in Grades 6-8 are invited to submit 1-2 minute videos over Social Media explaining why they should be selected as the Chief for a Day. Crime Prevention selected two students to act as Chief and Deputy Chief for a day, which included meeting the Chief and touring various units within the police service.

Presentations & Community Events:

Crime Prevention developed and delivered **12** safety awareness, and education presentations to internal units and community groups:

1. Speaker series – Sgt Moran
2. Ancaster Babysitting Course x 2
3. McMaster – Be Safe
4. Criminal offense Presentation – Communications
5. Citizens Police College x 6
6. Islamic School of Hamilton – Bullying Presentation

Crime Prevention participated in **14** Community events:

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| 1. Mounted Patrol Unit Memorial & Open House | 5. Coffee with a Cop – Limeridge Mall |
| 2. Coffee with a Cop – Fraud | 6. Indigenous Speaker series – Central Station |
| 3. Coffee with a Cop – Communications | 7. Indigenous series – Legacy of Hope |
| 4. Coffee with a Cop – Central Station forecourt | 8. Wee Sea – Proaction |



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| 9. Montessori School – Helpers and Heroes | 12. Run to Remember |
| 10. Coffee with a Cop – Liberty for Youth | 13. Coffee with a Cop – Dundurn McDonalds |
| 11. Coffee with a Cop – Royal Connaught | 14. Crime Prevention Week |

Crime Prevention - Technology & Asset Management

Cop Logic

In 1997, the Hamilton Police Service implemented the Shop Theft Protocol Program which was developed to divert routine shop theft calls from the regular police response cycle. In 2021, to streamline the process, the Shop Theft Protocol program transitioned to the online Cop Logic reporting where the Loss Prevention Officers can submit a report online. This process reduces data entry errors, fax issues, legibility issues and Charter issues.

The Crime Prevention officers reviews each report.

In 2022 there were 409 reports submitted by Loss Prevention Officers from various businesses.

Auxiliary, Volunteer, & Co-op

The Auxiliary & Volunteer Coordinator is responsible for Auxiliary Officers and Police Volunteers, Coop Students and the administration of these collective volunteer programs.

In 2021, the Auxiliary and Volunteer program was suspended due to COVID restrictions. In March of 2022, events slowly returned, allowing the auxiliary to once again participate. There was a noticeable drop in auxiliary numbers after the COVID 2-year program shutdown. The drop in Auxiliary numbers were attributed to life changes, new jobs, natural attrition, and retirements.

The co-op and volunteer programs remained suspended throughout 2022, with recommendations to be reviewed by 2023.

Auxiliary, Volunteer, & Co-op - Community Safety

The Auxiliary program continues to provide opportunities for Auxiliaries to participate at events such as, ride-along's, parades, and ceremonies. The unit continues to serve with pride and professionalism, **41** Auxiliary officers completed **3940** hours of volunteer service in 2022. As COVID-19 restrictions were lifted and events returned, Auxiliaries participated in supporting HPS at large scale events most notably CONCACAF World Cup Qualifying and NHL Heritage Classic.



Large Scale Events 2022

1. CONCACAF World Cup Qualifying
2. Heritage Classic NHL
3. Tiger-Cat Games x 18
4. Arkells Rally
5. Forge FC games x 16
6. Canada Day Parade
7. Santa Claus Parade
8. Supercrawl
9. Road to Conquer Cancer
10. Around the Bay
11. Peach Festival
12. Cactus Festival

Auxiliary, Volunteer, & Co-op - Engagement & Partnerships

The Auxiliary Unit was able to provide support for Hamilton-based charity events such as the Ride to Conquer Cancer and Nancy's House for Human Trafficking, Social Navigator Coat Drive, Tiger-Cat and Forge Soccer games, various festivals, and MAC 91/92.

Auxiliary, Volunteer, & Co-op – People and Performance

Recruitment

In the spring of 2022, a class of twelve new auxiliary officers were trained after waiting a year and a half for the program to be reopened. The successful applicants completed their training requirements and were ready for deployment in June 2022.

Career Development

The Auxiliary program is a great way for community members to learn if policing is a career for them to pursue. In 2022 there were a number of Auxiliaries that gained employment in policing or other aspects of law enforcement:

- Three Constables - Hamilton Police Service
- One Special Constable – Hamilton Police Service
- One Military Police Officer - Canadian Armed Forces
- One Cadet - RCMP
- One Constable - Halton Regional Police Service
- One Border Officer - CBSA



Training

The Auxiliary Coordinator kept the Auxiliaries engaged via training and meetings.

In 2022 there were two Use of Force Training sessions to keep their qualifications up to date and three team meetings to discuss challenges and share ideas.

A training initiative was implemented in January 2022 that provided Auxiliaries free access to training on the HPS Canadian Police Knowledge Network (CPKN) portal. Many Auxiliaries were excited by the training and seized the opportunity to complete other elective CPKN courses.

Total CPKN courses completed: 183

Total CPKN volunteer hours: 832

Retention

In 2022, Auxiliary Officers were recognized for their significant years of committed service:

One member with five years of service

One member with 10 years of service

Conclusion

The Crime Prevention Branch and the Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch continued to engage the community in 2022 despite challenging circumstances as a result of a global pandemic. We continued to provide our community with strategies to reduce or prevent crime. This was done in concert with supporting our volunteer members by providing them meaningful opportunities.

During 2022, the Crime Prevention Branch overcame challenges relating to community engagement. This was in large part due to COVID-19. Crime Prevention took on this challenge and found unique and innovative ways to build relationships with the community while still being respectful of community needs and wishes. Crime Prevention built on their 2020 Social Media Strategy this year by continuing to embrace technology as a means to interact and engage with the community. They continued with virtual Coffee with a Cop and virtual Citizens Police College. By running these programs virtually, it enabled Crime Prevention to reach a broader audience while still providing the same quality service as we had in the past. Looking ahead, the Crime Prevention Branch will continue to explore facilitating other programs virtually.

The Auxiliary & Volunteer Branch members of the Hamilton Police Service dedicated their time to various activities over the past year. These valued members attended an array of important community programs that would not have been otherwise possible without their presence. The program continued to provide its members with meaningful opportunities despite continued COVID-19 restrictions during 2022 that allowed them to gain valuable skills as they work towards careers in policing and law enforcement.

