

July 18, 2023

Women Internal Support Network (WISN) Hamilton

In 1833, The Hamilton Police Service (HPS) was formed. One hundred and fifty years later, the first three females were hired in 1958. The significance of this event is preserved in that it took 16 years (1974) for the government of Canada to acknowledge what the City of Hamilton knew years earlier, in that women are vital in policing and mandating that police services shall hire women.

The Hamilton Police Service is a leader in the country regarding gender diversity and boasts some of the first members of both the International Association of Women Police (IAWP) and the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE); in 2021 the HPS saw a need to develop its own Women's Internal Support Network (WISN) to support and mentor women locally. In 2022, the committee was hard at work developing terms of reference and hosted its first event in March of 2023, followed by several mentoring career development opportunities.

This year, the Hamilton Police Service celebrates 65 years of women in policing. On Thursday, October 5, 2023, in recognition of this significant milestone, the WISN will host a commemoration, celebration, and education supporting women in policing. The day will include a retiree celebration, a leadership symposium, followed by a cocktail reception in the evening. The theme will be *Honouring the Past, Celebrating the Present, and Inspiring the Future*, where past, present and future women leaders from Hamilton Police will be showcased and celebrated. The event will occur at the Hamilton Tamahaac Club, 180 Filman Rd. Ancaster. Local and provincial government officials will be invited, as well as community members who have supported Women in the Police.

A small group of dedicated women volunteers with limited resources run the WISN. To provide training, mentoring and self-development opportunities for our women in policing, we seek support from our community partners. We are offering a variety of sponsorship opportunities available for both the leadership symposium and the cocktail reception. Sponsors will be highlighted at the event of their choice and acknowledged on our website and throughout our social media campaign.

The WISN is currently looking for your financial support. We have developed several possible sponsorship options for consideration: Exclusive Platinum \$5.000, Gold \$2500, and Silver \$1000. Our internal website, social media, and promotional material will acknowledge all organizations and private individuals during events and be reflective of the level of sponsorship.

For alternative sponsorship options or more information, please contact Sabrina Feser at 905 929-8716 or sfeser@hamiltonpolice.ca

Staff Sergeant Sabrina Feser

WISN Sponsorship Chair

