

COMMUNITY POLICING –

**Every BIA Should be
Benefiting from
This Effective Crime
Prevention Tool**

TABIA Conference, 2007

COMMUNITY - POLICE PARTNERSHIPS

**Team Building For A Strong
Economy And Healthy
Neighbourhoods**

- **A strong local economy is critical to the overall health of a community.**
- **Helping to build safe communities is a sound business practice and can increase profit margins.**
- **Safe communities translate to attracting and maintaining qualified workers, increased pedestrian traffic (= customers), and minimized losses due to criminal activities.**
- **Entice customers to your business by making the streets feel safe, your storefront look interesting, and your store feel safe and comfortable to shop in.**

The BIA in the Community

- **While every citizen has both rights and responsibilities with respect to community safety, BIA members are in a prime position to address local issues of safety.**
- **The onus is on the individual businesses to identify local problems and think about solutions, but the police and other agencies can offer support and assistance in solving these problems.**

- **The synergy of the many partners in a neighbourhood creates a healthy community.**
- **Businesses are critical stakeholders for building skills development capacity by providing employment, job shadowing, and mentoring opportunities for local youth.**
- **BIA members can facilitate skill development, opportunities for community service, employment, and Community Safety/Crime Prevention.**
- **Positive engagement of youth reduces criminal activity as well as the perception that youth are problematic.**

How to Partner With the Police and Other Community Groups

- **The local Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) is one of the best ways to interact with the police and other community groups.**
- **Networking within and through the CPLC will help to promote local business and attract customers to your area.**
- **The variety of perspectives from the different members of the committee helps to develop practical solutions to common problems.**

Connecting With Your Police Service - in Ontario:

- To find out about your local Community Policing Committee, contact your local police service.
- For the Ontario Provincial Police contact your local Community Services Officer at
- 1-888-310-1122 or visit the OPP website at www.opp.ca
- If no committee exists, suggest that one be established.

Connecting With Your Police Service - in Toronto:

- **In Toronto, information can be obtained either directly from your local Division or through the Community Mobilization Unit (CMU) of the Toronto Police Service.**
- **The CMU provides resources and support to the public directly and/or through the local Division for strategy sessions, community forums, events, etc.**
- **For an example of the many services/programs, such as the P.E.A.C.E. and T.R.O.O.P. projects, offered by the CMU to youth, newcomers, and all facets of the community, please visit the Community Mobilization section of the Toronto Police website:
(<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/communitymobilization/youth.php>).**

Remember!



While the police may not always take the lead role in community - police interactions, they are always there to act as a resource and support in community building ventures. Such is the way to obtain/maintain safe, healthy communities.

Presenters' Information:



- **Barbara Spyropoulos**
CPLC 12 Division Toronto Police Service
200 Trethewey Drive Toronto ON M6M 5E6
Phone: 416 808-1068 E-mail: spyro@yorku.ca



- **Staff Sgt. Michael Matic**
Youth Programs, Community Mobilization Unit
Toronto Police Service
40 College Street Toronto ON M5G 2J3
Phone: 416 808-7085
E-mail: Michael.Matic@torontopolice.on.ca



- **Rajender Sud**
Community Issues Unit
OPP Investigations Bureau
777 Memorial Avenue. Orillia, ON L3V 7V3
Tel: (705) 329-6144; Fax: (705) 329-7698
E-mail: raj.sud@ontario.ca