

53 Division Community Bulletin, February 2012



From the Desk of Staff Inspector Heinz Kuck And Inspector Joanna Beaven-Desjardins

From the Desk of Staff Inspector Heinz Kuck

During the month of January I had the honour of representing our Police Service at a number of academic and police based settings focusing on youth crime and urban disorder. The shared information was invaluable, as was the networking with likeminded police officers and community members, all focused on creating clean, safe and gang free communities. One of the prevalent streams of thought was the value of a strong community, and how they play a significant role in making neighbourhoods safe.

It was clear from both an empirical policing perspective, as well as an academically researched one, that 'at risk' communities share a number of risk factors. Some of these factors, such as physical disorder (graffiti vandalism, litter, abandoned cars, abandoned residences, low lighting, overgrowth of brush, trees and shrubbery obscuring clean lines of sight) can be dealt with by motivated communities. The key to all of this was simply an action plan, crafted by the affected communities, through first identifying and then vigorously addressing those risk factors.

Communities which were willing to begin a dialogue with their neighbourhood agencies, and then follow up with an action plan in their communities, were the ones most successful in crime prediction and prevention. It means that within the scope of community/police relationships, you move along a three tiered pathway. The first step, and least desirable, is one where there is a complete and utter dependence on the police to address all issues, including issues outside their law enforcement expertise.

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The second step (better) is a move to one of inter-dependence where there is a shared responsibility between the community and the police. The third (and best) step is one of independence. This is where the police agency is removed as the lead facilitator in circumstances where community and social agencies, having greater expertise and resources, play a crucial role in directing and empowering their constituents, and bring in the police as a strong resource.

We are working hard with all our neighbourhoods to follow this pathway, and in doing so, we are keeping Toronto the best and safest place to be.

Until next time,

Kind Regards,

Staff Inspector Heinz Kuck.

Greetings From the Desk of Inspector Joanna Beaven-Desjardins

We live in a world where we rush from one appointment to another. Whether it be child related, work related or purely recreational, we are in a hurry to get somewhere. Take a breath and take a few minutes to get to know your neighbours. It is important for people to balance their lives and create healthy relationships. Neighbourhoods are often social communities with considerable face to face interaction amongst members. Is yours? An engaged community is a safe one.

All too frequently the Toronto Police Service respond to calls at addresses that have been broken into that display clear signs the residents or owners have been away for an extended period of time. The papers and flyers are piled up on the front step, the snow has not been cleared in days. Criminals look for affluent neighbourhoods where the residents are so busy, they forget to pay attention to detail.

Know your neighbour and be a good neighbour. Ask your neighbour to collect your flyers, clear the snow or frequently check your residence. Be a good neighbour and report suspicious behaviour and/or incidents. Not only will you create a safer community you may just develop an everlasting friendship.

So ask yourself, do you know your neighbour?

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53 DIVISION COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT



Open House

On Sunday January 15th, we held our 8th annual Open House. Throughout the year we organize many community outreach events, however our Open House is definitely at the top of my list of favourites and after eight years it has evolved into an important community tradition. It continues to be an excellent opportunity for residents to meet their local police officers and a comfortable environment to discuss any policing concerns. It is also a positive and rewarding experience for our officers and they can proudly show case the many services we offer. It continues to grow in popularity and I'm confident that we set an attendance record this year, with over 600 residents stopping by to take a tour of the station.

On behalf of 53 Division, I wish to thank everyone that took the time to visit. Congratulations on a job well done by our CRU Officers, Auxiliary Officers and CPLC members for making it another success!

SAVY Award

53 Division's CPLC will once again be offering two SAVY Awards. The \$1000 bursary is available to graduating high school students that live in our division. If you know of any Youth that are excellent Scholars, Athletes and Volunteers, please encourage them to apply for the SAVY. The rules and an application have been included in our bulletin for your convenience. The applications must be received by April 13th, and a CPLC subcommittee will notify successful candidates by May 14th, 2012.

Crimes of Opportunity

All Toronto Police stations have a process known as the Morning Meeting, in which the Unit Commander meets with his on duty managers and reviews the various police reports from the previous day. As the Community Response Manager, one of my responsibilities is to identify occurrences that would benefit from crime prevention.

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Unfortunately, we continue to see far too many situations that can be described as crimes of opportunity. For example, theft from auto occurrences, where owners do not lock their doors, they have an alarm but it wasn't activated, they leave their valuables in plain view and by far the worst, not securing their portable GPS devices.

We also see similar situations with residential break and enters. Home owners will often step out for a quick errand and don't lock their doors or they have sophisticated and expensive alarm systems but don't take the time to activate them. Theft of high end vehicles continues to be one of our more challenging crimes and yet many victims continue to leave their car keys hanging on the wall just inside the front door, allowing convenient access for criminals that want to steal their car while it's parked in the driveway.

Crime Prevention is the key to reducing crime rates! Crime prevention does not need to be complicated and often the simplest techniques are the most effective.

Please take the time to review the material we have available on our website, community bulletin and Facebook page. Do not hesitate to give me a call if you're interested in obtaining some crime prevention brochures. Our neighbourhood officers are also available to give lectures or perform security audits.

Regards.

Peter Henry
S/Sgt #4570
53 Division
Community Response Unit
Peter.Henry@torontopolice.on.ca

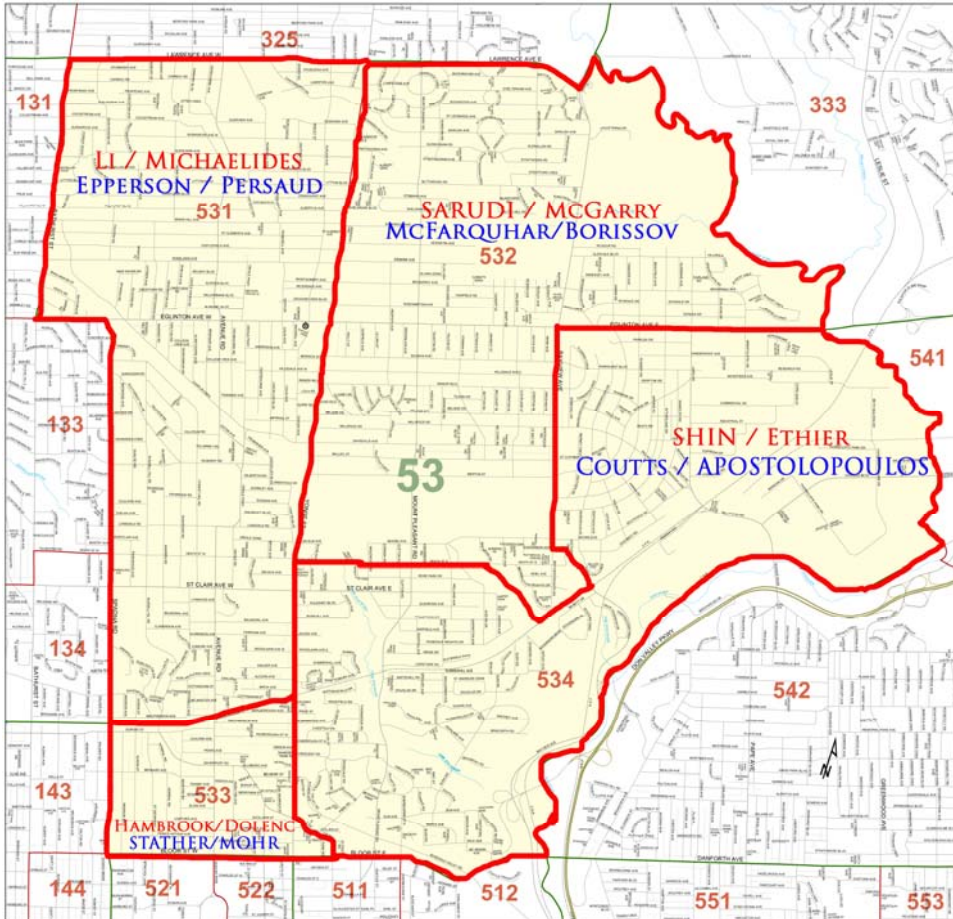
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53 DIVISION OPEN HOUSE



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TORONTO POLICE SERVICE



53 Division

75 Eglinton Ave W
M4R 2G9

NEIGHBOURHOOD OFFICERS

FA-1

SGT. MATT MUNGAL #4201

PC HAROLD SHIN #8792
PC VICTOR SARUDI #8568
PC JOHN MCGARRY #9086
PC COSTA MICHAELIDES #10133
PC ISABEL ETHIER #8906
PC BRENDA DOLENC #10387
PC CRAIG HAMBROOK #8829
PC ALEX LI #9104

FA-2

SGT. DAN MCDERMOTT #1576

PC SEAN MOHR #8617
PC JANET STATHER #5374
PC ERIK EPPERSON #9281
PC JIM APOSTOLOPOULOS #90217
PC BRAD COUTTS #9608
PC CRAIG MCFARQUHAR #8624
PC BORIS BORISSOV #9188
PC RAJ PERSAUD #65666

GRAFFITI LIAISON

PC VIKTOR SARUDI #8568
PC ERIK EPPERSON #9281

SAFE STREETS LIAISON

PC CRAIG HAMBROOK #8829
PC CRAIG MCFARQUHAR #8624

ABORIGINAL LIAISON

PC JANET STATHER #5374

53neighbourhoodofficers@torontoplace.on.ca



COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

One of the resources that the Toronto Police Service has available is the much appreciated volunteer Auxiliary Police Officers. These Officers unselfishly work along side officers of the Service to provide the community with even more resources and improved safety.

A big thank you to these men and women from the officers and staff of 53 Division.



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CRIME PREVENTION TIP OF THE MONTH

POLICE CONSTABLE TIM SOMERS #90023

416-808-5337

Timothy.Somers@torontopolice.on.ca

Community Crime Prevention Workshop

53 Division has been experiencing a high volume of break and enters in the Division for several months. This has been combined with an increase in street robberies. Two projects have been initiated to combat these trends.

These projects have been very successful. In addition, since October, victims of break and enter have been receiving letters mailed out from 53 Division, giving them support, security tips, and offering them a security audit for their property.

This spring, 53 Division would like to offer a COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION WORKSHOP that would include residential security, street safety, and traffic safety information. The workshop would be held at 53 Division and would be open to all residents of 53 Division.

This would be a good opportunity to bring your concerns to police and meet the Community Response Unit Officers, Traffic Officers, and Unit Command.

If you would be interested in participating in this workshop, please contact 53 Division CRU, 416-808-5319, or the Crime Prevention Officer 416-808-5337, Timothy.Somers@torontopolice.on.ca. Using your responses, we can determine the amount of interest from the community and set a date in the near future.

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CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE BUREAU

Detective Sergeant D. Sabadics #5784

As reported in the November 2011 bulletin, 53 Division, through September and October of 2011, had a significant rise in street based robberies. These crimes were categorized as street muggings, swarming, and purse snatches. In a combination of public education and awareness with effective police deployment and investigative follow-up and arrests, this trend has decreased in 2012. In order to further decrease the level of victimization, a reminder of the message put forth in the November 2011 bulletin is applicable:

In almost all of the robberies, a cellular phone, iPod, or BlackBerry has been the target of the thieves. The typical scenario has been when a group of youth's surround a vulnerable person (school student) and using intimidation and threats of violence rob the victim of his/her belongings.

The Street Crime Unit is attending all of the High Schools in the area and speaking to the student body in regards to safety plans and reporting of offences. Safety literature developed by the Toronto Police Service is also being supplied to the schools to assist victims and encourage reporting of offences.

Also, 2011 year end exhibited a rise in Break & Enters wherein vehicle keys and vehicles were stolen. There has been a marked decrease in 2012, and this is in large part due to public awareness in partnership with effective proactive and investigative policing. To ensure that this downward trend continues, below is a reposting of the January 16, 2012 Media Release by 53 Division and associated pamphlets:

Due to the increase in theft of vehicles and theft from vehicles, 53 Division would like to advise the public about our crime prevention initiatives.

The initiatives include, LOCK IT OR LOSE IT, cold weather start-up thefts, and high-end vehicle thefts. As the colder weather continues, residents are asked to become more vigilant in keeping their vehicles secure.

Safety tips:

- keep keys secure and out of plain view, in your residence
- vehicles should give the appearance of being utilized by removing snow from the vehicle or parking them in a garage
- thieves target homes with high-end vehicles for the purpose of breaking into the residence and obtaining the keys and stealing the vehicle
- keep all valuables out of the vehicle, for example, GPS, cell phones, laptops and cash

Crime prevention tips and further information about these crimes have been posted on the 53 Division Facebook page and website.

Further information, please contact Constable Tim Somers at 416-808-5337.

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TRAFFIC RESPONSE UNIT

53 Division Traffic Response Unit Update, February 2012



One of the traffic complaints that I receive on a consistent basis is, "Why won't drivers stop for the stop signs?"

Stop signs are placed to control conflicting traffic movements at intersections which are not busy enough to justify the installation of a traffic signal. The first stop sign was erected in Michigan in 1915 as motor vehicles increased in popularity. Since then, stop signs have increased so that they are recognized and used globally.

The purpose of the stop sign is to notify drivers that they must come to a complete stop before proceeding safely.

The Ontario Highway Traffic Act in section 136. (1) states:

Every driver or street car operator approaching a stop sign at an intersection,

(a) shall stop his or her vehicle (includes bicycle) or street car at a marked stop line or, if none, then immediately before entering the nearest crosswalk or, if none, then immediately before entering the intersection; and

(b) shall yield the right of way to traffic in the intersection or approaching the intersection on another highway so closely that to proceed would constitute an immediate hazard and, having so yielded the right of way, may proceed.

All drivers must come to a full stop. The so-called 'rolling stop' where a vehicle slows but does not stop, still contravenes this section. Drivers may get into a habit of doing this and may not see any harm in the practice until they roll through a stop sign controlled intersection and into the path of a vehicle travelling at speed with the right-of-way.

Now we have an entirely avoidable collision which may have tragic results.

Drivers are also required to yield to pedestrians lawfully crossing the roadway. Before continuing into an intersection, either straight through or turning, take the extra time to check for pedestrians, cyclists, or any other person using the roadway.

The safety of pedestrians (especially small children) may sometimes be decreased. Pedestrians expect vehicles to stop, but many drivers run the "unnecessary" signs.

Please 'stop, pause, and check'. You may very well save a life.

Regards,
Dale Carter
Sergeant 6920, 53 Division Traffic Response Unit

Dale.Carter@torontopolice.on.ca

"Remember to drive with caution and courtesy, the life you save may be your own!"



CELLULAR PHONE SAFETY ALERT



Smart Phones and Electronic Audio Listening Devices are among the most popular items for thieves these days. As a result, the numbers of thefts and robberies of these devices are increasing throughout the GTA.

If you become the unfortunate victim of a robbery, call 911 immediately for police response.

For reporting thefts, suspicious persons and other non-emergency occurrences, contact the Toronto Police Radio room at 416 808-2222.

Avoid displaying your phone in public, wherever possible.

Set your phone to vibrate if possible to attract less attention and never leave it lying around.

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Many people use their mobile phones at subway and bus stops, Thieves know this, so if you need to make a call, be aware of your surroundings.

Try not to walk and talk.

Position yourself where you can easily get help if you need it.

On many occasions thieves ask for the time knowing that most phone owners use their phones for timekeeping and check it for the time, giving them an opportunity to steal it. Avoid using your phone when asked for the time. Use a watch or say you do not know.

Make sure your PIN is turned on so your phone is locked.

Be wary about where you use your phone, for example, in a public place like a bar or on the street.

Ensure your security settings are set up and turned on.

Keep your phone out of sight in your pocket or bag when you're not using it.

Do not leave your phone visible in a vehicle.

Keep a record of the unique reference number (IMEI) on your phone. If supplied with this, some networks can permanently disable the handset if it stolen. To get this, dial *#06#

Record the model, phone number and PIN number details. Keep them somewhere safe.

Always use the phone's security lock or PIN number.

WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I SEE A SUSPICIOUS PERSON?

One of the most effective tools the police have for fighting and preventing crime is you, the people of our community.

You know who lives and works in your area and who doesn't appear to belong.

If you see someone doing something you know is illegal, or find an unauthorized person in a secured area, call the police right away.

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The sooner you call us, the sooner we can get to you and the better our chances are of locating the person you saw.

If you observe a suspicious person, try to get the best possible description of them as you can.

Start at the top and work your way down noticing as many distinguishing features as possible. In addition to describing the person, note the direction he is travelling if he leaves the area before you can call us. If the person approaches a vehicle, try to get the license plate number.

If you see someone that is suspicious, note the following:

What they look like?

- **male or female**
- **age, height**
- **hair colour, hair style, facial hair**
- **build – thin, medium, heavy, muscular**

What they are wearing?

- **Colours, Logos, Patterns, Jewellery**

What they are doing?

Where they are now?

What direction they are heading (if they are moving)?

What type of vehicle are they using?

- **license plate, if possible**
- **Make, Model, colour**
-

WHATEVER YOU DO, DO NOT CONFRONT A SUSPICIOUS PERSON YOURSELF.

For more information regarding electronic device and cellular phone safety, please contact:

53 Division Community Services Office at
416 808-5337 or 416 808-5319



TPS53

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53 Division Community Police Liaison Committee February 2012

New Year Resolutions

Toronto is a comparatively safe city, but as active citizens we need to remain vigilant to ensure that it continues to be so. As neighbours we can report incidents and safety concerns. As residents we can support police officers building meaningful relationship with the communities they serve. And we can take opportunities to become more informed about how to keep the community safe. And we can join with the CPLC and do all of these things!

Rabita (Connections) Program

The first in a series of sessions designed to help families to discuss and improve their relationships is being held on Saturday February 25 from 12-5pm at Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office (TNO). The program is sponsored by 53 Division CPLC and TNO.

Thorncliffe Park Traffic and Kids Safety Program

A parent information session on Traffic and Kids Safety, organized by Masood Alam, Chair, Thorncliffe Park Safety Committee (and Community Vice-Chair, 53 Division CPLC) in conjunction with 53 Division, was held at Thorncliffe Park Public School on Thursday January 26 from 2.50pm to 3.20pm. The session included traffic laws and protocols, tips for crossing the road safely, and clarification as to how children perceive and behave in relation to traffic. The timing allowed parents to catch the information before picking up their children from school. Thanks to Sergeant Dale Carter and PC Marcie Beaven-Brindle for conducting the session.

New Year's Open House

53 Division's Open House was held on Sunday, January 15 between 12:00 noon and 4:00pm. Staff Inspector Heinz Kuck and the CPLC hosted the 53 Division's 8th annual New Year's Open House. Station tours were held along with crime prevention and educational displays. The Station was filled with community members of all ages who enjoyed learning about Police activities, and meeting with a police horse, a police dog, and vintage police cars.

2012 SAVY Award

Nominations are now open for the fourth annual SAVY Award (Scholar, Athlete, Volunteer, Youth). The SAVY Award is intended to support local youth making positive life decisions, and acknowledges the difficult balance for youth who strive for academic excellence, athletic participation and community volunteerism. It is the creation of the 53 Division CPLC, in cooperation with the 53 Division's Social Committee.

This year two awards will again be given to graduating students who are residents of 53 Division who displays a combination of a minimum academic average of 80%, athletic contribution, and outstanding community commitment.

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Educators/community leaders are welcome to nominate a student or individual students may apply on their own. All applicants must meet the defined criteria, and the decision of the selection committee as to the award winner will be final. Applications must be received by Friday **April 13, 2012**. The nomination form is on the Toronto Police Service 53 Division web site at http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/d53/20111108-d53_cplc_savy_award.pdf. For any questions please contact 53 Division at 53division@torontopolice.on.ca or call 416 808-5319.

Community Safety Audit

Do you have a concern that parts of your community are not as safe as they should be? A community safety audit involving a walking tour of the area in the company of Police, the Crime Prevention Association of Toronto, along with City staff of relevant departments such as Parks, Forestry and Recreation, and the Councillor's office is a good way to act on these concerns. If your community would like to learn more about whether a safety audit would benefit your community please contact the Crime Prevention Association of Toronto at 416-225-1102 or PC Tim Somers, 53 Division at 416-808-5337.

Geomapping Crime Stats

The TPS has a new tool to geomap crime statistics on the web that will be of interest to residents. Follow these instructions:

1. Go to the Toronto Police services website:
<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca>
2. In the left margin, under the heading Newsroom, click on Crime Statistics. It will take you to this page:
<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/statistics/>
3. If you agree to the terms on the bottom, add a check mark to the box and hit Proceed.
4. It will take you to a Crime Stats page. Click on Neighbourhood Crime Maps and you will go to a map of Toronto Wards/Neighbourhoods.
5. Choose your neighbourhood and it pulls up a map showing the major crime incidents in the last month in that neighbourhood and in the surrounding ones. It shows data for the last 30 days or so.

On-line Surveys

You are invited to take part in on-line public consultations conducted by the Toronto Police Service. The consultation focuses on one main question: What do you think is the main challenge, or challenges, that the Toronto Police Service will face over the next three years? Your answer will be added to the information reported in the Environmental Scan, helping to set the Service's priorities for the next few years. To complete the survey go to:
<http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/surveys/> Other TPS surveys are designed to find out how you feel about certain issues. New surveys appear every three weeks.

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The Community Bulletin is on the web

The 53 Division Community Bulletin can be accessed on the TPS web site www.torontopolice.on.ca. Go to the home page. On the left side under 'Serving Toronto' click on Find a Unit. At the top drop-down under 'Divisional Policing Command' select 'Central Field' and then '53 Division'. On the 53 Division page click on the Bulletin link on the right side of the page.

53 Division CPLC welcomes your input on community safety issues from all parts of the Division. Please use our new email address at 53DivisionCPLC@torontopolice.on.ca to get in touch with any questions and concerns. Or you can call Anusha Dokurno at 416 808-5319.

Geoff Kettel
Community Co-Chair
53 Division CPLC

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S scholar
A athlete
V volunteer
Y youth



53 Division SAVY Award

The 53 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC), will again be offering a bursary to a student. The SAVY Award supports local youth making positive life decisions, and acknowledges the difficult balance for youth who strive for academic excellence, athletic participation and community volunteerism.

The \$1,000.00 award will be given to a 53 Division graduating student who displays a combination of: a minimum academic average of 80%, participation on an athletic team, and outstanding community commitment.

Educators/community leaders are welcome to nominate a student or individual students may apply on their own. All applicants must meet the criteria outlined in the attachment. A selection committee will be appointed by the 53 CPLC whose decision as to the award winner will be final.

Application forms must be received by April 13th, 2012. All forms, documents, letters of reference are to be enclosed in an envelope and addressed to:

Toronto Police Services - 53 Division
75 Eglinton Avenue West
Toronto, ON M4R 2G9
Attention: Staff Sergeant Peter Henry

The recipient will be contacted by May 14th, 2012 and confirmed the final week of the academic calendar upon final confirmation of academic standing and awards. If possible the award will be incorporated into the Graduation or Commencement ceremony of the recipient's school.

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53 Division CPLC Student Award Criteria

The following is a list of criteria for the 53 Division SAVY Award:

- 1. Reside within the boundaries of 53 Division** (South of Lawrence / North of Bloor / East of Bathurst / West of the Don River) **and be a graduating student at one of the area Secondary Schools**
Eligibility confirmed by address on school registration.
- 2. Student must at the time of their application be achieving an average mark at or above 80%.**
Eligibility confirmed by student submitting copy of report card with application
- 3. Student must be a participant of an Athletic Program.**
Eligibility confirmed by a letter from a school administrator/coach/mentor outlining the team, coach and role of the student on the team/program.
- 4. The student must demonstrate having made a meaningful contribution to improve the quality of life within the community.**
Eligibility confirmed by the student submitting a letter outlining his/her contributions and shall include contact information for references and letters of reference. This is above the mandated 40 hours of volunteer time.
- 5. The student must outline their intentions for the use of the money.**
If a student plans to use the funds to pay for post secondary education, a letter of acceptance from a post secondary institution shall be sufficient.

A student not pursuing post secondary school is eligible for the Award however a detailed outline of what the money will be used for will be required. An example of this situation may be a student planning on conducting aid work in a developing nation. In this situation a student will be required to provide an outline of the activities and associated expenses that need to be covered. References will be required.

An overview of anticipated costs will be used by the selection committee and given consideration.

All other bursaries/scholarships and awards must be declared. The Committee shall review all bursaries/scholarships and awards with any proposed winner prior to announcement of the winner.

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In addition, the selection committee will decline any applicant already receiving bursaries, scholarships or awards totalling twice the amount offered by the 53 Div/CPLC Award.

- 6. Student must complete the academic year with an average mark at or above 80%.**

This will be confirmed by copy of the student's final report card or letter from the school.

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53 Division SAVY Award Student Award Application Form

Personal Information:

Name: _____
Address*: _____
Home Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____
Date of Birth: _____ Email Address: _____
*please attach proof of address

Academic Information:

School Attending: _____
Overall Average*: _____
*please attach most recent report card

Athletic Information:

Team(s): _____
Position(s): _____
Coach/Mentor Contacts*: _____

*please attach letter(s) of reference confirming your athletic participation

Community Involvement*:

How do you contribute to your community? Please outline the roles/organizations with which you are affiliated. Attach any pertinent letters of reference/correspondence with contact information.

*Beyond the minimum 40 hour Provincial requirement.

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53 Division Student Award Application Form - continued

Future Plans:

Please outline your goals/ambitions after graduation and how you plan to achieve them.

Impact of the Award*:

Outline your plans of how the money from the award will be used.

*attach documentation for confirmation (ex: College/University letter of acceptance, international aid programs, references, contact information)

Have you applied for any additional scholarships, bursaries or awards? If so, please provide details* _____

*All other awards must be declared. Any applicant receiving more than a total of \$2000.00 in scholarships, bursaries and awards in this academic year will be ineligible for this award.

* By accepting the award the applicant consents to their photograph being used for the purpose of promoting the program.

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Thank you
53 Division
Toronto Police Service