

# 53 Division

## Community Bulletin, February 2014



**Superintendent Scott Gilbert**  
**And**  
**Inspector Suzanne Walsh**

### **From the Desk of Superintendent Gilbert**

On behalf of the women and men of 53 Division I want to start by wishing everyone a happy, healthy, and prosperous, New Year.

The New Year certainly got off to a happy start for me with my promotion to Superintendent, and reassignment to 53 Division, on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, as the new Unit Commander taking over from Superintendent Heinz Kuck who was also promoted and then transferred to 11 Division.

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By way of introduction I want to start by saying I've been very fortunate over my thirty three plus years of policing to have had the opportunity to work in a variety of different assignments, both in uniform as a primary response officer and plain clothes as an investigator, giving me a broad range of experience in many areas of the Toronto Police Service.

Throughout my career I have also been fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with many people, both from the Community and the Toronto Police Service, who were committed to serving their communities and neighbourhoods with a genuine desire to make a difference and an honest desire to make things better.

As a result whether it was in 42 Division, the Emergency Task Force, 55 Division, 13 Division, Professional Standards, to name a few of my postings, or most recently 12 Division where I was stationed as the 2<sup>nd</sup> in Charge, I have learned the value of teamwork and the importance of working in partnership with the community.

While I understand the critical roles teamwork and partnerships play in what we do, I also understand the value and importance of delivering high quality, respectful, and timely policing services that meet or exceed the community's expectations of us. This is my commitment to all of you.

It is with this commitment in mind that I invite you to assist us by providing feedback and direction on our efforts, praise and criticism where needed, but just as importantly to partner with us to help keep your community safe.

I look forward to working with all of you and to the challenges ahead.

Regards,

Scott Gilbert  
Superintendent 5955  
53 Division  
[scott.gilbert@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:scott.gilbert@torontopolice.on.ca)

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### 53 DIVISION COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

Staff Sergeant Matthew Moyer

The Community Response Unit would like to welcome Sergeant Chazz Stern to the unit. Sergeant Stern will be replacing Sergeant Dan McDermott who will be moving on to become the 53 Division Training sergeant. Sergeant McDermott was one of the CRU Sergeants for approximately 3 years. His commitment and work ethic are greatly appreciated by those who worked for him as well as the countless community members he worked with. We would all like to wish him the very best in his new position.

Sergeant Stern brings a wealth of policing experience to the CRU. He was most recently a detective in the 53 Division Criminal Investigation Bureau. Sergeant Stern previously worked in the Community Response Unit, Major Crime Unit and Plain Clothes Unit at 51 Division. His past experience made him an ideal candidate to take over one of the CRU teams.

Sergeant Jay Brautigam and Sergeant Chazz Stern will lead our two teams into 2014. The Community Response Unit has undertaken new responsibilities that support the Crime Strategy initiative's in 53 Division designed to combat break and enters, theft from auto's, theft of autos and drug dealing. Our newest strategy is called 'Project Impact' and it is focused on drug use and drug dealing in the south east area of the division.

Our 'Beat' Officers, P.C. Glen Dhruv and P.C. Flo Lisanin continue to tackle local issues in and around the Yonge and Eglinton area. Traffic concerns, disorderlies, Crime Prevention presentations and enforcement at all levels contribute to a safer community. Liquor Licence and by-law enforcement, in conjunction with the 53 Major Crime Office continue to be a priority for these Officers. Education, awareness and enforcement support their mandate as they identify the ongoing needs of this neighbourhood.

P.C. Janet Stather and P.C. Ravi Viridi provide a huge educational component to the schools in 53 Division. Identifying the students' needs and presenting a means for great dialogue help the students understand the role they play in society. As well, presentations and real face time with these Officers supports the students with both a legal and practical perspective to the role that these Officers play in society. Parents and teachers also have input and are invited to participate in the learning that these Officers continue to provide. Social media, bullying, L.G.B.T.Q. issues for students, drug questions and community safety are some of the topics that these Officers will present for discussion.

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P.C. Tim Somers and P.C. Brian Yuile play a critical role in 2014 as they continue to provide 'Crime Prevention' strategies to the division that support the Divisional Crime Strategy plan. Assisting victims of crime with a safety analysis to prevent future victimization and posting community alerts on social media (Face book and twitter) serve to further support the community members with suggestions for 'best practises'.

The use of our 'Youth In Policing Initiative' and our Divisional Auxiliaries falls under their mandate and they are collectively used to support the office of the Crime Prevention Officer in 53 Division.

In May of 2014, 53 Division Community Response Unit will present our 'Open House' to the citizens of 53 Division. The events planned for that day and the orientation package will provide valuable information to the community as well as an opportunity for the public to network and engage with their Officers. This experience is designed for members of the community to build relationships with their Officers, put a name to a face and further, to get a first-hand perspective of the efforts being made by the Toronto Police Service to better service their city.

June 5 2014, the C.R.U. will host its Community Event.

This event will take place on Orchard View Blvd, just West of Yonge Street.

Another great opportunity for the public to interact with the Police, and the members of 53 Division to reach out and interact with our community.

In 2014, 53 Division has added some new members to its C.P.L.C. (Community Police Liaison Committee).

Fresh faces, new neighbourhoods and a larger scope of providing information to the community will help the residents and homeowners to help themselves and assist others. Presentations to Leaside Rate Payers, Thorncliffe Park, Mt Pleasant, Annex, South Eglinton Residents and Ratepayers Association, Rosedale and Bloor Street B.I.A. has served to open the lines of community dialogue, share community concerns and to strategize towards a safer city.

This Division has 21 Consulates and 53 Division continues to work closely with the R.C.M.P. to provide a safe opportunity for the important International function that they provide to Canadians.

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## COMMUNITY RESPONSE UNIT

On Tuesday, November 19, 2013, Staff Sergeant Matthew Moyer and Police Constable Tim Somers were asked to speak in the Ward 16 Cycle Toronto Meeting. The officers lectured the audience on bicycle safety and enforcement in Toronto. The event involved City Councillor Karen Stintz. The Councillor talked about bicycle safety in Toronto.





## 53 Division Toy Drive

53 Division Community Response Unit organized a holiday toy drive. A donation box was set up at 53 Division. Members of the community, local businesses and organizations generously donated toys, games and books. CRU officers delivered van full of toys to the Thorncliffe Neighbourhood Office for distribution.



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### 53 Division Auxiliary Officers

The 53 Division auxiliary officers had another successful year in 2013. These men and women volunteered their time throughout the year assisting with crime prevention blitzes, community events, parades and general patrol duties. Over 3200 hours were volunteered by our auxiliary officers.





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### Emergency Car Kit

As the cold winter months are upon us it's important to be prepared for all types of weather conditions if you are travelling long distances by vehicle. Try to purchase an emergency car kit or create your own. Listed below are just a few things that you should have:

- Food that won't go bad, such as energy bars (replace every few months)
- Solar emergency blanket
- Water
- Extra clothing as well as gloves, toque and boots
- First aid kit
- A knife to cut seatbelts if necessary
- Small shovel, scraper and snowbrush
- Candle (include something to hold the candle such as a can)
- Flashlight (replace batteries regularly)
- Whistle
- Roadmaps
- Copy of your emergency plan
- Bag of road salt
- Extra windshield washer fluid
- Tow rope
- Jumper cables (be familiar with using them)
- Road flares or small reflective pylons





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## **CRIME PREVENTION TIP OF THE MONTH**

### Magazine Subscriptions

Here's another way fraudsters try to get your money. Many of us subscribe to magazines covering individual interests such as travel, sports, business, news, entertainment, health and fitness, cooking, or decorating for instance.

Fraudsters buy mailing lists from magazines and send letters on official-looking letterhead to subscribers several months before the subscription expiry date. They state that they need guaranteed renewal subscriptions to maintain current advertisers and attract new ones. Without them, the magazine could fold. It's a good magazine you don't want to see go under.

They ask that you renew now by filling out the required information and paying with a credit card. A stamped self-addressed envelope is enclosed. That's easy, but wait a minute, if you look closely, you will see that the address on the envelope is not the magazine's address. If you don't look, your money and credit card information could be sent to a fraudster who can then charge thousands of dollars over the phone or on the internet to your credit card before you catch on.

**Tip:** Check addresses on self-addressed envelopes before sending money or personal information.

Helen Liepins  
CPLC Member

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**LOCK IT**



**OR LOSE IT!**

If you see someone loitering near lockers or in the area, be suspicious. Report any suspicious activity to Fitness Club Staff Members, Toronto Police Service 416-808-2222 or Crime Stoppers at 416-222-TIPS (8477).

**DON'T BE THE NEXT VICTIM**

**DON'T LEAVE ANY VALUABLES IN YOUR LOCKER INCLUDING CASH, ELECTRONICS OR EXPENSIVE JACKETS**

**DO NOT GIVE YOUR COMBINATION TO ANYBODY**

**USE A HIGH QUALITY PADLOCK**



If you have any questions about Crime Prevention, please contact the Crime Prevention and Disorder Management Officers,

PC Tim Somers, [Timothy.Somers@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Timothy.Somers@torontopolice.on.ca)

PC Brian Yuile, [Brian.Yuile@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Brian.Yuile@torontopolice.on.ca)

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### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE BUREAU

Detective Sergeant D. Sabadics #5784

As reported in the October 2013 bulletin, 53 Division continued to focus efforts on reducing victimization during the Fall and Winter months with Crime Management Initiatives which included:

Project Fall Maintenance during the period September 4th through November 1st (focusing on continued violent crime reduction in the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood supporting the original Thorncliffe Park Community Safety Initiative which targeted a reduction in violence in relation to a shooting in the Thorncliffe Park community).

Yorkville CSI (Community Safety Initiative) during the period October 1st through December 31st (focusing on violent crime reduction in the Yorkville neighbourhood in relation to a shooting in the Yorkville community).

Project Deliverance from November 15th through December 30th (focusing on violent crime reduction, curbing pre-holiday property crimes in the Yonge/Eglinton and Yorkville neighbourhoods). This included Project Lock it or Lose it which focused on Public Education in relation to Theft from Auto occurrences during the holiday season - specifically in the Yorkville area Green P parking lots.

The overall focus throughout these Crime Management Initiatives remained on Break and Enters, Robberies and Thefts of Autos. Again, similar to crime rate reductions reported in October 2013 - in a combination of public education and awareness including Crime Prevention pamphlet distribution to targeted areas with effective police deployment and investigative follow-up and arrests, the victimization rates for night time residential Break and Enters and high-end Break and Enters (with associated high-end vehicle thefts), Robberies, violent crimes and Thefts of Autos continued to be reduced significantly throughout the Fall and Winter months.

Overall residential and commercial Break and Enters, however, was the one crime indicator which saw an increase in frequency. This can be attributed in part to recent weather anomalies, such as the extreme cold weather and recent holiday season ice storm which found homeowners away, and power reductions disabling alarms which in turn proved easy targets for offenders. Please continue to secure your residences and businesses – and set your alarms if so equipped.

This overall reduction in victimization has continued through our current Crime Management Initiative – Project Premonition in effect January 1st through February

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28th focusing on Break and Enters, Robberies and Thefts of Auto in the Thorncliffe Park neighbourhood and the Yonge/Eglinton area.

Again, although marked decreases have been evidenced in the Robbery and Theft of from Auto categories, we have seen an increase in Break and Enters. Our current Crime Management Initiative targeting police deployment along with Public Awareness and target hardening will continue to focus on reductions in all identified crime areas, including a reduction in Break and Enter occurrences.

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## **DON'T BE AN EASY TARGET**

**With the recent increase in Break and Enters and Theft from Vehicles, and Vehicle Theft, here is some ways to protect yourself and your property.**

Lock your windows and doors, especially basement windows, rear ground floor windows and patio doors.

Sliding glass doors/windows can be lifted out of their tracks with relative ease. Place a board or bar in the track or install lock pins to secure the sliding door.

Maintain control of your vehicle keys at all times, both at and away from home. Do not place them in routine and usual locations, e.g. foyers, kitchen counters or in purses. If possible keep your spare or secondary keys secure in a drawer or cabinet.

Leave a ground floor light on during the night.

Consider placing a cellular telephone in your bedroom in event that your telephone lines are tampered with. Call 911 if you hear an intruder in your home. **DO NOT CONFRONT INTRUDERS.**

If you have a garage, use it to park your car and lock it. If you do not have a garage or can not park in it and have more than one car, always park the most expensive one ahead of the other one.

**DO NOT** start your vehicle and leave it unattended, **UNLESS** the vehicle is equipped with a factory installed auto starting system.

Participate in the 'LIGHT THE NIGHT' crime prevention initiative in 53 Division, by joining with your neighbours in leaving all of your exterior lights on all night. Increased night-time illumination will act as a natural deterrent to these offenders who utilize the cover of darkness to their full criminal advantage. Additionally, position a motion detector light in your driveway and at the rear of your home, which is a long-term investment in providing the desired illumination effect after the 'LIGHT THE NIGHT' program request concludes.

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If your home has an alarm system USE IT! Arm the perimeter portion during the night while you are asleep.

Ensure that your home alarm panel is not visible from exterior doors or windows, by moving it or covering it. It is important that potential intruders do not know that the alarm system is on or off.

Invest in a cellular based vehicle tracking system for your car. This is very important, as it will allow the police to locate your car and possibly arrest those responsible if your car is stolen. This is a very effective tool for the police.

Be aware of suspicious persons and vehicles in your neighbourhood, especially in the evening and overnight hours and report suspicious activities immediately to the police.

Neighbours' watching each other's residences makes for a safer and more secure community. Consider forming a Neighbourhood Watch Program

To inquire, please contact the 53 Division Crime Prevention and Disorder Management Officers, PC Tim Somers [Timothy.Somers@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Timothy.Somers@torontopolice.on.ca)  
PC Brian Yuile [Brian.Yuile@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Brian.Yuile@torontopolice.on.ca)  
53 Division, 416-808-5300 [53@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:53@torontopolice.on.ca)

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WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY TO PREVENT CRIME

Community Response Unit Manager- S/Sgt Matthew Moyer 416-808-5354  
[Matthew.Moyer@torontopolice.on.ca](mailto:Matthew.Moyer@torontopolice.on.ca)

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## 53 Division Community Police Liaison Committee

### 2014 SAVY Award

The 53 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) is again offering a SAVY award bursary to a student (this is the 6<sup>th</sup> annual award). The SAVY (which stands for Scholar, Athlete, Volunteer, Youth) 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. An award of up to \$2,000.00 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.

All applicants must meet the criteria outlined in the application form. Educators/community leaders are welcome to nominate a student or individual students may apply on their own. A selection committee will be appointed by the 53 Division CPLC, whose decision as to the award winner will be final. Application forms must be received by **April 18th, 2014**. 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 Matt Moyer

The recipient will be contacted in May 2014, 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.

The form is available at:

[http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/d53/20121213-d53\\_cplc\\_savy\\_award.pdf](http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/d53/20121213-d53_cplc_savy_award.pdf)

For any questions please contact 53 Division 416 808-5319.

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### Youth Equity Strategy

The community members of the CPLC recently wrote to City Council in support of the inclusion of Youth Equity Strategy Funding of \$494,000 as part of the 2014 Budget. This initial action plan comprises several prevention and intervention initiatives designed to reduce youth violence in our city.

We are mindful that issues of youth frustration and dissatisfaction sometimes turn into violence, and to tragic loss of life. Past reports including The Review of the Roots of Youth Violence by Dr. Alvin Curling and the Honourable Roy McMurtry have provided recommendations on the evidence based actions needed. The Youth Equity Strategy under development provides a framework to implement these reports and move forward in Toronto. The community members of the CPLC believe that the full participation of police and community in the process of developing and implementing the Strategy is very important to its effectiveness. As an issue that cuts across city divisions and uniformed services a positive attitude of collaboration and sharing by all is critical. There are more steps to take, but this is an important crime prevention issue that deserves wide support. We are pleased that local Councillor Josh Matlow, Ward 22, St Paul's has championed this initiative at Council.

### Crossing Guard Seasonal Lunch and Auxiliary Appreciation Dinner

The CPLC was pleased to once again support the crossing guard seasonal lunch held in December and the annual appreciation dinner for the auxiliary police team in January. We all recognize and appreciate the extraordinary service, for small remuneration, in all weathers and in two daily shifts, of our 53 Division crossing guards. The auxiliary are a group of 18 volunteers that have contributed over 3,200 hours of their own time towards 53 Division's program in 2013. These occasions were opportunities to thank and to celebrate a job well done in each service. We also appreciate Helen Liepins, CPLC member attending the Auxiliary dinner as our representative.

### 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.



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### 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.

53 Division CPLC welcomes your input on community safety issues from all parts of the Division. You can call Anusha Dokurno at 416 808-5319.

Thanks to Masood Alam, CPLC Vice-Chair once again for his work in assisting in a recent crime prevention and enforcement activity operation in Thorncliffe Park.

And finally, keep warm, and best wishes for the rest of the winter and spring season.

Geoff Kettel  
Community Co-Chair  
53 Division CPLC



### AUTO THEFT



### PROTECTION TIPS

A professional can steal your vehicle in just 30 seconds – without the key.

**Protect your vehicle from theft with a few simple precautions:**

- ✓ Always roll up your vehicle's windows, lock the doors and pocket the key.
- ✗ Never leave your vehicle unattended while it is running.
- ✓ If you have a garage, use it and lock the door as well as your vehicle.
- ✗ Never leave your car keys in plain view or in an easily accessible area.
- ✓ Keep your vehicle registration certificate and proof of insurance on you at all times. Don't leave these documents in your glove compartment.
- ✓ Always park your vehicle in a well-lit area.
- ✗ Never leave valuable objects or packages in full view. Put them in the trunk.
- ✓ Give only your ignition key to a parking lot attendant. Keep all other keys with you.

→ Inform your local police department, or call the IBC TIPS Line at **1-877-IBC-TIPS**, if you see vehicles or vehicle-related activities that look suspicious.





## **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.**

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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.

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**



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Thank you  
53 Division  
Toronto Police Service