



PLANNING OUR FUTURE

THE PROCESS

Planning for the future is central to achieving our vision to have the safest communities in Durham Region.

The Strategic Business Plan 2008 – 2010 is a blueprint to internalize the vision, mission, values and the new philosophy of problem-oriented policing into the daily activities of the police service. It builds on the work commenced and the accomplishments of our two previous Business Plans introduced in 2002 and 2005.

The 2008 – 2010 Plan was developed in accordance with the Adequacy and Effectiveness of Police Services Regulation of the Ontario Police Services Act, and Durham Regional Police Services Board governance policies. It aligns with Durham Region's Community Strategic Plan – *Growing Together* – and contributes to realizing the objective therein of 'safe, healthy and caring communities'.

The Plan's strategic priorities were determined through ongoing community consultation and dialogue with our members. Several methods were used to gather the information that formed the basis of the Plan's strategic priorities and objectives. These include:

- Scan of key trends and developments that affect our operating environment
- Input provided at Chief Town Hall meetings throughout Durham Region

- Input from members at various information-sessions on the Strategic Business Plan
- Recommendations and feedback stemming from service-wide projects identified in our previous Business Plan
- Public opinion survey on issues of concern and perceptions of safety
- Internal members' survey asking about issues of safety, training, and the working environment
- Working groups to gather information from members and select external partners

Following consultation, our vision statement was revised to reflect a holistic view of community safety for residents of Durham Region.

The messages from all of these forums were consistent and clear: continue working with community partners to achieve the vision of community safety across Durham Region and address the top four issues of:

- Youth Safety
- Roadway Safety
- Violence Against / Exploitation of Persons
- Property Crime

Strategies to prevent and reduce the impact of crime in these areas form part of our community safety priorities and are articulated in the following pages.

Information and feedback relating to organizational needs were also gathered and prioritized into cohesive strategies outlined below. These internal organizational priorities outline the Service’s capabilities and resources to deliver on our community safety priorities. These priorities focus on:

- Diversity
- Information Management and Technology
- Service-wide Transition to Problem-Oriented Policing
- Emergency Preparedness

THE IMPACT

The Strategic Business Plan prepares the organization to meet both current and future challenges. This Plan is unique in that it lays the foundation for the two subsequent strategic business plans that will drive the Service to achieve a fully integrated problem-oriented policing model over the next 7 – 10 years.

Three elements have been identified to achieve this long-term transition. During the 2008 – 2010 Strategic Business Plan the Service will primarily focus on the first element of this significant organizational transition. This will ensure the alignment, proper sequencing, and integration of corporate business and operational processes to achieve our overall strategic direction.

The second element requires the service to focus more attention on addressing the root causes of problems, in partnership with the community. To this end, we will create

an environment where members will be encouraged to internalize and actively engage with the principles of problem-oriented policing.

Element 3 requires the Service to engage our communities at the neighbourhood level to be active as full partners in addressing community problems with the police.

