



STRATEGIC DIRECTION

TRANSITION TO PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICING



The vision of the Durham Regional Police Service is to have the safest community in which to live, work, and play for our residents and visitors. To achieve this end, we must, in partnership with our community, effectively address the root causes of crime, fear of crime, and anti-social behaviour through:

- crime prevention
- law enforcement
- public order
- assistance to victims of crime
- emergency response

Rising community expectations, continuing high demands on policing, and the increasing complexity of police work are challenging our capacity to respond effectively to community needs.

The police service is actively taking steps to change the way we do business to allow officers more time to proactively respond to community issues and police-related problems.

We are transitioning to a Problem-Oriented Policing (POP) philosophy that will be integrated into all activities across the organization, and form the cornerstone of sustainable service delivery.

The Police Services Board fully endorses this strategic direction as outlined in the Shared Directional Statement, jointly signed by the Regional Chair, the Police Services Board Chair and the Chief.

For Durham Regional Police, the POP model employs the key principles of community policing/mobilization, problem-solving, and intelligence-led policing. Its goal is to find sustainable solutions for community problems that require a police response by addressing the root causes – not only the symptoms – of problems, as a complement to core police functions.

Since many of the underlying conditions of recurring problems lie outside the police mandate, active and ongoing community participation is essential to deal with

the root causes of the problem. As a result, POP will drive the development of new partnerships with the community, and advance existing ones to support crime prevention and reduction.

Implementing Problem-Oriented Policing, in addition to our traditional law enforcement approaches, will promote more sustainable solutions to crime and other problems.

