



Ontario Provincial Police
Wellington County Detachment



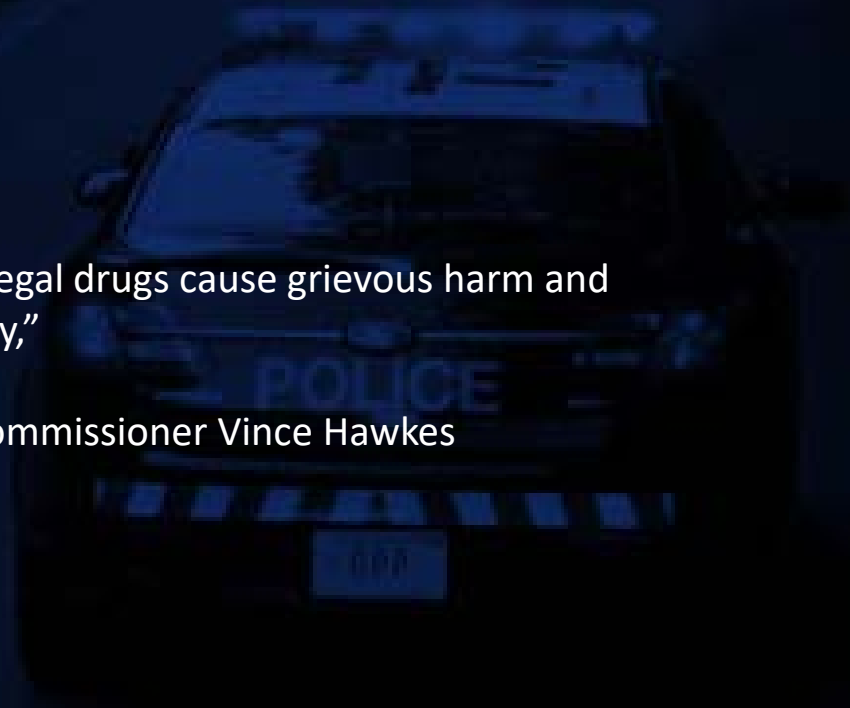
**Inspector Scott Lawson
Ontario Provincial Police
Detachment Commander**



**Town of Minto Council Meeting
02 October 2018**

“The OPP recognize that illegal drugs cause grievous harm and threatens community safety,”

- OPP Commissioner Vince Hawkes



Quarter Million Dollar Drug Bust in Wellington

A tip on a stolen vehicle ended up in a major drug bust in Guelph on New Year's Eve.

The investigation led officers to a hotel, where officers uncovered a significant amount of illicit drugs, cash and drug trafficking paraphernalia. Officers arrested three people, including a man wanted on an outstanding warrant and a 17 year-old girl. All three are facing a long list of drug possession and drug trafficking charges.

The approximate value of the seized drugs and cash was approximately \$250,000.



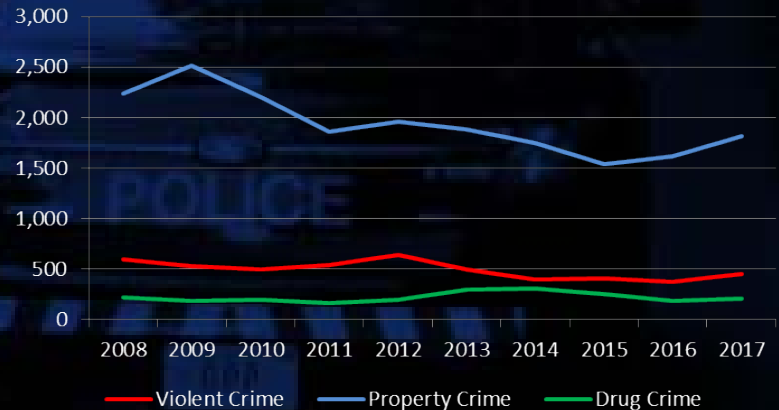
By the numbers....

Over the past 10 years the County of Wellington OPP have responded to over 249,000 occurrences in the County.

Violent crime, property crime, and drug offences account for 11% of all occurrences.

Drug offences account for less than 1% of all occurrences in the County (0.010%).

Wellington County 2008-2017 Crime Levels



What type of illicit drugs are involved ?

All of Wellington County
Average Annual Possession Incidents

Heroin	1	0%
Cocaine	9	4%
Other Drugs		
Prescription	29	14%
Cannabis	160	75%
Meth	13	6%
Ecstasy	1	1%

Fentanyl and Carfentanyl is here



What is Wellington County OPP doing ?

Community Street Crime Units

Community Mobilization & Engagement

Drug Recognition Experts

Dedicated School Officers/Youth Resiliency Officer (Human trafficking)

Federal Drug Prosecutor/Courts

Wellington Canine – “Timber”

Technology – UAV, ION Scanners, PPE

Partnerships:

- Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy
- Safe Communities
- Crime Stoppers
- I.M.P.A.C.T. Team
- Fire Services, Municipalities (CBO)
- Health Services
- School Boards

Research & Analytical Support

Crime Abatement Program

Confidential Informant Program

Community Street Crime Units

Wellington County Detachment has a Community Street Crime Unit (CSCU) to target community level drug and property crime. This Unit represents a partnership between the Detachment and the Organized Crime Enforcement Bureau (OCEB) and consists of number of plain clothes (undercover) officers deployed strategically across the County.

Property and drug crimes have a tremendous impact on our communities. High crime rates create a sense of fear within society; causing social and economic damage, which in turn leads to more incidents of crime. CSCUs play a key role in the OPP's community-based enforcement strategy by utilizing a targeted, intelligence-led approach that emphasizes harm reduction and community safety.

Integrated Mobile Police and Crisis Team (I.M.P.A.C.T)

In December 2015 the Wellington County OPP IMPACT Team became a fully operational co-response model partnering clinicians with police officers on “live” calls to provide support/assessment for those suffering from Mental Health or **Addiction**. This successful program represents a partnership between the Wellington County OPP and the Canadian Mental Health Association.

People who are experiencing significant mental health and addiction challenges are able to get immediate assessment and support where and when they need it. This has led to very positive health outcomes for the people involved.



Community Mobilization & Engagement

The program emphasizes that crime prevention, citizen engagement and public education are key roles of the Police and it is the cornerstone of any potential success in keeping our communities safe.

Partnership, partnership, partnership!



Drug Recognition Experts (DRE)

With the upcoming decriminalization of cannabis under Bill C-45 the Ontario Provincial Police is working diligently to train additional Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) officers.

Currently OPP has over 100 DRE officers and 480 Standardized Field Sobriety Test, or SFST trained officers.

Wellington County Detachment has two DRE's (one is a provincial instructor) and a number of SFST trained members.



School Resource Officers

Wellington County OPP has a strong and successful School Officer Program.

The program is designed for police to connect with elementary and high school age youth, in the school setting, in an effort to build rapport, reduce stigma, educate, reduce victimization and proactively prevent crimes committed by and amongst young persons.

The program includes officers delivering drug and alcohol awareness lectures. Cannabis legalization education is planned.



Crime Stoppers

Incorporated in 1988 (30 year Anniversary), Crime Stoppers Guelph Wellington is a non-profit charitable program which combines the best efforts of the media, the community and the police in the fight against crime.

The goal is to promote awareness within the community and to educate students and the public in making communities safer.

Police act on anonymous tip information provided to them by Crime Stoppers.

\$166,490

Rewards Paid

2,258

Cases Cleared

\$37,487,583

Monies Recovered

1,544

Arrests Made



Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy

Mission:

We take action to prevent and respond to local substance use and addiction issues.

Vision:

We envision communities in Guelph-Wellington free from harm related to substance use.

Partnership:

Dedicated Wellington OPP Detective Sergeant on Steering Committee.



Research & Analytic Support

The OPP's use of sophisticated data analytics enables the organization to use an evidence-based, measurable approach to deploying resources.

Data assists the organization with taking a "strategic patrol" approach to public safety, which places police officers in locations where the needs for enforcement and other services are greatest.

ANALYTICS



Cannabis 'Legalization'



Cannabis will be regulated by the Federal Bill C-45 also known as “The Cannabis Act” as well as Bill 174 known as the “Cannabis, Smoke-Free Ontario and Road Safety Statute Law Amendment Act, 2017” and comes into force on October 17th, 2018.

In Ontario cannabis rules are a combination of federal and provincial legislation:

- Age limit is 19 years or older (adult) to use, buy, possess, distribute and cultivate in Ontario
- Adult can possess up to 30g of legal dried cannabis or equivalent in public
- Adult can share up to 30g of cannabis or equivalent with another adult
- Adult can grow up to 4 plants for personal use (per residence/not per person)
- Adult can make cannabis products (e.g Edibles) at home, no organic solvents (oils)
- No limit on how much cannabis can be possessed in the home
- Provincially-authorized retailers can sell dried or fresh cannabis, cannabis oil and cannabis seeds
- Some rules are different for medical cannabis
- When transporting cannabis in a vehicle or boat, unless otherwise exempt, the cannabis must be packaged in a way that it is fastened closed or is not otherwise readily available to any person in the vehicle or boat.

Cannabis 'Legalization'

Canada

Ontario

Criminal Offences for enforcement (penalty ranges from a fine to 14 years imprisonment):

- Distribution over a certain limit by an adult, young person and organization
- Possession for the purpose of distribution /purpose of selling
- Possession of anything intended to be used for production or distributing
- No import/export
- Currently no ticketing – the Ontario Government continues to discuss options available regarding the implementation of “ticketable” offences for cannabis

Cannabis 'Legalization'



Designed to better regulate cannabis to discourage its use by minors and to disrupt our country's massive illegal cannabis market.

Legalizes and regulates the production, distribution and consumption of recreational cannabis in Canada.

Personal Cultivation

Provinces, territories or municipalities, acting on their own authorities, would be able to impose further restrictions related to personal cultivation, including with respect to plant height. They will be in a better position to assess the necessity and feasibility of such measures and their enforcement.

Cannabis 'Legalization'



Provinces Territories and Municipalities

Provinces and territories, acting on their own authorities, would also have the ability to:

- increase but not lower the minimum age,
- lower the possession limit, and
- impose additional requirements on personal cultivation.

Municipalities, if they do not already have, will be able to set additional restrictions and local requirements related to cannabis:

- setting zoning restrictions for cannabis-related businesses and
- restricting where cannabis can be consumed in public.

Cannabis 'Legalization'



You will only be able to use recreational cannabis in:

- a private residence, including the outdoor space of a home (for example, a porch or back yard)
- your unit or on your balcony, if you live in a multi-unit building like an apartment or condo, but that depends on your building's rules or your lease agreement

You will not be allowed to use recreational cannabis in:

- any public place
- workplaces
- motorized vehicles

These rules will be in place to protect people from second-hand cannabis smoke, and reduce youth and young adult exposure to cannabis. Using cannabis in public can result in a fine of up to \$1,000 for a first offence and up to \$5,000 for subsequent offences.

Cannabis 'Legalization'



Purchasing Cannabis - Ontario Cannabis Store

As of October 17, 2018, the Ontario Cannabis Store website will be the only legal option for purchasing recreational cannabis. It will follow strict rules set by the federal government. You will also be able to purchase legal seeds from the online government store.

The government will also introduce legislation that, if passed, would open up a tightly regulated private retail model for cannabis that would launch by April 1, 2019. Private stores would be regulated, with the protection of youth and children as a top priority, and will help the province combat the illegal market.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/cannabis-legalization>

Cannabis 'Legalization'



What can Municipalities consider ?

- Liaise with community groups and law enforcement regarding issues surrounding drug activity in the community.
- Encourage reporting of illegal drug activity to the proper authorities/Crime Stoppers.
- As necessary, develop by-laws and enforcement strategies to regulate production, sale and distribution of legal cannabis within the municipality.
- Utilize existing municipal by-laws to deter illegal drug activity in the community (ie noise, trespassing, public area restrictions, derelict properties, etc).

Drug Impaired Driving



Amendments to the Highway Traffic Act (in force)

- Zero tolerance sanctions for young, novice and commercial drivers where the presence of drugs are detected by the approved screening equipment
- Zero tolerance sanctions do not apply if the individual (young/novice/commercial) is authorized to use cannabis for a medical purpose

August 27th, 2018 – Drager Drug Test 5000 listed by the Attorney General;

- Ability to detect THC (cannabis) and cocaine using saliva swab sample
- Standards being developed
- Federal funding to purchase
- Training being developed
- Ont Gov't, OPP and other police services discussing the use of this particular Drager screener

Illicit Markets



Grow operations under the medical cannabis:

- Users /applications may increase (speculative)
- Illegal or non-conforming medical grows may rise as result – increase organized crime footprint
- Health Canada very aware and working towards solutions with police

Illegal Cannabis Store:

- Approx. 232 illegal cannabis storefronts operating in Ontario
- 88% are located in municipally policed communities
- 10% are located on First Nations Lands, and
- 2% are in communities policed by the OPP

Enforcement Challenges

Need for standard policies, procedures and practices to deal with:

- Determining quantity of 30g of cannabis vs over 50g of cannabis (illegal)— field methods being developed to determine this without handling product
- Identification of medical cannabis users and their possession limits – work with Ministry to propose reverse onus proof
- Storage of seized cannabis at police facilities – new rules around disposal that need to be formalized
- Home cultivation – part of the public awareness campaign
 - Yield amount
 - Exposure to youth
 - Mould and fire hazard
 - Making concentrates – eg. Shatter
 - Calls for service – eg. Smell
 - Prosecution – lack of awareness

Human Resource Challenges



Considerations include:

- Employees operating vehicles / machinery
- Detection and testing
- Decreased work performance
- Disciplinary procedures
- Attendance
- Medical cannabis use



Questions / Discussion

Inspector Scott Lawson
Detachment Commander

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