

Media Release

Ontario's Police Leaders Release List of Community Safety and Well-being Issues Ahead of Provincial Election

For Immediate Release: May 23, 2018

(Toronto, ON) – Ontario's police leaders today identified five key priority issues which the next Government of Ontario can act to improve community safety and promote the overall well-being of communities across the Province.

As Ontario voters head to the polls on June 7, 2018, the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP) is calling on political parties to commit to delivering on the following issues:

A **formalized, collaborative Provincial strategy** to help our police personnel deal with 21st century social disorder & mental health challenges that many people in the Province are facing to ensure the safety and well-being of all our communities.

A new Provincial **Cybercrime Strategy**.

Leveraging road safety technologies to better safeguard and save lives on Provincial and municipal roadways; a **zero tolerance approach to cannabis** in a driver's system.

Sustainable **First Nations police funding and staffing**.

A **new, sustainable Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB) model** to meet law enforcement needs.

"Policing is an essential public service. Our citizens have the right to demand the utmost professionalism and accountability from their police officers and personnel," said OACP President Chief Bryan Larkin. "Ontarians also expect their police leaders to clearly outline issues that lawmakers should be aware of and act on. Following the Provincial election, we will advocate on behalf of all Ontarians and our police service members on the issues we have identified."

While the OACP works with lawmakers and community partners on many different issues that directly or indirectly impact the effective delivery of policing in Ontario, the OACP Board of Directors has identified these issues as critical for the immediate, post-election future. Delegates attending the OACP's 2018 Annual Meeting (#OACP2018), to be held June 10 to 13 in Huntsville, will consider other public policy issues and resolutions.

Ontario's police leaders do not endorse any political party or platform. The OACP provides elected officials (during elections, candidates for political office) with expert input on public safety issues.



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The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police is the voice of Ontario's Police Leaders

Members of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police serve their communities as the senior police leaders in municipal, regional, provincial, national, & First Nations police services across Ontario.

Priority Issue for Community Safety & Well-being in Ontario (2018)

Priority Community Safety & Well-being Issues	
<i>Ontario's police leaders have identified the following issues as priorities for community safety-and well-being in our Province:</i>	<i>What Ontario's police leaders and Ontarians need the new Government of Ontario to commit to:</i>
A formalized, collaborative Provincial strategy to help our police personnel deal with 21 st century social disorders & mental health challenges to ensure the safety and well-being of all our communities.	The new Government of Ontario should introduce and fund a formalized, collaborative Provincial strategy to help our police personnel deal with 21 st century social disorders & mental health challenges. The new Government of Ontario should also work with the OACP, police services, and community partners such as the Centre for Addictions & Mental Health to develop such a strategy.
A new Provincial Cybercrime Strategy .	The new Government of Ontario should support and fund a Provincial cybercrimes strategy as already developed by the Ontario Provincial Police. The strategy should build on and go beyond the current Provincial strategy which focuses on combatting on-line child exploitation.
Leveraging road safety technologies to better safeguard and save lives on Provincial and municipal roadways; a zero tolerance approach to cannabis in a driver's system.	The new Government of Ontario should commit to leveraging road safety technologies such as photo radar in community and school safety zones on Provincial highways and municipal roadways; allow for electronic surveillance on school buses; support Automated License Plate Recognition (ALPR) systems, and increase MTO cameras and signage to help reduce traffic queuing collisions. The new Government of Ontario should also support a zero tolerance approach when it comes to having cannabis in a driver's system (not just graduated drivers, commercial drivers, etc.) until improved screening devices are in place.
Sustainable First Nations police funding and staffing .	The new Government of Ontario should provide sustainable funding and staffing for First Nations police services in Ontario. The new Government of Ontario should also continue to support the provisions for First Nations police services in the <i>Safer Ontario, 2018 Act</i> .
A new, sustainable Workplace Safety & Insurance Board (WSIB) model to meet law enforcement needs.	The new Government of Ontario should work with Ontario's police leaders to develop and introduce a new, sustainable WSIB model, one that addresses the funding challenges facing Ontario police services, which is impacting front-line staffing.