

Media Release

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Ontario Police Leaders Statement on Street Checks

(Mississauga, ON) – Ontario police leaders meeting at the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police's (OACP) 2015 Annual Meeting in Peel Region issued the following statement today regarding the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services' announcement on street checks:

Ontario's police leaders welcomed today's announcement by the Honourable Yasir Naqvi regarding development of rules governing street checks.

Police leaders in Ontario recognize that we can only meet the public's expectations for fair and bias-neutral policing when we have the public's confidence. The OACP will work with the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services to strike the appropriate balance between public safety and personal rights when it comes to street checks. These rules may include such things as training standards, supervision, oversight, and retention policies.

Interacting with the community is a critical component of how police officers carry out their duties in order to protect the public and maintain public safety. A small number of these interactions result in street checks. Also critical is that members of the public not be reluctant to interact with police officers in their community. We recognize the importance of maintaining a relationship of trust between the community and the police. It is important that we maintain an appropriate balance between an individual's rights and the community's need for safety, security, and well-being.

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For information on the 2015 OACP Annual Meeting, please visit www.oacpconference.on.ca



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