

Resolution 2013-04

Provincial Victim Assistance Ontario (VAO) Modernization Proposal Approved at the 62nd Annual General Meeting June 2013

WHEREAS the Province of Ontario has undertaken a project to revamp victim services including an amalgamation of the existing VCAR's, Supportlink and VQRP programs into one, and

WHEREAS the driver behind this change is to provide effective, high quality support to victims of crime through a restructuring process that would occur within the confines of the existing provincial VCAR's, Supportlink and VQRP funding allotment, and

WHEREAS the November 2012 release of the proposed VAO program was met with a great deal of concern from those who currently delivered the services, resulting in a level of concern and feedback which caused an interim cessation of the program by the Ministry of the Attorney General to allow for further consultation, and

WHEREAS upon completion of the Ministry consultation process, a final report was prepared that did not reference victims of tragic circumstances or police-based victim service unit funding, which need to be addressed to ensure a fair and equitable program is developed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police calls on the Government of Ontario to recognize victims of tragic circumstances and include them in any future proposal dealing with victims' assistance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police calls on the Government of Ontario to work with police-based victim service providers, who agree to provide services that are consistent with provincially supported victim services, in the development of a funding formula which would augment victims' services in those communities.