



# **A Collaborative Approach to Critical Incident Management**

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Ontario Provincial Police

# Ontario Provincial Police

## Who We Are

The Ontario Provincial Police

- One of North America's largest deployed police services
- Employs more than 6,000 uniformed officers, 3,000 civilian employees and 850 auxiliary officers.
- Provides essential services that ensure the safety and security of the people of the Province of Ontario.



Ontario Provincial Police

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## Who We Are

The Commissioner is the highest ranking member of the OPP

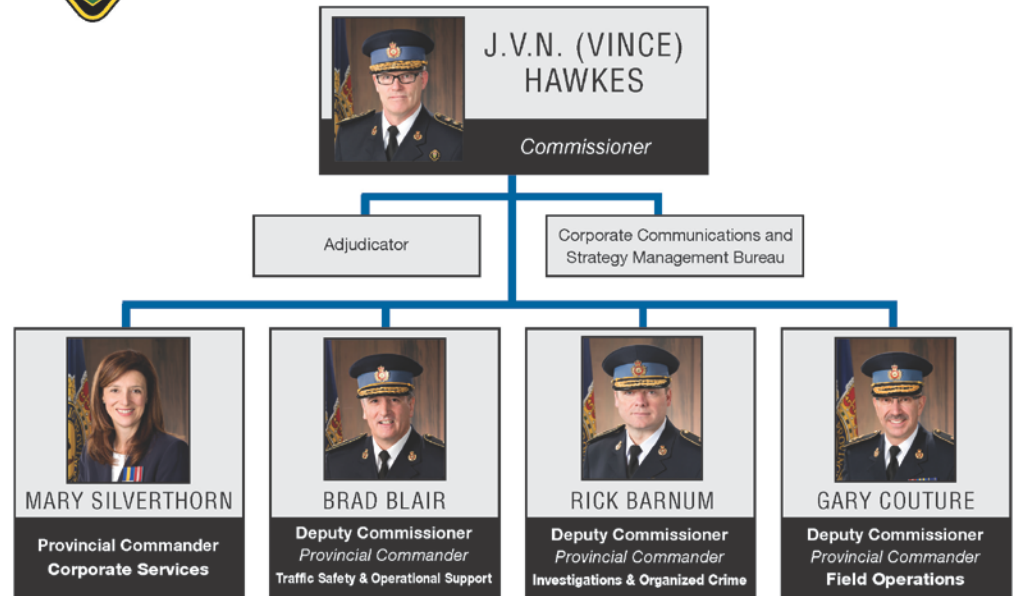
- oversees all aspects of what the OPP does.

The organization is divided into four commands:

- Traffic Safety and Operational Support
- Corporate Services
- Investigations and Organized Crime
- Field Operations



## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# Ontario Provincial Police

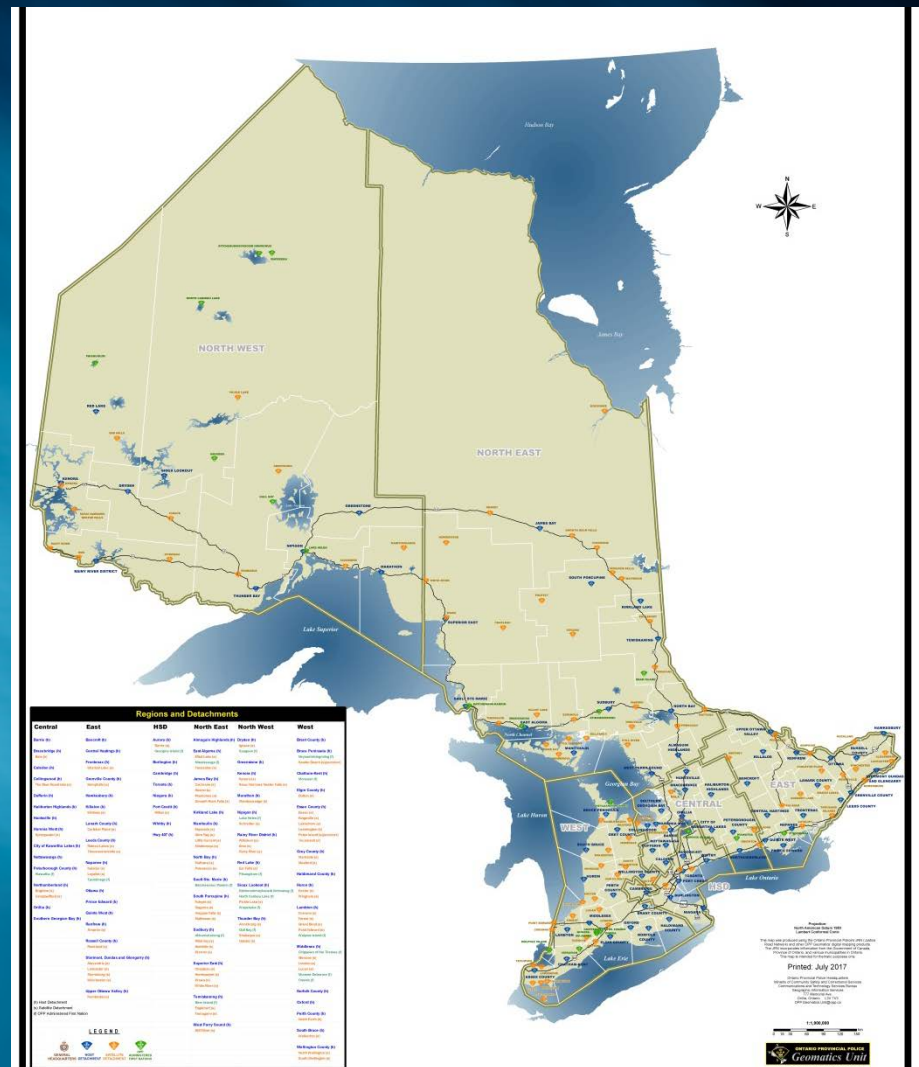
## Who We Serve

We provide both municipal and provincial policing services:

- 323 municipalities with the Province of Ontario
- including more than 125,000 kilometres of highways and 90,000 square kilometers of waterways
- 163 detachments
- 4,624 vehicles

We lead or coordinate multi-jurisdictional initiatives including:

- Provincial Strategy to Protect Children from Sexual Abuse and Exploitation on the Internet
- Ontario Sex Offender Registry
- Anti-Human Trafficking Investigation Co-ordination Team
- Provincial Asset Forfeiture Unit



# Specialty Units within the Ontario Provincial Police

- Canine Unit
- Chemical Biological Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Team (CBRNE)
- Crisis Negotiators
- Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- Tactics and Rescue Unit (TRU)



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# Critical Incident Management

In order to succeed during a major or critical incident there must first be a solid relationship built on trust and an understanding of each party's role, responsibilities and capacities.

What's needed:

- Dialogue and sharing of information
- Common vision i.e. keeping communities safe which includes employees and officers, local community and the province
- Planning
- Preparedness



*The key to successful planning is thoughtful preparation*

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# Memorandum of Understanding

## The tool

Creating a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) helps to solidify the relationship, encourage ongoing communication and information sharing. It defines what can be deemed a *critical incident* and who will assume *Critical Incident Command*.

### Points for inclusion:

- Shared language
- Common vision
- Defined roles and responsibilities of each agency
- Identified Senior level decision makers needed
- Identified Subject Matter Experts (SME)
- Obligation for joint training
- Coordinated media and public messaging

### The outcome

- Safer environment
- Quicker de-escalation
- Joint messaging to public and media

# Memorandum of Understanding

## The training

Establishing and executing jointly prepared exercises ensures everyone involved is well prepared.

### Different levels of exercises:

- Table top
- General law enforcement level involvement (local detachment)
- Fully integrated (includes SMEs and specialized enforcement units)

### Lessons Learned

- Liaison officer position
- Including SMEs from the beginning from all partners
- Importance of sharing expectations and welcoming feedback



# Beyond the Incident

## Our role in protecting the public and enforcing the law

Once a critical incident has been de-escalated, we must resume our primary role as police officers. This involves:

- Bringing in additional specialized units (as required):
  - Criminal Investigations Bureau
  - Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau
  - Provincial Anti-Terrorism Section
  - Major Case Management Unit
  - Behavioural Sciences and Analysis Section
- Completing a thorough investigation surrounding the incident:
  - determine cause
  - person(s) responsible
- Work with Bruce Power:
  - Sharing of information/intelligence to support bringing a suspect to justice

Working together to promote safe communities through respectful ongoing relationship at every level.