

Report to / Rapport au:

**OTTAWA POLICE SERVICES BOARD
LA COMMISSION DE SERVICES POLICIERS D'OTTAWA**

25 November 2019 / 25 novembre 2019

Submitted by / Soumis par:

Chief of Police, Ottawa Police Service / Chef de police, Service de police d'Ottawa

Contact Person / Personne ressource:

**John Steinbachs, Director, Corporate Communications / Directeur
Communications générales
*Steinbachsj@ottawapolice.ca***

SUBJECT: LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

OBJET: LETTRES DE MENTION ÉLOGIEUSE

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Ottawa Police Services Board receive this report for information.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que la Commission de services policiers d'Ottawa prenne connaissance du présent rapport à titre d'information.

BACKGROUND

Attached for the information of the Board are excerpts from letters of appreciation / thanks received from the public since the last regular meeting for services rendered by members of the Ottawa Police Service (OPS).

Date Received: 23 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Marie-France Carmichael

Excerpt from letter: I want to thank the officer who responded to our break-in at our house. Constable Marie-France Carmichael's response to us, and to an additional 'victim,' was very professional; complete, clear and polite.

Date Received: 26 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Alan Porteous

Excerpt from letter: I wanted to take a moment to commend the actions of Constable Alan Porteous. He is the School Resource Officer for our area and we have frequent interactions. Cst. Porteous was visiting us and as he was leaving, he noticed a young girl admiring the vehicle and he took the time, out of what I know had been a busy day, to give her a full tour of his vehicle, with all the bells and whistles. It was evident she was thrilled with the experience and her parents, who were looking on, were very grateful. A few other children stopped by to enjoy the show and interaction with the constable. It was absolutely lovely to observe the children have an incredibly joyous experience with the police. I'm sure it was a very small part of his day, and possibly something he does on a regular basis, but from an outside observer it was an important moment.

Date Received: 26 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Sergeant David Brennan

Excerpt from letter: I wanted to express my gratitude for the time Sergeant David Brennan took to change my flat left front tire this afternoon. That was a very kind and decent thing to do - particularly as I am still in a walker! You may think it wasn't a big deal, but my experience is that it's always the little things that matter.

Date Received: 28 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Jesse Hewitt

Excerpt from letter: My daughter was sexually assaulted. As you can imagine this has severely emotionally and mentally affected her in the worst possible way. Victim Services was concerned about my daughter's state of mind after a phone call and contacted the OPS to conduct a wellness check. Constable Jesse Hewitt responded and talked with my daughter for some time and then arranged for her to go to the hospital. He stayed with my daughter at the hospital until he had to leave on another call. During their talk Cst. Hewitt provided my daughter with his number and told her to call him anytime she feels suicidal or just needed to talk. To my surprise my daughter did contact Cst. Hewitt many times, and because of his courageous words of wisdom and support, my daughter now feels safe to go out again. Cst. Hewitt to me is not just another officer, he saved my daughter's life and for that he is and will always be a hero to me and my family.

Date Received: 30 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable John Webster

Excerpt from letter: Last night my husband and I were out for a walk with our 2-year-old son, when he saw a police car pull someone over and had its lights flashing. We kept him away until the officer was done. I have never seen my son be so patient while he waited to see the police car up-close. When we approached, just to say hi, the police officer lowered his window. He invited my son to sit in his car and showed him the lights, handcuffs, and flashlight. My son was in heaven. I just want to say thank you to Constable John Webster. You took the time to make a little boy and his parents so happy. I've been telling everyone today what a wonderful police service we have.

Date Received: 30 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Mark Bradley

Excerpt from letter: I would sincerely like to thank the Constable Mark Bradley and the others who responded to what appeared to be a suicide attempt this morning. Both officers did an outstanding job preventing her from jumping and lifting her back onto the walkway from the outside edge of the bridge. They consoled her until further help arrived. A third officer stood on the ground and was ready to break her fall if she jumped free or fell during her rescue. The officers truly represent the best of our police service.

Date Received: 30 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constables Constable Kyle O'Grady, Jason Meehan, Thomas Mondoux, Jermaine Spence, Jamie Lalonde, Paul Anca, Jerilyn McDade, and Sergeant Edward Yeoumans

Excerpt from letter: I was driving, when all of a sudden, a silver SUV pulled in front of me and the car beside me, blocking us in. A man without a shirt on got out of the SUV and started screaming out 'I surrender! I surrender!' A police car pulled up to the side of the road, where it was safe, and two officers got out and told the man to get down. One officer handcuffed him and another officer got into the man's car to unblock the traffic. I couldn't believe what I had seen and I felt like I was in a high-speed car chase movie. The way the two police officers handled the situation with such professionalism and quick response really made me feel safe and proud for what they do every day and how they have to put themselves into difficult situations to make sure our communities are safe. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Date Received: 31 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constables Sebastien Lemay

Excerpt from letter: I have had the pleasure of knowing Constable Sebastien Lemay for the past three years. On numerous occasions he has worked with my community to help make a difference. He specifically helped me find my stolen bike and helped to pursue charges against the thief. He regularly attends community meetings. His presence serves as a reminder that the OPS is engaged in our community. I recently moved, but even though Cst. Lemay is no longer our community liaison officer, I still keep in touch. He has a great ability to receive complaints from the public, turn them around, while bringing people together to resolve issues. These invaluable skills need to be recognized by OPS. He sets the standard for community policing.

Date Received: 31 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Chandra Rose

Excerpt from letter: I wanted to take a minute to say thank you to Constable Chandra Rose. My 14-year-old daughter was diagnosed with an illness we continue to battle on a daily basis. She is a very bright and loving kid but her illness can sometimes make her very impulsive and unpredictable. While we were at CHEO for a follow-up appointment she was overwhelmed and decided she was going to walk home. Unfortunately we live in a rural community about 45 minutes away so that was obviously very worrisome. Cst. Rose found her near Mooney's Bay and was very caring, reassuring and kind. She was very understanding and non-judgmental with our daughter and treated us all with compassion during a very stressful time. I wanted to thank her for her understanding and for doing a great job.

Date Received: 31 October 2019

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Paramjit Singh

Excerpt from letter: I was in a car accident and Constable Paramjit Singh made a terrible moment much better. He helped walk me through what was going on, what would happen next, and helped me by guiding me with tips regarding the tow truck service. I was still shaking as I left the scene with my car on the tow truck. My worst fears happened when the tow service refused to release my vehicle to the organization that my insurance provider requested. Cst. Singh had warned me of this possible problem. I phoned the police service and left a message for him that it had happened exactly as he had warned me and he has been so helpful in finding a resolution to retrieving my vehicle. I truly appreciate all that the police do for our community and now, I have great personal thanks as well.