

Report to / Rapport au:

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

25 April 2016 / 25 avril 2016

Submitted by / Soumis par:

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

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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: 11 March 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable Paul McCormack

Excerpts from letter: I want to pass on my gratitude to our school's exceptional School Resource Officer, Constable Paul McCormack. His approachable, open manner with children makes him a terrific role model for our students. In the last few days, I have been so thankful for Constable McCormack's support, advice, and action regarding an event with an individual from the community that made me feel unsafe at work. Despite the heavy demands from so many schools for his time, he helped to keep me, my students, and our school, safe. His professionalism, patience, and kindness are so greatly appreciated. Our community is incredibly fortunate to have his presence.

Date Received: 12 March 2016

From: Member of the Public

Excerpts from letter: Our sincere thanks for giving our five-year-old son the opportunity to meet you at the recruitment session, and also for the very generous gift bag you gave him. Our 'spy' was absolutely delighted!

Date Received: 19 March 2016

From: Member of the Public

Excerpts from letter: Thank you to the officers and paramedics who responded to my residence last night while I was in an emotionally distressed state. I am alive and getting counseling today because of them. I am tremendously grateful for your compassion and patience in these calls.

Date Received: 28 March 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable Daniel Patton

Excerpts from letter: I wish to advise you that one of your officers, Constable Daniel Paton, had the occasion to stop my vehicle on the evening of March 27. I was driving and my wife and son were passengers. The officer's conduct and demeanor were a credit to the police service. He was very polite, professional, and respectful. After a brief check of my credentials and driving record, I was given a warning and dismissed. As a senior citizen, I can tell you that his conduct was very impressive and appreciated. This

experience seemed so above expectations that I wish to ensure his conduct is fully appreciated by his management and peers.

Date Received: 30 March 2016

From: Member of the Public

Excerpts from letter: On Monday, March 28, my mom called the police because she thought I was going to drive while impaired. Subsequently, at least three officers showed up to my home to have a chat. I would like to thank everyone involved (dispatchers, 911 operators, and the attending officers) for their prompt and very professional response. Their tact and overall demeanour were more than excellent and I commend every one of them for a job well done. My eternal gratitude to all of you who serve our city and country with pride, honour, and professionalism. Thank you very much.

Date Received: 31 March 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable Jennifer Froh

Excerpts from letter: A few months ago I participated in the Women's Only Information and PREP workshop provided by the Ottawa Police Service at Algonquin College. I coasted through both of the physical sections and did not achieve a passing time on the obstacle course or shuttle run stages, which was largely due to my mental game. I remember that we spoke afterwards regarding this and you gave me some very helpful advice that stuck with me throughout my preparation. I wanted to take this opportunity to reach out to you and thank you for helping me through this component that I was struggling with. The workshop made a significant impact on my preparedness, and I am pleased to announce that I have successfully completed my OACP certificate and submitted my police constable application with the Ottawa Police Service. I hope the women's workshop continues to facilitate the gap between applicants and the testing, as it created a relaxed environment that enabled me to work on my weaknesses, while also allowing me to network with like-minded women.

Date Received: 1 April 2016

From: Lieutenant-Detective with the Montreal Police Service

OPS Member: Constables Christopher Rhone and Carlos Zapata

Excerpts from letter: We would like to express our gratitude to you and your police service for all of your efforts and assistance in one of our projects involving five subjects believed to be behind six robberies over a 13 month period. Detectives Christopher

Rhone and Carlos Zapata assisted our investigators in carrying out search warrants and restraining order notifications. They were very helpful and my investigators were very pleased with the help they received. Please accept our sincerest gratitude for the great work done by your two officers.

Date Received: 2 April 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable John Webster

Excerpts from letter: This past weekend a neighbour became involved in a domestic issue and asked that I come over for moral support. One of your officers responded to the call and it is his actions I wish to comment on. His name was John Webster. This constable personified professionalism. He exhibited every trait you would want and expect in a member of your department or any department for that matter. He was very calm, poised, and presented the characteristics of a very seasoned professional. He very quickly provided the complainant with reassurance that all was well/safe and there was hope for she and her children. His mannerisms, speech, and advice collectively provided the complainant and her parents with a sense of calmness and dealt with the personal angst these situations create. He had a wealth of wisdom, reasoning, and understanding and should be recognized for the credit he brings to the Ottawa Police and to himself.

Date Received: 7 April 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable Alexia Campoli

Excerpts from letter: On Thursday March 31, 2016, a recently retired member of the Toronto Police Service was travelling from Toronto to Halifax by air and had a flight transfer in Ottawa that day. As a bit of context, this individual has suffered medical events in the past couple of years that have significantly diminished his physical and cognitive abilities. During his transfer at the airport, he became separated from his personal identification documents that prohibited him from getting onboard his connecting flight. Due to his circumstance and condition he was directed to, or sought out members of the Ottawa Police Service. Several members were of assistance to him, including Constable Alexia Campoli. On his behalf, and the behalf of the Toronto Police Service, I wish to extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Constable Campoli, the other OPS members, and all that assisted during this incident. Thank you for your service to the community.

Date Received: 7 April 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constable Daniel Patton

Excerpts from letter: I was hit by a car on November 16 at the intersection of Britannia and Carling. A good Samaritan contacted the police and ambulance. Constable Patton was the officer who responded. I asked him to contact my wife and he went to my residence to calm her and then drove her to the hospital where I was taken for treatment. Thank you very much for your service, help, and support. Words are not enough to express the feelings I had when I saw my wife brought to see me and comfort me. We would like more police officers like Constable Patton who are caring and efficient in their service. Our thanks for him and the Ottawa Police.

Date Received: 11 April 2016

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Constables Keri Saunders and Kelly Ryan

Excerpts from letter: On March 23, 2016, we were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Innes Road. Two officers attended the scene, Cst. Keri Saunders and Cst. Kelly Ryan. We would like to bring to your attention their investigative abilities, care, and compassion. We had just left Costco and had perishable food in our vehicle. Cst. Kelly Ryan took responsibility of the situation and she removed the groceries from our car and brought them to a station to be put in a fridge and freezer. Cst. Saunders recognized our vehicle was driveable so she moved our car from the roadway to a safe parking area, attaching a sign to it as to why it was parked there. We were taken to the hospital by ambulance and Cst. Saunders followed up with us. She spoke with our daughter via cellphone and advised her where to retrieve our vehicle and groceries. We want to extend our sincere thanks to Cst. Saunders and Cst. Ryan for the help we received that day. Ottawa Police are very fortunate to have the service of these two officers and their calibre of work ethic.