

**Report to / Rapport au:**

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

**25 March 2019 / 25 mars 2019**

**Submitted by / Soumis par:**

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

**Contact Person / Personne ressource:**

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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: 17 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** I want to commend all those who took part in the landfill search for the missing woman. These were no doubt under adverse conditions, including the weather and the surroundings. This story is a true inspiration of dedication. Great job; you all deserve a medal.

**Date Received: 18 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** As a teen who will be going into the military in a few years and has been helped personally by Ottawa police before, I would like to just say thank you; many people deeply respect you and thank you for what you are doing.

**Date Received: 15 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constables Kirk Baston and Daniel Alary**

**Excerpt from letter:** I was involved in a single-vehicle collision and I just wanted to send my appreciation to the two police officers who had arrived to make sure everyone was okay. This was my first car accident, so I was shaken, embarrassed, and a little bit lost. Both officers were super helpful, friendly, and understanding. They also joked with me and brought levity to the situation, which made me feel so much better about the fact that my car was completely sideways in a snowbank. I want to thank them for all of their help. What started out as a scary situation ended up being totally fine; and that can be credited to the fact that both officers are great at what they do.

**Date Received: 15 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Joey McCormick**

**Excerpt from letter:** I am 72-years-old and I tried to back out of my driveway and got stuck on the snow ridge left by the city plow. An off-duty policeman in a black truck immediately stopped and offered to help. He had worked until 3 that morning, but was very gracious and helpful and patient and kind, and didn't make me feel stupid for having gotten stuck. I just want to let the Service know that one of your officers did me a very good turn today and I want to say thank you to him.

**Date Received: 21 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constables Hussein Assaad, Owen Carroll, Craig Fairbairn, Sarah Standing, Sergeant Damien Laflamme, Staff Sergeant Dave Bal, and Peggy Staruch**

**Excerpt from letter:** I am delighted to see your new posters, especially the one that says YOU ARE NOT ALONE and the list of indicators for human trafficking. I imagine you are aware of the idea about placing stickers in every washroom so women can call for help when they are being trafficked. It seems the public washroom is one of the only places they are alone. Your poster would make a great sticker for the Ottawa area. Thank you for all you are doing to end this horrific crime.

**Date Received: 21 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** I wanted to express how well the process went to obtain a level 2 check for my 15-year-old son. Excellent work on improving the process and introducing the online component! I had to do this a few years ago with my other son and it was painful and long. This time it was maybe 5-10 minutes online and less than 10 minutes in person. Great job, we greatly appreciate the improvement.

**Date Received: 21 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constables Katarzyna Dumont and Joshua Callaghan, and James Boudreau**

**Excerpt from letter:** I have been suffering with mental health issues for a long time, and I had reached a breaking point. My girlfriend called 911 and I was talking to the dispatcher for quite a long time. He was super helpful and talked me through a lot of problems until police arrived. Constables Katarzyna Dumont and Joshua Callaghan were very respectful, helpful, and brought me in to the hospital to talk to some health professionals. Both officers were so respectful while I was crying and just made me feel like I wasn't alone. Per protocol they had to stay with me in the hospital until a doctor saw me which ended up being a few hours. The conversations, the interactions with them, were actually very amazing and one of them even shared his struggles with anxiety. I want to send you my sincere gratitude in the way you made me feel comfortable. Officers can get a lot of negative attention but man, when you need them and they are there for you. It really makes you appreciate the services we have here.

**Date Received: 25 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Alec Moraru**

**Excerpt from letter:** Shout out to Constable Moraru for superior service and a calming, pleasant approach Friday when my wife was rear-ended by a distracted driver. It was the first accident for her since she got her licence 60 years ago. Thank you sir!

**Date Received: 24 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Alec Moraru**

**Excerpt from letter:** We would like to thank Constable Alec Moraru for his kindness, compassion and understanding during a difficult situation at our house.

**Date Received: 26 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Jeffery Kostuch**

**Excerpt from letter:** On behalf of the Ron Kolbus Lakeside Centre I want to thank you all for your support of our 26th Annual Winter Garden Party. In particular, we would like to thank Constable Jeffery Kostuch who visited our event and allowed to kids to tour his police cruiser. Our guests truly enjoyed your visit! We hope we will see you again next year.

**Date Received: 26 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Rebecca Vanderwater, Sergeants Peter McKenna, Jeff Leblanc, Staff Sergeant Kevin Kennedy**

**Excerpt from letter:** Good morning, I live in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and I just wanted to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for doing an amazing job for our United We Roll convoy. Thank you protecting us and directing traffic when we came in and when we left. You guys are amazing.

**Date Received: 27 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** Just a thanks for seeing traffic officers at the intersection near my house. We hope to see a continued presence in our neighbourhood.

**Date Received: 28 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Luc Mongeon**

**Excerpt from letter:** I was pulled over for speeding by Constable Luc Mongeon. The officer politely explained why I was pulled over and the severity of my actions. After the ticket was issued, Cst. Mongeon took valuable time out of his day to explain how the equipment worked, as well as its accuracy. I want to commend him on his continued hard work and understanding. Thank you for your time, it was greatly valued.

**Date Received: 28 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constables Hak Taing, Lisa Beaucage, Brayden Moore, Scott Herriot, Marc Desjardins, Sergeant Jose Brownrigg**

**Excerpt from letter:** We want to take this moment to thank the Ottawa Police Service for the great work in not only recovering my son's stolen car but also for catching the individuals who broke into many cars in our neighbourhood. Our family understands the difficult task and circumstances police officers encounter each day. They are true professionals!

**Date Received: 28 February 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** Thank you for your service.

**Date Received: 1 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** While driving to work this morning I heard on the radio this morning of a recent RIDE program where approximately 700 drivers were stopped and various fines were issued such as driving without a licence, driving while on probation, careless driving, driving while using a cellphone, etc. KEEP UP THE GREAT WORK!

**Date Received: 7 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: Constable Laura Monette**

**Excerpt from letter:** I would like to thank the officer who was involved when my mother needed help. Even though my mother was in crisis, Constable Laura Monette was patient and helpful not only with her, but myself as well. Thank you!

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**Excerpt from letter:** Thank you for the terrific policing that resulted in charging the person who posted animal cruelty on social media.

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: F Platoon**

**Excerpt from letter:** Thank you so much, from Montreal, for helping that elderly man with all the snow. A lot of class, a lot of respect I have for you guys. Helping each other like that; things like that put a smile on my face that's for sure. Bravo and bravo again!

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: F Platoon**

**Excerpt from letter:** I just wanted to write and tell you how proud I am to be a citizen of Ottawa where officers in our city did a beautiful act of kindness for this man who was snowed in. Kudos to these officers for their great deed, and doing something wonderful in our community.

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: F Platoon**

**Excerpt from letter:** Please extend my congratulations and admiration to the Ottawa police personnel who fully embodied the spirit of 'to serve and protect' by rescuing an elderly Ottawa resident housebound because of excessive snowfall. Way to go!

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: F Platoon**

**Excerpt from letter:** Wanted to take a moment to extend a big "thank you" to the officers who graciously offered to "free" this senior from being trapped inside his house due to the large amounts of snow. God Bless you both for making sure he was OK, for shoveling out his driveway, and for bringing him groceries. You are an inspiration.

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: F Platoon**

**Excerpt from letter:** Just wanted to say thank you to your fellow officers for their big hearts as well as their care and compassion towards the elderly gentleman by taking the time to shovel and clear out his pathways, as well as getting proper supports put in place for him. As a social service worker, I really appreciate the kind gestures that your officers displayed. It certainly does not go unnoticed from someone that lives in the Niagara area. So please pass along thank you's from my family to the officers who were a part of this. We need more like this in this world.

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Member of the public**

**OPS member: F Platoon**

**Excerpt from letter:** You guys rock! The officers involved exemplify what it means to serve and protect. Keep up the good work!

**Date Received: 8 March 2019**

**From: Osgoode Carleton Snow Mobile Club**

**OPS member: Marine, Dive & Trails Unit**

**Excerpt from letter:** On behalf of the Osgoode Carleton Snow Mobile Club we wish to thank you for your time and effort patrolling our trails.