

Report to / Rapport au:

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

22 June 2020 / 22 juin 2020

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: 13 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Sergeant Craig Roberts and Staff Sergeant Marc Andre Sheehy

Excerpt from Letter: Very pleased to see the results from Operation Overwatch, keep up the good work!

Date Received: 13 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Sergeant Robert Cleroux, Constables Richard Riddell, Steeve Rehel, Abraham Kaazan, Michael Gatti, Caronline Charron, James Monroe, Sean Carroll, Christian Rioux, Stephanie Perrier and Rheanna Kendrick

Excerpt from Letter: My husband and I would like express our deepest thanks and gratitude to the Ottawa Police Service. Today my son celebrated his 7th birthday -- in quarantine. Sergeant Robert Cleroux and his unit went above and beyond what we ever could have expected or imagined. He organized everyone who came to participate, and even had someone come with his drone to film the entire parade as they dropped off gifts. My son was absolutely beyond happy, thrilled and completely shocked! We all were! As a mother or father, when you have to tell your children they can't have the birthday they anticipated, it's absolutely heart-breaking. The Ottawa Police Service made this his favourite birthday ever! Once again there are not enough words to express just how thankful my family is for you all. Keep up the great work! We are all in this together!

Date Received: 21 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Donna Watson-Elliott

Excerpt from Letter: I've been working with a young woman who experienced an immense amount of trauma from a former spouse, and I've been fortunate to receive support from Donna Watson-Elliott. She has been beyond helpful with information and offering of support to my client. Just wanted to ensure that she is recognized for her non-judgmental and caring approach.

Date Received: 22 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Sean Convey

Excerpt from Letter: We were greatly relieved to have a wonderful policeman here today to mediate a property line dispute with regard to rebuilding a derelict fence that is 33 years old. In times of Covid 19 cultural differences are becoming heightened. Constable Sean Convey spoke calmly with all parties and an agreement was reached. We need more like you.

Date Received: 23 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Michael Briggs

Excerpt from Letter: Constable Michael Briggs helped me deal with a very aggressive

and rude neighbour, and made me feel very safe. He gave me good advice to help me deal with the issue. Please pass along my compliments.

Date Received: 23 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constables Georges Daher and Tyler Dubue

Excerpt from Letter: My husband and I wanted to send a compliment to the Ottawa Police Service. We reported a lost iPad last night and were helped by Constable Georges Daher and Tyler Dubue. They were extremely helpful, nice, and professional, which we greatly appreciated! Thank you for your service.

Date Received: 29 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Derek Purcell

Excerpt from Letter: My wife and I were approached by a woman in distress saying she was running from an abusive relationship. We tried to get help from Inuit and City Social Services, and shortly later Constable Derek Purcell arrived on the scene. He exhibited great patience and respect for the woman and great control of the situation. My wife and I were very impressed by his conduct.

Date Received: 29 May 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable Anne Julie Villeneuve

Excerpt from Letter: I wanted to take the time to send out a big thank you for the wonderful care, compassion and efforts made by Constable Anne Julie Villeneuve. I work in a group home and she was handling the case for one of our residents who went missing. She went out of her way to keep everyone informed, including our group home workers and his mother, and continued to update us as events progressed through the day. Thankfully he was found early Friday evening, but I felt her efforts had to be recognized. I feel lucky to know we have an officer like that on our force. Please pass on our thank you to her from our group home as well as from his mother.

Date Received: 1 June 2020

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: We are students of the International Baccalaureate program at Colonel By Secondary School in Ottawa. We are very grateful for everything you are doing during the COVID 19 pandemic to limit the spread of the virus and its effects on our community, our country and the world. We are also grateful that you continue to complete your regular work despite the conditions you are forced to work in. Your efforts are one of the few things that are giving people hope that this pandemic will soon be

over, and that we will all be able to somewhat return to our previous lifestyles. We understand this is an unprecedented time but hope we can share a message of support that you are not alone! To all the first responders, we would like to thank you for continuing your work with our interests at heart. To all, please keep your heads up for better days will come. Thank you again, and please stay safe, healthy, and upbeat!

Date Received: 2 June 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constable James Irving

Excerpt from Letter: Constable James Irving and his partner attended to a man with severe mental health issues outside a shelter today. This man is known to be extremely volatile and violent and is banned from shelters. He was covered with his own feces. Cst. Irving approached the shelter and asked if they could make an exception long enough to allow the man to have a shower; the shelter agreed. The whole time your officers stayed close, allowing the staff to do their jobs but ensuring they were safe. Your officers could have easily turned a blind eye, requested transport for him, or told him to move on, but they didn't, instead they took action to allow him to gain back some level of dignity. I watched your Officers show extreme patience and compassion towards this man and unfortunately there was no one around to watch their actions or whip out their phones to video it. I want you to know that your officers actions today were human and inspiring. They probably don't even realize the impact they had on this gentleman or on myself, who just happened to stumble across their act of compassion and kindness.

Date Received: 2 June 2020

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Constables Shannon Hobbs, Lee Payne and Tristan Bailey

Excerpt from Letter: I was wondering if it would be possible for you to pass on my thanks to Constables Shannon Hobbs, Lee Payne and Tristan Bailey? The help and support they provided me during my crisis meant a lot to me and I'm incredibly thankful for their actions that night.