

Report to / Rapport au:

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

25 October 2021 / 25 octobre 2021

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: 16 September 2021

From: Member of the public

OPS member: Cst. Williams & Cst. Randell

Excerpt from Letter: I was involved in a MVA, the two attending officers should be
commended. They handled the situation very well and were the calm force when I was
freaking out. Even though I was ticketed, I still think the officers did an excellent job in
keeping me safe and calm. There were two officers that stayed with me until the tow

truck arrived, one of them was A. Williams, officer #2470. I don't know the name of the other one. Thanks.

Date Received: 15 September 2021

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: Last week, I was walking my two-year-old son down Parkdale Avenue near the Queensway Eastern onramp. It was around 4:30pm during commute and we were waiting at the corner to cross. My son was thrilled to see a police car turning to the onramp as he happily called out "p-car!!" Not only did the friendly female officer wave and smile but she also took a moment to roll down her window and turn on the flashing lights as she drove by. I was so touched by the kindness and engagement of this patrol officer!! My son talked about it for hours afterwards. Needless to say, it made my day and I am very grateful for Ottawa's finest.

Date Received: 20 September 2021

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: I'm writing in regards to the September 6 shooting that occurred in front of Room 104.

I was working directly beside the location of the shooting and I'd like to thank the officers that were there.

When the shots went off and our bouncer told us to drop to the ground I looked at the street and I saw multiple cops ready to react with guns drawn. Knowing they were there was the only thing that made us feel safe.

When I found out what had happened I have never been more proud to have you all protecting us. The cops didn't try to shoot and that may not mean much to you but to us it meant a lot.

Working in the market we are exposed to a lot but, gunshots right behind you is quite traumatizing. If more shots had gone off I don't know that we would have been able to stay calm, but that didn't happen. They controlled the situation properly and I am so grateful for that.

Following the incident, we had so much police presence that everyone felt comfortable getting out of their hiding spots and clearing the area. I witness the cops being beyond patient with intoxicated individuals trying to cross the crime scene.

To all the cops in the market:

Thank you for your overwhelming support. I try to thank you as much as possible but I want to tell you how appreciative we all are of your presence downtown. You make me and my coworkers feel comfortable walking to our cars/Ubbers after work.

That may not mean much to you but coming from a group of women who used to all have to leave at the same time to ensure our safety it means a lot.

Thank you for the actions you took to keep us and our patrons safe on September 6. We were terrified and you remained calm to keep us safe.

We are so thankful and we want you to know how proud we are of you.

Date Received: 12 September 2021

From: Member of the public

Excerpt from Letter: I recently reported my son missing which was a result of his mental health and substance abuse issues.

I cannot express enough, the unbelievable compassion, caring and professionalism I encountered by members of the Ottawa Police Service. Detective Lord, Constables Downer and Bakrsh and Constables McDonald and Bradley were nothing short of outstanding.

I cannot thank these individuals enough. As a senior public servant with public safety, I seldom see the actual challenges faced by police on the street. I saw it first hand and while I have always respected the work by the men and women in blue, I now know firsthand some of the challenges they face. And despite that, they continue to do their job every day-and care.

Anyway, thank you does not seem nearly enough-but thank you all.

Date Received: 21 September 2021

From: Member of the public

OPS Member: Cst. Sit

Excerpt from Letter: Last night I was working for elections Canada and I am not familiar with downtown Ottawa. I was going in circles trying to get behind city hall. I came down a side street only to find an officer working. I was so excited to see that he was in his vehicle because I was so stressed for time to get the papers to them.

When I explained my story to him this very, very, kind Officer Sit went above and beyond his call of duty. He said follow me it's a bit confusing. I followed him to my destination and I cannot not thank him enough. It's a very tough job and I just want everyone to know that he is an outstanding officer. Thanks again

Date Received: 7 October 2021

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Cst. Stewart

Excerpt from Letter: My son had an accident at a motocross facility. Officer Stewart was quick to the scene and worked efficiently with ambulance and other services. He went the extra mile in keeping worried parents calm and was really pleasant. We were in touch days later and he and some fellow officers took time to come by and see my son. The four officers graciously spent time chatting up my son, gifting him with so many treasures and made us feel like the accident was almost a reason to celebrate new friendships. Your team is professional, friendly and incredible with kids and parents alike. Heroes and guardian angels are among us and we couldn't be humbled more by the help and follow up we received. Thank you, Dave, and team.

Date Received: 13 October 2021

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Cst. Fairchild & Cst. Chen

Excerpt from Letter: My mother-in-law passed away at our home at the age of 88. Constance Will Fairchild & Constable Andrew Chen responded to our 911 call for help when my wife discovered my mother-in-law's lifeless body on her bedroom floor. I can't say enough about how professional, compassionate and caring both constables were in our extremely difficult time. They assisted us in more ways than they probably know. There were many other police constables, EMS personnel, and firemen who also responded to the call for help. To all of them, a very heartfelt thanks for all you did trying to revive my mother-in-law. We know you tried your best with all means available.

Once again, my wife and I can't praise Constable Will Fairchild and Constable Andrew Chen enough for helping us in this most difficult of times. It is very comforting knowing that we have such caring, compassionate, and skilled emergency workers out there protecting all of us, day and night, 365 days a year.

Date Received: 13 October 2021

From: Member of the Public

OPS Member: Cst. Price

Excerpt from Letter: I was approached by an older man who appeared lost and confused. He did not speak English. After a few unsuccessful attempts to communicate with him, I called Police Service, non-emergency line, thinking the police would know what to do. I was not mistaken. The person on the phone line was friendly and efficient

and decided to send an officer to my location. Officer B. Price arrived quite quickly. He was kind to the lost gentleman, efficient and very professional in all interactions. He was able to track down a relative of the gentleman and arranged his safe return to family. Thank you, Police Services and Officer Price! You are much appreciated!