

# 51 Division Community Bulletin June 2007



## Message from Superintendent Jeff McGuire, Unit Commander of 51 Division

On June 19<sup>th</sup> I am assuming the rank of Staff Superintendent and I will be transferred to Headquarters where I will take command of Area Field. I will be responsible for the operations of 8 Police Divisions in 2, 3, and 4 District.

For the past 19 months I have had the opportunity to lead the women and men of 51 Division in working together with members of the community, to make their neighbourhoods a safer place to live.

In this time we have made great efforts to bring positive change to the manner in which we deliver policing services to the citizens of Toronto. The staffing of 51 Division has increased by almost 50 police officers in that time period. Those additional 50 police officers are uniform officers and the majority of them are assigned to the Community Response Unit (CRU) on foot and on bicycles. The diversity of our officers has also increased dramatically with the addition of these new officers.



Crime rates have dropped considerably in this time period as well and I attribute this to the new relationships that our officers have developed with members of the community. This drop in crime is great news for all of us although I recognize that it is of little comfort to those who have been victimized by a very small percentage of the population. We have much more work to do and we must do it together as a team.

51 Division and the youth in the area have also made great progress. The Toronto Oxmen football club was developed by officers and has given many young people the opportunity to play organized football in a league. The Youth Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) got off the ground this year as well and is helping to bring the police and the youth together to solve problems.

Initiatives such as these are the foundation for safety, security and mutual respect in our neighbourhoods. Please continue to make an effort to become involved with the women and men of 51 Division.

I will always remember my time at 51 Division as an important and rewarding life experience.

Jeff McGuire  
Superintendent

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## Project Renew

On February the 8th 2007, 51 Division undertook a three month Crime Management Strategy under the name of "Renew." This strategy name was selected to reflect the efforts to "Renew" the social environment within Regent Park and improve the quality of life for the community members.

Regent Park has been the location of violence in the past and between the dates of January the 5th 2006 until February the 7th 2007 there were thirteen separate shooting incidents within Regent Park.

Project "Renew" is a reflection of the commitment of 51 Division to our Service Priorities, specifically, Community Policing Partnerships and Community Safety and Security. At the onset of this initiative it was recognized that to achieve the long term objective of eradicating violent gang activity within Regent Park, the organizational strategy of Community Mobilization would be the key component in developing partnerships with youth, community based social agencies, government and public service organizations, the media, 51 Division and the Toronto Police Service.

These partnerships would provide a united, focused and targeted response to Gang Violence. Through these partnerships long term sustainability of the initial policing Crime Management tactics would be realized. Past police strategies were short term successes yet did not achieve a positive prolonged impact on the quality of life within the community. Project "Renew" had a commitment to incorporate long term maintenance strategies that would involve all our community partners.

### Renew a new beginning:

The success of project "Renew" should not be measured only by the number of arrests, charges or even firearms seized. Clearly these are critical and significant contributions by the Toronto Police Service to improve the quality of life within Regent Park. The true measurement of success of project "Renew" is demonstrated in the prevention of violent crime particularly homicides and firearms offences in Regent Park. 51 Division and our community partners achieved this goal by addressing our Toronto Police Service priorities and by focusing on our Mission statement,

***"We are dedicated to delivering police services, in partnership with our communities, to keep Toronto the best and safest place to be."***

*Detective Sergeant  
Neil Corrigan #4572  
51 Division  
Criminal Investigation Bureau*

### Criminal Arrests:

- 45 arrests
- 135 charges were laid
- 15 of the arrests were members of the Street Gang known as The Point Blank Soldiers.

### Seizures:

- A loaded **40 cal Glock model 22.**

**During this project there were zero gun related calls for service.**

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## Traffic Enforcement: Motor Vehicle Safety

Each year, thousands of Toronto residents are injured in motor vehicle collisions.

Even as automobiles grow even safer with new enhancements such as side-impact airbags and adaptive seat restraints, too often basic child passenger safety rules are being ignored.

Here are a few tips from the Toronto Police that will help save your child from injury, and might even save their life.

- Everybody needs a child safety seat, booster seat or seat belt
- There must be one seat belt for each person in the vehicle. Buckling two people, even children, into one belt system is illegal and could injure both parties
- Occupants who are not buckled up can be thrown from the car or around inside the car, and seriously hurt themselves or others
- NEVER hold a child in your lap !! You could crush him or her in a crash, or the child may be torn from your arms
- NEVER ride in the cargo area of a station wagon, van, or pick-up ! Legally every occupant of a vehicle must wear a seat belt, anyone riding in the cargo area could be thrown out and severely injured or killed
- No one seat is 'best'. The 'best' child safety seat is the one that fits your child and can be installed correctly in your vehicle
- Children age 12 and under should ride properly restrained in the back seat area of your vehicle
- New child safety seats and booster seats come with registration cards. Be sure to register your new seat so you will be notified if there is a recall. If you don't have a card, call the safety seat manufacturer.



PC Joe Smith 51 Division installing child seat - clinics held every wed at 51 by appointment only

If you have recently purchased a newer vehicle or child safety seat, remember to take your time when installing it, read both the child seat instructions and your vehicles owners manual. If you are unsure of how to properly install your child safety seat or you would like an installed seat inspected please contact the 51 Division Traffic Sergeant at (416) 808-5124 to arrange an appointment. These by appointment only Clinics are generally held weekly on Wednesdays from 7:30 am until 12:00 noon.

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## Crime Prevention: Identity Theft

Identity theft has become an increasingly popular crime in Canada as a result of advances in technology. It involves stealing, misrepresenting or hijacking the identity of another person or business.

Vital information such as name, address, date of birth, social insurance number and mother's maiden name need to be acquired in order to complete the impersonation. The identity thief can take over the victim's financial accounts, open new bank accounts, transfer bank balances, apply for loans, credit cards and other services such as purchasing vehicles, taking luxury vacations and so on.

If you become a victim of identity theft report it immediately to the Police and to your financial institutions. Recovering your identity can be a long and complicated process. To protect yourself please follow the following tips:

- sign all credit cards when you receive them
- never loan your credit cards to anyone
- cancel credit cards you do not use and keep a list of the ones you use regularly
- immediately report lost or stolen credit cards and any discrepancies in your monthly statements to the issuing credit card company
- never leave receipts at bank machines, bank wickets, in trashcans, or at unattended gasoline pumps: ensure you destroy paperwork you no longer need
- never provide personal information such as social insurance number, date of birth, credit card numbers or PIN number(s) over the telephone unless you have initiated the call
- promptly remove mail from your 'secure' mailbox after delivery and do not leave pieces of mail laying around your home or work place
- shred or otherwise destroy pre-approved credit card applications, credit card receipts, bills and related information when no longer needed
- avoid keeping a written record of your bank PIN number(s), social insurance number and computer passwords, and never keep this type of information in your wallet or purse.
- avoid mail or telephone solicitations disguised as promotions or surveys offering instant prizes or awards designed for the purpose of obtaining your personal details including credit card numbers

For further information on this topic or information on any other Crime Prevention topic please contact:

Joseph Smith, PC 4475  
51 Division Crime Prevention Unit  
(416)808-5187  
joseph.smith@torontopolice.on.ca

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## 51 Division CPLC

The CPLC meets once a month to discuss community crime concerns and to work on proactive projects throughout the year.

CPLC hosts at least one public Town Hall Forum each year.

The highlight of 51 Division CPLC is the annual 911 Emergency Day. Representatives from 51 Division, TPS Mounted and Police Dog Unit, Marine Unit, local Fire Services, EMS Ambulance, and other organizations that provide emergency services attend with vehicles and/or educational information. Children and adults alike are invited to attend this event held the first Saturday of June each year.



### Members:

- ◆ Berea Seventh Day Adventist Church
- ◆ Cabbagetown Preservation Association
- ◆ Cabbagetown South Residents Association
- ◆ Church/Wellesley City Park Co/op
- ◆ Community Housing Unit 13 Tenant Representatives Council
- ◆ Chiefs Youth Advisory Council
- ◆ Corktown Residents & Business Association
- ◆ Donvale Cabbagetown Residents Association
- ◆ Downtown Yonge BIA
- ◆ Gloucester Gate Residents
- ◆ Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association
- ◆ The Homewood Neighbourhood Association
- ◆ John Innes Community Centre
- ◆ McGill-Granby Residents Association
- ◆ Moss Park Arena Management
- ◆ Muriel Collins Housing Co-op
- ◆ Oak Street Area Residents
- ◆ Old Cabbagetown BIA
- ◆ Regent Park Community Health Centre
- ◆ Regent Park Neighbourhood Initiative
- ◆ St. James Town Safety Committee
- ◆ St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre
- ◆ St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood BIA
- ◆ St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association
- ◆ The Salvation Army (51 Division Area)
- ◆ Toronto East Downtown Neighbourhood Alliance
- ◆ Trefann Court Residents Association
- ◆ Upper Jarvis Neighbourhood Association
- ◆ Winchester Park Residents Association

### EMERGENCY

9 - 1 - 1

This number should be used only when the safety of life or property are at immediate risk.

### POLICE NON-EMERGENCY

416-808-2222

This number should be used when reporting a crime which is not an immediate threat to life or property, such as noise and neighbour disputes, break and enter, theft from auto, theft of auto, loss of purse, wallet, credit cards.

Community Response Staff Sergeant

416-808-5152

Officer In Charge

416-808-5101

Crime Prevention Officer

416-808-5187

Community Relations Officer

416-808-5108

[www.torontopolice.on.ca/d51](http://www.torontopolice.on.ca/d51)

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## Regent Park Reclaimed

Children reclaimed a portion of south Regent Park with a community cleanup aided by officers who have ushered in a reduction of crime over the spring.

"We're reclaiming our space," said Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) Regent Park housing manager Ade Davies. "We want to show the kids that we have pride in our community and for them to have ownership of the community."

Dozens of children from Nelson Mandela Public School came out to pick up trash and plant flowers with the help of TCHC staff and officers from 51 Division on May 31.



"It's symbolic that it's the community planting the seeds of change and creating a new environment where they have ownership of their community," said D/Sgt Neil Corrigan. "I was tremendously proud and excited about the day."

The community event comes at the end of a three-month project targeting gang members that frequented the area.

There were a total of 45 arrests and 135 charges laid during Project Renew.

A loaded .45 calibre Glock handgun was also recovered.

Also, there were no gun-related calls during the enforcement, compared to 13 the previous year.

There are plans for more community events by the TCHC and various community agencies in Regent Park to encourage residents to use their outdoor space.

"If people come outside and use the space in the summer, mischievous people will not encroach on this space," Davies said.

A security audit was also conducted by Councillor Pam McConnell, Supt. Jeff McGuire and Davies, identifying \$100,000 worth of upgrades. Removal of graffiti, lock repairs, video surveillance and outdoor lighting installations were among the areas flagged for improvement.



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## Community Calendar:

Here is a list of activities for the upcoming month. If you would like a Toronto Police Service representative from 51 Division to attend your community event, please contact Constable Paul NADEAU at 416-808-5108.

### June 2007

| SUN  | MON  | TUE  | WED   | THU  | FRI | SAT   |
|--|--|--|---|--|-----|---|
|  |  |  |   |  | 1   | 2   |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6   | 7  | 8   | 9   |
| 10<br><b>10am-2pm</b><br>St. Jamestown Festival<br><br><b>10am</b><br>165th Anniversary at Little Trinity Church | 11   | 12<br><b>10am-2pm</b><br>Free Seniors Safety Exhibition @ Union Station main concourse level | 13  | 14   | 15  | 16  |
| 17   | 18<br><b>5pm</b><br>Youth CPLC meeting @ 51 Division<br><br><b>7pm</b><br>51 Division CPLC Meeting @ Jarvis Collegiate | 19<br>Neighbours Night Out   | 20  | 21<br><b>3pm-10pm</b><br>AIDS Candlelight vigil @ Allen Gardens<br><br><b>4pm-8pm</b><br>311 Jarvis Courts "50 Year Celebration" | 22  | 23  |
| 24<br>Gay Pride Parade   | 25<br><b>6pm-8pm</b><br>Nelson Mandela Graduation  | 26   | 27<br><b>6pm-10pm</b><br>Chief's Youth Advisory Counsel Unity Gala @ Dock's Entertainment Complex | 28   | 29  | 30<br>Under 21 "World Cup Soccer" commences |

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## DISTRIBUTION LIST:

1. Local media including newspapers, radio, television
2. Community Police Liaison Committee
3. Business Improvement Associations
4. Chamber of Commerce
5. Tenants Associations, Ratepayers Associations
6. Elected Officials including your Member of Parliament, Member of Provincial Parliament, and City Councillors
7. Other Community Leaders that you are aware of