

7th ANNUAL
ACTION REPORT
2017

“ This past year we have made great progress on some key initiatives of the Crime Prevention Council. Community safety truly requires a community response, and we could not have done it without the ongoing commitment of our partners to increase safety and well-being for everyone in Thunder Bay. ”

**Jeff Upton, Chair of the
Crime Prevention Council**



**CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL'S
MISSION**

To enhance the safety and well-being of everyone in Thunder Bay by engaging the community and advancing ideas and actions that reduce crime, social disorder, victimization and fear of crime.

**ADVOCATING FOR SAFER
MUNICIPALITIES**

The Crime Prevention Council is a member of the Canadian Municipal Network on Crime Prevention, a community of practice created to build capacity and mobilize Canadian municipalities to prevent and reduce crime and foster community safety and well-being.

PRIORITIZING ACTIONS TO INCREASE COMMUNITY SAFETY AND WELL-BEING

The Crime Prevention Council developed a new strategic plan, *Safer Thunder Bay: 2017-2020 Community Safety & Well-Being Strategy*. The new strategy has four priority areas, including:

1. Smart on Crime
2. Strong Neighbourhoods
3. Safe Women and Children
4. Empowered Youth

The strategy also includes four key approaches, including:

1. Using the evidence
2. Expanding reach and understanding through community engagement and education
3. Cultivating collaborative partnerships
4. Advocating for equity and inclusion to reduce marginalization and discrimination



Representatives from named parties on Recommendation 115 (Seven Youth Inquest), prepare for river safety audits.

L-R: Jeff Upton-Chair of the Crime Prevention Council, Mariah Maddock-Coordinator, North West Community Mobilization Network, Don Lewis- Acting Deputy Chief of Police, Thunder Bay Police Service



INCREASING SAFETY ALONG WATERCOURSES AND RIVERS

Recommendation 115 from the Seven Youth Inquest calls for safety audits to be done at river locations where youth gather.

In May 2017, safety and security specialists gave training on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), and led safety audits at four key watercourse and river locations.

The outcome was a report, *Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Assessment: Selected Watercourse & River Areas*, that includes 10 recommendations to improve public safety in these areas.

Recommendations include:

- Removing overgrown vegetation and graffiti
- Installing additional lighting, cameras and barriers to restrict access to bridges and tunnels structures
- Building community engagement and positive activity
- Recognizing the importance of water and land resources to Indigenous community members

Work completed to date:

- Lighting and landscaping improvements
- Graffiti removal
- Technical Working Group formed
- Public Safety Surveillance Camera Program Working Group formed

MOBILIZING THE COMMUNITY TO RESPOND TO ELEVATED RISK

The North West Community Mobilization Network launched the Thunder Bay Situation Table in September 2017. The Crime Prevention Council holds a seat at the Centre of Responsibility, and several CPC members attend the Situation Table. The goal is to bridge gaps between local health and social sectors to more effectively plan and support individuals who are at higher risk of harm.

L-R: Julia Bozicovich-
Rowe and Thomas
Walser, Community Safety
Ambassadors



STRENGTHENING NEIGHBOURHOODS TO INCREASE SAFETY

The Strong Neighbourhoods Working Group led a number of initiatives and special events over this past year to engage neighbourhood members in efforts to build a safer community for everyone.

7th Annual Jane's Walk Festival

The annual festival took place in May, with nine local neighbourhood walks, each led by local residents who love their neighbourhoods. Jane's Walk is about connecting with neighbors and exploring a more holistic approach to neighborhood safety and inclusion. Evidence shows that being seen in your neighbourhood and knowing your neighbours are major determinants of community safety.

5th Annual City Hall Sounds

Five free noon-hour concerts featuring Thunder Bay's musical talent were held in August in McGillivray Square. Over 15 local community service providers showcased information booths at the event each week. The event brings people together, celebrates Thunder Bay and its people, and builds a sense of belonging and inclusion.

Strong Block

Held in July 2017 in the Simpson-Ogden neighbourhood, the event transformed the block into a vibrant neighbourhood gathering space. A strong block project builds upon the existing urban features of a community to showcase the full potential. The event was coordinated by EarthCare Thunder Bay in support of the United Way of Thunder Bay, in partnership with the Open Streets event that took place the same day, and Evergreen a United Neighbourhood.

ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY IN SAFETY EFFORTS

For the third consecutive summer, two Community Safety Ambassadors were hired through the Crime Prevention Council and the Thunder Bay Drug Strategy. They took part in community safety and harm reduction initiatives, and supported the efforts of the South Core Public Safety Task Force.

Their focus was on clean-up activities across the city, including pick up and disposal of drug-related litter, concentrating their efforts in the South Core neighbourhood. They also worked with local harm reduction organizations, engaged neighbourhood residents and business owners in community safety efforts, and supported local safety events.

L-R: Walid Chahal (Co-Chair of Diversity Thunder Bay), Farhan Yousaf (2017 Respect Award recipient), Amina Abu-Bakare (Chair of the Anti-Racism & Respect Advisory Committee) at Diversity Thunder Bay's 11th Annual Celebration Breakfast for International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, March 22, 2017

Recipients and sponsors of the 2017 Mayor's Community Safety Awards



BUILDING A RESPECTFUL AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

The **respect.** Working Group continues to work with community partners to deepen the **respect.** Initiative and build a more inclusive community. Twelve new organizations and businesses joined the initiative this year, including Tbaytel, who officially launched their workplace respect initiative in September. Monthly respect training modules continue to be delivered to City employees, and several community partners have also received education sessions on **respect.**

Funding was also received through the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation to support a **respect.** Intern.

Events highlighting **respect.** include: Thunder Bay's 2nd Annual Everyone Matters Day - a global inclusiveness movement, and the 3rd Annual Weed Out Hate Day, which promotes the elimination of hate and bullying.

RECOGNIZING CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY HEROES

The 7th annual Mayor's Community Safety Awards were held in November, during Crime Prevention Week in Ontario. Two individuals and four groups were recognized for their outstanding efforts to increase community safety and well-being in Thunder Bay.

Individual Award recipients:

- Ken Miller, Community Hero
- Ardelle Sagutcheway, Young Leader

Outstanding Community Project Award recipients:

- BaySafe
- Bear Clan Patrol Thunder Bay
- Grace Place
- Youth Outreach Workers (YOW)



WORKING TOGETHER TO REDUCE VIOLENCE IN THUNDER BAY

The Crime Prevention Council partnered with the Thunder Bay Drug Strategy and Thunder Bay District Health Unit to initiate a research project on violence in Thunder Bay. Over 1200 people took part. A report was released in November 2017 with recommendations to reduce violence.

Goals of the Project:

- Engage the community in a conversation about violence
- Capture the voice of individuals who experience violence and those who provide supports
- Identify key concerns regarding violence
- Identify key recommendations to prevent and reduce the harm from violence

Next steps include exploring how to implement the report recommendations.

The Crime Prevention Council supported several additional initiatives to address violence, specifically violence against women:

- Supported the annual Valentine's Day Memorial Walk and Full Moon Memory Walk in honour of the families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
- Participated in federal consultations on a new gender-based violence strategy
- Attended public sessions for the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women inquiry
- Continued to work with the Thunder Bay & District Coordinating Committee to End Woman Abuse, which advocates for the safety and well-being of women and children
- Participated in the White Ribbon Campaign, in partnership with Lakehead Public Schools, Thunder Bay District Health Unit and the Indigenous Friendship Centre, to engage boys and young men in addressing violence against women, and to discuss positive masculinity, healthy relationships and consent



INCREASING SAFETY IN THE SOUTH CORE

The South Core Public Safety Task Force had another successful year.

Many improvements and activities took place, including lighting enhancements, new garbage cans, neighbourhood clean-ups, and animation events. Over 15 new businesses have opened since 2015, adding to the vibrancy of the neighbourhood.

A campaign about who to call in the event of both emergencies and non-emergencies in the neighbourhood is also being developed in partnership with Thunder Bay District Crime Stoppers.

The first Fort William Urban Park was held in August in partnership with Fort William BIA, Thunder Bay Drug Strategy, Crime Prevention Council, South Core Public Safety Task Force, The Hub Bazaar and Victoriaville Mall. It included live entertainment and showcased community partner information booths. The goal was to bring more traffic to the neighbourhood and celebrate the Fort William Business District.



CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL

Mayor, City of Thunder Bay
 Chief of Police, Thunder Bay Police Service
 Detachment Commander Ontario Provincial
 Police - Northwest Region
 Chief, Fort William First Nation
 Deputy Grand Chief, Nishnawbe Aski Nation
 Métis Nation of Ontario
 Ontario Union of Indians
 Medical Officer of Health
 Crown Attorney, Ministry of the
 Attorney General
 City Councillors (2)
 Citizen Representatives (2)
 Youth Representatives (2)
 Matawa First Nations Management
 Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service
 Ontario Native Women's Association
 Thunder Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre
 Urban Aboriginal Advisory Committee
 Lakehead District School Board

Thunder Bay Catholic District School
 Board
 Northern Nishnawbe Education Council
 Conseil Scolaire De District Catholique
 Des Aurores Boréales
 Recreation and Culture Division
 Age Friendly Thunder Bay
 Shelter House
 William W. Creighton Youth Services
 Kairos Community Resource Centre
 John Howard Society
 Elizabeth Fry Society
 Thunder Bay Parole Office (Correctional
 Service of Canada)
 Dilico Anishinabek Family Care
 Children's Aid Society of the District of
 Thunder Bay
 Chamber of Commerce
 BIAs and Business Areas of Thunder Bay
 Children's Centre Thunder Bay

St. Joseph's Care Group
 Thunder Bay Drug Strategy
 Lakehead Social Planning Council
 Thunder Bay Sexual Assault Centre
 Thunder Bay Counselling Centre
 Thunder Bay and District Coordinating
 Committee to End Woman Abuse
 Thunder Bay District Crime Stoppers
 Thunder Bay Counselling Centre
 Thunder Bay and District Coordinating
 Committee to End Woman Abuse
 Thunder Bay District Crime Stoppers



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