



OTTAWA POLICE SERVICE
SERVICE DE POLICE D'OTTAWA

Working together for a safer community
La sécurité de notre communauté, un travail d'équipe

Chief Vince Bevan's Message to the Media and Police Services Board, July 24, 2006:

Mr. Chair, I will take this opportunity to address the Board on another matter. Earlier, I met with you to announce that I will be retiring early in 2007. It has been 2305 days since this Board appointed me Chief of Police of the Ottawa Carleton Regional Police Service. I have tried each day to live up to your expectations and the demands of my Office. I have been proud to serve this community and the men and women of the Ottawa Police Service who quietly do incredible things on a daily basis. The task has not always been easy. It has required my full attention 7 days a week.

When I was sworn in, I made the commitment to the members of the Police Service to provide them with strong and visible leadership, focusing on problem oriented policing and maximizing the advantages afforded to us by technology. But I can say with certainty, that the Ottawa Police Service went from being a good police service to being the premier municipal police service in Canada not because of promises, but because of the commitment and energy of the men and women that I have the honour of leading. Arguably, I have the best job in Ottawa because I have the privilege of coming to work each day in the company of true heroes. That is an honour that puts a smile on my face and gets me through the challenges I continue to face as Chief.

We are now at a very exciting time in the life of our organization and in the development of our city. We are the 5th largest City in Canada and the 15th largest in North America. Yet Ottawa still has a small town feel and is one of the best cities in the world in which to live, work and raise a family. It is also one of the safest big cities in the world.

Within OPS, we have an excellent Team in place ready and able to lead the police service into the future. We are blessed with a strong management team who are focused on the community we serve. We have a Senior Officers' Corps that is exceptional and who are well positioned to lead the Police Service into the future. And the very dedicated sworn and civilian members of this police service do amazing work each day in order to serve this community whether in cars, the aircraft, on bicycles, motorcycles, boats or on foot. Our Neighbourhood Officers, Detective Operations and Specialized Units are second to none. Ottawa is indeed fortunate to have such a professional police service. I owe each member a debt of gratitude for their service and thank them for what they do to protect others from those who mean to do harm. The work they do makes a difference in our community each and every day.

I would also like to thank my wife and family for their support throughout my career. They have made many, many sacrifices. I could not have come this far if it were not for them.

Now, it is the time to move forward and get ready to pass the torch to a new Chief. I will work with the Board to establish a date for the Change of Command. Thank you for the opportunity Mr. Chair and for the support that this Board has demonstrated throughout my tenure.