

SRO PROGRAM OVERVIEW





SRO PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP



The School Resource Officer (SRO) Program is a long-standing partnership (>20yrs) between the OPS, area school boards, and private schools.











24 SRO officers, who have expressed interest in working with youth, receive additional training to provide service to 371 Ottawa-area schools.



SCHOOL SELECTION



- Consideration to French Boards and need for proficient French speaking officers;
- > 20-24 schools each;
- Selection of Priority 1, 2 and 3 schools to even workload;
- Priority level is based on the historic level of need of each school and not necessarily about criminal activity of the school;
- Priority 1 schools located in urban, suburban and rural settings.



PURPOSE



- Build relationships with students and staff;
- Focus on proactive engagement;
- Serve as a resource for safety and security concerns within and around the school environment;
- Fulfill the OPS' responsibilities to Ontario's schools under the relevant legislation; and
- Become a valuable part of the broader school community.

The SRO program in Ottawa is relationship-based

REQUIREMENT







- Policy direction from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services requires school boards and police services establish and follow a protocol for the investigation of any school-related occurrences.
- Outlines the working relationship and occurrences requiring a police response.
- Collaborative effort relating to school safety.

WHO WE ARE?



- First class constables (minimum 5 years of service);
- Youth- and community-oriented;
- SRO's are selected using equity, diversity and inclusion guidelines.



We are so excited to have Constable Carleigh visit us next week for Bullying Awareness Week. Her 'drop-by' this week was a lovely surprise - thanks Constable Carleigh! #ocsb #BeCommunity



TRAINING



All SRO's are provided standard training/sessions:

- VTRA training;
- Diversion training and use of a screening tool developed by academics and youth-service providers;
- YCJA training and extra-judicial programs;
- ➤ Introduction to the Safe School Protocol and types of secure school postures (Shelter in Place, Secure School, Lockdown); and
- Introduction to youth community resources and referral options (for example, Boys and Girls Club, Wabano, JakuKonbit, YSB, Le Cap,

TRAINING (CONT'D)



Plus:

- Mandatory police training; and
- Training on trends seen by youth service providers and schools.

Examples include:

- Childhood trauma and adverse childhood experiences;
- Social Media trends with youth YAC;
- Sexual assault response and interviewing children SACA;
- Sexual exploitation and Project Arachnid- CCCP;
- Hate Crimes/ CVE/ Radicalization Hate Crime Unit;
- Substance use Rideauwood/ Ottawa Public Health;
- ➤ LGBTQ+ Centretown CHC; National Council of Canadian Muslems Wabano and
- Gang intervention John Howard Society and YouTurn.

Proactive Policing (80%)

SERVICE DELIVERY



Actively Engage Youth & Partners (education & awareness)

Partnership Development and Collaboration (School Safety, HT, Mental Health Substance Misuse) Youth and Parent Presentations (Sexting, Internet Safety, Youth and the Law)

Youth Programs and Consultations (YAC, YIPI, Cadets) SRO & Proactive Youth Engagements (Community & Sportsbased engagements)

SRO Assignment to NRTs Provide Youth Subject Matter Expertise & Support to OPS Units

Identify Early & Intervene Under 12 Strategy (Crossroads & Intersections Program)

Under 18s: Youth & Family Support Missing Youth: Early Intervention & Follow-up High Risk Youth Interventions (HT, Gang Involvement, Group Homes) CAS / OPS Liaison (Secondment Agreement) Youth Mental Health: Identification, Intervention & Follow-Up

Provide Diversion & Risk Mitigation

Pre-Charge Diversion Partnership with Boys & Girls Club

Application of the YLS / CMI Screening Tool Youth Mental Health Court Partnership & Support Active Participation in School Based Violence Threat Risk Assessments (VTRA, CIRC) Safety Table for Youth at Elevated Risk of HT

Provide Progressive Accountability Measures

Application of YCJA Principles of Progressive and Meaningful Accountability Measures

Enable Positive Reintegration

Partnering in School Re-Integration Process (post suspension)

Collaboration & Information Sharing with Youth Justice Partners

SERVICE DELIVERY



EDUCATION

- Familiar presence
- Safety/law awareness presentations
- Part of community support for staff and families
- Victim assistance

PREVENTION

- Referrals to services
- VTRA Participant
- Lockdown practices
- Work with school/youth services on risk mitigation
- Knowledge of current trends/issues

SERVICE DELIVERY



RESPONSE/INTERVENTION

Responding to schools

Responding to students

Responding to parents

Providing guidance/support

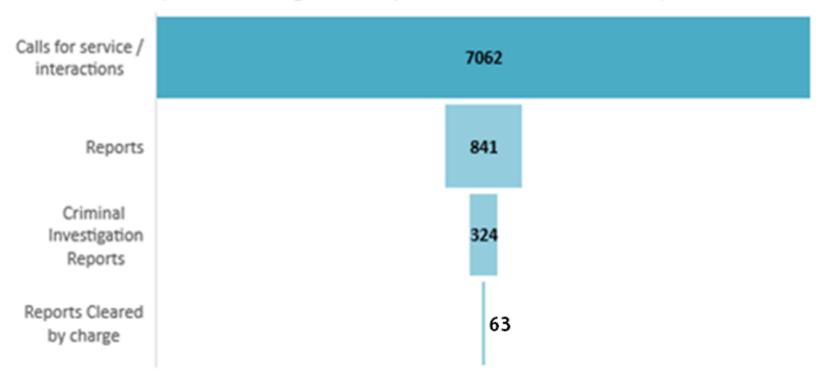
Interventions to help resolve issues and build relationships

SRO ACTIVITY BREAKDOWN



Yearly Breakdown of SRO Interactions & Outcomes

(based on average of schoolyears 2017-2018 and 2018-2019)



EXAMPLES OF SRO WORK



The following are examples of typical SRO work:

- Presentation to Grade 7-8 class about cyber-bullying, internet safety;
- Presentations to high school about cyber sex and safety/exploitation;
- Attended an evening info presentation: Joint session by public health nurse/police/by-law for parents on cannabis and vaping;
- Assisted in locating missing youth by connecting with outside resources and establishing safety planning;
- Presentation in junior kindergarten class about community helpers and how and when to call 911;
- Assisted victim with intimate images being shared. Worked Project Arachnid for removal from sites. Provided support services to victim;

SRO WORK (CONT'D)



- Conducted traffic education, enforcement and environmental (re)design in school zones as a result of complaints and proactive monitoring;
- Conducted investigations and employed diversion programs, when applicable, to support offending youth;
- Attended and participated in sporting activities and volunteer time as coaches to support school events;
- Investigated suspicious person files, such as recent case of unknown male entering school and engaging kids;
- Attended school campuses relating to adults in playground area and/or dangerous animals in the area; and
- Most investigations are started after officers are contacted. Officers do not walk the halls as part of enforcement duties.

SAFE SCHOOLS COMMITTEE



Reps from the four school boards, SRO
Supervisors, Ottawa
Public Health, mental health leads from all four boards,
Ottawa By-law
(tobacco/vaping)
enforcement officers,
Ottawa Student
Transportation



Authority and the Office of Emergency Management.

Continual dialogue and collaboration between members of the committee assist in helping guide/progress the SRO program.

NEXT STEPS FOR OPS





- Engage stakeholders (School Boards, service providers, youth service agencies) to help refine our Youth Strategy;
- Ensuring our overall youth service delivery model includes;
 - Community presence
 - School presence
- Forms an integral part of our larger community policing model

QUESTIONS?



