



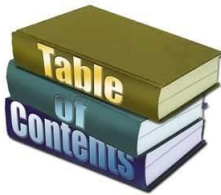
# Newsletter



December 2014



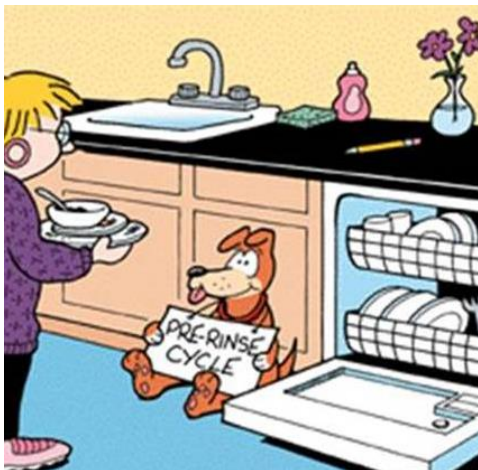
Serving our Canadian Volunteers working together with Police and the Community



- Holiday Greetings
- Update from President, CCOPA
- Nova Scotia COP
- PEI COP
- ACOPA AGM - Alberta
- Nova Scotia - Off Road Gear
- Impaired Driving

#### CCOPA Newsletter Contact information:

- Bev Salomons - President
- Leona Gardecki - Newsletter Editor



## HOLIDAY WISHES



### *... from our group to yours*

It is almost the "night before Christmas", when all across the country, Citizens On Patrol are keeping watch over their communities. The bad guy's better watch out, C.O.P. does not want to have any criminal activities taking place in their towns. The patrollers are all watching while the community is all snug in their cozy homes. C.O.P. are listening for anything suspicious that might be happening. Trained to know what to do, C.O.P. are quick to pass along any suspicious criminal activity taking place to the local police agency.

While that "man in red" may not be easy to catch, C.O.P. will be watching and listening and waiting for the big day to arrive.

A special thank you to each and every Citizens On Patrol right across Canada for everything that you do to keep your community safe and to promote the C.O.P. program. All are wished a very Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for 2015.

## NEWS FROM VARIOUS C.O.P. GROUPS

### CCOPA

#### Update from the President

It has been one year since five provinces met to form the National Citizens On Patrol Board. In the past year, all the business has been conducted by telephone and email. In October, three of the Board members met in Winnipeg during the weekend of the Manitoba Citizens On Patrol Program Conference.

So, what has been accomplished in the first year? Secretary Brian Cornborough, from British Columbia was busy writing letters to inform people in high places about the newly formed group. As well, Brian was writing letters soliciting for financial assistance. A National Board has much higher expenses than a provincial group. Other than \$500 from the provincial C.O.P. groups and the Manitoba Public Insurance, no other financial support was received.

Paperwork has been completed and the National group has been registered as well as the By Laws completed and sent in for registration. Newsletters were sent out across the country with news from each province. The newsletters are proving to be a great way to share what is happening in each province.

For the next year, CCOPA will be focusing on travelling to Regina to the RCMP Training centre and presenting the Citizens On Patrol program to the Cadets in Training. By reaching the recruits during their training, the C.O.P. program can be introduced and promoted. This should help when a new recruit gets an assignment that includes working with C.O.P. volunteers.

To generate funds, CCOPA has asked for a \$1 membership fee from every C.O.P. member across Canada. This seems to be the fairest way to have a membership fee as the numbers vary in each province.

Submitted by: Bev Salomons, President CCOPA

### NOVA SCOTIA COP TRAINING

Saturday Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> 2014 was a dull, grey, windy, misty day, but the COP's from all over Nova Scotia wouldn't let that dampen their spirits. COP's from within Halifax Regional Police and "H" Division RCMP held a combined training session. It was organized by RCMP Division Volunteer Coordinator Cpl. Cindy Renouf, and Volunteer Coordinator Sherry Burns of Halifax Regional Police.

50 COP members and 25 Victim Service Volunteers from around the province attended this 1 day session. After the initial registration, Chief Blais of Halifax Regional Police welcomed all. He thanked all the COP's for taking the time to be the eyes and ears of their communities and assured all that the police do appreciated all that they do to help.

The next to welcome the group was RCMP Inspector Dan Murchison, Officer in Charge of Operations of east division in Halifax, who welcomed and thanked COP members for their work in the community and said that it was very much appreciated by all RCMP Officers.

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Due to the large volume of attendants, the COP's were broken up into 2 groups, with one group taking part in scenario training, while the other group attended lectures. The first group were paired up with RCMP Officer and Halifax Regional Police Officers, who took them in a police vehicle to observe various scenarios. Note-taking, dispatch communication, and observation skills were refreshed. A local youth group did a great job of lending 'actors' to the scenarios which included spray painting a building by vandals, a domestic assault and a theft from cars. After the scenarios were observed, the police officers quizzed us as to how we would handle each situation. These members were in full uniform and this was their day off. What a wonderful bunch of guys and gals they were.

There were two guest speakers for the lecture sessions. The first was Legally Speaking by Cst. Don Jenkins of HRP, a very dynamic speaker who captured and engaged the group. He did a wonderful job in reminding our volunteers of our legal rights and responsibilities as a Citizens' On Patrol. Second one was done by Sgt. Mike Holland RCMP on the Art Of Blending In. This was fantastic as Sgt. Holland has spent many years in Special "O" and gave us some really good tips on surveillance techniques and how to blend in to a situation if we had to.

The day closed with local Crown Prosecutor, Janine Kidd, who explained their role in the courts. She conducted a 'mock trial' and called for a volunteer to come forward as a witness from one of the scenarios. With the help of her husband, who acted as a defence lawyer, she 'questioned' the witness, and showed the group how relevant observation skills and not-taking are when it comes to the court process. It tied all the training from the day together, and made the whole session worthwhile.

Looking forward to next year.

Compiled and submitted by: Betty Woolridge



### PEI COP GROUP

Another Halloween has passed and for the seventh year in a row the Citizens on Patrol in Stratford PEI were out in full force, patrolling the Town to help the RCMP keep residents safe. There were four patrols positioned throughout the Town in zones, and we are happy to say that there were no major incidents (aside from some pumpkin smashing).

## NEWS FROM VARIOUS C.O.P. GROUPS



### ACOPA Workshop and AGM

C.O.P. members from across Alberta came together for a weekend of training in Cowley, the weekend of September 19 and 20. Pincher Creek and District C.O.P. hosted the 2014 ACOPA Workshop and AGM weekend. Close to 120 Citizens On Patrol, along with several Liaison Officers began the weekend with the Friday evening flag ceremony, followed by welcome speeches. The first presenter was the ACOPA webmaster, Henry Salomons who spoke to the members about "How to Navigate the ACOPA Website". Friday evening also had a presentation from Fish and Wildlife Officer John Clarke who spoke about the Karelian Bear Dog Program that is in place in southern Alberta to control where the bears travel.

On Saturday, the Alberta Motor Association Program Co-Ordinator Liam Crotty summarized how C.O.P. groups have been collecting statistics on distracted driving and compared communities on the numbers. Cpl Jack Neri, from the Forensic Identification Unit in Lethbridge talked about crime scene and evidence collection. Cpl Barry Red Iron, Forensic Collision Reconstructionist brought the RCMP remote helicopter and talked about his duties at traffic accidents. Cpl Neri demonstrated the helicopter outside and showed how photos are taken when he had the attendees outside for an aerial photo. Search and Rescue presented the Avalanche Response Dogs, a topic that is very applicable in Alberta.

The ACOPA Annual General Meeting was held followed by a bus tour of the southern Alberta area. The Saturday evening meal was sponsored by the AMA. The evening ended with hilarious entertainment from the "Hutterite Lady".

**Submitted by: Bev Salomons, President - A.C.O.P.A.**

### LITTLE BIT OF HUMOUR



### COP OFF ROAD GEAR



### Roger Mailman in his COP Off Road gear.

Roger has been with the COP Off Road program for over 10 yrs. He and his group live in a bedroom community of Halifax and are also in cottage country. They travel on ATV in the spring, summer and fall and on snow mobiles in winter.

**Submitted by: Betty Woolridge**

### CCOPA Membership

Recently a letter was sent to each C.O.P. across Canada suggesting that each C.O.P. member pay a \$1 membership fee to CCOPA to generate funds to enable the Board to go ahead and promote the C.O.P. program to new recruits both at RCMP Depot and Police Academy.

Some groups are in a better position than others to assist in this way. It is not the intention to make any group feel any hardship through the membership fee. However, getting this support lets the National Board know that they have the backing of C.O.P. in their endeavors.

Thank you to the groups who have already sent in the membership fee.

Cheques for the \$1 per member should be made out and sent to:

"Canadian Citizens On Patrol"  
c/o Betty Woolridge, 103 Alderney Drive,  
Enfield, Nova Scotia B2T 1J9



## IMPAIRED DRIVING IS THE FOCUS FOR DECEMBER



Information was gathered from the MADDCHAPTERS Web Site:

<http://maddchapters.ca/parkland/about-us/impaired-driving-statistics/>

### Did You Know?

Impaired driving does not just happen at night, it can occur any time of the day. *12:00 pm – 4:00 am is prime time for impaired driving.*

For further information please go to the Magnitude document within the above link.

Information was gathered from the MADD Web Link:

[http://madd.ca/media/docs/estimating\\_presence.pdf](http://madd.ca/media/docs/estimating_presence.pdf)

### Fatalities

In 2010, it was estimated that 2,541 individuals were killed in motor vehicle crashes in Canada. MADD Canada estimates that at a minimum 1,082 of these fatalities were impairment-related.



### Canada's Statistics on Drinking and Driving



### Daily:

Every day, on average, 4 Canadians are killed and 175 are injured in impairment-related crashes.

### Annually:

We estimate between 1,250 and 1,500 people are killed and more than 63,000 are injured each year in Canada in impairment-related crashes.

### Between 1999 – 2010 there were:

|           |               |
|-----------|---------------|
| 14,256    | Fatalities    |
| 841,001   | Injuries      |
| 38.79%    | Alcohol rated |
| \$246.1 B | ~ cost        |



**YOU DRINK, WE DRIVE**

**OVER THE LIMIT.....DON'T RISK IT!**



