



J.V.N. (Vince) Hawkes
Commissioner Le Commissaire File #: 100-00

January 2015

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CRIME STOPPERS

Re: Crime Stoppers Month

As Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), and on behalf of our 9,000 members, it is my great pleasure to acknowledge and support Crime Stoppers Month, which is recognized each January.

I wish to express my most sincere appreciation to all Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers (OACS) members, volunteers and supporters who have enthusiastically contributed thousands of hours of volunteer time and financial support to the ongoing success of the 38 Ontario Crime Stoppers programs. The OPP remains committed to Crime Stoppers and this is demonstrated by the assignment of 24 members as Coordinators and one Provincial Coordinator to liaise with all municipal and OPP agencies.

This year's theme, "The Crime Stoppers Imperative," reiterates the necessity of supporting and safeguarding this most reliable and important crime-fighting tool in our digital society, one with which information is shared virtually and instantly worldwide.

Since the inception of OACS in Ontario in 1983, its programs have contributed to a remarkable provincial achievement of over \$2.030 billion in seized illicit drugs and recovered stolen property from our communities. This is real and measurable success. It represents the extraordinary concept and value of this proactive community policing model, which provides the network for citizens to assist in solving crime by anonymously providing tips.

I congratulate the OACS as it prepares to host the Crime Stoppers International 2015 Conference from September 27 to 30, 2015, in Toronto, Ontario. This will be an excellent opportunity to showcase the Ontario Crime Stoppers programs to the global media, our law enforcement partners and the public, and to highlight the ongoing need to support this worthwhile community partnership.

Once again, I commend you for the great work you are doing throughout the province. Best wishes for continued success in 2015.

Yours truly,

J.V.N. (Vince) Hawkes, O.O.M.

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