

## No one has Died Yet: No Thanks to OPP

Aug. 9 2008

Once again the people of Caledonia have to live through more OPP failures that are directly related to their Race Based Policing Policies. In truth, one must ask whether OPP leadership have any moral principles at all since they have been willing to allow people's lives to be in danger for the past 30 months.

Commissioner Fantino can roam around this province gaining headlines for stopping speeders but cannot lift one finger to bring an end to the continuous endangerment to human life in Caledonia by stopping mischief makers from throwing objects from overpasses onto vehicles below. Anywhere else in this province this type of repeated problem would be addressed but in Caledonia the best the OPP can do is either ignore it or do a Press Release. Fantino can bring 300 officers into Caledonia to stop people from raising Canadian flags but cannot find one officer to ensure that someone doesn't get killed while driving around Caledonia.

The reason I am being so blunt is because the OPP have been told repeatedly about this and numerous vehicles have already been damaged. Just what does it take to get officers who have sworn to serve and protect to do more than just stand around and watch serious crimes being committed?

My first editorial on this topic was posted on Aug. 4, 2006 – yes, 2006. [\[Link\]](#)

On Sept. 6, 2006 the Regional News ran a story about how a driver had to ran and catch the person while OPP just watched. [ [Link](#) ] The Regional Story states:

However police just sat in the park adjacent to the train bridge while the incident was taking place, noted the woman. And another local homeowner backs up her story. An officer sitting in the park nearby said he wasn't responsible for anything "on that side'...No warning or notice has been issued by the OPP in the form of a press release. Since the native land occupation began in Douglas Creek Estates last February there have been numerous reports of materials being chucked onto 54 from above. The majority of complaints have dealt with the Highway 6 bypass, not the train bridge.

In early Aug. 2006 Mayor Trainer and I raised the issue on CHCH TV and the Mayor provided a couple of examples where truckers had objects come through their window. It took the OPP a full year before they did their first Press Release regarding this problem. [\[Link\]](#) In it they stated, "A malicious and senseless act such as this could have had devastating consequences. Those responsible will face a charge of Mischief Endangering Life."

This was just one more lie the OPP has told the public over the past 30 months. They state 'those responsible WILL face a charge...' when in fact, no charges were laid when the driver caught the people who had thrown objects over back on Sept. 6, 2006. In that case the OPP told the Regional that a "diversion program" will be "exercised" and that the \$1287 damage was unlikely to be recovered. What the hell does 'diversion program' mean – does the person have to write on a blackboard "I will not throw objects from the overpass" 100 times?

Remember the OPP stated those responsible will face a charge of Mischief Endangering Life and to this date no one has ever been charged with this – just one more example of why the OPP is a complete failure.

The politics of race-based policing means that Non-Native human life isn't as politically important as a Native life, as illustrated by this letter by Caledonia resident Doug Fleming that explains why the OPP refuse to address this issue:

### **Warning for Caledonia**

June 27, 2007 - Regional News

On the morning of June 17, two kids tossed a volleyball sized piece of rock from the Stirling Road Bridge into traffic. One car swerved out of its path, the rock bounced off the road and shattered the next car's windshield. The kids got away. On the evening of June 18, I pulled into the Baptist Church parking lot, where a cruiser was sitting. There were two young male officers inside. The conversation went as follows:

ME: Good evening

Officers 1 & 2: Good Evening

ME: I have a question. Given what happened yesterday morning could you tell me why there is not a cruiser on each of the overpass bridges?

Officer 1: That's a good question

ME: I'd appreciate an answer. What happened could happen again and someone could get killed.

Officer 2: We'd have to cross native land to get to those bridges.

ME: So?

Officer 2: We can't drive there.

At that point I turned and walked away.

This is a warning to anyone who drives Highway #6 around Caledonia and who also values their life. A potentially fatal assault has been committed and could be again. It could happen day or night. By locating a cruiser on each bridge the OPP could guarantee that this doesn't happen. But they won't. They'd have to drive Sixth Line (not cross Native Land) to reach the bridges and they won't do it. It might upset the DCE'ers.

That's more important than your safety!  
Doug Fleming, Caledonia

The OPP did release another Press Release just a few days ago after we, the Mayor, Toby Barrett, and residents drew attention to the problem. [\[Link\]](#) [\[Link\]](#)[\[Link\]](#) Again, the OPP do nothing but appease the public and media with a few words about how they are taking it seriously. Now we have someone getting hurt because of two reasons 1) non-Native human life

isn't as important to the OPP as a Native life and 2) Native protesters continue to terrorize a town.

[\[Link\]](#) Aug 9, 2008 – Hamilton Spectator: "Rock thrown at window hurts passenger"

Here is a new OPP Press Release claiming that they are taking this seriously after 30 months of the public being endangered. Remember this is the same OPP that has refused to provide police services to anyone living on 6<sup>th</sup> line for 30 months now.

FROM: Haldimand County OPP

RELEASE: 08 August 2008

### MISCHIEF

(Caledonia, ON) The Ontario Provincial Police, Haldimand County Detachment received reports of objects being thrown along Highway 6 at oncoming vehicles.

On August 7 at approximately 10:25pm, a mini van travelling south on the bypass near the south end of the Grand River Bridge had a rock shatter it's driver's side passenger window as a another vehicle passed by. A passenger in the mini van sustained a minor cut from the glass shattering. Two other incidents occurred within the next two minutes with damage occurring to the driver's side or front windshield of the vehicles in the vicinity of the fifth line and Highway 6.

**These incidents are not related to the overpasses.** This is a random act of mischief involving a vehicle travelling in the opposite direction throwing objects. There have been no collisions on the bypass or serious injuries thus far relating to mischief incidents and police do not want them to get to that point where someone is killed or seriously injured. **Anyone found responsible will be arrested and charged criminally with mischief endangering life.** "This behaviour is unacceptable. It is a severe risk to the public and we are doing all that we can to prevent these occurrences," states A/Insp Michael Rigby.

Haldimand County OPP is conducting aggressive patrols 24/7 along the bypass which includes video surveillance patrol as well as other investigative measures. All involved agencies are aware and are working together to prevent further incidences.

Police are also appealing to the public for assistance. If you see anything suspicious, whether it be a vehicle, persons or strange behaviour to call police at 1-888-310-1122 or if you know who may be responsible for any of these incidents, please call CRIME STOPPERS at 1-800-222-TIPS.

The OPP statement includes the words, 'these incidents are not related to the overpasses'. Are we to understand from this that because it is unrelated to the overpasses the OPP can start 'conducting aggressive patrols 24/7 along the bypass which includes video surveillance'? For 30 months the OPP has refused to do anything when it was happening at the overpasses.

We are thankful the OPP will now take some action – of course, we have to trust their word on this. However, once again the OPP only act when media attention is brought to bear on them and only after someone is hurt – remember how the OPP couldn't do anything at Stirling until after Sam Gaultieri was almost killed then suddenly the OPP discovered that Canada's Criminal Code did empower them to make arrests of illegal occupiers.