



February 28, 2013

Ms. Valerie Todd
Projects Manager
Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators
2323 St. Laurent Boulevard
Ottawa, ON K1G 4J8

Re: CCMTA 2012 Police Partnership Award

As the Director of Patrol Services for the Highway Safety Division, it is my pleasure to forward the attached nomination for the 2012 CCMTA Police Partnership Award. This nomination represents a collaborative effort between the 407 OPP Detachment, 407 ETR Concession Company Limited ("407 ETR") and the Ministry of Transportation Enforcement Unit working together to improve road safety.

Nominee: **407 OPP Detachment**
Partnership: **Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee**

The OPP has provided policing services to the 407 ETR by way of a Police Services Agreement entered into between the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional services and the "407 ETR" since 1998. At first policing services were provided from four separate OPP Detachments in the GTA. In 2007 Staff Sergeant Ed Hickey was selected as the first Detachment Commander of the newly established 407 OPP Detachment. His strategic plan was to establish an open forum for ongoing communication between 407 OPP, 407 ETR and the MTO that supported road safety and the contractual obligations to the 407 ETR.

In 2007 an existing committee called the Toll Compliance Committee met monthly to address the incidence of toll evasion and the enforcement activities of the OPP and MTO on the 407. Under Hickey's leadership he raised awareness within the 407 ETR to "rethink road safety" first and foremost. This resulted in the Committee being renamed and re-structured to what is now the **Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee**. This established an ongoing partnership that has resulted in the development and implementation of road safety strategies and programs that focus on reducing injuries and saving lives. Highway 407 as a result is the safest 400 series highway in Ontario and this has contributed to making Canada's roads the safest in the world.

This CCMTA award nomination will highlight the efforts and benefits achieved of the strategic relationship between 407 OPP and their highway safety partners to collectively making road travel safer and contribute to Canada's Road Safety Strategy 2015. Should this nomination be successful, Staff Sergeant Ed Hickey or his designate will attend the acceptance ceremony in Iqaluit, Nunavut. If any further information is required, please contact either Staff Sergeant Ed Hickey or myself.

Sincerely
Superintendent Ken MacDonald
Ontario Provincial Police
Highway Safety Division



Re-thinking Road Safety

The Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee

Prepared by: Staff Sergeant Ed Hickey

"I became the Detachment Commander of Highway 407 detachment in March of 2007 and I am proud of the ongoing commitment of detachment members and civilian staff to ensuring public safety on Highway 407. This public safety commitment is enhanced by our excellent partnership with the 407ETR and MTO".

Highway 407 is the world's first all-electronic, barrier-free toll highway that stretches 108 km across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) of Ontario, from Burlington (in the west) to Pickering (in the east). It is a safe and reliable alternative to the more congested 400 series highways in the GTA.

The 407 Detachment provides police services to the 407ETR Concession Company Limited under a Police Services Agreement to the same extent as provided by the O.P.P. on comparable Controlled Access Highways in the GTA. Through crime and traffic analysis and consultation with our partners, 407ETR, MTO and other road safety groups, we work to identify and implement effective traffic safety programs.

Analysis of collision data and general incidents on the highway, together with an intelligence-led policing approach, contributes to the efficient deployment of police resources to key hot-spot areas. The O.P.P. is committed to target the "big four" factors that cause deaths and injuries on our highways: lack of occupant restraint, aggressive driving including speeding, impaired driving, and distracted driving. Delivering targeted prevention and awareness initiatives, police visibility strategies and conducting enforcement activities remain key components in saving lives on our roadways. To that end working with my leadership team and all detachments members through an ongoing open forum with the Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee, has resulted in benefits at the local level that support Canada's commitment to having the safest roads in world.

Since 2007, the 407 detachment's annual Traffic Plan, has been based on the foundations of the OPP Provincial Traffic Safety Program (PTSP). In preparing the 2012 407 Traffic Plan for 407 Detachment, the 407ETR and MTO were consulted and they provided valuable input into

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the development of the strategies utilized. In my first two years as Commander the open forum for monthly meetings was named the Toll Compliance Committee. As the relationships evolved, the road safety focus was brought to the forefront and by consensus vote of the committee, it was re-named and structured in the following way to allow meaningful and achievable input.

Committee Members:

Craig White	407ETR	VP Highway Operations & Tolling
Kevin Sack	407ETR	VP Communications & Government Relations
Dave Kyte	407ETR	Manager of Police Services
Shakir Hussein	407ETR	Manager Traffic & Planning
Steve Spencer	407ETR	Director of Communications and Government Relations
Joe Stea	MTO	Team Leader-Strategic Highways Management
Glen Dunphy	MTO	Regional Manager-Road User Safety
Shaun Dotzko	MTO	District Enforcement Manager
Sandra Arno	MTO	Enforcement Supervisor
Ed Hickey	OPP	Detachment Commander
Kevin Morgan	OPP	Operations Supervisor

Partners

Our partners include CAA South Central Ontario, Traffic Safety Coalition, St. John Ambulance's Ambulance, York EMS, Vaughan Fire, Accident Awareness Inc., M.A.D.D, other GTA OPP Detachments/Units and surrounding Regional Police Agencies

Over the years, the results achieved through the strategic forum of the committee have been noteworthy. Ideas, programs and initiatives were nurtured, enhanced and implemented with the goal of improving road safety.

The monthly committee meetings consist of the following regular agenda items:

Monthly Agenda

- 1) Review minutes and actions from last meeting**
- 2) Safety Issues / Initiatives**
- 3) OPP monthly update on Heavy Vehicle tolling enforcement** (Details of Activities)
- 4) MTO monthly update on Heavy Vehicle tolling enforcement** (Details of Activities)
- 5) Enforcement Blitzes for Heavy Vehicles**
- 6) Review of Heavy Vehicle Non-Compliance Rates** (407 ETR to present update since last meeting)
- 7) Other Business** (forum for educational, awareness, and enforcement initiatives focused on road safety)
- 8) Set Next Meeting**

Through the combined efforts of the committee members, the following benefits and outcomes were realized in support of the strategic goals of Canada's Road Safety Strategy:

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“ raise public awareness and commitment to road safety “

- 407ETR has a strong focus on safety and safety of all EMS and their highway workers. In order to ensure the safety of construction workers/contractors that work on highway 407, the 407ETR hires OPP officers on a paid-duty basis to conduct directed patrols prior to and within the work locations. This high-visibility traffic calming technique has proven very successful
- 407ETR has improved signage on the mainline and on/off ramps alerting motorists if they are about to enter the wrong way on the highway and larger directional arrow signs have been strategically placed near ramps to prevent wrong way entries
- 407ETR supports OPP/MTO safety messaging through the use of dynamic message signs, keeping drivers aware and up-to-date on important safety and highway information. Eleven programmable digital message boards have been installed across the 108km toll highway between 2007 and 2012. These boards display highway safety messages and marine and trail safety messages for cottage vacationers, as well as Amber Alert messages
- OPP safety messages appear in the Express Newsletter which is mailed to over 1.6 million 407ETR customers and the on-line express newsletter is posted on the 407ETR internet site
- Yearly child seatbelt clinics(2010, 2011, 2012) partnering with OPP Auxiliary/407ETR/ Fire/ St. John's Ambulance and OPP members from 407 Detachment. The seatbelt clinics take place at the 407 ETR which is conveniently located in the Greater Toronto Area. The clinics draw large numbers of motorists
- OPP safety videos are posted on the 407ETR internet site. Working together with OPP Corporate Communications, the Highway Safety Division media officer and the Communications staff at the 407ETR, OPP safety messages and videos are regularly uploaded on the 407ETR internet site which is accessed by millions of users
- OPP partner with CAA and 407ETR to set up a large scale R.I.D.E. program during the 2012 Provincial Festive R.I.D.E. campaign. The joint venture allowed CAA and 407ETR employees to safely view what OPP officers from the 407 Detachment do on a year-round basis to minimize the number of drinking drivers along our roadways
- 407 ETR is a proud supporter of Accident Awareness Inc. Founded in 2002, Accident Awareness Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation devoted to the prevention of motor vehicle collisions through education. Accident Awareness Inc. is committed to educating the public on the dreadful realities of fatal motor vehicle collisions, how quickly they can occur and the grim aftermath that always accompanies these tragedies. In 2012, 407ETR sponsored presentations at various York Region high schools to help educate today's youth about the fundamental aspects related to dangerous driving
- 407 ETR is a supporter of the Traffic Safety Coalition. The Traffic Safety Coalition focuses on safety on our roadways to make our roads safer for motorists, passengers and pedestrians. In 2012, CAA South Central Ontario, the Ministry of Transportation, the Ontario Provincial Police, 407ETR and other Traffic Safety Coalition partners launched "**MISSING**", a traffic safety campaign. The aim of the campaign was to raise awareness regarding high-risk driving behaviours and encourage safe driving habits in order to help reduce collisions and fatalities on our roads.

“ improve communication, cooperation and collaboration among all ”

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- The Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee was established in 2009. This forum and its monthly meetings has very effectively achieved this strategic goal
- 407ETR has provided expert training on rapid clearance methodologies, major traffic incident management, and worker (OPP/MTO/407ETR) safety in 2010 and 2011. This involved officers and emergency service providers from across the GTA. The importance of rapid clearance of collisions balanced with investigative excellence has no doubt decreased the incidence of secondary collisions caused by roadway closures and kept an orderly flow of traffic in the GTA. Further training is planned for April 2013
- 407ETR provides yearly training on tolling technology, mobile reader training, safe debris removal from the highway by 407ETR/OPP and snow maintenance operations so that crews and OPP are better able to work together and communicate effectively

“ enhance enforcement “

- 407 OPP Detachment participates in all Provincial Traffic Safety Initiatives including the annual Canada Road Safety Week and partner with 407ETR to ensure proper safety messaging on the eleven programmable digital message boards during the initiatives
- 407ETR has constructed enforcement pads in key areas for MTO or OPP to sit stationary to conduct enforcement efforts. Input from members of the 407 Detachment as to preferred locations was accepted and the 407ETR constructed and paved nine enforcement pads across the highway in 2012. These pads have been positioned at locations designed to provide maximum visibility and safety for officers conducting enforcement. There have been several more enforcement pad locations identified and construction is planned for 2013
- Implementation of the mobile reader to assist with toll enforcement occurred in 2009. Today four dual-headed units in four marked OPP cruisers has enhanced officer safety in the detection of toll evaders. After significant testing to ensure reliability, the mobile reader has proven to be a great tool in assisting officers conducting enforcement of the Highway Traffic Act, in relation to toll evasion offences on Highway 407, which is Canada's lone electronic toll highway. This device allows officers to check the status of transponders located inside a motorists vehicle while remaining mobile. This dramatically reduces the number of unnecessary traffic stops that officers need to make to ensure compliance of the Highway Traffic Act. The fourth dual-headed mobile reader was added in 2012
- 407 OPP Detachment partners with York Regional Police and OPP Traffic Team for Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) training, increasing officer awareness on CMVs, addressing toll compliance and more importantly, targeting unfit CMV's. This increases public safety on our highway. These training sessions continue each year as new members arrive at the 407 Detachment. There is an established link between unsafe CMVs and CMVs who evade tolls (cheaters cheat at vehicle safety too!)
- The OPP partners with MTO, in commercial vehicle safety blitzes. Each year, members of the 407 OPP detachment, OPP CMV Inspectors, and the MTO Enforcement Unit join forces and conduct a 1 or 2 day enforcement initiative at the MTO scales located on the 407 Detachment each year. This initiative has proven to be very successful over years past and continues to be an annual event resulting in many unfit vehicles being removed from service
- Class 4 transponders for CMVs were changed from black to yellow to increase their visibility. Working from recommendations from both the MTO and OPP who work on highway 407, the 407ETR modified the color of the class 4 transponder for commercial

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motor vehicles which travel along highway 407. This greatly improved the visibility of the transponders, assisting both OPP and MTO enforcement officers by reducing the number of CMV's that needed to be inspected

- When 407 OPP conduct large-scale RIDE programs 407ETR assists with blocker trucks and traffic cones to enhance officer safety
- 407ETR installed signs and line marking to support the ongoing OPP Aircraft Enforcement Program for aggressive drivers (speeding, erratic driving)
- 407ETR installed roadway signs(6) to promote and support the Move Over Law which protects emergency service personnel stopped on the highway

" improve road safety information in support of research and evaluation "

- Wrong-way drivers are a growing safety concern in the GTA. The committee recognized this and is researching the option of a wrong way detection device for installation on highway gantries for the early detection of wrong way drivers. 407 Detachment Commander is leading a provincial committee studying ways to mitigate and decrease the incidence of wrong-way drivers on multi-lane highways in Ontario
- Partnering with the 407ETR, the OPP and MTO have an agreement to supply timely collision reports to the 407ETR with the goal of enhancing roadway safety. The study of collision causations resulted in recommendations ranging from establishing 'Hot Spot' areas for enforcement by the OPP, to the 407ETR doing drag factor tests on areas of the roadway where collisions are most frequent, to determine if the concrete surface level of adhesion needs to be increased (this shortens vehicle stopping distances). This analysis has also resulted in improved lane marking, signage, crash barriers, and the decrease of a vehicle ramp speed due to truck roll-overs

In conclusion

The ongoing successful collaboration between the 407 OPP Detachment, 407ETR and the MTO through the Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee has resulted in the development and implementation of proven road safety strategies and programs that focus on reducing injuries and saving lives.

Our efforts are working. The collision rate for Highway 407 is the lowest of all 400 series highways in Ontario. Collisions overall on the highway are down 17 % from 2008-2012 averages while traffic volumes continue to grow. (Annual trip data 407ETR 2008-113,776,801 trips vs. 2011-114,653,667 trips)

This committee puts road safety first and foremost. One of the first initiatives undertaken was to change the company logo signs on the highway from "Fast, Safe, Reliable" to "**Safe, Fast, Reliable**". The same intelligence-led policing strategies that have been used for traffic safety have also been used to address toll evasion on this highway. This has resulted in historic low rates of toll evasion for the 407ETR. A win-win situation for this police/government-sector/private-sector partnership.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

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Programmable message board supporting R.I.D.E. Program



Child Seat Safety Clinic



Accident Awareness

<http://www.407etr.com/highway/safety.html>

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