

Ontario
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Police

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**Highway Safety Division
Division de la sécurité routière**

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Rethink Road Safety

Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), Highway Safety Division (HSD), Highway 407 Detachment, has successfully developed key relationships with the 407ETR, the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and regional partners to implement strategies and programs to reduce injuries and deaths on our highways, through the creation of the Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee.



Highway 407 is the world's first all-electronic, barrier-free, toll highway that stretches 108 km across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), from Burlington to Pickering. The Highway 407 Detachment provides police services to the 407ETR Concession Company Limited under a Police Services Agreement.

In 2009, the Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee was developed. Current members of this committee include:

Craig White	407ETR	VP Highway Operations & Tolling
Kevin Sack	407ETR	VP Communications & Government Relations
Dave Kyte	407ETR	Manager of Police Services
Claudia Guerrero	407ETR	Team Leader Enforcement & Non-Revenue
Steve Spencer	407ETR	Director of Communications and Government Relations
Joe Stea	MTO	Team Leader-Strategic Highways Management
Paula Anderson	MTO	District Enforcement Manager
Sandra Rei	MTO	Enforcement Supervisor
Chuck Kaizer	OPP	Detachment Commander
Kevin Morgan	OPP	Operations Supervisor

Additional regional and municipal partners include:

- CAA South Central Ontario,
- Traffic Safety Coalition,
- St. John Ambulance,
- Regional EMS Services,
- Municipal Fire Services,
- Accident Awareness Inc.,
- M.A.D.D, and
- Regional Police Agencies: York , Peel, Halton, and Durham Police Service.



Committee members and partners meet on a monthly basis to raise public awareness of road safety issues, improve communication and cooperation, promote enforcement initiatives, and provide educational and awareness opportunities.

Through the combined efforts of the committee the following benefits have been realized in support of the strategic goals of Canada’s Road Safety Strategy:

Raise Public Awareness and Commitment to Road Safety:

1. Consultation with 407ETR and MTO to provide input into the development of improved signage to alert motorists and prevent wrong way entries.
2. Installation of dynamic message signs to provide drivers with current highway information. Eleven programmable digital message boards have been installed to display highway safety messages, and Amber Alert messages.
3. Utilize the 407ETR Express Newsletter to provide OPP safety messages. This newsletter is mailed to over 1.6 million 407ETR customers.
4. Partnering with OPP Auxiliary, MTO, St. John Ambulance, and 407ETR to provide yearly child seatbelt clinics.
5. OPP safety videos are posted on the 407ETR internet site which is accessed by millions of 407ETR customers.
6. Partner with Accident Awareness Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, to provide presentations at York Region schools to educate young people on preventing motor vehicle collisions and fatalities.
7. Development and implementation of “MISSING”, a traffic safety campaign, to raise awareness of high-risk driving behavior and encourage safe driving habits.

Improve Communication, Cooperation and Collaboration Among All:

1. Provide training on rapid clearance methodologies, major traffic incident management and worker safety to reduce collisions.
2. 407ETR provides training on toll technology, mobile readers, safe debris removal and snow maintenance operations to ensure that 407ETR crews, MTO and OPP officers are better able to work together and communicate effectively.
3. The 407ETR company logo on all highway signs was: “Fast, Safe, Reliable”. This has now been changed to “Safe, Fast, Reliable”.
4. Maintain a 407 Extended Service Office (ESO) to provide a mobile office for officer support (i.e. desktop computers, printers, fax, etc.)

Enhance Enforcement:

1. Enforcement is based on the OPP Provincial Traffic Safety Program (PTSP), which was developed in consultation with our road safety partners. The OPP is committed to targeting the “big four” factors that contribute to deaths and injuries on our highways including: lack of occupant restraint, aggressive driving including speeding, impaired driving, and distracted driving.
2. Continual crime and traffic analysis, together with an intelligence-led policing approach, to identify hotspot areas and implement effective traffic safety initiatives for these areas.
3. Participate in all Provincial Traffic Safety initiatives including the annual Canada Road Safety Week.
4. 407ETR, in consultation with MTO and OPP, has constructed nine enforcement pads in key areas to ensure officer safety while conducting enforcement initiatives.
5. Officer training on four dual-headed mobile readers to detect toll evaders. This technology allows the officer to determine the status of the transponder while remaining mobile.
6. To enhance enforcement efforts the 407ETR has purchased two Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) units and eight Mobile Work Stations (MWS).
7. Partner with MTO, York Regional Police, and the OPP Traffic Team in Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) safety blitzes to identify and ticket unsafe CMV. Blitzes are conducted annually at MTO scales, and training is provided annually to officers.

8. Class 4 transponders for CMV were changed from black to yellow to increase their visibility. This was done based on recommendations from MTO and OPP.
9. 407ETR assists with blocker trucks and traffic cones to enhance officer safety at large scale RIDE programs.
10. 407ETR installed new signs and line marking to support the ongoing OPP Aircraft Enforcement Program (AEP) to target aggressive drivers.
11. 407ETR installed six roadway signs to support the Move Over Law which protects emergency service providers working on the highway.

Improve Road Safety Information in Support of Research and Evaluation

1. The Committee is researching the option of a wrong way driver detection device for installation on highway gantries. The OPP is leading a provincial committee to study ways to mitigate and decrease the number of wrong way drivers on multi-lane highways.
2. 407ETR has purchased an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), and officers are being trained in the use of this technology. The UAV is considered the next generation tool of scene mapping for collision investigation. It is anticipated that highway collisions will take approximately fifteen minutes to map, and this technology will contribute significantly to rapid clearance.
3. The OPP and MTO have put an agreement in place to supply timely collision reports to 407ETR. This will provide current data on collision hotspot locations, and promote drag factor tests to determine if the concrete surface level of adhesion needs to be increased. This shortens vehicle stopping distances. This type of analysis has resulted in improved lane marking, signage, crash barriers and the decrease of a vehicle ramp speed to reduce CMV rollovers.

Our efforts are working. The five-year average for fatal collisions is 2.6, and in 2013 the detachment had only one fatal.

Incidents	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	5 Year Average
Fatality	2	3	2	5	1	2.6

The same intelligence-led policing strategies and programs 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. This is a win-win situation for the Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee.

The development of the Highway Safety and Toll Compliance Committee has resulted in a successful collaboration between the OPP, MTO 407ETR and our regional safety partners. Their commitment has resulted in the development and implementation of strategies and programs to improve road safety.