



Community Safety Awards 2011

Winner profile: ByWard Market Safety and Security Committee

Community Safety Award

The ByWard Market Safety and Security Committee's 60-plus members are as unique and diverse as the people who live, work and play there. The group includes business owners, residents, social agencies, police, OC Transpo security, City By-Law and community associations. Every single member stands united in their vision of ensuring that everyone who visits or lives there deserves to feel safe—day or night.

The group takes a proactive approach to dealing with potential safety and security issues. Over the past decade, they've introduced important crime prevention and community safety measures:

- The **Late-Night Bus Service** gets bar patrons and staff out of the market quickly and home safely. It has helped curb lingering, street fights and driving under the influence.
- The **Street Ambassadors Program** maintains an on-street presence from May to October to deal with aggressive panhandling, security threats and emergency situations.
- The **Nightclub By-Law** limits the number of clubs in the Market. This helps better manage night-time safety issues, and ensure the streets are alive and busy morning, noon and night.
- **Zero-Tolerance Blitzez** see police join forces with By-Law officers and the Alcohol and Gaming Commission to send students a strong message about noise infractions, drinking in public, fake IDs and underage drinking.

More recently, the Committee embraced Crime Prevention Ottawa's Don't be THAT guy sexual assault campaign, distributing hundreds of educational posters to bars and restaurants.

Ask anyone on the committee, and you'll probably hear there was a time when people were not comfortable walking around the ByWard Market alone at night. Today, it's a bustling, vibrant place at all hours. As for the secret of their success? Constant, ongoing work to make the market a safe, secure place.

For information, contact:

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