

Crime Prevention Ottawa ACTION REPORT 2012-13



Together, we build stronger communities

One of Crime Prevention Ottawa's greatest strengths is the role it plays in bringing community partners together to address neighbourhood problems and shed light on community safety issues. In 2012-13, we worked with the Ottawa Police Service and our community partners to explore solutions to gangs in our city and to begin work on a comprehensive gang strategy. We also made progress on several important fronts: violence against women, disability and abuse, home takeovers and community-based crime prevention. We value our partnerships. Through them, we are building a safer Ottawa.

Shad Qadri, CPO Chair and City of Ottawa Councillor

OUR PRIORITIES

➤ VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

➤ NEIGHBOURHOODS

➤ YOUTH

Our new strategic plan

We conducted extensive consultations with our partners this year and reviewed our progress since 2006. The result? Our new strategic plan, which sets our course for the next four years. We will continue to focus on our three priority areas with evidence-informed solutions. We will enhance our outreach to the community and equip people with skills to address issues such as sexual violence, gangs, youth mental health, neighbourhood safety, bullying and much more.

Preventing crime with community solutions

The Community Solutions: Beautification Today, Safer Tomorrow conference in April 2013 attracted 150 delegates who heard from Neighbor Power author, Jim Diers, about how community-based initiatives create pride and reduce crime. Breakout sessions featured eight beautification projects from Ottawa, Mississauga, Renfrew and Saskatoon. Diers also met separately with 60 City of Ottawa staff.

"It was wonderful to be part of a gathering with like-minded people who are positive, and want to help to make Ottawa better. The energy in the room was fantastic."

"This was the best community event I have attended in the last 7 years. Well done!"

"The keynote speaker was amazing and inspiring. He sparked many ideas in our minds. Thank you!"

Ottawa's new gang strategy

Since 2006, we've learned that partnerships are essential to reducing interest in gang membership among at-risk youth and to developing effective strategies that will reduce the impact and reach of gangs. CPO spearheaded the follow-up to the gang symposium and released the Ottawa Gang Strategy: A Roadmap for Action 2013-2016.

Creating safer environments for women

CPO continued to fund and promote programs targeted at reducing violence against women, including Engaging Men, I Can MANifest Change, Don't Be that Guy, and The Fourth R. We also provided support to a Pinecrest-Queensway initiative that will develop and offer safety training to women and girls. We held a roundtable event to address the findings of our research into social media and sexual violence—bringing us one step closer to identifying solutions.

Our community Ambassador program

The new CPO Ambassador program provides experienced community safety leaders to represent CPO at community events, information fairs and meetings. Our team of 10 ambassadors will conduct outreach to neighbourhoods across the city and share information about crime prevention and community safety.

Mayor Jim Watson helps launch the new CPO Ambassador program.



The 2012 Community Safety Awards recognized eight outstanding individuals and programs for their crime prevention efforts. The event garnered more than \$80,000 in earned media coverage.

CPO BOARD MEMBERS

Shad Qadri (Chair)

Councillor, City of Ottawa

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Chair, Ottawa Youth Justice Services Network and Coordinator, Community and Justice Services Program, Algonquin College

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CEO, Ottawa Community Housing Corporation

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Director of Education, Conseil des écoles catholiques du Centre-Est

Lucya Spencer

Executive Director, Immigrant Women Services Ottawa

STAFF

Nancy Worsfold

Executive Director

Francine Demers

Administrative Assistant

Mike Justinich

[on secondment in 2012-13]

Financial statement

January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012

REVENUE	Actual 2012
City of Ottawa	\$683,737
Other Revenue	\$12,906
TOTAL	\$696,643

EXPENSES	
Staff	\$297,307
CPO Initiatives	\$124,852
Grants	\$229,538
TOTAL	\$651,697

UNSPENT BALANCE AS OF December 31, 2012	\$44,946
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Dealing with problem addresses

We continued our work on a framework for action on problem addresses—specifically, homes and apartment buildings with crime problems. We also funded research into cuckooing, a situation in which a person feels unsafe—physically, financially or psychologically—because an acquaintance or family member has taken over their home and they feel unable to remove them. The legitimate tenant is often vulnerable because of addiction, extreme isolation and limitations from developmental delays or poor health. It's a challenge we will continue to monitor and address.

Sharing research and knowledge

Our new publications this year include the youth gangs report, apartment building challenges (unit takeovers), drinking and sexual assault, community-based crime prevention, engaging local businesses and rural transportation. We continue to share the results of our speaker series events by posting presentations in our event archive on the CPO website.

Awards celebrate CPO

The Center for Plain Language, based in Washington, DC, recognized CPO's commitment to clear communications in 2012-13 with ClearMark Awards for our Neighbourhood Toolkit and our summary report on community-based crime prevention. "We were pleased to be able to recognize these outstanding products from Crime Prevention Ottawa. Crime prevention is a very important issue. There are all too few examples of materials that address this issue in a way that's clear and actionable," said Dr. Annetta Cheek, Chair, Center for Plain Language.

Crime Prevention Ottawa

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