



Elgin County OPP 2013 Year End Report



*"Excellence in what we do,
Integrity in who we are"*

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Elgin Group Police Services Board



Wayne Casier, Chair-Doug Gunn, Dave Marr
Joanne Ferguson, Bonnie Vowel

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Once again I have had the opportunity to serve as the Chair of the Elgin Group Police Services Board. I thank the Councils of the municipalities which I represent on the Board and I also thank my fellow board members.

The position of the Elgin Group Police Services Board is unique in that it has the opportunity to gain insight into the operation of the police services provided to the rural areas of the County of Elgin. It is from this vantage point that all of us on the board wish to thank those dedicated personnel who work in or out of the local detachment. We do know that the work can be stressful and dangerous at times – all for the protection of the public in general. Keep up the good work and good luck to you.

Douglas G. Gunn, Q.C.

Chair, Elgin Group Police Services Board

Detachment Commander



Inspector Brad Fishleigh

On behalf of the dedicated officers and staff of the Elgin OPP Detachment it gives me great pleasure to present the 2013 Annual Report. This report will demonstrate the high level of commitment Elgin County OPP has brought to all municipalities of the Elgin Group.

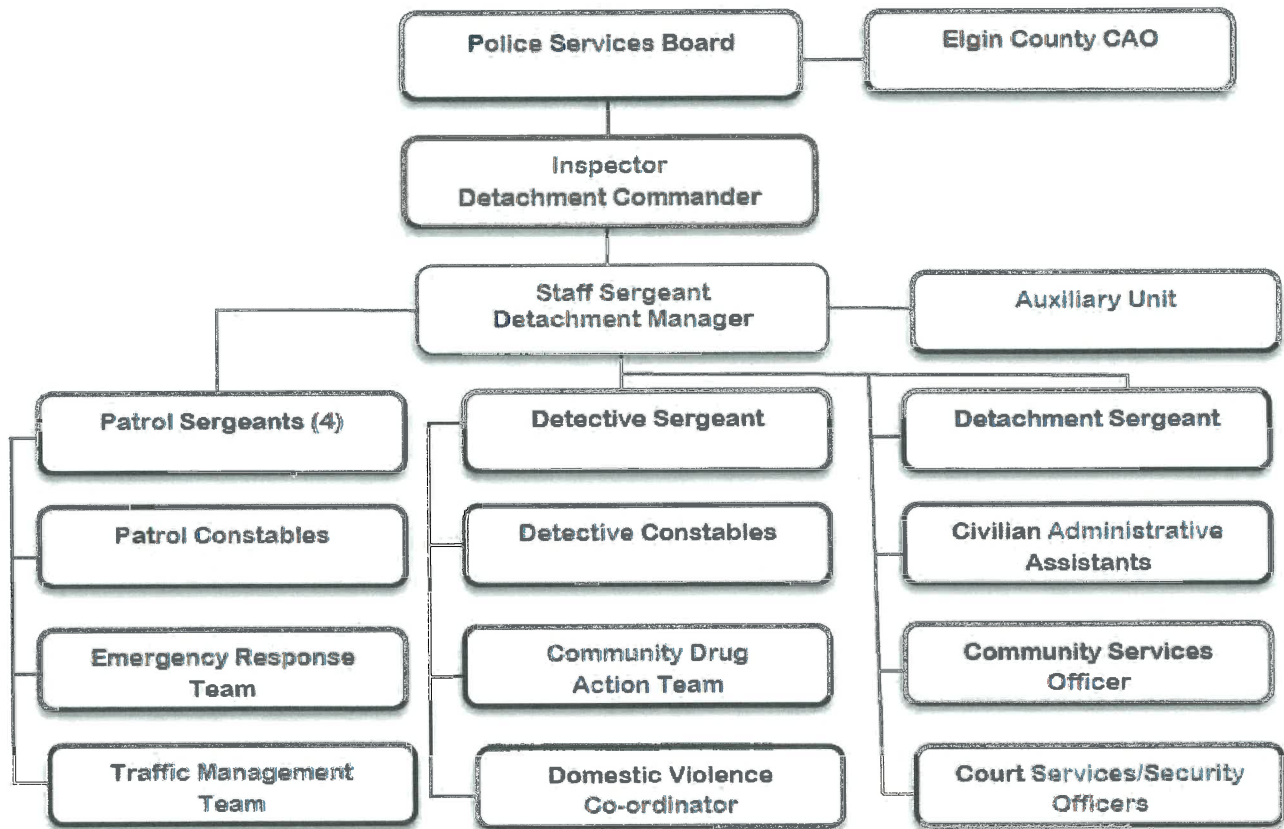
Elgin officers and staff have worked in partnership with many stakeholders including our partners in the Provincial and Ontario Courts, Family and Childrens Services, The Ministry of Natural Resources, neighboring OPP Detachments and Municipal Police Services, and the dedicated members of our Community Policing Committees, to deliver a “community first” policing service.

In 2013 our policing priorities, as identified through community consultation, were Traffic Safety, Crime Prevention, and Increased Visibility. I am pleased to report that we have seen a reduction in personal injury collisions and increased our visibility through increased foot patrol and directed patrol.

Elgin OPP was very busy in 2013. In addition to our usual festivals, fishing derby’s, parades, and community events 2013 also included the Great Lakes International Air Show.

With the continued support of the Police Services Board, Municipal Councils, and our Community Policing Committees, Elgin County OPP will continue to provide a service that is professional, transparent, and appropriate to the circumstances, respecting the individual dignity of all persons.

ELGIN COUNTY OPP



Staffing Changes

Elgin County Detachment experienced many changes to staff during 2013. Some members have taken advantage of opportunities to relocate to other areas of the province for personal reasons and many new officers have chosen to come to Elgin Detachment. In 2013 we received three experienced officers from other Detachments as well as three new Sergeants, Sgt Terry Cox, Sgt Andy Doughty, and Sgt Al Gordon, and the return of Andrea Quenneville as our Detective Sergeant. We also received a new S/Sgt when Greg Dafoe arrived in Jan 2013. These officers are a great addition to our team and bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise with them to Elgin County.

In 2013 we said fairwell and good luck to D/Sgt Jeff Johnstone, Sgt Kyle Cronk, PC Lynn Bennett, PC Shawn Simpson, PC Justin Longdo, and PC Craig Duncan, who have all moved on to new positions elsewhere in the organization.

We also said good-bye to Sgt Joanne Bingham who resigned from the OPP for personal reasons and PC Jim Conrad who retired after 32 years of service.

The Elgin County Auxilliary Unit also experienced numerous changes in 2013. Our previous Unit Commander left the unit after a lengthy absence and four of our Auxiliary officers were successful in their application to be full time OPP Officers. Terry Williams is now the new S/Sgt, Unit Commander, and Sarah Paul and Travis McCormick were promoted to Sgt. The unit continues to provide a great service to the community as you will see later in this report.



CRIME STOPPERS

London*Elgin*Middlesex (800) 222-TIPS (8477)

Elgin County OPP continues to support the London Elgin Middlesex Crimestoppers Program. This program has been very successful in 2013, handling 1,869 tips that resulted in the clearance of 52 criminal cases, 163 criminal charges, over \$39,000 in recovered property, 16 weapons seized, over 3 million in seized drugs, and over \$75,000 in seized cash.



Sgt Brian Johnson sits in jail at the 2013 Crimestoppers Jail a Thon.



Crime Stoppers President Al Gibson (centre) negotiates Bail.



Crime Stoppers Car and Bike Show in Lucan



Crime Stoppers support of Racing against Drugs Program in Belmont



Elvis Tribute Show in Strathroy and Youth Symposium in London.



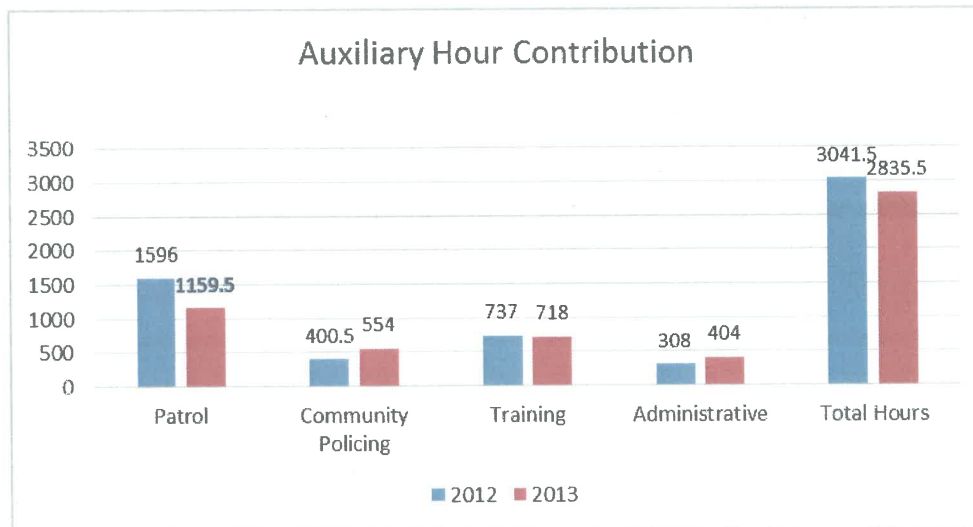
Elgin County Auxiliary Unit

The Auxiliary Unit enjoyed a successfully year in 2013 supporting all of our communities and fellow OPP members in a wide variety of duties. The membership hovered around 9 members, 6 short of our full complement of 15 members. The recruitment cycle is in full swing and should result in a nearly full complement by the end of 2014. The drop in the 2013 compliment was primarily due to the success of the programs' internal promotion system, seeing members joining the OPP full rank.

Part of our unit's strategic plan for 2013 was to continue to prepare our existing and future members with the training, tools and confidence to assist in the multitude of requests from our colleagues within the OPP, and to support the many stakeholders across our community. We are pleased to confirm that despite our officer count being down 23% from 2012, our total per member time contribution has increased by 21%.

All auxiliary members continue to proudly serve within our County and beyond, by participating in such events as; food drives, Remembrance Day events, Holiday events, youth organizations career days, community events, public awareness campaigns, training exercises, marine patrol, regular patrol and much more.

The Auxiliary unit is excited to continue our commitment to our community partners, the Elgin County detachment and the OPP in 2014. Our 2014 targets for total unit contribution forecasts an 11% increase overall as we continue our pattern of growth and refocusing.





Business Planning



2013 Business Plan

Our 2013 Business plan priorities as identified with community and Board consultation were:

Traffic Safety – including reducing speed and personal injury collisions and safe movement of traffic on Emergency Detour Routes during Highway 401 closures.

Crime Prevention – increase public safety and confidence through relentless investigation of criminal activities, particularly those crimes against persons and property.

Increased Visibility – increase public confidence with a strong presence in our communities, particularly foot patrol, school patrol and community events. Increased interaction with the public through friendly, approachable and responsive contacts.

Crime Management Plan

Elgin County Detachment has a comprehensive Crime Management Plan that is administered through the leadership of Regional Detective Sergeant Andrea Quenneville. The Crime Unit has been restructured for 2014 and we have added a Property Crimes position to increase our effectiveness in clearance rates for solving property crimes. Elgin OPP will continue to maintain a Detachment Community Drug Action Team position as well as our Domestic Violence Investigator, both who will be supervised by the Detective Sergeant.

The Crime Unit is responsible for oversight and investigation of all serious crimes that occur in our detachment area. The foundation of the plan supports the OPP Results Driven Policing methodology and focuses on public safety through crime prevention and investigative excellence.

Traffic Management Strategy

Elgin County Detachment has developed a Traffic Management Strategy with a goal of reducing motor vehicle collisions, specifically those that result in injury and death. Our focus in 2014 continues to be enforcement and education around aggressive driving, impaired driving, seat belt use, and distracted driving. These four driving habits are within complete control of the driver and together can have the largest impact on road safety. In 2011 Elgin County OPP initiated a new Traffic Management Team that assigned four members to directed traffic patrol enforcement. This is in addition to the regular assigned traffic enforcement from front line officers. We have had great success with the Traffic Team and have been very responsive to requests from the community for specific traffic enforcement.

Our enforcement statistics are up across all areas of enforcement and although we continue to see a slight increase in overall crashes the number of personal injury collisions continues to decrease. This is truly an indication of the success of our Traffic Management Program.

2014 Business Plan

Consultation for the the 2014 Business Plan is in process. This will be the first year of the new OPP three year strategic plan. As part of the consultation process we have been seeking input from:

- Municipal Councils
- Community Policing Committees
- Community Partners and Justice Stakeholders, and
- Meeting with the Police Services Board to discuss goals and objectives they feel should be our priorities going forward.

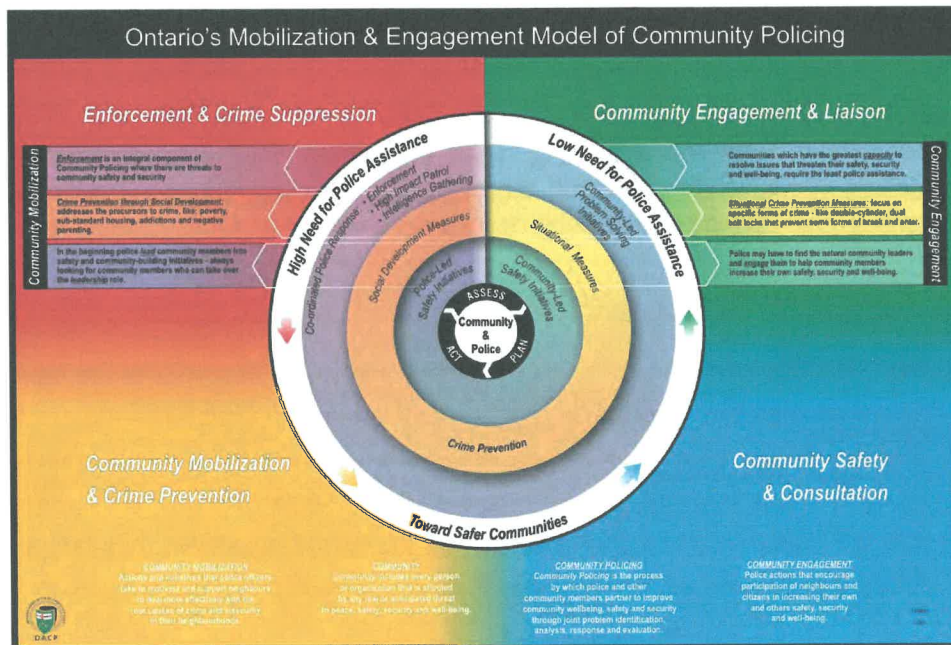
Community Satisfaction Survey

Year: 2011 (last year survey completed)

1.	97.4% of respondents felt "very safe" or "safe" in their community.
2.	Of the 102 respondents (or 26.2%) who said they had contacted the OPP in the past year, 94.2% were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the ease of contacting the OPP.
3.	Overall, 92.6% of respondents were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the quality of police service provided by the OPP.
4.	91.6% of respondents were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the OPP's ability to work with communities to solve local problems.
5.	92.7% of respondents were "satisfied" or "very satisfied" with the OPP's visibility on the highways.

Community Policing Committees

Elgin County OPP is very blessed to have a strong network of Community Policing Committees to represent the municipalities we serve. We work in partnership with our committees to identify and resolve issues of crime and traffic that are identified by the committees. In addition our committees volunteer countless hours of their time to support many community initiatives, particularly those that assist children, the elderly and vulnerable groups. Elgin County has six Community Policing Committees located in West Elgin, Southwold, Port Stanley, Belmont, Malahide, and our newest committee in Bayham. Elgin County OPP is very appreciative of the hard work all of our committees do to support their community and the OPP. In 2013 we provided training to our committees on the Ontario Mobilization & Engagement Model of Community Policing and all committees are now using the model as a guide to assist them in setting priorities and objectives.



Community Services Officer

The position of the Community Services/Media Relations officers is always a busy one. Whether it is providing school lectures, public safety messaging to community groups, attending public safety meetings or responding to media inquiries, Constable Carlson's goal was to promote public safety and security through education.

During the cold winter months the focus is on road safety as well as lecturing in the schools on various topics including the Values Influences Peers Program (VIP).

The VIP program runs from October until June and is a great educational tool and also a great way for police to interact with today's youth.

In 2013 and carrying on into 2014 Constable Carlson has increased the OPP's presence in the West Elgin Secondary School acting as their school resource officer. Constable Carlson spends one day a week in the High school where he has his own office space which allows students easy access to speak to a police officer.

As the weather warmed Constable Carlson's goal was to promote bicycle safety, road safety, as well as water safety. Constable Carlson attended several bicycle rodeos at local schools to provide students with interactive bicycle safety presentations.

Sitting on the Active Elgin Committee (Share the Road), Constable Carlson assisted with the planning and delivery of Elgin Counties 1st Annual Cycling Summit. This included a full day of lectures designed to make Elgin and St. Thomas a safe and vibrant cycling community and destination. The second day of the summit included bicycle safety lectures and a family cycling festival.



(Constable Carlson demonstrates some cycling skills during the family bike day even held at the Timken Centre)

Also with the arrival of summer and the conclusion of the in school activities Constable Carlson prepared for the multitude of summer festivals and activities throughout Elgin County.

Some of the many community events Elgin OPP members and Auxiliary members attended throughout the summer included Port Stanley Can-Fest, Harbour Fest, as well as visits to the local conservation areas to provide bicycle safety presentations to the kids camping at the parks.



Fishing in Elgin County is big hit for both young and old and each year Elgin OPP sponsor three Kids, Cops, and Canadian Tire Fishing Days. This year the events were held in Port Bruce, Port Glasgow and at the Springwater Conservation Area. These events allow kids to get out and spend the day fishing and competing for awesome prizes! No one walks away empty handed, whether you catch a fish or not there is a prize for everyone who participates.

As the Elgin County Marine Unit coordinator Constable Carlson promotes water and boating to students and the public as well as boaters on the water while conducting marine patrol. In September, Elgin OPP Auxiliary

members attended the Suicide Awareness Walk in West Lorne and Constable Carlson provided interactive distracted driving presentations at the Rodney Fall Fair. As October rolled around the V.I.P. program started anew in the local schools.



Halloween safety, hunting safety, winter driving public safety messaging became the topics of discussion. One of the most important road safety messages was that of reminding the public of the risk of collisions with deer. In November both regular OPP members and OPP Auxiliary members attended the many events around Elgin County including providing assistance and representation at Remembrance Day Ceremonies.



OPP members also attended the 7th annual MADD Candlelight Vigil. The vigil is held to celebrate and remember those lost or injured in drinking and driving collision.



Bayham Community Policing Committee played host to Constable Carlson who presented "Identity Theft" to area residents. This was a free presentation to the public and discussed the many facets of Identity Theft and how to prevent becoming a victim.



Elgin Detachment also assisted with the multitude of annual Christmas parades around Elgin County. This included assisting at the Belmont, Port Burwell, Straffordville, Springfield, Sheddon and Rodney parades. Elgin OPP Auxiliary members partnered up with the Elgin St Thomas MADD Chapter to have a Christmas float in both the St Thomas Christmas Parade and Port Stanley Dickens Day parade. The float featured Elgin's Community Trailer decorated up with safety messaging and the Grinch locked up behind bars.

Community Groups/Committees

The Community Services Officer actively participates and assists with many Community Groups within Elgin County. Speaking engagements, policing advice/opinions, and community safety displays are just some of the services offered. Some of the committees Elgin County OPP members actively participate in are; Elgin County Road Safety Committee, Safe Grad Committee, MADD – Mothers Against Drinking and Driving, Crimestoppers, West Lorne Neighbourhood Watch Committee, RAISE Committee, IMPACT Committee, Youth Justice Steering Committee, and all of our Community Policing Committees.

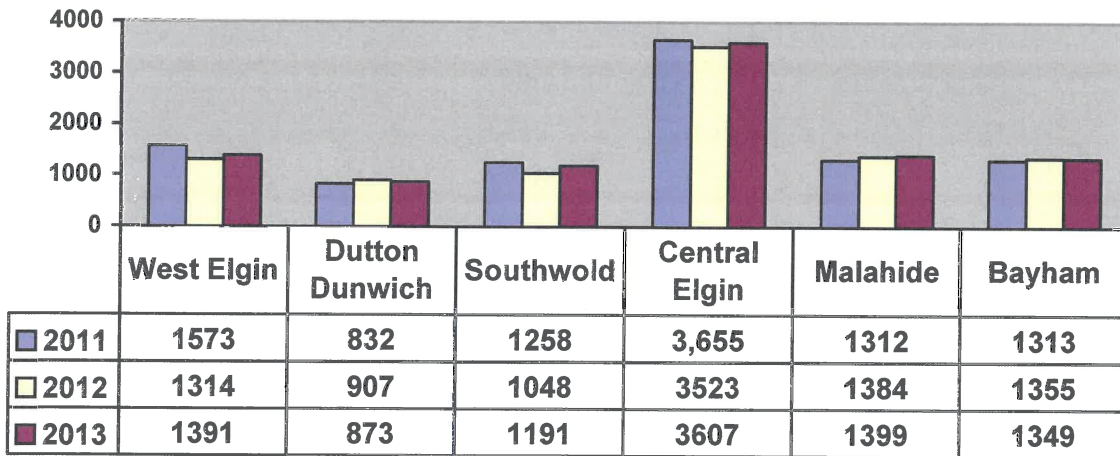
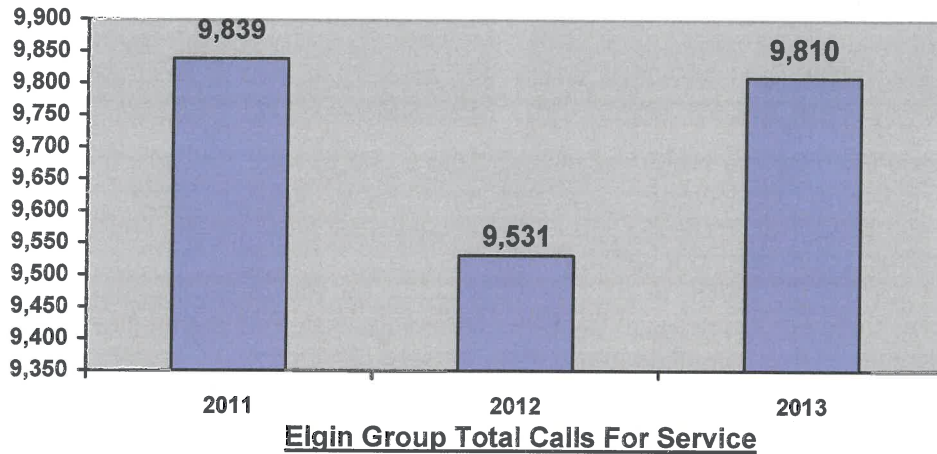


Detachment Statistics

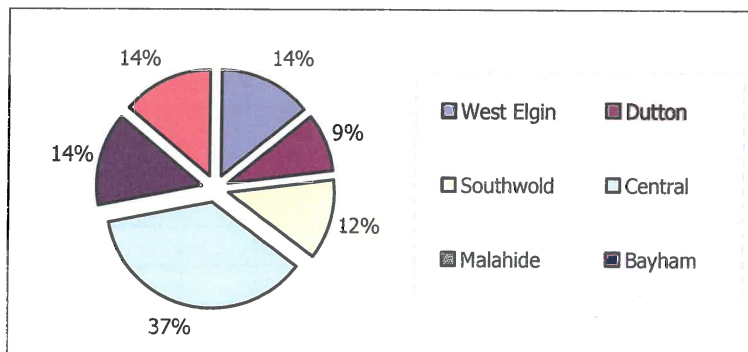


Elgin Group Calls for Service

A comparison of incidents from 2011 to 2013 covering the same time period January to December reveals a slight decrease in calls for service in 2012 and a return closer to our normal level in 2013.



Elgin Group Calls for Service by Municipality



Elgin Group Total Calls Distribution 2013

Traffic Safety



The safety of motorists on Elgin County roads has always been a priority for Elgin Detachment. Our Traffic Management Team is dedicated to enforcement and response to traffic complaints within the County.

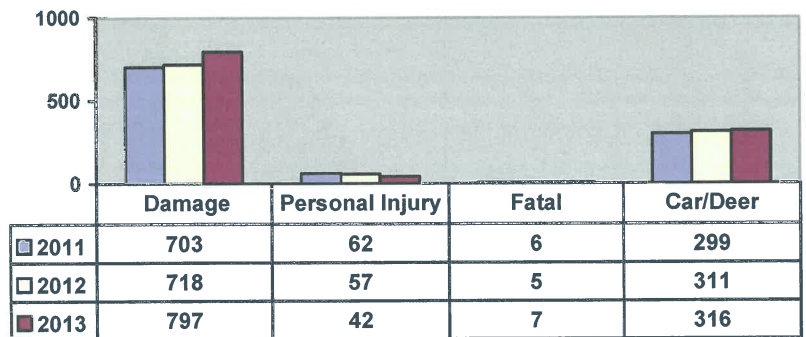
Our enforcement has increased in all areas in 2013 for the second year in a row with noticeable increases in traffic enforcement, directed patrol, and foot patrol.

Officers conducted 301 static RIDE checks in 2013, in addition to other tactics used to identify and remove impaired drivers. Festive RIDE was in operation from Nov 24th to Jan 4th. During that time officers conducted 48 RIDE checks, resulting in 6 drivers being charged with Impaired Driving.

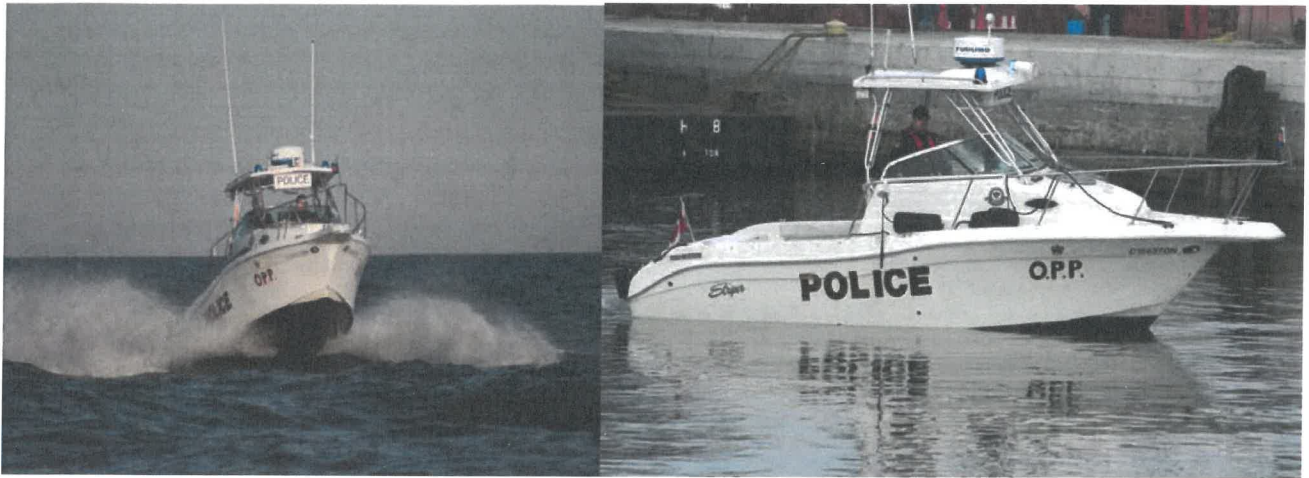
As you can see from the Motor Vehicle Collision chart below we have seen a slight increase in total crashes in 2013 but continue to see a decrease in Personal Injury crashes. I believe this is a direct result of targeted enforcement of Impaired Driving, Aggressive Driving, Seat Belt Use, and Distracted Driving.

These four factors can often be the difference between a minor crash with no injuries and a major crash resulting in injuries or death. Of the crashes we experienced in Elgin County in 2013:

	Fatal Crashes		Remaining Crashes	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
Alcohol Involved	0	1	29	8
No Seat Belt	1	1	22	12
Aggressive Driving	0	1	74	87
Distracted Driving	4	2	100	72
Animal Related	0	0	311	316



Marine Safety



Elgin Detachment's Marine Unit is made up of 5 qualified OPP Marine Operators, a summer marine student and is supported by the Elgin Auxiliary Unit. Officers are on the water patrolling every weekend and attend water related community events during the boating season.

In the spring of 2012 Elgin Detachment acquired a newer police boat as a result of the OPP's ongoing vessel upgrading process across the province. The 2009 24ft Seaswirl with a 5.7L Volvo inboard/outboard replaced the 10 year old Elgin Seaswirl.

The Marine Unit was out early for the May long weekend ensuring that the boating public was ready for the boating season with properly equipped vessels and properly qualified captains.

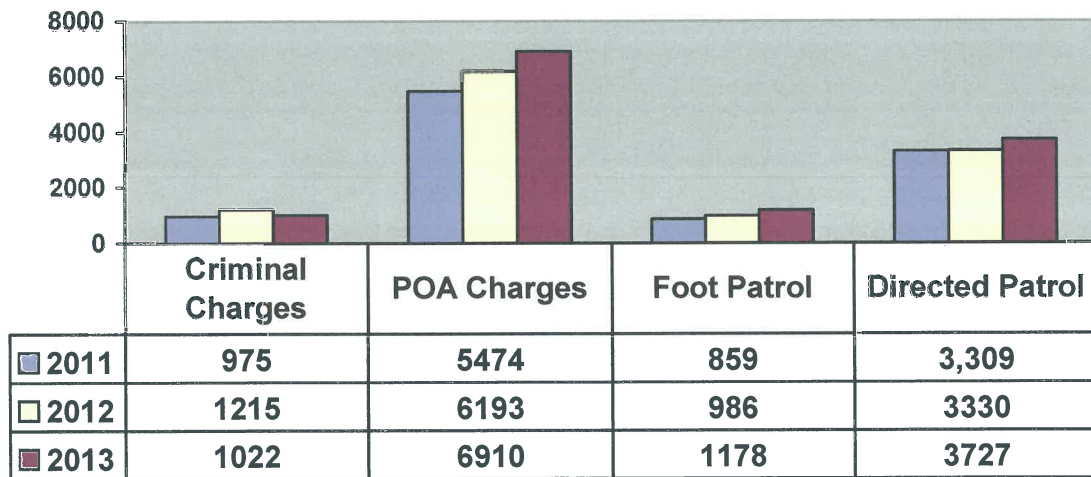
The unit attended such events as Can-Fest and Harbourfest in Port Stanley, and Tub Daze in Port Burwell

Year	Marine Hours	# of Vessels Checked	# of Charges (Criminal, Provincial, Marine)
2012	346.5	446	20
2013	220	461	11



Crime Prevention

In 2013 Elgin Detachment continued our commitment to crime prevention. A large component of this goal is the pro-active education provided through media outlets and presentations provided by our CSO. We continue to follow the principles of Intelligence Led Policing and are also committed to a Crime Abatement Program which centres on ensuring repeat offenders abide by the conditions placed on them by the courts on their release. The detachment has also increased our commitment to working with our Community Policing Committees to identify and resolve issues of concern in the community. Our detachment members continue to work with and support our partner stakeholders like The Childrens Aid Society, Violence Against Women Services Elgin County, The Regional Mental Health Centre, The Ministry of Natural Resources, our Justice Partners, and neighbouring Police Services.



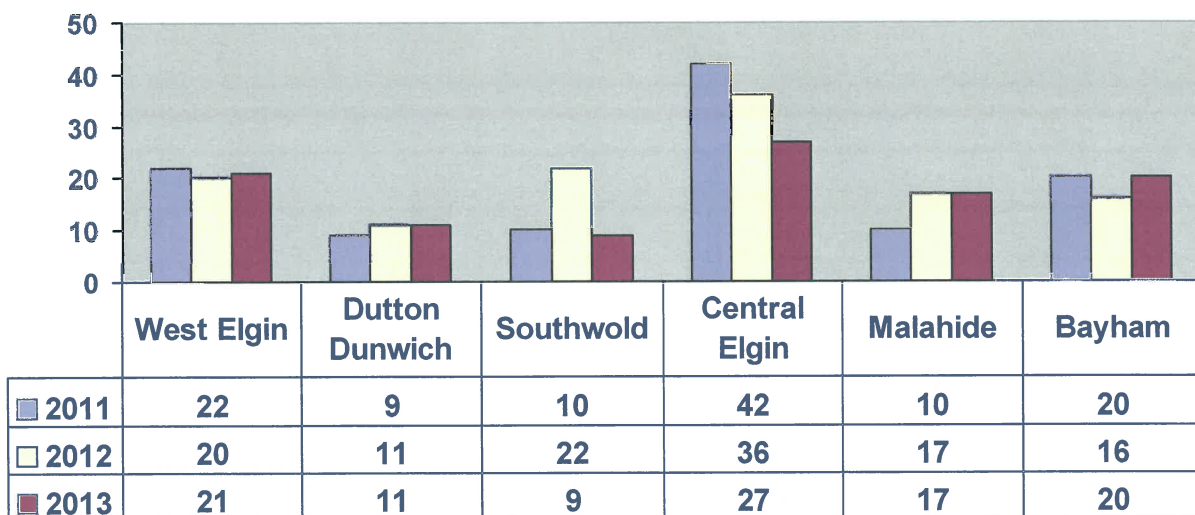
Enforcement Statistics

False Alarms - Elgin OPP officers responded to 393 false alarms in 2013 up from 263 in 2012.

911 Hang Ups - Elgin OPP Officers responded to 806 calls for 911 Hang Ups in 2013 down from 1,083 in 2012.

Break & Enter

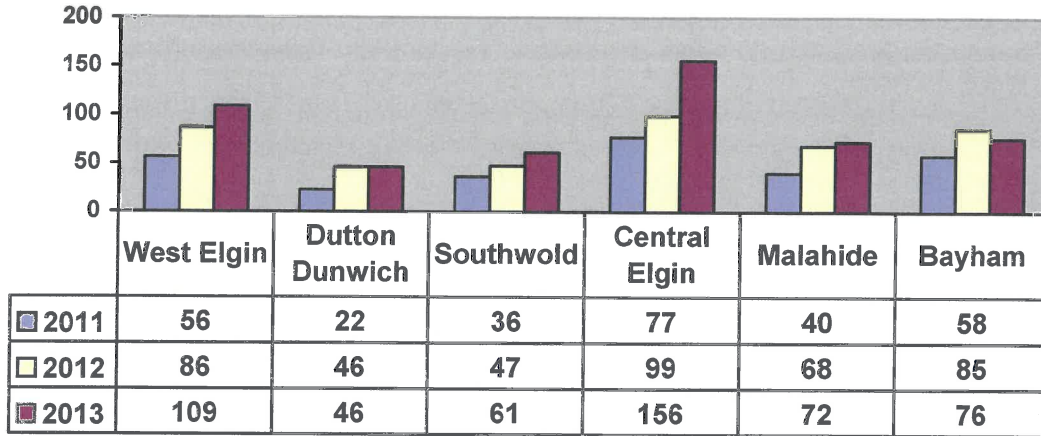
We have seen an overall decrease in Break & Enters in Elgin County in 2013; down 14% overall with a notable decrease in Southwold and Central Elgin and slight increase in Bayham.



Break and Enter By Municipality

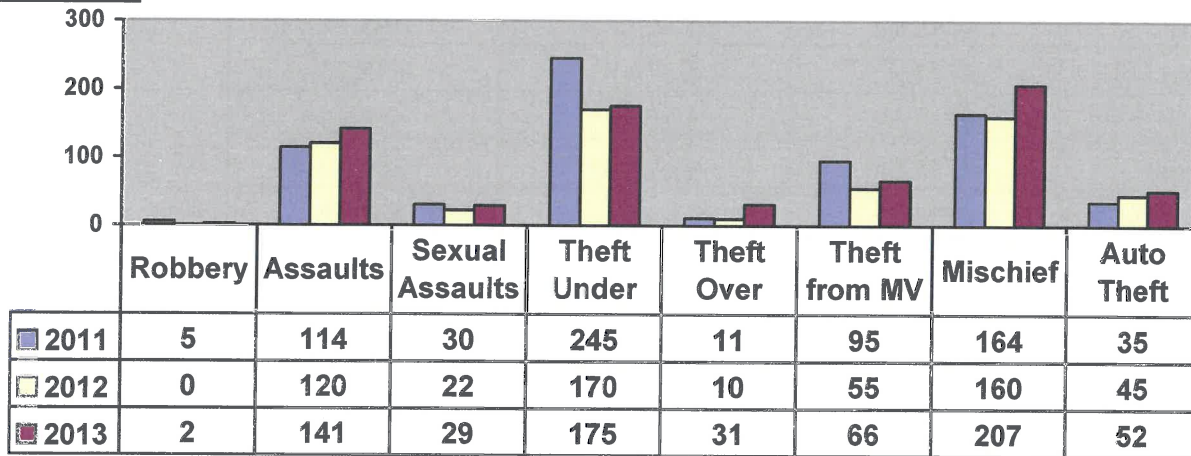
Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence has increased in Elgin County and across the province. In 2013 we have continued to work with our partner agencies, like Violence Against Women Services Elgin County, to increase awareness and education. We believe our increased education has contributed to the increase in reported domestic violence occurrences in Elgin County.



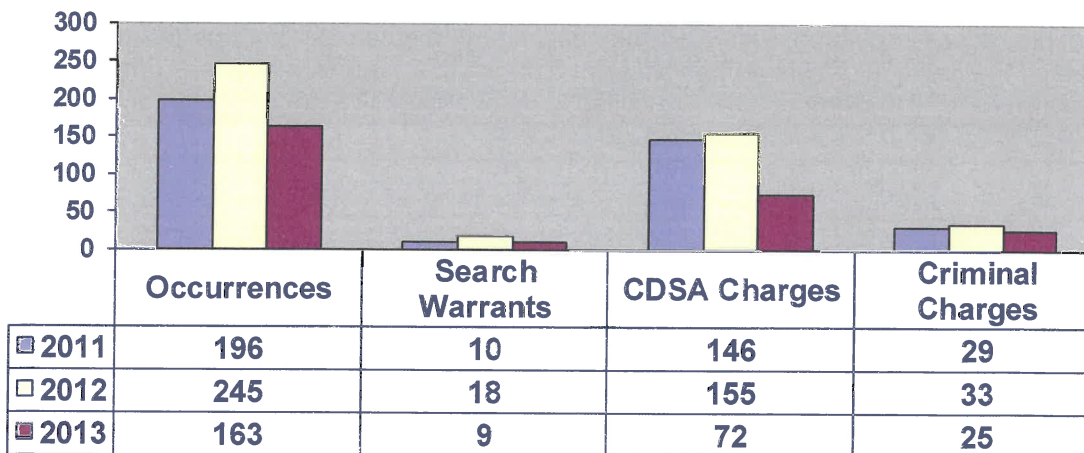
Domestic Occurrences by Municipality

Other Crimes



Elgin Group 2013 Other Crimes

Drugs



Property/Cash Seized \$35,500.00

Drugs Seized \$1,551,770.00



Financial Reports



In 2013 Elgin officers delivered 62,941.30 hours of service to the contract. This exceeded the minimum contract hours required by 6,406.11 hours.

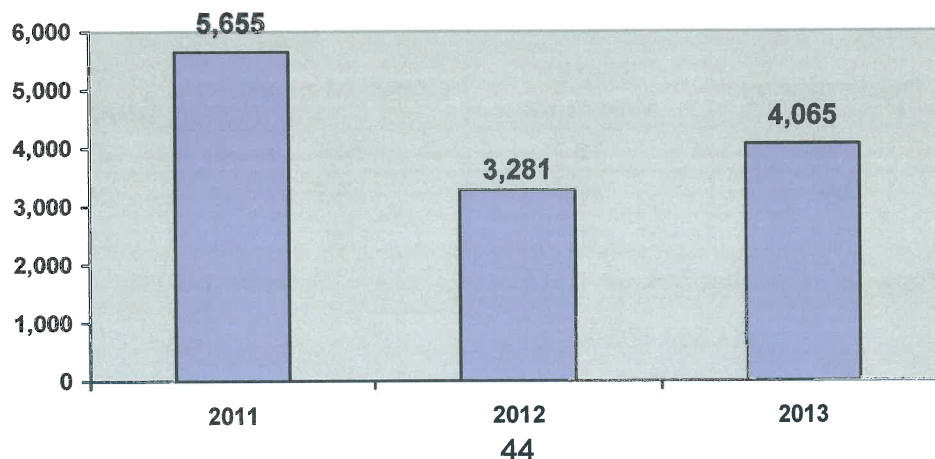
In 2013 officers from Elgin Detachment were called upon to assist with provincial responsibilities on a number of occasions, most notably, Port Dover Friday 13th events and the Plowing Match held in Perth County. The Elgin Group will receive a rebate for Provincial Service Usage in 2013.

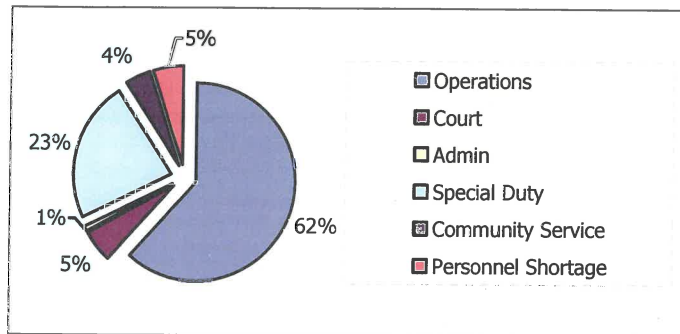
2013 Contract Hours

Month	Minimum Required	Received	Exceeded
January	4711.52	5,242	530.74
February	4711.52	4,704.00	-7.52
March	4711.52	5,322.00	610.48
April	4711.52	5,549.77	838.25
May	4711.52	5,405.26	693.74
June	4711.52	5,379.75	668.23
July	4711.52	5,301.01	589.49
August	4711.52	5,092.01	380.49
September	4711.52	5,107	397.49
October	4711.52	5,143.75	432.24
November	4711.52	5,418	707.49
December	4711.52	5,276.50	564.99
Year to Date	56538.24	62,941.30	6,406.11

Elgin Group Overtime Report

The charts below outline the overtime expended for the Elgin Group contract by Elgin Detachment officers and a breakdown of how it was expended. Elgin OPP has implemented a number of strategies to reduce the use of overtime, including the creation of an overlap shift from 3:00 pm to 3:00 am during peak time for calls for service, and policy changes to when officers are called in on overtime. We are currently running a pilot of a noon to midnight shift to see if this will further reduce overtime.





Overtime Expenditure by Percent

Elgin Group Revenue Report

The chart below outlines the revenue collected on behalf of the municipality for services provided by the OPP.

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY
\$ 3,607.50	\$ 2,488.50	\$ 3,553.75	\$ 3,868.73	\$ 5,577.75	\$ 3,727.50	\$ 5,035.00
AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL:	
\$ 4,135.25	\$ 3,824.00	\$3,312.00	\$3,039.00	\$3,039.00	\$ 45,703.23	

Criminal Record Checks

The chart below provides a breakdown of criminal records checks completed by Elgin Detachment in 2013, an increase of 84 checks more than those completed in 2012. Of the 2,961 Criminal Records checks completed 406 persons required fingerprints for RCMP verification.

Criminal Record Checks 2013													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Vulnerable Screening	139	80	132	180	258	190	141	153	172	266	183	99	1993
Regular	34	62	72	53	46	68	41	24	36	30	29	23	518
Other	45	31	29	33	41	29	38	34	38	53	57	22	450
TOTAL	218	173	233	266	345	287	220	211	246	349	269	144	2961

R.I.D.E. Grant

Each year Elgin County OPP completes an application for a RIDE Grant through Mothers Against Drinking and Driving. In 2013 Elgin OPP received \$13,400.00 and all of that grant money has been spent to provide officers at RIDE checks throughout the County, with the bulk of those checks occurring during the Festive RIDE Season. We are very proud and appreciative to be partners with Mothers Against Drinking and Driving in the fight to keep impaired drivers off our roadways.



Elgin County OPP Supports the Communities We Police



**Elgin County OPP, 42696 John Wise Line, RR#5 St Thomas, ON. N5P 3S9
EMERGENCY CALL 911**