



JANUARY 2014 IS INTERNATIONAL CRIME STOPPERS MONTH

Crime Stoppers of York Region will hold a press conference on Thursday, January 23rd, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. at York Regional Police, #5 District Headquarters, located at 8700 McCowan Road in the Town of Markham to highlight and promote International Crime Stoppers Month.

Crime Stoppers of York Region joins its counterparts around the world in celebrating January as International Crime Stoppers Month. This year the theme for Crime Stoppers is **“Reinventing for the Future”** which typifies the Crime Stoppers mission “to help stop, solve and prevent crime”. To celebrate this month, Crime Stoppers of York Region will be highlighting its initiatives over the past year.

In addition, Student Crime Stoppers of York Region recently selected the winners for our annual student poster contest and we will be unveiling the three winning posters with the students who created them.

Counterfeits are everywhere! Many are dangerous and there are an increasing number that are being sold for almost the same price as the legitimate products they copy. However, counterfeits have been shown to be inferior in quality and many do not comply with our laws; especially the laws that are designed to help make us safe. Counterfeits can harm you in more ways than you can imagine. This crime continues to grow as more and more products are being copied. See what is being copied, especially recently in Canada. Appearing at this press conference will be Lorne Lipkus, a lawyer who practices throughout Canada in the area of intellectual property litigation with a focus on solutions for anti-piracy and anti-counterfeiting enforcement.

Cargo crime is a \$5 billion dollar problem in Canada. It costs us all and puts the well-being of truck drivers and other employees at risk. Detective Sergeant Paul Lasalle of the York Regional Police Auto/Cargo Theft Unit will also be in attendance to discuss a new initiative with Crime Stoppers.

York Regional Police Chief Eric Jolliffe, David Forster - President of Ontario Association of Crime Stoppers and elected Canadian representative to Crime Stoppers International, and David Mountain - Chair of Crime Stoppers of York Region, are scheduled to attend and pass on their comments.

Crime Stoppers is a three-way partnership involving the community, police and media by using an anonymous tipster system and cash rewards to help solve crimes. Crime Stoppers has proven itself as an effective and cost efficient program in combating crime around the world and its expansion to schools has been instrumental in reducing criminal activity and violence among our youth.

Crime Stoppers of York Region was founded in 1986 and its success can be seen over the past 25 years with more than 2,600 arrests and 7,000 charges laid. More than \$128 million dollars of property and illegal drugs have also been seized.

For further information, contact Crime Stoppers Police Coordinator, Sergeant Trevor Hanko #400 at coordinator@1800222tips.com or call 1-866-876-5423 extension 6767.

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