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By Email to: Letters@globeandmail.com, amorrow@globeandmail.com

Re: "What's The Price For Law and Order?" – January 8, 2011 – The Globe and Mail

Your article, "What's the Price for Law and Order?" points out that crime rates have dropped as the financial investment in policing has increased. Increased investment in policing is aimed at making our communities safer and to bring down crime rates. Clearly, the investments are paying off by providing the desired result and expected outcome. Old-fashioned "boots on the street" as the people of Halifax demanded, can make an enormous difference in public safety.

We believe investments are delivering the desired results, but we also realize that public budgets are strained. That's why, back in November, the Police Association of Ontario asked the provincial government to form a working group to examine where efficiencies can be found in policing, without putting public safety at risk. Civilian staff and front line police officers, who put their lives on the line every day to protect the public, are best able to provide an accurate assessment of their work and where efficiencies might be found to make the most of the financial investment in police services, without jeopardizing public safety.

Policing has changed, along with the world, especially in the last decade since 9-11. There is a need to examine what we do and how we do it, and ensure we're delivering the best service to our communities. The working group would include a range of law and order stakeholders to examine how legislation, court decision, reporting,

regulations, major crime reporting, court submissions etc. have affected front-line policing. Also, the working group would examine if efficiencies can be found through streamlining processes and improvements in technology, and determine how found efficiencies can enhance front-line policing – because that’s where the real difference is made in protecting the public, and maintaining safe communities.

Sincerely,

Larry Molyneaux,
President, Police Association of Ontario