

MEDIA ADVISORY

2017 POLICE SERVICES HERO OF THE YEAR AWARD – SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED

LONDON, ON – May 16, 2017 – A public awareness campaign launched by the Police Association of Ontario (PAO) earlier this year to encourage Ontarians to nominate police services heroes who went above and beyond the call of duty, garnered over 300 nominations from residents across the province this year.

The PAO Awards Committee had the challenging task of narrowing down hundreds of nominations to a shortlist of only six (three in each category) from a number of extremely compelling, emotional, and often personal narratives. Winners will be announced and receive their awards at the PAO's Annual General Meeting, where they will be congratulated by the entire membership, comprised of police associations from across the province.

WHAT: 2nd Annual Police Services Hero of the Year Award
Winners will be announced in two categories

WHO: **In the Line of Duty nominees:**

- Chris Anderson, Port Hope Police Service
- Ryan Johnson, Sudbury Police Service
- Pat Kellar, Belleville Police Service

In the Community nominees:

- Todd Bennett, Belleville Police Service
- Amy Finn, Chatham-Kent Police Service
- Celia Gagnon, Windsor Police Service

WHERE: PAO Annual General Meeting (President's Banquet)
Crystal Ballroom, Best Western Lamplighter Inn, London ON

WHEN: Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

WHY: Ontario residents nominated police services heroes (uniform and civilian) who they felt went above and beyond the call of duty. Nominations were submitted through the Police.Hero.ca website, as well as social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram).

OTHER INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITIES:

- Bruce Chapman, President of the Police Association of Ontario
- John Pare, Chief of the London Police Service
- Jeannette Eberhard, Chair of the London Police Services Board

About the Police Association of Ontario (PAO):

Founded in 1933, the Police Association of Ontario (PAO) is the official voice and representative body for Ontario's front-line police personnel, and provides representation, resource and support for 53 police associations. The PAO's membership is comprised of over 18,000 police and civilian members of police services.

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