

OPP supporting positive actions of young people

Young people doing the right thing may earn themselves some well-deserved recognition this winter.

OPP will be continuing its partnership with Mac's Convenience Stores across Ontario again this year for Operation Heat 2014, a program that rewards children who demonstrate positive actions, positive behaviour and show acts of kindness toward others.

OPP officers will be keeping a watchful eye for young people carrying out good deeds in communities across the province; and when they catch someone in an act of kindness, the "thank you" which they will receive in the form of free "ticket" for hot chocolate.

Operation Heat is a positive ticketing program that provides opportunities for OPP officers to interact with young people in their communities while recognizing youth for doing good deeds. Officers can use the coupons in a "positive" way to establish a dialogue with children in their patrol area and build relationships that will last for years to come.

"The OPP is pleased to participate again this year in this highly successful initiative that recognizes youth for responsible and caring behaviour," said Inspector Robyn MacEachern, of OPP Community Safety Services. "Any opportunity we have to interact with young people is a good thing. Engaging our business communities in support of youth programs also helps make our communities stronger."

"Operation Heat provides law enforcement with an additional tool to initiate communication and reward our youth in a positive way," commented Sean Sportun, manager of loss prevention and security for Mac's in Central Canada. "Mac's strives to be a leader in crime prevention and we are very excited about this yearly initiative and the positive message it helps deliver."