

Police not soliciting funds for community bear program

OPP is very proud to have a number of key partnerships in place throughout the province that benefit the communities. Recently, the Norfolk County OPP Detachment received a number of inquiries from residents asking about police related organizations calling to solicit funds for teddy bears.

While many officers are involved in worthy charities on their personal time, OPP is advising the public that it does not solicit funds from members of the public for its Community Bear Program or any other OPP program. The OPP's Community Bear Program is sponsored by Aviva Canada Inc. Through the sponsorship, Aviva Canada Inc. provides OPP officers with black and white teddy bears which OPP officers give to traumatized children they encounter when they respond to incidents such as motor vehicle collisions.

The OPP is reminding people to verify the legitimacy of any organization that calls to solicit funds from the public. For information on how to spot a scam and make sure you do not become a victim, go to www.opp.ca and click on Fraud Prevention on the Resources page. For information on the OPP Community Bear Program, go to www.opp.ca and click on Community Bear Program on the Resources page.