

Search warrant results in arrest

A pair of Caledon residents are facing charges after members of the Caledon OPP's Street Crime and Drug Enforcement Units executed a Controlled Drug and Substances Act warrant at a Bolton home Feb. 11.

While executing the warrant, officers located a quantity of drugs, believed to be oxycodone and fentanyl, inside.

A 63-year-old woman was arrested and charged with trafficking of a schedule IV substance and four counts of trafficking of a schedule I substance.

A 29-year-old man was charged with possession of a schedule I substance.

Police report fentanyl, like heroin, is an opiate. The drug has been connected with multiple deaths and overdoses across Canada. The drug was originally developed as an anesthetic used during surgery. Around the turn of the millennium, it was made available as a small patch that allowed the medication to be released through the skin over time. It's normally prescribed to patients with cancer and severe chronic pain.

Police agencies report that abusers tamper with the patches, scraping off and dividing the drug, which produces more sales. Police agencies further report that they're seeing fentanyl sold mostly as a powder, which can be mixed with other drugs, but it can also be smoked or injected. Some users have also been known to stick the patch under their tongues for rapid absorption.

Police remind residents that unused medications should be dropped off at local pharmacies for disposal.