



Resolution 2010-04

Racial Profiling

Approved at the 59th Annual General Meeting June 2010

Preamble: The Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police believes that the overwhelming majorities of police service members in Ontario conduct themselves professionally and perform their duties without exhibiting any form of bias.

In the context of policing, racial profiling occurs when members of a police service inappropriately consider race or ethnicity in deciding how and with whom to intervene in a policing capacity.

WHEREAS racial profiling is different from criminal profiling. In that, racial profiling is based on stereotypical assumptions based on race, colour, ethnicity, religion, etc. Criminal profiling, on the other hand, relies on actual behaviour or on information about suspected activity by someone who meets the description of a specific individual, and

WHEREAS Ontario police leaders have not only publicly declared a lack of tolerance for such conduct, but have taken steps to prevent racial bias in police workplaces and in the delivery of policing services to the public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police accepts that racial bias exists in Ontario society and in its institutions, and that members of police services can be susceptible to its pernicious influence, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police affirms that police organizations and their individual members, especially given the unique authority bestowed on police by society, have a heightened responsibility to ensure their decisions are free of all bias, racial or otherwise, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police encourages police services throughout Ontario to continue implementing on-going positive measures to prevent bias in policing and to promote harmonious relationships with all the diverse communities they serve.

The measures referred to above include: policy, human resources and training processes, systems of supervision and accountability as well as proactive community engagement.