

Media Release

Tanya Calvert of St. Thomas Police Service Honoured with the OACP/OMRON Catherine Martin Award of Excellence in Media Relations

For Immediate Release: May 13, 2020

(Toronto, ON) – Ontario's police leaders are proud to announce that Tanya Calvert of the St. Thomas Police Service (STPS) is the recipient of the 2020 OACP/OMRON Catherine Martin Award of Excellence in Media Relations, sponsored by McMaster University.

This award recognizes a sworn or civilian member (or team) who has demonstrated consistent dedication and professionalism in the strategic use of media and/or social media – either individually or as part of a campaign – to educate and showcase the profession of policing in the community, supporting public safety or advancing investigations in the Province of Ontario.



On January 1, 2019, Tanya Calvert became the first ever Corporate Communications Coordinator at STPS. Since taking on the role, Calvert has made a significant and lasting impact on how STPS engage with the public through social media. Public engagement has been taken to a new height for STPS and the community through daily media releases, Protective Services Reports to City Council/Police Services Board, Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook. This has been instrumental in bringing STPS and the community closer together.

Calvert's efforts to improve media relations and communications, particularly through Facebook, has provided a valuable platform for police and the public to share information quickly and enhance a community well-being partnership.

In 2019, The official STPS Facebook page saw a significant increase in engagement – likes increased by 55.9%, views to posted content increased by 515%, and the account surpassed 100,000 followers. Calvert is the go-to person when planning a community event, open house or determining how to best engage the public through social media.

"Ontario police services are always striving to improve their connections with their communities. Our media relations officers and corporate communicators play a big role in enhancing those connections. We congratulate Tanya on demonstrating that a police service's investment in its media relations and communications capabilities can significantly benefit community engagement and lead to safe communities." – Joe Couto, OACP Director of Government Relations and Communications.

[2020 OACP/OMRON Catherine Martin Award of Excellence in Media Relations Video](#)



This annual award is made possible by the generous support from McMaster University.



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