

# Traditional approach to police work must change

AYLMER - Just spending more money on police services may not help control crime, a British expert told an international symposium on policing held in mid-November.

"That's why we have to change our traditional approach to police work," Michael J. Hirst, the Chief Constable (Chief of Police) of Leicestershire, England, told a gathering of police officials and leaders of community groups at the Ontario Police College.

"The traditional methods simply aren't working."

"In the last ten years, we've increased spending on police services by about 47 per cent in the United Kingdom," the Chief Constable said, "and crime has increased by almost exactly the

same amount. Just investing more resources doesn't work."

Instead, police should be looking at new "community policing methods" that emphasize crime prevention rather than crime detection, and which involve members of the community working in partnership with the police.

The two-day symposium, entitled "At the Leading Edge: Policing in the 1990s and Beyond," was sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General, in co-operation with the Municipal Policing Association, which represents municipal police commissions, the Police Association of Ontario, which is the union representing police officers, and the Ontario Association

of Chiefs of Police.

"We organized this meeting so that everyone involved in policing could discuss together the course we should follow over the next decade," said Ontario Solicitor General Mike Farnan,

the keynote speaker. "This symposium will help determine the directions policing should take."

The 150 police officials and community leaders attending the symposium made more than 25

recommendations for adapting policing methods and organization to the needs of the 90s, ranging from innovative training and the use of high technology to ways of changing the criminal justice system.

## Legislation prevents GST stacking

Toronto - The Honourable Shelley Wark-Martyn, Minister of Revenue, recently introduced legislation at the opening of the Legislature to ensure that the Ontario Retail Sales Tax (RST) is not stacked on top of the oncoming federal Goods and Service Tax (GST).

"Our first piece of legislation fulfills our commitment to

reverse the previous government's decision when it increased provincial revenues by stacking RST on GST," said Wark-Martyn.

The Minister repeated her assurance that consumers can obtain refunds from vendors or the Ministry's Retail Sales Tax Branch if they have been charged RST on Top of GST for goods and

services to be delivered after December 31, 1990.

She also said the government would take action to clear up any confusion about the GST and RST. "My Ministry has mailed notices to over 300,000 RST vendors," Wark-Martyn said. "A second stage in our public information program will begin right after the legislation is approved."

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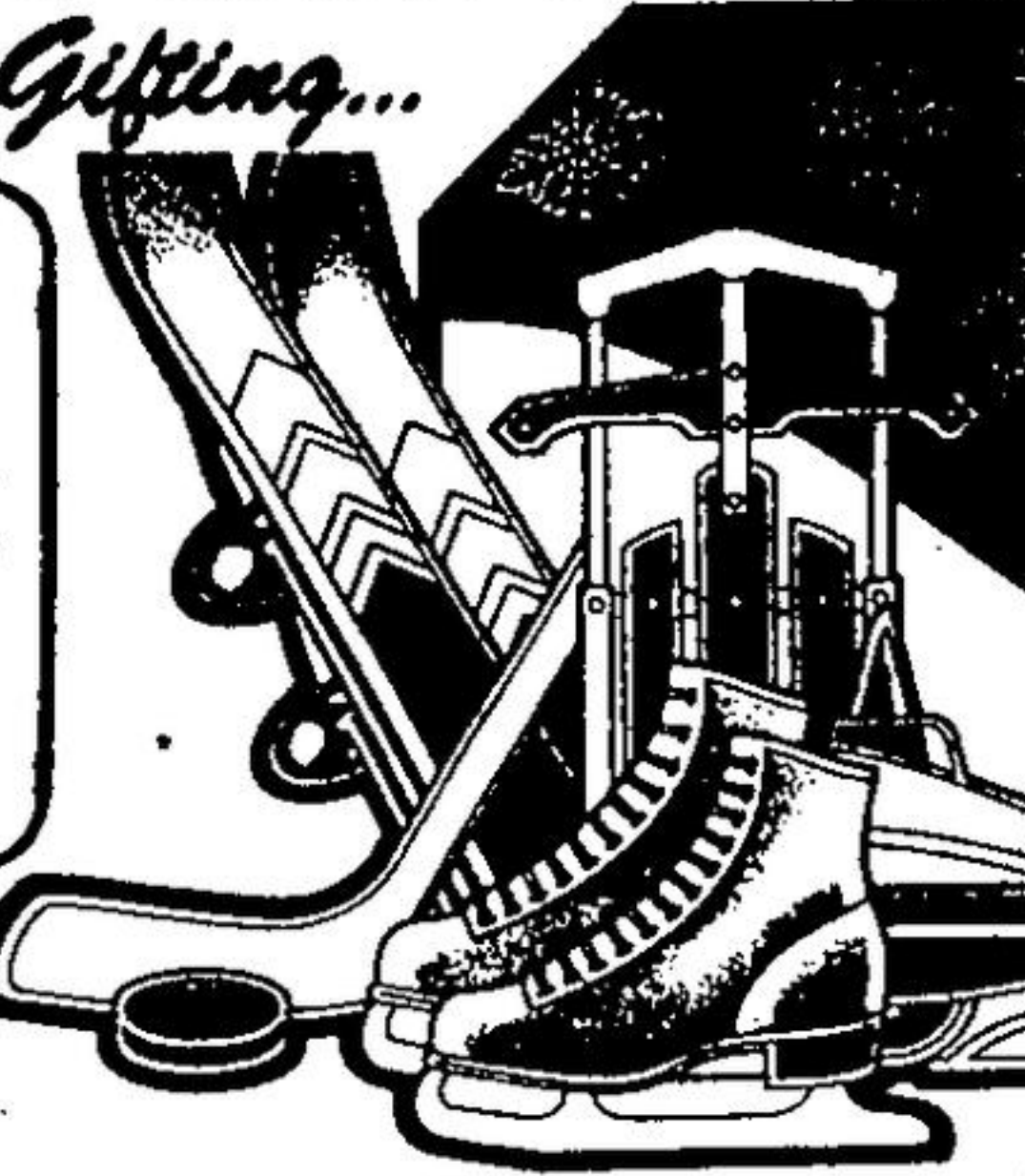
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