

# Top cop Crowell gets new contract

Halton's police chief has received a contract extension.

Halton Regional Police Services Board Chairman Bob Maich announced recently that Police Chief Gary Crowell's employment contract has been extended until June 2012 with an option to extend it to June 2013.

He had initially been given a five-year contract as chief, which was due to expire in June 2011.

In 2009, Crowell earned a salary of \$198,865.50 and received taxable benefits of \$12,733.08, according to the province's Public Sector Salary Disclosure list.

Crowell, 60, was appointed chief of Halton police in June 2006 replacing Ean Algar; Crowell had been Halton's deputy chief since 1999.

A graduate of M.M. Robinson High School, Crowell has 40 years of policing experience. He started with the RCMP in Nova Scotia in 1970. After 1 1/2 years with the RCMP he became a Peel Regional Police officer for 28 years. He left Peel to become Halton's deputy chief.

"Gary has done an outstanding job for the people of Halton and the service, and we are delighted to see him continue in his role of chief of police with this contract extension," Maich said in a press release.

"Chief Crowell is a respected police leader who has initiated progressive crime prevention, law enforcement and public safety programs in priority areas such as domestic violence and traffic safety."

Maich said that during the period June 2011 to June 2012, both the police services board and the chief will focus on factors such as continuity of leadership, succession planning and

continued excellence in policing.

"We are fortunate to live in one of the safest municipalities in Canada. We are confident that under Chief Crowell's strong leadership, the police service will continue to work effectively with the public to help ensure that the Halton community remains as safe tomorrow as it is today," added Maich.

Crowell expressed his appreciation for the confidence that the police services board has shown in him. He said that he is blessed "to work with a strong management team and a very dedicated group of women and men, both civilian and sworn, and the many volunteers who give their all to the safety and security of this region."

Crowell says the end of the new contract will likely be it for his time as chief.

"It will come down to when is it time to retire. It (extra year) gives me that option. I may retire or stay the extra year (until June 2013). Anything beyond 2013, I don't believe will be in my future."

During his five years as chief, Crowell said he is particularly proud of two developments— creating a domestic violence unit now comprised of about two-dozen officers who only deal with those issues, and stepped up traffic education and enforcement efforts to make Halton's roads safer for drivers.

During his next term as chief, Crowell said he wants to improve and expand communication between Halton police and the public. One way the service hopes to do that is by implementing an online reporting system on its website for residents to report minor criminal incidents and minor traffic accidents. The program is now in the pilot project phase.



**GARY CROWELL**

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