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POLICE theifp.ca

Halton Police adds new armoured rescue vehicles to fleet

By Laura Erne
Special to The IFP

Halton Regional Police have announced the addition of two new vehicles to join their fleet aimed at meeting the policing needs of its fast-growing population.

HRPS made the announcement at the Police Services Board meeting last week.

Police will now have new smaller Mobile Command Units (MCU) and Armoured Rescue Vehicles (ARV).

The MCU vehicle is designed to provide flexible response to many situations. The Search Incident Response Team (SIRT) and the Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) will also have access to the MCU vehicles.

A larger MCU will also be added later in the year.

Both MCUs will replace their current MCU vehicle, which has been in service since 2002 as it has reached the end of its operational life cycle.

The ARV on the other hand is new for the fleet. It will be deployed in incidents which pose a greater threat to public and officer safety, such as high-risk search warrants and the rescue of injured citizens or officers. This vehicle will only be operated by highly trained members of the Tactical Rescue Unit (TRU).

Both vehicles will be used for operations and training.

While we are fortunate to live in Canada's safest regional municipality, we must be prepared to deal with incidents that, while very low in frequency, pose a real and tangible threat to community well-being, said Stephen Tanner, Chief of Police.

Even if the rescue vehicle is used to save the life of one person, either an officer or member of the public we serve, it will be well worth the investment. This investment in both the MCU and ARV provide our police service with the tools needed to respond effectively and efficiently to any circumstance we encounter. The safety of the public and of our officers is paramount, added the chief.

The addition of the MCU vehicle and ARV support two central themes of the service's 2017-2019 corporate business plan dubbed Community Safety and Well-being and Organizational Capacity, which was launched in January. This plan provides the framework for police operations in the Halton Region.

The new MCU and ARV vehicles will make their official, public debut at Police Day on Saturday, May 13.

Visitors will have an opportunity to learn more and tour both at that time.

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