## **Record low crime stats in 2013**

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 The lowest Violent Crime Severity Index and the 19th lowest of all 304 reporting municipalities (20.10 in 2013, down from 23.22 in 2012 and 28.71 in 2011)

• The lowest Non-Violent Crime Severity Index and the 13<sup>th</sup> lowest of all 304 reporting municipalities (27.47 in 2013, down from 30.21 in 2012 and 35.82 in 2011)

Halton police reiterated that 2013 was a record year for low crime in the region with crime rates dropping to the lowest levels since Halton became a region in 1974.

In a March report to the Halton Regional Police Service Board, Chief Stephen Tanner noted Halton saw 10,804 criminal offences in 2013 compared to 12,076 the previous year. That's a 10.5 per cent drop in numbers, but translates to a 12.7 per cent drop in the crime rate, when the region's growing population is factored in. said Tanner.

Halton's decrease in crime is consistent with what is happening across the nation.

Canada's overall Crime Severity Index declined by nine per cent in 2013 compared to 2012. Toronto's overall Crime Severity Index was listed at 59.15 for 2013 (down from

42.08 (down from 48.19 in 2012). Regina, Saskatchewan ranked as Canada's least safe city with an overall Crime Severity Index 109.3.

"These latest figures from Statistics Canada highlight the successful partnership between our service and the community to prevent, deter and reduce crime," said Tanner in a press release.

The chief noted however despite Halton's low crime severity rate and overall crime rate, the local police are always working to further reduce the fear and incidence of crime in Halton.

In particular, Tanner listed traffic safety and enforcement, victimization of vulnerable populations, growth in illegal drug activity, human trafficking and domestic violence as areas on which Halton police will be focusing.

"Our vision, "To be the leader in community safety and policing excellence," is the focus of our service delivery," said Tanner. "Data released by Statistics Canada shows that we continue to be on the right path. We are the safest region in Canada, but we will continue to work to be even safer in the fu-





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