

Halton's TRU team places second and third

Halton's Tactical Rescue Unit (TRU) placed second and third earlier this month at the International Tactical EMS Associations Medic competition in Toronto.

Halton's TRU officers participated as two teams in the day-long event. Ottawa's police service won the competition.

The event saw tactical units team up with emergency medical services from across Canada

and the U.S. and compete in various skill exercises.

Teams from Florida, Virginia and a FBI squad from Connecticut participated.

Scenarios the teams had to deal with included high-risk multiple shooter, multiple victim and sniper fire incidents.

"Our tactical unit has demonstrated that they are well trained, proficient and accomplished in

the various aspects of this competition, making us confident they provide the highest level of professional expertise in tactical requirements for the residents of Halton," Police Chief Ean Algar said.

Halton's TRU was formed in 1980 as a part-time service. The aim was to provide constables additional training in hostage taking and rescue situations. Officers worked on regular beats and

were on-call for TRU situations.

In January 2001, the Province introduced adequacy standards for policing and one of the requirements was for services to have full-time tactical units, so Halton's became permanent.

Two teams of TRU officers participate in advance training and respond to high-risk scenes. They also provide surveillance services and crisis intervention.

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