

Pro-active policing tops list of new chief's goals

BY PATRICK MANGION
Staff Writer

York Region's newest police chief said he set his sights on leading the region's force more than 15 years ago. After 29 years with York Regional Police, Deputy

Chief Armand La Barge will be promoted to chief by year's end as successor to Robert Middaugh, it was announced Thursday.

Deputy Chief La Barge said his three main goals, after taking the top brass

position in December, will be to improve traffic safety and crime prevention and wipe out organized crime in the region.

"I want to see the profile of York Regional Police increase dramatically in York

Region," he said, adding officers will become more visible in the community.

"Residents should see officers spend more time on the road. It's pro-active policing."

Deputy Chief La Barge, 48,

was selected for the \$150,000-a-year job from nine candidates, all of whom were members of York's growing force.

Working as a detective-sergeant in the mid-1980s with then-chief Don Hillock,

Deputy Chief La Barge said he was "inspired" by Mr. Hillock.

Deputy Chief La Barge said he shares a similar passion for policing as outgoing

See OUTGOING, page 16.

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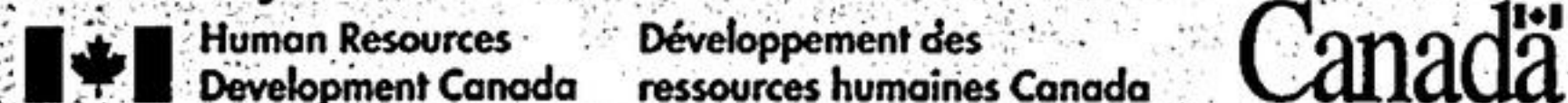


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