

# Police lay 500 charges over Thanksgiving

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York Regional Police laid more than 500 charges during Operation Impact Oct. 7 to 10.

The annual initiative, which ran during the Thanksgiving long weekend, targeted four specific preventable offences that lead to a significant number of deaths and serious injuries on Canadian roadways each year.

Over the course of the weekend, officers laid 477 charges related to aggressive driving, 32 for distracted driving and five for improper use of seatbelts. There were eight charges laid for impaired driving.

"Avoid tragedy by wearing your seat belt, paying attention, planning alternatives to driving if you are drinking and following the rules of the road," said YRP traffic bureau

Insp. Randy Slade.

While the initiative has ended, police remind residents of the need to be safe on local roadways throughout the year. Impaired residents should arrange for a designated driver or overnight accommodations. They can also use public transit or call a taxi. Dialing #TAXI (#8294) on a cellphone will connect you to a nearby taxi company, Slade said.

# Entries sought for annual Greenbelt Photo Contest

Shutterbugs brace yourselves.

The Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, the McMichael Canadian Art Collection, and the Professional Photographers of Canada (PPOC) are teaming up once again for the second annual Greenbelt Photo Contest to celebrate the proposed addition of 21 urban river valleys and seven coastal wetlands to Ontario's permanently protected Greenbelt.

This year, photographers



are invited to share their favourite water moments — paddling on a lake, a picturesque waterfall or steam rising off a tranquil pond.

Entries will be accepted until Jan. 10, 2017 through the dedicated web portal.

Winners will be announced in February.

The winning photographs will be showcased at Kleinburg's McMichael Canadian Art Collection before touring the Greenbelt as a travelling exhibit.

Entries will be judged by a jury of professional photographers and employees from the organizations sponsoring the contest.

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