

## News Release/ Communiqué

## FROM/DE: Orillia OPP Detachment

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## **OPP DELIVER NEW MATERIAL AT SAFTEY VILLAGE**

(**ORILLIA, ON**) – Over the summer the Orillia Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Community Safety Officers (CSO) along with Rama Police Services, Child Advocacy Center Simcoe/Muskoka and the Canadian Centre for Child Protection worked toward modernizing the message that police deliver at the Kiwanis Children's Safety Village (KCSV).

As the times change the message must change too. With technology, trends in social media and entertainment evolving at a rapid pace police must be on top of the subjects and be ready to deliver a proactive message to the youth. The Orillia OPP and partners collaborated to review and implement some new programming from the Canadian Centre for Child Protection's **"Kids in The Know"** program.

"Kids in the Know" is a program that is modern and delivers messages that are important to the youth of today. The changes made to the KCSV service delivery this year include: teaching Grade 2 students about personal safety through a series of story books which speak about inappropriate touching, secrets, trusting your instincts and other important messages. Grade 3 students will receive an introduction to internet safety. Grade 4's will receive an updated message and interactive discussion on internet and social media safety. In addition, CSO's will deliver age-appropriate, interactive "Kids in the Know" safety presentations to youth from Grades 3-9 covering topics of internet and social media safety.

Educators and families are encouraged to learn more about this initiative and the tools and resources available through the **"Kids in the Know"** program by visiting <u>www.opp.ca</u> and <u>www.kidsintheknow.ca</u>.

"We are thrilled with the work being done at the Kiwanis Children's Safety Village and the leadership of the Orillia OPP. It is so important that we talk with our children about personal safety – these efforts will have such a positive impact on the children and the community." – Noni Classen, Director of Education

Members of the Orillia Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police are committed to public safety, delivering proactive and innovative policing in partnership with our communities. Officers value your contribution to building safe communities. If you have information about suspected unlawful activity, please contact the OPP at 1-888-310-1122 or visit Crime Stoppers at: www.crimestopperssdm.com or call 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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