July 29, 2019

Via Email

Mr. Christopher Raynor
Regional Clerk
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1

Dear Mr. Raynor:

Re: York Regional Police 2019 Environmental Scan Highlights Report

At its meeting on June 26, 2019, the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board received the attached report of the Chief of Police entitled “2020-2022 Business Plan: 2019 Environmental Scan Highlights” and adopted the following recommendation:

1. That the Board receive this report for its information.

The Board adopted a further motion that the report be forwarded to York Regional Council, local councils, MPs and MPPs in York Region.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Mafalda Avellino
Executive Director

/Attached: York Regional Police Environmental Scan Highlights Report
THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
POLICE SERVICES BOARD

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

JUNE 26, 2019

2020-2022 Business Plan:
2019 Environmental Scan Highlights Report

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Board receives this report for its information.

SYNOPSIS

In accordance with the Police Services Act, Adequacy Standards Regulation 3/99, York Regional Police and the Regional Municipality of York Police Services Board are currently developing the 2020-2022 Business Plan, which will address the objectives and core business functions of our Service over the next three years.

Section 30(1) of the Adequacy Standards Regulation requires that every board shall prepare a business plan at least once every three years that is developed in consultation with its municipal council, school boards, community organizations and groups, businesses and members of the public. Police Services Board Policy 03/10 Framework for Business Planning further details the process for development of the York Regional Police Business Plan and specifies that it shall include an environmental scan of the community that highlights crime, calls for service and public disorder trends within the community.

Further to this requirement, Appendix A - the 2019 Environmental Scan Highlights Report is attached. The scan provides an overview of the internal and external influences and trends in our operating environment that will have an impact on the delivery of police services in the coming years. By identifying these factors, we will ensure that our business plan reflects and responds to our changing environment.
FINANCIAL IMPlications

None

BACKGROUND

The environmental scan is an essential component of the business planning process as it identifies, analyzes and monitors environmental factors that can influence the delivery of police services in the future. These factors include regional, demographic and socio-economic trends; crime, calls for service and resource trends; public safety and legislative impacts at the federal, provincial and municipal levels; and political and environmental changes. The environmental scan draws from a multitude of government and open sources to provide a comprehensive overview of what changes are occurring and are likely to change in the future.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN HIGHLIGHTS

Demographic and Social Trends

- York Region's population is expected to grow to 1,790,000 residents by 2041, a 50% increase from 2019.

- Approximately 70% of the region's population growth is expected to occur in Markham, Richmond Hill and Vaughan.

- All municipalities experienced growth from 2016 to 2019, with the southern municipalities recording the greatest actual increases in population.

- East Gwillimbury experienced the highest rate of growth with a 32% increase between 2016 and 2019.

- Urbanization and intensification is expected to continue, especially along Highway 7 and Yonge Street.

- The Region's population is expected to continue aging.

- Ethnic, linguistic and cultural diversity of the population is expected to continue.

- Residents are well educated with high participation levels in post-secondary education.

- There is continued positive employment growth; however, the income gap between high and low-income earners continues to expand.

- Increasing housing costs have created affordability issues and impacts personal income expenditures.

Crime Trends and Calls for Service

- York Region has maintained a low overall crime rate that ranks first/lowest in Total Crime Code and Crime Severity Index across the nation when compared to the eight regional/ municipal police services serving the largest populations in Canada.
• From 2014-2018, York Region experienced increases in the rate of Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property and Total Criminal Code offences.

• The rate of drug violations decreased by 33.8% over a five-year period between 2014-2018.

• The total youth crime rate in York Region continued to decline from 2014 to 2018, but violent youth crime increased by 11.3% over the same period.

• York Regional Police experienced a significant increase in citizen generated calls for service over the past three years (21.8%).

• From 2014 to 2018, dispatched calls for service related to mental health issues increased by 18.3%.

Police Resources

• York Regional Police's authorized strength in 2019 is 1,668 sworn officers and 652 civilians.

• Ethnic diversity of YRP uniform members grew from 16.6% in 2014 to 20.5% in 2018.

• From 2018 to 2023, York Regional Police could potentially lose 300 sworn members to retirement, which creates additional recruitment pressures.

• York Regional Police has made efforts to hire more new recruits and experienced officers to address the incoming number of retirements.

Emerging Police Trends and Changing Public Safety Environment

• Recent legislative changes has had an impact on policing in York Region:
  
  o Cannabis Act has the potential to increase the occurrence of other related calls for service due to recreational use of cannabis such as illegal possession, impaired driving, mental health or other emergency room visits.

  o Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act received royal assent but has not yet come into force as no date has been set for proclamation. The Act includes a mandate for municipalities to develop a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan to strengthen the emphasis on community-based policing. As well, the Act transforms the office of the Independent Police Review Director into the Law Enforcement Complaints Agency to reduce delays in investigation process, and establishes the Special Investigations Unit as a provincial agency accountable to the Attorney General to increase independence and focus the SIU's mandate.

• York Regional Police is leveraging technology such as Business Intelligence to aid in tactical, operational and strategic policing through the use of real-time data and intelligence.

• Political polarization locally, nationally, and internationally has led to political and social unrest.
- Police services across North America are reassessing policies on emergency situations due to international instability and recent large-scale attacks on civilians.

- Growing prevalence of extreme weather has the potential to lead to additional traffic accidents or motor vehicle collisions.

York Regional Police uses a consultative approach when developing the business plan. In addition to the Environmental Scan, there have been various consultations and surveys with a multitude of internal and external stakeholders. The information gathered from these consultation efforts will be taken into consideration in the development of goals and objectives for the York Regional Police 2020-2022 Business Plan and will ensure we continue to provide a high quality of service to the citizens of York Region.

Robertson Rouse
Deputy Chief, Administrative Branch

RR:at
Appendix A: 2019 Environmental Scan Highlights Report

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request
YORK REGIONAL POLICE
2019 ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN HIGHLIGHTS
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the environmental scan is to gather information regarding internal and external factors that can affect the work of York Regional Police and how we serve our community. This process allows for the identification of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats in a rapidly changing environment which may impact the organization.

Demographic and Social Trends

York Region’s population continues to age and become more ethnically diverse. Various sources predict the rate of growth of the senior population in York Region will continue to outpace other age segments while the rate of growth for preschool aged children is declining. New immigrants will continue to view the Region as a top choice for settlement. Overall, the total population growth of York Region has surpassed the rate of growth at the national and provincial levels.

An increase in awareness of mental health-related issues reflects the growing number of occurrences police and other emergency services respond to involving persons with mental illnesses. The growing prevalence of substance abuse is also a contributing factor to the increase of mental health-related incidents reported.

Crime and Public Safety Trends

The 5-year variance for citizen-generated calls for service has increased from 2014 to 2018 by 9.3%. YRP’s non-criminal and administrative workload is increasing. The 5-year variance in crime rates per 100,000 in population has seen increases in Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, Criminal Code Traffic Violations, Robbery, Sexual Violations, and Assault.

Issues surrounding drug possession and trafficking have been featured heavily in the media with the legalization of recreational cannabis in the fall of 2018 and rising occurrences involving opioids. Despite this national and provincial trend, York Region has observed a decrease in drug violations over the past five years.

Gun violence in the GTA and hate crime fueled by changing political and social climate locally and internationally have garnered much attention and may be affecting the perception of safety in the region.

The Changing Landscape of Policing

York Regional Police has maintained a high level of community approval despite growing anti-police sentiments in North America. We enjoy support from the community, Regional Council, and the Police Services Board. To maintain the current level of service, YRP has taken steps to recruit new and experienced officers to accommodate for the large number of upcoming retirements and growth in the Region.

New technological trends that may affect policing include autonomous vehicles, use of Real-time Data and Business Intelligence, and prevalence of mobile device use leading to distracted driving. Business Intelligence tools allow for enhanced information sharing to officers, enabling data-informed, evidence-based decisions. Legislative changes that have an impact on the work of YRP include the legalization of recreational cannabis and recent overhaul of the Police Services Act.
ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN HIGHLIGHTS

Demographic & Social Trends

- Senior population is growing fast in York Region: 1 out of 5 people in the region will be age 65+ by year 2031

- Ethnic diversity will continue to grow as new immigrants find York Region one of GTHA’s top choices for place of settlement

- Average household size decreasing over the next 20 years, favouring the increase of smaller, multi-unit residential builds over detached single-family homes in the region

Crime & Public Safety Trends


  - Crimes Against Persons: 30.7%
  - Crimes Against Property: 20.8%
  - Criminal Code Traffic Violations: 8.7%
  - Robbery: 62.9%
  - Sexual Violations: 56.9%
  - Assault: 26.7%
  - Drug Violations: 33.8%
### The Changing Landscape of Policing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Political</th>
<th>Economic</th>
<th>Social</th>
<th>Technological</th>
<th>Legal</th>
<th>Environmental</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Continuing polarization of Canadian politics</td>
<td>• Provincial funding review has put transfer of money to police services on hold</td>
<td>• Potential increase in social unrest caused by polarizing politics locally and abroad</td>
<td>• Driverless (Autonomous) vehicles becoming a reality, with Markham being selected as a launch test site by the Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network</td>
<td>• Bill 175: Safer Ontario Act proposed by previous provincial government was repealed, new Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act received royal assent in March 2019</td>
<td>• Growing prevalence of extreme weather patterns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Uncertainty with upcoming federal election (Oct 2019)</td>
<td>• Provincial government may reallocate traditional police grants to be distributed to other government departments due to new Community Safety and Well-Being Plan</td>
<td>• Police being erroneously tied to alt-right movements</td>
<td>• Social media’s influence over social and political discourse with use of fake news</td>
<td>• Bill C-45: Changes to cannabis legislation potentially leading to increased workload on officers, as well as strain on resources due to new required training</td>
<td>• Impact on increasing need for emergency preparedness due to rising instances of natural disasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Provincial Conservative government elected until 2022</td>
<td>• Regional council has approved an operating budget for YRP of $333.9 million for 2019</td>
<td>• Population of York Region continues to grow, with seniors being the fastest growing segment</td>
<td>• Pervasive use of mobile devices leading to distracted driving</td>
<td>• Recreational use of cannabis a concern for potential risks associated with drug use</td>
<td>• Extreme weather can potential lead to increase in demand for traffic-related calls for service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Current provincial government publicly supportive of police</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Increase in number of refugees into the GTA</td>
<td>• Police services across Canada using mobile apps as way to engage community</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Region of York has identified protection of the environment as a priority in the 2019 to 2023 strategic plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Review of regional governance early 2019 may affect York Region and its municipalities</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Growing concern for mental health issues</td>
<td>• Concerns over privacy related to online activities</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DEMOGRAPHIC & SOCIAL TRENDS

Overview
York Regional Police serves over 1.1 million residents divided amongst nine municipalities. Our policing jurisdiction consists of 1,756 square kilometres of land and 350 square kilometres of Lake Simcoe

Nine Municipalities: Aurora, East Gwillimbury, Georgina, King, Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill, Vaughan, and Whitchurch-Stouffville

Deeds Speak

Population Growth & Forecasts

2017 Growth by Municipality
York Region is the sixth largest municipality in Canada according to statistics from the Region of York. York Region is on pace to outrank Calgary in population by the end of 2019¹

Figure 1. Canada’s largest municipalities by population. Adapted from “York Region – 2017 Growth & Development Review” by Region of York
York Region’s population growth has been steady for the last several years averaging 1.9% per year since 2011\(^2\).

All municipalities experienced population growth between 2016 to 2019.

It is anticipated the Region will reach a population of 1.5 million people by 2031 and 1.79 million by 2041\(^3\).

York Region is growing faster than the national and provincial average. York Region recorded the 6\(^{th}\) highest absolute population growth amongst regions in Canada from 2011 to 2016\(^4\).

According to statistics from the Region of York, East Gwillimbury has experienced the largest population growth from 2016 to 2019 at a rate of 31.8%.

![Figure 2. Top ten highest growing census divisions in Canada from 2011 to 2016. Adapted from 2016 Census Profile: York Region Census stories](image-url)

The three southern municipalities of Markham, Richmond Hill, and Vaughan represent 76% of York Region’s population with Markham being the largest (30%).

The population of York Region is forecast to increase across all municipalities with the most noticeable growth occurring in East Gwillimbury where the population is expected to experience a growth of 394.8% between 2016 to 2041.

Markham and Vaughan have reached #16 and #17 respectively for Canada’s largest municipalities, each having a population equal to 0.9% of the total population in Canada. (Statistics Canada 2016 Census)\(^5\)
- York Region has the 3rd largest population within the GTHA with over 1.1 million, representing 16% of the total.

![Percent share of GTHA Population (2016)](image)

*Figure 3. Share of population in the GTHA as per 2016 Census. Adapted from Statistics Canada 2016 Census*

- York Region was the second fastest growing municipality (7.5%) after Halton Region (9.3%) between 2011 and 2016.

![Population Growth (%) by GTHA municipality, 1996-2016](image)

*Figure 4. Population growth of GTHA municipalities from 1996-2016. Adapted from York Region 2041 Preferred Growth Scenario, 2041 Population and Employment Forecasts*
Figure 5. York Region Population Forecast 2011-2041

Figure 6. Growth forecast of municipalities in York Region from 2016-2041. 2016 Data: from Statistics Canada 2016 Census, 2041 Data from York Region 2041 Preferred Growth Scenario, 2041 Population and Employment Forecasts)
**Age & Sex Composition**

- The Region’s age composition is expected to continue its shift towards an older population due to continued effects of the aging of the baby boomer generation; the population of seniors in York Region will increase from 12% to approximately 24% by the year 2041\(^7\)
- The number of seniors increased faster in York Region (34%) than any other municipality in the GTHA\(^8\)
- The number of preschool children (aged 0-4) declined in all GTHA municipalities except for Durham and Hamilton. Overall number of preschool children in York Region declined by 2.5% since the 2011 Census
- The senior population in York Region is growing faster than any other age group (1 in 5 people will be 65 years or older by 2031). 15.6% of York Region’s population is between 50 – 59 years of age\(^9\)

![2016 York Region Population by Age and Per Cent Change Since 2011](image_url)

*Figure 7. Total senior population in the GTHA as per 2016 Census. Adapted from 2016 Census Profile: York Region Census stories*
York Region’s labour force is aging. Those considered working age (25-64) represented 54.6% of the population in 2016, down from 55.8% in 2011.

Women outnumbered men in 2016 – 51.3% (569,150) women compared to 48.7% (540,755) men.

Immigration

In 2016, 80% (377,415) of Ontario’s recent immigrants (in the last five years) chose to settle in the GTHA; 14% (51,410) settled in York Region.

In 2016, 47% (515,000) of York Region residents were born outside of Canada (3rd highest in the GTHA and Ontario).

China, Iran, and the Philippines were the top 3 countries of origin for recent immigrants.
Ethno-cultural Diversity (Ethnicity & Visible Minority Status)

- 49% (541,200) of York Region residents self-identified as a visible minority in 2016

**Figure 1. National, provincial, and regional population of visible minorities. Adapted from York Region 2016 Census Release Report – Immigration & Ethno-cultural Diversity**

- Millennials (25-34) were the most culturally diverse age group with 56% identifying as visible minorities
- 78% of Markham’s population identifies as a visible minority (highest in York Region)
- 8% of Georgina’s population identifies as a visible minority (lowest in York Region)

**Figure 12. Top visible minority groups in York Region. Adapted from York Region 2016 Census Release Report – Immigration & Ethno-cultural Diversity**
Languages Spoken

- Over 120 different languages were spoken in York Region in 2016
- 61,860 York Region residents do not speak an official language (English or French); an increase of 28%
- 31% of York Region residents reported speaking a non-official language at home

NON-OFFICIAL LANGUAGES SPOKEN AT HOME
MOST OFTEN* IN YORK REGION

1. Cantonese 83,405
2. Mandarin 63,775
3. Persian (Farsi) 25,705
4. Russian 24,540
5. Italian 16,485

*Numbers based on the total number of respondents who provided a single response at the time of data collection

Figure 13. Top 5 non-official languages spoken at home in York Region. Adapted from York Region 2016 Census Release – Family, Households, Marital Status and Language

Religious Affiliation

- The most recent National Household Survey (2011) identifies Christianity, Judaism, and Islam as the top three religious affiliations in York Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total population in private households</td>
<td>1,024,225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buddhist</td>
<td>29,220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>568,435</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindu</td>
<td>50,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>63,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muslim</td>
<td>62,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sikh</td>
<td>10,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional (Aboriginal) Spirituality</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other religions</td>
<td>4,815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No religious affiliation</td>
<td>234,420</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. Distribution (number) of population in private households by religion, Canada, 2011. Adapted from https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhs-enm/2011/dp-pd/prof/details/page.cfm?Long=E&Geo1=HR&Code1=3570&Data=Count&SearchText=york%20region&SearchType=Begins&SearchPR=01&A1=All&B1=All&Custom=&TABID=1
Mental Health Issues

- Mental illness can and often does go undiagnosed but manifests itself in people through difficult behavior, acting out, relentless pursuit of a singular purpose, poor academic achievement, unemployment, poverty, homelessness, and risky behaviour which can affect the people around them
- Mental health-related calls to emergency services in York Region has experienced steady increases year to year
- Calls for service to York Regional Police and Mental Health Act Apprehensions have been on a steady rise between 2014 and 2018\textsuperscript{12}

**Figure 14. Mental Health Calls to Paramedic Services. Data provided by Region of York Continuous Quality Improvement. Data after 2016 is not comparable due to change in data collection method.**
Figure 15. Mental health occurrences attended by York Regional Police, 2014-2018. Data taken from 2014-2018 York Regional Police Statistical Reports

- Over 2 million Canadians aged 15 years and over have a mental health-related disability. This represents 7% of Canadian adults and youth\(^{13}\)
- Women are more likely to report depression compared to men. Among youth aged 15 to 24, women are twice as likely as men to have a mental health-related disability
- Statistics Canada reported that 1 in 5 contacts with police involve people with a mental illness or a substance abuse disorder\(^{14}\)
- The likelihood of Canadians who will experience a mental illness or substance abuse disorder is 1 in 3\(^{15}\)
Substance Abuse in York Region

- Drug violations in York Region have been decreasing over time (see Crime Trends section), but drug use remains prevalent in the region\(^1\)

- Addictions Services of York Region (ASYR) reported that in 2018:
  - Total individuals served by agency – 5,671 (increase from 3,196 in 2017)
  - Total visits – 30,555 (increase from 25,376 in 2017)
  - Total group sessions facilitated – 1,053 (increase from 1,045 in 2017)
  - Total group participants – 11,671 (increase from 11,421 in 2017)

- Top 5 Municipalities Served in 2018
  - Newmarket – 17%
  - Aurora – 12%
  - Vaughan – 12%
  - Richmond Hill – 10%
  - Markham – 8%

- The top 3 substances used by individuals accessing ASYR’s services are alcohol, cannabis, and cocaine

- Provincially, statistics show a high prevalence of drug and alcohol use for youth in grades 7-12, with alcohol use being reported by 42.5% of respondents in the Ontario Student Drug use and Health Survey (2017)\(^1\) (see table 1)

### Past Year Drug Use (%) for the Total Sample, by Sex, and by Grade, 2017 OSDUHS (N=11,435)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades 7–12</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>G7</th>
<th>G8</th>
<th>G9</th>
<th>G10</th>
<th>G11</th>
<th>G12</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>42.5</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>42.2</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>31.8</td>
<td>49.9</td>
<td>60.6</td>
<td>68.3 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>High-Caffeine Energy Drinks</td>
<td>34.1</td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>26.9</td>
<td>21.8</td>
<td>26.0</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>37.7</td>
<td>36.9</td>
<td>39.7 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cannabis</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>19.6</td>
<td>18.3</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td>30.4</td>
<td>36.9 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Binge Drinking (5+ Drinks Past Month)</td>
<td>16.9</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>27.7</td>
<td>32.3 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Cigarettes (Vape Pens)</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>8.2</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>12.6</td>
<td>16.1</td>
<td>18.9 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid Pain Relievers (NM)</td>
<td>10.6</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>8.4</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>10.5</td>
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<td>OTC Cough/Cold Medication</td>
<td>9.2</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>10.7</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>9.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tobacco Cigarettes</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>2.8</td>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>15.2 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterpipes (Hookahs)</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>12.1 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smokeless (Chewing) Tobacco</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>8.5 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inhalants (Glue or Solvents)</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>4.8</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>s</td>
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<td>ADHD Drugs (NM)</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>4.5 *</td>
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<tr>
<td>Synthetic Cannabis (“Spice,” “K2”)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>2.5 *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salvia Divinorum</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grades 9–121</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>G7</th>
<th>G8</th>
<th>G9</th>
<th>G10</th>
<th>G11</th>
<th>G12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mushrooms (Psilocybin) or Mescaline</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecstasy (MDMA)</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.2</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tranquilizers/Sedatives (NM)</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSD</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fentanyl</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jimson Weed</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crack</td>
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<td>s</td>
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<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any NM Use of a Prescription Drug</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>14.0</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Drug Use Including Cannabis</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>35.8</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Drug Use Excluding Cannabis</td>
<td>23.8</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>24.6</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
<td>s</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. Alcohol and drug use reported by Gr. 7-12 respondents for the Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey. Adapted from Ontario Student Drug Use and Health Survey (2017)
**Education**

The Regional Municipality of York ranks first as the most educated population among Canada’s largest municipalities (population over 1 million); more than 70% of the Region’s residents have a post-secondary education. 70% of working-age residents (25 to 64) had a post-secondary education. Only 8% (50,360) of working-age residents had not completed a high school certificate. An increasing number of women aged 25 to 64 in York Region are obtaining a university education (41% increase since 2006). 55% of women aged 25 to 34 held a bachelor’s degree or higher (up from 46% in 2006). 50.6% of residents aged 25 to 34 who held a doctorate degree in 2016 were women.

York Region has a large number of immigrants with a post-secondary education. In 2016, 51% of immigrants in the Region held a university degree or higher compared to 41% of the Canadian-born population.

*Figure 16. Highest education attained by York Region residents between ages 25-64. Adapted from 2016 Census Profile: York Region Census Stories*

*Figure 17. Percentage of York Region immigrant residents age 25-64 with post-secondary education. Adapted from 2016 Census Release Report: Education, Mobility, Migration*
**Families**

- Of those included by Statistics Canada in the 2016 Census (age 15 and over), 57.9% of York residents are married whereas 26.9% have never been married. The average size of families in the Region is 3.1 persons. 86.2% of families in the Region are considered couple families (15.4% increase from 2011 census) while 13.8% are lone-parent families (13.2% increase from 2011 census).  
- The average household size is anticipated to decrease by 2041 to approximately 2.95 persons, following a national trend of shrinking family/household sizes.

**Employment**

- York Region is home to over 50,000 businesses and 630,000 jobs. It is the third largest business centre in Ontario and is the second largest Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) cluster in Canada. (York Region 2016 Community Report)
- More than 70% of jobs in the Region are full-time.

![York Region Employment Forecast](image_url)

*Figure 18. York Region Employment Forecast. Data taken from York Region 2041 Preferred Growth Scenario, 2041 Population and Employment Forecasts*

- Employment in the Region is forecasted to grow to over 900,000 jobs by 2041  
  - Approximately 75% of the employment growth is expected to occur in the Region’s southern municipalities  
- York Region continues to have strong employment growth in addition to a diversified economy with strengths in areas such as manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, wholesale trade, finance and insurance, information and culture, and professional, scientific and technical services.
Income growth in York Region is not keeping pace with the cost of living.\(^{25}\)
Since 2006, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) has grown faster than York Region’s median household, individual, and employment income.
52% of York Region residents reported an income under $100,000 per household.\(^{26}\)
Median employment income in York Region has risen 11.6% to $36,290 since 2006.\(^{27}\)
Between 1970 and 2015, income inequality increased 63% in York Region.\(^{28}\)

Figure 19. Rate of growth comparison between cost of living (in CPI) and income for York Region residents. Adapted from York Region 2016 Census Release Report – Income

Table 3. York Region households by income group in various municipalities. Adapted from York Region 2016 Census Release Report – Income
Housing/ Homelessness

- The number of households in the Region is expected to increase to a total of approximately 583,600 by 2041\textsuperscript{29}
- There continues to be a shift in the housing market towards row and apartment style housing; these housing types are expected to be required to accommodate 45% intensification\textsuperscript{30}

**Figure 20. Types of housing in York Region – Comparison between 2011 and 2016 Census date. Data taken from Statistics Canada 2016 Census**

**Figure 21. Growth of various housing types from 2016-2041. Adapted from York Region 2041 Preferred Growth Scenario, 2041 Population and Employment Forecasts**
Affordable housing is a growing concern in the Region, sometimes resulting in homelessness or precarious housing for individuals with low income\(^\text{31}\).

Homeownership is becoming increasingly difficult to achieve due to high housing costs, which leads to a higher number of renters in York Region. An estimated 13,700 youth and seniors will be renters by 2031. The pressure for rental housing is expected to exceed the vacancy rate for rental units in York Region, currently at 1.6%\(^\text{32}\).

The wait list for social housing has almost doubled in size to over 14,500 households over the last seven years\(^\text{33}\).

The demographic of individuals at-risk of homelessness are also exposed to risk factors leading to poor physical and mental health, compromised living conditions, and negative social determinants of health such as violence\(^\text{34}\).

As of 2017, York Region has a total of 6 shelters and 158 beds for the homeless.

At last count by Homeless Hub, there were 389 individuals found homeless. 1,352 individuals are assisted by the Housing Stability Program and 407 are assisted by the Homelessness Prevention Program\(^\text{35}\).

The Region has committed to supporting residents experiencing chronic homelessness to finding long-term housing. Beginning in November 2017, the Home Now Program expects to help a minimum of 100 participants find permanent housing. Evidence shows stable housing leads to more successful outcomes when addressing other mental and physical health issues\(^\text{36}\).

**Transportation**

**VIVA and TTC Expansions:**

- The planned TTC Yonge Subway Extension will allow commuters in and out of Richmond Hill, Vaughan, and Markham in greater numbers\(^\text{37}\).
- The new Viva rapidway segment along Davis Drive enjoyed its first full year of service in 2016. As a result of this addition to York Region’s transit system, passenger volumes are up and travel times are down\(^\text{38}\).
- In 2016, Viva services experienced the highest overall ridership increase with 470,000 additional boardings with an average of 35,000 travelers per weekday\(^\text{39}\).
- Rapid population growth and urbanization in York Region will lead to greater road congestion and transit demands.\(^\text{40}\)
Figure 22. Number of traffic offences in York Region from 2014-2018

Figure 23. Yearly occurrence count of fatal collisions, 2014-2018
Figure 24. Yearly count of persons killed from fatal collisions, 2014-2018

Figure 25. Major contributing factors to fatal collisions in 2018
CRIME and PUBLIC SAFETY TRENDS

Crime & Public Safety Trends - National and Provincial Context

- Crime Severity vs. Crime Rate
  - At 5,334 incidents per 100,000 population, the police-reported crime rate in Canada increased 1% in 2017 (most recent available statistics). This rate was 23% lower than a decade earlier.\(^{41}\)
  - In 2017, the overall volume and severity of violent crime was 5% higher than the previous year. More than half of the increase was the result of increases in the rates of police-reported incidents of sexual assault (level 1), homicide, and robbery. Rates for almost all violent violations increased.\(^{42}\)
  - Youth crime trend reflected the same uptrend in violent crimes

- Heightened attention on gun violence:
  - City of Toronto experienced heightened attention on gun violence, with 428 shooting occurrences in 2018, 183 of which occurred in border districts between TPS and York Region\(^{43}\)
  - Number of deaths involving rifles and shotguns have increased since the dismantling of the long-gun registry, bringing about a larger conversation on gun control\(^{44}\)

- Drug legislation and trends
  - Bill C-46
    - Changes to enforcement of driving impaired
    - Training for officers regarding new legislation on legalization of cannabis
    - Similar to the trend in cannabis related offences, most forms of cocaine drug offences continued to decline in 2017 for the fifth consecutive year dropping 5% from 2016 to a rate of 38 incidents per 100,000 population\(^{45}\)
    - Sale of recreational cannabis in brick & mortar retail stores starting on April 1, 2019
  - Fentanyl, opioids, and other drugs
    - Police-reported rates of cannabis-related drug offences declined for the sixth consecutive year in 2017. The combined rate of possession, trafficking, production and importation or exportation of cannabis declined 15% from 2016 (most recent available statistics) with all provinces and territories reporting declines. In contrast, the combined rate of possession, trafficking, production and importation or exportation of drugs other than cannabis and cocaine has been increasing since 2010. Between 2016 and 2017, the most notable increases were reported for possession (+13%) and trafficking, production or importation/exportation (+11%) of methamphetamines or ecstasy. There was no noticeable change in heroin possession, but a 9% increase in its trafficking, production or importation/exportation. In addition, there was a 3% increase in possession and a 5% increase in the trafficking, production, or importation/exportation of “other drugs” such as prescription drugs, LSD, “date rape” drugs, and opioids including fentanyl.\(^{46}\)
    - Provincial government announced effective immediately on November 13, 2018 police services will no longer be required to call in the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) when an individual dies or is seriously injured after a police officer administers naloxone\(^{47}\)

Figure 27. Types of opioid present at death, York Region, 2005-2016. Adapted from https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/DataAndAnalytics/pages/opioid.aspx#drug
• Organized Crime
  o Statistics Canada states there is a consistent under-reporting of criminal occurrences linked to organized crime, which may lead to a misrepresentation of the severity of organized crime issues48
  o Organized crime is a cross-national problem that requires cooperation between different jurisdictions49

• Hate Crime/ Extremism
  o Statistics Canada reported a 47% spike in hate crimes in 201750
  o Hate crimes against Jews, Muslims, and Blacks represented the largest proportion of all hate crimes
  o Non-violent hate crimes are on the rise, while violent hate crimes are decreasing

• Impaired driving
  o Drunk driving in Canada ranks highest among developed nations.51 This coupled with the legalization of recreational cannabis could mean more impaired driving incidents in our Region

Crime Rate & Reported Crime in York Region
• York Region is ranked lowest in all Crime Severity Index categories among our national comparators serving the largest populations
  o One of the safest communities in Canada
• Trend in hate crimes may lead to potential for criminal acts associated with extremism
• Increase in fraud and cybercrime
• Emerging and rapidly evolving drug trends
• Increasing sophistication and prevalence of organized crime

Calls for Service
• All data drawn from 2014 - 2018 York Regional Police Statistical Reports and Business Intelligence
• The amount of citizen generated calls for service experienced a significant increase
• The increase from 2017 to 2018 was 16.7%

Figure 28. York Regional Police Calls for service, 2014-2018
Since 2014, there has been an increase in rate of Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic), Crimes Against Persons, and Crimes Against Property. Rate of Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) has shown a 20.0% increase since 2014, Crimes Against Persons have increased 30.7%, Crimes Against Property have increased 20.8%

**Figure 29. York Region Crime Statistics from 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports**

- Violent crimes in York Region are on the rise, similar to the national trend

**Figure 30. Violent crimes in York Region from 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports**
• Heightened attention on gun violence:
  o Uptrend in violent crime occurrences involving firearms over 5 year span

![Occurrences Involving Firearms in York Region](image1)

Figure 31. Occurrences involving firearms in York Region, 2014-2018

• There has been an overall increase in rate of traffic violations in York Region in 2018 from 2014. Traffic Violations have increased 8.7% (rate per 100,000). Rate of Impaired Operation/Related Violations occurrences per 100,000 have increased 11.7%, and Dangerous Operation have increased 38.9%

![Traffic Violations (Rate per 100,000) in York Region](image2)

Figure 32. Traffic violations in York Region, 2014-2018
- Rate of drug violations decreasing over 5 years, but occurrences involving fentanyl has seen a 5 year increase of 33.8%

Figure 33. Drug violations in York Region, 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports

Figure 34. Occurrence involving fentanyl in York Region according to YRP Business Intelligence, 2014-2018
Organized crime in York Region
- Incidents captured as related to Organized Crime experienced a 115.4% rise from the year 2016 to 2018. Data from prior to 2016 is not available for comparison (data provided by YRP Statistician)
- In recent years, YRP has placed an emphasis on ensuring accurate reporting and flagging of Organized Crime occurrences.

![Occurrences related to Organized Crime in York Region](image)

**Figure 35. Occurrences related to organized crime taking place in York Region from 2016-2018**

Hate crime and extremism
- Hate crime reported based on religion doubled from 2016 to 2017, and shows an increase from 2014 to 2018
- The occurrence of race/ethnicity being the principle factor has increased 18.5% from 2017 to 2018. Hate crime on the basis of religion experienced a spike in 2017 and can be attributed to current political and social climate. Hate crimes based on a victim’s sexual orientation has increased 100% over a 5-year period.

![Hate Crime in York Region](image)

**Figure 36. Hate crime occurrences by motivation in York Region, 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports**
- **Human trafficking**
  - York Regional Police takes an aggressive stance on tackling human trafficking in the Region
  - York Regional Police is committed to combating child sex trafficking through a three-pronged approach: rescuing victims; identifying and charging those who traffic children; as well as those attempting to purchase sex with children.
  - Since 2016, officers working on an internal task force called Project Raphael targeted sexual predators who would solicit the services of juvenile sex workers online. This project has led to the 104 arrests.

![Human Trafficking in York Region](image)

*Figure 37. Human trafficking occurrences in York Region, 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports*

### Elder Abuse/ Vulnerable Persons
- Reported Incidents involving elder abuse and vulnerable persons experienced a 5 year variance of 394.9% increase
- In 2018, the number of incidents involving elder abuse and vulnerable persons saw an increase of 19.2% from 2017

![Incidents Involving Elder Abuse and Vulnerable Persons](image)

*Figure 38. Incidents involving elder abuse and vulnerable persons in York Region, 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports*
Youth Crime

- Total youth crime decreasing over a 5-year period by 27.1%
- In 2018, the overall regional youth crime rate experienced a decrease of 14.5% from 2017
- Violent youth crime is showing an exception to this decreasing youth crime trend. Over the last 5 years, the rate of violent youth crime has increased by 11.3%

*Figure 39. Youth Crime rate in York Region, 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports*
THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF POLICING

Police Resources

York Regional Police’s authorized strength in 2019 is 1,668 for uniform and 652 for civilian. At the end of 2018, civilian members represented 28.4% of York Regional Police’s total authorized strength, in line with statistics from 2014. 19.8% of uniform members in 2018 were female officers while 80.2% were male. Ethnic diversity of YRP uniform members grew from 16.6% in 2014 to 20.5% in 2018.

Recruitment continues to be a focus for York Regional Police in the coming few years due to a high number of expected retirements. 300 sworn members are eligible for retirement between 2018 and 2023. Due to this high number of expected retirements, York Regional Police has made efforts to hire more new recruits and experienced officers from other services to replace outgoing/retiring sworn members. The influx of new recruits will have an effect on the retention of organizational experience and knowledge. As experienced officers retire, YRP needs to address potential knowledge gaps that will be created.

Figure 4.0. Number of uniform applications received by York Regional Police, 2011-2018. Data provided by YRP Uniform Recruiting
Figure 41. Number of uniform hires by York Regional Police, 2011-2018. Data provided by YRP Uniform Recruiting

Figure 42. Projected retirements of YRP uniform members based on OMERS eligibility
**Future of Policing Service Delivery Trends**

York Regional Police is experiencing an increasing amount of non-criminal related workload, including responding to citizens with mental health issues. There is also an increase in the administrative workload of officers associated with process changes and legislative requirements. York Regional Police has put efforts into continuous improvement and modernization of service delivery, including enhancing online reporting capabilities.

![Dispatched Calls for Service Related to Mental Health in York Region](image)

*Figure 43. Dispatched calls for service related to mental health, 2014-2018 YRP Annual Statistics Report*

**Legislative Impacts and Trends**

Bill 68 – the Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act received royal assent on March 26, 2019 and replaced the Safer Ontario Act introduced in early 2018. The Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act includes a mandate for municipalities to develop a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan to strengthen the emphasis on community-based policing. As well, the Act transforms the office of the Independent Police Review Director into the Law Enforcement Complaints Agency with the goal of reducing delays in the investigation process, and establishes the Special Investigations Unit as a provincial agency accountable to the Attorney General with the aim to increase independence and focus the SIU’s mandate. The Act has not come into force yet as no date for proclamation has been set.

Bill C-46 – changes to cannabis legislation has the potential to increase the occurrence of other related charges due to recreational use of cannabis such as illegal possession, impaired driving, mental health or other emergency room visits. In December 2018, new legislation came into effect that allows police officers to administer a breathalyzer test on any driver legally stopped.

Bill 46 – Terrorist Activities Sanctions Act, 2018 – proposed provincial legislation that will deny access to programs (including healthcare, OSAP, WSIB coverage) from Ontarians who have participated in terrorist activities abroad. This act is part of a larger social debate revolving around extremism, discrimination, and hate-related issues.
**Technological Trends**

York Regional Police is a leader in using Business Intelligence and data to direct policing as well as ensuring police work is evidence-based and accountable. Implementation of Business Intelligence and Real-Time Data involves the use of local and open source data to gather information that is accessible in real-time to YRP members. Real-Time Data can assist police work both tactically (front-line, intelligence) and strategically (costing, resource deployment).

The onset of autonomous vehicles being introduced to our roadways will affect traffic safety and enforcement. The Autonomous Vehicle Innovation Network (AVIN) has launched sites in Southern Ontario to test driverless cars, including Markham, Toronto, and Durham Region. The exact impact of autonomous vehicles on road safety is currently unknown. Another technological trend affecting road safety is the continuing pervasiveness of the use of mobile devices leading to distracted driving (4648 tickets in year 2016, 5605 tickets in year 2017, 4456 tickets in 2018 based on local database).

Other trends in technology that may have an effect on policing include the prevalence of fake news on social media to influence political and social discourse, police services using more online tools to connect with the community (Ottawa, Vancouver, Toronto, Edmonton, Calgary), increasing concerns for cyber-fraud, use of open-source DNA information for investigations, and privacy concerns related to online activities.

**Social/ Political Trends**

There has been an accelerating polarization in local, provincial, national, and international politics leading to social unrest and political unease. The polarizing of political and social opinions have contributed to a heightened attention to hate speech and radicalized political/social movements. There are now both far-left and far-right extremist groups gaining traction in mainstream media. The voice of political moderates are being drowned out by those on the extremes on the political spectrum. Police are being lumped together with the far-right movement as certain far-left groups have erroneously linked the “Thin Blue Line” symbol used by some pro-law enforcement organizations with the political far-right. Despite the negative environment in which North American police services operate in general, York Regional Police continues to enjoy a high level of satisfaction from our community, Regional Council, and Police Services Board.

The current provincial government has an elected mandate until June 2022. Its agenda has been more publicly supportive of police. The Safer Ontario Act proposed by the former Liberal government was replaced by the new Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act, which received royal assent in March 2019 but has not come into force. The current Conservative provincial government has also put a hold on minimum wage at $14/ hour along with other labour law reforms. The government is reviewing the regional government model in 2019 and has proposed changes to various municipal services (such as public health, library services, paramedic services), and this may affect governance and policing of municipalities in York.

The most notable demographic change in York Region is the expected increase of the senior population from 162,780 to 310,000 over the next 20 years. One in five people will be a senior by 2031. A new generational group called the Perennials are emerging. Perennials are seniors who do not fully retire and continue to work full-or part-time. This creates a social ripple effect as jobs are potentially taken from youth applicants.
Finally, a trend that has garnered much attention in recent years is the growing concern for youth mental health issues. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth after accidents in Canada\textsuperscript{62}. 

![Youth (age 12-19) Suicides, 2014-2018](image)

\textit{Figure 44. Youth suicides (attempted and completed) in York Region, 2014-2018 Annual Statistical Reports}

**Economic Trends**

York Region is the third largest municipality and also the third largest business centre in Ontario. Employment growth in the Region is projected to increase by 26\% by 2041 and has a higher average household income when compared to the provincial and national averages\textsuperscript{63}. The current provincial government has placed a hold on Minimum wage for Ontarians at $14/hour, which causes concerns regarding the widening income gap.

York Regional Police has a net operating budget of $333.9 million for 2019, which includes funds for 53 additional staff to meet increasing demands for service and responding to legislative reforms. On April 18, 2019, the Ministry of the Solicitor General announced that effective 2019-2020, various grants will be repurposed into the new Community Safety and Policing (CSP) grant. The risk of reduction to the total amount of funding from existing grants is currently estimated at up to $1.88 million. By repurposing grant funding, YRP will need to decide whether to maintain or lower its existing level of service from the activities previously funded. The Ministry has appeared to repurpose $9 million that police services need to reapply for as provincial initiatives and/or for guns and gangs.

**Accountability**

The York Regional Police 2017 – 2019 Business Plan stated YRP’s commitment to ensuring accountability and transparency to our citizens. The number of complaints made against YRP has increased year-to-year from 2017 to 2018 - 126 public complaints were made in the year 2017 and 171 were made in 2018 – an increase of 35.7 \textsuperscript{64}. The new Comprehensive Ontario Police Services Act includes changes to the Office of the Independent Police Review Director (now known as the Law Enforcement Complaints Agency) and streamlining the work of the Special Investigations Unit.

York Regional Police has embarked on a process to implement a Professionalism through Ethics Program. YRP is committed to building an authentic values based organization through the engagement of its members with a view to strengthening processes that will reflect ethics and professionalism in YRP’s work. YRP adopted a new Code of Ethics and new organizational values in 2019 as part of an organizational culture transformation.
**Public Order, Extremism / Terrorism**

The likelihood of a repeat of an event involving large scale protests that can lead to potential violent clash between protestors and law enforcement (such as G20) is low. The primary focus of YRP’s Public Safety Unit is on crowd “management” rather than "control". PSU members are being trained in crowd interaction and behaviour detection in crowded places more so than the “sticks-and-shields” crowd control approach. With more awareness and heightened sense of crowd safety, the PSU has been deployed more in the last 24 months than they have in their entire existence for crowd management purposes.

**EXTREME EVENTS**

Police services, as well as other first responders, across North America are reassessing guidelines and policies on special events and disaster/ emergency management in light of global prevalence of large scale attacks on civilians in everyday situations. PSU remains vigilant and proactive in finding the latest global trends to anticipate how to better respond to emergency situations. For example, van attacks like that in Toronto in 2018 are now being categorized as Hostile Vehicle Mitigations, where this terminology did not exist 2 years ago.65

York Regional Police is currently developing Business Continuity plans that outline how key processes can be supported to function in the event of any business interruptions caused by extreme events. These plans are being developed to align with regional business continuity plans.

**Environmental Impacts**

The prevalence of extreme weather patterns is becoming the norm. Extreme weather has the potential to lead to additional strain on municipalities’ infrastructure, as well as various municipalities’ ability to meet increasing demands of road management (i.e.: snow and ice clearing). Increased extreme winter or summer weather patterns could cause increase in traffic accidents or motor vehicle collisions.66

![Disaster Trend in Canada](image)

*Figure 45. Trend in natural disasters in Canada by decade. Adapted from the Canadian Coalition for Green Health Care*
MUNICIPAL PROFILES


**Aurora**

- Median Age: 41.5
- Average Age: 39.6
- 80.1% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 14.4% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Retail Trade, Professional, Scientific & Technical Services, and Education (replacing manufacturing from last profile)
- 62.2% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Aurora targeting development of advanced manufacturing, green industries, and interactive media
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Aurora increased 0.3% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 7.4%, and Crimes Against Property decreased 1.9%

![2016 Age Composition](image)

![2018 Crime Highlights (Occurrences)](image)
**East Gwillimbury**

- Median Age: 42.8
- Average Age: 40.6
- 90.6% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 6.1% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Construction, Retail Trade, Manufacturing
- 55.9% of adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- 3 major local centers identified which will incorporate the highest densities of housing and population-related employment opportunities: Yonge Street & Green Lane, 2nd Concession & Green Lane, and Queensville
- 70% of the Town’s land is classified as ‘Protected Countryside’
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in East Gwillimbury decreased 11.8% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons decreased 9.9%, and Crimes Against Property decreased 13.6%

**Figure 48. Composition of East Gwillimbury’s population by age group and gender**

**Figure 49. Various crime occurrences statistics in East Gwillimbury, 2017 and 2018**
Georgina

- Median Age: 42.2
- Average Age: 40.7
- 94.3% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 3.5% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Construction, Healthcare and Social Assistance, Retail Trade
- 46.1% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Urbanization to take place mostly in Keswick, while Sutton’s residential growth and development is increasing
- Extension of Highway 404 promotes growth in population as residents move north for lower home prices
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Georgina increased 13.2% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 14.2%, and Crimes Against Property increased 18.1%

![2016 Age Composition](image)

**Figure 50. Composition of Georgina’s population by age group and gender**

![2018 Crime Highlights (Occurrences)](image)

**Figure 51. Various crime occurrences statistics in Georgina, 2017 and 2018**
**King**

- Median Age: 42.5
- Average Age: 40.4
- 87.6% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 8.0% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Construction, Retail Trade, Professional Scientific and Technical Services (employment has grown by 32% from 2011 to 2016)
- 58.2% of adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Key priorities for economic development: Promote higher density employment lands, Advancing innovation and the creative economy, Raise the community profile, Focus on business support activities
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in King decreased 15.8% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 35.6%, and Crimes Against Property decreased 34%
Markham

- Median Age: 41.1
- Average Age: 40.2
- 47.7% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 41.1% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Professional, Scientific & Technical Services, Retail Trade, and Financial & Insurance
- 57.0% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Markham continues to grow its labour force in various areas
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Markham increased 11.2% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 17.2%, and Crimes Against Property increased 12.7%
Newmarket

- Median Age: 40.9
- Average Age: 39.7
- 81.6% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 12.9% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Retail Trade, Professional, Scientific & Technical Services, and Manufacturing
- 57.0% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- VivaNext transit project is ongoing and will provide better access into and out of the town
- Aging population with decreasing household size
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Newmarket increased 15% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 25%, and Crimes Against Property increased 7.3%

Figure 56. Composition of Newmarket’s population by age group and gender

Figure 57. Various crime occurrences statistics in Newmarket, 2017 and 2018
Richmond Hill

- Median Age: 42.4
- Average Age: 40.4
- 52.1% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 37.5% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Professional, Scientific & Technical Services, Retail Trade, and Finance and Insurance
- 63.6% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Richmond Hill tops list of most unaffordable housing market based on home prices and median income
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Richmond Hill increased 9% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 27.1%, and Crimes Against Property increased 8.3%
 Vaughan

- Median Age: 40.2
- Average Age: 39.2
- 64.0% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 25.7% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Manufacturing, Construction, Retail Trade
- 57.2% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Key council priorities: Improve municipal road network, continue to develop transit, cycling and pedestrian options, re-establish urban tree canopy, invest, renew and manage infrastructure and assets, create and manage affordable housing options
- Niagara University opened in Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Jan 21 2019⁹⁷
  - 12,000 square foot space will have seven classrooms for 300 students, faculty & administration offices, and student lounges
  - Focus on programs in Education – Bachelor of Professional Studies in Education or Master of Science in Education
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Vaughan increased 6.3% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons increased 6.1%, and Crimes Against Property increased 6.6%

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**2016 Age Composition**

![2016 Age Composition](image)

**Figure 60. Composition of Vaughan’s population by age group and gender**

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**2018 Crime Highlights (Occurrences)**

![2018 Crime Highlights](image)

**Figure 61. Various crime occurrences statistics in Vaughan, 2017 and 2018**
**Whitchurch-Stouffville**

- Median Age: 40
- Average Age: 39.6
- 77.5% of residents speak English most often in the home
- 15.6% of residents speak a non-official language in the home
- Top areas of employment: Retail Trade, Professional, Scientific & Technical Services, and Education Services
- 57.3% of the adult population has a degree, diploma, or certificate
- Town looking to build capacity for business development, create jobs within the municipality to promote working and living in Whitchurch-Stouffville
- Overall, Total Criminal Code & Federal Violations (excluding traffic) in Whitchurch-Stouffville decreased 15% in 2018 from 2017. Crimes Against Persons decreased 17.2%, and Crimes Against Property decreased 14.4%

![2016 Age Composition](image1)

**Figure 62. Composition of Whitchurch-Stouffville’s population by age group and gender**

![2018 Crime Highlights](image2)

**Figure 63. Various crime occurrences statistics in Whitchurch-Stouffville, 2017 and 2018**
END NOTES/ REFERENCES

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