



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc.



Land Acknowledgment

The City of Hamilton is situated upon the traditional territories of the Erie, Neutral, Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee and Mississaugas. This land is covered by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, which was an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabek to share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. We further acknowledge that this land is covered by the Between the Lakes Purchase, 1792, between the Crown and the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation.

Today, the City of Hamilton is home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island (North America) and we recognize that we must do more to learn about the rich history of this land so that we can better understand our roles as residents, neighbours, partners and caretakers.

The Hamilton Police Service is privileged to serve and protect in partnership with our communities on lands that Indigenous peoples have called home for thousands of years. We recognize and respect the presence and stewardship of all Indigenous peoples as keepers of this land. We pledge to continue walking together with Indigenous peoples in building a more just society where their gifts and those of all people are nurtured and honoured.

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Front cover photograph of the Hamilton Police taken on the steps of the Wentworth County Courthouse.

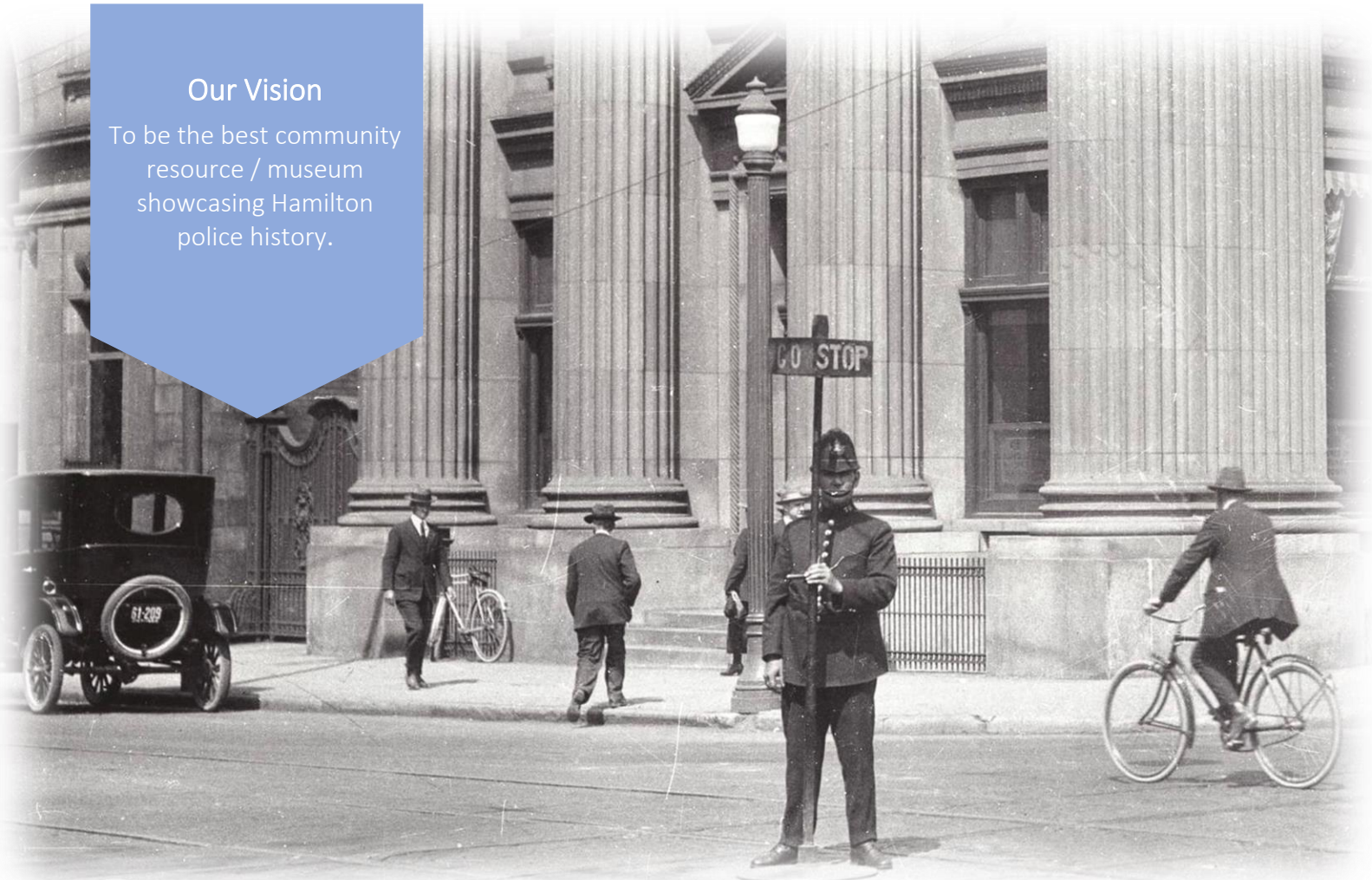
Purposes Of The Society

The museum was active throughout the year in accordance with the purposes of the Society namely to:

- discover and collect any material related to the local police services;
- promote the research and recording of the history of the local police services;
- provide for the preservation of material collected and to ensure its accessibility to those who wish to examine or study it;
- promote the rebuilding and refurbishing of police equipment and apparatus; and
- advance education by improving the public's understanding and awareness of the history of local police services by hosting events, displays, exhibitions and performances; supporting programs offered by the society/museum; and by producing educational material.

Our Vision

To be the best community resource / museum showcasing Hamilton police history.



Above photograph taken ca 1923. Possibly Andy Kay directing traffic at Main and James Streets. The Landed Banking and Loan Company Building at 47 James St. S. is in the background.

About the Museum

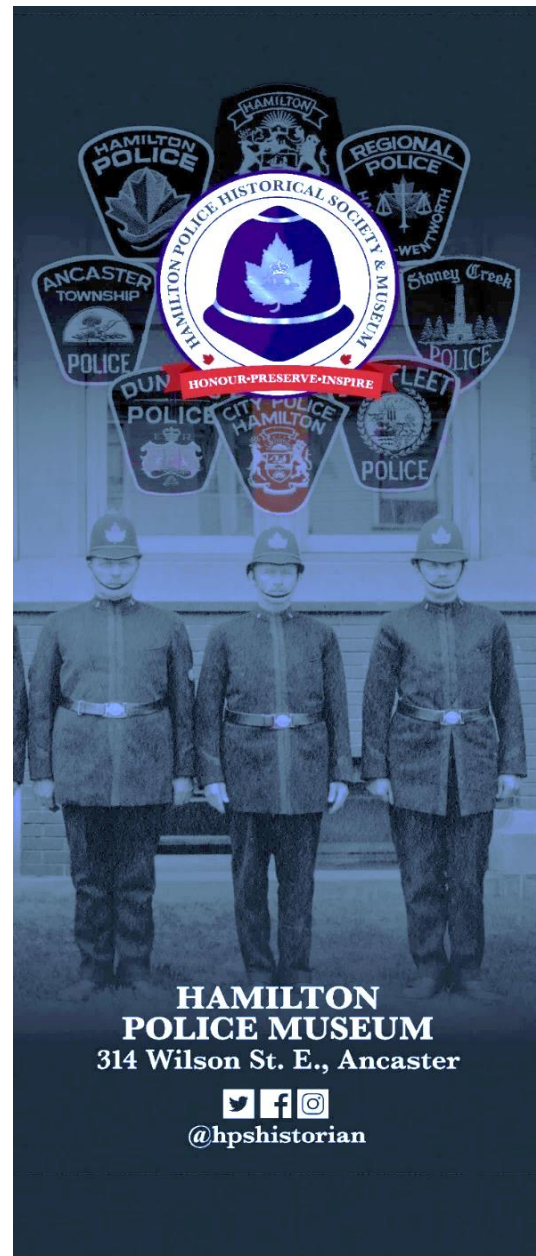
In 2010, the Hamilton Police Museum re-opened its door to the public at the historic Tisdale House (built circa 1825) located at 314 Wilson Street East, Ancaster, Ontario.

Inside the museum, are historic and educational archival materials relating to local police history that includes police uniforms, equipment, documents and photographs.

The museum is managed by the “Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc.,” Board of Directors with the support of the Hamilton Police Service and the Hamilton Police Services Board which results in our continued success.

The Society operates a Tuck Shop called the “Call Box” which is located at the Hamilton Police Service, Central Station at 155 King William Street, Hamilton and sells various clothing, souvenirs and memorabilia with the logo and name of the Hamilton Police Service and the Society to support museum operations.

We are supported by a group of volunteers, most of whom are retired police members of the Hamilton Police Retirees Association, as well as others who share their time and expertise to conduct tours of the museum, assist at open houses, set up displays and operate the Tuck Shop.



Message from the President



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc., I am pleased to present the 2022 Annual Report.

Despite another year of the museum being closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has provided us with challenges and opportunities to reorganize and redefine our exhibit space. The main challenge has been to work within our limited budget by getting creative and maximizing our resources. To that end, we have repurposed display materials from the former mobile police museum combined with new wall treatments and supported by volunteer resources. We are hopeful that the doors to the museum will be open to visitors in 2023.

In the meantime, Board members continued to volunteer their time and work in support of the museum by meeting to further our purpose of collecting, preserving, and managing artifacts and archival materials related to the Hamilton Police Service.

On June 21, 2022, I presented a Tipstaff to Chief Frank Bergen on behalf of the Board of Directors at the Awards Night Ceremony at Hillfield Strathallan College. Historically, Tipstaves have been ceremonial objects used at a change of command and other ceremonies.

The Tuck Shop "Call Box", located at Central Station, reopened the week of March 15th to sell merchandise to support museum operations. Retiree Michel Fauvelle, who has managed the "Call Box" for the past five years, has stepped down from that position. I want to acknowledge Michel for his commitment and contribution over the years. I have taken on the role of Tuck Shop Manager in the interim.

I continue to connect with members of the public by posting photos and articles about our local police history online through social media on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Thank you to everyone who has engaged with us and those who have contributed articles and stories.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all Board members, members of the Hamilton Police Historical Society, volunteers and donors for their time and support.

Thank you to the Hamilton Police Service, Chief Frank Bergen, and his management team, the Hamilton Police Services Board, the Hamilton Police Association, and the Hamilton Police Retirees Association for their ongoing support.

Constable David Kerkhof, President and HPS Historian



A Brief History of Hamilton Police

- 1829** Sir Robert Peel establishes the Metropolitan Police in London, England, the first professional, centrally organized police force. The new police constables were referred to as ‘Bobbies’ or “Peelers” and are direct forerunners of today’s modern policing.
- 1833** Town of Hamilton, Board of Police, appoints John Ryckman as High Bailiff on March 11th. He leads a group of volunteers who enforce the laws.
- 1846** Town of Hamilton receives its Charter, and the City is Incorporated. The police become a professional paid organization. Samuel L. Ryckman (High Bailiff at the time) is appointed Chief Constable.
- 1848** Town of Dundas establishes a police force.
- 1850** Village of Ancaster establishes a police force.
- 1867** Confederation of the Dominion of Canada.
- 1868** The Dominion Police Force, a federal police force, is established. They were absorbed by the RCMP after WWII.
- 1873** The North West Mounted Police (later the Royal Canadian Mounted Police [RCMP]) is formed.
- 1883** As of at least 1883, the Wentworth County Constabulary is formed and provides policing to areas surrounding Hamilton and Barton, including the rest of Gore District. Wentworth County includes the Townships of Ancaster, Barton, Beverly, Binbrook, East Flamboro, Glanford, Saltfleet, West Flamboro, Dundas and Waterdown and areas without their own police force.
- 1909** On October 13, the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is established. At various times, they police areas formerly under Wentworth County.
- 1940** In August the Township of Saltfleet establishes a police force and assumes policing duties from the OPP. They also police the Village of Stoney Creek by special agreement, until 1949.
- 1949** The Village of Stoney Creek establishes a police force.
- 1950s-1960s**
The Hamilton Police Force and the OPP assume policing duties of earlier established police forces as municipalities merged or entered into agreements. They included Barton Township, Binbrook, Beverly Township, Flamborough, East Flamborough (disbanded in 1957 when the City of Burlington annexed Aldershot), Township of Glanbrook, Glanford Township (which may have been short-lived), Hamilton Cemetery, Hamilton Beach, Hamilton Parks Police (disbanded in August 1963), and Waterdown (OPP assumed policing duties in 1966).
- 1960s** The Government of Ontario establishes independent Police Commissions to remove direct municipal oversight. Policing is no longer a “department” of city hall.
- 1973** By December 31st, five municipal police departments remain: Ancaster, Dundas, Hamilton, Stoney Creek and Saltfleet.
- 1974** Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police force (HWRP) is established on January 1st.
- 1977** HWRP assumes policing of Glanbrook, Flamborough and Waterdown from the OPP.
- 1986** Hamilton Harbour Police (an unarmed special police agency under jurisdiction of the Hamilton Harbour Commission) was disbanded on February 22nd and their duties are assumed by the HWRP.
- 2001** Hamilton Police Service (HPS) is established on January 1st – following amalgamation of the Hamilton-Wentworth Region with the City of Hamilton, Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough and Glanbrook.

Message from the Board of Directors



Although the museum remained closed to visitors during 2022, the Board continued their work and maintained a connection with our members and the public through email, video conferencing and social media platforms to promote public awareness and interest in Hamilton's local police history. The museum's closure provided us with an opportunity to reorganize the museum and create new displays.

Re-opening of the Museum – We are hopeful the museum will reopen to the public in 2023 once new displays are complete. Both display rooms have been painted. A local company installed wallpaper coverings of historical police photographs on four walls. Shelving and display materials from the former mobile police trailer have been repurposed and installed in the museum and incorporated into our displays. *(Dave Kerkhof is shown with the new wallpaper coverings inside the museum in the photograph on the left.)*

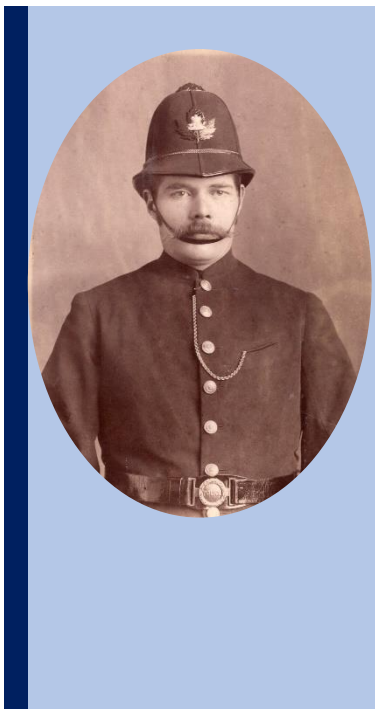
Tuck Shop - The Tuck Shop "Call Box" reopened the week of March 15th on Tuesdays and Thursdays 2-4 p.m. The Tuck Shop now accepts e-transfer payments.

Board of Directors - The Board of Directors held four meetings in 2022 – March 2, April 27, May 31, and October 12. Our fourth Annual General Meeting took place on May 31. Inspector James Callender, Executive Officer to the Chief of Police, is our newest Board member, replacing Staff Sergeant Sara Beck who has been reassigned to the Homicide Unit. Michel Fauvelle stepped down as the Tuck Shop Manager and Treasurer; however, he continues to serve as a director. Thank you to Michel and Sara for all the work they have done in support of the museum. Dave Bowen has accepted the Treasurer's position, Pieter Ciere the Vice President position and Dave Kerkhof the Tuck Shop Manager. *(Photograph of Michel Fauvelle on the left.)*

Annual Reporting - Our third Annual Report for 2021 was completed and distributed in hard copy and electronic format.

New Website – A volunteer has developed a museum website: <https://hamiltonpolicemuseum.ca>

New E-mail – The museum's new email address is: hpsmuseum@gmail.com



Grants – We successfully obtained a second Heritage Organization Development Grant (HODG) through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries.

Restoration of the Portrait of Chief Alexander and Officers – The large portrait of police officers, presented to Chief Alexander Stewart circa 1895, is undergoing restoration work. Individual photographs of officers were removed and scanned. The photograph shown on the left is of P.C. James Baron #20 and is an example of one of 50 photographs contained in the portrait. Non-glare glass is needed to protect the photos. The work is being done with the generous support of Dave and Lynda Bowen.

Collections - We continue to build our museum collections through donations. A museum collections software program (PastPerfect) has been installed on our new computer and existing collections records have been transferred to the program. We are grateful to Dave and Lynda Bowen for their generous donation of the software program.

Community Engagement/Activities - The Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum purchased banners in cooperation with the Hamilton Police Retirees Association, Hamilton Police Association, and the Hamilton Police Service to honor Hamilton's seven Fallen Officers and PSD Troy. The banners were displayed during the month of May on streetlight poles in front of Central Police Station. The banners are now permanently installed at the main entrance to Central Station, shown in the photograph on the left.

On November 23, 2022, Board members M. Fauvelle and P. Ciere set up a display at the Central Station gymnasium for the 2022 Wellness Expo. Approximately 100 people attended. D. Bowen attended the 2022 Annual Ontario Museum Conference held in Hamilton on November 7-8, 2022.

With Thanks - We are grateful for the ongoing support of our donors, members and partners, and we thank all of those who continue to work with us to preserve Hamilton's local police history.

Thank you to our volunteers, most of whom are retired sworn and civilian members, as well as others who have shared their time and expertise to maintain the museum and operate the Tuck Shop. We especially want to thank the Graphics Branch (Jenny Froates) who created artwork for the banners and wall coverings for the museum, among other projects. Also, a sincere thank you to Wendy Passmore for her time and commitment to ensure the success of the Tuck Shop.



Hamilton Police Service

First Chief of Police's Tipstaff

By Constable David Kerkhof, HPS Historian and President of the HPHS&M

The office of the Tipstaff dates to the 14th Century. The Tipstaff was a person who carried out law enforcement duties in medieval times.



Prior to the establishment of modern policing agencies, law enforcement officers carried a tipped staff, which was a decorated truncheon or baton “tipped” with a monarch’s crown. It was a symbol of authority to act on behalf of the crown. The Tipstaff could also be used as a truncheon or for self defense of the officer.

Tipstaves are unique. Some are made from metal; while others are turned as one piece from wood and tipped with metal. The crown could be unscrewed to reveal a hollow tub where a warrant could be carried.

Tipstaves were still being carried in 1829 when Sir Robert Peel established the Metropolitan Police in London, England. With the introduction of police uniforms for bailiffs and constables, Tipstaves were issued to plain clothed constables; engraved with “Police Officer in Plain Clothes” as a means of identification.

Now the tipstaff is a symbol of traditional British and Canadian law enforcement authority. It is used as a ceremonial object by police services across the commonwealth. Chiefs of Police and Commissioners carry them as a symbol of their office and authority during a change of command and other ceremonies such as graduations and inspections. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Ontario Provincial Police, the Ottawa Police Service, and Kingston Police Service, to name a few, have ceremonial Tipstaves.

Even to this day, the emblem of crossed Tipstaves within a wreath appears on the rank insignia of senior police officers in commonwealth countries, including the United Kingdom and Australia. In Canada, the emblem is used for the most senior officers of the Ontario Provincial Police and the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary.

Constable David Kerkhof (Hamilton’s Police Historian) conducted research of Tipstaves being used by police services. He suggested to Board members of the Society to purchase a ceremonial tipstaff for the Hamilton Police Service. He brought the suggestion forward to Chief Frank Bergen who supported the suggestion that a ceremonial tipstaff be used for ceremonial occasions and presented to future Chiefs of Police when a change of command takes place in Hamilton.

The Tipstaff symbolizes the solemn responsibility and authority for law enforcement by the Chief of Police of Hamilton and is displayed in the Chief’s office.

On June 21, 2022, the first Hamilton Police Service, Chief of Police’s Tipstaff was presented to Chief Frank Bergen by Hamilton Police Service, Regimental Sergeant Major Doug Moon, along with Constable David Kerkhof, Police Historian and President of the Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum.

Hamilton’s Tipstaff was made by a Canadian company that manufactures drill canes for military and police. The brass tips are made of 25mm casing on the top and a 20mm casing on the bottom and placed onto a solid oak shaft. The upper tip includes a Chief’s collar dog affixed to it with a small St Edward’s Crown at the very

tip. The centre ring reads: "Hamilton Police Service Chief of Police, Together Stronger Safer." The Tipstaff has an antique finish to reflect the long history of the Police Service.



*Above - P. C. David Kerkhof with Regimental Sergeant Major Doug Moon presenting Chief of Police Frank Bergen with the Tipstaff.
Below – Chief of Police Frank Bergen with P.C. David Kerkhof.*



The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander

*Bestowed the Honourary Chief of Police of the
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service on May 10, 1999.*

The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander (1922–2012) was bestowed the rank of Honourary Chief of Police for the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service as recognition for his achievements and contributions to the citizens of the Hamilton-Wentworth Region. He is a respected and dedicated person who has served our community and country with loyalty and dignity.



with the Royal Canadian Air Force during the Second World War, between 1942 and 1945. He was educated in Hamilton's McMaster University where he graduated in Arts, and

Toronto's Osgoode Hall School of Law where he passed the bar examination in 1965. Mr. Alexander was appointed a Queen's Counsel and became a partner in a Hamilton law firm from 1963 to 1979. He was the first Black person to become a Member of Parliament in 1968 and served in the House of Commons until 1980. He was also federal Minister of Labour from 1979 to 1980.

Lincoln Alexander was an avid supporter of the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Service promoting professionalism and integrity.

The appointment entitled him to all the privileges and courtesies held by the Office of the Chief. He was appointed in Hamilton, Ontario on the 10th Day of May 1999. The certificate is signed by Colin T. Millar, Retired Chief of Police and Anne Bain, Police Services Board Chair.

Mr. Alexander died on October 19, 2012, at age 90.

The Honourable Lincoln M. Alexander was born in 1922 in Toronto. He served

In December 2013, the Province of Ontario proclaimed January 21 (Lincoln Alexander's birthday) as "Lincoln Alexander Day" and the following year, the Day was nationally recognized.

On January 21, 2022, Hamiltonians, Ontarians, and Canadians celebrated Lincoln Alexander's 100th birthday.

In 1985, Lincoln Alexander was appointed Ontario's 24th Lieutenant Governor, the first member of a visible minority to serve as the Queen's representative in Canada. During his term in office, which ended in 1991, youth and education were hallmarks of his mandate. He then accepted a position as Chancellor of the University of Guelph.

In 1996, he was chair of the Canadian Race Relations Foundation and was also made Honorary Commissioner for the International Year of Older Persons Ontario celebrations.

The Honourable Lincoln Alexander was appointed a Companion of the Order of Canada and to the Order of Ontario in 1992. In June 2006, he was named by *The Hamilton Spectator* reader poll the:

"Greatest Hamiltonian of All Time".

(Information obtained from the Government of Canada Website: Noteworthy historical figure and The Hamilton Spectator)

Lincoln Alexander's police uniforms have been donated to the Hamilton police museum. We are grateful and proud to have the uniforms as part of our collection.

On November 6, 2008, Lincoln Alexander attended the Fieldcote Memorial Park and Museum in Ancaster to celebrate the Official Opening of "Arrested in Time", an exhibition celebrating 175 years of policing in Hamilton and 50 years of women in policing in Hamilton. It was one of the many events/celebrations he attended in support of the Hamilton Police Service. (The photos, below, were taken at the Fieldcote Memorial Park and Museum in Ancaster.)



1. Mayor Fred Eisenberger, Chief Brian Mullan, Hon. L. Alexander, Daryl Buckle, David Christopherson, MP.
2. Chief Brian Mullan, Sgt. Debbie Wilkie, P.C. Gillian Robinson and Hon. L. Alexander.
3. Chief Brian Mullan with Hon. L. Alexander and Supt. Mike Shea.

The Shooting of Constable Harry Smith

March 4, 1909

By Bob Rankin, Retired Staff Sergeant, Hamilton Police Service



Front Row Left – Right: Sgt. John Knox, George Cheeseman, P.C. Staton, P.C. Harry Tuck (moustache), John Smith, James McKay, William Campaigne Dr., John Clark, Harry Smith, William McLean, Chas. Gibbs, Norman Brawer (Huckle), William Yaxley, Thomas Bettles, John Duffy, Sgt. Pinch

On the 4 March 1909, Constable Harry Smith was shot in the head while investigating a burglary at 24 Ray Street N., Hamilton.

Exactly one week earlier, Ethel Kinrade had been murdered in her home at 105 Herkimer Street. Her sister Florence, who was the only other person in the house at the time, told investigators she had gone upstairs to get some money for a tramp who had come to the door and, during her absence, he shot Ethel to death. Florence was charged but not convicted in a rather sensational trial.

Before Constable Harry Smith headed to work on that fateful night, he told his wife he did not like the beat he had been assigned to, which took him away from the centre of the city and beyond Queen Street. Constable Smith had worked it before and was not thrilled about being assigned to it again.

Constable Smith may have been bemoaning his luck as he crunched through the snow to the Kapelle house at 24 Ray Street North for the second time that evening. Mr. Kapelle, a broker, and his family

had been on vacation for two months so the policemen on that beat had a duty to check the property regularly. Harry did not notice anything unusual on his first check but during the second, he heard a noise coming from the cellar and noticed fresh footprints in the snow which aroused his suspicions.

To illuminate the interior of the basement, he crouched by a window and struck a match. As he peered into the darkness, he heard what sounded like coal falling in a fireplace. Convinced someone was inside, he backed off to seek assistance from passers-by. There were no radios, call boxes or partners in those days.

The first person he encountered was James Hanley, a mechanic who lived five houses away at 14 Ray Street with his mother, brother and sisters. James was on his way home but without hesitation he went to the policeman's assistance. On the way back to the house, Constable Smith called upon some boys who were playing on the street to act as spotters. After he had stationed them along Ray and Market Streets to cover two sides of the house, he handed James Hanley his baton, unholstered his revolver and led the way into the backyard.

At first, they had difficulty seeing anything in the shadows. Soon however, Harry saw the figure of a man crouched against a wall. As they approached him, they stepped into an area illuminated by moonlight, which made them clear targets. Constable Smith ordered the man to put his hands up; however, instead of obeying the police officer, he raised a gun and fired.

Instinctively the officer turned his head as the gun came up; possibly to warn Hanley; possibly to check for cover. The bullet struck him near the temple, stunning him. His gun fell from his hand as he dropped to his knees. Miraculously, the bullet had not fully penetrated his skull, but he was left disoriented and unable to function properly.

Young James Hanley, armed only with the officer's baton, courageously went on the offensive. Two

more shots were fired which grazed his forehead and cheek forcing him to back off. As their assailant made his way southward over adjacent yards to King Street then east to Queen Street, Constable Smith and Hanley were able to make their way back onto the street. They were taken into the Venator house at 229 Market Street from where the alarm was raised.

When headquarters relayed the call to the patrol station, Constable English responded immediately in his patrol sleigh stopping along the way to pick up Sergeant Knox, Constable James Clark and Detective Campbell.

Sergeant Knox immediately took charge of the injured men when he arrived. Detective Campbell collected some exhibits and then, with Sergeant Knox and the others, headed off in the sleigh. Constable Clark, assisted by Constables Brannan, Barrett, Lowrey and Ince, was left to manage the crime scene until Chief Smith arrived to oversee the investigation.

It was soon discovered that the house had been broken into. It was also clear that the "yeggman" (a burglar) had been inside for some time as he had cut one of the telephone wires, ransacked every room and consumed some food. In his haste to get away, he left a stag handled knife in the house and a 'dark lantern' outside. There was no doubt that Officer Smith had disturbed him as he tried to see into the dark basement and interrupted his flight by returning so promptly with assistance.

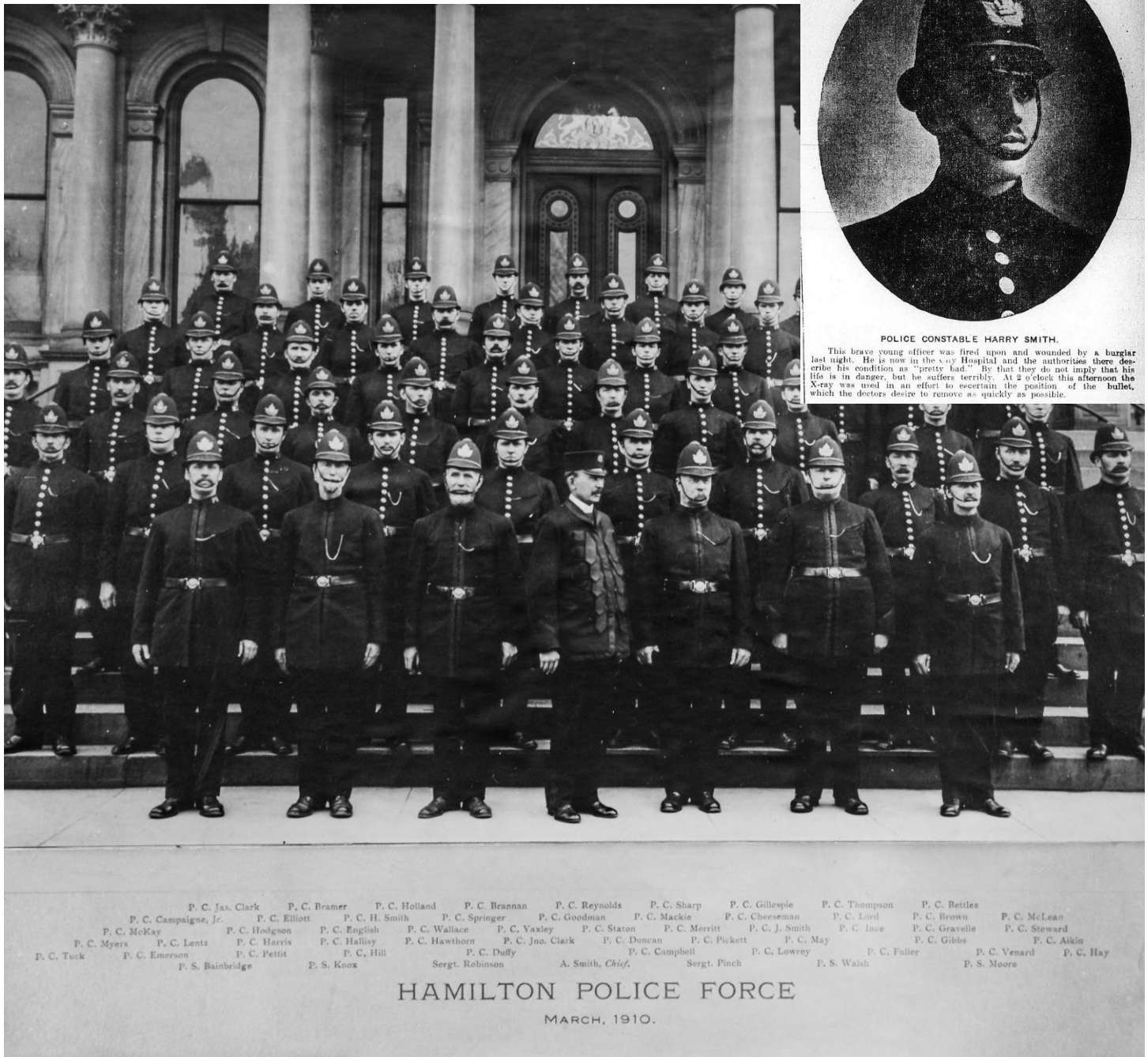
The evidence at the scene, the fact that a firearm had been used and the proximity to the Kinrade case in terms of distance and time, forced investigators to concede that the tramp theory in that investigation might well have been true after all.

In time, Constable Harry Smith and James Hanley recovered from their injuries but their assailant was never found.

Constable Smith was promoted to the rank of Sergeant after this incident. According to the 1928

Chief's Annual Report, on August 14, 1928, Harry and his wife and daughter were swimming near Jordan Harbour. Harry thought his daughter was in trouble in the water. He swam out to save her and

went into medical distress and passed away. He was accorded a Police Funeral. *Sources: Hamilton Public Library, Special Collections and Archives.*



Constable Harry Smith is in the 5th row back, 3rd from the left.

Branding a Badge

A History of the Hamilton Police Corporate Image

By Constable David Kerkhof, HPS Historian and President of the HPHS&M

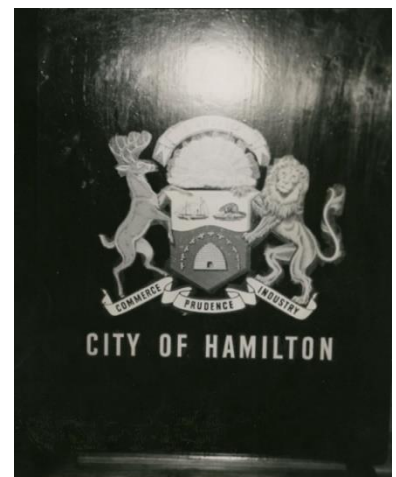
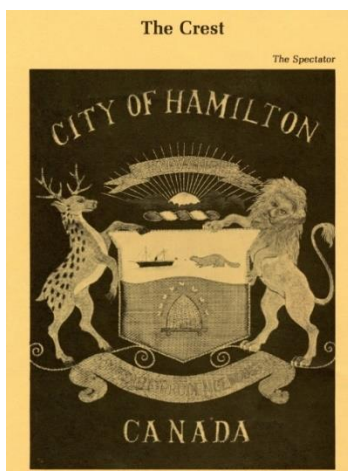
Since the 1950s, Hamilton Police officers have worn a standardized metal breast badge on uniforms. Prior to this, individual officers requiring a badge attended a metal foundry, likely on George or James Street North in Hamilton to have a badge made. There was no set mold; badges were diverse in style and engraving. Badges were occasionally worn on a uniform but more likely were used as identification when officers were not on duty or working as Detectives.

In heraldic terms, a police or military badge is the symbol of the branch or unit of the military or police service. It differs from a coat of arms. Many levels of government throughout the commonwealth and beyond have an official heraldic coat of arms. Many police services throughout the commonwealth adopt the shield of the coat of arms of the City or Region into their badge design. Some law enforcement agencies have their own coat of arms and a badge. These badges are often made into metal or cloth and become the wallet or hat badge of that agency and are also used for branding on shoulder flashes, cruisers, signage and letterhead.

The Hamilton Police have had a unique history with regards to the use of coats of arms and badges.

The City of Hamilton appointed its first law enforcement officer on March 11, 1833 – 34 years prior to Confederation. Initially there was no badge or official coat of arms. On September 7, 1833, the Board of Police (precursor of City Council) authorized Clerk Davis to purchase a Corporation Seal and have it engraved in New York. In 1836 this seal was entrusted to the care of the President of the Board (*from the book 'Hamilton Firsts', Charles Ambrose Bailey, Thomas Melville ; Carter*).

When the City of Hamilton was incorporated, a new seal (known as a coat of arms) was designed by Edward Acraman, the proprietor of St. George's Hotel. He received 10 pounds for his design. The seal was adopted by City Council on January 20, 1847 and ordered engraved in New York. The old seal was broken on March 29th.



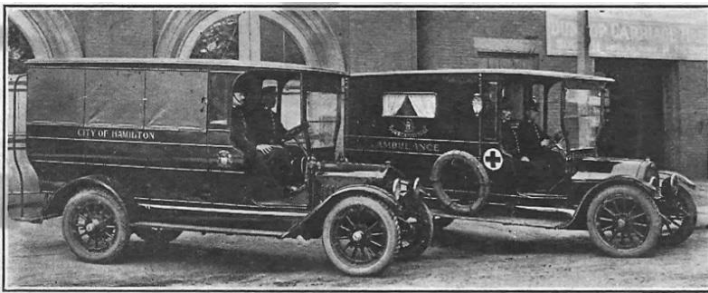


This city seal has had several different renderings throughout the years by various city departments. For a sake of clarity, it has been digitally redrawn as shown on the left.

Even though this seal coat of arms was adopted by the City of Hamilton and used on early police vehicles, the police did not display the image on uniforms except on the Chief of Police's hat badges. (Photograph on the right of Chief Alexander Smith, 1895 to 1915.)

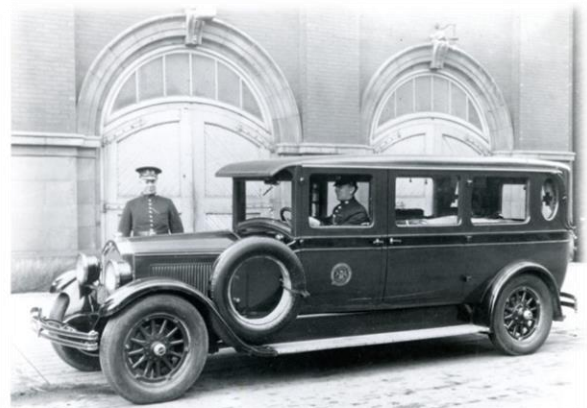


Some of Hamilton's early police vehicles displayed the City of Hamilton Coat of Arms (1920, 1927 and 1928).



The Department Patrol and Ambulance.

The seal, shown on the vehicles in these photographs, was modified for police use and likely used in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



Based on the vehicle graphics, the Hamilton Police version from that time was redrawn to reflect the original design, shown below.

The only symbol that officers wore was a generic helmet badge that was also being worn by several other Canadian police departments.



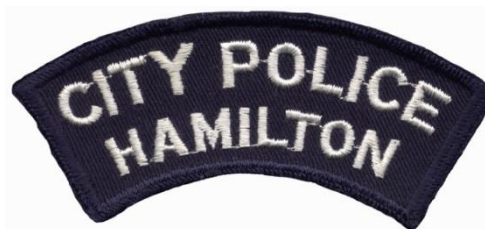
The badge was a large brass maple leaf that was painted black and contained a beaver which supported the Royal Crown which at the time was a representation of the Tudor Crown.





The helmet hat badge (shown on the left) was worn between 1852 and 1938 and remained in various forms from the transition of the custodian helmet to the forage cap (1938-1953) for non-commissioned officers until Hamilton Police developed a hat badge that coincided with the City of Hamilton Coat of Arms in 1953.

In the early 1950s, embroidered shoulder flashes were added to the shoulders of the tunics. The first flashes bore the words "City Police Hamilton". Two versions are shown below.



Queen Elizabeth II succeeded to the throne on February 6, 1952, on the death of her father, King George VI. Queen Elizabeth II was crowned on 2 June, 1953 in Westminster Abbey. The St. Edward's Crown, made in 1661, was chosen by the Queen as her cypher and placed on the head of the Queen during the Coronation service. Queen Elizabeth II adopted a heraldic representation of the crown representing St. Edward's Crown for use on coats of arms, badges, logos and various other insignia in the commonwealth realms to symbolise her royal authority. In these contexts, it replaced the Tudor Crown, which had been instated by Edward VII in 1901. It was subsequently on the cyphers of King George V (1910-1936), King Edward VIII (1936), and King George VI (1936-1952). The Queen indicated that any use of the Crown on any emblem in the commonwealth was to be met by her personal approval.



(The Cypher of Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II is shown on the left.)

In 1952 when Leonard G. Lawrence became Chief Constable, he sought to modernize the Hamilton Police Force. With a change to the uniforms taking place; standardized breast badges were introduced. They moved away from the leaf badge that contained a Tudor Crown and began using the 1847 City of Hamilton Seal as a hat badge.



Two flashes were designed displaying the City of Hamilton Coat of Arms, one for the shirt, one for the tunic/jacket, shown on the left.

The City of Hamilton Coat of Arms appeared on some speciality police vehicles.



When the new City Hall was being planned, Dr. George Gilmour of McMaster University urged City Council to secure a proper heraldic coat of arms through the College of Heraldry in London, England. The College of Arms was founded by royal charter in 1484 by King Richard III. Throughout the commonwealth, institutions appealed to the College of Arms for official grants of arms unless they had developed their own. This was the case in Canada until 1988. The official registers of grants of arms include the text of the Letters Patent of the Kings of Arms and is dated 20 December 1962 granting arms, crest and supporters to The Council of the Corporation of the City of Hamilton. This new seal was registered in July 1963.



As of 1964, the new City of Hamilton Coat of Arms was placed on letterhead and vehicle graphics. It was slightly modified with added banners to create the hat badge, shoulder flash, vehicle graphics, and flag.

On May 24, 1964, a Church Parade was held that celebrated the City of Hamilton and its Grant of Arms and included the Consecration and Trooping of the Service's first-ever police ceremonial flag. In a ceremony steeped in protocol and pageantry, the flag was consecrated by a drumhead service. This new coat of arms branded the Hamilton Police Service for the next decade.



As we no longer have the flag, a digital rendering was created and is shown right.



The breast badge remained the same; however, the shoulder flashes were updated – one for the shirt, one for the tunic/jacket, shown on the left.



In the 1970s, a decision was made by the Ontario Government to regionalize local municipalities.

Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police

As of 1973, within the County of Wentworth aside from the Ontario Provincial Police, five police departments remained: Hamilton, Stoney Creek, Ancaster, Dundas, and Saltfleet. On January 1st, 1974, these police forces were merged into one Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police Force (HWRP). In 1977, the HWRP assumed policing of Glanbrook, Flamborough and Waterdown from the Ontario Provincial Police.



In advance of Regionalization, a regional police planning team committee was formed that included Hamilton Inspector Bob Hamilton (co-ordinator), Dundas Sergeant Mike Driscoll, Hamilton Sergeant Roy Davidson, Saltfleet Inspector Tom Braithwaite, Hamilton Acting Patrol Sergeant Walter Ireson. Their headquarters was in the second-floor training room of the former Sherman Avenue station.

Tom Braithwaite and Walter Ireson were tasked with creating a shoulder flash to represent the newly formed police force. They decided that more was less: they wanted a symbol that was simple and clean and easily recognizable. They chose the scales of justice superimposed over a maple leaf. Although the trend in Canadian

policing was to display a coat of arms or heraldic-style badge, they wanted something less complicated and more visible from afar. In fact, cruisers initially only displayed the words "Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police" with no logo or crest.

(The Hamilton Spectator, Wednesday September 26, 1973)

It was decided that an official badge was required for hat badges and to provide consistent branding for the newly formed police force. Chief Gordon Torrance provided David Forsyth, Supply Services Section Manager, with a rough pencil sketch. David executed the India ink on illustration-board artwork based on the Chief's sketch and then gave it to Cheryl Watson who worked in the Graphics Branch. Cheryl Watson provided the original artwork for the badge. David Forsyth commends her design which was much more attractive and dynamic hat badge than the previous version. Cheryl Watson recounts it as a "fond memory". The badge was reminiscent of former municipal service hat badges and began to resemble a standard in Canadian police badges – a St Edward's or Tudor Crown at the top and a wreath of maple leaves.



The badge, as a symbol of the Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police, went through several manifestations during its 27-year existence:

The hat badge was used immediately and remained unchanged throughout its existence:

Although colour and detail were added to the HWRP badge over the years, the basic design remained unchanged throughout the history of the HWRP.



Hamilton Police Service



Amalgamation of the communities of Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, Glanbrook, Stoney Creek and Hamilton into one City of Hamilton occurred on January 1, 2001. This amalgamation ended the existence of the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth. As for the police, this move did not change anything internally, but it changed the name and would change the branding as the police service was to represent the new one-tier City.

In advance of the amalgamation, a Hamilton Police branding committee was formed, under the direction of Inspector Kenneth Leendertse, to implement a rebranding strategy of the police service including a new name, logo and badge. Graphics Branch members were tasked with supplying designs and scanning options. After months of deliberation, artwork designed by Cheryl Watson from the Graphics Branch was decided upon. The logo, shown above, appears on police cruisers, signage, letterhead, etc.

The new logo, like its HWRP predecessor is topped by [St. Edward's Crown](#). It features a ribbon containing the word Hamilton and a banner below with the word Police. Within the ribbon is a maple leaf: while representing Canada, the leaf has six facets, representing the six municipalities that formed the Hamilton-Wentworth Region (1974) and then later the amalgamated City of Hamilton (2001). Those municipalities in addition to Hamilton are Ancaster, Dundas, Flamborough, Glanbrook and Stoney Creek. Below the leaf are blue waves as well as a blue oval above the leaf representing the connection of the city to [Lake Ontario](#) and [Hamilton Harbour](#). Hamilton Harbour gave birth to this industrious city. The six

veins of the leaf extending into the blue oval illustrate inclusiveness of our diverse community, the gold trim around the maple leaf represents the wealth of our industry, natural resources, business and community partnerships, the two blue waves at the bottom of the leaf represent our vision to be the best and most progressive police service. Encircling the banner is wreath of golden maple leaves, common in many Canadian Police Badges.

Canadian Heraldry

With the creation of the Canadian Heraldic Authority (CHA), Canadian Police Services were granted the authority to adopt their own badges, based on a standard created by the CHA for police services across Canada. Heraldically it is called a badge, not a crest. A crest is the top component of a heraldic achievement or coat of arms. However, because police carry or wear metal badges, we often use the term “crest” to differentiate between a heraldic badge and an identifying metal badge.

All police services who have since been granted badges follow this standard of design:

- The Maple Leaf “wreath” surround is representative of Canada.
- The Province is represented by the Provincial flower at the base of the wreath.
- The Royal Crown affixed to the top is authorized as a gift from Her Majesty.
- The inner portion of the badge is normally a shield for the City or Region’s Coat of Arms.

In instances where a municipality or region has not been granted a coat of arms, police services are granted their own coat of arms as well as a badge.



The City of Hamilton Coat of Arms, as shown on the left, was granted by the CHA.

According to the Canadian Heraldic Authority, the Royal Crown in any design must receive the personal permission of His/Her Majesty, by their express direction. Permission is sought through the Governor General's Office.

When amalgamation occurred in 2001, the Hamilton Police branding committee was not fully aware of the heraldic protocols when designing a police badge using the Royal Crown, even though several police services across Canada had been granted a badge by the Authority with a consistent design. In fact, even though many police services had received a heraldic grant, a number had self-designed badges that used the crown. Moreover, the City of Hamilton, had not yet been granted a new coat of arms and in most instances, a police badge incorporates the shield portion of the municipal or regional coat of arms. At this time, Chief Kenneth Robertson directed that the proper use of the Royal Crown be researched through the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

Tim Fletcher, former HPS Historian and Forensics Services Video Technician, worked with Bishop Ralph Spence, one of Canada's top heralds, to prepare an application for a heraldic grant.

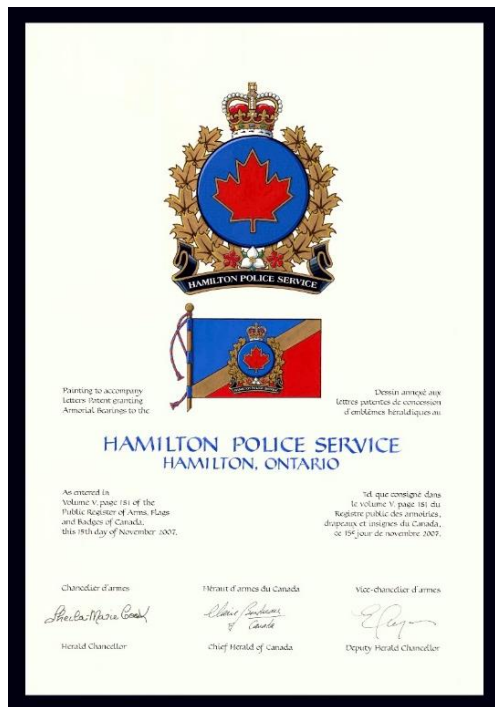
The initial approach was to seek permission to adopt the 2001 HPS police badge through the Governor General's office on behalf of the Queen. Due to heraldic protocols, the badge design was rejected because of unauthorized use of the Royal Crown in addition to specific design elements.

Following receipt of correspondence from Mr. Bruce Patterson, Saguenay Herald of the CHA on May 9, 2001, a memorandum was prepared on May 25, 2001, with regards to the continued use of the HPS logo aside from the grant application. The memo set out - even though permission was required to use the Royal Crown, there was nothing punitive imposed for its unauthorised use. Since other agencies had created their own unauthorized badges, the recommendation was for Hamilton to continue using its self-designed logo for day-to-day branding usage even if a heraldic badge were granted, which would be for official usage. Since Hamilton police had already spent considerable time and expense in rebranding, it was decided to proceed in this manner: retaining the designed logo as the HPS brand while keeping the heraldic badge for Official usage.

In September of 2002, a letter was drafted for the Hamilton Police Services Board to petition the Chief Herald of Canada for an Official Hamilton Police badge. The request was made to use the design selected by the committee, or at least something close to it, recognizing that the City had not yet created its new coat of arms.

Correspondence was exchanged over the next number of years as the badge was designed by the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

Ironically, the coat of arms for the City of Hamilton were granted on July 15, 2003.



On November 15, 2007, the Armoural Bearings of the Hamilton Police Service and its flag were entered into Volume V, page 181 of the Public Register of Arms, Flags and Badges of Canada, having been approved by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



Digital Renderings of the badge and flag, shown here, were done by Jenny Froates, Hamilton Police Graphics Branch.

Symbolism - On a hurt a maple leaf Gules fimbriated Or, all within a wreath of maple leaves Or issuant from a trillium flower proper between two cinquefoils Gules, the whole ensigned by the Royal Crown proper and in base a ribbon Sable edged Or inscribed HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE in letters Argent.

Representation - There are many symbolic meanings to various parts of the Hamilton Police Service Badge. The exterior frame of maple leaves, the trillium, and St. Edward's Crown follows the traditional style of police coat of arms for an Ontario municipal police service. The Police Service has the responsibility of upholding the peace and the administration of justice under the Canadian Crown. The Royal Crown, at the top of the badge, symbolizes the administration of Crown's justice, while the laurel of maple leaves and trillium refer to Canada and Ontario, respectively. The blue field represents the harbour of the City of Hamilton, and the gold edges represent the City's industry and wealth. The Red Maple Leaf represents Canada. The two cinquefoils allude to the arms of the City of Hamilton in which such a cinquefoil also appears. The cinquefoil is taken from the arms of the Chief of Clan Hamilton, and it thus refers to the City's namesake.



Grant of Arms, Consecration and Trooping of Colours

On May 12, 2008, a special event was planned to unveil the Hamilton Police Service Grant of Arms and the Consecration and Trooping of the Service's Police Colour. 2008 also marked the 175th anniversary of the police service.

The Grant of Arms incorporates symbolism reflecting the years of history and heritage of the Hamilton Police Service. A 'Colour' is the ceremonial flag, with a specific registered design, awarded to the Hamilton Police Service by the Queen through the Governor-General and the Canadian Heraldic Authority. This is Hamilton Police's second flag but the first to come by way of the Sovereign's approval. The colour was consecrated by a drumhead service.



Photographs taken in front of Central Police Station on May 12, 2008, of members of the Hamilton Police Service and Honour Guard on the occasion of Grant of Arms, Consecration and Trooping of the Colour. Honouary Chief of Police Lincoln Alexander and other dignitaries were in attendance.



Royal Crown

On September 8, 2022, Queen Elizabeth II, Canada and the Commonwealth's longest reigning monarch passed away at the age of 96. She was succeeded by King Charles III. Shortly thereafter, the College of Arms in London presented the King with a series of designs for a new cypher. King Charles III chose the cypher shown below.

Cypher of His Royal Highness, King Charles III



King Charles III wished to honour the legacy of his grandfather by choosing a cypher bearing a Tudor Crown. On May 6, 2023, the coronation of King Charles III took place. On the date of the coronation, the Canadian Heraldic Authority revealed a Canadian Royal Crown that was approved for use in Canada by His Majesty King Charles III.



The Canadian Royal Crown is a heraldic emblem and not a material object. Its design was approved in April 2023 by His Majesty The King on the advice of the Prime Minister of Canada. The Canadian Royal Crown is an important symbol of the sovereign's authority, the Canadian monarchy, and the power of the state acting in the sovereign's name. This new version shares many features with other heraldic versions of the Royal Crown, but also incorporates elements emphasizing the Canadian

identity of the monarchy. Following a request by the Government of Canada, it was designed by Cathy Bursey-Sabourin, Fraser Herald and Principal Artist at the Canadian Heraldic Authority.

The implications of the change in the Crown are a change of many symbols across the commonwealth, including military and police badges that bear St Edward's Crown. At the time of writing, some Canadian police services have begun changing the digital renderings of their badges to include a Tudor Crown. The official direction from the Canadian Heraldic Authority is that police services may retain St. Edward's Crown; however, if they request a new badge or an update, they may opt for the use of the Canadian Crown.

The symbols and badges representing the Hamilton Police Service are an important part of the history of the police service and all that it represents. They have been a source of pride in service and a symbol to our communities of our duty to justice. These symbols are steeped in tradition and symbolism and as the police service moves to the future, they remain a lasting representation of the legacy of those that have gone before.



This photograph taken in front of Central Police Station on May 12, 2008, of members of the Hamilton Police Service and Honour Guard on the occasion of Grant of Arms, Consecration and Trooping of the Colour.

Hamilton Police Historical Society And Museum Inc.

BALANCE SHEET (Year End)

December 31, 2022

ASSETS

Current Assets:

Museum Book Bank Balance	\$3,708.28
Tuck Shop Book Bank Balance	\$4,423.43
Cash on Hand (Tuck Shop)	\$1,231.25

Total Current Assets	\$9,362.96
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Fixed Assets - There are no Fixed Assets

Inventory

Value of Tuck Shop Inventory as of December 31, 2022 (estimate)	\$13,000.00
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<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	<u>\$22,362.96</u>
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LIABILITIES - There are currently no liabilities.

EQUITY

<u>TOTAL EQUITY</u>	<u>\$22,362.96</u>
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Equity equals what remains after subtracting liabilities from total assets.

Get Involved

Please consider volunteering your time and/or expertise to help support the protection and promotion of Hamilton's local police history. Please contact the HPS Historian, David Kerkhof if you would like to become involved at: hpshistorian@gmail.com

Connect With Us



Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc.
314 Wilson Street E.
Ancaster, Ontario
Canada

Mailing Address

155 King William Street
Hamilton, Ontario L8R 1A7

E-Mail

hpshistorian@gmail.com

Voicemail

(905) 648-6404

Hours Of Operation

Fridays from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Please Support Us

As a not-for-profit organization we rely on the generosity of people like you. Please join our Membership or consider a donation to the Society to support our work. Our Membership form is on page 27.

We also rely on the generosity of active, former and retired members and their families who donate artifacts and photos. We gratefully accept these items and incorporate them into our archives and/or exhibits. Please keep the Museum in mind if you have old photographs, digital images, or other articles of police memorabilia you would like to share with us or donate to the Museum.

Affiliations

The Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc. is an affiliate member of the Hamilton-Wentworth Heritage Association, Ontario Historical Society and Ontario Museum Association.

3024
followers



825
followers



908
followers



151
followers





HAMILTON POLICE HISTORICAL
SOCIETY AND MUSEUM INC.

Mailing Address:
155 King William Street
Hamilton, ON L8R 1A7

hpsmuseum@gmail.com

Membership Application Form

1. CONTACT INFORMATION

Name			
Address		City	Province Postal Code
Phone		Email Address	
If an Organization, please include representative's contact information			

2. SELECT ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

- ☐ **Active Membership \$20.00** Individuals who support the purposes of the museum and who are: (please check applicable box below)
- ☐ presently serving member of the Hamilton Police Service;
 - ☐ retired member of the Hamilton Police Service;
 - ☐ retired member of a department which amalgamated to become the Hamilton Police Service; or
 - ☐ an employee of the Hamilton Police Association
- Active members are Voting members.
- ☐ **Associate Membership \$20.00** Individuals who support the purposes of the museum. Associate members are Non-voting members.
All memberships are subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

3. ADDITIONAL DONATION

I would like to make a donation <input type="checkbox"/> In Honour or <input type="checkbox"/> In Memory of \$			
Name			
A NOTE ACKNOWLEDGING THIS DONATION SHOULD BE SENT TO:			
Name		Email Address	
Address		City	Province Postal Code

4. PAYMENT INFORMATION

- ☐ Interac e-Transfer payable to: hpsmuseum@gmail.com (Q. Where is the museum located? A. Ancaster)
- ☐ Cheque/Money Order payable to Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc.
Please return the completed application with payment to: 155 King William Street, Hamilton, ON L8R 1A7
- ☐ Cash (accepted in person only – do not mail cash)

5. COMMUNICATION PREFERENCE

- Please send Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum correspondence, notices, publications, etc.:
- ☐ By regular mail to the address shown under Contact Info ☐ By email to the address shown under Contact Info
- ☐ By internal Hamilton Police Service mail to: ☐ Please DO NOT send any communication

6. PRIVACY POLICY

- ☐ I agree to receive Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum correspondence, in all formats including email, to stay informed on museum related developments.

Privacy Policy: The information you provide to the Society allows us to inform you about events and activities, and to notify you of issues, events or special offers which may be of interest to you. The Society does not trade or exchange mailing lists and does not provide private information to any other individual or corporation without permission. Please contact the Society for further information.

7. VOLUNTEER

- I am interested in contributing to the museum by volunteering to:
- ☐ Prepare displays and exhibits ☐ Museum tours and exhibits ☐ Tuck shop functions

OFFICE USE ONLY			
Membership Payment Record		Donation Payment Record	
<input type="checkbox"/> e-Transfer \$		<input type="checkbox"/> e-Transfer \$	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque \$	(Cheque Number)	<input type="checkbox"/> Cheque \$	(Cheque Number)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash \$		<input type="checkbox"/> Cash \$	
Payment Processed by:			Date
Membership Approved by:		For Year	Date
Entered Member/Supporter Database by:			Date

With Thanks

Thank you to the following for their support:

- Hamilton Police Service
- Hamilton Police Services Board
- Hamilton Police Association
- Hamilton Police Retirees Association

Thank you to Pat Howard, Dan Ormond and Greg Ormond for sharing their time and expertise.

Thank you to Dave Turner, Supervisor Heritage Facilities Maintenance, City of Hamilton.

A sincere thank you to our Volunteers and Members.

Thank you to our Donors.

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Pieter Ciere, Vice President (Curator)

David Bowen, Treasurer

Lynda Bowen, Director

Inspector James Callender, Director

Kelly Dziemianko, Director

Michel Fauvelle, Director

Alison Hood, Secretary

Jayne Lawson, Director (Archivist)

Bob Slack, Director

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Assistant Editor: David Kerkhof



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Hamilton Police Historical Society and Museum Inc
314 Wilson Street E.
Ancaster, Ontario
Canada