

Dispatch News - Bill 175 Has Passed, What's Next

Dear Members,

Today, the Government of Ontario passed Bill 175 – it's so called Safer Ontario Act. Unfortunately, for Ontario's policing professionals, and the communities and people they protect, this legislation does not live up to its name.

Despite some late amendments, the Police Association of Ontario (PAO), the Ontario Provincial Police (OPPA) and the Toronto Police Association (TPA) remain concerned that the Government of Ontario's hasty passage of Bill 175 will hurt policing efforts in the province.

Back in November when the Wynne government initially introduced Bill 175, the proposed legislation would've allowed police officers to be fired after a job-related injury or be put out of work in favour of private security guards taking over core police duties.

But because of your efforts and advocacy done by your policing associations, we were successful in limiting the Wynne government's privatization schemes and stopping them from firing officers injured on the job.

However, significant challenges remain: privatization of some policing functions, and that oversight agencies have not been required to abide to legislative timeline requirements; subjecting policing professionals and their families to unfair and wasteful administrative delays.

The fight is not over: we will not stop working to make sure that policing professionals get the respect they deserve from their government. We remain committed to advocating for our members and the safety of Ontarians by fighting against unfair and unreasonable policies that handcuff our officers and prevent them from doing their jobs effectively.

And we know you're still committed too. If you haven't already, visit www.keepontariosafe.ca and let the government know how important professional police officers are for this province. In the coming weeks, we'll be sending out more emails to let you know how you can help ensure that the Ontario government does right by its policing professionals and its citizens.

We'd like to thank you for your ongoing dedication to serving Ontario. We remain committed to serving you.

Sincerely,

Rob Jamieson - President, OPPA
Bruce Chapman - President, PAO
Mike McCormack - President, TPA