



WEST GREY POLICE SERVICE

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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Message from the Chair of the Police Services Board



It is my honour and privilege to serve as Chair of the West Grey Police Services Board.

2021 provided a great number of challenges for our police service. Dealing with COVID-19 while serving and protecting the citizens of West Grey was no easy matter. On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank Chief Martin and all the men and women of the West Grey Police Service for a job well done. Unfortunately, crime does not stop for pandemics and neither did our members.

2022 brings many exciting opportunities. Plans for the long awaited new Police Headquarters should be finalized this year and the budget includes funds to hire additional officers as the population of West Grey increases. Unfortunately, West Grey is starting to see different types of crime generally associated with larger centres. We must prepare for and respond to these trends by providing our police service with the tools and training needed. We strive to provide the best possible service to the citizens of West Grey while continuing to keep our cost per household for policing far below the provincial average.

Sincerely,

Christine Robinson

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Chair

West Grey Police Services Board



Message from the Chief of Police



On behalf of all West Grey Police Service members, both civilian and sworn, I am pleased to present the 2021 Annual Report to our community.

In the following pages you will read about our members' continued efforts to address criminal activity, road safety and information regarding our calls for service, types of occurrences and reported crimes. The annual report also speaks to our work with our many community partners addressing concerns raised by our community. We believe strongly in proactive policing and maintain high visibility in our communities through focused foot patrols.

2021 was an unprecedented year for police and all first responders across the globe. The COVID-19 pandemic placed additional challenges on our front line staff that could not have been anticipated. The members of this police service met the challenges head on and continued to serve our community safely and with the respect and compassion needed during this time when our lives and livelihoods were upended. Throughout 2021, our police officers, civilian staff and volunteers worked diligently to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our community. This service is motivated to meet the needs of our community members by providing quality service delivery, ensuring fiscal responsibility and engaging with our community. We will always strive to be true community partners and show our residents and partner agencies our commitment to community focused activities.

I would like to recognize our community partners, other first responders and community organizations, businesses and members of the public for their assistance in keeping our community safe. I would also like to thank the West Grey Police Association for their continuous assistance in ensuring the safety of our citizens and well-being of our staff. Our collective goal is to make the West Grey Police Service a great place to work and the Municipality of West Grey a safe community in which to live, work and play.

Sincerely,

Robert Martin
Chief of Police





MISSION STATEMENT

The West Grey Police Service will endeavour to create a safe environment in which to live, work and play.

VISION STATEMENT

Members of the West Grey Police Service are committed to working with the citizens of the Municipality of West Grey to understand their policing needs, enforce laws, and develop proactive solutions that will improve the service we provide and continue to be one of the best community oriented police services in the Province of Ontario.





The West Grey Police Service is responsible for policing the Municipality of West Grey. Located in Southwestern Ontario, West Grey is an amalgamated municipality, consisting of the former Townships of Bentinck, Glenelg and Normanby, the former Village of Neustadt, the former Village of Ayton, and the former Town of Durham.













West Grey is the largest municipality in the County of Grey in terms of geographical area, and has a population of approximately 13,000. Provincial Highway 6 and Grey County Roads 3, 4, 6, 9, 10, 12, 23 and 25 all run through the municipality with a total of 780 kms of roadway which the West Grey Police Service patrols.



West Grey is a popular destination for seasonal homeowners, campers, hikers and others wishing to enjoy the natural beauty of the area. There are 12 local campgrounds with seasonal and transient sites, both serviced and un-serviced. There are many unique stores and businesses in West Grey and a strong arts community. The area has seen an influx of new residents from the more urban areas of the province as new home construction is booming.

The Municipality is divided into three zones with officers assigned to each zone on a long term basis. Officers are responsible for making contacts in their zone, keeping abreast of crime trends and special problems in the zone, and developing strategies with the community to help solve these problems. The zones are:

Zone 1 - the former Bentinck Township

Zone 2 - the former Normanby Township, Ayton and Neustadt

Zone 3 - the former Town of Durham and the former Glenelg Township.

A sub-station for Zone 2 is located in Ayton and officers assigned to Zone 2 complete their reports at the Ayton Office rather than returning to Durham. This sub-station is also a place to meet with residents regarding complaints, investigations and community issues.

Another initiative is increased foot patrol in the communities we serve and officers are required to complete a certain level of foot patrol in their zone. They are also required to conduct door checks of businesses after they have closed to ensure they are secure, as well as attend sports functions such as local clubs hockey, soccer and baseball games that are happening in their patrol zone.





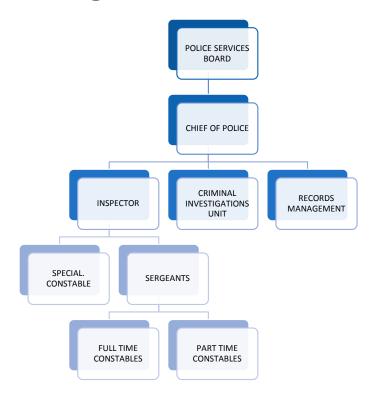
The West Grey Police Service prides itself in a community policing approach which seeks to integrate officers into the local community to reduce crime and foster good community relations. Law enforcement is no longer a reactionary service, with officers responding to calls and seen only momentarily as they pass in their patrol vehicles.

The West Grey Police Service has a Chief of Police, an Inspector and 20 full-time sworn officers, three part-time sworn officers, six auxiliary officers and two civilian staff members. The Service uses a number of strategies to deliver its Community Oriented Policing Program.

Finally, it is important to mention that Community Oriented Policing is also the responsibility of the citizens of the community. Community Oriented Policing is a collaborative effort between the police and the community that identifies problems and involves all elements of the community in the search for solutions to these problems.



Organizational Chart



Police Services Board Members

Doug Townsend, Board Chair Geoffrey Shea, Councillor & Vice Chair

Christine Robinson, Mayor & Council Appointment Betty Moric, Provincial Appointment Helen-Claire Tingling, Provincial Appointment

Uniformed Members

Robert Martin, Chief of Police Jeremy White, Inspector Mark McComb, Sergeant Greg Robinson, Sergeant Ken Iles, Detective Sergeant Michael Boyko, Constable Chad Brown, Constable Jesse Buckland, Constable Jesse Buckland, Constable Devon Burke, Constable Michael Donnelly, Constable Steven Germann, Constable Rod Hilton, Constable Allyson Iles, Constable Scott Koeslag, Constable Shawn Lubjenka, Constable Nancy MacMillan, Constable Ben Meyer, Constable Tom Morrison, Constable Marino Romito, Constable Mitch Roulston, Constable Ian Sanderson, Constable Robert Shering, Retired Dale Smart, Constable A.J Smith, Constable Dave Van Allen, Constable Michelle Duffy, Constable

Civilian Members

Rhonda Lantz, Records Manager

Tracy Donnelly, Special Constable





Impaired Driving – Arrest

Overnight February 23rd, 2021, West Grey Police responded to a suspicious vehicle complaint. Officers arrived and located a vehicle in the ditch, and the driver showing signs of impairment. The driver was later found to be over twice the legal limit. A 29-year-old male from Walkerton was arrested and charged with Impaired Driving and Drive Over. 08. The vehicle was impounded for 7 days, while the driver's license was suspended for 90 days.

Missing Person – Located

On May 22nd, 2021, an 87-year-old male went for a walk in the woods at dusk and became disoriented. After spending 7 hours in the forest, he was located safely, treated by Grey County EMS on scene and released.

Domestic Assault, Weapons – Arrest

On Friday August 13th, 2021, West Grey Police Service received a 9-1-1 call for help to a residence in the former Township of Bentinck. When police arrived officers made entry to the property and initiated a Domestic Violence investigation. As a result of the investigations a 49-year-old male from West Grey was arrested and charged with:

- Domestic Assault
- Assault Cause Bodily Harm
- Assault with a Weapon
- Assault by Choking or Strangulation
- Utter Threats
- Forcible Confinement
- Point Firearm
- Discharge Firearm
- Possession of a Firearm while Prohibited



- Careless Storage of Firearm
- Possession of a Prohibited Weapon

Fail To Stop for Police

On September 28th, 2021, West Grey Police along with Hanover Police attempted to stop a motorcycle with no plates on Grey Road 4. When emergency lights and sirens were activated, the driver failed to stop, fleeing the area at a high rate of speed. For public safety reasons no pursuit was initiated. A short time later the motorcycle and driver were located with the help of the public. The 40-year-old male from Mount Forest was arrested and charged with multiple offences.

Drug Trafficking – Arrest

On October 31st, 2021, following a month-long investigation by the West Grey Police Services Criminal Investigations Unit a search warrant was executed leading to the seizure of a large quantity of Fentanyl, Crystal Methamphetamine and Cannabis. The drugs taken off the street have a value of approximately \$20,000. A 29-year-old male from West Grey was arrested and charged with:

- Possession of Fentanyl for the purpose of Trafficking
- Possession of Methamphetamine for the purpose of Trafficking
- Possession of Cannabis for the purpose of distribution

The accused was transported to West Grey Police Station where he was processed and held for a bail hearing. He was remanded into custody by the Ontario Court of Justice

Fatal Collision – Charges Laid

As a result of an investigation by the West Grey Police Criminal Investigations Unit, an arrest has been made and charges laid in the connection to a fatal motor vehicle collision that took place on November 7th, 2021, at approximately 1:25pm on Grey Road 4 near Concession 2 east of Durham.

A 26-year-old male of Kincardine Township has been charged with:

- Criminal Negligence Causing Death
- Criminal Negligence Causing Bodily Harm (x2)
- Robbery
- Possession of Property Obtained by Crime Over \$5,000



Assault With a Weapon, Choking, Forcible Confinement – Arrest

On November 9th, 2021, West Grey Police received a 911 call for help at a residence on Concession 2, Glenelg in the Municipality of West Grey. When police arrived a 70-year-old male was found covered in blood. He was transported by ambulance to SBGH Centre where he was treated for non-life-threatening injuries. A 38-year-old male from West Grey was arrested at the scene and was charged with:

- Break and Enter
- Assault
- Assault with a Weapon
- Uttering Threats
- Mischief (x2)
- Choking
- Forcible Confinement

Impaired Driving - Arrest

On November 16th, 2021, West Grey Police received a call from a concerned citizen regarding a possible impaired driver. Witnesses watched as the vehicle rolled backwards on Garafraxa Street onto George Street into the parking lot of the West Grey Police Service where it hit a sign. The driver was arrested and found to have more than twice the legal limit. The accused was processed, vehicle impounded, and drivers' license suspended.

Domestic Assault - Arrest

On December 24th, 2021, West Grey Police were called to an address in Bentinck Township after witnesses saw a woman being assaulted by a male on the roadway. Officers located the suspect and effected the arrest. The female victim was transported to hospital for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

A 37-year-old male from West Grey was charged with:

- Assault Cause Bodily Harm
- Fail to Comply with Undertaking

Police held the accused for a Bail Hearing but was later released by the Ontario Court of Justice.

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Criminal Enforcement Data

In 2021 West Grey Police Officers made 240 arrests and laid 346 criminal charges.

Charge / Act	Number of Charges
Property Related Offences	96
Crimes Against Persons	64
Controlled Drugs and Substances Act	11
Administration of Justice	87
Other Criminal Code Offences	51
Criminal Code Driving Offences	37
Total	346

Motor Vehicle Collisions

In 2021, the West Grey Police Service investigated 281 motor vehicle collisions, a decrease of 87 collisions compared to 2020. A total of 39 people were injured as a result of these collisions compared to 53 in the previous year. Three collisions resulted in fatalities. Charges were laid in one of those collisions while one happened on private property and one was a single vehicle crash where the lone occupant died. We, along with the families and friends of the deceased, mourn the lives lost.



West Grey Police conducted numerous RIDE checks in 2021 and participated in both National and Provincial Road Safety initiatives, keeping our roads and community members safe.

Stolen & Recovered Property

In 2021, the total value of reported stolen property was \$112,215.00 compared to \$437,000.00 in 2020. A total of \$50,079.00 in stolen property was recovered in 2021 compared to \$137,350.00 in 2020.

Foot Patrols

In 2021, West Grey Police officers found 5 different businesses to be insecure during foot patrol at night and these businesses were secured by police pro-actively contacting the appropriate key holders. A total of 508 hours of foot patrol across the municipality was conducted.

Top 10 Occurrences

The West Grey Police Service responds to a wide variety of calls over the course of a year. In 2020, the top 10 most common occurrences were:

- 1. Police Assistance
- 2. Police Information
- 3. Traffic Complaints
- 4. Motor Vehicle Collisions
- 5. 911 Calls
- 6. Mental Health
- 7. RIDE checks
- 8. Suspicious Persons
- 9. Suspicious Vehicle
- 10. Executed Warrants



Provincial Offences Notices / Municipal By-Law

Act / Section	Number of Offence Notices
Highway Traffic Act – Speeding	761
Highway Traffic Act – Seatbelt	1
Highway Traffic Act – Other	202
Liquor Licence Act	9
Compulsory Automobile Insurance	58
Municipal By-Law	34
Other Provincial Acts	18
Total	1,083

Trends

Over time, trends develop in policing. In 2021, the West Grey Police Service received 4,246 calls for service. This was a decrease of 8% compared to 2020 when there were 4,421 calls for service. The decrease is in administrative calls for service which can attributed to the Covid-19 pandemic. Calls from citizens and officer generated incident increased 4.5% in 2021 as compared to 2020. By comparison in 2019, there were 3,684 calls for service, so we can see that overall, calls are increasing.

In 2021, the West Grey Police Service received 110 calls for service regarding violence, which includes homicide, attempted murder, assault, sexual assault, robbery, criminal harassment, and uttering threats. There were 1,627 non-violent and property crime related calls related to residential break and enters, and thefts.

Calls related to mental health have been increasing since 2020, when the West Grey Police Service received 162 calls. Since then, the calls for mental health issues have increased with 176 calls in 2021.



West Grey Police Service, along with the other Grey and Bruce police services celebrated the inception of the Situation Table Acute Response (STAR). A situation table is a strategic alliance of human services, guided by common principles and processes in order to mitigate risk situations in a timely manner, usually within 24-48 hours. The term "table" highlights that it is a meeting, which convenes regularly, with police and other human service professionals from a variety of organizations. During a Situation Table, participants work together to review situations of acutely elevated risk (AER) and determine if an individual is at imminent risk of harm and victimization and then coordinate interventions to reduce them. By addressing situations of AER, the table works collaboratively to reduce multiple risk factors that increase the likelihood that someone within a community will experience harm and victimization.

The Situation Table involves a four-filter process to determine if situations meet AER threshold, guide decision-making of whether or not to share private and confidential information, and if collaborative intervention is necessary to mitigate risk.

The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) was also introduced in 2021. A MARAC, or multi-agency risk assessment conference, is a meeting where information is shared on the highest risk domestic abuse cases between representatives of local police, probation, health, child protection, housing practitioners, Independent Domestic Violence Advisors (IDVAs) and other specialists from the statutory and voluntary sectors.





Calls for Service

Motor Vehicle Collisions							
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021		
Property Damage Only	309	301	334	278	236		
Personal Injury Accidents	45	13	29	35	23		
Persons Injured	64	15	35	53	29		
Fatal Accidents	0	0	1	2	1		
Persons Killed	0	0	1	2	1		
		Other Incid	ents				
911 Hang Up	57	96	155	169	213		
Abduction	0	0	0	0	0		
Airplane Crash	0	0	0	0	0		
Alarm	85	70	75	59	56		
Animal Complaint	76	88	90	82	58		
Arson	2	1	4	2	1		
Assault	32	144	53	31	36		
Attempt Murder	0	1	0	1	0		
Attempt Suicide	25 25 30 22 20		20				
Bail Violations	16	39	13	13	34		
B & E - Residence	85	74	55	58	33		
B & E - Business	0	0	0	0	1		
B & E - Other	0	0	0	0	0		
Breach Probation	11	16	5	6	18		
Counterfeit	1	0	1	2	0		
Court Order	2	8	14	6	5		
Dangerous Condition	16	22	20	21	7		
Disturb the Peace	10	11	21	13	4		



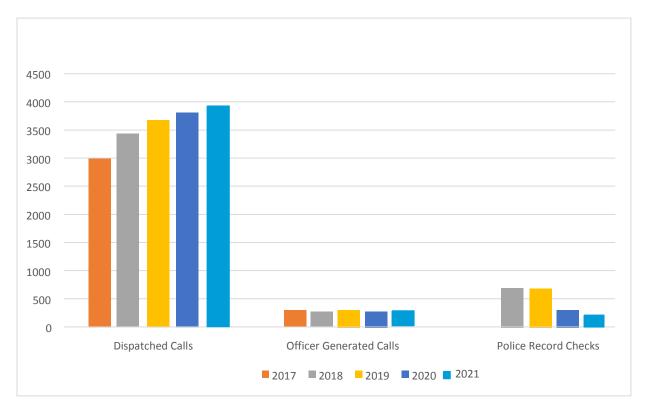
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Domestic Dispute	55	53	41	59	68
Drug Offences	20	22	15	10	28
Escape Custody	0	0	0	0	0
Prisoner Escorts	57	31	39	17	21
Family Dispute	39	47	73	55	48
Fire	27	19	19	15	11
Fraud	33	43	33	38	24
Gaming and Betting	0	0	0	0	0
Gang	0	0	0	0	0
Harassment	14	26	30	25	8
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Hostage Taking	0	0	0	0	0
Hydro Wires Down	0	3	1	1	2
Impaired/Over 80 mgs	22	12	31	37	26
Indecent Acts	2	1	2	4	1
Insecure Premises	7	8	17	8	5
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0	0
Landlord/Tenant Dispute	31	24	24	26	43
Liquor Licence Act	23	22	27	7	11
Mental Health Act	134	289	134	162	212
Mischief	50	87	80	65	46
Missing Persons	0	6	0	1	13
Missing Persons Located	28	11	19	16	11
Municipal By-Laws	26	43	37	38	35
Motor Vehicle - Abandoned	13	18	17	18	27
Motor Vehicle - Recovered	10	14	16	27	24
Neighbour Dispute	36	48	34	41	48
Noise Complaints	62	50	49	93	85
Non-Police Matter	84	78	71	58	21
Non-Traffic Accident	3	1	2	1	0
Obstruct Police	0	2	0	0	1
Other Criminal Code	9	17	31	7	8
Other Federal Statute	1	0	1	1	1
Other Provincial Statute	2	4	10	8	7



	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Persons Reporting In	16	18	26	18	15
Phone Calls	32	31	17	20	38
Police Assistance	273	492	317	378	64
Police Information	254	205	305	436	323
Police Pursuits	1	1	11	11	7
Possession Stolen	5	12	6	3	5
Prevent Breach of Peace	35	37	53	33	33
Property Checks	6	9	6	6	6
Property Damage	8	13	5	9	7
Prostitution	0	0	0	0	0
Property Related	78	104	108	86	96
R.I.D.E. Checks Conducted	94	151	186	108	136
Robbery	1	1	0	0	1
Routine Traffic Stop	0	0	1	5	1
Sexual Assault	8	21	10	16	23
Shoplifting	0	2	2	4	6
Stolen Vehicle	11	18	39	50	32
Strikes	0	0	0	0	0
Sudden Death	17	17	14	16	22
Suspicious Person	82	89	115	171	127
Suspicious Vehicle	51	82	104	119	112
Thefts	119	169	112	107	120
Threats	25	18	23	15	12
Towed Vehicles	2	7	3	4	9
Traffic Complaint	222	377	248	200	173
Traffic Control	3	8	8	8	5
Traffic Enforcement HTA	51	51	60	81	69
Traffic Enforcement Other	0	0	0	0	3
ADLS Suspensions	0	1	0	0	6
Traffic Hazard	16	39	51	53	73
Trespass By Night	1	1	1	6	4
Trespass To Property Act	27	31	33	41	50
Trouble With Youth	18	22	38	27	29
Unwanted Person	54	32	49	40	47
Warrants Executed	31	29	56	41	73
Weapons	8	12	9	11	10



Five Year Calls for Service Comparison 2017 – 2021



Use of Force

The table below shows the number of times use of force reports were submitted by West Grey officers as a result of the use of force in carrying out their duties.

Use of Force	2019	2020	2021
Dispatch Animal	10	12	0
Handgun Drawn	7	17	5
CEW* Drawn, not used	5	2	0
CEW* Used	2	8	15
Oleoresin Capsicum Spray (Pepper Spray)	1	0	0
Hard Impact Weapon	0	2	3
Hands On Technique	0	0	0
Total	25	41	23

^{*} Conducted Energy Weapon (Taser)



Public Complaints

In 2021, the West Grey Police received one public complaint. The complaint was later withdrawn by complainant.

2021 Police Budget

The 2021 budget for the West Grey Police was set at \$ 3,623,132.00. Actual policing costs for the year were \$ 3,422,934.92, resulting in a surplus of \$ 200,197.08.





Training & Development

The West Grey Police Service is committed to ensuring that its officers receive the training that will enable them to carry out all aspects of their duties. Having officers with specialized training and qualifications enhances our service and keeps our community and its members safe.

In 2020, training included annual re-qualification in use of force tactics - firearms training, night shooting and first aid. In addition, West Grey members participated in the following training and development opportunities:

Training & Development	Officer Attending		
Basic Constable Recruitment	Recruit Buckland and Recruit A. Iles		
Confidential Informant Course	Cst. Brown, Cst. Meyer, Cst. Sanderson		
Crimes Against Children	D/Sgt. K. Iles, Cst. Sanderson		
Criminal Investigations Techniques	Cst. Burke, Cst. Hilton, Cst. Roulston		
Crisis Negotiation Course	Cst. Romito		
Death Investigations	Cst. Donnelly		
Field Coordinators Instructor	Cst. Meyers		
Human Trafficking	Cst. Duffy		
Incident Response 200	Insp. White		
Intoxilyzer 8000C	Cst. Hilton, Cst. Morrison, Cst. Roulston		
Peace Interviewing	Cst. Boyko, Cst. Hilton		
Search Warrant Course	Cst. Brown, Cst. Meyer, Cst. Sanderson		
Using the Internet for Intelligence	Cst. Hilton, D/Sgt. K Iles		



Retirements

2021 saw one of our West Grey officers retire after a long and successful career. We wish Constable Robert Shering a long and happy retirement.

New Hires and Promotions

In 2021, the following staffing changes took place within the West Grey Police Service:

New Hires

Cadet Jesse Buckland Cadet Allyson Iles Constable Michael Boyko Constable Michelle Duffy

Promotions

Sergeant Jeremy White to Inspector

COVID-19

The West Grey Police Service would like to thank our local Public Health Unit, Bruce Power, Chapman's Ice Cream, Gemini and our municipal governance team for ensuring that our officers were fully equipped with personal protective equipment and the necessary cleaning and disinfecting products to help our officers stay COVID free in 2021.



Saugeen Valley Conservation Children's Safety Village

Officers and drivers visited Saugeen Valley Children's Safety Village for "Super Safety Week".







In previous years, the West Grey Police Service has participated in many events as a show of support for our community and its various groups. These opportunities were not possible for most of 2021 due to COVID-19, but even in the midst of the pandemic, the West Grey Police Service found ways to connect with our community, provide support, and contribute to our community partners and non-profit organizations in an effort to build a stronger West Grey, all the while ensuring that events could be celebrated safely.

See below for a collection of community events our officers were involved in in 2021.

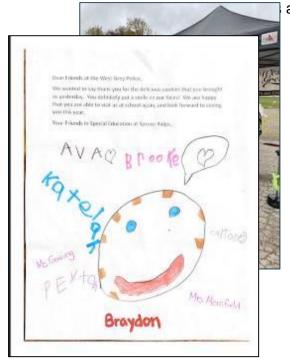
Halloween Drive-Thru Trick or Treating

Officers had over 500 'spooktacular' visitors at the Annual 2021 Halloween Drive Through

Smile Cookie Day at Local Schools



Officers had the pleasure of delivering Tim Horton Smile Cookies to the JK / SK students at Normanby Community School and Spruce Ridge Community School. It was so good to





Annual Polar Plunge

Thank you to everyone who sponsored
Cst. Hilton while he was
#FreezinForAReason in support of
Special Olympics Ontario. We exceeded
our goal and raised over \$2400!



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West Grey Police is proud to assist local secondary school students interested in policing by offering co-operative education placements, 2021 put a halt to the typical program due to COVID-19 protocols. However, we are looking forward to working with our co-op students again in 2022.





IN AN EMERGENCY DIAL 9-1-1

24 HOUR DISPATCH

Tel: 519-371-6911

Toll Free: 1-855-234-8224

ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm (closed between 12:00pm and 1:00pm)

Tel: 519-369-3046 Fax: 519-369-5474

CONNECT ONLINE

www.westgreypolice.ca





