



Cobourg Police Service

Office of the Chief of Police

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Message from Chief Paul VandeGraaf Re: Safer Public Spaces Approach

Yesterday, the Peterborough Police Service announced a shift in approach to open-air illicit drug use in public through the launch of the Safer Public Spaces approach. To learn about the approach and gain more context, please visit the [Peterborough Police Service website](#).

As we continue to face complex challenges as a community, this announcement has prompted discussion and interest from local residents, business owners and community groups both for and against the approach and thoughts on whether Cobourg Police Service (CPS) should move in the same direction.

We continue to emphasize partnerships and collaborative solutions to the evolving community safety and well-being needs.

We are following this rollout closely and are thankful for the open dialogue and information sharing between Peterborough Police and CPS. Our Senior Command team is reviewing the Safer Public Spaces approach to learn about the considerations taken before the launch, goals, and anticipated outcomes. Thank you to everyone who has shared feedback with us. We will share any updates with the community as appropriate.