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Middlesex County OPP

Creating a “safe zone” to facilitate property transactions arranged online by members of our community



Online social media buy and sell programs, such as Facebook Marketplace and Kijiji, to name a couple, are often used as platforms to sell stolen goods to unsuspecting purchasers and can potentially cause a threat to safety.



The OPP realize these online buy and sell platforms are also used by criminals for fraudulent transactions. Many purchasers are unaware they are being defrauded until it's too late



By creating a “community safety zone” in Middlesex County OPP detachment parking lots, it moves online transactions away from secluded parking lots or private residences and brings them into a public place.



Project Safe Trade – Parking Space



As an effort to increase public safety and reduce crime, the OPP is inviting members of the public to use OPP detachment parking lots to facilitate online transactions



The role of police:

- Under normal circumstances there will be no police intervention.
- Officers will not mediate private transactions, will not provide documentation and will not be a witness to a transaction. However, should one of the parties request an officer, one will respond.
- Officers will only intervene if the transaction becomes a bylaw, provincial or criminal matter



Sign disclaimer:

***“PERSONS USING THE PREMISES FOR PROJECT
SAFE TRADE PURPOSES ARE ADVISED THAT
THE OPP DOES NOT ASSUME ANY
RESPONSABILITY FOR ANY TRANSACTIONS OR
MONITOR OR MEDIATE THE USE OF THE
PREMISES FOR THESE PURPOSES”***



Launch Date:

***The paint requires the temperature to be between 15 and 25 degrees Celsius. This project would be launched in May of 2024
Local media would be invited to attend the London OPP detachment as well as members of Middlesex Council***



“The OPP is always looking for innovative ideas for increasing public safety. As such, I am very pleased to partner Middlesex OPP with the Project Safe Trade program. The dedicated parking spots at the London and Strathroy OPP detachments are meant to support your safety when completing trades from online marketplaces or any other type of personal sales. I personally invite all members of the public to use these designated Safe Trade locations to facilitate their person-to-person exchanges”

Detachment Commander Ross STUART



Ontario Provincial Police 1-888-310-1122

In Case of Emergency call - 911

Questions

