

Subject: GPS Training

Good Morning Bill:

Tomorrow I'm wrapping up the GPS training with a group of at-risk youth at the Peterborough John Howard Society. I will forward their names to you tomorrow along with the appropriate information for invoicing.

I have conducted some of the testing as we have progressed through the material (1 1/2 days so far - tomorrow will be a full-day). They have all demonstrated their compass skills and completed a handout on the parts of the compass (same as on the test). I chose this route due to the fact that several of these kids have learning disabilities and panic at the idea of a test/examination. I will modify the remainder of the test and relate it to the Peterborough topos. I will forward you a copy of this test and a copy of the map for reference. I hope this covers everything - please let me know if I need to do anything else.

The youth are responding well to the GPS (think its cool) and are grasping the skills well. We are starting to really apply the metaphor of life being a journey and challenging them to apply these skills to finding their way in life!

I will be teaching two 1-day courses here at the detachment this year for any officers that are interested. At this point I don't think we'll actually register them (due to cost issues), however, we will be the first OPP detachment to offer this training to our frontline officers. I anticipate that this will gain momentum throughout the province and will then become more formalized (several officers are now carrying their own GPS units in their cruisers with them). I heard of an officer a few weeks ago who called for assistance and gave his GPS coordinates (not sure how it worked out, but it demonstrates the need for this training to take place). Talk to you soon. Take care, Gord.

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