



Media Release
International Association of Women Police
Heritage Award 2019
Myra G. James

Retired Sergeant Myra James has been a member of the IAWP since 1993 and a life member since 1994. She joined the Hamilton Police Service, Ontario, Canada in 1988 retiring in 2018 after 30 years' service during which she served in a variety of roles. She was promoted to sergeant in July 1999 and again performed in different roles including sex crimes investigation, Crime stoppers coordinator, general crimes investigation, Traffic Safety Supervisor and Police Vehicle Operations as an instructor at the Ontario Police College. She also served for 3 months as an Assistant Venue Transport Manager for the 2010 Vancouver winter Olympics. Throughout her career with the Hamilton Police Service Myra has served on a number of committees relating to community service or women's issues.

She has been engaged with community projects and initiatives throughout her policing career and many she continues to participate in now in retirement. If you were to read the list of her community, club and external organisation involvement you will see a definite pattern, that of mentoring and development. She remains passionate about supporting others to reach their full potential in both their professional or personal lives, something she has been previously recognised for:

- 1998 Leadership & Community Service Award Nominee from [IAWP Affiliate] Ontario Women in Law Enforcement (OWLE)
- 2001 IAWP Presidential Recognition Award
- 2003 IAWP Presidential Recognition Award
- 2004 IAWP "Above & Beyond" certificate recipient
- 2005 OWLE Mentoring Award Recipient
- 2005 IAWP Mentoring Award Recipient

Myra joined the IAWP Board of directors as the Region 11 (Eastern Canada) coordinator in 2000 and has remained serving on the Board since then, serving in various positions, Affiliate Liaison, 3rd Vice President, 2nd Vice President and currently works hard as the Editor of IAWP's 'WomenPolice' magazine. She was also a member of the 2000 Toronto IAWP Conference planning committee. She has also been actively involved in the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement, an IAWP affiliate, serving as Treasurer, Vice President, President and continues as a member of their Board of Trustees.

Myra says, "Receiving the IAWP Heritage Award is a life highlight for me and an honour. For 30 years I was blessed to have multiple opportunities in law enforcement and expand my capacity through involvement in the Ontario Women in Law Enforcement and the IAWP".

Myra James will be honoured during the IAWP's 57th Annual Training Conference due to take place between 23rd and 27th September in Anchorage, Alaska, USA.

The **Mission** of the IAWP is: To strengthen, unite and raise the capacity of women in policing internationally. The **Vision**: IAWP envisions a world where police reflect the diversity of the communities they serve and where human rights are protected.

For more information about IAWP visit www.iawp.org
For further information on Heritage Award, permissions or award sponsorship opportunities, please contact Jane Townsley, media@iawp.org or executivedirector@iawp.org