



2012 Bud Knight Award Winner Paul DaRosa

Halton Regional Police Service

Constable Paul DaRosa is a member of the Halton Regional Police Service currently assigned to uniform operations in the Town of Halton Hills. While he has proven himself to be an exemplary officer he truly excels in the area of police involvement with youth. He began to develop this skill first as a High School Liaison Officer in 2005. In 2007 Cst. DaRosa was advanced to the "Youth Officer" position with the

Halton Youth Justice Program (pre-charge diversion program). Cst. DaRosa remained in this position until the fall of 2012.

Cst. DaRosa's passion and commitment to youth along with his ability to develop and maintain relationships with them has become known Region wide in Halton. During his tenure Constable DaRosa has worked tirelessly to positively impact youth. In his capacity as a Youth Officer he has worked with an astounding 800 problem youth. Paul has regularly sought opportunities to build relationships with youth while acting as a positive role model and advocating for those he deals with. A leader is a person who guides and inspires others. Paul is a leader and mentor in all capacities of the word. His biggest asset is his strength and commitment to empowering and engaging youth balanced with his ability to challenge and encourage police officers to consider alternative perspectives.

Cst. DaRosa's impact in the area of youth is best illustrated through a comment by one of the youth he has dealt with who said, "Mr. DaRosa had a profound effect on me. Through personal anecdote, Mr. DaRosa taught me that in the face of adversity, to believe in myself and to persevere - that with hard-work and integrity, a person can achieve their objectives. By living and working with that notion in my mind, there has been a long-lasting effect in my career path and my attitude as I reach ever closer to my career aspirations."

Cst. DaRosa has led countless initiatives designed to positively impact youth. These included initiatives such as:

- Integration of Restorative Justice Circles into the Halton Youth Diversion Program
- Administration of Youth Diversion Program
- Post OPC cadet training on the Youth Criminal Justice Act and the Halton Youth Justice Program (pre-charge diversion program)
- Developed a Guide for Officers on the Diversion Program
- Proposal for the 12th Annual World Conference with the International Institute for Restorative Justice in Pennsylvania
- Has provided lectures and informational sessions titled, "Focusing Forward and the Shades of Grey" along with "The Possibilities of Restorative Justice"
- Guest Lecturer at Humber College - Police Foundations Program
- Milton Parent Education Network
- Georgetown Drug Strategy team
- Consulted with other Services to assist in Development of their Youth Programs

