

Inspector Michael McGinn, Timmins Police Service

#### HISTORY:

Michael McGinn was born and raised in South Porcupine, Ontario and graduated from Roland Michener High School. After completing his grade 12 studies, McGinn set off and successfully completed the one year "Non Security" program at Cambrian College. He then returned to Roland Michener to complete his grade 13 studies.

He worked for the Porcupine Ambulance Service for a year and half before joining the Timmins Police Service on September 12<sup>th</sup> 1977.

#### CAREER PATH:

As it is with most police officers, Michael McGinn began his career as a general duties constable who responded to calls for service, worked varied shifts and applied himself to the task of learning his chosen trade. He quickly gained a reputation for being dependable, perceptive and patient.

These strong traits have served him well throughout his career.

In 1986, he transferred over to the Traffic Section with the Timmins Police Service working out of the "old" Timmins Police building at Algonquin and Balsam. He worked in this capacity for a year before accepting a position with the Ontario Police College in December of 1987 where he would teach "Basic Recruit Training" curriculum. Of note is the fact that he was the first ever Timmins Police officer to be called upon to teach at the Ontario Police College.

The impression Michael McGinn made at OPC helped pave the way for other Timmins Police officers to follow in his footsteps and serve as seconded instructors including Deputy Chief Des Walsh, Constable Denis Dubeau, Constable Michael Davidson, Constable Bill Burwell, and Sgt James O'Sullivan.

In January of 1990, McGinn returned to the Timmins Police and began work on a platoon but demonstrated proficiency in adapting the police force to computers and steered the Timmins Police through the transitions from "paper reporting procedures" to the OMPPAC system which was in its infancy at the time. Under his tutelage, the Timmins Police "went live" on the OMPPAC system for police reporting in October of 1990.

McGinn then migrated to service within the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) for one year where he distinguished himself as a capable investigator and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant within that first year. While serving as a platoon sergeant, he was called upon by the Chief of Police to head the first ever Timmins Police Training Section alongside S/Sgt Bob MacDonald. McGinn recognized the benefits to each officer that a fully integrated training section could offer. He applied himself to the task of trainer in a steadfast and dedicated fashion.

Recognizing the value of continuous learning, he applied his energies to self-betterment and earned his degree in Law and Justice in 1992 while working full time as a police officer.

He was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant in October of 1994 and took on the role of platoon supervisor

McGinn freely admits that at this point, the Timmins Police Service was in a state of flux as for periods of time there were as many as 4 inspectors while having none for other periods of time. During this transitional period, McGinn took on many roles within the police force, some official positions and quite a few that were not official but vital nonetheless.

Michela McGinn was promoted to the rank of Inspector in 2003 and was the sole Inspector for a considerable period of time: nearly 2 years.

He has maintained this rank until present day. His work ethic and experience are unrivaled at the Timmins Police Service as he completes 39 years of dedicated service to the people of the city of Timmins and area. This accomplishment means, in real terms, that Michael McGinn has been a police officer for a longer period of time than most of the people he serves with have been alive.

He begins his 40<sup>th</sup> year of service on September 13<sup>th</sup>. This exemplary milestone will not be repeated by many who benefit from serving under Inspector Michael McGinn.

“Short on criticism and eager to find workable and logical solutions” has been the attitude in policing that Inspector McGinn actively demonstrates and imparts to his colleagues regardless of rank.

#### IN RETIREMENT

McGinn, the civilian, hopes to spend his retirement wisely by spending time at the cottage broken up with trips to places he has never been. He will be spending true quality time with his devoted wife Kim. He will also indulge in reading as he will now finally have the time to enjoy this personal passion.

#### PROFESSIONAL HIGH POINTS:

- The establishment of the Training Section for the Timmins Police Service
- Technological advances in policing that make the Timmins Police as efficient as possible
- The introduction of modern computer systems to the TPS under his tutelage
- Rewarding and valuable service with the Ontario Police College
- The parade of officers leaving from the old police building at Balsam and Algonquin to the state of the art facilities at Spruce Street South where the public applauded the Timmins Police officers as they marched in formation to their new work location. Having the public applaud was a touching moment he will not forget.