

COPP
REPORT TO THE 2008 AGM
OF THE
GRAND MARAIS PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION
August 30, 2008

First, I would like to publicly say a huge "Thank You" to our 24 COPP Volunteers. They are a really good group of people to work with - always enthusiastic, friendly and reliable, and always appreciated. Since the last AGM a year ago, we have provided Grand Marais with over 600 volunteer hours.

As I explained at the last AGM, this is a program administered by Manitoba Public Insurance and is fully supported by our RCMP, our RM and our local business community. Goals for our 1st year were: to be visible, to be approachable and friendly, and to make a difference. These continue to be our goals.

For the 2008-09 season, we have 24 volunteers who give generously of their time. We patrol our community in 3 ways - on foot, on bikes, and in vehicles. We perform random patrols during the week and we have regular patrols every weekend. I am pleased to report that we have a few volunteers who live here year round, and they continue some degree of patrolling throughout the winter months; therefore, we can proudly say that our program runs year-round. In addition to patrolling our community, COPP volunteers have assisted at special events such as the Canada Day Fireworks and the GMPOA Fire Truck Pull, and we continue to remove graffiti from public signs.

We visited all local businesses to reintroduce the program this year and we are pleased to report that we did not ask for any donations this year. We thank the RM of St. Clements for generously supporting us with a grant of \$1000.00 to cover operating expenses this 2008-09 season. Hopefully, the RM and local businesses will be generous to us again next spring. COPP funds are used to purchase equipments such as walkie-talkies, for printing and postage, and to partially reimburse volunteers for gas used while patrolling.

In conclusion, we believe our presence has been a deterrent to those who might otherwise be up to mischief. We feel our program has run well since its inception 1½ years ago. We are a dedicated group of volunteers who are doing our part to enhance life in Grand Marais, and we look forward to continuing the Citizens on Patrol Program in our community. However, the ongoing success of this program depends on new people coming forward to help. If things are left to the same people year after year, the program will not last long. It is not necessary to donate a lot of your time. Each patrol shift is approximately 2 hours. Each volunteer patrols approximately 2-3 times per season. If you think you can spare a few hours during next summer, please see me as soon as possible or leave your name and phone number on the sheet at the COPP display.

Respectfully submitted to the GMPOA AGM, August 30, 2008

Linda Leonard
Co-ordinator- Grand Marais COPP