



DRPS Launches New Vessel

The Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS) officially launched its newest marine vessel today at the Port Perry Marina, marking a significant investment in public safety, marine patrol, and border protection across Durham Region.

The new vessel is expected to serve residents and visitors throughout Durham Region for many years to come, supporting DRPS' commitment to community safety both on land and on the water.

resources needed to keep our communities safe. This investment strengthens our ability to respond to emergencies, support our partners, educate boaters, address impaired boating, and maintain a safe and welcoming environment on our waterways. It is also another example of how DRPS is modernizing to meet the needs of our residents today and into the future."

Scugog Island First Nation for the honour of naming the vessel and for their continued partnership and stewardship of the lands and waterways that are central to the region's history and future.

Funded through Ontario's Community Safety and Policing Grant Program, the new vessel will enhance DRPS' ability to respond to emergencies, conduct proactive patrols, support search and rescue operations, promote safe boating practices, and strengthen enforcement efforts on Durham Region's waterways.

The launch also highlights another milestone year for the DRPS Marine Unit, which now provides seven-day-a-week marine coverage across Durham Region. As the fifth-largest municipal police marine unit in Canada, DRPS officers play a critical role in marine safety, enforcement, search and rescue operations, and community outreach.

The vessel, a Canadian-made KingFisher 2425 Escape Hardtop, was built in Vernon, British Columbia. Powered by a 300-horsepower single engine and equipped with dual helms, the vessel was specifically selected for its ability to operate effectively in shallow waterways such as Lake Scugog while maintaining the versatility needed to patrol throughout Durham Region.

During the ceremony, the vessel was formally recognized by its new name, Genawaabi, chosen by the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation. Chief Kelly LaRocca of the Mississaugas of Scugog Island First Nation shared the significance behind the name: "Genawaabi is the name of the beautiful new boat for DRPS. This Anishinabemowin word translates generally to 'they watch' or 'they observe.' We are pleased to support the increased service and protection of Scugog Township and Scugog First Nation in the work of DRPS, and we wish them well on the water. Nibi (water) is life. May they travel our lake and waterways gently and respectfully."

For the first time in more than 20 years, DRPS has a dedicated marine vessel stationed on Lake Scugog, providing a visible police presence in the community, faster response times, and expanded marine patrol capabilities.

DRPS extends its gratitude to the Mississaugas of

"This vessel represents a major step forward for the Durham Regional Police Service and our Marine Unit," said Chief Peter Moreira. "As Durham Region continues to grow, we must ensure our officers have the tools and

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