

Marathon Detachment Environmental Scan

As the Ontario Provincial Police Marathon Detachment Commander, I would like to offer you some insight into the various communities we police and the high quality of life that Marathon and surrounding municipalities offers to live and work in.

As a place to live, Marathon offers an unparalleled lifestyle. You are never more than minutes from a recreational activity or an outdoor adventure. With world class ski trails, numerous inland lakes, and a variety of Provincial Parks, there is something for everyone.

Marathon offers plenty of excitement with all the amenities of a large urban city and the ease of a small town. With over 4,700 residents, Marathon offers a variety of good restaurants, two shopping centers, and cultural events.

Marathon Detachment, part of the O.P.P.'s North-West Region, is located on the North shore of Lake Superior and is approximately half way between Thunder Bay and Sault Ste. Marie. Regional Head Quarters is in Thunder Bay, approximately 300 kilometres West of Marathon, where the Town of Marathon contracts the O.P.P. A satellite office in the Township of Manitouwadge, which serves the Northern section of the detachment area, is approximately 90 kilometres north-east of Marathon. These two communities hold the major populace of the area policed by the Marathon Detachment.

Marathon Detachment is responsible for approximately 150 kilometres of the Trans-Canada Highway, Provincial Kings Highway 17. The Marathon Detachment area covers approximately 9,660 square kilometres. A large portion is unorganized. A series of northern Ontario bush roads web the area. The area remains rich in natural resources with forest products and mining supporting the economic base of both communities. Gold Mines at the Hemlo gold fields and the Marathon pulp mill remain the major employers of these two communities.

Located within the boundaries of the Marathon Detachment area is the Pic River and the Pic Mobert First Nations communities; home of the Ojibway people. The Anishinabek Police Service polices these communities. The Marathon Detachment presently has a member assigned to the Aboriginal Relations Team. This team's role is to assist in building strong working relationships between community leaders and Police Service's. Marathon Detachment is also responsible for policing the Pukaskwa National Park and two Provincial Parks.

Submitted by:

**Randy Bye
Detachment Commander
Marathon Detachment**