



# Media Release

## Festive R.I.D.E. Results

The South Simcoe Police has wrapped up their 2009 Festive R.I.D.E. campaign which ran from November 26th, 2009 to January 2nd, 2010.

A team of six police officers were dedicated full-time to the campaign for the past five weeks. Additional overtime officers enhanced the programs thanks to a grant from the Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services. South Simcoe officers also joined up with their colleagues from both York Regional Police and the OPP during the month to conduct multi-jurisdictional initiatives.

	2009	2008	Change
Total Vehicles Stopped	7,787	6,105	+ 27%
Impaired/Over 80 charges	16	10	+ 60%
Roadside Tests Administered	129	60	+ 115%
Warn Range Suspensions	30	16	+ 87%
Controlled Drugs & Substance Act	16	10	+ 60%
Liquor Licence Act	5	3	+ 66%
Highway Traffic Act	111	62	+ 79%

This year, police had tough new legislation to help them keep our roads safe. On May 1st, 2009, Bill 203 or the "Safer Roads for a Safer Ontario Act" was proclaimed into law. The new law replaces twelve-hour suspensions with escalating warn-range suspensions. Drivers found to be operating within the warn range (.050mgs - .080mgs) now receive a three (3) day recorded suspension for their first offence.

Second time offenders are suspended for seven (7) days and must participate in remedial driving program. Drivers stopped

for third time have their licence suspended for thirty (30) days and are required to install an ignition interlock device in their vehicle.

The new legislation did not deter some drivers, in fact South Simcoe officers issued thirty (30) warn-range suspensions this season compared to 16 twelve-hour suspensions in 2008.

Although the Festive R.I.D.E. program has finished for another season, the South Simcoe Police will continue to conduct R.I.D.E. checks as part of their regular duties. Don't be surprised to be stopped in a R.I.D.E. program at any time of the year.

You can play a role in keeping our roadways and waterways safe. If you see a suspected impaired driver, you are encouraged to call

9-1-1 and report the incident to police. Police will ask you to provide your location, a description of the vehicle or vessel and the last known direction of travel. *Safe Roads...Your Call*