



To ensure the men and women of the St. Thomas Police Service have a suitable working environment and access to information that will enable them to adequately and effectively deliver services to the residents of the City of St. Thomas.

Constable Larry Rabbitts Leadership with Responsibility Award

The St. Thomas Police Service lost one of its finest on February 10, 2008, but his legacy will live on in the school system. Larry's son, Bill Rabbitts, the Principal of South Dorchester Public School, established the "Leadership with Responsibility Award" as a legacy to his father's work in the elementary schools. The first annual award was presented in June 2008 to Spencer Ray. At the awards ceremony, Chief Lynch paid tribute to his fellow officer:

"Good morning. My name is Bill Lynch and I am the Chief of the St. Thomas Police Service. I am honoured to be here today to present the first Annual Constable Larry Rabbitts "Leadership with Responsibility" Memorial Award.



**Constable
Larry Rabbitts**

When I started my career as a police officer, Constable Rabbitts was already a veteran of the St. Thomas Police Service. For more than twenty years, I had the pleasure of working with Constable Rabbitts until he retired in 1996. Throughout his career, he touched the lives of many people – adults and senior citizens, good guys and bad guys, but none more so than the generations of elementary school students that grew up with Constable Rabbitts visiting their classrooms. Constable Rabbitts loved going to the schools. He loved the kids and they loved him. He had a special way of communicating with the kids and making each child feel important. Constable Rabbitts taught children about safety and the rules of the road, but more significantly, he taught them about the importance of making good choices and being responsible for their actions. Constable Rabbitts led by example. He was a dedicated officer who took his responsibilities as a role model in the community very seriously. Constable Rabbitts demonstrated leadership with responsibility throughout his career by treating everyone with consideration, kindness and respect.

Constable Rabbitts would be very pleased and proud that his son's school - South Dorchester Public School, the Staff and Administration, have established a student leadership with responsibility award program for the first time this year in his memory to recognize and celebrate his legacy.



Spencer Ray receives the first 'Leadership with Responsibility Memorial Award'. Left to right: Chief Bill Lynch; Spencer's Parents; Spencer Ray, Ann Marie Stevens (Larry's daughter), Pat Rabbitts, Bill Rabbitts; Trish Bechard (school secretary); Greg Rabbitts.

To ensure victims of crime are treated with respect and understanding; to provide victims of crime with the support from the police service and community groups during the investigation, court process and beyond in the form of appropriate referrals and information about their case.

To use only minimal force required on any particular occasion and only when persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient to obtain public observance of the laws.

To promote a professional police image by demonstrating impartial service to the law and by offering service and friendship to all citizens without regard to race, sex, colour, ancestry, place of origin, ethnic origin, marital status, same sex partner status, sexual orientation, age, disability, citizenship, family status or religion.