



Abbotsford Police Department

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Chief Constable

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"Protecting with Pride"

NEWS RELEASE

APD NEWS RELEASE:

APD FILE #

RELEASE #

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Incident: Abbotsford Police Partner with Driving For Change

Abbotsford – May 12, 2009.

The Abbotsford Police Department will be meeting with Maryanne Pope, the Chair of the John Petropoulos Memorial Fund (JPMF) on Thursday, May 14, 2009 at 1:00 pm at Thunderbird Square (on Veterans Way off of Trethewey Street). The JPMF is on a cross-B.C. tour to deliver a "Driving for Change" public awareness campaign to educate motorists about providing emergency services personnel more room to work and greater roadside safety.

Changes to the Motor Vehicle Act that came into effect June 1, 2009 mandate that motorists must slow to 70km/h on highways with posted speeds of 80km/h and to 40km/h where the limit is below 80km/h when approaching a stopped emergency vehicle with its lights flashing. Motorists must also move from the lane adjacent to the stopped emergency vehicle to another lane to pass.

Constable John Petropoulos was a member of the Calgary Police Service who passed away in the line of duty on September 29, 2000. Maryanne was married to John and now through JPMF and other venues works to eliminate preventable workplace injuries and fatalities to first responders.

We encourage the public and the media to join us in welcoming Maryanne and JPMF to Abbotsford on Thursday.

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*Our Mission:
To make Abbotsford the safest city in B.C.*