



First Nations Chiefs of Police Association Past President

John Syrette Anishinabek Police Service

John Syrette has been a police officer since 1987 and began his policing career at his home community of Garden River as one of a three member Indian Special Constable office. Prior to becoming a police officer John was a Canadian Forces (Reserves) for nine years and attended Lake Superior State University in Michigan, USA.

John worked in Garden River until January 1990 when he entered the Ontario Provincial Police and was posted to the Thunder Bay detachment. Among John's duties, other than general law enforcement was the #16 District liaison officer responsible for the First Nation communities in the District of Thunder Bay.

John was seconded to the Ontario Police College in January – March 1993 as the First Nations' Liaison officer providing guidance and mentoring for the thirty First Nations recruits.

John transferred to First Nations Policing Branch located at the O.P.P. Headquarters in Orillia in 1994. John's duties included training and transport coordinator and later as the human resources coordinator for the First Nations Program communities.

John left the O.P.P. in 1996 and returned to operational policing with the Anishinabek Police Service at his home community of Garden River. He was later promoted and became the Regional Commander of the A.P.S. North Region as the service rapidly grew from four original communities to eighteen individual First Nations.

John also held the position of Director of Support Services prior to being promoted to Police Chief in 2005.

During his time at the APS John has served as the co-chair of the Ontario Justice Partner's Serving Victims First Nations Sub-Committee. John currently sits on the CACP Victim of Crime Committee, serves as a committee member (First Nations Policing Program review) at the Canadian Council of Academies and a committee member at the Laurentian University TRC Taskforce.



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