



# CASE STUDY: Algonquin College delivers OC Transpo special constable recertification

## The need

Every year, OC Transpo Transit Services must to recertify its special constables who serve as transit law staff. These employees work as peace officers and are required to investigate occurrences that constitute offences under the Criminal Code of Canada. It is crucial that they are aware of the most commonly encountered offences and that they possess a working knowledge of the prosecutorial process and forms used. The recertification requires approximately 40 hours of training per year.

## The solution

The challenge for Algonquin College was to ensure that we had a strong, viable program, including a curriculum that adhered to OC Transpo's specific course training standards. Algonquin College had to ensure that participants were taught current materials closely aligned with OCT Transpo's requirements.

Our law enforcement resources (both academic and use of force) collaborated closely with OC Transpo to ensure that we captured the full scope of the training challenge for the simulations and exercises that we developed. The course was designed to include a detailed description of the training, identification of provincial requirements, implementation requirements, stated training objectives, mode of delivery, evaluation standards, references (i.e. Criminal Code of Canada), and instructor information.

## The implementation

Each year this four-day block of recertification training takes place at Algonquin College. The program

includes two days of academic study followed by two days of use of force training, which has academic and practical components. Also included is a half-day day of First Aid refresher training delivered by Ottawa Paramedic Service and a one-hour fitness test for each participant. Simulations and guest speakers are integrated where possible to enhance the learning. This training is delivered by industry law enforcement professionals and certified Use of Force instructors who work in collaboration with Algonquin College and OC Transpo to ensure that the client's ever-changing needs are addressed year to year.

## The outcome

Whether receiving an update about the Criminal Code of Canada or refreshing practical use of force skills, the annual recertification is essential for OC Transpo's special constables, as it ensures they are equipped and confident in their often challenging roles. The program trains officers to Ontario Police College and Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services standards.

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