

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, July 5, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Barrie tops the list as safest city in Canada

(Barrie, ON) – New research on safety and security in Canadian cities ranked Barrie at the top. The study was done by Rentola – a rental home search engine – to help provide insights to Canadians into important indicators that determine the safety of a community.

"I'm so pleased to see Barrie at the top of this list," said Mayor Alex Nuttall. "As a council, we've identified community safety as a key strategic priority, and we're working diligently to protect our reputation as Canada's safest city. We know there is still work to be done to make Barrie even safer, but this result shows us our work and the great work of Barrie Police is making a difference."

"Our front-line members, our Community Safety and Well-Being Teams, and our entire service has been working towards decreasing the harm that occurs in our city," said Barrie Police Chief Rich Johnston. "It is through not only the dedication of our police service, but also the strength of our community members that helps to foster a safer city."

When determining the safest city, Rentola looked at factors that play a role in assessing the overall security and well-being of a community. Factors like crime rates and the percentage of crimes solved were considered.

Rentola notes that the top-ranked cities have demonstrated effective safety initiatives, community engagement, and proactive measures that significantly contribute to their overall safety, and the rankings can serve as a valuable reference when considering potential places to relocate or visit.

For more information on the criteria used, the methodology of the study and a complete list of the ranked cities, visit rentola.ca/safest-cities-in-canada.

For more information on Barrie's 2021–2024 Community Safety & Well-Being Plan, visit <u>barrie.ca/CSWB</u>.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Emily O'Brien
Communications Advisor
emily.obrien@barrie.ca
705-627-0796