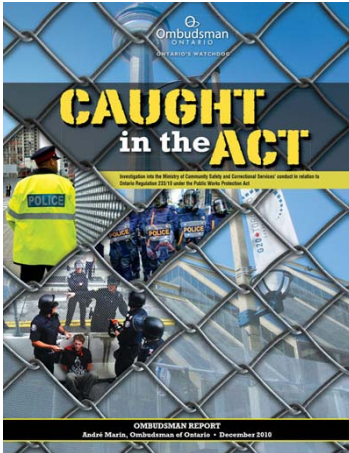




THE Watchdog

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ONTARIO OMBUDSMAN RELEASES G20 REPORT "CAUGHT IN THE ACT"



Ombudsman finds G20 regulation of "dubious legality" Citizens unfairly trapped by secret expansion of police powers

TORONTO (December 7, 2010) – The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services quietly promoted the use of a likely illegal regulation to grant police "extravagant" powers on the eve of the G20 summit, Ontario Ombudsman André Marin [says in his latest report](#).

- [Caught in the Act – Ombudsman's report](#)
- [Caught in the Act – Press release](#)
- [Backgrounder - Key themes and quotes in Caught in the Act](#)
- [Timeline: Key events cited in Caught in the Act](#)
- [Caught in the Act – Ombudsman's Remarks](#)
- [Toronto Police Service - Letters](#)



[Watch the news conference on the Ombudsman's channel](#)



HOW TO COMPLAIN

The Ombudsman's Office oversees and investigates close to 500 provincial ministries, agencies, tribunals, and Crown corporations.

[File a complaint online](#)

Phone: 1-800-263-1830, Fax: 416-586-3485 / TTY 1-866-411-4211

Email: info@ombudsman.on.ca

Write: Ombudsman Ontario, Bell Trinity Square, 483 Bay St., 10th Floor, South Tower, Toronto, ON M5G 2C9.

SHARPENING YOUR TEETH - FOURTH EDITION

The Office recently held its fourth edition of the highly successful, world-renowned "Sharpening Your Teeth" (SYT) advanced investigations course

SYT is a custom-made training course specially designed by Ombudsman Ontario for administrative investigators.

In attendance at this year's SYT in Toronto, held November 29 - December 1, were 66 participants from around the world including Korea, the Republic of South Africa, the Caribbean, the Asia Development Bank (Philippines), the U.S. and Canada. We were particularly pleased that Adv. Thulisile Madonsela, the Public Protector of South Africa, was also in attendance.

Participation wasn't restricted to those working in ombudsman offices. The training is valuable to all types of administrative investigators and this year included regulators, professional conduct overseers, officials from Inspector General and anti-corruption agencies, as well as others from advocacy, integrity and ethics offices.

The purpose of SYT is to share the unique techniques developed by the Special Ombudsman Response Team (SORT) and show how they can be easily adapted by other oversight agencies. SORT is widely known for its specialized systemic investigations on high profile issues such as newborn screening, property tax assessment and the lottery system. It conducted the recent G20 investigation.

Throughout the three-day training, Ontario Ombudsman André Marin and staff delivered fascinating sessions and interactive case studies on a range of topics including: The principles of excellent investigations, how to write an investigative plan, interviewing witnesses, the use of social media in investigations, report writing, and communications planning.

"We are proud to showcase how Ontario is on the cutting edge of oversight," said Mr. Marin.

Keynote speaker, William Angrick II, past president of the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) and former Ombudsman of Iowa, spoke of the importance on continually defining the role of ombudsman, regulator, and investigator: "We cannot take for granted that the ombudsman will always enjoy a favoured role in modern society. If we waiver or stray from the potential of an effective ombudsman the status of our institution could be eroded."

Mr. Angrick also gave high praise to Ontario Ombudsman André Marin for his courage and bold style: "Marshalling his resources, steeling his resolve, Marin radically changed the way the Ontario office operated and was perceived. Making difference after difference the Ontario Ombudsman became the champion of



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OMBUDSMAN IN THE NEWS

New York Times article on Ombudsman's G20 report:

[Canada: Report Criticizes Police Crackdown](#)

By Ian Austen

A report released Tuesday by the ombudsman for the province of Ontario found that a secret regulation used to detain protesters at the June meeting of the leaders of the Group of 20 in Toronto had "dubious legality" and probably violated the Canadian Constitution by creating "extravagant police authority."

Canadian Press story on Ombudsman's G20 report, "Caught in the Act"

[G20 Law Resulted In Mass Rights Violation: Ombudsman](#)

By Keith Leslie, The Canadian Press



Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, Ontario Ombudsman André Marin, William Angrick II, Former IOI President and Ombudsman of Iowa, and Thulisile Madonsela, the Public Protector of South Africa, at this year's SYT

it very seriously, as does his staff. I have nothing but respect for the issues you choose, and the way you do your work. Because of the work you've done, our health care system is stronger, so thank you for that".

SYT has been offered in Toronto since 2007 and "Team Ombudsman" have taken the course on the road to oversight agencies across the globe including the United Nations, all on a full cost-recovery basis.

SYT V will take place in Toronto in the fall of 2011.

Feedback from this year's SYT:

- "Excellent! Very adaptable and portable."
- "The content...outlined a principled, systematic and highly professional approach to planning and conducting investigations."
- "As part of a regulatory body, I found this course to be very useful and relevant."

OMBUDSMAN'S OFFICE MARKS 35TH ANNIVERSARY



Anniversary pays tribute to former ombudsmen, reaffirms vital role amid "increasingly bureaucratic and depersonalized" society

Not quite middle-aged but at a point well beyond the self-defining years, the Ontario Ombudsman's Office turned 35 years young this fall, and marked the occasion with a gathering attended by Ministers, MPPs, and other distinguished guests including United Nations Ombudsman, John Barkat. [Read more >>](#)

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change for better government. After a hard-fought reappointment the office and its incumbent both continue and are already creating more change."

The course included an evening reception where participants got the chance to meet with each other and facilitators in an informal setting. Participants were also afforded the opportunity to meet one-on-one with Deb Matthews, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care. Ms. Matthews joined the ranks of Premier Dalton McGuinty, and Speaker of the Legislature, Steve Peters, who were both in attendance at previous SYT receptions.

Ms. Matthews spoke about the important relationship between the Ombudsman's Office and her Ministry, noting that: "We all have the same goals. There's no question Mr. Marin does his work to benefit Ontarians, - that's his job and he takes

Martial law ruled Toronto during the G20 summit after Ontario secretly gave police wartime powers, resulting in a mass violation of civil rights unprecedented in Canada, the provincial watchdog said Tuesday.

The deliberate misinformation surrounding a revamped Second World War regulation led people to wrongly believe police had the power to demand identification and detain anyone coming within five metres of the G20 security fence.

CBC News on Ombudsman's G20 report, "Caught in the Act"

[G20 police rule slammed by ombudsman](#)

Ontario's ombudsman had scathing criticism for the provincial government Tuesday for quietly passing a G20 security regulation that enabled police to exercise "phenomenal powers" that "should never have been enacted."

www.ombudsman.on.ca