

our CPC days, are asked to please drop me a line at the following address:

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✉ **PART OF THE FORCE'S NET WORTH!**

Dear Editor,

Recently I had the privilege to travel to Toronto, on behalf of the Northern B.C. Business Council on Substance Abuse — an initiative of the RCMP Drug Awareness Program for the North District in "E" Division, hosting its 3rd national conference, "Action North III," in Prince George (February 1998). Conference organizer, GERALYN MacDonald, had arranged for a high-profile Canadian celebrity to greet the participants.

Through a great deal of tenacity, GERALYN had arranged for Mr. Paul Gross, of the world famous TV program *Due South*, to provide an endorsement of the conference along with a recorded greeting. I went on location at the Woodbine Centre Mall in Toronto, where Mr. Gross was filming scenes for one of the upcoming episodes of the show so that I could record his message.

I must admit that I had some preconceived apprehensions about "stars" being elusive and perhaps difficult to deal with, especially on the set. I was pleasantly surprised to find that this was not the case! When Paul Gross arrived, he immediately asked me how I would like to go about the session. He eagerly agreed to wear his "Review Order," and proceeded to record several takes of a very impressive greeting for the benefit of the conference participants. He then participated in a photo shoot and provided us with personally autographed promotional photos to be awarded later on at the conference.

Following this, Paul Gross turned his attention to a large gathering of anxious fans of all ages, signing autographs, posing for photographs and talking enthusiastically with the crowd. Although there were demands from the set, he took the time to treat the fans with the highest level of respect and congeniality before returning to his work — drawing nothing but praise and admiration from the crowd.

Paul Gross is recognized worldwide as a "Canadian Mountie" and *Due South* has won awards and international support. As a member of the RCMP, and realizing the importance of our own role in promoting a positive image of the Force, I was so impressed and proud that Paul Gross maintained this standard, that I wanted to share this with other RCMP employees, family and friends of the Force. I have no doubt that he was not acting and that his sincerity and enthusiasm were genuine. In my opinion, Paul Gross is a tremendous ambassador for the Force and I will now be watching *Due South* from a new perspective.

Cpl. S.A. McCulloch
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