

From: Personal Information
To: [REDACTED]
CC: [REDACTED]
Date: 2009/12/17 1:19 PM
Subject: Re: Fwd: Media A-TIP - IIGET

Thanks for providing me with this overview of the A-TIP.

Kevin

----- Original Message -----
From: Craig CALLENS Personal Information
To: Begg, Kevin L SG:EX
Cc: Al MACINTYRE Personal Information
Sent: Thu Dec 17 12:50:18 2009
Subject: Fwd: Media A-TIP - IIGET

Kevin,

Below for your information.

Craig

C. J. Callens, C/Supt.
Deputy Criminal Operations Officer (Contract)
"E" Division
RCMP
Personal Information

>>> Wayne HOLLAND 2009-12-17 11:07 >>>

ISSUE - the dissolution of IIGET on March 13 2009 continues to capture the attention of a limited number of media, principally Sean Holman (Public Eye On-Line - Canwest News Service). Port Moody C/CST. Brad Parker has advised that he had recently been approached by Holman - in his capacity as an IIGET Consultative Board member, and had been asked questions on (1) the Teams dissolution, (2) the existence of a threat assessment on illegal gaming that had been accomplished by IIGET in 2008, (3) the existence of a business case for an expansion of the Team that had been produced in 2007, and lastly, (4) confirmation of the reason(s) for the Team being dissolved. A number of A-TIP requests have been filed by Mr. Holman to date.

BACKGROUND - the decision to dissolve the Team was not made by the RCMP, who were first made aware of the possibility of a dissolution of the Team at an IIGET Board meeting on December 16, 2008. At that time we were advised the decision to close the Team, if it came, may be coming as a result of direction from Treasury Board (perhaps as a budget reduction measure). A few weeks later, the decision was indeed made by the Ministry of Housing and Social Development, who is responsible for gaming enforcement. Mr. Holman has made renewed efforts to clarify the reason(s) for their decision. On that issue, RCMP media relations personnel have advised Mr. Holman that "the decision was due to funding pressures and other operational investigative priorities". and have always referred him to the proper Ministry for further information. The Ministry of Housing subsequently told Holman on July 22nd 2009 that the reason for the dissolution was that "IIGET's investigations overlapped with local police investigations. As a result, it was decided it would be more efficient for the ministry's gaming inspectors to work directly with those local forces rather than with the integrated team."

In short, they made no mention of budget considerations having been a driver for the Ministry's decision

to terminate the Team.

On October 28th 2009, Minister Rich Colman told Sean Holman that the reason for the dissolution "had nothing to do with funding pressures, because if there had been something said that this was being effective and we had received a business plan and those sort of things it would have been a total different discussion."

CURRENT STATUS - C/CST. Parker was non-committal to Mr. Holman, with regard to any specifics on the Team's dissolution. He recommends that a co-ordinated position and potential response be arrived at promptly, given that Mr. Holman is desirous of interviewing the former OIC and other past members of the Team. Further, Mr. Holman feels that Mr. Coleman has deceived him by alleging that budget reduction had not ever been a consideration in the closure of the Team (it had been), as well as Coleman's assertion that a business case had not been forthcoming with regard to a continuation and expansion of the Team (it had indeed been produced and submitted to the Board). Holman also believes that the RCMP had deceived him recently when he had A-TIP'd the RCMP for a copy of the illegal gaming threat assessment. He had been advised that "none had been done since 2000". Note: a data collection and illegal gaming threat assessment had indeed been done and submitted to EDCAS, who had provided the analyst for the initiative.

STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS - (1) Mr. Holman should be advised by RCMP media of the existence of the threat assessment, and allow him to A-TIP the document - it may be that Holman requested the wrong document and described the report insufficiently. Please be further advised that Holman has already requested the business case, and will have received it this week or next. Finally, he has also requested the effectiveness review done on IIGET prior to its dissolution (that report recommended the continuation of IIGET and even an expansion of the Team.) (2) A consolidated position should be arrived at with regard to our response, if any to any future articles Mr. Holman may disseminate, recognizing that the decision was not fundamentally supported or expected by the RCMP prior to 2008-12-16 and that Mr. Coleman's Ministry should be aware of what well may have been inadvertent and/or uninformed statements made by the Minister.

Inspector Wayne Holland
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