

Cliff: 543964
Date Prepared: April 30, 2018

**MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL
POLICING AND SECURITY BRANCH
BRIEFING NOTE**

PURPOSE: For INFORMATION for the Honourable Mike Farnworth,
Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

ISSUE: Organized Crime Priorities

SUMMARY:

- Strategic and tactical priority setting for the investigation of organized crime is a shared responsibility. The federal government sets the priority for RCMP federal operations (FSOC) while the province sets the priorities for the RCMP provincial police service.
- Using an intelligence led approach the implementation of the federal priorities are supported by the National Executive Committee (NEC) who work through the RCMP's National Integrated Operations Council (NIOC) and the Canadian Integrated Response on Organized Crime (CIROC). Federal resources are deployed in support of these priorities.
- Strategic organized crime provincial policing priorities focus on violence related to illegal firearms, gang activity including the trafficking in fentanyl, illegal gaming and the resurgence of Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs (OMG). Some aspects of these priorities including proceeds of crime and money laundering.
- Tactically federal priorities are operationalized through the National Tactical Enforcement Priority (NTEP) while provincial priorities are supported by the Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority (PTEP). Resourcing at both the federal and provincial levels are linked to the respective priorities.

BACKGROUND:

Policing Priorities

- Annually, Canada's Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness presents the RCMP's Departmental Plan to Parliament. For 2018-2019 these are identified as:
 - Continue to detect, prevent, deny, and respond to threats to the safety and security of the people of Canada and Canadian interests including providing frontline policing, dismantling criminal networks, and identifying and disrupting criminal activities;
 - Support national security anti-terrorism legislation that strengthens accountability while balancing collective security with rights and freedoms;
 - Work with Government of Canada partners to strengthen the anti-money laundering regime to preserve Canada's economic integrity; and,
 - Protect Canadians and critical infrastructure from cyber threats through the identification, disruption, investigation, and apprehension of criminal threats.
- More recently the Federal investment in Guns and Gangs has also been a priority for the Federal Government with an investment announcement of \$326.7M over five years that

occurred in Vancouver in the fall of 2017. The methodology in the dissemination these funds have not been announced.

- Provincially, the Honourable Minister Farnworth's letter (November 16, 2017 - attached) to the RCMP sets out the province's three-year policing priorities. Included in the priorities are: trafficking of opioids; organized and violent crime; violence against women; First Nations policing; restorative justice, and; financial accountability.

Policing Tactical Objective Setting and Organized Crime

- Through its National Coordinating Committee on Organized Crime (NCC-OC), Public Safety Canada brings together law enforcement agencies with federal, provincial and territorial partners to develop unified strategies and policies, ensuring a direct link between the law enforcement community and public policy makers. Public Safety also ensures a high level of policy coordination with international partners.
- The Criminal Intelligence Service Canada (CISC) Central Bureau oversees the development and maintenance of criminal intelligence databank on organized crime. Through this databank, law enforcement agencies at all levels collaborate in the collection, analysis and sharing of criminal intelligence across the country. It assists in the production of intelligence assessments and with the development of a strategic approach to operational decision making, priority setting and targeted enforcement activities. CISC Central Bureau is part of National Police Services, which consists of a number of different and specialized programs and services stewarded by the RCMP.
- Provincial CISC Bureaus: The ten provincial bureaus operate independently while maintaining national service delivery standards. They focus on activities within their respective provinces and guide the collection, analysis and production of criminal intelligence products and services at the provincial level. The intelligence collected and analyzed through the provincial bureaus is instrumental in the creation of the national intelligence products and services delivered by CISC Central Bureau.
- CISC and its law enforcement partners have strengthened the alignment between intelligence and operations. CISC products are now standing items during priority-setting exercises in several fora, including the NCC-OC, the RCMP's National Integrated Operations Council (NIOC) and the Canadian Integrated Response on Organized Crime (CIROC), a national body of senior police executives charged with operationalizing the intelligence produced by CISC and leading the coordination at a national enforcement response to disrupt and dismantle organized crime.
- The National Executive Committee (NEC) is the overall governance mechanism for CISC and CIROC, and is comprised of senior officials from 25 law enforcement agencies at the municipal, provincial and federal levels. The NEC meets regularly to provide strategic and operational direction to the Canadian law enforcement community on the issue of serious and organized crime. The core function of the NEC is to provide CISC and CIROC with the leadership, advice, guidance and support necessary for the development, implementation and sustainability of law enforcement strategies.

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- Provincial Executive Committee: The ten provincial criminal intelligence service bureaus receive strategic direction from their Provincial Executive Committee (PEC). Each of the PEC Chairs is an ex-officio member of the National Executive Committee.
- The Criminal Intelligence Network: CISC Central Bureau relies on a criminal intelligence network, in particular the timely criminal intelligence derived from provincial bureaus. This partnership is instrumental in the creation of the national intelligence products and services delivered by Central Bureau. The intelligence products are shared with law enforcement partners to facilitate strategic decision making and operational direction.
- CISC's fundamental purpose is to facilitate the timely production and exchange of criminal intelligence information on organized criminal activity within the Canadian law enforcement community, and to provide leadership and expertise to its nearly 400 member agencies. It works in collaboration with its provincial bureaus and a network of subject matter experts within other intelligence agencies, government departments, private sector agencies and academia to provide accurate and comprehensive analyses of current and future criminal developments. CISC Central Bureau classifies member agencies into three categories:
- Category I – Police Agency: The agency has full police officer authority provided under a Canadian federal or provincial police act. The primary role of the agency is law enforcement and the agency contributes to the criminal intelligence process.
- Category II – Agency with Specific Law Enforcement Role: The agency has specific but limited law enforcement responsibilities. Its authority is provided under specific federal or provincial legislation (e.g. Customs Act, Immigration Act, Provincial Wildlife Act). Category II Membership may be granted to a foreign law enforcement or intelligence agency if, as determined by the respective Provincial Executive Committee, it is deemed to be in the best interest of the broader criminal intelligence community.
- Category III – Agency with Role Complementary to Law Enforcement: The agency has no direct law enforcement authority but provides assistance to law enforcement agencies.
- Clients, Partners and Stakeholders: CISC is an active member of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police's Organized Crime Committee (CACP OCC) and the Canadian Integrated Response to Organized Crime (CIROC). In addition, CISC is a member of both the National and Regional Coordinating Committees' National Work Plan to Combat Organized Crime, operated by the Federal, Provincial and Territorial Ministers responsible for Justice and Public Safety.

Canadian Law Enforcement Strategy to Combat Organized Crime

- Canadian Law Enforcement Strategy to Combat Organized Crime reflects a national collaborative effort of intelligence and operations to detect, reduce, and prevent organized and serious crime and embody the partnership between the functions of intelligence and operations across all jurisdictions of law enforcement. This agreement enables the integration and cooperation of intelligence and operations through CISC and CIROC – under the governance of the NEC and each PEC. Participating agencies commit to contributing information to a common, national intelligence database; collecting and sharing

information to produce an annual, integrated threat assessment; and, using the resulting threat assessments for enforcement priority setting.

- NEC, NIOC and CIROC have prioritized and operationalized;
 - Traditional organized crime;
 - Outlaw motorcycle gangs and their organized crime activity;
 - Latin and Mexican organized crime;
 - Domestic terrorism and resilience building associated to Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS);
 - BC based gangs and organized crime that exercised influence and control across Canada and through trans-pacific supply lines;
 - Middle Eastern organized crime.

Operationalization of Priorities

- The RCMP is committed to safe homes and safe communities for all Canadians, and to accomplish this, the fight against organized crime was identified as a strategic priority in 2001. Using an intelligence-led, integrated approach, the RCMP is focusing its activities on reducing the threat and impact of organized crime. In fulfilling its mandate, the RCMP is working closely with domestic and international partners in a sustained effort to dismantle today's criminal groups. To contribute to a successful outcome, the RCMP objectives include:
 - reduce the total harmful effects caused by organized crime by disrupting illicit drug markets;
 - improve the quality of the criminal intelligence/information process;
 - share intelligence with partners and cooperate with enforcement units at the municipal, national and international levels;
 - formulate an up-to-date picture of the threat of organized crime and prioritize investigations;
 - provide scientific and technical support and new technologies to enhance investigative abilities;
 - enhance public awareness of the dangers and impacts of organized crime;
 - reduce demand for illicit products.
- In 2012, the CFSEU-BC assumed lead responsibility for the continued development and implementation of a Provincial Tactical Enforcement Priority (PTEP). The creation of the PTEP was a natural evolution from the ongoing National Tactical Enforcement Priority (NTEP). In collaboration with municipal, provincial and federal law enforcement agencies a three-tiered targeting model was created. Under this three-tiered model federal resources focus on targets that operate across provincial/territorial and trans-national boundaries while CFSEU-BC is responsible for developing a province-wide target group that is consistent with its mandate, and work with the municipal agencies that are responsible for developing and prioritizing local target(s). Timely information sharing between all agencies, at all levels, is key to ensuring that target selection and enforcement.
- BC prioritized the violence and proliferation of groups utilizing violence. Some associated to nationally identified groups above and others independent of them. These threats remain and are of continued concern. Interdiction efforts utilize considerable resources.

DISCUSSION:

- Money laundering/Terrorist Financing, Illegal Migration/Human Smuggling, Terrorism, Cyber Crime, Market Enforcement, opioids, outlaw motorcycle gangs (OMG) and G7 are the priority focus of the RCMP federal investigations. The priorities are not rank ordered, but are serviced subject to intelligence assessment, triage and capacity. Risk based methodology is applied in the assessment of the priorities and deployment of resources.
- Money laundering, whether Cartel, OMG or any other Organized Crime Group is captured in the federal priority focus.
- The “Vancouver model” as discussed in the media is originally called the Macaw Model, of which portions have been seen in BC. Significant enforcement has been conducted in recent years related to money laundering and casinos; likewise priority focus has occurred related to the opioids and the importation of precursors. Violent Organized Crime Groups are also a priority based on their disregard for public safety. Competition for the violent and predatory street drug market brings the public often in harm’s way and is complex and labour intensive to investigate. Priorities are balanced relative to the competing threats to public safety, capacity and intelligence.
- The threats and impacts of illegal gaming and money laundering persist through multiple economic sectors, and are of concern in both the tactical and strategic senses. The current market conditions and self-reporting regulatory structure for suspicious transactions provide organized crime an opportunity to mask and launder money through residential real estate.
- The RCMP is aware of large commercial transactions involving foreign companies or questionable fundraising. Money laundering through real estate and other commodities has not been the focus of investigations in “E” Division; however, real estate-related issues occur in many federal investigations.
- Extensive open source reporting cite numerous accounts of money laundering through real estate, tax avoidance, mortgage fraud and other associated issues throughout the world. In fact this is not unique, based on a 2017 Australian report by experts, “Australia is seen as an attractive destination for foreign proceeds, particularly corruption- related proceeds, flowing into real estate from the Asia-Pacific region.” The report said. “Hong Kong, Macau, China; Singapore and the United Arab Emirates were seen as major sources, destinations, and/or transit jurisdictions for proceeds of crime laundered in and out of Australia. Large amounts are suspected to be laundered out of China into the Australian real estate market.”
- The RCMP “E” Division and federal policing are aware of the so-called “Vancouver model”; however they continue to state that they believe their priorities must be balanced with public safety being paramount. The direct impact of gangs and related violence and predatory drug trafficking remains a critical focus to ensure public safety.

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OTHER MINISTRIES IMPACTED/CONSULTED:

- N/A

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Approved on April 30, 2018 by:

Clayton Pecknold (*via eApproval*)
Assistant Deputy Minister
and Director of Police Services
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Attachments

The Honourable Minister Farnworth's letter (November 16, 2017)



NOV 16 2017

Deputy Commissioner Brenda Butterworth-Carr
Commanding Officer
RCMP "E" Division
Mailstop #308
14200 Green Timbers Way
Surrey BC V3T 6P3

Dear Deputy Commissioner Butterworth-Carr:

In accordance with the *Provincial Police Service Agreement* (PPSA), I am writing to provide you with my policing priorities for the Provincial Police Service for use in your planning process over the next three years. These priorities are a direct reflection of the mandate given to me by the Premier of British Columbia in addition to key priority issues in policing today.

As you know, the opioid crisis was declared a public health emergency in British Columbia on April 15, 2016. Due to the severity of the situation, it is critical that opioid-related initiatives and investigations target to disrupt the supply chain of these toxic drugs. Additionally, your work on providing naloxone kits and training to your members and employees has proven valuable in saving lives, it will be important moving forward that you continue work in this area that includes community engagement and efforts to support reducing stigma around those with mental health and addictions issues.

Addressing organized and violent crime remains a top priority for the provincial government. We are committed to strengthening the tools for police to respond to "guns and gang" activity throughout the province. I expect that the RCMP will continue to align its efforts to combat the frequently violent acts that directly impact the safety of our communities. Specific attention is required around gun violence with a focus on those who use firearms in the commission of a criminal offense, and those who illegally traffic in firearms.

Violence against women is another key priority that demands the attention of the police. I ask that the RCMP continue to work in partnership with various government agencies to advance programs and police response to domestic and sexual assaults, particularly with respect to vulnerable persons. This work should focus on identifying where gaps in services can be filled and enhancing existing services that are most effective in helping survivors of violence break the cycle of abuse.

Received by
CO's Office "E" Division

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In addition, it is also important that police services continue to strengthen the relationships with those who have not historically felt supported by police. As you know, this government has committed to respect the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. To this end, I expect that the RCMP continue to focus on the delivery of police services to First Nations communities and First Nations peoples. This service must be culturally sensitive, professional and accountable, and actively involve their partnership and continued engagement.

Restorative justice has also been identified as a priority for this government, and should form part of your overall approach to youth and Indigenous people in particular as an alternative justice measure. Please continue to support and encourage restorative justice programs as a means to seek to repair the harm caused by crime and violence, while holding offenders meaningfully accountable for their actions.

In closing, I would like to reiterate that the priorities of fiscal accountability, good governance, modernized police services, increased integration, and mechanisms for the prevention and reduction of crime remain relevant and necessary for the sound management of the Provincial Police Service.

I look forward to working together in ensuring the safety and security of all British Columbians. Policing is a service that touches the lives of British Columbians every day. I would like to express my appreciation for the members of RCMP "E" Division for their dedication and service to our province.

Sincerely,



Mike Farnworth
Minister of Public Safety
and Solicitor General