CURRICULUM VITAE
Benjamin ROBINSON (Sgt.)
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
14200 Green Timbers Way,
Surrey, BC V3T 6P3
2021-03-17

Police Experience

I am a regular member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police ("RCMP").

In January 2009, after graduation from the RCMP training academy in Regina, Saskatchewan, I was posted to the Kamloops RCMP Detachment in Kamloops, British Columbia ("BC"). From the time of my arrival to May 2010, I worked in a general duty capacity where I was a first responder to a wide range of calls for service.

From May 2010 to September 2010, I was seconded to the Special Enforcement Team at Kamloops Detachment where I conducted proactive enforcement primarily focussed on street level drug trafficking activity. In September 2010, I transferred to the Special Projects Unit where my primary duties focussed on collecting intelligence and conducting investigations related to drug and organized crime activity. In this capacity, I routinely obtained information from confidential informants who reported on criminal activity, conducted covert physical surveillance of drug traffickers, drafted and obtained judicial authorizations in relation to drug offences and other crimes, executed search warrants and seized exhibits including drugs and money, participated in investigations involving the interception of private communications and undercover police officers targeting organized crime and drug traffickers, and arrested and interviewed subjects, among other actions.

During my tenure at Kamloops RCMP detachment, I gained exposure to the packaging, pricing, storage, and communication methods attributed to drug trafficking activity as well as an understanding of money's role in the criminal economy.

In November 2013, I transferred to the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team ("IHIT") based out of BC RCMP headquarters in Surrey, BC. At IHIT, I investigated homicides and suspicious deaths. This included investigations into the murders of drug traffickers as well as a suspected

money launderer. During the course of such investigations, I gained exposure to the victim's criminal operations.

In November 2016, I was seconded to the Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit of BC ("CFSEU-BC"), which is a joint forces operation consisting of the RCMP and municipal policing agencies in BC. At CFSEU-BC, I worked at the Joint Illegal Gaming Investigation Team ("JIGIT"), a unit tasked with providing an investigative and enforcement response to unlawful activities in BC gaming facilities with an emphasis on anti-money laundering strategies, illegal gambling in BC and a targeted focus on organized crime. In July 2017, I promoted to the rank of Corporal and my position at CFSEU-BC was normalized. In October 2019, I promoted to the rank of Sergeant. While at JIGIT, I led a team of investigators and support staff involved in a variety of investigations and initiatives.

My experiences at JIGIT included investigations involving illegal gaming, money laundering, loan sharking, extortion and non-compliance with the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering)* and *Terrorist Financing Act*. Methods for gathering evidence on these investigations included suspect and witness interviews, police agent and undercover police officer deployment, the interception of private communications and searches of houses, vehicles and mobile phones with judicial authorization, and physical and video surveillance.

At JIGIT, I received information about money laundering from domestic and international law enforcement and intelligence officials, and accessed and reviewed secure and sensitive information regarding money laundering activities and trends. This included reviewing confidential informer debriefing reports and intelligence reports.

In January 2020, I was seconded to project ENEUTRALIZE at BC RCMP Headquarters. ENEUTRALIZE is the project team responsible for the RCMP's response to the Commission of Inquiry into Money Laundering in BC. In this position, I evolved Project Athena, a Public-Private Partnership ("PPP") aimed at combatting money laundering into a PPP known as the Counter Illicit Finance Alliance of BC ("CIFA-BC").

Currently, I am the Director of Operations for CIFA-BC. CIFA-BC brings together public and private stakeholders to lawfully share information in the interest of protecting the economic integrity of BC through the detection, prevention, and disruption of illicit financial activity.

Education

In August 2007, I graduated from the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology in Edmonton, Alberta ("AB") with a Diploma in Finance.

I am in the process of completing my Bachelor of Commerce Degree from Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, BC.

Professional Designation

In July 2018, I obtained my certification as an anti-money laundering specialist from the ACAMS. The ACAMS is the world's largest international membership organization dedicated to enhancing the knowledge and expertise of financial crime detection and prevention from a wide range of industries in both the public and private sectors.

Relevant Training and Workshops

I have attended a wide range of workshops, conferences and training courses. This includes domestic and international courses relevant to money laundering and the proceeds of crime.

In March 2010, I completed the Operation Pipeline training presented by the RCMP in Kamloops, BC. The training focussed on the detection of hidden contraband, including cash, in vehicles.

In May 2010, I completed the Canadian Police College Drug Investigative Techniques Course presented by the Canadian Police College in Chilliwack, BC. This training included instruction on different drug investigative techniques and asset forfeiture, among other topics.

In April 2017, I completed the Proceeds of Crime Course presented by the Justice Institute of BC in Victoria, BC. This course included instruction on asset forfeiture, proceeds of crime and money laundering.

In June 2017, I attended the Australian Federal Police's ("AFP") Money Laundering Workshop in Perth, Australia. At this workshop, I learned about money laundering systems and asset forfeiture as well as law enforcement's approach to money laundering investigations in Australia.

In August 2017, I attended the International Association of Financial Crime Investigators conference in Vancouver, BC. The attendees ranged from the public and private sector and topics covered included money laundering and other financial crime activities.

In October 2017, I attended training on the forfeiture of assets presented by the BC Civil Forfeiture office in Surrey, BC.

In April 2018, I was participated as a "shadow" instructor on the RCMP's Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering course in Chilliwack, BC. This course covered topics including the forfeiture of assets, proceeds of crime and money laundering. In January 2019, I was an instructor on the RCMP's Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering Course in Cornwall, Ontario ("ON").

In June 2018, I co-represented the RCMP and Canada at the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime ("UNODC") financial crime workshop in Vienna, Austria. This workshop was attended by representatives from the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Mexico, Russia, Lebanon, China, Spain, Italy and the Ukraine. A central topic of discussion at the workshop was underground banking and the criminal abuse of informal value transfer systems. After the workshop, I co-authored a report on the criminal abuse of informal value transfer systems to the UNODC. In June 2019, I again represented the RCMP and Canada at the UNODC financial crime workshop in Vienna, Austria.

In March 2019, I completed the National Crime Agency's ("NCA") Expert Laundering Evidence course in Nottingham, England. The course was comprised of delegates from the NCA, the AFP, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the New Zealand Police, the RCMP and other law enforcement agencies from the United Kingdom. The course introduced delegates to the role of providing expert evidence and covered various money laundering typologies and terminology. The training was comprised of inputs from expert witnesses, subject matter experts and barristers/ lawyers.

Presentations Delivered

Since 2017, I have presented to public and private partners on topics related to money laundering. I have delivered such presentations to:

- o The AFP in Sydney and Canberra, Australia (2017);
- o The ACAMS conference in Toronto, ON (2018);
- o The Canadian Bankers Association members in Vancouver, BC (2018);
- o The Department of Homeland Security Investigations in Blaine, Washington (2018);
- The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada ("FINTRAC") in Ottawa, ON (2018);
- o The Justice Institute of BC's Proceeds of Crime course in Victoria, BC (2018);
- The Money Laundering Contact Group in Toronto, ON. Attendees included the chief antimoney laundering officers or their designates from the major banks in Canada, as well as representatives from the RCMP, the Department of Finance Canada and FINTRAC (2018);
- The RCMP's National Proceeds of Crime and Money Laundering Course in Chilliwack,
 BC (2018) and Cornwall, ON (2019);
- o The ACAMS Vancouver Chapter in Vancouver, BC (2019);
- The Canada Border Services Agency at Vancouver International Airport (2019);
- The Canadian Integrated Response to Organized Crime in Whitehorse, Yukon (2019);
- o The Community Safety Committee for the city of Richmond, BC (2019);
- The Expert Laundering Evidence course in Nottingham, United Kingdom (2019);
- The RCMP's Federal, Serious and Organized Crime unit in Edmonton, AB (2019);
- The RCMP's Money Laundering working Group in Ottawa, ON (2019);
- The Vancouver Police Department's Organized Crime unit in Vancouver, BC (2019);
- The Canadian Institute virtual presentation with HSBC Bank Canada and BC Lottery Corporation ("BCLC") (2020);
- The ACAMS virtual presentation with FINTRAC and BCLC (2021).

Working Groups / Partnership Activity

Since June 2017, I have participated and contributed to the RCMP's National Money Laundering Working Group. This group consists of financial crime investigators from across Canada who share information about investigations, trends, intelligence and developments in law pertaining to money laundering.

In November 2017, I coordinated the implementation of the Gaming Intelligence Group which partnered CFSEU-BC with the BCLC and the Gaming Policy Enforcement Branch ("GPEB") to combat money laundering at casinos in BC. I understand this group is now known as the Gaming Integrity Group.

In February 2018, I established Project Athena, a PPP aimed at combatting money laundering with the initial focus on casinos and bank drafts and then later expanding to other sectors. Participants in Project Athena included CFSEU-BC, the RCMP, FINTRAC, financial institutions and others.

In September 2019, I established the BC Money Laundering Working Group. The purpose of the group is to engage municipal, provincial and federal law enforcement resources in BC to share information about money laundering legislation, case law, trends, intelligence and investigations. I understand this group is currently dormant.

In January 2020, I led the evolution of Project Athena into CIFA-BC. This included assembling a team of resources, researching financial information sharing partnerships, engaging stakeholders through surveys and focus groups, developing the partnership model. In November 2020, CIFA-BC commenced operations.