



Alok Mukherjee, NDP Public Safety Critic Don Davies, Greg Dionne CAPB Board in Michael Ignatief's office Liberal Public Safety Critic Mark Holland, Alok Mukherjee

Message from CAPB President

These past months have been significant ones for most Canadians. We've witnessed an economic storm that has left devastation in its wake with rising unemployment and budget cuts being felt across all sectors. Municipal police services are not immune to the financial impact and we are cautious and optimistic to see these trying economic times end. That is why the theme of our 20th Anniversary Conference - "A Fine Balance: Meeting the Challenges of Police Governance in a Changing World" - seems very appropriate. We live in challenging times and our roles as police governors must adjust. My role leading the Canadian Association of Police Boards is to guide the association so we provide our members with networking, tools, guidance and information that will assist your police service in achieving continued success.

We are very fortunate to have the Cape Breton Regional Municipality Board of Police Commissioners together with the Cape Breton Regional Police Service hosting a wonderful educational and entertainment program in Sydney, Nova Scotia, August 14 – 16, 2009. Check out the latest updates on the CAPB website to see the full program at www.capb.ca. The 2009 conference promises to be one of our best yet and we are delighted with the registration and support shown by our members. I hope you are able to join us in Cape Breton in August to celebrate the 20th anniversary of CAPB.

In recent years trends in the cost of policing have been causing concern among police service

boards/commissions as well as municipalities across Canada. Last year the Federation of Canadian Municipalities released their "efficiency and equity model" for allocation of those policing costs that can be said to fall under federal jurisdiction. CAPB's members are the ones who are directly involved in dealing with police cost issues, and are affected by the trends. During budget times and when bargaining with their employee groups, they find themselves in the middle of demands by their Chiefs and associations, on one hand, and pressures to control costs by their municipalities, on the other.

A big source of the cost pressure that all parties – the boards/commissions, the Chiefs, the associations and the municipalities – face is the downloading of, or refusal to take responsibility for, policing services that properly belong to the provincial or federal jurisdictions.

As the national voice of civilian oversight of policing in Canada, we continued to raise your concerns with the Ministers of Justice and Public Safety in Ottawa. This spring we met with Public Safety Associate Deputy Minister Myles Kirvan and Assistant Deputy Minister Richard Wex and dialogued on Conducted Energy Weapons, the cost of policing, defining more clearly provincial, federal and municipal roles, responsibilities and aboriginal policing policy.

We also had very informative meetings with Michael Ignatief's Chief of Staff, Paul Zed; Liberal public safety critic, Mark Holland and Don Davies from the NDP. CAPB is being recognized as a voice of strength for an

impressively large group of stakeholders.

We were disappointed when the Minister of Public Safety, Peter Van Loan was unable to meet the board when we were in Ottawa but his schedule would not allow it.

A few weeks later a second meeting was set up in early June so that the Executive could sit down face-to-face with the Minister and discuss our resolutions. Alok Mukherjee traveled from Toronto and I flew in from Prince Albert and we arrived at the office well ahead of the scheduled time. Unfortunately that meeting was also cancelled while we sat in his office. I am still waiting for another meeting to be set up in Regina.

You will note in this issue of the National we are including the responses to the resolutions we have received from the Honourable Rob Nicholson, Minister of Justice and provincial ministers. CAPB has not received a response from the Minister of Public Safety to the 2008 resolutions although numerous formal requests have been made.

This year we have continued working on our governance structure, strengthening areas where we were weak and building on the committees that began their work three years ago. We've expanded the Committees, developed policies, terms of reference and held meetings on a regular basis.

The following is a list of the current CAPB Committees:

1. Executive Committee;
2. Finance Committee;
3. Law Reform Committee;
4. Governance Committee;
5. Conference Committee;
6. Joint Meeting Committee;
7. Lobby Day Committee;
8. Aboriginal Police Governance Committee;
9. Resolutions Committee;
10. Nominations Committee.

As we look back two decades it is time to reflect on the objectives that the Canadian Association of Police Boards was founded on and see how they apply in the current state of municipal police governance in Canada.

The objects of the Canadian Association of Police Boards are to:

1. *Establish a national body to express the views and positions of municipal police governing authorities;*
2. *Provide a means for the collection and sharing of information and the discussion of matters relating to policing services to render such services more efficient and cost*

effective, and more responsive to the community;

3. *Consider matters of national interest which affect policing services and to formulate policy positions and appropriate responses at the policy making level, from the perspective of civilian governors, for dissemination to government and the public, such matters including but not being limited to the following:*

*Drug and substance abuse policies;
Sentencing policies;
Young offenders;
Communications policies;
Employment equity;
Minorities, the alienated and*

disadvantaged;

*Recruitment of women and minorities;
Policing standards;
Community oriented policing;
Prostitution;*

4. *Comment on social, economic, cultural and legislative questions, particularly of national concern, which may affect the quality, efficiency and costs of policing services;*
5. *Promote the quality and uniformity of policing services and to encourage greater co-operation amongst Policing Services at the Federal, Provincial and Municipal levels in Canada;*
6. *Educate the public on matters relating to the governance of policing services;*
7. *Act as a lobbying group to liaise between Federal, Provincial and Municipal governmental authorities and the Federal and Provincial Solicitors General;*
8. *Provide a forum for participation by all civilian governors of municipal policing services and other agencies to promote and encourage greater co-operation to serve the interests of the public, to advance criminal justice and to promote common policies.*

We are back with CAPB National as we expand our communications plan and come up with innovative ways to get our message to you. I hope you enjoy this issue. On behalf of the Board, you have my assurance that CAPB will continue to strive to be a significant and credible participant in all discussions related to policing, crime and justice at the national level. We will continue to raise our public profile as the body that promotes and represents our membership - the Canadian police service boards and commissions.



Greg Dionne
CAPB President

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RESPONSES TO CAPB 2008 RESOLUTIONS

NOVA SCOTIA

CECIL P. CLARKE
ATTORNEY GENERAL & MINISTER OF JUSTICE

I have reviewed the resolutions with great interest to assess their impact on our provincial strategy of providing safe communities in which our citizens live and work. The Province of Nova Scotia continues to work closely with Police Agencies, the Nova Scotia Chiefs of Police Association and the Nova Scotia Association of Police Boards to consider solutions to many of the issues identified in your resolutions.

I appreciate the efforts of your Association in advancing discussions on issues facing law enforcement and the criminal justice system. I wish you and the Canadian Association of Police Boards continued success.

ONTARIO

RICK BARTOLUCCI, MINISTER OF COMMUNITY SAFETY & CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

The ministry acknowledges the concerns and recommendations of the CAPB in relation to the eight issues outlined in your correspondence. As is mentioned in the resolutions, responsibility for specific legislative and policy change in these areas belongs to the federal government. I have, however, forwarded the CAPB resolutions to appropriate staff members within this ministry for their consideration with respect to the work they are undertaking in related areas.

Furthermore, for your information, the ministry is currently undertaking a review of conducted energy weapons (CEWs) in the province of Ontario in consultation with police stakeholders. The review is examining issues pertaining to training, reporting and deployment of CEWs and it is expected to be completed by winter 2008/09.

ALBERTA

FRED LINDSAY
SOLICITOR GENERAL & MINISTER OF PUBLIC SECURITY

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the 2008 resolutions that were approved by the membership that pertain to our provincial ministry.

As noted in the resolutions, 08-01 and 08-02 are within the purview of the federal government. I anticipate that the new Minister of Public Safety Canada, the Honourable Peter Van Loan, will respond in due course addressing these resolutions.

The other six resolutions, while directed to the federal government, relate to issues that our ministry, along with our policing partners and federal, provincial and territorial counterparts are currently addressing. I appreciate the opportunity to comment on these resolutions from an Alberta perspective.

REPEAT OFFENDERS

Alberta Solicitor General and Public Security (SGPS) supports initiatives that address the serious problem of repeat offenders. We would be in favour of a review of legislation and programs designed to address these repeat offenders as it would benefit all jurisdictions. If repeat offenders are managed effectively, justice efficiencies are realized leading to increased confidence by the public in the justice system.

REQUEST FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION ON LAWFUL ACCESS

Technology is rapidly evolving and legislation must keep pace. Given that the current legislative framework under Part VI of the *Criminal Code of Canada* dates back to the 1970s, it is important that this complex review be undertaken as soon as possible. Alberta SGPS supports the CAPB in their call for a review of the legal framework governing lawful access given the rapidity at which technology is advancing. A flexible regime allowing for new technologies to be incorporated under the law without requiring amendment would be desirable. The costs incurred for lawful interceptions of telecommunications is a matter that needs to be dealt with and we support your call for leadership from the federal government in this area.

PENALTIES FOR CRIMES INVOLVING ILLICIT DRUGS

In this resolution, the CAPB calls upon the judiciary to consider the effects of drug use and trafficking individuals in their communities. We agree that the effects of illicit drugs on safe communities are devastating and that the federal government could revisit the scheduling of drugs under the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to send a message to the judiciary regarding the dangers of illicit drugs. In this way the judiciary would be better armed to sentence in a manner consistent with the harm that drug trafficking causes to a community. In addition, we support the

use of drug courts for addicts who are amenable to treatment as a means of reducing the demand for illicit drugs.

CREATION OF CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON WORKING GROUP

There is currently a Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) Working Group on Conducted Energy Devices/Weapons (CED/CEW) that was created in early 2008. The Working Group's first task was to gather current CED/CEW policy and practices from across Canada to provide the background information needed for a Federal/Provincial/Territorial Deputy Ministers meeting held in June 2008. At this time, the Group is moving forward with an examination of the differences among the provincial and agency policy and practices with CED/CEW and exploring the development of national standards. Given the amount of work that such a task will entail, I recommend that the CAPB explore the option of partnering with the national group. The FPT Working Group held its last teleconference on June 12, 2008. Further work has been delayed as a consequence of the recent federal election.

SHARING POLICING COSTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

With respect to this resolution, we are concerned that the rationale used by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) in its reports where they equate the federal cost-share for RCMP policing to the enforcement of federal laws is problematic. Currently, most RCMP-contracted municipalities receive either a 10 or a 30 percent cost share with the Government of Canada, depending on population. The percentage paid by Canada is not a subsidy, but rather a cost-share in recognition of the benefits to Canada and the federal government provided by the RCMP agreement. These benefits include a nationally integrated police service, shared costs of infrastructure, ability of contract policing members located throughout the country to provide support in emergency situations, savings from economies of scale, and enhanced integration of services.

Reference is also made to the fact that municipalities signing contracts with Canada for RCMP municipal service after 1992 receive no federal cost share. This is correct only for those municipalities deemed "new entrants" where they have never previously been policed by the RCMP. This is an issue primarily for New Brunswick where a number of such communities are paying 100 percent of their RCMP contract costs. The New Entrants Policy, which is not part of the

Provincial Police Service Agreement, was a policy imposed unilaterally by the federal government following the signing of the 1992 agreements. Contracting provinces and territories have formed a working group to develop a position paper to present to the federal government and Alberta certainly welcomes the support of the CAPB on behalf of municipalities dealing with this issue.

NON-RETURNABLE WARRANTS

At this time, it is unlikely that the federal government will assume responsibility for the inter-provincial transfer of absconding criminals. Should they do so, this would give them control over who is returned which causes the provinces concern as they are responsible for the associated prosecutions. However, in the case of drug charges where the federal government is conducting the prosecutions, Alberta would not object to the federal government assuming responsibility for these types of transfers. I do agree that the provisions of the *Criminal Code* which deal with the return of fugitives need modernization.

NEW BRUNSWICK

HON. JOHN W. FORAN, MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your recent letter, which contained copies of resolutions passed at the nineteenth Annual General Meeting of CAPB in Toronto.

As you are no doubt aware, my Department relies on the input of various key stakeholders in the law enforcement community. In New Brunswick we have recently formed a Strategic Policing Advisory Committee, and I am very pleased that all police boards in the province are invited to participate as members of this Committee.

Of more specific interest, this Committee has identified police governance as one of the top priorities to be addressed, and we will be guided in this discussion by our police board representatives.

For that reason, I am always receptive to receiving the type of information you have shared, and I thank you for continuing to provide me with resolutions passed by the CAPB.

SASKATCHEWAN

**DARRYL HICKIE
MINISTER OF CORRECTIONS, PUBLIC SAFETY
AND POLICING**

Thank you for providing me with a copy of the Resolutions from the Canadian Association of Police Boards 2008 Meeting.

I notice that most of your resolutions require effort at the national level. However, I support the contribution of your Association in its ongoing efforts in reforming important matters in both legal and public policy areas, and in particular, some of the practical suggestions and observations you have made through these resolutions.

I appreciate the contribution your Association continues to make towards creating safer communities for all Canadians.

**MINISTER OF JUSTICE AND
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF CANADA
HON. ROB NICHOLSON**

I have reviewed the resolutions endorsed by the CAPB and am pleased to address them below.

CRIMES OF VIOLENCE INVOLVING KNIVES

While the law does not regulate knives generally, the Government of Canada has acted to prohibit certain bladed weapons that are not designed by legitimate use. In addition, the *Criminal Code* provides stiff penalties for the use of weapons, including knives, in the commission of an offence. For example, the offence of assault with a weapon carries a maximum penalty of ten years' imprisonment. Section 88 of the Code already prohibits the possession of weapons for a dangerous purpose, and section 89 specifically prohibits carrying a weapon while attending, or on the way to, a public meeting. The term weapon is broadly defined in section 2 of the Code to include anything used, designed to be used, or intended for use, in causing death or injury to a person.

REPEAT OFFENDERS

I agree that the issue of recidivism of offenders is a matter that deserves more work. It has long been the case that a relatively small percentage of offenders commit the majority of crimes; however, no single measure will solve all the issues that arise from offenders who either commit crimes to support their addiction or come in contact repeatedly with the justice system for other reasons.

I am aware of the concerns of Vancouver Chief Constable Jim Chu who describes the situation of career criminals or chronic offenders who "primarily commit crimes to feed their drug addictions" as having reached "ludicrous proportions" in his community. When I met with Chief Chu, we agreed that these chronic offenders present many issues for all levels of government that call for a range of responses. The new Community Court in Vancouver is a good example of an innovative response that uses a problem-solving

approach to address offenders' needs and circumstances and the underlying causes of their criminal behaviour. Cases will be heard quickly in the Community Court so that offenders can begin making reparation almost immediately.

I believe that our National Anti-drug Strategy will respond to issues raised by repeat offenders. As you know, it includes three action plans to prevent illicit drug use, treat those with illicit drug dependencies, and combat the production and distribution of illicit drugs. Furthermore, Federal/Provincial/Territorial Ministers Responsible for Justice agreed to a National Initiative on Chronic Offenders aimed at dealing with offenders who occupy a great deal of the criminal justice system's time and resources because of substance abuse and other issues.

I note the view that repeat offenders should be kept in custody until the courts have ruled in their cases. As you know, the *Tackling Violent Crime Act* received Royal Assent on February 28, 2008, and has now come into force. The Act provides for a reverse onus on those accused of serious gun crimes to demonstrate why they should not be remanded to custody while awaiting trial. Reverse onus situations already apply to persons charged with breaching their bail conditions and those charged with a second indictable offence while on release for an indictable offence.

LAWFUL ACCESS

I assure you that the public safety of our citizens is a responsibility that this Government takes very seriously; and we are well aware that technological advances pose a significant challenge to law enforcement and national security agencies. As such, the Government continues to review the legislative and policy framework in this area to ensure that law enforcement and security agencies have the ability to combat all forms of cyber-crime, and, more generally, the appropriate legal tools to investigate all types of crimes committed with the aid of new technologies. Along with our international partners, Canada continues to work towards solutions to address the problems caused by the borderless nature of modern telecommunication systems. This works tackles difficult issues such as national sovereignty, fundamental human rights, and mutual assistance, within a framework that continues to promote the beneficial use of the Internet.

**PENALTIES FOR CRIMES INVOLVING
ILLICIT DRUGS**

As part of the National Anti-Drug Strategy, on November 20, 2007, I tabled in the House of Commons Bill C-26, *An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*, which introduced mandatory minimum penalties for people convicted of

serious drug offences. This bill did not pass the required readings before Parliament was dissolved on September 7, 2008; however, the Government is considering re-introducing similar legislation.

With respect to criminals who manufacture, traffic, and import and/or export illicit drugs, the National Anti-Drug Strategy provides \$102 million in new funding over five years to target drug producers and distributors by bolstering law enforcement's ability to combat marijuana and synthetic drug production and distribution operations.

As you know, a sentencing judge is afforded discretion to impose sentences that are individualized so as to provide sanctions that are appropriate in the particular prevailing circumstances of each case. Judges exercise their discretion with the guidance of appellate decisions, which establish precedents and sentencing ranges to be applied in similar circumstances.

Judges are required to observe the purpose and principles of sentencing as expressed in the *Criminal Code* and in the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA). They must also consider the aggravating factors enumerated in the CDSA and those established by the prosecution. Although judges are given the power to use their discretion in sentencing, their decisions are subject to appellate review. Thus, if a sentence appears inadequate in light of the circumstances surrounding the commission of the offence, the prosecution can appeal the sentence to a higher court.

NON-RETURNABLE WARRANTS

I agree that the problem of fugitives fleeing from one jurisdiction to another to escape criminal proceedings raises a number of important and complex practical and legal issues.

All jurisdictions have an interest in ensuring that the justice system can efficiently and effectively deal with persons subject to out-of-province warrants. Accordingly, this issue is being studied by the Federal/Provincial/Territorial Criminal Procedure Working Group of the Co-ordinating Committee of Senior Officials. The Working Group is developing and

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
DEPUTY SOLICITOR GENERAL
DAVID MORHART**

The issues you have identified are challenging and most important for government and officials to seek lasting solutions and develop firm, systematic responses and approaches for the benefit of each organization.

assessing various options to address the procedural, legal, and financial issues surrounding non-returnable warrants. Significant progress is being made and I am pleased with the level of collaboration that has been brought to bear on this issue.

CREATION OF CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON WORKING GROUP AND SHARING OF POLICING COSTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

As you know, the overall responsibility for policing matters at the federal level falls within the purview of my colleague the Honourable Peter Van Loan, Minister of Public Safety. I have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of your correspondence and the CAPB's resolutions to him for his information and consideration.

CANADIAN MILITARY RESERVISTS – LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Issues relating to health care benefits for and/or costs associated with military deployment of members of policing services serving as reservists does not fall within the scope of my mandate. While these matters are not entirely within federal jurisdiction, I have also provided a copy of your correspondence and the CAPB's resolutions to my colleague the Honourable Peter MacKay, Minister of National Defence, for his review.

Our Government values the input of the organizations and their members who work to ensure the safety and security of Canadian communities.

Thank you again for sharing the concerns of the CAPB on these important matters.

**NOTE TO CAPB MEMBERS
HON. PETER VAN LOAN
MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY
*While repeated requests have been made to the Minister of Public Safety to respond to the 2008 CAPB resolutions, there has been no reply to date.***

CRIMES OF VIOLENCE INVOLVING KNIVES

This issue has previously been examined at Federal/Provincial/Territorial (FPT) policy tables and it was determined that there is already sufficient scope in the *Criminal Code* to recognize the seriousness of knife-related violence.

CANADIAN MILITARY RESERVISTS – LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Although this particular issue has not been raised by the BC Police Board Association with the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, we would appreciate being kept informed of upcoming consultations between CAPB and the federal government.

REPEAT OFFENDERS

There are many initiatives underway throughout British Columbia to respond to prolific offenders and to reduce the harm done in our communities by a small group of offenders.

In six communities throughout British Columbia, the provincial government is piloting an integrated approach between police, other justice systems, and social service partners to integrate and coordinate the response to prolific offenders. The project aims to use more intensive supervision of and timely intervention with a small group of prolific offenders to reduce crime, whether that is through treatment or incarceration.

This approach is based on successful approaches used in the United Kingdom, and recognizes that we must target the drivers of crime to curb criminal behaviour. Much of these offenders' behaviour can be linked to substance abuse and addictions, mental disorders, lack of job skills and other issues. Evidence shows that focusing law enforcement on prolific offenders, while referring them to the services they need to prevent them from committing more crime, has broad benefits for communities by reducing crime rates and chronic criminal behaviour. The approach will be evaluated for its effectiveness.

RCMP and municipal police forces in British Columbia recognize the importance of focusing on the most prolific offenders. For the last four years, RCMP and municipal forces have been leading many initiatives focusing on prolific offenders. RCMP detachments throughout the province are implementing evidence-based crime reduction initiatives based on what has been shown to work in other jurisdictions.

The Chronic Offender Program in Vancouver and the Crime Reduction Unit in the Capital Regional District also focus on repeat offenders. Results show annual drops of 10 to 40 per cent in targeted crimes in five RCMP pilot areas. Similar results were seen in the Vancouver Police Department's Chronic Offender Program, 2004-2007.

All of these approaches allow better information to be brought before the courts to enable more appropriate sentencing.

LAWFUL ACCESS

In February 2009, the former Solicitor General and the Attorney General wrote to their Federal counterparts asking for reforms to modernize provisions in the Criminal Code that provide police with powers to intercept communication using new technologies. Our ministries are committed to working with federal government counterparts to support the introduction of legislation that would update Part VI of the Criminal Code to account for advances in communications technology and permit lawful access. The definition of a private communication, the grounds required to permit judicial authorization to occur and non communications related data interception all require particular attention. This process should also include provision for compelling internet service providers and telecommunications companies to construct the necessary infrastructure to give full effect to judicial authorizations as well as for a standardized rate structure for provision of this service. These challenges are imperative for police investigations of organized crime.

PENALTIES FOR CRIMES INVOLVING ILLICIT DRUGS

Laws relating to illicit drugs and laws relating to sentencing those who break the laws are within the jurisdiction of the federal government. The laws are then interpreted by the judiciary, who are required to follow them and established legal precedents, when sentencing individuals who are found guilty. As the changing of laws relating to sentencing for illicit drug offences is not a matter within provincial jurisdiction, I am not in a position to provide further comment on this issue.

CREATION OF CONDUCTED ENERGY WEAPON (CEW) WORKING GROUP

There currently is a Canadian national working committee whose mandate is to share information regarding CEW police and practices, and to develop national guidelines for all Canadian police officers.

This CEW committee is composed of FPT representatives and is an ad-hoc committee of the FPT Assistant Deputy Ministers for Policing Issues. The Province is also the co-chair of this national committee.

The committee has shared significant resources in terms of collecting and summarizing information for each jurisdiction regarding CEW policies and practices, and is currently awaiting further direction from the Justice Ministers, as well as awaiting the Braidwood Commission of Inquiry report into CEWs in British Columbia. This significant report is expected to lead to substantial reform with regard to CEW policies and practices, and influence national guidelines to be developed by the committee for CEWs.

SHARING POLICING COSTS WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Province has made significant investments to strengthen policing in all British Columbia communities. Since 2001, we have increased the annual policing budget by \$128 million a year and returned \$250 million of traffic fine revenues to local governments to support their crime-fighting efforts. Also, the Province has stated it will commit all \$53 million in new federal police recruitment funding to expand integrated policing efforts to address organized crime and gang violence.

NON-RETURNABLE WARRANTS

Radius of Warrant and other jurisdiction decisions to not return wanted persons are a serious concern in British Columbia. A large number of fugitives flee arrest in other provinces because their warrants have a narrow radius of return and the jurisdictions they flee are unlikely to pay for them to be returned.

British Columbia is currently using a variety of short-term measures to deal with the issue of ensuring the return of offenders who are wanted in other jurisdictions for serious criminal offences. These measures include the use of existing legislation to affect the arrest of wanted individuals and pilot return projects funded by the Province and select British Columbia municipal governments.

These are regional short-term solutions that will not fully address a problem that is national in scope.

British Columbia has led a proposal for federal legislative change by means of a working group under the Coordinating Committee of Senior Officials (CCSO). The changes under consideration would create a new federal offence for fleeing a warrant. This proposal was endorsed by all Ministers responsible for Justice, at their FPT meeting in September 2008 and is expected to be introduced in either the current or a future session of Parliament.

British Columbia believes that the federal government needs to take a leadership role to ensure that offenders, wanted on the most serious offences and who have fled one provincial jurisdiction to another, are returned to face justice. In addition, the federal government should take a leadership role by increasing the threat of penalties for the decision to flee prosecution, to ensure that out-of-province offenders do not take refuge in other provinces.

If no action is taken with respect to this issue, the public's perception of the ability of the justice system to deal with serious cases will be adversely affected.

NATIONAL NEWS

CANADIAN LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY TO DIRECTLY ACCESS ESSENTIAL INTERPOL DATABASES

Canada is set to become one of the first countries in the world to provide police officers nationwide with technology to gain immediate access to INTERPOL's vast international criminal databases.

"This project will have a positive and immediate impact on Canada's ability to fight global crime," said Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan. "We are providing law enforcement with the tools they need to prevent attacks on our security, and make communities safer."

INTERPOL Ottawa and the Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC), which are both housed at RCMP headquarters in Ottawa, partnered with INTERPOL General Secretariat in Lyon, France, to develop a primary gateway for the Canadian law enforcement community by providing real-time access to INTERPOL databases through the CPIC system.

"This initiative is timely for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police," said RCMP Commissioner William Elliott. "The new Interface will contribute to protective policing initiatives surrounding major international events like the Vancouver 2010 Olympics Games in February and the G8 in June next year."

Police forces and law enforcement agencies will be able to instantly search INTERPOL databases, which include 173 000 names of wanted international fugitives or persons of interest and more than 18 million stolen or lost travel documents, of which over ten million are passports.

"The entire Canadian law enforcement system will now have real time 24/7 access to INTERPOL'S databases and related resources. This will enable those officers to utilize the most thorough and current intelligence regarding fugitives attempting to enter, remain in or leave Canada," said INTERPOL Secretary General Ronald K. Noble. "This is

exactly the kind of global commitment that can best ensure security for all of our 187 member countries. The international law enforcement community thanks and applauds this joint Canadian-INTERPOL initiative."

This new interface will be available to 66,000 police officers from over 380 law enforcement agencies in the country who access CPIC on a daily basis for investigational purposes, including the RCMP and the Canada Border Services Agency. The database will improve officer safety, as quick responses to a query will signal whether the subject should be investigated further.

"Police Chiefs across Canada are excited about improved access to INTERPOL information. Transnational crime - which includes drug trafficking, terrorism and high-tech crime - is a growing concern in all police jurisdictions," said Ontario Provincial Police Commissioner Julian Fantino who was representing the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

INTERPOL is the world's largest international police organization with 187 member countries. It facilitates cross border police cooperation, supports, and assists all organizations, authorities, and services whose mission is to prevent and combat international crime. The INTERPOL Ottawa team provides support and promotes INTERPOL services to municipal, provincial and federal police forces in Canada on issues related to international crimes and investigations.

Operational since 1972, the Canadian Police Information Centre is a computerized system that provides tactical information on crimes and criminals. It is the only national information-sharing system that links criminal justice and law enforcement partners across Canada. CPIC is a real-time system available on a 24/7 basis, 365 days per year to provide invaluable investigative assistance to law enforcement and support agencies.

PROPOSALS FOR NEW CIVILIAN RCMP OVERSIGHT MODEL EMERGE AT CPC 20TH ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE

The urgent need for stronger and more effective civilian oversight of the RCMP highlighted discussions among leading figures from government, law enforcement, civil rights advocates, media and academia last fall at a conference marking the 20th anniversary of the Commission for Public Complaints Against the RCMP (CPC).

Reinvigorating police accountability through enhanced civilian oversight has been the Commission's overarching objective since Mr. Kennedy became Chair in October 2005. While intelligence-led policing, integrated policing and the RCMP's re-emergence on the national security scene have accentuated the CPC's underlying limitations, the provinces have been busy strengthening the powers of civilian agencies charged with assessing the conduct of police under their jurisdiction.

"Effective civilian oversight would not only address the public's concerns but would also assist the police who are increasingly professionalizing their role and have become more remote from the concerns of citizens," said Commission Chair Paul E. Kennedy in his address to participants. "An oversight body can bridge the police/public divide by asking questions that the police frequently don't ask and by offering recommendations that would be more responsive to citizens concerns."

MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLETES TWO-YEAR REVIEW OF LIST OF TERRORIST ENTITIES

The Minister of Public Safety, the Honourable Peter Van Loan announced the Government has completed the two-year review of the *Criminal Code* list of terrorist entities, and that the Governor in Council has accepted his recommendation that the forty-one entities currently listed should remain on the list.

The requirement for a review is built into the *Criminal Code*. Entities remain listed when there are still reasonable grounds to do so.

In addition to the review, the *Criminal Code* also provides for an appeal process. An entity can apply to the Minister of Public Safety to be removed from the list, with provision for a review of the Minister's decision by the Federal Court.

Additions may be made to the list of terrorist entities at any time. The assessment process for possible listings is ongoing. While it is not a crime to be a member of a listed entity, under the *Criminal Code* it is a criminal offence to knowingly deal with the assets of that group or individual. The court could also order that assets be seized or forfeited. In addition, it is a crime to knowingly participate in any activity of a listed entity that would enhance its ability to carry out a terrorist act. This offence and other related offences are set out, in full, in the *Criminal Code*.

The names of entities listed under the *Criminal Code* are published in the *Canada Gazette* and can found on the Public Safety Canada website at www.publicsafety.gc.ca under National Security, Listed Entities.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA SUPPORTS DRUG TREATMENT COURTS

The Honourable Rob Nicholson, P.C., Q.C., M.P. for Niagara Falls, Minister of Justice & Attorney General of Canada, announced new funding in support of the Vancouver Drug Treatment Court. The announcement was made on behalf of Ministers involved in this collaborative initiative, including the Honourable Diane Finley, Minister of Human Resources & Skills Development Canada, and the Honourable Leona Aglukkaq, Minister of Health. This announcement formed part of Minister Nicholson's participation in the opening of the 2nd National Canadian Association of Drug Treatment Courts (CADTC) conference.

Funding over two years will support transitional housing for individuals addicted to illicit drugs who have come into conflict with the law and have been streamed into the Vancouver Drug Treatment Court system.

"The Government of Canada is determined to take action against illicit drugs through the National Anti-Drug Strategy; a strategy that is both tough on the producers and distributors of drugs and compassionate to those addicted to illicit drugs," said Minister Nicholson. "Drug Treatment Courts are an example of how these two approaches can work together to provide treatment to those struggling with an addiction while ensuring community safety."

Drug Treatment Courts (DTCs) are specialized courts that aim to reduce crime associated with drug dependency by providing monitored treatment and community service support for offenders with drug addictions. They take a comprehensive approach that includes judicial supervision, substance abuse treatment, random and frequent drug testing and social service support.

Funding for the Vancouver Drug Treatment Court pilot housing program was provided through Human Resources and Skills Development Canada's (HRSDC) Homelessness Partnering Strategy's (HPS) Federal Horizontal Pilot Projects program. The project was undertaken under the HPS mandate to enhance collaboration with other federal programs and departments whose mandates relate to homelessness.

"Our government is delivering on its commitment to help those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless," said Minister Finley. "This pilot housing project will provide essential housing facilities and supportive services to give vulnerable individuals an opportunity to build a stronger future."

The Government of Canada, under the National Anti-Drug Strategy, supports DTCs in Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Regina.

"We are part of a global effort working diligently towards finding effective solutions in circumstances where criminal conduct arises as a result of an underlying social pathology," said CADTC Chair, Justice Kofi Barnes. "Drug treatment courts have demonstrated significant promise as we develop and implement innovative strategies aimed at effecting holistic rehabilitation without compromising public safety."

The Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General of British Columbia will administer the funding and work with the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) Authority Addiction Services and British Columbia Housing to provide short-term supportive housing for participants involved in the Vancouver Drug Treatment Court program. The funding will be provided through a partnership between Justice Canada and Human Resources and Skills Development Canada.

The National Anti-Drug Strategy is a collaborative effort involving the Department of Justice, Public Safety Canada and Health Canada and includes three action plans: preventing illicit drug use; treating those with illicit drug dependencies; and combating the production and distribution of illicit drugs.

The CADTC is a not-for-profit association that assists Drug Treatment Courts across Canada by gathering and sharing information and evaluations about the effectiveness of DTCs. The association also acts as a forum through which best practices can be shared and assistance and training to those interested in developing a DTC can be provided.

FEATURE

Reporting Firearms Enhances Security

On October 31, 2008, the *Public Agents Firearms Regulations* took full effect. As of that date, police and other public service agencies across Canada will be required to report all firearms in their possession to the Registrar of Firearms. This includes service firearms used by their employees as well as those that have been found or seized or are otherwise being held by the agency.

The RCMP Canada Firearms Centre (CAFC) is responsible for data collection and the maintenance of information on over seven million firearms registered to Canadian businesses and individuals. Updating the Canadian Firearms Information System (CFIS) database to include firearms associated with public agents will bring Canada much closer to achieving a comprehensive centralized national database of firearms information.

The firearms information currently housed in the CAFC's database is accessed over 8000 times per day by law enforcement officials in cities and towns across the country. Police officers daily rely on this national resource for safety assurance and awareness. The fact that the information available to them will soon be expanded means that their capacity to safeguard the communities they serve will also increase.

"The *Public Agents Firearms Regulations* will result in benefits to Canadian law enforcement and will help Canada meet international commitments to help combat the illicit trafficking of firearms," noted Assistant Commissioner Kevin Mole, Director General of the Canadian Firearms Program. "A centralized database of firearms will be particularly useful in multi-jurisdictional investigations and will simplify the process of identifying patterns of illicit trafficking by showing what types of firearms are being seized nationally and in each jurisdiction within Canada, and from what source."

He then reiterated the RCMP's commitment to this initiative by confirming that "the RCMP [will] set a good example for other agencies by reporting firearms in a timely fashion". This will encourage other law enforcement groups to follow suit in this effort which promises to enhance the security of Canadians at every level: international, national, municipal and individual.

For further information, please refer to the CAFC's Website at www.cfc-cafc.gc.ca

PROVINCIAL NEWS

MANITOBA CHANGES POLICE ACT TO CREATE CIVILIAN POLICE BOARDS

The Manitoba government introduced sweeping changes last month that will create civilian-led police boards for each municipal police force in the province. Police will no longer investigate their own when serious criminal allegations are made, such as in a police-involved shooting.

The act also creates a civilian-led Manitoba Police Commission to oversee policing issues throughout the province. Under the commission, civilian police boards will have the authority to hire and fire police chiefs and set the tone for policing in their respective communities. Besides Winnipeg, there are 10 municipal police forces. Only the Dakota Ojibway Police Service, the one aboriginal police service in the province, currently has a police board.

Police across the province, including RCMP, have been consulted for more than a year on the changes.

"This is probably the most modern and up-to-date," act of its kind among provinces, Attorney General Dave Chomiak said of the new Police Services Act. "I think we struck the right balance in Manitoba given our history."

Chomiak said he'd like to see the bill passed this year and the changes phased in as early as next year.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND LOOKING FOR APPLICATIONS FOR FIRST POLICE COMMISSIONER

Prince Edward Island is currently seeking applications for the province's first police commissioner under the new Police Act. The new job will provide civilian oversight of police services. The office will be independent, and will provide an appeal process for a complainant, or a police officer whose conduct is the subject of a complaint, if either is dissatisfied with a decision made by a chief officer. It will also investigate complaints against chief officers and security police officers. However, the police commissioner will not have jurisdiction over the RCMP, which has its own complaints procedure.

The province is currently advertising for both the police commissioner and the deputy police commissioner.

THE REGINA POLICE SERVICE IS TRYING TO GET MORE MONEY FROM THIS YEAR'S CITY BUDGET.

In documents tabled at city council meeting, the police department proposed a net operating budget of \$50,281,200 — that's a \$2.2 million or 4.6 per cent increase over last year.

"If you look at the salaries and benefits portion of the budget, it's actually about 5.9 per cent — and we're only asking for a 4.6 per cent increase because there's additional revenues now to offset some of those costs," Mayor Pat Fiacco, who chairs the Board of Police Commissioners, said in an interview Tuesday.

He noted that the cost of policing has consistently hovered around 20 per cent of the city's total budget — the second largest piece of the budget pie. The police service's operational budget rose by nearly seven per cent last year.

"The one thing that citizens want is a safe community. They want to see and have a police presence and the only way we're going to be able to do that is increase the amount of police that we have on the street," he said, noting the number of frontline officers has increased at the same time crime has fallen.

Under the 2009 proposal, actual expenditures will increase by \$2.8 million, but that's offset by \$586,500 extra in revenues.

Rising wages are behind the bulk of the increase. According to the proposal, \$1.9 million of the hike is needed to cover costs of the collective agreement, a three-year deal inked in December 2007. Officers are due for a 4.6 per cent wage jump on July 1 this year, while civilians get four per cent.

The remainder of the requested increase is to cover adjustments to staffing, "next level policing" — the continuation of an initiative for hiring officers, and other "operating cost adjustments."

Courtesy of additional money from the provincial government, operations targetting organized crime and child exploitation on the Internet will each see an additional \$90,000.

Additional budget money will also mean: a new dog for the K-9 unit (at a cost of \$7,000), \$43,900 to replace aging computers, and \$10,000 for increased ammunition costs. Like households throughout the city, the department is also budgeting for increases in utilities and higher fuel bills.

According to the proposal, some \$375,000 in internal savings were identified to reduce the

proposed budget increase. For example, the police service expects to save \$98,300 since it needs fewer police patrol vehicles in 2009.

The police department is also anticipating spending \$1.35 million for capital costs in 2009. That includes \$596,000 for facilities upgrades; \$598,000 to replace mobile data terminals in police vehicles; and \$158,000 for shotguns, crowd control suits, and replacing the explosives disposal robot.

Planning continues for redeveloping the nearby Municipal Justice Building to allow for expansion of the Regina Police Service. Fiacco said there are plans to start socking away money for that project, although expansion isn't expected before 2011.

STRONG COMMUNITIES – ALBERTA- B.C. CABINET MEETING

An agreement that will see Alberta and B.C. co-operate to enhance community safety and team up to tackle gang crime and repeat offenders was one of the highlights of the sixth British Columbia-Alberta joint cabinet meeting, held in Prince George, B.C. in October.

The agreement includes developing a joint missing person's database and sharing best practices to aid victims of crime. Alberta and B.C. will also develop a pilot project to act on warrants of serious offenders who are returned to the issuing jurisdiction. The provinces have agreed to step up measures to ensure parents fulfil their maintenance responsibilities to their children following separation or divorce.

"Our two provinces are partnering to crack down on crime and focus on making communities in B.C. and Alberta safe. By working in co-operation we can be more effective at tracking offenders and supporting victims of crime," said B.C. Premier Gordon Campbell.

Premier Campbell and Alberta Premier Ed Stelmach expressed concern over the effectiveness of the operation of the criminal justice system. The Premiers want to work with the federal government and other provinces to achieve positive changes in five areas: the range of sentencing for all criminal offences including youth sentencing; the principles of sentencing; review of bail provisions; review of procedures for preliminary hearings; and quick action to fill legislative gaps created by the courts that hinder police investigations and prosecutions.

Premier Stelmach said it is crucial that Alberta and B.C. join forces to ensure the justice system allows citizens in both provinces to feel safe in their homes and communities.

“Crime knows no borders. Our joint efforts today will focus on making it as difficult and uncomfortable as possible for criminals to operate in our provinces while at the same time boosting our efforts to aid victims of crime,” said Stelmach.

Alberta and British Columbia also agreed to pursue new joint measures to advance direct and competitive air access to international markets and raise the region’s profile as a destination for skilled foreign workers.

The provinces will call on the federal government to allow international air carriers to serve Alberta and B.C. airports without market restrictions. The provinces are proposing that B.C. and Alberta be designated an Open Skies region for all existing air service agreements that currently only allow limited landing rights elsewhere within Canada.

Alberta and B.C. will also call for the aggressive pursuit of Open Skies agreements with countries that do not currently have air service agreements with Canada and, at the very least, designate British Columbia and Alberta as an Open Skies region within all new agreements. This approach would allow Canada to increase the number and quality of air service agreements and accommodate the interests of regions that strongly support Open Skies.

“Expanding direct international links to airports in western Canada helps ensure our economies are open to the world, bringing the benefits of new relationships, people and opportunities. Major trading partners like Europe and the Asia Pacific should be at the top of our list for Open Skies agreements,” Campbell said. “Alberta and British Columbia will collaborate to ensure our provinces can benefit from strong relations around the globe, and we will look at ways we can improve our ability to attract skilled workers and new business opportunities.”

Alberta and B.C. will look at ways to collaborate on initiatives to address labour attraction and retention. This includes sharing information, best practices and working together on common initiatives to align foreign qualification recognition and help foreign trained workers put their skills to work.

An agreement on rural development was also signed that will see collaborative approaches taken to improve community-based programs and resources and enhance other rural development initiatives.

“Strong rural communities are the heart and soul of both provinces and are fundamental to the

economic future of our provinces,” said Stelmach. “From joint strategies to address Mountain Pine Beetle, to improving rural Internet access and

engaging participation of First Nation and Metis peoples, this agreement is as diverse as our rural communities.” The provinces also renewed their five-year commitment to partnership and confirmed that the groundbreaking Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) is well on target for full implementation by April 1, 2009.

“Over the past five years, our high level of cooperation has helped build the strongest economic partnership in Canada. This has helped create a more competitive and prosperous region,” said Campbell.

“Five years of joint Cabinet meetings have led to ground-breaking agreements and helped set the standard for provincial cooperation across the country,” agreed Stelmach.

CHANGES TO MEDICINE HAT POLICE COMMISSION MEETINGS

Medicine Hat Police Commission Chair, Ryan Jackson and Police Chief, Andy McGrogan announced a significant change to the delivery of Police Commission meetings. The change was initiated as both the Commission and the Executive of the Police Service wish to be more transparent and communicate more information with the community.

In the past a great majority of the Commission agenda was discussed during the closed meeting and both parties see no reason why many of the agenda items could not be discussed during the open meeting. While some matters, outlined in Police Commission Policy, will remain on the closed agenda, such as matters relating to; discipline, personnel conduct, personal information of an individual, contract negotiations, security of Police operations, or requests for access to information under the FOIP Act, most other information will now be discussed during the open meeting.

A present barrier to the open meetings is that they are held in the Police Service Administration boardroom. Although the public are welcome to attend, people must sign in and be escorted through secure doors to an internal board room.

Open Commission Meetings will now commence at 5:00 pm on every third Thursday of the month.

NEW EDMONTON REMAND CENTRE

Edmonton's new remand centre is being built in the city's north end next to the Edmonton Young Offender Centre at 127 Street and 186 Avenue. The new facility will replace the 27-year-old Edmonton Remand Centre located in downtown Edmonton. It was one of four potential sites that were examined. It will house up to 2,000 inmates and alleviate overcrowding at the current facility. Government announced \$620 million to build the new facility. The selected site is 16-hectares or about the size of 20 CFL football fields.

The new remand centre will look like a modern low-rise office building. The design will allow landscaping to be used as an effective buffer. Enclosed exercise yards and exterior lighting that is directed toward the facility will minimize the impact on the neighbourhood. Construction of the new Edmonton Remand Centre started in 2007 and it will open in the fall of 2011.

MANITOBA IMPLEMENTS NEW RULES FOR REPORTING GUNSHOT AND STAB WOUNDS

New legislation that makes it mandatory for health-care facilities to report all gunshot wounds and certain stab wounds to police took effect Dec. 1 2008. The Gunshot and Stab Wounds Mandatory Reporting Act requires health-care facilities to notify police when they treat a patient with a gunshot wound or who appears to have been stabbed by someone else.

Health-care professionals would treat the patients' wounds first. The facility would report the wounds as soon as possible without interfering with treatment. The act does not apply to intentional or accidental self-inflicted stab wounds. Manitoba's existing Personal Health Information Act allows some information to be disclosed to prevent or lessen a serious and immediate threat to the health or safety of an individual or the public. The new legislation adds clarity for health-care professionals.

Information provided to the police under the new legislation will be limited to the fact that an individual with a wound is being treated, their name if it is known and the name and location of

the treatment facility. No other medical information would be shared.

POLICE OFFER ONLINE CRIME REPORTING TOOL

Victoria residents can now report small crimes using the Victoria police website.

The "Report Crime Online" tool lets people notify police of minor property crimes by individuals that are unknown to them at www.vicpd.ca.

They can use the tool if property under \$5,000 has been lost or stolen, if their property or vehicle has been vandalized, or their vehicle has been broken into. People can also report credit card, bank card or cheque fraud under \$5,000.

PROVINCE SUPPORTS WEST KELOWNA POLICING AUTONOMY

The District of West Kelowna will take full control of their community policing levels, supported by a \$2-million annual grant through 2012 and one-time restructuring money, Solicitor General John van Dongen and Okanagan-Westside MLA Rick Thorpe announced in signing a new Municipal Police Agreement (MPA).

"This is good news for West Kelowna because it gives them more decision-making power and autonomy over policing services," said van Dongen. "In addition, the Ministry of Community Development is providing \$1.17 million in one-time restructuring dollars, and West Kelowna will also be eligible for a traffic fine revenue grant beginning this year."

This ensures West Kelowna will have the same advantages as other municipalities policed by the RCMP in terms of accountability, setting police service levels and establishing policing priorities for their community.

West Kelowna, a municipality of nearly 30,000, was incorporated in 2007. It has been policed by the Kelowna RCMP Regional Detachment provincial police. Under the restructuring, West Kelowna will contract with the province for RCMP municipal services just like Kelowna, Lake Country, Vernon and Penticton, which share the cost of the RCMP with the federal government. West Kelowna will have a municipal police force of 21 members.

"We are very happy to be able to accomplish this before the originally scheduled time at the end of transition funding in 2013," said West Kelowna

Mayor Doug Findlater. "This allows us to set policing service levels and also to identify priorities for where we feel the RCMP should focus their time."

CALGARY LAUNCHES DOWNTOWN CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION PILOT PROJECT

The City of Calgary began a year-long pilot project in the January to test the effectiveness of a potential law enforcement tool. Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras are being installed in three downtown locations to help police and bylaw officers collect video evidence.

The cameras will be tested over the coming weeks and will be operational once the entire high-tech system is finely tuned.

Signage is now being posted in the CCTV locations so the public will be aware of the cameras once they are operational.

In March 2008, City Council approved a pilot project to test public video surveillance cameras. A total of sixteen CCTV cameras are being installed in three downtown locations for crime and social disorder (drug use, graffiti, assaults, etc.).

"The expected primary benefit of CCTV will be as an investigative tool, allowing police and bylaw officers to collect evidence for their investigations," says Bill Bruce, Director of Animal & Bylaw Services. "CCTV is not a cure-all for stopping crime. As always, the public still has a vital role to play in ensuring their personal safety. We also still need the public to call 9-1-1 when they see crimes or suspicious behaviour."

CCTV is not new to Calgary. Security cameras are in use by public and private organizations all over the city. What is new, is that The City of Calgary will be testing them in downtown trouble spots.

The three camera deployment areas are in the community of East Village and along Stephen Avenue Mall. Camera locations were identified through the review of multi-agency incident data, expert opinion and officer experience. During the CCTV pilot project, the camera locations may change based on new crime trends or operational factors.

Animal & Bylaw Services is leading this pilot project. The Calgary Police Service will be allowed to access footage to gather evidence upon request. The City's Information

Technology is providing the wireless infrastructure and Corporate Security will be randomly monitoring the cameras.

The City is taking the privacy requirements seriously on this pilot project. For example, in addition to public signage, the privacy of individuals in windows of buildings will be protected through image masking technology. There are also strict protocols for how video data may be accessed and retained for investigations. The City is working with the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta to ensure compliance with the existing privacy legislation and safeguards.

Animal & Bylaw Services will report the pilot project results back to the public and City Council within a year of full installation.

PROVINCIAL POLICING IN ALBERTA GETS MIXED REACTION

Having specialized police units co-ordinated at a provincial level has received a mixed reaction from the City of Red Deer.

The Solicitor General and Public Security ministry is seeking input on whether integrated police units, such as homicide investigations and undercover operations, should be co-ordinated provincially.

The city has officially responded by saying that specialized units, funded by the province, can be of support to local policing.

"Provincial co-ordination can be an issue, however, if there is not sufficient liaison to local policing," says a report supported by city council on Monday.

The province is looking at whether improvements need to be made to service delivery, governance and funding of policing. It has put out a draft Law Enforcement Framework Discussion Paper and Guide which suggests various services could be co-ordinated and delivered through the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) structure.

In 2006, the province created ALERT so that there could be better co-operation among joint force teams combating organized and serious crime activity in Alberta. It consists of police officers and civilian staff from various police services, including the RCMP, and brings them under one umbrella. Among those is the Integrated Child Exploitation Unit.

"The formation of ALERT was a positive step in the right direction but the potential benefit of true police integration remains restricted by the respective policies and practices of each participating agency," says the discussion paper.

The paper says that having co-ordinated and integrated specialized units would allow for more efficient response to criminal activities.

The discussion paper is also asking whether every community over 5,000 people should have a civilian oversight body or committee in place — a point the city “strongly disagrees” with.

“We want to have the flexibility to have the type of police committee and the type of police governance that will suit us,” said Mayor Morris Flewwelling. And the cost of policing should be shared more equitably, Flewwelling added.

GUELPH POLICE ASSOCIATION AND BOARD RATIFY AGREEMENT

The Guelph Police Services Board and the Guelph Police Association have ratified a new 2 year agreement that covers both the police and civilian members of the Service to the end of December 2010. The new agreements will be retroactive to January 1st, 2009 replacing the previous three year contract that expired on December 31st, 2008.

Under the new agreements, salaries for both civilian and police members will increase 2% in January 2009, a further 1.4% in July of 2009, and 2.6% for 2010. A further component of the settlement is the provision of a Health Spending Account for all eligible Retired members who retire subsequent to January 1st, 2009. This benefit is an annual maximum amount of \$2,000 which commences on the member’s 65th birthday and is for a period of 5 years. Other modest gains were realized by both parties through the negotiation process. This settlement continues to ensure Guelph Police Officer uniformity with their counterparts throughout Ontario. The salary increase follows the City established benchmarks determined by previous city negotiations and settlements.

Speaking on behalf of the Guelph Police Services Board, Chair David Clark commented that the settlement reached is consistent with other police service agreements and is fair to both the Association membership and the taxpayers of the City of Guelph. It is critical from the Board’s perspective that the Guelph Police Services remains competitive in attracting the highest caliber of new recruits and

experienced officers to address retirements and staffing demands in this highly competitive market.

Association President Constable Jeff Hunt agrees that the settlement is reasonable and fair and was achieved through a respectful cooperative process. Speaking on behalf of the Association Executive, Jeff expressed his gratitude to both the Board and the Association membership in reaching this agreement.

2009 CRIME PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM IN NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia’s first crime prevention symposium in April attracted hundreds of delegates who shared their best practices and innovative ways to reduce crime in the province. Police, youth, and grassroots organizations heard presentations on topics that included tips for parents, how to recognize youth at risk for committing crime, and services for victims of crime.

One of the many highlights of the symposium was the Minister’s Award for Leadership in Crime Prevention presentation. Eight awards were given to people or organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to crime prevention. The individual award was presented to Paula Marshall of the Mi’Kmaq Legal Support Network in Eskasoni. She took the network from a pilot project to a province-wide multi-service legal support program for Aboriginal persons. Rebecca Moore was the winner of the youth award. She is active in YouthScape, the Kitpu Youth Centre, Phoenix Youth Programs and In My Own Voice. In the community group category, two awards were presented. The Community Partnership on Drug Abuse in Cape Breton was presented an award for its work on building partnerships that address the issues surrounding drug abuse.

The other recipient in the category was the Eastern Communities Youth Association in Canso for its outreach programs for teens. In the police category, two awards were also presented. Cpl. Grant Webber of the RCMP Queens detachment was honored for his work with the Cops for Kids program and his help with Citizens on Patrol. Cst. Randy Wood of the Halifax Regional Police was recognized for his leadership in organizing block parties and bringing residents and landlords together.

The award recipient in the media category was Blair Rhodes of CBC television. His reporting has focused on crime prevention as part of the segment On Watch. The business category winner was Paul Gates of New Minas, owner of Gates Insurance.

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE

ALBERTA ASSOCIATION OF POLICE GOVERNANCE HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Patricia Tolppanen has accepted the Executive Director position with the Association of Alberta Police Governance (AAPG). Patricia comes to the position with seven years experience with the Calgary Police Commission; five as the Executive Director. She has been involved in all of the activities of AAPG since its inception in 2003 and is well versed in the importance of civilian oversight of police in the province.

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF POLICE SERVICES BOARDS HIRES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

President Mary Smiley and the Board of Directors of the Ontario Association of Police Services Boards (OAPSB) are pleased to announce the appointment of Fred Kaustinen as Executive Director. Fred is well known within the police community having been Executive Director of the Region of Durham Police Services Board for seven years and an associate professor of Humber College's Police Leadership Foundations program for the past two years.

CHIEF DANIEL PARKINSON ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

Chief Daniel C. Parkinson of the Cornwall Community Police Service was recently elected as the 58th president to lead Ontario's chiefs of police. Chief Parkinson was sworn in on June 24th at the association's 2009 annual conference in Sudbury.

FORMER POLICE CHIEF APPOINTED MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY & SOLICITOR GENERAL IN BC

Honourable Kash Heed was Chief of West Vancouver Police service prior to being elected MLA for Vancouver-Fraserview on May 12, 2009. Minister Heed has spent the past 30 years serving the public in law enforcement. He began his career as an officer with the Vancouver Police Department where he moved through the ranks of constable, detective, sergeant, inspector and superintendent.

CONFERENCES & EVENTS

CAPB



We hope that you will join us in scenic Cape Breton for the 20th Anniversary CAPB Conference:"

"A Fine Balance: Meeting the Challenges of Police Governance in a Changing World"

August 14 – 16, 2009
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Membertou, Nova Scotia

Check the website for updated program, hotel and companions tour information.

www.capb.ca



OAPSB Fall Seminar

"Exploring Crime Prevention and Board Governance Training"
October 22 & 23, 2009

Sheraton Parkway Hotel, Richmond Hill
Contact the OAPSB office for details.

Toronto Police Service

Police Misconduct Future Trends
Professional Standards Conference
October 26 – 28, 2009

Hyatt Regency Hotel
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