Public Safety Canada | Sécurité publique Canada

BUILDING A **SAFE** AND **RESILIENT CANADA**

Economics of Policing

Shared Forward Agenda

Canada

Context

- The **economics of policing** is about the efficiency and effectiveness of policing, and public safety more broadly.
- Canadian public are increasingly aware and engaged on issues related to policing.
  - Steady and significant growth in policing costs while reported crime is declining.
- Increasingly diverse and complex nature of police work.
  - Impact of factors such as mental health and addiction on police workload and emergence of significant new crimes (e.g., cyber, financial, terrorism).
- Governments and the police community are pursuing opportunities to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.
  - Engagement with citizens, police services and stakeholders on performance measures, priorities, role of police and the future of policing;
  - Taking actions to increase operational and structural efficiency and effectiveness;
  - Investing in proactive, integrated community safety approaches to get at the roots of crime.
- Momentum of change and innovation can benefit, in many areas, from a common strategy and actions.

Ministerial Direction & Status

All Federal, Provincial and Territorial (FPT) Ministers of Justice and Public Safety agreed to:

1. Convene a **Summit** on the Economics of Policing.

   Completed: Summit held January 2013.

2. **Share information** across jurisdictions on policies and practices that are targeted at improvements in the efficiency and effectiveness of policing.

   Launched and On-going: Index of Police Initiatives released August 2013.

3. Develop a **Shared Forward Agenda** or strategy for policing and public safety in Canada.

   Strategy approved November 2013.

Principles

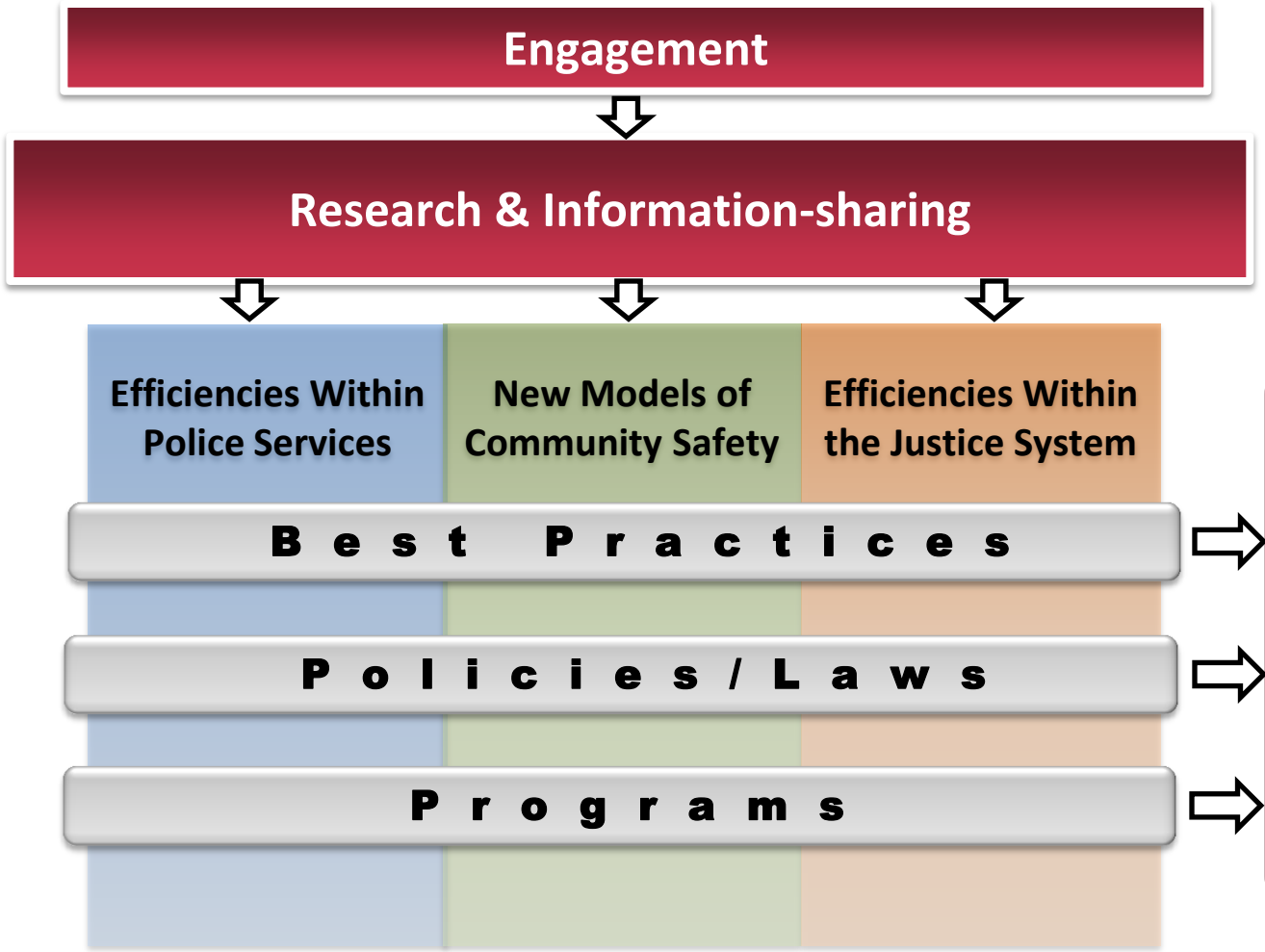
- The main principles behind the Shared Forward Agenda are to:
  - Cooperate collectively in those areas where it makes sense to do so, while respecting jurisdictional responsibilities.
  - Adopt a comprehensive and holistic approach to public safety.

Strategic Objectives

- The goals of the Shared Forward Agenda are to:

1. Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in Canada;
2. Encourage learning, innovation and the application of best practices;
3. Contribute to improved public safety outcomes and social well-being.

Shared Forward Agenda - Framework



Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of policing in Canada.

Encourage learning, innovation and the application of best practices.

Contribute to improved public safety outcomes and social well-being.

Foundational Elements – Research

- **Phase I - Early Actions**:
  1. Develop a police research plan.
  2. Establish a police research network.
  3. Implement a police research-sharing portal at Public Safety Canada.
  4. Draw on existing funding sources to advance a Canadian police research plan.

- **Phase II - Actions for Consideration**:
  1. Engage Canadians on the evolution and future of policing.

Foundational Elements – Information-sharing

- **Phase I - Early Actions**:
  1. On-going evolution of *Index of Police Initiatives*.
  2. Continued use of Public Safety Canada's Economics of Policing website as the main portal for information sharing.

- **Phase II - Actions for Consideration**:
  1. Organize on-going focused learning events (e.g., training, research, civilianization, tiered-policing, technology, etc.).
  2. Undertake exchanges of best policing practices with other democratic countries.
  3. Convene a second Economics of Policing Summit in January 2015 to review the progress of reform.

Pillar #1: Efficiencies Within Police Services

- **Phase I - Early Actions**:
  1. Develop and implement shared key police performance metrics linked to efficiency and effectiveness, as well as public safety outcomes.
  2. Expand implementation of human resource competency profiles and qualifications standards.

- **Phase II - Actions for Consideration**:
  1. Establish networks for procurement (uniforms, equipment) and shared services (information technology).
  2. Harmonize police recruitment and training and link to qualifications standards.
  3. Launch a pilot project to support the provision of reform advice to police services and the development of internal capacity to support continuous improvement.

Pillar #2: New Models of Community Safety

- **Phase I – Early Actions**:
  1. Coordinate and support the expansion of successful models of community safety in Canada and elsewhere (e.g., the HUB).
  2. Strengthen data collection and assessment of models.

- **Phase II - Actions for Consideration**:
  1. Collaborate on the examination and modification of practices, policies and legislation related to privacy and information-sharing to facilitate integrated, proactive models of community safety.
  2. Launch a pilot project to provide collective coordination and support to implement new models of community safety across Canada.

Pillar #3: Efficiencies Within the Justice System

- **Phase I – Early Actions**:
  1. Share information on reforms that improve justice efficiency (i.e., procedures, operations, technology, alternative measures, etc.).
  2. Identify policing priorities for justice reform and incorporate this information into current and future justice reform initiatives.

- **Phase II - Actions for Consideration**:
  1. Examine *Criminal Code* and other federal, provincial and municipal statutes in order to re-categorize lesser offences to ticketing/regulatory violations.

Next Steps

Engagement:

- Strategy development and implementation to continue to be led by all FPT governments and multi-stakeholder Steering Committee.

Implementation:

- Implement **Phase I** actions.
- Return in spring 2014 with a detailed work plan and timelines for **Phase II** actions.

Contact Us

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