



Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

Safety and security for all Canadians through innovative police leadership

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The CACP presents the Award of Excellence for Combating Organized Crime

CACP Award of Excellence for Combating Organized Crime



CALGARY, ALBERTA – Earlier today, during the 114th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACAP), we presented the *CACP Award of Excellence for Combating Organized Crime* to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Greater Toronto Area Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit (GTA – CFSEU) for the successful implementation of *Project Otremens*.

Over the last quarter century, we have seen the proliferation, unparalleled growth and prosperity of organized crime in Canada and around the world. Sponsored by Information Builders Canada, this award is intended to recognize and reward the contributions of individuals and/or teams who have exhibited excellence, innovation and initiative to detect, disrupt, and dismantle criminal organizations.



From left to right: Tara Myshrall (Information Builders Canada), Staff Sergeant Jeff Francis (RCMP), Chief Superintendent Mike LeSage (RCMP), Assistant Commissioner Kevin Hackett, M.O.M. (co-chair of the CACP Organized Crime Committee)

Project Otremens consisted of an operation to directly infiltrate traditional organized crime at its highest level. The initiative involved assistance from the policing community throughout Southern Ontario, Quebec, British Columbia and the FBI in New York. It allowed the unit to conduct raids in Hamilton, York Region, Niagara, Innisfil, Vancouver and Montreal.

The operation resulted in nine (9) people being charged for 75 offences including conspiracy to traffic fentanyl and carfentanyl, trafficking fentanyl and carfentanyl, heroin, conspiracy to import and traffic cocaine, trafficking cocaine, trafficking Methamphetamine, MDMA, MDA, LSD, weapons

trafficking, and trafficking of contraband tobacco and bookmaking.

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“Project Otremens sends a strong message that forging partnerships and modelling action plans to guide a unified law enforcement response to the threat of organized crime in Canada, is the most effective way to disrupt the efforts of criminals,” declared Assistant Commissioner Kevin Hackett, Co-Chair of the CACP’s Organized Crime Committee.

Tara Myshrall, Manager, Public Sector with Information Builders Canada, added that “Our company helps organizations discover how trusted data can take you from insight to action. We are proud to support the *CACP Award of Excellence for Combating Organized Crime* and we congratulate the RCMP’s GTA-CFSEU for their ability to advance from insight to action to keep our streets and communities safe from organized crime.”

Video footage pertaining to *Project Otremens* is available on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yUYH5oU-bPA&feature=youtu.be>.

For further information or to arrange a media interview, please contact:

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