



# Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police

Supporting police professionals through innovative and inclusive police leadership to advance the safety and security of all Canadians.

April 4, 2023

## CACP Statement: The CACP requests a meeting with Canada's provincial and territorial Premiers

The Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) is concerned about several urgent and emerging issues surrounding violence and policing in Canada.

We are concerned about the safety of our front-line police officers. We are concerned about how repeat violent offenders are being managed by Canada's justice system. We are concerned with the escalation of gun, gang, and other violent crime in our country, often intensified by mental health and addiction issues.

The CACP continues to enjoy a long-standing collaborative relationship with Public Safety Canada on matters involving community safety across the country. Given the importance and severity of our concerns, and the fact that policing falls under provincial jurisdiction, the CACP is also approaching the provincial and territorial Premiers to work together to achieve shared goals.

Communities are struggling, and our officers routinely go above and beyond their law enforcement duties to try to find solutions for people in crisis where significant gaps in other services exist and long-term solutions are simply not available. For far too long, the police have been used as a stopgap measure. Rather than recognizing the challenges being assumed by the policing community and supporting their efforts, the profession has been unfairly criticized and held accountable for many shortcomings of Canada's social, health, judicial and public safety infrastructure.

We stand united as police leaders committed to restoring pride in, and respect of, our profession. We stand united in our commitment to reversing the tide of vilification and politicization of policing. We stand united in our commitment to public safety and that of our front-line, thereby condemning all criminal acts of violence committed against Canadians, including our officers.

Public safety is a shared responsibility. Canada's police chiefs are accountable to the communities we serve. It's time for all public systems to come together to address the escalation of violence. As an essential partner in the public safety system, the CACP is seizing all opportunities to explore and implement solutions to public safety issues, and that hopefully includes discussions with Canada's provincial and territorial Premiers.

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[Click here](#) to access a copy of the letter sent to the Chair of the Council of the Federation of provincial and territorial Premiers, the Honourable Heather Stefanson, requesting an urgent meeting with the Premiers.