

CACP POLICING WITH FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS AND INUIT PEOPLES COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT 2014 – 2015

Introduction

The Policing with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples (PFNMIP) Committee is actively pursuing a renewed mandate with an enthusiastic membership that brings together broad representation of Canadian police services and stakeholders. This Committee offers an important mechanism to ensure that the needs and circumstances of Canada's indigenous peoples are recognized and addressed in keeping with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) mission of safety and security for all Canadians through innovative police leadership.

Committee Mandate:

The PFNMIP Committee mandate is to consider matters relating to sustainable policing services and enhanced public safety for indigenous peoples and their communities throughout Canada. This focus reflects a strong alignment with the CACP's new mission and objectives, as adopted at the Association's Annual General Meeting in August 2013. The Committee is intent on working collaboratively and meaningfully toward the common purpose of the CACP.

Committee Structure and Priorities:

The Committee retained its Committee Co-Chair structure through 2014 – 2015 and successfully added to its membership through representation from urban areas with significant indigenous populations. Co-Chair Chief Doug Paulson was replaced by Inspector Dan Jones. The Committee meeting schedule includes fall and spring meetings, with the possibility of additional meetings, either in person or via teleconference.

The Committee's strategic priorities for 2014 – 2015 remained unchanged from the previous year and were reviewed and confirmed at its fall meeting:

1. Sustainability for policing with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples.
2. Crime prevention, reduction, detection and investigation of all matters that specifically affect First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities.
3. Build and sustain respectful partnerships, addressing service delivery and social welfare issues to enhance First Nations, Métis and Inuit policing.

Committee meetings through the 2014 – 2015 term provided the venue for information sharing in terms of common interests, challenges and priorities with particular emphasis on strong, issue-based content and discussion and collection of best practices in relation to the identified strategic priorities.

2014 – 2015 Highlights:

Committee meetings on November 27, 2014 and May 12/13, 2015. Highlights include:

1) Presentation to Committee on the May 2014 RCMP Operational Overview on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal women and a subsequent presentation on the Update to the RCMP Operational Overview at the May 2015 meeting. Agreement that the over-representation of Aboriginal women as victims of disappearance and homicide is an issue that requires alignment of the police community and a multi-disciplinary response from all stakeholders.

CACP committee members reinforced the need for continued dialogue between the RCMP and CACP partner agencies in public communications efforts that reinforce the need for integration and broad partner support. Continued CACP engagement and dialogue resulted in Clive Weighhill, the President of the CACP, issuing a simultaneous press release relative to the 2015 RCMP Update to the National Operational Overview on June 19, 2015 (CACP Press Release attached for reference).

2) Committee meetings have focused on police preparedness for large scale protest activities and continued situational awareness of Aboriginal issues that may stimulate a ripple of protest events across the country. Presentations from RCMP SME's on the RCMP's Measured Approach and the tactical considerations in the Elsipogtog, New Brunswick shale gas protests were provided.

Committee participants also discussed and were also provided the OPP and RCMP Protest Frameworks, as well as awareness of the OPP's Provincial Liaison Team (PLT) role at protest events and the nature of the training received by PLT members. Awareness was provided that the RCMP is modeling a similar training standard, rolling out an RCMP Division Liaison Team (DLT) course in the near future.

There is much interest in the protest frameworks of the OPP and RCMP, as well as the training products available and it has been expressed that these products have been meaningful contributions to the alignment of the police community response to protest activity. The committee has reinforced the ongoing need for alignment of the police community in preparedness for protest activities. The committee has lauded the efforts of the RCMP Commissioner of engaging with the major police chiefs when protest events escalate in Canada, ensuring situational awareness and consistency of approach.

3) RCMP participation on the committee has contributed to a diversity of perspectives and policing considerations responsive to enhanced service delivery in Aboriginal communities. Presentations from RCMP members servicing First Nations, Metis and Inuit communities from isolated and rural communities have complemented experiential feedback shared by municipal police chiefs, as it pertains to maximizing service delivery to Aboriginal peoples.

Planned initiatives for 2015-2016

•The need for broad multi-sectoral engagement on the issue of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal women is a point of agreement. The CACP is being proactive in contributing to the alignment of stakeholder effort responsive to this priority and has initiated plans for a conference in Winnipeg in 2016 entitled "Moving Forward Safer Future – An Inclusive Dialogue Among Police, Policy Makers and Canada's Aboriginal Peoples. This committee will continue in the coordination efforts for this 2016 Conference.

•The CACP President and this committee have been complimentary of RCMP research efforts on the issue of Missing and Murdered Aboriginal women. The RCMP efforts have provided meaningful recommendations and informed the prevention efforts of the police community. There is alignment of CACP committee participants and a desire to collectively contribute to multi-sectoral prevention efforts to impact root causal factors that contribute to the over-representation of Aboriginal women as victims of disappearance and homicide.

•The committee has expressed a desire to be responsive to the Calls To Action that came out of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Consideration of the TRC recommendations and steps that the police community should consider in service delivery to Aboriginal peoples is a matter that will be discussed and explored this year.

•The committee has expressed a desire to continue the work on protest management, identifying national best practices as it pertains to frameworks, training and operational response.

The Committee meeting schedule for 2013 – 2014:

- September 2014– Ottawa, Ontario
- March 2015– Ottawa, Ontario
- August 2015 – Quebec City Quebec
- November 2015 – Ottawa Ontario

Strategic Priorities 2014 – 2015:

In keeping with the CACP mission and objectives, the PFMIP Committee will address key priorities in the year ahead with the objective of furthering the Committee's previously identified strategic priorities. These include:

1. Sustainability for policing with First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples:
 - examine and promote opportunities to address issues of long-term sustainability of effective and culturally-responsive policing for First Nations and Inuit communities, in keeping with Resolution 2013 – 04.
2. Measured and consistent approach to protest management:
 - examine and canvass police service best practices and pertinent legislation governing protest management across policing jurisdictions to support development of:
 - i) best practice resource;
 - ii) training opportunities;
 - iii) model policy / guideline for Canadian police services.
3. Violence against indigenous women and girls:
 - advocate for and contribute to work that would increase the safety and security of women and girls, including prevention of crime and victimization, examining and sharing best practices and procedures, continued support for sustainability of First Nations / Inuit policing.
 - seek to work collaboratively with other CACP Committees, including Victims of Crime and Crime Prevention Committees.

Committee Members:

Insp. Dan Jones, Co-Chair	Edmonton Police Service
C/Supt. Tyler Bates, Co-Chair	RCMP National Aboriginal Policing Service
C/Supt. Shirley Cuillierrier	RCMP National Aboriginal Policing Service
Supt. Darrell Beaton	RCMP Northeast Nova Scotia District
Supt. Jeff Bent	Saskatoon Police Service
Insp. Richard Bissonnette	Sûreté du Québec
Chief Lee Boyd	Blood Tribe Police Service
S/Sgt. Bob Christmas	Winnipeg Police Service
Chief Leanne Fitch	Fredericton Police Service
Insp. Mario Giardini	Vancouver Police Department
Supt. Richard Hinse	Calgary Police Service
Chief JP Levesque	Thunder Bay Police Service
Ray Levesque, Manager	Public Safety Canada Aboriginal Policing Directorate
Assistant Commissioner Norm Lipinski	RCMP E Division Headquarters
Chief Ivan McClelland	Canadian Pacific Police Service
Chief William Moffat	Naskapi Police Department
Deputy Chief Bob Morin	Regina Police Service
Richard Peach, Exec. Director	Saskatchewan Police Commission
David Snoddy, Director Community Development	Ottawa Police Service
Chief Jerry Swamp	Akwesasne Mohawk Police
Chief (Rtd) Dave Whitlow	Anishinabek Police Service
Supt. Curtis Zablocki	RCMP Battle River

The Committee acknowledges the support of the CACP Board of Directors and staff, as well as that of members who have left the Committee in the past year, and thanks them and all other contributors for their valuable insight and commitment to the work of the CACP Policing with First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples (PFNMIP) Committee.