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October 2000



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## Inside This Edition

Publisher's Commentary	4
Correspondence	6
<b>Growth, knowledge and acceptance</b> <i>After 15 years the Six Nations Police continues its evolution</i>	9
<b>Keeping the circle strong</b> <i>An aboriginal community gains control over prescription drug abuse</i>	11
<b>Award recognizes innovative approach to youth justice</b>	12
<b>Is it a toy gun or the real deal?</b>	14
<b>Replica guns - An officer's field guide</b>	16
<b>Don't ignore domestic violence</b>	18
<b>Toronto helicopter project lifts off</b>	20
<b>Chopper takes to the skies to locate marijuana</b>	20
<b>RCMP may charge tuition</b>	21
<b>Officers die in plane crash</b>	21
<b>Technology</b> <i>Successfully searching the internet can be a real challenge. But using the right tools and a few tricks can improve your level of success</i>	22
<b>Henson College Graduates</b> <i>Fall 1999 - Spring 2000</i>	23
<b>Is your dive team up to standard?</b>	24
<b>Zaccardelli takes over as commissioner</b>	25
<b>Complacency and bad habits</b>	26
<b>Have you been scrummed?</b>	27
<b>Victims services and the national parole board</b>	28
<b>Vitality</b> <i>The minimum exercise for healthy results</i>	30
<b>Product News</b>	32
<b>List of Advertisers</b>	32
<b>Blue Line Classified</b>	36
<b>Bandwagons</b> <i>Comments and housekeeping issues</i>	38



Six Nations Police Cst. Marwood White appears on the cover of the October issue. White and his fellow officers who serve with the Six Nations Police Service in Ontario, share a special bond with the community they are sworn to protect.

Blue Line Magazine News Editor Les Linder provides readers with a detailed profile of how Canada's first stand-alone First Nations Police Service has fared during its first 15 years.

Replica firearms, the *Firearms Act* and law enforcement do not always go hand-in-hand as Blue Line Magazine's Tactical Firearms Editor Dave Brown learned while preparing the piece which can be found on page 16.

In this edition, we also bring you the story of two veteran Winnipeg Police officers who were the first recipients of the new Minister of Justice National Youth Justice Policing Award.

Csts. Willie Ducharme and Rick Kosowan received their awards, in recognition of their community policing efforts, at the annual Canadian Association of Chief of Police Conference in August.

News of policing and helicopters is in the air and Blue Line Magazine has endeavoured to supply you, our loyal readers, with up-to-date information that has been swirling around in Toronto, London and northern Ontario.

John Muldoon continues his series on law and enforcement and the media. In this issue he has provided the low-down on scrums. If you have ever had to face microphones, cameras and spotlights, you'll want to turn to page 27.

Robert Lunney has put finger to keyboard and can once again be found in the pages of this magazine. After having returned from the United States recently, he provides us with some comparisons and contrasts between the "land of the free" and "our home and native land."

Of course, we have a lot more in store for you between the covers of the October issue. You will find the regular mix of timely news, exciting product information and thrilling features that you have come to expect.

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On August 29th two officers received the Canadian Banks' Law Enforcement Award at a banquet held in their honour at the annual gathering of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.



**Detective Leonard P. McGowan**, Toronto Police Service's Fraud Unit, was instrumental in ending the activities of three organised criminal groups, preventing millions of dollars of potential losses to individual Canadians and the banking industry. His work and dedication targeted an organised crime group dealing with counterfeit credit cards. He also worked with foreign and domestic law enforcement agencies to round up criminals involved in cashing fraudulent cheques. In another case, Detective McGowan investigated a series of mail thefts targeting a number of financial institutions. In these three cases, 14 suspects were arrested, a number of charges were laid and large amounts of money were recovered.

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**Corporal William James Trudeau**, of the Victoria Police Department, placed himself at extreme risk to apprehend two lifelong criminals following a bank robbery in Victoria. During a high-speed chase, the bandits fired several shots at Corporal Trudeau's motorcycle yet he managed to

assist other officers in apprehending the robbers despite sustaining injuries when his motorcycle crashed. One of the suspects was sentenced to 18 years in prison while the other is awaiting his sentence hearing.

On behalf of Det. McGowan and himself, Cpl. Trudeau made the following comments at the Award ceremonies.

"I am pleased to accept this award not only for myself, but for all of the members of the City of Victoria Police Department who were involved in the arrest of both Stephen Reid and Allan McCallum on June 9th, 1999.

The arrest of these two criminals was a result of team work involving police men and women on the street, as well as civilian employees working in the communications center. There were numerous police officers involved in any number of ways, from traffic control in the area, to the emergency response team searching an apartment building for, and arresting Stephen Reid.

I would also like to take a moment to recognize some people directly involved in this, who sometimes seem to get lost in the shuffle and excitement. After I had concluded giving evidence against Stephen Reid in December of 1999, I was asked how I felt about the publicity Stephen Reid had been receiving since the June robbery.

For those of you who don't know, Mr. Reid had been portrayed by some in the local and national media as a kind of Robin Hood character. A person of note because of a book he had written, and because of the life he led since being released from prison so long ago for dozens of robberies he had committed.

Because of some of those stories and articles, Stephen Reid was a star, a media darling. He just made a mistake. After all, in those countless admitted robberies, all involving firearms from handguns to shotguns, he had never hurt anyone. I could not imagine how intelligent reporters and writers could think no one was hurt in those robberies.

I took the opportunity to point out to the reporter on those court house steps that Stephen Reid was not a "bank robber." You can't rob a bank. A bank is a building. What he did do was walk into a bank, threaten and terrorized those bank employees with the use of a shotgun. He robbed people of their dignity and emotional well-being.

Those bank employees are someone's father, brother, husband, mother, sister or wife. They had a gun pointed at their heads not knowing if they would ever see their loved ones again. How can anyone say this man, Stephen Reid, never hurt anyone? Ask his victims how they feel. Ask them if they were hurt.

Apparently, the friends of Stephen Reid, who made him out to be some sort of unfortunate soul, never thought of that. They have never had to look down the business end of a shotgun.

To all those employees of the Royal Bank of Canada at 304 Cook Street in Victoria, who had the unfortunate experience of being robbed at gun point by Mr. Reid, part of this award belongs to you too."

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I'd like to respond to the "Back of the Book" article by Robert Stevens in your August/September issue. The article was titled "Life sentences are only for Senators".

My point in writing to you is not to debate the issue of consecutive life sentences. Rather I would just like to correct some misinformation. In the last line of Mr. Steven's article he makes a statement which is factually incorrect and which could lead readers to make the wrong assumption about how life sentences are administered in Canada. He states "Convicted killers in Canada average about seven years" meaning I believe that they only serve that long in prison. That is not correct.

A life sentence in Canada means that the convicted person is accountable to the criminal justice system for the rest of his/her natural life. Parole eligibility is laid out in the Criminal Code and the Corrections and Conditional Release Act. Where life is the minimum sentence, i.e. for murder, parole eligibility is between 10 and 25 years. Therefore the earliest an offender could get out would be 10 years.

Most "lifers" however are not released at their earliest eligibility. The decision to release any offender on parole is made after a thorough assessment of the risk that offender will present to the community. There is no such thing as an automatic release for an offender serving a life sentence. Any offender released on parole continues to serve the sentence in the community, is supervised by a parole officer and has to abide by several conditions, including reporting to the police. The parole can be revoked for a breach of a condition, without committing a new offence, and the offender is returned to prison.

I hope that your readers will understand that not all life sentenced offenders are released on parole, and that those who are released certainly serve substantially more than seven years in custody, and then remain under supervision for the rest of their lives.

*Simonne Ferguson  
Regional Director  
National Parole Board  
Ontario Region*

Out of sight, out of mind? There is little more rewarding for a police service, I suspect, than almost eradicating a problem as serious as drug trafficking from its community (New Westminster police crackdown on drug dealers, June/July, 2000).

Having worked with members of this service, among hundreds of others throughout B.C. and Alberta, I can attest to the fervour with which I am certain this problem was tackled and applaud the service for its efforts. A question conspicuously absent in the article, however, is "Where did the problem go?"

As long as we rely almost entirely on the police to address these issues, we can expect approaches focused on additional officers, 'rigid enforcement' and police saturation. It also follows that we can expect little more than the displacement of yet another complex social issue to another jurisdiction.

When will we learn that shifting problems from community to community is resource intensive, expensive, and futile? When will we start to direct our resources and attention to more effective and comprehensive strategies and address the root causes? When will we realize the limited scope and resources of police are insufficient to adequately address these issues? This shift in thinking, epitomized in community policing rhetoric, needs to occur and this is yet another example of how overdue it is.

*Darren R. Caul  
Calgary, AB*

Having just read your editorial comments regarding external body armour (It's time to talk, June/July 2000), I feel that you've hit the nail on the head. I work at a medium sized detachment and of the approximately 45 members, I know of only three that wear an internal carrier when wearing their vests. I've heard the excuse that internal carriers are far too hot and uncomfortable in summer (I suppose our US counterparts in the south must be superhuman to withstand their heat with a vest under the shirt). And what about the winter?

In my opinion, the external carrier also present a sloppy appearance in many cases. The gap between the bottom of the vest and the top of the trousers is quite a contrast especially in the RCMP where our shirts are grey and the carrier is navy blue. This is very apparent with members that are overweight. In an occupation that is under constant public scrutiny, a neat, professional image is very important.

I have also seen occasions where a member has removed his or her vest in the office for comfort while catching up on paperwork and an urgent call has come in. The member in one case left their vest on the back of the chair in their rush to get out to the call.

Having said this, it is undoubtedly preferable to have police officers wear an external vest than no vest at all. I will continue to utilize my internal carrier and encourage others to do the same.

*Name withheld by request*

I would like to make some additional remarks to your commentary in the June/July 2000 issue of *Blue Line Magazine* regarding the external vest carriers. Being one of the many front line officers issued the dark blue carriers, complete with plastic hooks and rings resembling more of a parachute harness than anything else, I tend to agree with your position on the matter of external body armour. I don't believe in advertising the ace up my sleeve that could save my life, should some bad guy decide to save the taxpayers a few dollars in paying out my retirement pension. Therefore, I ensure that my armour stays under my uniform at all times.

I do, however, disagree with some of your other points. In your commentary, you addressed the all-important public relations argument. You made comparisons to the military and Vietnam era soldiers with the new era cop and his intimi-

dating appearance. Nobody wants a bunch of commandos running around our streets scaring our children, right? You lapsed back to the good old days where, "At one time police agencies were more interested in giving their officers a more dressed and authoritative appearance". Well, I too remember those days. I think that it is this type of thinking that keeps us from progressing at the speed of the criminal.

Things have changed for a reason. Yes, it would be nice to still be dressed in shiny leather soled Oxfords, pressed dress pants, a cap that never falls off, and a perfect length tie with a gold tie clip. Unfortunately, the 10 per cent of the time I need good grip rubber soled boots, extra pockets to carry the myriad of additional tools that we carry in pants that won't rip while I'm jumping fences or searching bushes, and no tie and hat to lose in the process, far outweighs the 90 per cent of the time my life doesn't depend on it.

*John Rajman  
Fort McMurray, Alberta*

### **Publisher's Response**

Thanks for the comments... and what you say is absolutely correct. I really meant that there is no motivation for the garment industry if the demand for a sharper looking uniform is not there. I want to encourage officers to go for the functional style but think about the appearance of what they are buying. The old tunic I wore back in the early 70's was horrible to work in but looked good. We don't want that. It was dictated from the top brass by price and looks and the cops weren't even in the equation.

Let me start by saying that I really enjoy your magazine. It is an accurate and informative publication that provides "chaffless wheat" for the reader.

I just wanted to give you a quick pat on the back. Your recent repeat commentary on external soft body armour carriers was right on the mark (no pun intended). Here in Windsor, the internal carriers are used and I am convinced we made the right decision based on the rationale you provided in your article. Thanks for spreading your wisdom on the matter to everyone in the policing community.

On a different note, I also wanted to tell you that I really enjoyed an article you did a while back about the need for new recruits to seek the advice of their local pastor in addition to being physically and mentally fit. It is my opinion that if a person is spiritually strong, the other things fall into place easier. Without such focus, an uphill battle is assured. Like many, I know this from experience. Here in Windsor, we are blessed by the strong chaplaincy program and services offered by our two participating clergy. They do a magnificent job.

*Barry Horrobin  
Windsor Police Service*

### **Publisher's Response**

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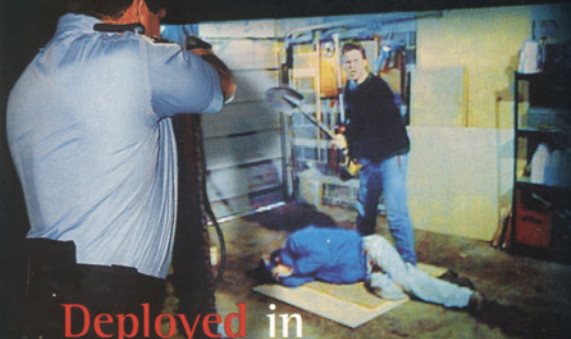
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# Growth, knowledge and acceptance

## After 15 years the Six Nations Police Service continues its evolution

by Les Linder



Since they took over from the Ontario Provincial Police in 1985, the Six Nations Police Service has had to face a set of unique challenges in bringing safety to the community and trust in its police officers.

Leading this agency is Police Chief Glenn Lickers, a native of the Six Nations community and formerly a seven-year member of the RCMP.

When the community's band council committee began spearheading a police initiative and looking for someone to lead the way, Lickers saw it as an opportunity to go home and serve his community.

However, going back to the Six Nations community of approximately 21,000 people and creating a police service that would be accepted by the community was going to be a challenge.

"There was only myself and one other officer who had any experience or history in policing when we started here," Lickers said. "We had to start from scratch and train new recruits. This meant almost our entire service was comprised of young, inexperienced officers."

Despite the lack of experience among the officers, they had one thing going for them which the community embraced; all the members that joined the fledgling agency were from the community. Lickers felt people would be more accepting of officers drawn from their own community.

"Every officer here has a vested interest in what they are doing because it's their family and friends they are serving," he said. "The big plus is that it is more than just a job because you are working toward making the community you live in a safer place."

Lickers said another benefit of such a system is that officers can see the results of their efforts as the years pass.

"A lot of times in other urban settings, policing just becomes a job where you just go in to do the work that needs to be done," he said. "In many places you don't get to see the results of your success and see the impact you have."

Sgt. Rob Davis has had the opportunity to witness those changes. The 29-year old has been with the Six Nations Police for six years and said the changes over the past 20 years have been amazing.

"I can remember seeing two OPP officers trying to cover the whole reserve when I was a kid," Davis said. "There was a lack of respect for them because they were seen as outsiders. A lot of people wouldn't even talk to them if they witnessed a crime."

Since the new agency was formed, Davis said many people have become more trusting of the police but there are small groups that still lack respect or trust.

"There are a few people here who won't



**TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS: Sgt. Rob Davis (left) and Cst. Les Skye (far right) consult on matters with fellow officers outside of the Six Nations Police Headquarters.**

accept Canadian law as the law of the land and believe that the Criminal Code is a foreign law that has been imposed on them," Davis concluded.

This mistrust has a legacy born from the hated Indian Act of earlier years that saw Draconian type regulations imposed on the mobil-

*continued page 10*

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ity and freedoms of First Nations people.

Davis said the reason people are more trusting now is because they know who the officers are and that they are not a nameless stranger in a uniform.

"Everyone in the community knows each other well and we understand people's situation or problems."

Problems can occasionally arise from this, though, when an officer is related to someone being investigated by police. However, the 20-member police service is now large enough to assign a different officer to a call or investigation if a conflict of interest occurs.

Chief Lickers advises that with such close ties to the community, police accountability is rarely a problem. If an alleged discrepancy involving an officer on duty should arise, the police service is usually notified promptly. Lickers believes that this accountability is what determines whether or not the Six Nations Police Service will continue to function.

"We came into existence by the passing of the band council resolution," Lickers said. "They could pass a motion to disband us if they wanted to. That's a reality for us and I don't believe there are many, if any, non-native police services that have to work under those conditions."

The policing agreements negotiated between the agency and the government is for either three or five years in length, depending on what the government decides. Lickers points out that it is difficult to attract quality people when he can only assure them they have a five year policing agreement. He is confident, however, the force will be around much longer.

Lickers points out there is a positive side to this limitation. "If band council had to do something as drastic as disband us, they would only do so if there was a lot of pressure from the community to do that. The only time you would see that pressure is if we weren't doing our jobs. Therefore the fact that we still exist at all is an endorsement of our efforts," Lickers concludes.

The Six Nations community has had its fair share of negative experiences with law enforcement in its history. Both the RCMP and OPP were mistrusted by the community and received little respect for their authority. Lickers wanted to make sure that when his police service took over, history would not repeat itself. To accomplish that, he set up a system to educate people about the police service and what to expect from them. It's an ongoing responsibility that each officer has adopted.



**A BIT OF HISTORY:** Pictured here in a photograph which appeared in the October 1991 edition of *Blue Line Magazine* are (from left to right) Constables Terry Martin, Richard Johnson, Misti Anthony, Ronald Johnson, Chief Glenn Lickers, OPP Insp. Bill Hutton, Constables Martin Miller, David Whitlow and Rocki Smith. The Six Nations was the first stand-alone First Nations Police Service in Canada.

"A lot of young people are participating in co-op programs and enrolling in college police foundations programs and law and security classes," Lickers said. "They can now see First Nations peoples involvement in policing has snowballed and that policing is just another opportunity out there for them."

Cst. Les Skye, 27, saw an opportunity to serve his own community five years ago and dedicated himself to getting on the force. He attended college to study law and security and served as an auxiliary officer for 10 months.

"I tried out several times before being hired," Skye said. "I was determined to serve in my own community."

While almost all police officers in any service have a close sense of comradery, Skye says it is even closer among Six Nations officers.

"We understand each other really well and know exactly how the other person thinks," he said. "We've been together so long that there is great communication between us."

While Lickers said he would like to get more funding to expand his service a bit further, he also feels he is close to his ideal complement.

"We could always use a few more officers," he said. "There's been a great demand for another community services officer. People want us to be involved in more programs with them and I would like to be able to provide that."

A future "wish list" for the force would be to start its own forensic identification unit so they will not have to depend on an outside agency for that service. "Once we reach our ideal complement, we will be able to focus entirely on providing our community with more specialized services," Lickers said.

Since the force was created, the people of the Six Nations Police Service have had a set of goals they wanted to achieve. Lickers points out that it was a community venture with many difficulties in the beginning. However, in the end, what success they've enjoyed was through their own efforts and not handed to them in a fail-safe package.

Skeptics told him he should have used a transitional period when first starting the police service, but he knew the community would never accept it.

"We had to take the bull by the horns and ask the community to be patient with us."

The community was asked to afford them the opportunity to make mistakes. It was only through this community tolerance that a more solid foundation could be built.

Lickers says for the most part the community did give them the breathing room they needed.

"Every year that went by put experience under our belt. We have always said we will do what is right for the community. As long as we maintain that, then we'll be around for a long time."



**Lickers**

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# Keeping the circle strong

## An aboriginal community gains control over prescription drug abuse

by *Nicholas Levesque*  
Reprinted From: *Pony Express*

When Cst. Stephen Gloade observed the violence and injury to residents in two Mi'kmaq communities near his Nova Scotia RCMP detachment because of widespread misuse of prescription drugs and the pills that were making their way into the schools and into the hands of young children, he knew drastic action was needed immediately. Gloade and aboriginal community health nurse Margie Pelletier both felt the problem did not need to be contained; it needed to be wiped out.

Because of his efforts, Gloade was awarded the Nechi Medal of Distinction at a banquet hosted during National Drug Addictions Awareness Week in Edmonton this past November. The award honours individuals, agencies, and communities who have had a positive impact on addictions awareness and healing through their "tireless strength, initiative and devotion to keeping the circle strong."

Gloade worked with two Mi'kmaq First Nations to combat the substance abuse and violence that plagued their communities. As a result of the success of his initiative, similar programs have been established in other areas of Canada.

Gloade has been stationed at Baddeck Detachment since April 1996. Baddeck (pop. 1,064) is one of the largest communities on the Bras d'Or Lakes watershed on Cape Breton Island. It is located about 350 km northeast of Halifax. The detachment polices Wagmatcook First Nation (pop. 558) and an area adjacent to the Waycobah First Nation reserve (pop. 623).

By calling together the communities' doctors, medical service advisors, pharmacists, addiction and drug counsellors, and police officers, Gloade got them to focus on the misuse of prescription drugs. The group met for the first time in February 1997 at the Victoria County Memorial Hospital in Baddeck.

The strategy brought dramatic results. By June of 1997, after the first meeting on prescription drug misuse, the sale of prescription pills in Wagmatcook had declined 90 to 95 percent. What's more, between April and December 1997, arrests by members of Baddeck Detachment dropped to 110 persons, down from 174 during the same period in 1996. Forty-three of those arrested in 1997 were Wagmatcook band members, down from 113 the previous year. In 1998, the total was 120 persons, only 42 of which were Wagmatcook band members arrested on the Wagmatcook community.

Health Canada statistics show that, between 1996 and 1999, the top two prescription drug users in Wagmatcook obtained some 40,000 fewer pills, or an average of 18-and-a-half fewer prescriptions yearly each, assuming dosages of one pill per day. This means that some 40,000 pills did not reach the community.

Gloade acknowledges the contribution of Health Canada, which also helped produce an educational video on the Baddeck experience.

"If not for them taking a special interest in our group, it would never have reached the level it has today," he says. "There is no secret for-

mula or special magic to what we have helped accomplish. It's all due to everyone sharing the same goal and keeping the protection of our children in mind."

Gloade's strategy has captured the attention of the health community, addiction counsellors and enforcement officers elsewhere. The Indian Brook Detachment in Shubenacadie, about 55 km north of Halifax, called Gloade for information after hearing about his prescription drug misuse meeting. Indian Brook is attempting a meeting in their community following the same



structure as the one held in Baddeck. Gloade has also travelled to British Columbia and Quebec to give presentations on his program.

Nechi Training, Research & Health Promotions Institute celebrated its 25th anniversary this year. Since its foundation, Nechi has earned an international reputation as a pioneer in the field of addictions recovery and a credible resource for research in Aboriginal population health.

**Cst. Stephen Gloade can be reached at 902 295-2350.**

## Constable killed in crash

A veteran police officer died in late August as a result of injuries sustained after suspected thieves crashed into his cruiser with a van.

Cst. Alain Forget of the St. Hubert police service, located on the south shore of Montreal, died a short time after the incident.

The incident began when three armed suspects robbed a credit union. Witnesses notified authorities with a description of the

vehicle used in the crime and when the vehicle was seen by police a chase ensued.

A roadblock was erected to stop the suspects, but they failed to comply and instead rammed the cruiser, said Luc Bousquet of the St. Hubert police.

Two of the three suspects sustained minor injuries in the crash.

They were all taken into custody following the incident.

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# Award recognizes innovative approaches to youth justice

In communities all across Canada police officers are coming up with new ways to deal with youth in trouble with the law. There is a growing appreciation of the value and effectiveness of early intervention to deal with or prevent youth crime and many individual officers are leading the way in the implementation of new approaches to youth justice.

Anne McLellan, the federal minister of justice, wants these special efforts to be recognized. Her department teamed up with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police to establish a new award - the Minister of Justice National Youth Justice Policing Award - to recognize the outstanding and innovative achievements of police officers dealing with youth crime. The new award was presented for the first time on Aug. 27, at this year's annual CACP conference in Saint John, N.B.

The minister's award was created to "recognize the efforts of police officers, singly or as a team, who undertake their work in a manner that reflects, promotes and is consistent with the spirit and goals of the government's Youth Justice Renewal Initiative, particularly the new Youth Criminal Justice Act."

The new Youth Criminal Justice Act, known as Bill C-3, was introduced to Parliament during the last sitting and will be on the agenda again when the House of Commons resumes this fall.

It has the following overall objectives:

- to prevent youth crime by addressing the circumstances underlying a young person's offending behaviour;
- to ensure meaningful consequences for offences committed by youth; and
- to improve rehabilitation and reintegration for young persons returning to the community.

The awards program highlights this approach to youth justice and recognizes outstanding examples of its use by police officers across Canada. Many officers are already working with community organizations to deal with young people outside the court process. They have discovered measures that repair harm



**Cst. Rick Kosowan**

caused to victims as well as re-integrate young people into the community.

This community-based approach brings victims into the process and enhances a community's sense of safety. It provides extra support for young people in trouble. It is less costly than expensive and lengthy formal court procedures and it involves a new way of policing.

The Minister's Award draws attention to this new approach to policing and provides an opportunity to highlight the outstanding achievements of individual police officers who are practising it in their own communities.

The awards process started with a call for nominations in June of this year. Police services, other organizations, communities and individuals were invited to nominate police officers who had found innovative ways to deal with and/or prevent youth crime.

Nominators were asked to describe their candidates by addressing key themes, such as creativity and innovation; the use of police discretion in finding ways to work with offensive behaviour outside the courts; how youth accountability was maintained and community-based solutions encouraged; and how the nominated officers fostered a partnership approach to working with young people in trouble.

The response was remarkable. Almost 50 entries were received from a variety of organizations working in the youth justice community. Most were from police departments, but many also came from community groups, schools, and Aboriginal organizations. Each one nominated one or more police officers who had made a special difference working with youth in their own community.

In the end, two veterans in the Winnipeg Police Services, Csts. Willie Ducharme and Rick Kosowan, were selected for the Minister's Award. These two officers went into Winnipeg's tough north end as community policing officers in 1995. The area is well known for its problems - low incomes, many single parent families, alcohol and substance abuse, drugs, gangs and prostitution.

The two officers set out to establish them-



**Cst. Willie Ducharme**

selves as a friendly presence in the community and to build trust with youth along with their elders, school officials and other community leaders - especially in the Aboriginal community. One of their first acts was to hold a community dinner modelled on the Aboriginal tradition of an annual spring feast provided by a tribe's peacekeeper/warriors. Since there was no police budget for an event like this, the two officers canvassed community merchants and gathered enough food and drink for the 600 people who attended.

The feast was held at the Indian and Metis Friendship Centre in Winnipeg's north end. It was a great success and got the two officers off on the right foot in this tough community. Slowly, but surely, their outreach efforts began to pay off. Increasingly, young people in trouble, their parents and their teachers sought the counsel of Constables Rick and Willie. On duty or not, they were glad to respond. They began to mediate problems and took the training needed to facilitate community justice forums.

In the last two years they have made significant progress with the Community Justice Forum approach and have helped many young offenders and their victims arrive at just solutions to problem behaviour without resorting to the formal courtroom process. At the same time, they have spread the message of their new approach to other communities and have acted as role models for youth and for others who want to build better, safer communities.

Ducharme and Kosowan have been involved in many other activities as well. The list includes: an Aboriginal employment programme; work with gang members and other youth at Winnipeg Native Alliance; travel to northern communities to prepare youth for the transition to urban life; a police summer student/recruitment programme; and Aboriginal teachings and ceremonies for recruits and members of the Winnipeg Police Service.

Ducharme and Kosowan have been honoured by the Aboriginal Community for their efforts,

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having been given Aboriginal spirit names and with Honour Dances. Their names were put forward by the Indian and Metis Friendship Centre of North Winnipeg and their candidacy was strongly supported by other community leaders.

Because of their outstanding work, Constables Willie Ducharme and Rick Kosowan were selected to receive the Minister's Award, but a number of other police officers were also recognized for their innovative approach to youth justice too. Four officers received Certificates of Distinction; three others were accorded honourable mention and the selection committee singled out an officer in Northern Ontario as deserving of "special" mention.

Certificates of Distinction  
Certificates of Distinction went to four officers.

**Cst. Ian Bourke** of the Halifax Regional Police developed a Bullying Hotline to deal with the underlying issues that lead to youth violence and leads mediation sessions for a wide range of incidents from daycare bullying to violence with a weapon in school.

**Sgt. Mark Houldsworth** of the Ottawa Carleton Police Service has done a tremendous amount of work in the areas of early intervention and pre-charge diversion. Among his achievements is the development of an innovative project to work with children under 12.

**Cst. Richard Schaaf** works with a social worker to provide services to sexually exploited and high risk street youth through the High Risk Youth Car. With the assistance of a veterinarian, he has arranged for animal care for pets of street youth through the Street Youth Pet Veterinarian program.

**Cst. Andrew Tolchard** of the RCMP detachment in Maple Ridge, B.C. created Drug Free Zones in local high schools and led research efforts into the causes of school violence. The latter has led to the development of learning materials now used in schools.

#### Honourable Mention

Honourable Mention went to **Cst. Dan Williams** of the Edmonton Police Service for his creation of the innovative "Reality Check" program he set up for youth and their families. This was originally focused on the Asian community but has since expanded to include youth from all ethnic backgrounds.

**Cst. Richard Morris** of the Winnipeg Police Service also received an Honourable Mention for having successfully implemented community justice forums and initiated the popular Aboriginal Village project to foster understanding among youth and police in his community.

**The Québec City Public and Community Relations Division** is another Honourable Mention, for its programme Support and Alternative to violence through Sport (SAS). Through this initiative, youth who have committed a violent crime are placed in a judo club where they learn respect, self-esteem, self-control, and responsibility through the discipline of judo.

#### Special Mention

The final award of the day was a "special mention" that went to **Cst. Jacqueline (Jackie) George** of the Nishnawabe-Aski

Police Service in the Wunnumin Lake region north of Sioux Lookout, Ontario.

In the short time Constable George has been in the community she has created a positive new dimension to the relationship between local youth and the police through programmes she has started, often contributing her own funds to the programmes.

These include a girls' club that meets at her home and sports with local youth. She also works with the court system to develop community-based solutions to youth crime.

The commitment and innovation shown by police officers working with youth in trouble in all parts of Canada is truly remarkable.

In today's society, the nature of policing is changing, especially with respect to youth justice. The Minister's Award recognizes the important contribution police make to ensuring a balance between protecting society and ensuring that youth who do come into conflict with the law are treated appropriately.

There are lessons to be learned from the examples and experience of the many excellent candidates nominated for this year's award.

They have set a high standard for future years. We can learn from the experiences of these projects and we can begin now to think about nominations for next year's awards.

For more information on the  
Minister's Award contact  
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# Is it a toy gun or the real deal?

by Dave Brown

It seems criminals are not yet ready to give up their guns. On New Year's Eve, a distraught father held an emergency room doctor hostage in a Toronto hospital, demanding treatment for his son. Fearing for the doctor's life, police were forced to fatally shoot the gunman.

In April, a Mississauga woman was held up at gunpoint. In May, three Markham area teenagers were arrested after a crime spree that included pressing a gun to the head of a youth until the victim gave up his wallet and bank card.

All of these incidents involved toy guns.

Because of these and other similar events, Ontario legislators are now considering a private member's bill banning the sale of replicas. The federal government has already declared replica firearms to be prohibited devices. So why are these things still on the street?

Well, it's not quite that simple. Not all replicas are banned, and not all imitation firearms are considered replicas. So what is currently prohibited? More important, can police target such potential weapons without interfering with legitimate ownership.

From the officer's perspective, anything that looks like a firearm must be treated as such until proven otherwise. Once a subject has been safely disarmed, however, the issue of legality can become quite cloudy. Fake firearms can look very real but may still be legal to possess. Some fakes have even been illegally modified to discharge live ammunition. Police agencies in Canada have encountered real firearms that have been modified to look like toys, with particularly deadly consequences for officers.

## What is a replica?

The term "replica firearm" initially sounds like a contradiction in terms. Something is either a replica or a firearm; technically, it cannot be both. However, the term has a distinct legal definition.

*Under the Firearms Act, a "replica firearm" is a precision model made from wood, metal or moulded rubber that looks nearly identical to the firearm it represents, and cannot discharge projectiles, or discharges only harmless projectiles. Replica firearms became prohibited devices under the act on December 1, 1998.*

Not all "replicas" are considered replica firearms. Under the act, most toys are distinctive enough from real firearms in size or colour to be exempt. Replicas of antiques are also exempt. Even replica firearms may be possessed without restrictions if they were acquired before December 1998.

An "imitation" firearm is different. Under Section 85 of the Firearms Act, an imitation holds the same status as a real firearm when used during the commission of an indictable offence. This definition could encompass replicas, toys or even a finger stuck in a jacket pocket accompanied by an implied threat that it is a firearm. To lay a Section 85 charge, the

## A quick firearms quiz

Take a look at the five photographs below. Which firearms are replicas? The answers are provided at the end of this article.



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

required elements are that the item was a firearm or an imitation of a firearm, and that the suspect used it while committing or trying to commit another indictable offence or while fleeing either.

## Toy guns that look real

It is not illegal to simply possess a replica firearm unless it can be proven that it was acquired after December 1, 1998. But what about anything that even looks like a gun when used in a crime. Pellet guns, for example, can look very real, especially to the crime victim staring down the barrel of one.

To illustrate the problem for officers, consider the photographs which accompany this

article. Which of the following, from Figures 1 to 5, depict a real firearm? The answers can be found at the end of this article.

## Real guns that look like toys

Real looking toys used to commit crimes are not the only problem for police agencies. Detective Staff Sgt. Peter Shadgett of the Ontario Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit reports encountering several examples of starter pistols converted to fire real .25 and .32 calibre cartridges.

Experts at police forensics labs have been able to modify starter pistols to fire live ammunition in less than a day. Without the need for blueprints and scientific documentation, he es-

timates that the same guns can be converted on the street in less than half an hour.

These weapons are a potential deadly combination of visual intimidation and lethality, and seem exclusively designed to trap unwary police officers. Shadgett even reports that some criminals have been caught with real firearms painted in bright fluorescent colours designed to look like toy guns.

#### What to do?

The first piece of advice is to be careful of anything, toy or real. When considering possible seizures or Prohibition Orders, follow all legal guidelines. Be aware that mere possession of a replica is not a crime.

On the other hand, police can be pro-active about such public safety issues. Instead of waiting for politicians to act, agencies could request that retailers remove offending items from their shelves, even if they may not fall into the legal category of replicas. Stores could take simple steps to ensure they are sold only to legitimate buyers.

The answers to the photo quiz

**Figure 1** is a starter pistol as typically used in the film industry. It is actually heavier than the real Glock semi-automatic pistol that it imitates.

**"From the officer's perspective, anything that looks like a firearm must be treated as such until proven otherwise."**

nation reveals a "plasticky" look to what should otherwise be metal parts.

**Figure 4** is a starter pistol designed to imitate a Berretta handgun. The overly shiny finish and relatively poor quality of the metal can sometimes be indicators that it is a starter pistol.

**Figure 5** is a S&W Model 686 .357 Magnum handgun. It too has what appears to be an overly shiny finish, but the quality of the metal and the fit of the parts are much better than any imitation handgun.

As you can see, trying to determine the status of a firearm in good light and using close examination can be difficult enough. Now picture a dark street and a couple of very scared humans during a sudden confrontation.

Dave Brown is *Blue Line Magazine's* Tactical Firearms Training Editor. Although regularly consulted on firearms and training issues by the Canadian Firearms Centre, even he admits that the topic of replicas can be confusing.

**Figure 2** is a Glock Model 17 9mm handgun. Although real, it utilizes more plastic in its construction than the imitation gun in **Figure 1**.

**Figure 3** is a plastic model of a S&W semi-automatic. Although an exact model, close examination reveals a "plasticky" look to what should otherwise be metal parts.

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# Replica guns - An officer's field guide

by Dave Brown

You have recovered a possible replica firearm. Now what? Here are some suggestions to determine the safety and legality of a replica.

## Is it safe to handle?

Use the PROVE procedure to safety check the firearm. Even if you are certain it is a toy gun, never assume it is not loaded with live ammunition until you have performed a thorough check. Even blanks can cause serious injury at close range.

Proceed as follows:

- Point the firearm in a safe direction and keep it pointed in that direction until the safety check is complete. Keep your finger well clear of the trigger guard. Many starter pistols are cheaply made and have trigger pulls significantly lighter than real firearms. They may discharge simply by opening the action.
- Remove all ammunition. Remove the magazine FIRST, then open the action to remove any chambered cartridges.
- Observe that the chamber is empty. - Verify that there are no cartridges left in the grip or feed path of the firearm.
- Examine the inside of the barrel for obstructions. While keeping the firearm pointed in a safe direction, use a flashlight to look down the barrel from the muzzle end.

## Has it been illegally converted to fire live ammunition?

Semi-auto blank firing pistols must have some kind of restrictor plate threaded inside the barrel. Close inspection will usually reveal threads cut inside the first few inches of barrel and a plate with a small opening threaded in from the muzzle end.

This restrictor plate is designed to channel gases from the blank backward in order to cycle the action for each shot. Without the momentum of a bullet exiting the front of the barrel, a blank firing gun relies on these gases to open the action and feed the next blank.

If a blank-firing gun were ever loaded with a live cartridge, an instant explosion would result. Therefore, if a starter pistol has been illegally converted to fire live ammunition, this restrictor plate will be missing. A good clue that you may have seized an illegal conversion is that the inside of the barrel is threaded, but there is no restrictor plate.

Possible charges: *Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, Section 88 C.C.C.; Carrying concealed weapon, Section 90 C.C.C.; Weapons trafficking, Section 99 C.C.C.*

## Does it resemble a real firearm?

Toys, starter pistols, model guns, air guns and pellet guns are not always easy to classify. To meet the definition of a prohibited device under the Firearms Act, a replica must be intended to resemble a real firearm with near precision. Secondly, a replica cannot discharge a projectile, or discharges only a harmless pro-



**THE PLATE: Semi-auto blank firing pistols must have some kind of restrictor plate threaded inside the barrel.**

jectile. Firearms that discharge blanks and only incidentally resemble a real firearm are not likely to be considered replicas.

Toy guns are not likely to be mistaken for the real thing by someone with a reasonable knowledge of firearms and are also not replicas. Some air guns which fire harmless projectiles have been classified as replicas under the Firearms Act. After an assessment by the RCMP Central Forensics Lab, the model guns commonly referred to as "air-soft" guns manufactured by the Tokyo Marui Company are considered replicas because:

- they closely resemble real firearms in size, colour, appearance and configuration, and
- the projectiles they fire are not likely to cause serious injury.

In other words, they are intended to exactly resemble a real firearm and only incidentally discharge a harmless projectile.

## When was it acquired?

Replica firearms (except replicas of antique firearms) became prohibited devices under the Firearms Act on December 1, 1998. Businesses and individuals could keep replicas they owned prior to December 1, 1998 and there is no licence required to possess them. Therefore, even if it meets the definition of a replica firearm under the act, it is not illegal to possess it as long as it was acquired prior to that date.

## Does it fire pellets or blanks?

Many pellet guns closely resemble real firearms, but if the pellet it discharges may be used for activities such as target practice, it would not be considered a replica. Pellet guns that fire the typical .177 or .22 calibre pellets that would cause an injury such as an eye penetration are not considered replicas. Starter pistols that fire blanks are also not likely to be considered replicas under the Firearms Act.

## Is it possessed for a legitimate reason?

Even after December 1, 1998, replica firearms may be bought, sold, manufactured, imported or exported for certain legitimate reasons. Replicas may be possessed or lent to persons such as Canadian Firearms Safety Course instructors, or people in the motion picture, theatre, television, video or publishing industry.

## Was it used or intended as a weapon in a crime?

If the item in question was used to commit an indictable offence and if the item resembled a firearm, it does not have to meet the same legal standards as a replica firearm. If it appears real enough that someone is likely to believe it is a firearm, then it becomes an "imitation firearm." When used to commit or attempt to commit an indictable offence, imitation firearms can be treated exactly like real firearms under Section 85 of the Firearms Act.

If it is a pellet gun and was used to intentionally cause bodily harm to a person, it also becomes an indictable offence.

Possible charges: *Using firearm or imitation during another offence, Section 85 C.C.C.; Possession of weapon for dangerous purpose, Section 88 C.C.C.; Causing bodily harm with air gun, Section 244.1 C.C.C.*

For more detailed information on firearms-related charges, contact the Canadian Firearms Centre, Legislative Training Unit, and ask for a copy of their "Police Officer Field Guide."

This article can only provide a brief outline of the topic. For all legal references, consult the Firearms Act and related regulations. The issue of replica firearms is complex and evolving, and authority for any action must only be derived from provisions of the legislation and decisions of the courts. Contact the Canadian Firearms Centre for current information on the status of replica firearms. They publish several fact sheets on replicas on their website at [www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca](http://www.cfc-ccaf.gc.ca).

For further advice on replicas, or if you have information on an usual weapon that could benefit other agencies, please contact Detective Staff Sgt. Peter Shadget of the Ontario Provincial Weapons Enforcement Unit at (905) 612-7065.

## Bill C-7 now in effect

Police can now access the criminal records of pardoned sex offenders under a law that came into effect on Aug. 1.

Bill C-7 improves the ability of police services to conduct thorough background checks of anyone who wants to work with children, including those who were pardoned of certain sex charges.

Notices on the records of sex offenders listed with the Canadian Police Information Centre will let police know that a pardoned record exists so they can make a request for the solicitor general to unseal it.

The new law was given unanimous support from all parties in the Commons when it passed its third reading.



# Upgrading OPP mobile communications

by Pamela Sunstrum  
Reprint: OPP Review

Telecommunications within the Ontario Provincial Police is being reshaped over the next four years. The OPP is amalgamating its radio communications operations into five strategically located centres and converting to a common network shared with other government agencies.



The OPP is one of five, public safety agencies whose radio networks are being consolidated as part of the Government Mobile Communications Project (GMCP). The digital system is called FleetNet. Other agencies are the ministries of health, transportation, natural resources and correctional services.

FleetNet takes advantage of advanced technologies which offer considerable benefits, including electronic mapping. Dispatchers will be able to enter an address and an area map will appear.

Network implementation involves significant infrastructure and site renovation. According to Infrastructure Support Bureau Commander Chief Supt. Gary Witherell, the conversion to FleetNet also provides "an opportunity to realign OPP dispatch functions and balance workload across the province."

Over the next four years, the OPP will amal-

gamate 11 existing ComCentres into five.

OPP Telecommunications Unit Manager Insp. Murray Laberge says, "By establishing five strategic locations, we can realize infrastructure savings and bring on new technologies to accelerate and improve service delivery."

Three sites have been identified - London, Orillia and North Bay. London will serve south-western areas currently covered by Chatham, Mount Forest and London. Orillia now provides dispatch services for central Ontario. It will maintain its facility and amalgamate services for the Greater Toronto Region, now provided by Aurora. Both centres will begin operations in 2001.

North Bay will continue to provide dispatch for northeastern Ontario, with the new radio network being phased in between 2002 and 2004. Amalgamation in eastern Ontario is planned for 2002 and in northwestern Ontario through 2004. Locations have yet to be finalized. Realignment will be seamless to the public and front-line service.

Witherell notes, "The result will ensure full officer coverage and safety at all times, regardless of dispatch location. Current emergency telephone numbers will not change and there should be no noticeable difference in service."

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## Government Mobile Communications Project

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# Don't ignore domestic violence

by *Connie Snow*

A neighbour calls to report a father and son fighting on their front lawn, or maybe a small child calls to say mommy and daddy are arguing and he's afraid because furniture is being thrown around. Judging from the noise in the background, you quickly appreciate the sound of despair in the child's voice.

A patrol unit is dispatched and, with a sense of cautious urgency, the officers are en route to yet another domestic dispute. Often not knowing what to expect, they hurry to an unpredictable and often dangerous situation. Questions race through the officer's minds. How many people are involved? Are there weapons on the premises? Has the aggression been heightened by alcohol or drugs?

In the early 1990s, incidents of family violence were reported on an average of three times daily in St. John's, Nfld., with the number of calls tripling between 1988 and 1992.

What makes people act and react the way they do? Why are they generally "in control" at work or in a public place, but allow themselves to so easily lose that control at home? Have they been allowed to? Did someone say it was okay?

For decades, society has tacitly condoned violence in the home, treating it as a private matter. A change in thinking is long overdue. That also includes police officers who are not exempt from the rest of society but rather, are an integral part of it.

Law enforcement officials must familiarize themselves with the dynamics of family violence and the pro-active role that they should be playing. No longer can

individual cases be treated in isolation: the "big picture" must be considered.

Between 1990 and 1992, there were six roll-call training sessions involving almost 150 Royal Newfoundland Constabulary patrol officers: two four-day seminars on child abuse and domestic violence; and an ongoing public awareness program with the media's assistance. The RNC has endeavoured to sensitise its members to this issue and lessen concentration on the reactive role traditionally taught during initial recruit training. This trend will continue.

Community groups have sometimes been questioned about their sincerity in dealing with domestic violence. Political motivation and the possibility that the problem is grossly exaggerated are sometimes used as arguments to raise doubt to any group's commitment in dealing with this social problem.

This logic rarely takes into account the reality of cases involving the violence that front-line workers see every day. The truth is that the severity of domestic violence has heightened. More victims are seeking medical attention. There are greater numbers of cases involving weapons and more people are barricading themselves inside their homes.

It sometimes seems ironic to use the word home. Usually this term denotes warmth, peace and security.



**STOP THE VIOLENCE: Law enforcement officials must familiarize themselves with the dynamics of family violence and the pro-active role that they should be playing.**

For children who are surviving in violent homes, these feelings are non-existent. Even though they may witness violent episodes daily, children are generally protective of their parents. They have been told repeatedly not to discuss what goes on "inside these four walls".

Things become even more confusing when differences of opin-

ions about the kids precipitate the argument. Although the children haven't actually caused the violence, they are quick to blame themselves for it.

Unfortunately, children are not always "indirect" victims. Over 50 per cent of child abuse takes place in the home and some of these vulnerable "little people" are so severely beaten they have to be hospitalized. Often they cannot bring themselves to say that one of their parents was responsible. This type of dysfunctional environment offers little nurturing and support for children, and they begin to "act out" to get attention.

Usually police officers initially encounter these "disobedient" children in their teen years. By this time, they likely have become or are well on their way to becoming break and enter felons, substance abusers and/or runaways. In other words, they will grow up to become offenders and/or victims. And the cycle begins again.

The biggest enemy in dealing with this problem is denial. The victim denies,

the offender denies, the child denies and society denies. No one really wants to talk about it because, in doing so, you must acknowledge that there is a problem.

But in the same way society became outraged about impaired driving, drug use and child abuse, the issue of violence in the home must be brought to the fore. If you

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think you're not affected because it's not happening in your house, think again. It could be your sister, your cousin, your nephew, your grandfather or your co-worker. The more people talk about domestic violence, the less helpless they feel: "Maybe someone will believe me after all." Community groups, including the police, must give people this opportunity.

Employers can make the workplace a safe place to talk. Employee access programs, counselling and support groups are springing up all over, particularly in large corporations. For some victims, the workplace is a refuge.

If employers support the notion that this problem is a private matter, they ignore the fact that some of their employees are working under a great deal of stress. The result is a frequent absenteeism, limited attention spans because of preoccupation with domestic problems, and sometimes even threatening phone calls while on the job.

Affected workers also worry daily about co-workers adversely judging them and, of course, the ever-present fear they will lose their jobs if the truth comes out.

Employers, like everyone, should attempt to understand the problem. They should provide public information on the subject, offer referrals to professional agencies and continuously practice prevention.

In 1981, London, Ont., became the first Canadian city to implement an aggressive charge policy. In July 1991, the results of their 10 year study were released. Encouraging victims to report and following up on complaints resulted in some very worthwhile findings, not the least of which is that the incidence of repeated violence was "significantly reduced" a year after charges were laid.

Some studies claim that in as high as 70 per cent of the cases where charges were laid, violence was reduced. So what's the message? Society is forcing the offenders to assume responsibility for their actions - and isn't that the way it should be?

Police departments are not the only agencies who could and should take a pro-active role - the whole community must become involved. Society, including the police, has a role in educating the public about family violence, helping victims talk about the problem and widening the circle of support.

If the police are accused of trying to make the job easier by promoting public awareness around this issue, then so be it - the police are guilty. This "self-serving" interest stems from the desire to make the community a safer place for everyone - including police officers' own families.

So the next time you hear an eight-year-old boy say in desperation "help me", be ready to answer the call - the entire call.

Insp. Connie Snow has been a police officer since 1975. She left the RCMP and joined the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary in 1980, where she has served in the criminal investigation division and acts as the police service's co-ordinator on domestic violence.

## Child prostitution law struck down

An Alberta judge has found a provincial law which allowed authorities to temporarily detain suspected child prostitutes in safe houses to be unconstitutional.

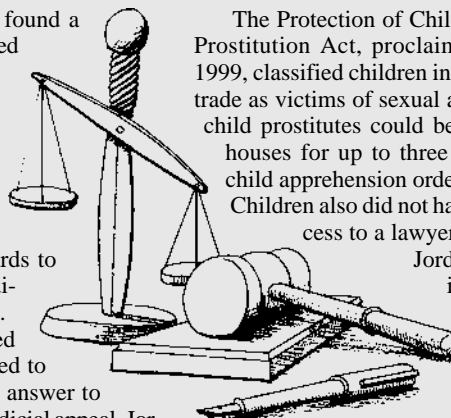
In her July ruling, provincial court Judge Karen Jordan said the law lacked procedural safeguards to protect the rights of the individuals who were detained.

The legislation violated the Charter because it failed to give detainees the right to answer to allegations or the right to judicial appeal, Jordan ruled.

She also found the law to be unconstitutional because authorities did not need a search warrant to enter a building if they had reasonable grounds to believe child prostitution was taking place inside.

However, the judge said she did not feel the legislation infringed on a person's right to legal counsel.

The law was challenged by lawyers for two teenage Calgary girls on the grounds it violated Charter rights to be free from arbitrary detention and unreasonable search and seizure. The lawyers also claimed it exceeded the province's jurisdiction.



The Protection of Children Involved in Prostitution Act, proclaimed in February 1999, classified children involved in the sex trade as victims of sexual abuse. Suspected child prostitutes could be taken into safe houses for up to three days, without a child apprehension order from the court. Children also did not have automatic access to a lawyer.

Jordan said the existing Child Welfare Act can sufficiently deal with child prostitution and sexual abuse.

Bina Border, lawyer for one of the girls, said the child prostitution act victimized the suspected prostitutes by placing them in what amounted to a jail for three days only to put them back on the street to face pimps who may beat them or force them to turn more tricks to make up for money lost during their time in detention.

Some critics also suggested that the law simply drove the child sex trade underground.

Since the legislation was proclaimed 390 detentions were made involving 181 girls and two boys. Of those, seven 12-year-olds were taken off the street. Most children were between 15 and 16 years of age.

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# Toronto helicopter pilot project lifts off

The sometimes turbulent Toronto police helicopter pilot project officially got off the ground in August.

As a result, the police service will have two choppers patrolling the skies over the city for at least the next six months.

"This is indeed a special occasion and one that the Toronto Police Service has looked forward to for a long time," said Chief Julian Fantino. "This is truly the realization of a very important public and officer safety enhancement whose time is long overdue."

In fact, incorporating an air support unit into the police service's delivery model has been 11 years in the making. It appeared as though plans to implement a helicopter unit were imminent last year, but Toronto City Council eventually quashed the initiative. However, after much diligence on the part of a number of interested parties, the project was resurrected and eventually approved.

"This will be an interesting venture," said Toronto Police Services Board member Sandy Adelson. "Certainly, our board and the police service are dedicated to continually enhancing both safety and service and hopefully this project will help us to do that."

"I am definitely interested in seeing the results, both from a policing perspective and from a community perspective."

Four police constables and one sergeant will staff the new air support unit, which will operate seven hours a day, six days a week during peak times, usually after 7 p.m. The six-month pilot project will cost just more than \$1 million.

Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman noted that the helicopter project will not cost taxpayers a single cent. The majority of the cost has been covered through private donations, while the remainder - a total of \$250,000 - will be paid for through a provincial government grant.

The mayor added that if the program should prove successful, the city auditor estimates that a permanent helicopter unit would account for only one per cent of the overall police budget. Lastman also said that if the need were proven



**READY TO GO:** Toronto Police Chief Julian Fantino and Mayor Mel Lastman show their enthusiasm for the new helicopter.

he hopes to have even more choppers in the air during the next three years.

The Bell 206B helicopters are each equipped with a searchlight, P.A. system and surveillance camera technology which includes thermal imaging.

## Chopper takes to the skies to locate marijuana

An annual drug eradication program, co-ordinated by the Ontario Provincial Police, officially got off the ground at the beginning of August, with criminals covering the tab for the three-month project.



In previous years, the OPP's two permanent helicopters were used, time permitting, for drug eradication. This year, the OPP drug eradication program received a grant of \$313,000 for the full-time use of a leased helicopter dedicated to aerial surveillance of marijuana growing sites around the province.

The funding, provided through the Criminal Intelligence Service of Ontario, supports crime prevention initiatives with the assets of criminal organizations seized as a result of police investigations.

OPP Drug Enforcement Section Manager Det. Insp. Jim Hutchinson said aerial surveillance is a valuable tool in monitoring and locating the least visible growing locations and obscure plots often adjacent to marshes and rivers.

"The full-time availability of a leased helicopter for a more intense campaign of surveillance is a great asset to this year's program, especially as growers seek better ways to camouflage their illegal growing sites," Hutchinson said.

OPP helicopter pilots and police officers, experienced in the detection of marijuana, will be responsible for the aerial surveillance. On the ground, officers will access identified sites, confiscate the plants and launch criminal and proceeds of crime investigations.

This year's drug eradication program, being carried out in co-operation with the RCMP, municipal police services, OPP regions and Crime Stoppers, builds on two consecutive years of record seizures of marijuana plants. In 1999, more than 110,000 plants were seized with an estimated street value of \$120.7 million.

"Another important asset in our drug eradication program is the public," said Hutchinson. "We encourage anyone with information about possible growing locations or suspicious activity around fields and wooded areas to contact their local police or Crime Stoppers."

The overall goal of the eradication program is to target large sophisticated growing operations and enterprise traffickers, making significant outdoor cultivation of marijuana as unattractive as possible.

According to Hutchinson, the extensive aerial surveillance and ground investigations are intended to increase seizures of marijuana plants across the province. In addition, officers will lay charges where appropriate, confiscate cultivation and harvesting equipment and pursue proceeds of crime linkages to enable asset seizures related to criminal activity.

The leasing of a helicopter dedicated to drug eradication allows the OPP's two helicopters to continue to focus on search and rescue services throughout Ontario.

### *Researcher crunches chopper numbers*

An Ontario researcher will soon know if the city of London's police helicopter trial was a success.

In August, Paul Whitehead, a professor at the University of Western Ontario who specializes in criminology, said he has gone over the numbers and was close to finding an answer.

However, he will not reveal his conclusions until they are published later this year.

The police chopper's year-long trial ended in June. It was part of a \$446,000 study financed by both the provincial and federal governments, along with private companies.

As part of his research, Whitehead examined nine types of crime including stolen cars, theft from vehicles, and break and enters.

# Mounties may charge tuition

Hopeful Mounties may have to pay tuition to be trained, a national news agency reported in July.

The RCMP wants to increase the number of cadets being trained at the academy in Regina from an average of 500 per year to a maximum of 1,200 per year due to the force's high attrition rate.

"When we have an increase in the number of cadets that we put through the academy, that also increases additional pressures, including financial," The Canadian Press quoted RCMP Sgt. Paul Marsh as saying. "And a tuition fee is just one of several options being carefully considered by our senior executive."

In recent years, decreases in funding have led the force to limit overtime, postpone equipment purchases and lay off support staff. The Regina academy was temporarily closed almost



three years ago as a cost-saving measure and as of last fall the force announced it would no longer be giving cadets a \$498 training allowance every two weeks.

Marsh said it's too soon to place an amount on a possible tuition fee.

"You won't see any changes implemented, if any are implemented at all, to the current recruiting or training process prior to April 1,

2001," Marsh was quoted as saying.

The force wants to train 1,200 cadets a year for at least three years to cope with the expected shortfall from retiring members and gaps left from the suspension in training.

An estimated 150 jobs become available each year when members retire.

There are currently almost 20,000 people employed by the Mounties, including civilian personnel.

# Two officers die in plane crash

Two RCMP officers died in an August plane crash at Teslin Lake, B.C.

Sgt. Ed Mobley and Special Cst. Tim Nicholson were both killed when the Cessna Caravan they were flying crashed into the lake, Staff Sgt. Hugh Stewart said.

Mobley was a pilot at the Prince Rupert detachment and Nicholson, a flight engineer from Ottawa, was filling in for a colleague who was

on vacation.

The plane had made two trips on the evening of the crash to drop off emergency response team members from across B.C. for training.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known.

Teslin Lake is located in northwestern B.C. near the Yukon border.

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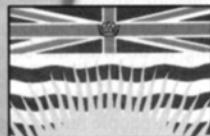


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# Seek and you shall find

Successfully searching the Internet for the information you need, can be a real challenge. But using the right tools and a few tricks can improve your level of success.

by Tom Rataj

With an estimated one billion web pages (and counting), the Internet has become the wild west of the information age. Trying to find the information you need, can be a time consuming and frustrating chore, that often seems to go in circles or just end up at numerous dead links or completely irrelevant sites.

Virtually anything you want to know about is out there, but finding it requires a number of different search strategies, tools and a few tricks.

### Search Engines And Directories

Some industry estimates put the number of search sites on the Internet at over 8,000. They consist of search engines, directories and metasearchers. There are also numerous stand-alone search tools (like EasySeeker, Copernic, GuruNet, and X-Portal) that run web searches from your computer instead of using the search tools at a particular site.

Using the right type of tool for the job is important. A search engine is an automated program that searches for the information you want by looking for websites that contain the word or words you are looking for. A directory on the other hand, is a listing of websites compiled by editors who search for information and then organize it by subject. Metasearchers are simply search engines that look for your information by simultaneously using numerous search engines and directories at the same time.

Some search sites like Alta-Vista ([www.altavista.com](http://www.altavista.com)) are a combination of search engine and directory, and are able to provide the best of both worlds.

In the past several years, many of the search sites have changed themselves from being pure search sites to being one-stop-shopping Internet sites known as "portals". They provide a little bit of everything in the hopes of becoming your default page. All of this is of course driven by advertising revenues that are generated by the number of visitors to the given site.

The latest addition to the Internet search sites are "expert sites" such as [www.abuzz.com](http://www.abuzz.com) which allow searchers to pose questions about any given subject. On-staff experts or other visitors to the site then reply to your query. The reply can arrive in minutes or within several days, dependant on various factors.

### Structure

The degree of success you have when searching any given site depends on many different factors, many of which are simply beyond your control. The single most important



**FIND IT HERE:** *Blue Line's* website provides links to many search engines for those who want to locate information on the Internet.

factor is the way you enter your information in the search form.

Most search sites include a number of different search types, which range from simple one-word searches to complex multi-word "Boolean" searches. Using more than one keyword in your search will generally increase your chances of finding what you want. How you enter and connect multiple keywords in the search field varies from site to site so it is best to check the individual site's instructions.

Boolean searching is supported by most major sites and allows you to initiate very specific searches. When I did a simple search on "Rodrigo" (the famous Spanish composer) I was deluged by mountains of pages, many of which had nothing to do with the composer. When I searched for "Rodrigo Composer" the results improved somewhat, but still contained many sites about other people named Rodrigo.

When I entered a Boolean search on "Rodrigo AND Composer" the search results contained very few irrelevant hits and provided me with a wealth of information about the composer and his music.

The typical structure of a Boolean search includes an "AND", an "OR" and an "AND NOT" switch. Some sites use plus and minus signs to achieve the same purposes. Many sites have advanced search screens that allow you to just enter your key words in the search field and then select the Boolean search switches from an on-screen list instead of having to learn the correct syntax. Since each site varies somewhat, the best practice is to read the help tips at each site. Many sites also provide sorting options and rankings for hits.

### Specialised Sites

In addition to general purpose search sites, there are also numerous specialised search sites, many of which highlight the investigative potential of the Internet. Some of the more useful sites include Canada Post's postal-code lookup site ([www.canadapost.ca/CPC2/menu\\_01.html](http://www.canadapost.ca/CPC2/menu_01.html)) and Bell Canada's directory assistance site ([www.canada411.sympatico.ca](http://www.canada411.sympatico.ca)), which helps you find business and residential phone numbers across Canada.

Another specialised site that has investigative potential is [www.infospace.com](http://www.infospace.com). It provides a whole range of tools for finding people, reverse-listing checks on phone numbers and various information cross-reference features. InfoSpace even includes several interesting and time saving tools, such as the ability to view neighbour and map information for residential listings. PeopleSearch is another similar specialised search site that helps

locate addresses and phone numbers: [www.peoplesearch.net/peoplesearch/peoplesearch\\_deluxe.html](http://www.peoplesearch.net/peoplesearch/peoplesearch_deluxe.html).

### Conclusion

With the wealth of information available on the Internet today, estimated to be growing at one million new pages each day, finding what you need constantly becomes more difficult.

By using the right tools and the right structure to do your searching you will increase the likelihood of finding what you need in short order. If one search site fails to return any apparently relevant information even after submitting a very specific search, another site might return a wealth of information on your first attempt.

### Some helpful search sites

While this is by no means an exhaustive listing of search sites, it will hopefully help you find what you are looking for with a little less frustration.

Some of the more popular general-purpose search sites include:

- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) – a search engine/directory.
- [www.altavista.com](http://www.altavista.com) – a portal with search engine.
- [www.excite.com](http://www.excite.com) – a portal with search engine.
- [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) – a portal with search engine/directory.
- [www.dogpile.com](http://www.dogpile.com) – a metacrawler.
- [www.metacrawler.com](http://www.metacrawler.com) – a metacrawler.
- [www.profusion.com](http://www.profusion.com) – a metacrawler.



# Henson College - Dalhousie University Certificate in Police Leadership Graduates

Fall 1999 - Spring 2000

*Graduates from Fall 1999- Spring 2000 (this list is not exclusive. Some students could not be contacted and for reasons of privacy and security some did not wish to have their names included).*

## Level 1

**A/Det. Dave Beech**  
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police, ON

**Cst. John Christopher Bewsher**  
RCMP, Hopedale, NF

**Cst. Heidi Burkholder**  
RCMP, Cole Harbour, NS

**Lt. Michael Chartrand**  
Montreal Urban Community Police Service, PQ

**Cst. Linda Conley**  
Barrie Police Service, ON

**Cst. Mark Fentiman**  
Medicine Hat Police Service, AB

**Cst. Elizabeth Ford-Loo**  
RCMP, Iqaluit, NT

**Cst. Luana Giroux**  
RCMP, Bonnyville, AB

**Sgt. Glenn Hanna**  
RCMP, Toronto, ON

**Cst. Donovan T. Howell**  
Peel Regional Police, ON

**Cst. Mona Kauffeld**  
RCMP, Kelowna, BC

**Sr. Cst. Doug W.J. Marshall**  
OPP, Moosonee, ON

**Cst. Gaston Potvin**  
RCMP, Flin Flon, MB

**Det. D. Robert Ryan**  
Peel Regional Police, ON

**Cst. Kevin Schur**  
RCMP, Kimberley, BC

## Level 2

**Det. Cst. E.M. (Ted) Clark**  
OPP, Casino Niagara Enforcement Unit, ON

**Cpl. Warren S. Gherasim**  
RCMP, Deline, NT

**Cst. Michael Murphy**  
Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police, ON

**Sgt. Larry Nobbs**  
Durham Regional Police Service, ON

**Sgt. Robert Percy**  
Halton Regional Police Service, ON

**Det. Jamie Porter**  
Mississauga, ON

**Cst. Chris Wills**  
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police, ON

## Level 3

**Cpl. Richard E. Draper**  
DND, Beijing, PRC

**Sgt. Bob Fontaine**  
West Vancouver Police Dept., BC

**Det. Cst. Tim Gore**  
York Regional Police, ON

**Sgt. Ken Poley**  
Calgary Police Service, AB

**Sgt. Bradley A. Spriggs**  
Ottawa-Carleton Regional Police, ON

**Cpl. M.F. Lise Thompson**  
RCMP, Ottawa, ON

**Cpl. Bruce Weir**  
Kentville Police Service, NS

## Administration

**Sgt. K. Craig Duffin**  
RCMP, Vancouver, BC

**Cst. Don Jorgensen**  
Peel Regional Police Service, ON

**Cst. L. Gerry Kerr**  
RCMP, Athabasca, AB

**Cpl. Bradley Kleinsasser**  
RCMP, Portage la Prairie, MB

**Staff Sgt. Paul Laventure**  
Calgary Police Service, AB

**Cst. Jeff Mitchell**  
Peel Regional Police Service, ON

**Sgt. Anthony A. Ross**  
RCMP, St. John's, NF

## Law and Justice

**Cpl. David B. Burrows**  
RCMP, Winnipeg, MB

**Det. Kathy Holt**  
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police, ON

**Jane Mulkewich**  
Hamilton-Wentworth Regional Police, ON

**Cst. Barry Raymond Pitcher**  
RCMP, West Prince, PE

**Cst. Craig Sharpe**  
Kingston Police, ON

**Sgt. G. Derek Smith**  
Lunenburg-Mahone Bay Police Service, NS

## Service Delivery

**Capt. Robert C. Edwards**  
DND, Halifax, NS

**Cst. James Hogan**  
Toronto Police Service, ON

**Cpl. Bradley Kleinsasser**  
RCMP, Portage la Prairie, MB

**Cst. Douglas Noel**  
RCMP, Trinity-Conception District, NF

**Staff Sgt. Tim Petro**  
Medicine Hat Police Service, AB

**Cst. Ben Prystay**  
RCMP, Estevan, SK

**Cst. B. G. (Blaine) Rahier**  
RCMP, Banff, AB

**Cst. Don Scott**  
Waterloo Regional Police Service, ON

## Supervisory Skills

**Cpl. Cameron G. Moore**  
Moose Jaw Police Service, SK

## Advanced Police Leadership

**Insp. James J. Begley**  
RCMP, Vancouver, BC

**Chief Rod Freeman**  
Orangeville Police Service, ON

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# Is your dive team up to standard?

by Geoff Greenwell

Since the late 1970s police dive teams have been operating in most parts of Canada. Their duties include search and recovery of forensic evidence, body recovery and occasionally rescue.

Police dive teams are now a common sight on TV and in newspapers and magazines. The perception of the general public is that these divers must be highly trained due the hazardous types of dives they are often called upon to perform. Is this the reality however?

In 1998, an Ontario officer was killed attempting to save the life of a child who was trapped in an overflow channel. Questions were asked about the risk versus reward of exposing the diver to such a hazardous environment when the child had probably already expired.

In the mid 1980s the RCMP developed their own in-house induction course to respond to the mandate of providing dive teams in remote parts of Canada. This process seemed to be satisfactory until the death of Cst. Frank Carriere during a hull search in Cape Breton, N.S., in 1997, which raised some serious doubts about the training course.

What training do the various police units in Canada have and is it suitable for the hazardous nature of the work being performed?

With the introduction of CSA Z275.4-97 "Competency Code for Diving Operations" by the Canadian Standards Association in 1997, a new code of practice was effectively offered to the occupational diving community. Compliance with the code is voluntary unless it is adopted into provincial legislation at the request of the provincial WCB or Department of Labour.

The intent of CSA Z275.4-97 is to offer a



**INTO THE DEEP: A diver makes his way through the water.**

set of minimum standards that any individual performing work underwater is required to be trained to and conversant with. The challenge facing police divers in Canada is to now meet this standard through appropriate training.

## Training

The vast majority of police dive units are using Self Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus or SCUBA as it is more commonly known. The training outlined in CSA Z275.4-97 for occupational scuba divers requires academic study in the areas of physics, physiology, equipment, commercial dive tables, First Aid/CPR, oxygen therapy, dive accident man-

agement and hazards and regulations. In addition, divers are required to log either 900 minutes of underwater time to become certified to operate up to 20 metres in depth or 1,200 minutes if they wish to work up to the maximum depth of 40 metres.

A panel of industry experts, representing all areas of the occupational diving community, including police and fire department divers, developed this training standard. It was felt during the two-year development period that upon completion, all provinces and territories should adopt the standard and insist that any divers operating within their jurisdiction meet the standard via a mix of training and experience.

In January 1997, CSA Z275.4-97 'Competency Standard for Diving Operations' was released as a finished product and circulated to the industry. British Columbia, Yukon Territory, Northwest Territories and Nunavut were the first jurisdictions to adopt the standard.

Other provinces have struggled to have the standard adopted by their various parliaments. The Labour Boards' of Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Alberta and Saskatchewan have all expressed the desire to adopt the standard but have experienced resistance from industry.

Without a singular national standard, working divers are beginning to experience the difficulties of not being able to cross provincial boundaries if their work requires them to. For example, any diver wishing to work in B.C. must prove that they hold current certification as outlined in CSA Z275.4-97. This has eliminated the opportunity for Albertan divers to work in B.C. as Alberta has not enforced the standard and consequently no training schools exist in Alberta.

The only training agency in Canada that has created courses specifically to meet all levels of the CSA standard from Occupational Scuba to Unrestricted Surface Supplied Supervisor is the Commercial Diving Group (CDG). From its head office in North Vancouver, CDG organizes training for individuals at a number of training centres across the country and conducts courses on location for groups needing WCB/CSA Scuba or Surface Supplied training.

"When the Canadian Standards Association introduced Z275.4-97, we knew it was important to develop curriculum to meet the requirements of the standard," said Michael Curlook, the vice president of CDG. "It has been very difficult for divers living in the areas of Canada that have not adopted the standard to access training.

"We have conducted courses for groups in Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Nunavut, Northwest Territories and British Columbia. Individuals have also travelled to our head office for training from every other part of Canada. We welcome inquiries from any group of public safety divers who are interested in our new SARTECH Diver courses. They are the only courses in the country that meet the

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CSA standard and are tailored to suit the needs of police and fire dive units.”

If training and funding is available, then we assume that police teams would be readily participating in upgrading their skills and knowledge to make their diving safer and more effective. However, it seems this is not the case.

The Saanich police dive team based in Victoria, B.C., was established in 1979 and is one of the few groups that have participated in WCB/CSA recognized training since the introduction of Z275.4-97.

“You want a capable and competent diver who doesn’t take unnecessary risks, lots of times you’re recovering a human body, so you need someone who’s got both the mental and emotional stamina to deal with that aspect,” Insp. Sherry Dwyer, who is in charge of the Saanich dive team, said in a recent issue of WCB’s Worksafe magazine. “It’s a lot different to recreational diving, we don’t dive in ideal conditions when we’re doing rescue or recovery.”

Most police teams in Canada are still relying on recreational training despite repeated announcements from the major recreational agencies that their courses are not to be used as a basis for occupational diving, and that they accept no liability for the consequences of using their training in place of WCB/CSA recognized programs.

A few more pro-active departments have sought out the training programs offered by U.S. based specialized training agencies that offer short public safety diver courses. Unfortunately, these programs do not meet the requirements of Z275.4-97 and are not sufficient to satisfy the WCB’s and Labour Boards across the country.

So why are the police teams in Canada not upgrading their training and improving their operational standards?

“There are a number of reasons for the slow progress of police teams adopting Z275.4-97,” Curlook said. “Budgetary restraint is a common issue, a lack of awareness of the standard and the training solutions, and often fear that the course will be too difficult and teams will fail and be disbanded.”

“Police chiefs have to recognize that their personnel are in danger without adequate training. The underwater environment is unforgiving of mistakes and can be extremely challenging for even the most experienced divers,” commented Bart Bjorkman, a veteran CDG instruc-



### THE RESCUE: Divers head to the scene.

tor at a recent Sartech course in Yellowknife, NWT.

“It would be inconceivable to put an officer on the street without proper firearms training, yet commonly we see police divers in hazardous environments with little awareness of the danger to themselves. They simply feel it is part of their duty,” added Curlook.

The delegation of training within police departments to specific individuals is a contributing factor to the lack of adequate training. The person in charge of staff development and planning is often not familiar with diving and relies on the advice of team members who are not considering the liability of their actions.

The financial and emotional ramifications of having an accident or incident during an operational dive are being clearly exhibited in the

current litigation between the RCMP, Labour Canada and the Carriere family.

### Conclusion

It seems that diver training is low on the priority list of most police departments across the country. Indeed the fire community is embracing training much more openly.

It is unfortunate that changes in legislation and the implementation of training are often the results of serious accidents or fatalities.

The underwater environment is unpredictable and police teams are often required to work in areas of very poor visibility or high current; the recovery of evidence, sunken vehicles and bodies requires very specific training.

Cst. Shelly Smith from the Saanich police dive unit summed up the need for suitable training in her comments in a recent magazine article: “You have to be fit and you have to use your head because, ultimately, you’re in charge of your own safety, you have to know what you’re doing because it can be life or death.”

As more provincial governments adopt CSA Z275.4-97 in the next year, and with ample training dollars being made available to police departments, it will be interesting to see if the proper training of police dive units to improve the safety of their diving operations, is recognized.

The Commercial Diving Group can be contacted by phone at 1-800-722-3483 or by e-mail at: info@divinggroup.com

## Zaccardelli takes over as commissioner

The RCMP have a new commissioner to bring a fresh look and different style to the agency.

Giuliano “Zack” Zaccardelli, 52, was named as the RCMP’s new top cop by Prime Minister Jean Chretien in August after former RCMP commissioner Phil Murray announced his retirement.

Some law enforcement insiders predict the new commissioner will focus on partnerships with other domestic and foreign police services



Zaccardelli

during his tenure as the head of the force.

Zaccardelli is a 30-year veteran of the RCMP.

He served as commanding officer of the RCMP for all of Ontario except the national capital region from 1995 to 1997 and has held position as deputy commissioner since 1998.

Zaccardelli has also worked in the commercial crime unit and criminal operations branches in Ontario, Quebec, Alberta and New Brunswick.

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# Complacency and bad habits

by Randy LaHaie

Reprint: *The Spotlight*

In officer safety, a police officer's primary enemies are complacency and bad habits. Statistically, a police officer's job is not particularly dangerous. However, it is volatile. The potential for sudden violence is often present. Despite the volatility of police work, many of our duties are repetitive.

The majority of situations, whether handled tactically or not, are concluded without incident. Complacency is natural when a job gets too routine or repetitive. Often "tactical errors" are made repeatedly without consequence. Over time, training and the mental mechanisms intended to keep us safe can erode.

The brain constantly and automatically scans the environment for signs of danger. We notice and respond to what is unique, unusual or threatening. Repeated exposure to situations, even if they are volatile, dulls our defence mechanism and awareness.

People exposed repeatedly to high places, reduce their fear of heights. People afraid of public speaking get more comfortable in front of an audience after repeated exposure. Likewise, police officers, repeatedly exposed to potentially violent situations, become less concerned and cautious about them. Psychologists call this "habituation."

## Where Bad Habits Come From

Habits are behaviours repeated over and over again until they become automatic. Psychologists estimate as much as 90 per cent of our day-to-day behaviour is carried out unconsciously. Life would be overwhelming if we had to think of everything we do. In order to free up the limited "storage space" of the conscious mind, the brain automates repetitive tasks. Getting dressed, driving a car, daily rituals and routines are done on "autopilot." Your attention is directed predominantly toward what you perceive as new, different, interesting or threatening.

This automation process can backfire if our behaviour places us in vulnerable positions or filters out the cues we need to detect and respond to sudden aggression. Over the course of our duties we turn our backs to subjects, lean over in front of them, drop our guard and end up being preoccupied and distracted while within



**BE PREPAED: Never get too comfortable.**

arms reach of potentially violent people.

Without us realizing it, these dangerous habits are repeated day-after-day until they become automatic. Throughout the course of our duties, we provide numerous windows of opportunity to potentially violent subjects that they don't act on. We soon become habituated to danger and vulnerable to spontaneous aggression.

## Replace Bad Habits With Good Ones

It is impractical to apply survival tactics in some situations and not others. The most dangerous situations are not those when violence is anticipated but when it isn't. Research into assaults on police officers reveals that, in most cases, they were unaware an assault was about to take place. In the majority of contact weapon assaults (knives, clubs, etc.) for example, attacks occurred unexpectedly and the victim officers were unaware of a weapon until after they were assaulted.

You cannot just identify a bad habit and stop doing it. The only way to neutralize a bad habit is to deliberately replace it with a good one. Take a pro-active role in doing things tactically as often as possible; even in the absence of an obvious threat. If done repeatedly, day-after-day, the new behaviour will soon be automatic. On that fateful day when a subject does turn violent, you will be in a good position to protect yourself.

Don't let the infrequency of violence determine your habits. Base your tactics on worst-case scenario's. Look for opportunities to perform tactically sound activities even if you don't expect violence or resistance. Do things right, day-after-day so they become automatic and consistent. If nothing ever happens then no harm is done. If something does happen, you'll be glad you took the time to take control of your habits and behaviour.

Randy LaHaie is a member of the Winnipeg Police Service. He serves as a patrol sergeant and officer safety co-ordinator.

## Corrections commissioner retires



**Ingstrup**

The head of Canada's prison system retired in September after serving as the head of correctional services for eight years.

Ole Ingstrup, who was the commissioner of corrections from 1988 to 1992 and again starting in 1996, is moving on to pursue other interests in management and criminal justice.

"During his tenure, Mr. Ingstrup has displayed an unwavering commitment to the protection of society," said Lawrence MacAulay, the federal solicitor general.

Ingstrup, 59, was first appointed to the commissioner's job in 1988 replacing Real LeBlanc. He was appointed to the job again in 1996 by Prime Minister Jean Chretien to replace John Edwards, who resigned following a critical report by Justice Louise Arbour into a prison riot at the former Kingston, Ont., prison for women.

During his 17 years of service in Canada, Ingstrup held positions as chairman of the national parole board, principal of the Canadian centre for management development and commissioner of corrections.

Lucie McClung, a former assistant commissioner who most recently worked as the assistant secretary of priorities and planning with the Privy Council Office, was selected to replace Ingstrup.

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# Have you ever been scrummed?

by John Muldoon

Do you know what it's like to have your back against the wall, microphones and cameras just inches from your face, reporters yelling questions at you, being pushed and shoved so they can get your attention? Well then, you've been scrummed.

One of the basic rules of today's working media is the need to get the news first and fast. Today, deadlines are much tighter and more demanding. Most police services have a designated spokesperson to be the contact point.

But in some situations, the contact might be the chief, a senior officer, the lead investigative officer or even the officer on patrol — whoever can deliver the facts at that moment.

A scrum, a term for a rugby offensive, differs from a media conference because it's spontaneous. It usually happens wherever the media can track down the person that can provide them with the facts of a story or comments regarding the investigation.

Scrumms can be very unnerving to most police officers and media spokespersons. The media is trying to catch you unprepared and off guard. Any kind of "off the cuff-type" remarks are what they're hoping for.

Each scrum is different. Each is driven by its own energy and dynamic. If the majority of the scrum is made up of electronic media, then there is a need for short, punchy sound bites. If there is more print media, then there is a need to get into details.

Here's a scenario: you're the lead investigator at the scene of a serious criminal investigation, and there are 15 media anxiously waiting at the yellow crime scene perimeter tape, looking for any information you can give them. How do you prepare for this? The answer — take charge.

In this situation, you need to deliver the framework of a basic story — who, what, why, where, when and possibly, how. You can only give the media the "bare bones" details of the investigation or what you feel comfortable sharing that won't impede the investigation or have legal ramifications. This will provide the media with the official police source and usually puts



## SCRUMS: The media can show up anywhere and at any time. Are you prepared?

the story in context with the other versions that the media may already have collected from neighbours or witnesses.

But before you walk up to that line to answer questions or give a statement, there are a few things to consider. First, mentally prepare what you want to say and then prepare answers to questions that you think might be asked.

Second, prepare yourself for the fact that once the scrum starts, you will have little personal space. The cameras, microphones, and tape recorders will literally be in your face. Try to maintain a calm demeanour and relax. Uneasiness or nervousness gets amplified on television.

Pick your spot and be conscious of the background. If you're walking up to perimeter tape, pick a spot where the background is acceptable. A marked cruiser is always good, but sometimes it has to be the structure or location of the crime scene. Don't worry if the media are huddled at one end of the scene and you want to use another background. They will follow you.

When you find the point where you want to stand and the cameras are rolling, here are a few tips to make your situation a little easier. Initially, talk directly to the cameras that are in front of you. Once the questions start, try to reply directly to the person asking the question. Always try to answer the questions clearly and succinctly without rambling on. Don't speculate and try not to say "no comment."

Know when to stop. Once you have answered the same question a number of times by different reporters and you have delivered all the information you are prepared to release, it's time to leave.

If you're called out in the middle of the night to a situation it's advisable to prepare yourself as if you're going in to work. Appearances go a long way in maintaining your professional status in the eyes of the community.

The situation covered here is quite controlled because of the crime scene perimeter. But in many situations, you'll be walking out of an office or building when the media will descend and ask for comments or updates.

Again, try to control your situation. Be aware of your background. Try to give yourself some breathing room. Take a moment to collect your thoughts before you answer a question.

You control the pace of the questioning. Don't let yourself be interrupted by a reporter. If you are interrupted, just stop and calmly say you will finish the question first and ask the reporter not to interrupt. To be prepared, periodically review your police services' media relations policies and media relations theory.

Remember, you can be scrummed anywhere and at anytime.

John M. Muldoon, APR, is President and Senior Public Relations Counsel, Bedford Communications International, and was the former Director, Public Affairs, Peel Regional Police. He can be contacted at (905) 849-8279 or e-mail: bedford@cgocable.net



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# Victims services and the national parole board

The National Parole Board is an independent administrative tribunal in the federal Solicitor General's Department. The board is responsible for making decisions regarding parole and other forms of conditional release for federal offenders serving sentences of two years or more throughout Canada and for making parole decisions for provincial offenders in all provinces and territories except Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia, who have their own provincial parole boards.

The authority of the board comes from the Corrections and Conditional Release Act and the Criminal Code. By law, the National Parole Board must review every offender for some form of conditional release after they have served a portion of their sentence. Protecting society, including the victim, the victim's family, and the community, is the main consideration in whether to grant or deny conditional release.

## What is a Victim?

According to the Corrections and Conditional Release Act, a victim is a person to whom harm was done or who suffered physical or emotional damage as a result of an offence. If the victim is dead, ill or incapacitated, the spouse or a relative, anyone who has custody of that person or is responsible for the care or support of that person or a dependant is recognized as the victim's representative.

A person can also be considered a victim if harm was done to them, or if they suffered physical or emotional damage as a result of an act of an offender, whether or not the offender was prosecuted or convicted for that act, if a complaint was made to the police or the Crown Attorney, or an information was laid under the Criminal Code.

## What Kind of Information Can Be Disclosed to a Victim About an Offender?

At the request of an identified victim, staff from the National Parole Board and/or the Correctional Service of Canada, will disclose factual information such as:

- the offender's name.
- the offence of which the offender was convicted and the court that convicted the offender.
- the date of commencement and length of the sentence that the offender is serving.
- the eligibility dates and conditional release review dates applicable to the offender.

The Privacy Act limits the amount of detailed information which can be provided in some cases. National Parole Board or Correctional Service of Canada staff can however determine if the interests of the victim outweighs any invasion of the offender's privacy, and if so can disclose information such as:

- the offender's age.
- the location of the penitentiary in which the sentence is being served.
- the date, if any, on which the offender is to be released on unescorted temporary absence, escorted temporary absence, parole or statutory release.
- the date of any hearing for the purposes of a review.
- any of the conditions attached to the offender's unescorted temporary absence, parole or statutory release.
- the destination of the offender when released and whether the offender will be in the vicinity of the victim while travelling to that destination.
- whether the offender is in custody and, if not, the reason that the offender is not in custody.

- whether or not the offender has appealed a decision of the National Parole Board.

Victims who contact the National Parole Board or Correctional Service of Canada to request ongoing notification of reviews, parole decisions, or release dates, will be included in the victims' registry and will be notified as these events occur without having to make a separate request each time.

Victims can also use the services of a third party such as a Victims Services agency or a police service or Crown Attorney's office to contact the board.

Victims' addresses or phone numbers are not provided to the offender.

## Can Victims, their Families or Representatives, and Members of the Public Attend Parole Hearings?

Yes. The Corrections and Conditional Release Act permits the National Parole Board to admit observers to hearings. Anyone over the age of 18 may apply to be an observer at an offender's hearing by contacting the nearest National Parole Board office. Sixty days notice is recommended.

Currently, observers are not permitted to speak at the hearing, but this is under review. They may however submit information to the board, at least 15 days prior to the hearing, for consideration in the review of the case.

No taping or photographs are permitted to be taken at the hearing, however, observers are free to take notes.

In most cases, hearings take place in a federal penitentiary where the offender is incarcerated. The hearing is an interview between the offender and National Parole Board Members, conducted to assess the risk the offender may pose to the community should he/she be granted conditional release.

Board members prepare for the hearing by reviewing all the file information in advance of the hearing, including any victim impact statements or letters.

They then review the offender's case with the offender at the hearing, asking detailed questions about the offence, its impact, the offender's understanding of the damage he has done, what he has done to attempt to change his behaviour, and his release plans.

The board then makes the decision based on a thorough assessment of the risk the offender presents to the community if released, taking into account the criteria set out in the law. Board members provide the offender with reasons for their decision at the hearing.

## Who Can Access National Parole Board Decisions?

The National Parole Board maintains a registry of all decisions it renders regarding conditional release of offenders.

Anyone, including victims, victim agencies, or police services, who demonstrates an interest in a specific case may make a request to the board to obtain a copy of a conditional release decision about that case.

## How can information and services be accessed?

In Ontario, the National Parole Board and the Correctional Service of Canada have had a shared Victim Information Services Unit since September 1995. The unit provides information on federal offenders to victims, their families and/or representatives. The unit operates out of the National Parole Board office at 516 O'Connor Drive in Kingston and can be reached at 613-634-3857, or fax 613-634-3861.

The unit will also provide liaison with the institution where the offender is housed, or the parole office where he/she has been released.

Other NPB regional offices in Canada also provide Victim Information services. Every regional office has a toll free number at which the caller can leave a voice-mail message 24 hours a day. A staff member will return the call in person as soon as possible the next business day. Correctional Service of Canada (CSC) has a duty officer available 24 hours a day who can be accessed by calling

your local CSC Parole office listed in the government pages of the phone book.

Any of the board's Victim Information offices will assist a victim or representative to contact the appropriate NPB regional office if the offender is no longer in the victim's region.

There is no fee for accessing any National Parole Board Victim Services office. They encourage police services, victim agencies, and others to call any of the offices to receive more detailed information on the various types of conditional release decisions, how they are made, decision registry and victim information services.

The toll-free voice-mail numbers and regular office numbers of all five National Parole Board regional offices are:

Location	Toll-Free Voicemail	Office
Pacific/Yukon	1-888-000-8828	1-604-870-2468
Prairies/NWT	1-888-616-5277	1-306-975-4228
Quebec	1-877-333-4473	1-514-283-4584
Atlantic	1-800-265-8644/8744	1-506-851-6345
Ontario/Nunavut	1-800-518-8817	1-613-634-3857

## DNA Data Bank opens for business



The new national DNA Data Bank, which will give Canada's police community a powerful new tool for criminal investigations, was officially introduced in July.

"This is a major step forward for law enforcement in Canada," said federal Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay. "The data bank puts Canada among a handful of countries to have such a national system in place. It will help ensure that those guilty of serious crimes will be apprehended more quickly while excluding the innocent from suspicion."

The data bank will be housed at RCMP headquarters and will include DNA profiles from young offenders as well as adult civilian and military offenders who are convicted of serious crimes. It will also include a crime scene index, which will contain DNA profiles from unsolved crime scenes. The information can be cross-referenced to find a match in the system.

"History has shown that everywhere a data bank has opened in the world, cold crimes have been solved," said RCMP Deputy Commissioner Curt Allen. "Together with our partners in Canada's police community, we can and will solve the most heinous of crimes and help keep our streets safer."

Canada's National DNA Data Bank will rely on new robotic technology as well as a state-of-the-art computer sample inventory and tracking system. The DNA Data Bank, together with Anjura Technology of Ottawa, has developed a proprietary coding system that catalogues and barcodes every sample entering the lab and follows the sample through each lab process. In addition, sample matching will be conducted in a secure manner using a unique network and software program called the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) developed by the FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice, and provided to the National DNA Data Bank for law enforcement purposes. CODIS has become the world standard for recording data bank DNA profile matching information and will ensure reliable and accurate transmission of match information. The result of these innovations will be a data bank that can process more samples in less time and at a significant reduced cost.

"This combination of the best available technologies will help make Canada's DNA Data Bank one of the most effective, for law enforcement investigations," said Dr. Ron Fourney, officer in charge of the National DNA Data Bank. "We anticipate that this could easily represent a 50 per cent cost reduction in sample processing compared to similar data banks in the world."

About 2,000 peace officers in police jurisdictions across Canada have been trained to collect the DNA samples that will be forwarded to the data bank for testing. Only a minute amount of DNA - sufficient to cover the head of a pin - is required to identify a person.

Canada's National DNA Data Bank was created by an Act of Parliament. The bill was introduced in the House of Commons by the federal solicitor general. The legislation was proclaimed and went into effect on June 30.

## Conference to focus on financial crime

Canadian Solicitor General Lawrence MacAulay and U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno are among the more than 650 delegates invited to attend an international conference in October focusing on money laundering and financial crime.

Hosted by the Society for Study of Criminal Enterprise in the Pacific Rim and co-sponsored by the RCMP and U.S. Customs Service, the Pacific Rim Money Laundering and Financial Crimes Conference is the first event of its kind to focus on the Pacific Rim.

RCMP Insp. Kim Clark, the president of the society, said the Vancouver conference will give decision makers from more than 50 countries an opportunity to meet face-to-face, form strategies and exchange information.

The conference will focus on the future of financial crime and how to balance public and private sector interests.

"Financial investigations have five core business lines that are affected," Clark explains. "There's the legal profession, ac-



counting, banking, information technology and last, but not least, law enforcement.

"Those five business sectors all have an interest in the money."

Clark said he hopes the conference will help build bridges among the countries represented at the conference and lead to advance crime prevention initiatives including standardized legislation, international agreements, mutual legal assistance treaties, international sharing agreements and extradition treaties.

"We have a global economy," said Clark, who has been investigating white collar crimes for the past 27 years. "So it's fine for Canada to stand up and say, 'We've instituted these measures (and) this legislation,' but if (other countries) haven't done anything then our efforts are lost."

The countries represented during the conference, which is to be held from Oct. 20 to 24, will include Canada, the United States, Australia, France, England, China, Vietnam, Cambodia, Hong King and China.

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# The minimum exercise for healthy results

by Robert Seguin

Resistance training is usually accomplished by isolating body parts and through repeated external weight manipulation stressing into an overload.

What's an overload? Anything that causes the muscle to adapt beyond its original capacity in a few days so as to be able to function beyond its original levels.

Increased muscle function also leads to overall body reduction in fat mass and increased lean body mass.

The minimum quantity and quality of exercise for a healthy adult is roughly one set of 10 to 12 repetitions for 10 basic exercises twice a week.

An article in *Physician and Sports Medicine* entitled "Strength Training: Rational for Current Guidelines for Adult Fitness Programs," suggested working major muscle groups through 11 basic movements including chest press, shoulder press, triceps extension, biceps curls, lat pull downs, abdominal curl up or crunches, quadriceps extensions, leg curls (hamstrings) and calf raises.

It is suggested that these sets be done twice a week, at a weight which brings you to fatigue in one set (if under age 50).

## Functional Balance

In critiquing the list of basic exercise I would suggest approaching the list with a couple of changes. Since most people are predisposed to injury if they have postural and muscular imbalances, I recommend functional symmetry in training agonist and antagonist. That would be balancing chest press with seated rowing, or shoulder press with lat pull downs for example.

Next, I would include abduction and adduction. I generally don't do calf raises if the person walks or runs a lot, but if I were to include calf raises, I would do toe raises to maintain functional symmetry. This process takes an exercise and mirrors it with the opposite movement reversing the horizontal, vertical or lateral movement.

Therefore my basic exercises would be 12 in number and include three circuits:

**Circuit A:** chest press, seated rowing, shoulder press. lat pull down.



**PUMPED UP: How much should you train?**

**Circuit B:** biceps curls, triceps extension, abdominal crunches or stabilization exercises and low back stability or extensions.

**Circuit C:** Leg extensions, leg curls, abduction and adduction. Optional calf and toe raises.

## Efficiency

Combining the exercises in groups of four following a pattern of working one, then its antagonist, then working another functional group of two opposites, while recovering from the first two exercises provides a timely return to the original exercise at around three minutes. This cuts down on the time necessary to do a whole body routine if completing one

exercise at a time and waiting through the recovery between sets without doing anything. Also the best time to train a muscle is when it is neurally blocked by the antagonist i.e., when you are pulling the push muscles are neurally blocked. So train pullers while resting pushers, flexors while resting extensors.

## The Minimum Combined Exercise Routine

To return to the minimum quantity and quality of exercise, the combined minimum for aerobic exercise and strength training for healthy adults is three days a week of aerobic exercise at a minimum intensity of 60 per cent (a fast walk for most) and one set of 10 repetitions to fatigue for 10 basic exercises two times a week. This could translate into Monday, Wednesday and Friday cardio (walk, jog, blade etc.) and Tuesday, Thursday in the weight room for 30 minutes. This adds up to two hours a week of exercise over five sessions alternating between aerobics and strength every other day.

Therefore a complete work-out can be done in two hours a week to pursue goals of cardiovascular health and fitness and strength training where the later goals are:

- maintaining or making a minimal muscular fitness and health gain, and
- not to optimize strength, power, and hypertrophy.

## Above and Beyond: Periodization

For those who are more enthusiastic and pursue the later goal above of optimizing their strength, size and power, periodising your program into months where you progressively pursue or focus on a distinct level of physiological ability is suggested.

The suggestion here is to concentrate on machine balanced weight for three months while progressing through strength endurance base



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## VITALITY

training, then strength base training, then maximal growth/force level.

Endurance levels are achieved between 15 and 25 repetitions with lighter weights. Maximal strength and muscle size gains are achieved at the four to six repetitions range of weight training with near maximal weights. This is not for the beginner. No one should start at maximal efforts of four to six reps without a sufficient base of weight training tolerance built up.

After three months of progressing with machine stabilized weight stacks it is suggested to reduce the weights back down and start again at endurance levels with free weights. This will cause the stabilizer and synergiser muscles that balance free weights to combine with the already stronger prime movers to develop a more complete functional ability more akin to the essential demands of policing in pursuit and apprehension - which usually includes movement in an unstabilised or free environment.

Vitality is provided by the members of the Police Fitness Personnel of Ontario. The PFPO consists of sworn and civilian police personnel from across the province who volunteer their time to promote health and fitness. For more information on the PFPO contact Peter Shipley at (705) 329-7546.

## Niagara Region swears in new police chief

The Niagara Regional Police Service has a new chief of police.

Gary Nicholls, a former deputy chief with the southern Ontario force, was chosen for the top job by the police services board in August.

Nicholls had been the acting chief since June, when former chief Grant Waddell retired.

A 32-year veteran of the Niagara force, a B.A. degree from Brock University.



**Nicholls**

Nicholls has been in charge of a variety of units during his career including uniform patrol, professional standards, major crime and district command.

Nicholls is a graduate of the Ontario and Canadian police colleges, as well as the FBI National Academy.

He also recently graduated with

## Checkstop breached Charter: judge

An Alberta judge ruled in August that police violated the rights of a group of Hells Angels by detaining them at a roadblock three years ago.

The roadblock took place in July 1997, when a number of Hells Angels chapters held a so-called patch-over ceremony in Red Deer where the Grim Reapers bikers joined the Hells Angels.

About 150 bikers and two of their lawyers were stopped while traveling to Calgary for up to four hours by a joint force of 130 police officers.

Lawyers for 16 bikers who faced 26 traffic-related offences argued the charges should

be thrown out because the checkstop was used in an effort to allow police to search for criminal activity.

Provincial court Judge Allan Fradsham said he found breaches under three sections of the Charter including security of the person, arbitrary detention and search and seizure.

Fradsham noted that he found no breaches "of freedom of mobility or freedom of association."

While the decision only carries authority in Calgary, it is being closely monitored by other police services across the country and could have an impact on how bikers are investigated.

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Laser Labs	13
Michaels of Oregon	7
Maritime Services Police & Security	31
Micro Video Products	25
North American Polaris	25
Omnes ad Unum	21
Pads Fitness & Supply	36
Panasonic Canada	4
Pearson Peacekeeping Centre	37
Pelican Products	2
PK Van Bodies	26
Police Ordnance	17
Pride in Service	12, 27
Rocky Shoes & Boots	40
Savage Range Systems	24
Security Management	18
Sirchie Finger Print	35
Tetley, Walker & Associates	34
Tetragon Tasse	9, 17
Triform Business Systems Ltd	13
True Traffic Safety	36
Victoria Police Department	30
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## Second Chance founder wins Power of Performance Award from Dupont Kevlar

Richard Davis, founder and president of Second Chance Body Armor, was honoured recently with DuPont Kevlar's first Power of Performance Award.

The tribute was presented to Davis and his company for being the first body armour manufacturer to recognize the need for corrections officers to wear personal protection.

"Second Chance was the primary manufacturer to develop that market some five years ago," explained Glen Roberts, DuPont Kevlar business development manager. "So we thought it was time to recognize their contribution to what has become an integral part of the growing personal body armour market."

The award was presented at Second Chance's annual sales meeting in Atlantic City. DuPont is the manufacturer of the multipurpose Kevlar, a fabric which is a prime component of many of Second Chance's vest models.



Richard Davis

In 1995, the year DuPont introduced Kevlar Correctional fabric, the company used proprietary construction techniques to build stand alone stab-resistant soft body armour that passed rigorous testing standards. Since then, the vest's popularity with corrections facility personnel has spread worldwide.

Second Chance, located in Central Lake, MI, is the world's largest manufacturer of soft, concealable body armour. Its founder and president, Richard Davis, is credited with inventing this life-saving, patented technology. To date, company products have documented 'saves' of more than 800 users.

In addition to body armour, Second Chance manufactures a range of anti-ballistic and anti-puncture personal protection systems for law enforcement, tactical, corrections, and special duty applications.

Additional information can be found at [www.secondchance.com](http://www.secondchance.com).

## Pelican Products opens Canadian warehouse

Pelican opened the doors of its new Canadian distribution centre on Sept. 1.

Located in Edmonton, AB, the new centre will act as both a distribution hub and sales office for the Canadian market. Pelican has actively sold its products in Canada for more than 20 years and now recognizes the need to be closer to its customers there.

Using the blueprint created when opening Pelican Products in Barcelona, Rick LeBlanc, General Manager of Canadian Operations for Pelican was kept busy doing all the many things needed to get the business off the ground. LeBlanc worked previously with Pelican's distributor in Canada and so he comes to us with a good knowledge of our product range and our business.

All members of Pelican are looking forward to the opportunity this new distribution centre offers. Canada is currently one of the fastest growing economies in the world and this move puts Pelican in a prime position to take advantage of that.

For more information, please phone (310) 326-4700 or (800) 473-5422.

## Pelican sues to protect patents and designs

Pelican Products, Inc. has filed suit in United States Federal court naming as defendants Koehier-Bright Star, Inc., Hubbell, Inc and Home Depot, Inc. Pelican claims amongst other things, that the named parties knowingly and wilfully conspired to, and participated in, patent infringement, trade dress infringement, unfair business practices and false advertising.

Pelican manufactures and distributes a very distinct line of high quality, industry specific safety approved flashlights. This suit was filed as a result of the defendant's introduction of a flashlight line that infringes upon a number of long standing patents held by Pelican Products, Inc.

In filing this suit, Pelican seeks to protect its rights associated with these patents and designs. "These knock-offs are a blatant attempt to confuse the market place at the expense of Pelican Products and ultimately to deceive our customers," according to Dave Parker, Pelican's President and C.E.O. "After 25 years of research, development and marketing of safety lights to the industrial market, frankly, we're going to protect our name and hard fought position as well as ensure that consumers get what they pay for."

Pelican Products, Inc. is a leading manufacturer of safety approved, hand held lighting equipment and protector cases. These products are sold globally through a worldwide distribution network. In business since 1975, Pelican employs over 400 people in its sales and production facility located in Torrance, CA.

## New mobile antenna for imager camera

Scott Health & Safety is proud to announce the introduction of a new magnetic mounted mobile antenna for use with its Eagle Imager Camera. Offered as a customer option for the current dish, Scott's magnetic mounted antenna is the ideal solution for departments looking to reduce on the scene set-up time for IR equipment.

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"one time only" set-up feature.

The Scott mobile antenna is omni directional, and does not require pointing in the direction of the camera.

Scott Health & Safety is a division of Scott Technologies, Inc., the Cleveland-based designer and manufacturer of high-performance respiratory protection systems, gas detection instruments and other life saving products.

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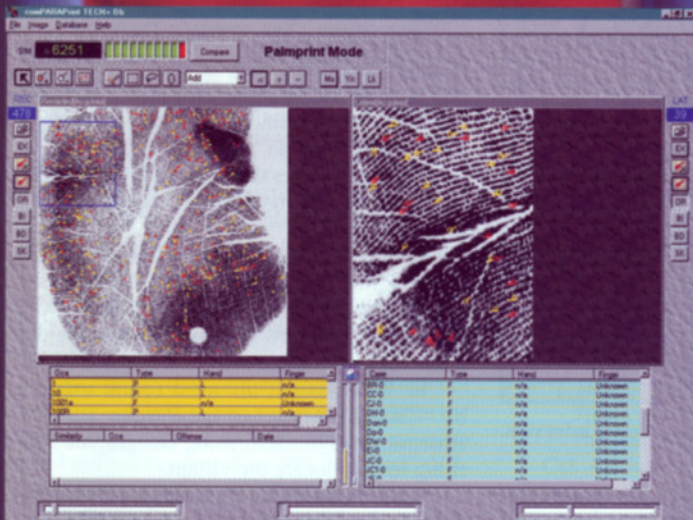
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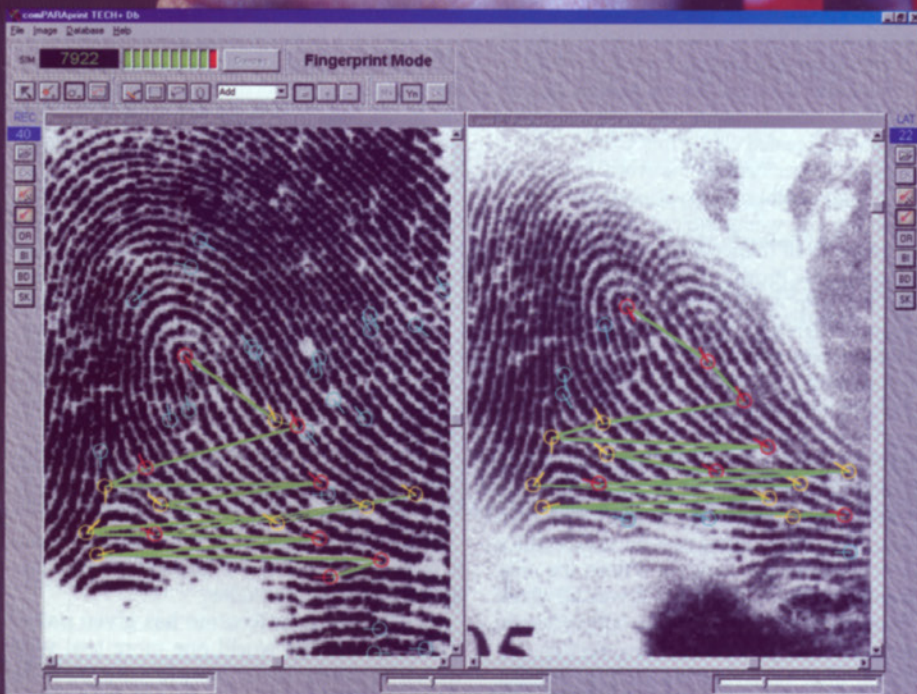
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A latent (right) is compared to all of the fingers on a ten-print card at once. The comparison engine locates an area of high similarity within the right index finger as indicated by the blue box.



A latent and a known print are shown here with their automatically extracted points of minutia displayed. The comparison engine rates these prints as having a high similarity, as indicated by the display in the upper left. Note that even though the latent was a double impression, the software had no trouble in verifying the high degree of similarity.

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**Up-Coming Events**

**October 2 - 3, 2000  
39th Annual Ontario Traffic Conference / Safety Education Conference**

The conference is open to law enforcement, educators, public health, social services and related organizations. The conference features a variety of speakers focusing on traffic and community safety related issues. Contact Cst. Chuck McDonald at (705) 423-2894.

**October 2 - 4, 2000  
Women in Policing Conference**

**Saskatoon - Saskatchewan**  
The Saskatoon Police Service in partnership with the RCMP will be hosting this conference. Topics such as health and family, stress management, and motivational speakers will be on the agenda. Contact Cst. Susan Grant at (306) 975-8235.

**October 12 - 15, 2000  
National Aboriginal Policing Conference**

**Regina - Saskatchewan**  
Conference participants will discuss topics relevant to policing in aboriginal communities including youth, treaties, gangs, cultural awareness and sensitivity. More than two dozen speakers from across Canada will share their experiences and expertise. For more information call (877) 237-2273.

**October 14, 2000  
Patch Collectors Trade Show**

**Waterloo - Ontario**  
For more details on this show contact Henry Gacparski at (519) 632-7724.

**October 16 - 20, 2000  
Demystifying Palm Prints and Courtroom Testimony Techniques**

**Aurora - Ontario**  
Hosted by the York Regional

Police Forensic Identification Section, this course is designed for latent print examiners and AFIS Techs. The testimony component is designed for anyone who testifies in a court of law. Contact Cst. Gordon Bond at (905) 830-0303, ext. 7807.

**October 21, 2000  
Patch Collectors Trade Show**

**Alliston - Ontario**  
For more information on this show contact Bill Couldridge at (705) 733-1460.

**October 24 - 25, 2000  
Reid Interview & Interrogation Technique**

**Oakville - Ontario**  
The Halton Regional Police Service is hosting this course. For further details contact the training bureau at (905) 878-5511, ext. 5105.

**November 5, 2000  
Patch Collectors Trade Show**

**Trois Rivieres - Quebec**  
For more information on this show contact Martin Caron at (418) 871-4698.

**November 6 - 8, 2000  
Canadian Critical Incident Association Seminar**

**Niagara Falls, Ontario**  
Includes daily refreshments, full buffet lunch, hospitality suite, casino night. Free parking available. Room rates guaranteed until October 5, 2000. Please call 1-800-263-7135 to make your own reservations under the CCIA.

**November 11 - 15, 2000  
107th Annual International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference**

**San Diego - California**  
For more information on this annual conference, which is regularly attended by police chiefs, senior law enforcement officials, exhibitors and other police executives from more than 100 nations, call 1-800-THE-IACP.

**November 13, 2000  
Stolen Vehicle's Seminar**

**Oakville - Ontario**  
This seminar, hosted by the Southern Ontario Law Enforcement Training Association, will cover topics including stolen vehicle trends, VINs and preventative procedures. Contact Sean Baker at (905) 878-5511.

**January 22 - 26, 2001  
February 19 - 23, 2001  
Ice Rescue Trainer Program**

**Toronto - Ontario**  
The Toronto Police Marine Unit will be offering this five-day program to all EMS personnel. For further details contact Sgt. Steve Henkel at (416) 808-5800.

**April 30 - May 11, 2001  
May 28 - June 8, 2001  
Level One Coxswain Course**

**Toronto - Ontario**  
Back by popular demand, this 10-day program boating course is for all levels of law enforcement personnel and support staff working with law enforcement. Contact Sgt. Steve Henkel at (416) 808-5800.

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- The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre is nationally and internationally recognized for the quality of its training and education programmes.
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For an up-to-date activity calendar and complete information on course and other activities conducted by the PPC visit our web site at: [www.cdnpeacekeeping.ns.ca](http://www.cdnpeacekeeping.ns.ca) or contact the office of the registrar by phone at: (902) 638-8611 x107, by fax: (902) 638-8888, by email at [rwilson@ppc.cdnpeacekeeping.ns.ca](mailto:rwilson@ppc.cdnpeacekeeping.ns.ca) or by mail:

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The Centre (a division of the Canadian Institute of Strategic Studies), established by the Government of Canada in 1994, is funded, in part, by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and the Department of National Defence.  
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## Comments and housekeeping issues

by Robert Lunney

For the past three years I was pleased to be included on the Blue Line masthead as the contributing editor on police leadership. Pleased but not proud, because my contribution was irregular due to absence from the country. Now I'm back and that's going to change.

Like many people who have been away from home, I need to re-connect. For the benefit of more recent readers, I ended a 44-year police career in 1997. For the first 21 years I was a member of the RCMP, retiring in 1974 as a superintendent. After that, came 12 years as chief of police in Edmonton, three years as commissioner of protection, Parks and Culture at Winnipeg and seven years as chief with Peel Regional Police in Ontario. On retirement, I began a consulting practice.

### The PERF Connection

In 1998, I joined the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) for full-time work in their Washington, D.C. office, and for the past 22 months I maintained a temporary residence in that city. PERF is a membership organization of chiefs of police of the larger cities, with a research and management services capability.

My active assignments involved planning and advisory responsibilities and a variety of projects in U.S. cities. I worked the major police conferences and coordinated the 1999 Problem Oriented Policing Conference in San Diego.

Partnered with another former chief I conducted organizational problem solving assignments with troubled police agencies and together we produced a video film on a model community policing operation in Florida. I joined a team travelling to Israel to lay the groundwork for a fascinating people-to-people initiative, and spent ten days with the Hong Kong Police Force developing a strategic overview of their future information system needs. Altogether, it was a tremendous learning experience. I'm back in my Toronto base now but will continue to work with PERF in the U.S. and on other projects here in Canada.

### What can be learned from the U.S.

Let me share some perspectives on the contrast between Canada and the United States. There is much to admire in American policing. The best people and the exemplary departments are very good indeed. The work ethic of American police leaders and their determination to win through adversity is truly impressive. The general standard of formal education among police officers in the better departments is growing and the benefits are demonstrated through their ability to respond intelligently to community needs.

Once, years ago, an American police chief

asked me why I spent time at conferences and training sessions in the U.S. I said it was because it gave me access to a great pool of innovation. He snorted, "That's not innovation, that's desperation."

That was in the 1970's... and he was right.

While there are obvious advantages to peeking over the fence to see what the neighbours are up to, some of our differences are quite significant.

Canadian policing is rounded in the constitutional commitment to peace, order and good government. This directs Canada's police to focus on order maintenance, with law enforcement a strong, but secondary, task.

Many American forces are primarily law enforcement agencies. The coming debate in U.S. policing is whether that law enforcement culture is a contributing factor to social discord and if so, how it should be changed.

### The Trouble with Guns

Our respective attitude towards firearms is one glaring example of another national difference. My wife and I kept an apartment in a pleasant community in the district near Connecticut Avenue in Washington D.C. The streets were safe; the neighbourhood abundant with greenery and the main street was lined with attractive shops and restaurants. A general sense of civility prevailed.

That is until one pleasant day in May when I emerged from the Metro to find a horde of distressed people milling about on the street and a heavy presence of police officers. It was family day at the Metropolitan Zoo. A dispute had erupted between two groups of youths, and one had opened fire with a 9-MM pistol, spraying shots into the crowd. Seven people were seriously wounded. One boy who was critically injured survived the ordeal but was crippled for life.

In two recent incidents a woman in North East Washington was shot and killed by a stray bullet while hanging drapes in her living room. Another woman, out for an early morning stroll, was shot in the head when she stepped between two youths arguing on the sidewalk.

In the last month of our residence, the papers reported how two young brothers home alone were playing guns with weapons found under their parent's bed. One shot the other dead, "accidentally." They had cheated the storage box and the trigger locks.

Shootings are so common they are relegated to the third page of the city section of the newspaper. And that is just Washington. Gun crime and misadventure with firearms is in epidemic proportions in many parts of the United States.

### Are We Missing Something?

A recent poll found that nearly half of all Americans keep a firearm in their home. On the eve of the Million-Mom March to advocate gun control staged in Washington in May, a spokesman for Virginians Against Handgun Violence said he was startled by the number of people who claimed to have stared down the barrel of a gun.



I attended a presentation by a college professor who is an advocate of the proliferation of firearms on grounds

that his research demonstrates that when more people carry guns, the result is a reduction in crime.

He proposed that since registration fees and more extensive firearms training qualifications appear to be a deterrent to gun ownership, fees should be lowered and compulsory training reduced. The predicted result: Less crime. Go figure.

In the United States, by contrast with Canada, there are 3.5 times the number of firearms in circulation per capita, including 77 times more handguns. The homicide rate in the U.S. is 12 times that of Canada. Murders are committed with handguns 15 times more often and with all firearms 8.7 times more often.

### A Precious Difference

A large and vocal segment of the American public, abetted by powerful special interests, refuses to admit the problem is the proliferation of guns. After every tragedy, be it a Columbine, or another episode of workplace violence, the search is on to blame failing family values, education, poverty, drugs, police response or whatever. Only rarely will guns be mentioned.

The police have been staunch advocates of firearm control, but their voice is lost in the politics. Lately the president has spoken out in favour of effective controls, supported by a growing groundswell of public opinion. It will take time, but rationality may win out in the end. It reminds you that some differences are worth holding on to.

We returned to our Toronto base on Canada Day. It's good to be back home. Finally, Publisher Morley Lymburner has invited me to take a more interactive role in promoting discussion on police leadership and ethical issues. I welcome that opportunity and will try to keep this column fresh with challenges and ideas.

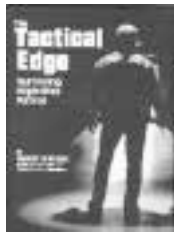
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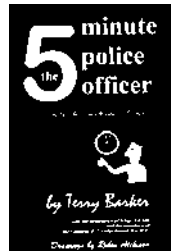
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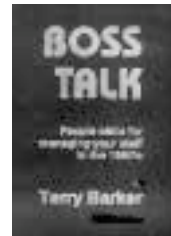
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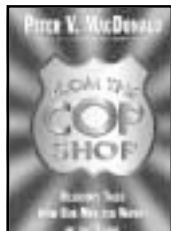
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The sequel to *A Double Duty*, this book covers the 1885 North-West Rebellion. The role of the Mounties has been down-played by historians, but this doesn't do justice to the officers who battled at Duke Lake, Loon Lake and more.



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This book takes you along for the ride as a 12-year veteran of the Vancouver Police Department describes some of his most interesting calls. The stories will help you understand what it's like to work Vancouver's high-crime areas.



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This book, reviewed in the Jan. 2000 issue, responds to the need for a comprehensive leadership development model for the education and training of police, justice and public safety supervisors, managers and front line officers.



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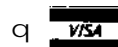
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