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**CACP Crime Prevention Committee  
Annual Report to President for 2007-2008  
24 August 2008**

**Committee Mandate/Objective**

*The CACP, through its Crime Prevention Committee, is committed to providing leadership in adopting and promoting a comprehensive, inclusive approach addressing the root causes of crime and social disorder. The CACP supports positive social change to enhance the quality of life for our diverse communities.*

**Executive Summary from the Co-Chairs**

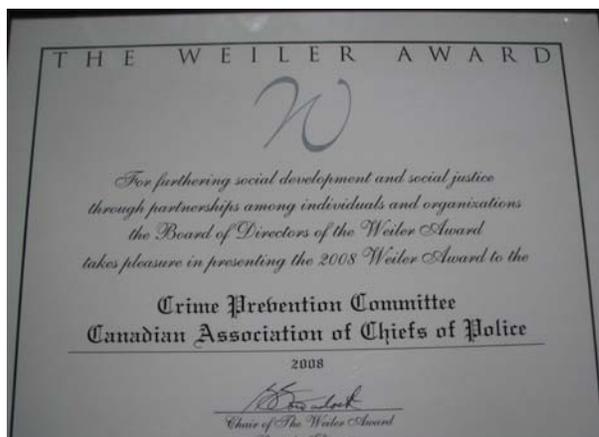
The Crime Prevention Committee is co-chaired by Chief Gary Crowell of Halton Regional Police Service and Dorothy Ahlgren.

Contribution funding received from the National Crime Prevention Centre (NCPC) allowed the Committee to meet twice this past year, without seeking access the CACP's Safer and Healthier Canada Fund. Attendance at the August meeting is funded by individual members and their agencies.

The Committee membership numbers have grown, as new members have been welcomed and vacancies filled (membership list attached). The Committee now includes several non-police members, whose perspectives complement the federal, provincial, municipal and Aboriginal perspectives brought by other members. Attendance at Committee meetings, which are always held on a weekend, is consistently high. Individual Committee members are active, nationally and locally, on behalf of the CACP.

**Committee highlights:**

The year 2007-2008 was marked by the continuation of work on the Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-being, the Committee's number one priority, despite the end of government funding and a face-to-face meeting with the Minister of Public Safety. The Coalition continues to operate because of the Board of Directors' decision last year to fund the part-time position of the Coalition Manager.



It is hoped that this support will continue in the coming year, in light of the positive response from the non-police agencies that are partners in the Coalition.

The Coalition is recognized as a model approach, and in May the Crime Prevention Committee received the 2008 Weiler Award for not only bridging the gap between law enforcement and social development, but also connecting social development groups on the issue of community safety, health and well-being.

The Committee presented a workshop at the Canadian Criminal Justice Association 31<sup>st</sup> Congress on Criminal Justice in early November that brought together CACP, selected Coalition partners, and an example of a local coalition that demonstrates police/community partnerships. This workshop was well received.

A separate report on the Coalition follows.

The Committee event with the highest public profile was the International Congress on Street Gangs held in Montreal on October 28-31, 2007. Attendance exceeded 400. It focused on lessons learned about street gangs, and highlighted successfully-applied methods and holistic strategies that span prevention to enforcement to reintegration. Evaluation responses from delegates were extremely positive and with rich suggestions for future CACP work on the topic of gangs. The only negative aspect was that neither program content nor funding support was received from NCPC, which had asked the CACP to undertake the event and had committed its support in both areas. Excessive Committee and National Office time was expended fruitlessly in dealing with NCPC officials.

In November, the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime held its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium on Crime Prevention, entitled "The Role of the Police in Crime Prevention". Committee Co-Chair Dorothy Ahlgren attended in place of Deputy Chief Mike Mann, who was elected *in absentia* to the Board of Directors of the ICPC at the business meetings in advance of the Colloquium. The CACP-ICPC relationship is being strengthened through the active collaboration of Deputy Chief Mann and ICPC officials on an upcoming project of workshops designed to bring international practices to Canadian police.

The Committee's serious concern about the stature and activities of the National Crime Prevention Centre in recent years was the impetus for the development of a position paper, endorsed by this Board last autumn, entitled "Community Safety in Canada: vision for a national crime prevention strategy" and of a resolution that will go to CACP members at the Annual General Meeting, calling for a national responsibility centre for community safety, health and well-being.

The Committee has also undertaken the Literacy and Policing in Canada project, funded by Human Resources and Social Development Canada. A separate report follows. Again, the issue of literacy in the justice system, beginning with police, has received strong support from police especially on the front lines, and there is encouraging interest in furthering this work.

The Committee acknowledges the participation of technical advisors from Public Safety Canada (the NCPC) and the RCMP. The Committee also thanks the CACP National Office, for their consistent support for our Committee initiatives.

### **Dates/Overview of Meetings Held Since Report of 2006-07**

#### August 18, 2007 – Calgary, AB

- The one-day meeting that took place at the 2007 Annual Conference consisted of regular updates from members, and on the status of Committee initiatives.
- Paul Smith updated the Committee on planning for the 2009 CACP Annual Conference. The Committee expressed its commitment to play whatever supporting role the PEI planning team requests.
- The meeting was dedicated to development of the vision paper entitled “Community Safety in Canada: vision for a national crime prevention strategy”.

#### October 27-28, 2007 – Montreal, QC

The Committee met immediately before the *International Congress on Street Gangs* and worked through the following agenda:

- A regular round table in which members outlined their recent activities undertaken in support of the Committee’s work plan;
- A presentation from Nancy Correnden of Rogers Television on the Rogers Pumpkin Patrol, for which Rogers indicated they would seek a CACP endorsement;
- A presentation by Joseph Vidovich of Waste Management Inc. on the Waste Watch Crime Prevention Program;
- An update on the new direction of the National Crime Prevention Centre;
- A presentation from the Executive Director of the International Centre for the Prevention of Crime, Valérie Sagant, proposing tangible partnership steps for CACP and the ICPC;
- A presentation by Claude Vézina of “The Key to Safer Municipalities Toolkit”, which was profiled at the National Showcase on Safer Communities in March 2007 as part of the Coalition activities and which the Committee would like to promote with municipal police throughout Canada;
- An update on the Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-being, and

- An update on the *Literacy and Policing in Canada* project.

#### May 3-4, 2008 – Sydney, NS

Following the introduction of new ICPC members to the Committee, the following agenda items were addressed:

- Discussion, stemming from the previous meeting, of potential collaboration between ICPC and CACP in holding knowledge/learning seminars on practical crime prevention issues, based on international practices adapted to the Canadian context.
- Updates on the CACP 2009 Annual Conference by Chief Paul Smith; the National Crime Prevention Strategy and its new direction by NCPD Director of Policy Daniel Sansfaçon; the Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-being by Sandra Wright; the *Literacy and Policing in Canada* project by Dorothy Ahlgren; the Canadian Council on Social Development Canadian Social Forum on Poverty in May 2009 by Edgar MacLeod, and discussion about the potential Committee role in a follow-up gang conference.
- A presentation by Tom Ripley, seconded from the Cape Breton Regional Police Service, on the Association for Safer Cape Breton Communities, a local coalition built around local community concerns and participation;
- Discussion with Beth Ulrich, provincial Co-Chair of the Federal-Provincial-Territorial Working Group on Community Safety and Crime Prevention on potential for collaboration with the Committee; and
- A presentation on learning from the work of the police in South Africa, by Barbara Holtmann, who attended at the invitation of the committee and with financial assistance from the NCPD.

#### August 23, 2008 – Montreal, QC

At its meeting preceding the Annual Conference, the Committee

- continued its discussions on the relationship with the National Crime Prevention Centre, which has indicated that it will no longer fund meetings of the Committee;
- discussed the two resolutions to be put to members at the AGM;
- received updates on the ICPC-CACP proposed workshops; the Coalition; the literacy project; the CCSD Social Forum on Poverty; and the 2009 Annual Conference.
- brainstormed on how to convene for a planning session, in light of the withdrawal of NCPD funding.

### **Summary of Initiatives and Activities**

#### INITIATIVES

#### **Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-being**

The Coalition remains active, and the Coalition Manager has focused on formalizing its membership at the same time as seeking opportunities to lead on multi-partner initiatives that will also bring in revenues to offset the CACP's financial support of the Coalition office. To date 20 organizations have paid a \$200 membership fee in trust to the CACP, and 7 more await their boards' approval. Several, including the Canadian Association of Police Boards, an original partner, have cited financial pressures as preventing formal membership at this time. The NGO sector is not healthy, in general, which makes the participation of members even more significant in the current context. Government support for the Coalition clearly is not likely, despite the fact that the Coalition represents a practice that is recommended by all international authorities and even Canada. Our country was instrumental in developing the UN Guidelines on Crime Prevention in 2001.

The Coalition Steering Committee, chaired by Dorothy Ahlgren, met for the first time in May to decide upon the role of the Committee, the Coalition Objects and Structures, and strategic goals for 2008-2009. These are to consolidate the Coalition, build strategic partnerships and promote crime prevention through social development and the Coalition approach.

Under the Coalition umbrella, and with partner the Child Welfare League of Canada, the Committee organized the *National Invitational Symposium on Youth Justice Renewal* from Marc 28-29, 2008 on contract to Justice Canada. Over 30 individuals representing police, child and family services, Aboriginal youth services, education, recreation, health and mental health participated. The report from this event is available on the CACP website, and it stimulated interest in other sectors for similar consultations. Evaluations were very positive. Participants expressed strong interest in similar discussions, focused on topics such as 1) youth justice in northern, Aboriginal and remote communities, and 2) youth, mental health and the justice system.

### **Literacy and Policing in Canada**

The 18-month project *Literacy and Policing in Canada* will come to an end on 30 September 2008. All deliverables have been completed and additional activities were undertaken within the existing timeframe and budget: four sets of focus groups with police and two workshops were held; a dedicated website [www.PoliceABC.ca](http://www.PoliceABC.ca) is up and running; a five chapter Resource Manual will shortly be available there in English and French; 12 fact sheets are now available in both languages on the website; and the curriculum for a half-day and full-day workshop will be available on the website in English. A video is nearing completion, as is the evaluation of the project. Presentations have been made to several audiences, with greatest interest shown by government and literacy officials in BC, and literacy and crime prevention practitioners in Atlantic Canada.

The five-person Project Team, with the CACP Executive Director *ex officio*, will have met 18 times in total, and the 8-person Advisory Committee will have met 5 times by the end of the project. The Advisory Committee comprises plain language experts, police (including Deputy Chief Kim Derry of Toronto and Deputy Chief John Domm of Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service), provincial government representatives and literacy specialists. The funding, from the Office of Literacy and Learning, Human Resources and Social Development Canada, has enabled the CACP to contribute to increased police awareness about literacy challenges, the implications of literacy challenges for those people involved in the justice system as victims, complainants, suspects and witnesses, as well as the community at large.

A forward agenda has been developed, proposing possible “next step” initiatives for which funding might be available.

## ACTIVITIES

- The Committee participated in the NCPC’s consultation on research elements of its national survey on youth gangs, an update of the 2002 study. This work, originally planned for 2007, was delayed by one year.
- Co-Chair Chief Gary Crowell, Deputy Chief Mike Mann and Coalition Manager Sandra Wright met with the Minister of Public Safety to encourage financial support for the Coalition.
- Deputy Chief Sue O’Sullivan represents the Committee on the Steering Committee for the Canadian Incidence Study into Child Neglect and Maltreatment, which will be published again in 2008.
- Dorothy Ahlgren continued to represent the CACP on the Working Group on Crime Prevention, part of the *Institute for the Prevention of Crime*, funded to date by the NCPC and supported by the University of Ottawa.

## Resolutions for Presentation to 2008 AGM

The Committee develop two resolutions this year. One calls for a National Responsibility Centre for Community Safety, Health and Well-being and the other calls for a National Poverty Reduction Strategy.

## Activities Planned for 2008-2009

- Dissemination of the CACP position paper on a national crime prevention strategy for Canada, to all sitting municipal, provincial and federal elected officials and stakeholders. This is intended as a constructive means of influencing the shape, direction and mandate of a national responsibility centre for crime prevention.

- Two regular meetings of the Crime Prevention Committee: dates and locations to be confirmed.
- Strategic Planning Session (date, location, funding TBC)

### **Committee Members and Advisors**

The Committee currently comprises 20 members (including Executive Director) representing all regions of Canada. The Committee includes a technical advisor from the NCPC. Composition of the Committee is as follows:

Chief Gary Crowell, Halton Regional Police Service , Co-Chair  
Dorothy Ahlgren, Ottawa, Co-Chair

Chief Paul Smith, Charlottetown Police Department  
Deputy Chief Mike Mann, Waterloo Regional Police Service  
Deputy Chief Sue O’Sullivan, Ottawa Police Service  
Ward Clapham, Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority Police Service  
Inspector Alan Scott, Winnipeg Police Service  
Inspecteur Daniel Rousseau, Montreal Police Service  
Inspecteur Chef Luc Filion, Sûreté du Québec  
Katherine Suchecka, Sûreté du Québec  
Deputy Chief John Domm, Nishnawbe-Aski Police Service  
Chief Troy Hagen, Regina Police Service  
Chief Edgar MacLeod (ret’d), Atlantic Police Academy  
Deputy Chief Kim Derry, Toronto Police Service  
Deputy Commissioner Bill Sweeney, RCMP  
Kathryn Gregory, President, Canadian Criminal Justice Association  
Laura Capobianco, International Centre for the Prevention of Crime  
Serge Bruneau, International Centre for the Prevention of Crime  
Deputy Chief Mike Chadwick, Saanich Police Department  
Sandra Wright, Manager, Coalition on Community Safety, Health and Well-being  
Supt. Peter Cuthbert (ret’d), CACP Executive Director *ex officio*  
Chief Supt. Fraser Macaulay, RCMP National HQ

Sophie Rioux, NCPC, technical advisor

### **Committee Partners and Sponsors**

The National Crime Prevention Centre of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Canada supported the Crime Prevention Committee in 2007-2008.